

THE CAROLINA WATCHMAN.

J. J. BRUNER,
Editor & Proprietor.

"KEEP A CHECK UPON ALL YOUR
RULERS."



"DO THIS, AND LIBERTY IS SAFE."
Gen'l Harrison.

NEW SERIES.

VOLUME VIII—NUMBER 23.

SALISBURY, N. C., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1851.

From the Concord Mercury.

PLANK ROADS TO CONCORD.

Mr. Editor:—I take the liberty of calling the attention of the people of Concord and Cabarrus to a subject, which, amid other agitations, perhaps, less important, has been suffered to remain undisturbed and unnoticed. I refer to the necessity of constructing two or three Plank Roads from this place to convenient points on similar works now in progress or in contemplation. In casting about us with this view, two projects immediately present themselves.

1. A Plank Road from Concord to Centre in Stanly county. A Plank Road is now in process of construction from some point on the Fayetteville and Salisbury road to Centre, and the Stock is certainly secured for finishing it to that place. Shall it stop there within twenty six miles of Concord, or will we, at no considerable outlay of labor and money, bring it to our very door? The advantages of this connection will strike every mind. Fayetteville and Wilmington, towns rising in commercial importance and with which our people would have much trade if they could be easily reached, will be brought right to us.

2. A Plank Road from Concord to Monroe or to Pleasant Valley in Union county. It is in contemplation to build a road from Camden, S. C., to one or both of those points, which are about equidistant from Concord, say 30 miles. We have assurances from Camden, which is deeply interested, that it will be completed. Camden is just now the market in highest favor with our section of country and seems, indeed, its natural outlet to the sea. Will we fail of so good an opportunity to bring this market within two days easy travel of us? Will we let other regions reap all the advantages of being the fountain head of such a stream of trade, as we have every reason to believe, will flow into Camden when such facilities of communication are opened?

I do not propose to go into the probable cost of these projects, nor will I, in this place, remark any thing of the utility and cheapness of Plank roads. I leave these points to minds more conversant with the facts and to a time more fit for their discussion. My object now is to invite the attention of our citizens to the necessity of carrying out one or both of the projects above referred to. And is there not an absolute necessity?

Concord must awake to a sense of her true position. With no facility of transportation in our midst but the Central Rail Road; with Salisbury on one of our shoulders and Charlotte on the other, and each of them extending their arms to the sea board and to the mountains; Concord must be crushed beneath these two superincumbent loads, unless she can strengthen herself by opening easy communication with the country below us and invite trade to her, as the fountain head, by affording a variety of markets of ready access. We must seek other alliances than Salisbury and Charlotte.

It is time too that we fling from us the delusion of the great things that the Central Rail Road is to do for us. In good truth, I fear, Mr. Editor, that so far from increased business and importance being the results of that enterprise to us, it will not be long after it is in full operation, ere the shrill signal of the coming and departing cars will scarcely excite the listless notice of the idle boys in your streets or of the loungers about your corners. That road will leave nothing here—it will bring nothing here. Yet something doubtless it will do for us, as it will for all within convenient reach of its track—but let us look for no golden shower.

Concord, as the centre of a fertile country and an energetic population, by multiplying the outlets of her trade and constructing, besides the Central Road, means of speedy transportation to Fayetteville and Camden, our natural markets, may be and will be respectable.

Concord, Sept. 25, 1851.

B.

BLOOMERS IN PHILADELPHIA.

The Philadelphia papers all notice the increase of wearers of the Bloomer dress in that city. The Inquirer, of Monday morning, says:

"On Saturday night last there could not have been less than twenty or thirty Bloomers in Chesnut street, between eight and ten o'clock. They were all accompanied by gentlemen, and attracted much attention. Indeed, the side-walks were thronged with pedestrians and spectators, attracted no doubt, by the fact that the Bloomers are in the habit of promenading on that street almost every evening. They appear to be on the increase, and we are glad to observe that the annoyance to which they were at first subjected have now entirely ceased.

MARRIED, on the afternoon of the 12th inst., at Glen Haven Water Cure, by themselves, William L. Chaplin, to Miss Theodosia Gilbert, of that establishment.

Shearwater Democrat.

The Chaplin who has been marrying himself to Miss Gilbert, is the person who ran for Governor of this State last November, and who was previously arrested in Maryland for abducting negroes.

New York paper.

From the National Intelligencer.

THE PROSPECT.

What now becomes of the boasted great foreign demand for our breadstuffs under a low scale of duties on importations from Europe?

Pending famines and short crops of grain in Europe, the tariff of 1846 did not work very injuriously to the great interests of the country, because our exports exceeded our imports; but now that Europe has had several full crops, and a large reported one for 1851, the state of things has assumed a new aspect; or, more properly speaking we should say old aspect, as we appear to be falling back on such "troublesome times as we had in 1837, when the celebrated break down occurred, which was mainly owing to excessive imports.

It is now universally conceded that the products of the soil are generally abundant, but, as far as grain is concerned, there will be little or no foreign demand. Prices of cotton, corn, wheat, flour, &c. are, on an average, much lower than for many years past; and in the face of a stringent, dear money market, the depressed condition of manufactures of every description, and the continued large export of gold, no practical man contemplates an improvement in prices; on the contrary, it is reasonable to expect lower prices, especially for breadstuffs.

It is well known that the home consumption of cotton has fallen off during the last twelve months about one hundred thousand bales, and that the iron interest of the country is in a deplorable condition; to say nothing of losses sustained by many of the cotton mills that continue to work.

If all the cotton mills, manufactures generally, and the iron furnaces were in full operation, with only moderately remunerative prices, it is palpable there would be no balance of trade against us, and the prices of cotton, wheat, corn, and indeed almost all the products of the soil, would be higher, because there would be much larger quantities required for home consumption. We also solemnly believe that for every dollar the farmer pays to sustain manufactures at home, (not abroad, as under the existing tariff) he gets five dollars additional price for his products. How easy for any one to see that if for the last two years our exports had been more than our imports, the present condition of mercantile affairs would not have been brought upon us by immense exports of coin, and that, instead of apprehending graver financial difficulties, the country would now be eminently prosperous.

Though the writer is not affected by the times, as he thinks it wiser to be idle during a crisis, it is hoped that Congress will consider it indispensable to do some work before the end of December, and, by lessening imports, arrest the downward tendency of things. No one desires high duties, but they should be moderately protective, and specific, as far as they can be so, to put an end to frauds tremendous.

D.

From the National Intelligencer.

OCCURRENCES IN S. CAROLINA.

The more immediate interest of the circumstances and consequences of the late criminal enterprise, chiefly prepared with in the cities of New Orleans and New York, against the Government and people of Cuba, has taken off very much the attention of the Public from what is going on in South Carolina in the way of preparation for a war by that State against the Government and People of the United States. The Revolutionists in South Carolina have, in the mean time, slackened none of their zeal nor relaxed any of their preparations for the conflict, or of their efforts to drag on, where they cannot cajole, the right minded and independent portion of the People into their schemes. It looks now, however, as if a conflict of opinion at least, if of no more serious character, is to be decided within the State, before the State itself, as a State, arrays against the rest of the Union. Some evidence of the approach of such an internal conflict will be perceived by discerning readers in the article from one of the Southern journals which we are about to present to them.

More than six months ago, the reader may recollect, we directed his attention to the portents, even then visible, of a crushing despotism or a sanguinary internal war in South Carolina as almost certain to be the consequence of the isolation of the State from the Union. We quote a single sentence from the National Intelligencer of the 15th of February last to refresh the memory on this head:

"What reader does not see, that, in the State, released from the restraints upon injustice and cruelty imposed by the Federal Government, denunciation, proscription, vengeful death in its most unceremonious forms, confiscations of property, and even attainder of blood, might more than possibly become the order of the day?"

Every intelligent man will judge for himself, after reading the annexed article, whether the horrors which we foresaw and deplored as the probable consequences of Secession, are not in a fair way to be realized as the prelude instead of the sequel to the act of withdrawal of the State from the Union.

From the "Southern Patriot," of Sept. 15.

Messrs. Editors: You will see, in this morning's *Carolinian*, a meager account of the "Southern Rights" meeting held here [at Columbia] on the 5th inst. The meeting continued from half past ten to half past four, yet Mr. Johnston [Editor of the *Carolinian*] condenses the whole proceedings into about a column and a half of his paper. He dared not insult the people of South Carolina by telling them all that passed. He shrunk back from a faithful report of the insults and reproaches heaped upon Mr. Preston, and of the triumphant manner in which every one of these was met and hurled back upon the scathed and discomfited foe; and, with all his hardihood in a bad cause, he yet had prudence enough to suppress the threat of Col. Maxcy Gregg against the citizens of Greenville, that their course was a traitorous one, and that they merited the fate of traitors. Emboldened by such a declaration as this from the Chairman of the Central Committee, 'Tray, Blanche, and Sweetheart' are in full yelp this morning. I was told a few moments ago by a respectable citizen, who is known as a co-operator, that he was rudely accosted in the street a few hours before by one of the fire eaters & told that every man who did not go with the State ought to be compelled to leave it, and that such he hoped would be the course adopted towards them.

When such a declaration as the above is made before the world by the Chairman of the Central Committee, we are fully justified in leaving a broad margin for the impious and unholy deeds meditated and acted upon in the secret council over which Mr. Gregg presides.

I confess I am not sorry for this threat. For being thus forewarned, we will, I trust, be forearmed. Let the freemen of South Carolina take warning from this note of preparation on the part of the enemies of freedom, and at once organize themselves into district associations, as the "defenders of Southern rights against Southern tyranny." Let this organization be perfected and perpetuated as other similar ones are. Let the causes that render it necessary be spread before the world, and if our country is to be deluged with blood and our own beloved Carolina become a wilderness, let those who record the massacres, the murders, the rapes, and the conflagrations of the dreadful hour be enabled to say: "The commencement of the terrible catastrophe was a threat on the part of a jacobin club to inflict the death of traitors upon the freemen of Greenville." Freemen of Greenville! One who loves you well would most respectfully suggest that from this day forward your motto shall be LIBERTY OR DEATH!

Columbia, September, 1851.

Our Consul at Havana, Mr. Allen F. Owen, has written a letter to the *Republic* in vindication of his official conduct on the occasion of the capture and execution of that portion of Lopez expedition which was commanded by Critenden. As an act of justice to Mr. Owen and in view of the storm of indignation which assailed him in this country for his alleged indifference and inhumanity towards the unfortunate prisoners on that melancholy occasion, we have prepared the following abstract of his letter. He says that he resides about four miles from Havana, and in consequence of indisposition on the morning of the 16th August did not reach his office till some time after 10 o'clock, where for the first time, he heard of the capture of this portion of the invaders, and also of their trial, condemnation and order of execution. They were at that time being removed from the harbor, to the place of execution. Shortly afterwards an American called and mentioned the subject, when Mr. Owen remarked that it was too late, that he could do nothing, that he had not the time to get permission to see the prisoners. He says he felt perfectly satisfied of this, at that time, and that he has since been confirmed in this opinion by the highest authority in the island, who informed him that the execution would not have been postponed to allow him an interview with the prisoners, inasmuch as all he could have done had already been performed by a gentleman, known to some of the prisoners, and for whom they had sent. He says the charge of indifference to the wretched condition of these men is false and that all must believe it an unfounded calumny, and is willing to declare before God, that in his judgment, at the time, and under the circumstances it was not in his power either to have an interview with the prisoners, or to have done anything in their behalf.

This is the substance of the letter which will receive as it deserves, the consideration of the people of this country. For one we are free to confess that it is a lame defence,—it does not appear from his own showing, that any exertion was made by him as the representative of the United States for even an interview with his misguided countrymen. "It was too late, he could do nothing," and he did not try. It is our wish to condemn hastily or upon a partial view of circumstances however, and we will refrain criticism until our Consul fully prepares his defence.

Besides this portion of his official course, there is another likewise which requires explanation. After the remaining portion of Lopez expedition were brought to Havana prisoners, and confined in jail, it is said that Mr. Owen called upon them, and told them that "the President had proclaimed them without the pale of true law, and he could do nothing for them," and there does not appear to have been any effort on his part to effect their release or to better their situation accordingly. Other Americans interested themselves warmly in their behalf, raised

subscriptions of money, procured clothing, &c. for them, but our Consul is not mentioned in connection with these benevolent acts. The British Consul and Secretary were the first to call and cheer them with kind words, and the Secretary of the German Society followed the example of these officials, and consequently the Englishmen and Germans of the expedition were provided for, and their situation improved, but our Consul could do nothing for the Americans. Resolutions of thanks were tendered by the prisoners to the officers of the U. S. Ship Albany, the manager of the prison, the British Consul, and to the resident Americans, but in a card addressed to the American public and signed by one hundred and fifty-nine names, the conduct of Mr. Owen is stigmatized as inhuman or cowardly.

If these things are true, the Consulate should be placed in another's keeping. It would be a misfortune indeed, that if at the very time Mr. Fillmore, with the natural humanity and sensibility which ennoble nature, was interceding with the Spanish Government for the release of his unfortunate countrymen, his representative was misrepresenting his administration, and proving himself unfit for the exalted post he occupied and utterly destitute of all feeling and policy.

But as we before remarked, we will not condemn Mr. Owen unheard, and all men should hope for a satisfactory explanation of his official conduct.—*Wilmington Herald.*

THE FIRST FLAG.

The young men of Laureateville raised a flag upon a prominent public corner in the village, on Tuesday evening, after the speeches and barbecue were over.

Upon a blue ground had been painted a Palmetto tree, a single star, and the sentiment, "SEPARATE STATE ACTION."

This is the first secession flag we have heard of, and happy are we to be able to say we gave a pull or two in raising it. We only wish the raising of that flag had been the signal for the spontaneous and simultaneous rising of all S. Carolina.

The foregoing 'gem' is from the "Hornet's Nest," the organ of Green W. Caldwell, Esq., and his friends, during the late Congressional campaign; and yet he was no secessionist, but a fast friend of the Union! The Editor gave that flag "a pull or two in raising it," did he? He gave Mr. Caldwell "a pull or two," also, but he could not quite succeed in raising him! Strange indeed, that one, who was so zealous in electing a "Union man" to Congress, should now be so fond of "pulling up" Secession Flags! The secession leaders in these parts have become such staunch "Union men," since the fatal issue of their favorite doctrine in this and other States, that unless the Editor of the "Hornet's Nest" looks well to what he says, he will be read out of his political church.—*Ral. Reg.*

THE GREAT EARTHQUAKE AT NAPLES.

The Hon. E. Joy Morris, the American Minister to Naples, in a letter addressed to the *Republic*, gives a minute account of the terrible earthquake which occurred in the western portion of the kingdom of Naples on the 14th of July, by which some two thousand five hundred lives were lost, and several towns either totally prostrated or greatly damaged. Mr. Morris says that previous to the shock a small stream that runs near the city of Melfi suddenly disappeared, and adds: "At the first shock Melfi, which contains ten thousand inhabitants, was prostrated in the dust, nothing but a few crumbling walls surviving the general ruin. An unknown number of its inhabitants were buried under the falling mass of fabrics. Up to the present moment (August 26th) seven hundred dead bodies have been discovered, and many others are constantly being found. More than two hundred persons lie in an adjacent hospital, suffering under grievous wounds, while many have been dug out alive from the ruins. Amongst others, a female infant, a year old, after lying buried for two days, was brought out living and unharmed, and restored to its afflicted mother, widowed by the same calamity.

"The shocks and rumbling of the earth still occasionally occurred at the time of writing this letter, and all eyes were turned upon Vesuvius as the safety valve through which the struggling fires might escape, although no local signs were yet apparent.

"The neighboring towns of Atella, Rionero, Barile, and Rapolla are sufferers by the same convulsion. Rionero is a general wreck, not a sound house remaining—more than a hundred persons have here perished, and as many have been maimed or wounded. In Barile, the only edifice not entirely destroyed is the orphan asylum, while the discovered dead amount to about one hundred and fifty. In the commune of Bari, the towns of Cerata, Minervino, Spinazzola, Andria, and Trani were all injured more or less. In Canosa, the ancient *Canosium*, founded by Diomed, and whose walls once enclosed a circuit of sixteen miles, three hundred and seventy six houses were thrown down.—At the last report the shocks around Mount Vulture continued, and one half of the city of Venosa, the ancient *Venusia*, containing six thousand inhabitants, and celebrated as the birthplace of Horace, was destroyed. The mountain provinces of the Abruzzi and of Calabria, where the earthquake of 1783 destroyed three hundred cities and buried thirty thousand human beings, have thus far escaped."

SILVESTER GRAHAM.—The Napoleon of Vegetarianism is dead. It will be remembered that Mr. Graham was the great advocate of vegetable diet, exclusively.

CUBA.

The following is an extract of a letter from a gentleman in New York, whose correspondence in England is from the most respectable and well-informed sources. He says:

"I have a letter by the last British steamer which states that Spain, France, and England are negotiating a Treaty respecting the guaranty of Cuba. The conditions are that Cuba shall have a Local Legislature—a representation in the Cortes at Madrid—and that provision shall be made for the gradual abolition of slavery in the Island. I consider the information very reliable."

At the last term of the Taylor Criminal Court, in session at Campbellville, (Ky.) Taylor Murphy was found guilty of the murder of his wife in May last, and was sentenced to be hung on the 10th of October. After killing his wife, he burnt her body on piles of wood and brush in the field, and three small pieces of her bones which were found were the principal means of his conviction. Since his sentence he has made a full confession of the crime. A brother of Murphy, charged with being an accessory, is now in the Taylor county jail awaiting his trial.

At Work.—Joseph Gibson Esq., we learn has been at work for some time on his portion of the contract on the Railroad in the eastern part of Guilford county, and has made progress quite equal to his expectation. A company of able bodied hands commenced work at this place a few days ago, on the contract which is under the general supervision of Col. Joel McLean. Other companies have preparations nearly completed for work, and will "make the dirt fly" at several points within a few weeks. Steady hands, who are out of employment, stand a chance of getting steady work and living wages on the Road.—*Greens Patriot.*

How much good could be done, if those who can pay, should do it promptly.—The *Cleveland Herald* publishes the following, as applicable to their latitude; but Cleveland is but one of a thousand places where the delay in the payment of debts to the laborer, works the most cruel injustice: "I'll call around and pay."—What a world of woe is contained in these few words to the poor artizan and mechanic! I'll call around and pay, says the rich man, to avoid the trouble of going to his desk to get the necessary funds, and the poor mechanic is obliged to go home to disappoint his workmen and all who depend upon him for their due. It is an easy matter to work—the only real glory in this life is an independent idea to be able to sustain yourself by the labor of your own hands, and it may be imagined what crushing force there is in 'I'll call around and pay,' to the laboring man who depends upon that pay for subsistence. If those who could pay would pay at once, it would place hundreds and thousands in a condition to do likewise, and prevent much misery and distress.

A KIDNAPPER. A supposed kidnapper, calling himself Wood, was committed to jail in this city, last week, by Mr. Sheriff High, he having attempted to sell two negro men under suspicious circumstances. One of the negroes was also committed; the other escaped. The case was brought before the Court on Monday, when Mr. McDaniel, of Campbell county, Va., came forward and claimed the negro, and proved his title. The other negro is said to belong to a Mr. Tucker, of Halifax county, Va., and has been committed to jail in Hillsborough. The kidnapper, whose real name is Marshall, has been committed to await the action of the Executive of Virginia, as the crime was committed in that State.—*Raleigh Star.*

All for Love.—A lady accompanied by a minister, called at the Richmond jail on Sunday, says the Dispatch, and desired to marry a prisoner named Hagan, charged with felony. The jailer refused to allow the ceremony. She afterwards came back by herself, and was admitted to the prisoner's cell, and, refusing to leave him, was allowed to remain all night. In the morning the jailer entered the cell, and found the bride there fast asleep, and, lo and behold! the lover had flown, as had another prisoner who occupied an adjoining cell, who had been aided in his escape by the bridegroom.

"I know not, I care not, if guilt's in thy heart, I but know that I love thee, whatever thou art."

Catharine Hayes.—Of this celebrated singer, recently arrived at New York, the London Musical world says:—"The Irish Syren is about to leave the shores of Great Britain, cross the wide Atlantic, and, for the first time, rest her little feet on the soil of America. Having filled the old world with the melody of her tones, she is going to enchant the new.—That brother Jonathan will welcome her with open arms, who can doubt that doubts not the largeness of brother Johnathan's heart. Catharine Hayes—the gentle Kate—has but to move her lips, and brother Johnathan, who with all his boasting lacks neither sentiment nor soul, will straightway be enslaved. An English, an Irish, a Scotch, or even a Welsh ballad is enough to do the business. The general ear of America will incline to the dulcet strains of the sweet warbler of Erin, and the gentle knee will bend in homage to her beauty and her art."

The *Memphis Enquirer* mentions a phenomenon seen by many persons of that city about 2 o'clock on the morning of the 3rd inst. which was the subject of considerable speculation.—It is described as a blood red belt across the western hemisphere with streaks of bright red rising continually to it. The time of its continuance is not stated.

A hint to house keepers.—Ground charcoal is said to be the best thing in the world for cleaning knives. It will not wear the knives away like brick dust, which is so often used. Try it.