THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

In an able and conservative speech delivered a few days ago by the Hon. Jas. Guthrie before the citizens of Louisville, assembled in mass meeting, that distinguished gentleman gave the following "inside view" of the Peace Conference, of which, it is known, he was a leading member:

"Virginia, the State of Washington, Jefferson and Madison, the mother of statesmen, had still a heart of love for the Union; she appealed to the States, and they answered her call, and at Washington, though twenty-one States were represented, there were but seven Slave States, as Arkansas did not send delegates. At Washington we met them. That was a noble appeal of Virginia to the States that had elected Lincoln; it was an appeal to their justice and their love of the Union, and it was not made in vain—New Jersey responded favorably, so did Pennsylvania, though five out of seven of her delegates had voted for Lincoln; so did Ohio by five out of seven, all of whom, but one, voted for Lincoln. Our neighboring State of Indiana sent five Republicans, and it did not seem to me that there were any Democrats, Whigs, or Americans on that side of the river; still ten of these were ready to grant concessions to the South, and the State delegation finally decided to vote on the main propositions. Illinois, the State of the President, Mr. Lincoln, sent five delegates, all of whom had voted for him, but three of these maintained that the Southern States were entitled to new guarantees in the new condition of things, and one of them said to me that no sacrifice was too great for the preservation of the Union. Kansas was divided, but there were two noble spirits from that State who said we were entitled to additional guarantees and they were ready to give them. The great State of New York sent delegates by her Republican Legislature, and five out of the eleven were for concession and giving us of the South every thing we could require. But further North we had some hard bargains. They wanted to know what they had done that this thing should happen!—They were told that they had taken the abolitionists to their arms and used them until we could no longer believe that our social institutions were safe, and that there had been a great upheaving at the South owing to their platform and their Republican orators, and that against the doctrines thus proclaimed there were no free people of proper spirit that would not rebel when their rights and interest were about to be sacrificed. The Peace Conference passed thirteen articles amendatory to the Constitution and sent them to Congress. But Washington was the worst place in the Union, and it was a great mistake that the Conference met there, where the fiercest partizanship raged in the Senate and House, to put down the Democratic party and get control of the offices and Government and the annual distribution of one hundred millions of revenue in patronage. We felt their influence in the Peace Conference, for they sent their men to mingle with us, and when we sent our work to Congress to be carried out, after all kinds of procrastination it was left to their successors and not referred to the States that the people might vote directly upon our propositions. I say here to-night, that I verily believe that a majority in the free States are ready to give all required guarantees and hold the Union together when ever the people have an opportunity to speak and make their voices heard through the ballot-box. They will change their rulers, and representative men and elect those who will be willing to grant us all we desire. But it will take time; they have elected their members of Congress and many of their Legislatures, and impracticable men were sent to the Peace Conference, and what we obtained, we obtained from many grudgingly. How should they have responded to the noble act of Virginia appealing to the North, when she knew that the Border Slave States were shorn of their strength by seven Seceding States going out of the Union? They should have recognized the action of the Peace Conference, granted freely what we asked, and referred it to the people. The delay was unfortunate, but the time will come when the people will have an opportunity to speak, and when the North does speak, and she is going to speak, it will be in favor of the Union and the flag of our country, the flag of Liberty."

ENGLAND AND THE CONFEDERATE STATES.

It is not only a very remarkable coincidence, but a very significant fact, says the New York *Herald*, that on the 4th of March, the day which ushered our new Administration at Washington into power, Mr. Gregory, in the British House of Commons, "*gave notice that on an early day he would call the attention of her Majesty's government to the expediency of a prompt recognition of the Southern Confederacy of America.*" Thus, while from Washington the indissoluble character of our old Union of November last was proclaimed to the world, its disruption was formally announced in the British Parliament, and with the view to the official recognition of that independent government set up at Montgomery, Alabama, which Mr. Lincoln's Administration theoretically ignores.

Not Quite a Row.—We learn that on Sunday evening there was a prospect for a row at the Central Depot in this city. On the arrival of the cars from Goldsboro', on which were many delegates returning from the meeting at that place, words were passed between some of the passengers and some of our citizens. A collision of tongues and a display of the butts of revolvers were the results. For a time it looked as though there might be a "union" of the opposing forces; but the whistle blew, and the armies were divided, the delegates going West and our citizens remaining home.—*Rel. Banner.*

Bank Robbery in New York.—New York, March 25.—An attempt was made last night to rob the Exchange Bank in this city. The burglars had burrowed their way for seventy-five feet to the bank, but day light surprised them before they could open the safe. They got only a thousand dollars, which was in a tin box in the safe. The burglars escaped, but one man has been arrested on suspicion.

COMMISSIONERS FROM TEXAS IN NEW MEXICO, ARIZONA, SONORA AND CHIHUAHUA.

WASHINGTON, March 24, 1861.—Intelligence has just been received here and it was laid at once before the administration that commissioners are now in New Mexico, Arizona, Sonora, and Chihuahua, dispatched hence by the independent State of Texas to confer with the people in those Territories in relation to the present political crisis, and to invite their co-operation in the formation of the Southern Confederacy to be composed of such slave States as may unite themselves for this object. The commissioners use the following significant language in their address to the people in those Territories: "Every argument and every appeal hitherto made in behalf of the prosperity of our glorious country seems to have proved inadequate to the task of crushing out the black fanaticism of the North, and the current of secession, impelled on by a sense of duty and hereditary honor by the South, cannot be turned back to its fountain. Irreconcilable as the thought may be to the American patriot, the stern fact is palpable that the bonds of our Union are severed. The beacon light of hope, which a few days ago beamed up in the heart of every love of his country, now flickers dimly in the socket, and apparently no earthly power can avert the dissolution of the slave and non-slave States of this Union. It must be determined whether you will longer, feeding upon hope, live in anarchy, or forget a government by whom you have been discarded, even turning a deaf ear to your supplications, at whose door you can justly lay the lives and fortunes of many of your best citizens."

The matter seems to be well received. The Commissioners are invited to attend a Convention, convened to meet on March 16, at Mesilla, for the purpose of taking into consideration the present political crisis of the country. This Convention, it was confidently believed, would adopt some plan for the carrying out of the movement contemplated by the Commissioners.

This intelligence has caused great uneasiness on the part of the Administration. This is another embarrassing question; but it has to be met, and that promptly, too; for the Administration clearly see in the movement the designs of the South towards the fertile plains of Mexico.

"A petition to the Governor, besides public meetings, are getting up throughout the different counties of the State, to convene the Legislature and place the Convention again before them—the said petition has been generally signed *by all parties* in this county, and may be found at the Post Office.—*Shelby Eagle.*

The "rule or ruin" policy—or rather the rule *and* ruin policy, is to be persevered in by the precipitationists, and their Governor is relied upon for important assistance. The *Eagle* has heretofore very plainly intimated there is but one party in Cleveland, but when it suits its purposes, it can speak of a petition being "signed by all parties."

We presume it is generally known that we are no special admirer of Gov. Ellis, although he has declared we would have a convention soon, we cannot bring ourself to believe that he will fly in the face of two thirds of the voters of the State, and re assemble the Legislature. Policy, if not principle, will prevent his doing so.

For what purpose is the Legislature desired to be convened? Only for the purpose of calling a convention. And why is it desired that a convention be called? For the express purpose—none other under Heaven—of carrying the State out of the Union.

Among other Union men—tens of thousands of them—we voted for a convention on the 28th inst. We voted for it because we believed the bonds of Union would be strengthened by it. Our belief was well founded, and though a small majority voted down a convention, the election of more than two-thirds of Union delegates, showed that the strength of Union was so great in the hearts of the people that no convention was necessary to give expression to the will of North Carolina. The very fact that a convention was voted down at all, proves conclusively the all conquering power of the Union sentiment, under present circumstances and the present aspect of affairs.

Those who now advocate the holding of a convention, do so for the express purpose of disunion. This makes an issue at once between 60,000 Union men and 30,000 disunionists, and the vote for Union would be in the same proportion.

But would the Legislature, if convened call a Convention? We think not—we think the Governor thinks not, and therefore we think he will not convene the Legislature. A convention can be called only by a two-thirds vote of both Houses; and two-thirds of the members of the Legislature would certainly not be so forgetful of responsibility as to so utterly disregard the will of two-thirds of the people.

But the political gamblers in the State will continue to agitate. They have nothing to lose, and may win. The chances in their favor are very small, but it is a one sided operation with them, for there is no possibility of their losing.

Raleigh Banner.

WILMINGTON, CHARLOTTE AND RUTHERFORD RAILROAD.

We learn from a reliable source that the President and Chief Engineer have recently closed a contract for the grading of all the inlet sections on the Railroad, from the head of the road in Richmond county to the town of Charlotte. The contractor is Mr. Harvey, of Richmond, Va., a gentleman of experience, great energy and ability, and second to none on this continent for executing work in this department. He has been engaged for several years in building the celebrated "Don Pedro" railroad in Brazil. The whole work is to be completed by the end of next year, and sooner if possible. We also learn that Mr. Atkinson, the Chief Engineer, and Mr. Smith, the Engineer of Bridges, are visiting the Pee Dee and other streams, with the view of preparing the places for crossing those streams, so as to secure an early completion of the road. We, and all with us, may feel assured that this great State work is now in good hands, and will be pressed, with energy, to a happy conclusion.—*Wadesboro' Argus.*

From the Alexandria Sentinel.

DISCOVERY OF SECRETED ARMS.

We have in our possession several samples of a murderous instrument, some of a large number, of which the following account is given by a merchant in Washington city, who has them for sale:

He says they were brought to him by a man of the name of Bailey, who lives in Fairfax county, with instructions to sell them. He says Bailey informed him that he found them secreted under a pile of leaves in the woods, or in some outbuilding. There were about two hundred of them in all—nearly one hundred and fifty were deposited for sale, as above stated.

The weapon itself is in form like a tomahawk, except that the part opposite the blade is beaten out into a strong spike or spear, slightly curved inward, and terminating in a sharp point. The blade is five inches long, and three inches wide at the edge. The spike or spear part is four inches long. A stout handle of ash wood, two feet long, is very strongly inserted and secured by jaws six and a half inches long. The handle has a rim around the end to prevent it from being drawn through the hands of the holder. The metal is considerably rusted by the exposure.

Although these are fearful weapons for a hand-to-hand encounter. Their numbers and their secretion, and the weapon itself, indicate an extensive scale of murderous purpose, and point to the agents expected to be employed.

Whether there are other military depositories, we know not, but circumstances have been mentioned to us which will justify distrust. Mysterious and suspicious looking boxes have been received here from the North, and taken into the interior. Inquiry is already on the track of some of these. But the discovery of such deadly weapons under such circumstances, and in such numbers as above stated, is of itself sufficient to awake the utmost vigilance of our people. Who are these, that while good men sleep, are collecting in our forests, and by hundreds, the instruments of wholesale murder!

A soldier who served at Harper's Ferry, and became familiar with the weapons captured at John Brown's mountain depot, says that the appearance and the finish of these battle-axes, and of the handles to them, are precisely similar to those of Brown's pikes. Like them, also, these do not contain the name of the atrocious manufacturer.

We have deemed it due to the public to make known these facts, as revealing the necessity for a greater vigilance than we have as yet displayed, and for an adequate military preparation. When we obtain fuller information, we will recur to the subject.

THE GOLDSBOROUGH MEETING.

Considering that Goldsborough is the centre of railroads from the four quarters of the State—North, South, East and West;—that passengers were transported over them all at half price; that the season is a comparatively idle one, and the weather good; and considering the prodigious fuss which the secessionists keep up, we are greatly surprised that this wonderful mass meeting, this outpouring of the people, that filled the streets of Goldsborough, so the papers told us, amounted to only 216 persons from outside of Wayne county. There are 31 counties that have a direct railroad connection with Goldsborough and of these only 10 were represented. We are glad to see that so little encouragement was extended to this attempt to overrule the decision of the people, through the insulting pretence that the people did not understand what they were doing.

The speeches as reported are of very little force. The most prominent speakers—waited upon by committees and requested to speak—were Mr. Moses of South Carolina, and Mr. Ruffin, now said to be of the same State but better known as a Virginian. And the only thing worthy of special remark said by either was a recommendation to take possession of the U. S. forts in North Carolina, because "it would be difficult to retake them if the North was allowed to fill them with men," &c, &c. We think there are quite enough in our own State ready to advise treason without importing orators from a "foreign country," as they claim to be.

As to the resolutions which we copy elsewhere—passing by the contemptuous designation of this great Union as the "agency of the United States," and "the Union or Confederacy known as the United States,"—the only thing to which we would call attention is the organization for the purpose of agitating the public mind and bringing it to sanction and demand measures leading directly and avowedly to disunion. The friends of the union, who have not despaired of a satisfactory and peaceful adjustment of the sectional question, will take note of this and be prepared to counteract the movements of the disunionists. The agitators are active; many of them have nothing else to do, and some are paid salaries which enable them to devote their time to this evil work. Those who differ with them, and who desire to preserve the Union, under the Constitution, will have themselves to blame if they fail to exert their influence in counteracting the efforts of these men.—*Fayetteville Observer.*

"*What Then?*—In the course of a few days a custom house officer will be discharging his duty to the Confederate States to the line of the Wilmington and Manchester Railroad where it enters the State of South Carolina. Then every passenger going or coming will be liable to have his trunks examined, and his baggage ransacked, and every freight train will be compelled to undergo the same scrutiny. What will be the effect of this on the business of that road, and of the town of Wilmington? This is a very interesting question to our people, the merchants and business men particularly and we would like to hear what they have to say about it. Will anything be "going wrong" or will "anybody be hurt" by the new order of things?"—*Wilmington Herald.*

Who has brought about the state of affairs which you complain Mr. *Herald*? You know, and dare not deny that it is your own friends or sympathizers. The General Government has not had any hand in it. You and yours precipitate a wrong and then try to hold others responsible for the effects of that wrong. You rave out against "coercion," and at the same time endeavor to coerce others.

We presume that officials of the New Confederacy will be the only ones that will annoy travellers by ransacking their baggage. In fact, there will not be many travellers to be annoyed. The prospect of grape-vine navigation and new suits made up by PYE, GAINES & Co., will not be likely to attract customers.—*Rel. Banner.*

Dearest spot on a Counterfeiting Establishment.—WASHINGTON, March 24.—A large seizure of counterfeit bogus altered bank notes, plates and dies was effected in this city, by Detective Keene, a few days ago. The whole amount is estimated at $260,000, including $60,000 in counterfeits on the Farmers and Mechanics' Bank of Virginia.

COMMUNICATION.

PALERMO, *Rowan Co., N. C.,*
March 27, 1861.

Mr. J. J. BROWER—Some one, doubtless a friend, has sent me a copy of the *Daily South Carolinian*, bearing date March 23d, in which I find the following notice of myself by the editor:

"*Commend him to Lincoln as an Office-seeker, or Not as a soldier.*—We learn that Dr. Ramsay of North Carolina, in a speech at a recent Union meeting in Salisbury, declared that he "would rather be ruled by Black Republicans of the North than Red Republicans of the South. That the South was ruled by King Cotton, and he was opposed to all Kings. That if an army from the North should attempt to pass through North Carolina to coerce the South, he would be in favor of allowing them to pass, and let the South Carolinians do their own fighting."

The editor goes on to comment as follows:—

"We do not doubt that men, who are Unionists under Lincoln, have little sympathy with the spirit of Southern resistance, but they are not likely to prove much of an obstacle to an army marching either North or South."

Where the editor got the above piece of information, upon which he has grown so sarcastic and facetious, he has not informed us, and but for the inference I draw from the circumstance, that my notice has been called to his effusion, that some one regards it as worthy of my attention, I should let the matter pass—regarding it as the ephemeral emission of a Daily which must have something with which to agitate the public mind and either cannot, or will not, be very particular as to the sources of its information.

For the sake, then, of the few friends who may regard my opinions, and what I did say on the occasion above alluded to, as of some importance, either to myself or the public, I now propose as briefly, substantially and literally as I can, from memory, after a lapse of about a month, to report the same, in order that there may be no misunderstanding about the matter. I said:

"I am opposed to the Black Republicans of the North and the Red Republicans of the South, and I do not wish to live under either. Lincoln is not a king or an autocrat, to rule over American people. He is a public servant, sworn to support the Constitution and execute, not make, the laws. I do not believe he has the disposition to do us any harm, and he certainly has not the power with the majority of a million and a half of the American people against him, and the Supreme Court also. There was a majority of Congress opposed to him, and he could not make his appointments to office, without the concurrence of that opposition, until the Gulf States seceded and left the border States in a minority. Such is their love for us—such their regard for our interest. They create the difficulty of our position, and now taunt us with being in it, and expect thus to dragoon us out of the Union, and plunge us into all the horrors of civil, and perhaps, servile war. But it is said there will be no war, because cotton is king, and the world cannot do without cotton; but, on the other hand, the South cannot do without bread, and should war come, king cotton would perish. Cotton will make a very good king provided he has a good body guard, and if compelled to live under any king, I would as soon live under king cotton as any other. But ever since the days of my childhood, when my grand-father—who fought in the battles of the Revolution for the liberties we now enjoy—took me upon his knee and sang me his songs, and told me of the daughter and devastation of the times, that tried men's souls, I have been opposed to all kings. The government of the Confederate States, will either be a weak one, or a strong one. If a weak one, it may not be able to protect me, and South Carolina may secede again, if things do not please her. If a strong one, it may be a little too strong a military despotism, a monarchy in which king cotton may play the tyrant. I prefer remaining under the stars and stripes—where I am, as yet thank God. The government has never oppressed me, and, as I can yet speak the honest convictions of my heart, I intend to make a clean breast of it. I wish to persuade you my countrymen, to remain where you are—"to watch and wait." There is a returning sense of justice at the North, and I believe we can get all our just rights in the Union, and then we can turn round and ask South Carolina and the other seceded States to come back. I wish you to take this course, because the destiny of North Carolina must be my destiny. If, in a fair expression of opinion, a majority of the people say we must dissolve our connection with the Union of our fathers, I must obey, however much I may regret it. But, if it comes to the worst, I vastly prefer to wear the star spangled banner and fight for our rights in the Union. I have been called a submissionist, because I am opposed to secession. I am not disposed to hasty epithets, but, in my opinion, the secesh are worse than submissionists; they are deserters, who basely run away from their rights in the face of an advancing foe. They give up the territories—that magnificent domain—large enough to make twenty-two States of the size of North Carolina—they give up the Fugitive slave law—the army and navy which we have been taxed for eighty-five years to build up—the magnificent Capitol, dedicated to the memory of Washington, and worse than all, they give up the flag of the Union, which our fathers followed to victory in the war of Independence, and in the war of 1812, and which is respected by every nation, and on every sea, because it is the representative of the power of thirty-three united, and consequently powerful States.—In the language of Mr. Boyce, of South Carolina, in 1851, "*Secession, gallant as may be the spirit which prompts it, wears a new form of submission.*—"It is said we must not permit Federal troops to pass over the soil of North Carolina, to coerce a seceding State." This is part of the Yancey programme. They expect us to fight the North, while they are engaged in the unholy work of destroying the best government ever vouchsafed from God to man. I do not wish the field of battle to be around our peaceful homes in North Carolina. I prefer it to be among those who have madly deserted us in this hour of national peril, and brought these calamitous times upon us. I would regard that as the saddest day of my life, in which I might see a Federal army treading the soil of North Carolina for the purpose of coercing one of the seceding States into the Union. Mr. Buchanan says Congress has no power to coerce a seceding State—that would be tantamount to saying that Congress has power to declare war against a State. These States are either yet in the Union, or they are out of it. If they are in the Union, Congress may have the right, but it has not the power to coerce them. A State is an idea, and you may as well talk of coercing an idea as a State. For instance, a Federal army might march all over South Carolina, and if no one resisted, it might march out again, and still it could not compel a single man to act as Postmaster; or the people to elect the representatives to Congress. But Congress has the power to collect the revenues and to hold and defend the public property. *But if the seceding States are out of the Union, they are as much foreign territory to us as Canada, and in that case, as long as North Carolina remains in the Union, I have no right to refuse the passage of Federal troops over the soil of the State, to attack them—that would be treason according to the Constitution of the United States, which I have recently sworn to support.* I am opposed to coercion, either from the North or the South. If South Carolina says she is out of the Union, if she is, she went out without consulting us, and I prefer that she should do her own fighting."

Such are the sentiments I uttered and the language I used, as nearly as I recollect, upon the points which have provoked the Editor of the South Carolinian; and I submit them to the candid criticism of every patriot. I do not expect them to meet the approbation of the secessionists. Nothing short of the disruption of the Government will suit them. *Coercion* by them is all right, submission to them is the very pink of chivalry. I may not prove "much of an obstacle to an army marching either North or South." I am of that opinion myself, hence, instead of going out, like Don Quixote a Tilting, I have resumed my saddle-bags and my scalpel, and in case war does come, I will endeavor to be, what Homer says of the much despised son of Esculapius,

"A wise Physician skilled our wounds to heal
Is more than armies to the public weal."

The Editor of the South Carolinian may now transfer his bruises *forward* from my head to the heads of a majority of the freemen of North Carolina—to the 47,333 citizen kings who voted down the Convention. I had only eight Senators to stand with me in voting against the Convention bill in the Senate, and yet I am sustained by a majority of the people. Whether these 47,333 men would prove much of an obstacle to an army marching either North or South, may be best known by trying them. At any rate, they and I have agreed to submit—not to Lincoln—but to the Constitution and Laws of the Country, as long as the same are faithfully administered, and we are unwilling to secede *because we have lost an election*, or because South Carolina has accomplished the work for which she "*has been laboring for forty years.*" Lincoln was not elected forty years ago. We think we know our rights and interests too. We know that we have more negroes in North Carolina than they have white people in South Carolina, and we have more white people than they have, and as good, intelligent, brave people too, and some of us believe that most of our people have more of that virtue, which Gen. Lee told George Washington was "rascally" in him, i. e., prudence. With all these virtues—and we do not mean to boast of them—I must still say we have some submissionists among us. Last winter the *Southern Rights* men held a meeting in Wayne county, North Carolina, and passed strong secession resolutions. The Charleston *Mercury* speaking of it said: "Old Rip, although not quite awake, is making some strong preparatory grunts. She'll *feel the foot* after awhile." I took occasion, in my place in the Senate, to notice this, as an evidence of the very high estimation in which North Carolina is held by South Carolina, and I remarked, "if South Carolina speaks thus of her friends, the *free-eaters*, in what estimation does she hold the Union men?" Whereupon the Senator from Wayne—a rank secessionist—took me to task for calling his constituents free-eaters, and not only submitted to, but pocketted the insult from South Carolina, which compared them to grunting swine.

Again, an Editor "down east," felt called upon, not long since, to say some pretty sharp things about South Carolina, in consequence of which, he received the following letter from a South Carolinian:

"*To the Lincoln submission Editor of the Herald:*

South Carolina despises you, *and your cowardly countrymen*, and hopes one of these days to have all politicians like you in a chain gang, to cultivate our rice and cotton, (not from the 1800 association.) AN EXTRA TO A COWARD."

In reply, the Editor asked his countrymen, "Will you lick the hand that smites you? Do so if you will, but may God save the State from infamy." Who will believe me, when I tell it, that the last time I heard from that Editor, he was up in Wayne, secretary of a *secession meeting*, cheek by jowl with a Mr. Moses from South Carolina. Now, however clever this much abused little Editor may be, I must say of Mr. *Moses*, that he cannot be much of a Jew or he would not have been among those whom the *Mercury* compared to swine. Had he heard the "preparatory grunts," at the former meeting, and did he go up, "after awhile," to let them "feel the foot?" I will not believe it.

But the Editor of the *South Carolinian* wants me commended to Lincoln as an office-seeker—not as a soldier. In regard to the soldier part of his commendation, I am right well pleased. I am as good as some of the clerks and other hirelings in the South, who are regarded by a certain Editor thereabouts as too valuable to submit as "food for powder," and no better, in many respects, than those common sort of folks, that Editor intimates might be shot at with less loss to the State, but if the livers of all of Lincoln's soldiers are as white as he intimates that mine is, the valorous people of South Carolina need not be spending all the profits of slave labor in the way of taxes—spending, as I learn, $25,000 a day—to keep a standing army in time of peace, and for other purposes, for fear, I presume, that North Carolina may "prove much of an obstacle to an army marching either North or South." Perhaps he had learned that Lincoln's inaugural meant peace, and in kindness to him, would not commend mere a soldier, but as an office-seeker, or did he think me too valorous for a peace soldier? He is cruel, he might, under such circumstances, let me get up a little cheap reputation for courage.

As to the office-seeking. I should certainly have to seek an office should I get one from Lincoln. He is not likely to tender me an office, as long as Southern secessionists submit to holding office under him. When I want office I will apply to the Editor of the South Carolinian to "commend" me to Lincoln, and if I can get his endorsement, I will feel that it will have great weight with Old Abe. No Union man in North Carolina holds office under Lincoln that he cannot dispose of to a secessionist, while the secessionists monopolize nearly the whole of the offices in the State. One of the most rabid secessionists I know—a man who wants war to come that North Carolina may be gotten out of the Union—holds office as complacently as if nothing had happened. By the way, why is it that certain men are so sensitive about office? I have sometimes imagined that they think themselves entitled to hold all the offices by a sort of divine right, and that, therefore, they seem to regard it as a sin against the holy ghost—politically speaking—for "one not a Hebrew" to seek for what they regard as theirs. It has been openly avowed by certain persons—envious ones, no doubt—that if the *one hundred thousand office holders* who surfeited on the *one hundred millions of dollars* of the people's money, under Mr. Buchanan, until there was not left a red cent in the treasury, and until they were turned out of office, had been honest enough to have gone to work like other people, and made a living for themselves instead of breaking up the government, in order to make new offices, in which they expect again to wax fat and kick, and denounce other people as office-seekers—the present calamities would not have befallen the Country. Other observers of men and things, more charitably inclined, have remarked, that some of the late incumbents in office, first rubbed, then set fire to the Temple of Liberty and fled away in aid of the horrid glare of the towering flames.

I get my office from the people. The people rule in North Carolina. They rule in the United States. Do the people rule in South Carolina?—Have they ever voted for a President of the United States, for their own Governor, or have the people of any of the Confederate States voted upon the ordinances of secession which have precipitated them out of the Union? No! no!! Give your people a chance—a fair chance, Mr. Editor of the South Carolinian; let a fair convention of your State be made, and they will treat your ordinance of secession as they did ten years ago. You talk about "the spirit of Southern resistance," and then make a United States Senator out of a man who said in 1850, "*the people are to do whatever we command them.*"

But, Mr. Bonner, I must bring this too long and somewhat rambling letter to a close. I have no acquaintance with the editor of the South Carolinian; I take it that he is a gentleman, but he has given a ready ear to those, who, I fear, would rather report to my blame, than my praise; and I must say that the editor has been rude withal. I do not complain, however. I am always willing to pay the penalty of my position, and have heretofore been man enough to take care of myself. All I ask of any one is "to stand out of my sunshine." Had I sought office, or popularity alone, my course would have been very different from what it has been.—The good people of Rowan and Davie will bear me witness, that in the darkest hours of the party to which I have stood firm, and the *Flag of the Union*—their flag—our flag—has never trailed in the dust in my hands. The days of party are passed by in North Carolina, but "thank God our country yet remains." We are yet in the Union—let us stand firm. As for myself, my course is clear. I will not owe my position to my country's ruin. Humble, as I am, feeble as I may be, I shall endeavor so to act that, if North Carolina should ever go out of the Union, and the ghost of a murdered Union ever arise, I may be enabled to say,

"Thou canst not say I did it—never shake
Thy gory locks at me."

Respectfully yours,

JAMES G. RAMSAY.

"*Facts and arguments used to be constitutional and legal weapons in a free country.*"—*Wilmington Journal.*

We are proud to know our contemporary of the *Journal* coincides with us in opinion. He expresses our views exactly. "The truth of history" is vindicated in the above extract, and we endorse it. Until "coercion" of the Southern people was attempted by Southern politicians, "facts and arguments used to be constitutional and legal weapons in a free country." Grapevines and Tar and Feathers have been substituted, however, and the *Journal* and *herself* are determined to put down all such "weapons in a free country," provided a free country can be substantiated.

Some may have doubts about the agreement of the editor of the *Journal* and *herself* as to what constitutes "a free country" and "constitutional and legal weapons," therein. We beg that all such doubts be thrown away. We are determined to agree with the editor of the *Journal*. He can't "coerce" us to disagree with him. A "free country" is one in which the people are at liberty to obey the commands of the politicians; and "constitutional and legal weapons," are those used by the people as directed by politicians.—We are sure the editor of the *Journal* will adopt our definitions.—*Raleigh Banner.*

Carolina Watchman.

SALISBURY, N. C.

TUESDAY EVENING, APRIL 2, 1861.

GOLDSBORO' GATHERING.

There were about 25 Counties represented in the disunion meeting at Goldsboro', on the 22d and 23d March. Every County represented sent as many delegates as there were persons willing to go. Some were represented by the hundred, some by fifties, some by twenties, and about half by from three to one delegates each. A Mr. Moses, from South Carolina, was there by special invitation, and made a real "Carolina" disunion speech. We presume, however that there was one very important feature omitted: the assembly was too promiscuous for that; but we have no doubt he whispered into the ears of the leaders, *that it would not do to trust the people to carry secession.* No State has yet gone out of the Union by a fair and full vote of the people, and the probability is strong that the people will yet vindicate their Constitutional rights.

In order that our readers may known what was done at this meeting, and what they propose to do, we subjoin the preamble and resolutions which were adopted as their programme.

WHEREAS, The General Assembly of the State of North Carolina recently in session, passed by the constitutional majority, an act authorizing the people of the State, at their discretion, to call a Convention for the consideration of the relations of the State of North Carolina to the Federal Government, or agency of the United States, and to the different States composing the Union or Confederacy known as the United States; and whereas, the citizens of North Carolina, warmly attached as they have been, and still are to the institutions under which they have been raised, and which have been transmitted to them from their revolutionary ancestors, have, in some cases been unwilling to recognize the fact these institutions, and the true principle upon which they were founded, have been totally subverted, or if such not were recognized have still hoped that some plan of compromise or reconstruction might yet be agreed upon; and whereas further events have sufficiently and most conclusively shown, that so far, all efforts to obtain our proper and satisfactory guarantees for the protection of threatened rights of the Southern States, (and North Carolina claims to be in the fullest sense of the word a Southern and not merely a border State,) have failed, and we believe will fail, be it therefore

Resolved, That the interest as well as the honor of North Carolina naturally and imperatively demand that her political connections hereafter should be with her sister States of the South and not with the States of the North, opposed to her as they are in social institutions, and in pecuniary interests, and enemies as they have shown themselves to be in both relations.

Resolved, That we respectfully recommend the formation of an organization whose object it shall be to disseminate the facts and present the arguments bearing upon this issue to the people of every County in the State of North Carolina, which organization shall be called the Southern Rights party of North Carolina, believing that when the facts, prior, as well as subsequent, to the day of election, (28th of Feb. 1861,) are fully understood, the citizens of North Carolina will reconsider their action and demand from their servants, the Governor and General Assembly, an opportunity to so express their wishes through the ballot-box.

Resolved, That for the purpose of disseminating their facts; and presenting the arguments behind the thirdeum, we suggest, first, that the President of this meeting appoint a State Executive Committee of two from each Congressional District, whose duty it shall be to adopt all honorable and proper means for carrying out the objects and defending the principles of the Southern Rights voters of North Carolina.

Resolved, That we respectfully recommend to the Southern Rights citizens of each County in the State to form, at the earliest practical time, County organizations, whose proper executive officers shall correspond with the Southern Rights Executive Committee.

Resolved, That the forts of the Federal Government, on the soil of North Carolina, were intended to defend and protect, and not menace or subjugate her citizens, and that any additional force, placed in such forts, not simply without the request, but against the wishes of the people and the State, must be regarded as a menace, and as preliminary to subjugation, which, as North Carolinians, we must not only denounce, but in the last resort resist at all hazard.

In accordance with the third resolution, the Chair announced the following gentlemen as constituting the Executive Committee of the Southern Rights party of North Carolina:

1st District—L. J. Johnson, Perquimans, H. M. Shaw, Currituck.

2d District—J. L. Bridgers, Edgecombe, Dr. Milton Selby, Hyde.

3d District—O. P. Meares, New Hanover, W. P. Lenke, Richmond.

4th District—Dr. Pride Jones, Orange, F. A. Thornton, Warren.

5th District—J. R. S. McLean, Guilford, Samuel P. Hill, Caswell.

6th District—F. D. Stockton, Iredell, Col. Sam. Hargrave, Davidson.

7th District—H. B. Hammond, Anson, Rufus Barringer, Cabarrus.

8th District—Gen. C. M. Avery, Burke, N. W. Woodfin, Buncombe.

There is one notable fact standing out prominently in connection with these proceedings to which we desire to call the attention of our readers, and that is, *an entire absence* of any disposition whatever, to preserve the Union. The reader will look in vain for any thing which contemplates its re-establishment, and a restoration of that amity and brotherhood between the sections which have made this one of the most prosperous and happy nations on the face of the earth. On the contrary every thought and every word, points to a destruction of the Union and to a Southern Confederacy.—The whole question is therefore narrowed down to this,—will you give up now, and for existing causes, the present Union, and join the Southern Confederacy in preference to trying any longer to save it?

On the 28th of February last, the people of North Carolina voted at the ballot box that they did not desire a State Convention even for the purpose of considering this question. But in order that the State should not be taken out of the Union, the people elected a large majority of delegates who were pledged to exhaust every possible effort to restore harmony between the sections and preserve it. The facts that some of the Northern States have virtually nullified the Constitution and the laws relating to the rendition of fugitive slaves, and that a party entertaining political dogmas violative of the rights of the South had gained the reins of Government, and that the fears of those whose rights were thus menaced are founded on just cause, and that new and ample guarantees should be given for their security as a basis of a settlement between the two sections, were all distinctly recognized by all the candidates. All parties admit them, even to the most ultra Union man elected by the people in the recent election; and we honestly believe there was not a single delegate chosen who would be willing that the present conflict on the slavery subject should subside without such a settlement as would afford a reasonable hope of exemption from future agitation on this exciting and dangerous subject. And yet these important facts are virtually ignored by those styling themselves the Southern Rights party, who with determination press on in their efforts to precipitate secession. The expressed will of the people always heretofore the end of strife between the citizens of the State on political subjects, seems to have failed at this time to satisfy those who have so long and repeatedly seen other parties yielding up the offices of trust and profit at its command. Has it lost its potency because lost to those who have so long enjoyed its favor? Or has it fled them with

——"revenge, imperial hate,
And courage never to submit or yield?"

We trust not, but rather hope that argument and the ballot box are to be the arbiters in this, as in all other questions which properly belong the people to determine. The aspect of our national troubles is subject to frequent changes dependent upon the happening of new events in different parts of the Country, and upon the developments of a new administration; and in view of this fact, we see reason why the will of the people should be more frequently consulted than at ordinary times. If the Southern Rights men really desire a new expression of the popular voice let it be ordered in a *regular way*, and let the questions be so fairly and clearly put as that there shall be no mistake about it. We are always ready to submit to the will of the people, and if they say go out of the Union, we shall not ask them to reconsider it.

A glad man.—The gladest man we have seen for some time, was one of our North Carolina mountain boys, who had just returned from a trip to South Carolina. He got the impression, while in that State, that secession was "playing the d—with it;" and having been told that Virginia and North Carolina would certainly secede also, he deliberately made up his mind never to stable his horse until he got back into the United States. He had his eye on "old Kentuck" first, and Missouri next. But on arriving here, and finding that his mountain home was yet calmly reposing beneath the "stars and stripes," his impetuous spirit, like the torrents of his native hills, leaped and sparkled with delight; for which, though ready of tongue, he had no sufficient utterance.

Secession Defeated in Arkansas.—Advices have been received from Little Rock Arkansas, which state that the State Convention voted down the ordinance of secession. This act was followed by great excitement, and finally a compromise was agreed upon. A proposition to the effect that the people shall vote on the first Monday in August for Secession or Cooperation was adopted. In the mean time delegates will be sent to the Border State Convention, and report to an adjourned meeting on the third Monday in August, to which time the Convention adjourned.

Many of the stories set afloat recently about emigration from Virginia to certain other States are said to be all humbug. The probability is that the emigration will be to Virginia. Our State is the best, greatest, safest land on the continent of America.—*Norfolk Herald.*

The State whose people shall most faithfully keep the national covenant of our fathers, and most scrupulously observe all its requirements; most fairly execute righteous laws in the protection of the weak and defence of the innocent; most clearly own the sovereign authority of Almighty God; and most zealously strive to be *right rather than powerful and great*, will be the "best, greatest and safest land on the continent of America" or in the world. We are willing that it shall be Virginia.

☞ A resolution, requesting Congress to call a National Convention of all the States, passed both Houses of the Ohio Legislature on the 21st.

☞ A Washington dispatch says that foreign goods, duty free, are arriving at St. Louis, Missouri, via New Orleans.