

RULES & REGULATIONS,

TO BE OBSERVED BY
THE PATROLLERS.

Of the several Districts in the County of Edgecombe.

THEY shall go by night, at such hour or hours thereof as they shall think will best answer the object of their appointment, to all the houses inhabited by slaves within their respective districts, once in each and every month, or oftener if necessary; and if they shall find in any of said houses, or in the possession of a slave, or in any place of concealment, any fire arms or other warlike instruments, or seditious publications, which they are diligently to search for in all suspected places—they shall seize the same and present them in the state they are found to the Court of the County, which shall happen next after the finding, with a return in writing specifying the time when, the place where, and the person or persons in whose possession or care they were found. And if any circumstances indicating danger to the peace or safety of the State shall attend the finding, they shall apprehend the slave or slaves on whom suspicion shall attach and carry him, her or them before some Justice of the Peace to be dealt with as the law directs. On any slave they shall find by night or by day more than one mile from the house or plantation in which he or she usually resides, without a pass in writing or some other strong and convincing evidence of leave or orders from his or her owner, overseer or employer, they or any two of them, may inflict punishment, according to the opinion they shall entertain respecting the design of the offender, not exceeding fifteen lashes. On any slave they shall find behaving himself in a riotous or disorderly manner, whether at or from home, or with or without a written pass, they, or any two of them, may inflict a punishment according to the circumstances of the case, not exceeding fifteen lashes; provided, they shall be of opinion that such riotous or disorderly behavior did not proceed from a premeditated design to disturb the public peace. But when they shall see or know of a riot or other disorderly behaviour among slaves, indicating danger to the peace or safety of the State, they shall take and use all necessary and proper means to apprehend the offenders, and having apprehended them, shall, without inflicting any punishment, other than such as may be necessary to their safe keeping carry them before some Justice of the Peace, to be dealt with according to law.

It is to be understood and at all times remembered, that the object of patrolling is to prevent any public mischief without creating private injury, and that therefore a slave found from home by day or at an early hour of the night, without a pass, but behaving in an orderly, peaceable manner, and having in possession something known to belong to his or her owner, overseer or employer, as a horse, an ox, &c. or seeming to be engaged in the performance of some duty to the person to whom he or she owes obedience, is not to be punished or turned aside, or unreasonably detained; but the patroller or patrollers, meeting or finding a slave in such a situation, may go with or carry said slave to his or her owner, overseer or employer, to know whether the story by him or her told be true or false; and if false, then due punishment may be inflicted.

And as it is known that some owners, overseers or employers of slaves are not capable of writing it is to be further understood, that a negro man of good moral character and peaceable demeanor, is not to be punished for the mere act of going without a written pass, on a Saturday night, Sunday or Sunday night, to see his wife at a house of good fame, to which he has been long accustomed to in such manner, by the declared consent of his own and his wife's master, mistress, overseer or employer.

The patrollers in each district of the county shall call on the master, mistress, overseer or employer, as the case may be, for the names of their slaves from twelve years of age and upwards, which slaves they shall enrol on a list to be provided and kept for that purpose; And at each succeeding time they shall go through their district, they shall call over the names of the slaves they have so enrolled, and if any should be absent between the hours of 9 o'clock and 6 o'clock in the morning, or on the Sabbath day, they shall call on the master, mistress or overseer of such absent slaves, to know whether they are gone on their business, or by their special permit or knowledge. If neither can be made appear, they shall be adjudged guilty of the same crime and liable to the same punishment as if caught without a permit from home.

If a disagreement should arise between the master, mistress, or overseer, and the patrollers, with respect to the punishment of said slave, then it shall be the duty of the patrollers to order the said master, mistress, or overseer of such slave, to bring him, her, or them, before some Justice of the Peace of said county, at a time and place which they may appoint, and on refusing to comply therewith, the patrollers shall apply to some Justice of the Peace for a warrant, and cause said slave or slaves to appear before him or some other Justice of the Peace, to be examined for said offence, and the cost thereby incurred shall be paid by the holder of said slave.

It shall be the duty of the patrollers to patrol the place or places of public worship, on the Sabbath days at the hours of public worship in their respective districts, and shall correct all slaves they may find behaving themselves in a disorderly manner, or may be found strolling about not attending to the service of the day, and all such as may be found with any article of any kind whatsoever to sell or dispose of in any way.

The following is an extract from the Act of Assembly, passed at the session of 1830, and is here inserted for the information of the patrollers and the Patrol Committee as forming a part of these rules. The 1st section of said Act authorises the County Court "to appoint a Patrol Committee of three persons in each captain's district in said county, whose duty it shall be to employ a patrol," &c.

The 2d section makes it the duty of the County Court "to lay a tax of not more than ten cents on each taxable slave in said county, and be applied under the direction of the County Court to defray the expenses of the patrol."

The 3d section provides "that it shall be the duty of the patrol to visit the negro houses in their respective districts as often as may be necessary, to inflict a punishment not exceeding fifteen lashes on all slaves they may find off their owner's plantation without a permit or pass. It shall also be the duty of the patrollers to visit all suspected places, and suppress all collections of slaves; it shall also be their duty to be diligent in apprehending all runaway negroes in their respective districts; to be vigilant and endeavor to detect all thefts, and bring the perpetrators to justice, and also all persons guilty of trading with slaves. The Patrol Committee shall hear all complaints lodged against the patrollers for abuse or neglect of duty; and shall have full power and authority to discharge any one or more of the patrollers, and employ others, at any time when they may think it expedient. The patrols thus employed shall have as full powers as those heretofore appointed by the County Courts; and if upon taking up a negro and chastising him as now directed by law, he shall behave insolently, they may inflict further punishment for his misconduct, not exceeding thirty-nine lashes."

And the 6th section of the said Act provides "that any person who shall be appointed a patrol under this Act and who shall refuse or neglect to serve, shall be subject to a penalty of twenty dollars to be sued for by the Patrol Committee of his particular district, and when recovered shall be paid over by them to the County Trustee, to form a fund in aid of the tax for the support of the patrol."

And whereas it is understood, there are persons willing to volunteer their services, as patrollers, in districts where a greater number than the Court has authorised, are required; Ordered, that all such persons, who may be regularly appointed by the Patrol Committee, shall have the same powers, and authority as other patrollers who are paid for their services.

Ordered, that the Clerk furnish each company of patrollers with a copy of these Rules; which shall be returned by the said patrollers to the County

Court at the expiration of the time of service; And all patrollers hereafter appointed shall receive for their services a rateable proportion of the fund authorised by law to be raised for that purpose, and to be paid at the expiration of the time of service, upon their furnishing to the County Court satisfactory evidence, that they have discharged their duty as such, as far as was in their power, agreeably to the Rules laid down for their government; of which fact they shall make oath if the Court shall require it.

By Order, Feb. Term, 1831.

TEST.

MICHL. HEARN, C. C.



TARBOROUGH.

TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 1831.

WE are authorised to state, that at the urgent solicitations of his friends from different parts of the district, Dr. T. H. HALL has been induced to forego his determination to withdraw from public service, and may therefore be considered a candidate to represent this district in the next Congress of the United States.

Robbery.—On Thursday evening, the 17th inst. the store of Mr. Jarret Hopkins, in this place, was robbed of about \$350, which was in a small tin trunk in the money drawer. The trunk was found next morning in the counting-room of the store, but the money was missing.

Fire.—On Monday morning of last week about 9 o'clock, the citizens of this place were alarmed by the cry of fire—on hastening to the spot, the smoke-house of Miss F. Campbell was found to be on fire which soon communicated itself to the Stables of W. P. Hadly's tavern. By the active exertions of the engine company, aided by the citizens, the fire was here arrested. The smoke house and contents, together with the stables and a large quantity of fodder, several small out-houses, fences, &c. were entirely consumed. Fortunately, the wind blew the flames from the Main-street; if it had blown otherwise, no human exertions could have saved the lower part of our village from total destruction.

Attempt to Murder.—Early on Tuesday morning last, Mr. Amos Clark, overseer of the plantation of F. L. Dancy, Esq. near this place, was shot at and severely wounded by some unknown person. A number of shot were extracted from him and he is now in a fair way of recovery.

U. S. Supreme Court.—We learn from the National Intelligencer, that the Supreme Court of the U. States adjourned on the 18th inst. and that among the decisions pronounced previous to the adjournment, was one upon the application on the part of the Cherokee nation, for an injunction to stay certain proceedings of the State of Georgia. The decision was an unequivocal denial of the injunction. The Court disclaimed jurisdiction of the case, on the ground that the Cherokee nation is not a foreign nation, in the sense of the Constitution—but are domestic dependant nations, in a state of "pupilage" to the United States, or in a relation corresponding to that which wards have to their guardians.

We are highly gratified that this irritating question has at length been happily decided; the principal ground assumed by Georgia, and sustained by the Administration, has now received the sanction of the Supreme Court—and the "Poor Indian" party must now devise some other pretext under which they can covertly attempt to embarrass the Administration, and intermeddle in the domestic policy of the Southern States.

President Jackson.—We copy from the Halifax Advocate the following reply of the President to the invitation of the citizens of Murfreesboro'—

Washington, 8th March, 1831.

GENTLEMEN:—I have the satisfaction to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th Ultimo. Should my official duties permit me to visit my

native State during the recess of Congress, I will, with great pleasure, accept the flattering invitation which you have so kindly presented me, in behalf of its inhabitants, to visit Murfreesborough. The State of North Carolina is a portion of our country endeared to me by the earliest associations. It was upon her bosom, and among her citizens, I first entered the career of life. Her people were the patrons of my youth as they have been the true and zealous supporters of my political cause. Their generous confidence and kind regard will ever be remembered with feelings of the warmest sensibility.

Allow me, Gentlemen, to present to you individually, and through you to the citizens of Murfreesborough an expression of the gratitude and esteem of

Your fellow Citizen,

ANDREW JACKSON.

Messrs. Lewis M. Cowper,
John H. Wheeler,
Charles Spiers, & others.

Deaths by Lightning.—During the severe thunder storm on Saturday night last, about 11 o'clock, a cabin on the plantation of Mr. Redding Pittman, in this county, was struck by lightning and a negro woman aged about 22 years, and a child about 2 years old, were instantaneously killed. A younger child, lying on the same bed on which it is supposed the others were sitting, escaped uninjured.

Surplus Revenue.—The Legislature of New-York have unanimously adopted resolutions recommending a distribution of the surplus revenue among the several States, according to their population, and requesting the Legislatures of other States to take the subject into consideration. The New-York Banner of the Constitution very correctly, in our opinion, remarks:

"We do really consider the clamor raised in favor of dividing the surplus funds as only a ruse de guerre, to kill the squandering system by inches. For, what man can seriously believe, after the public debt is paid off, that the people of the United States will deliberately tax themselves ten millions of dollars merely for the sake of having the pleasure of receiving the money back again, after maintaining some thousands of agents, and sinking half a million of dollars in commissions and interest? Whenever this system comes to be analyzed, it will be found to contain so many inherent difficulties and absurdities, that the good sense of the nation will instantly reject it."

From the Salisbury Carolinian.

State Bank.—It appears that Mr. CAMERON has resigned the Presidency of the State Bank, and that Mr. BROWN has been appointed to fill the vacancy. The appointment, if we justly understand the motives which led to it, together with the time at which it was made, has justly excited surprise and no small degree of indignation in this section of the State. It exhibits an ungrateful and oppressive spirit on the part of the Directors. Like all tyrants they took the necessary precaution to remove those from the Board who were reputed hostile to the movement and then they could shape their course without any obstruction. What their views are may be readily inferred from the elevation of Mr. Brown to the Presidency. Of Mr. Brown we do not wish or design to say any thing harsh or unjust, but it is a well known fact (we say it

not to his discredit) that he is a foreigner, having no permanent interests in the community of which he is a member, and therefore it cannot be expected that he will yield that ready, and at the same time, prudent, compliance to the necessities of the people, or accommodate the loans of the Bank to the times as one who had some community of interest with those most directly concerned with the business of the Bank. Under this aspect of the case, the appointment of Mr. Brown is injudicious, but there are other and equally strong objections. It is the certainty that the policy which has been hitherto pursued in the Bank will be entirely abandoned and a new order of things established. This was the object contemplated in placing Mr. Brown at the head of the concerns of the Bank, and to effect his elevation several of the most worthy and influential members of the late board were displaced. This step would have endangered their plan of operations had it been promulgated during the session of the last legislature, and it is too apparent to be discredited, that this was the reason of the late president's delay in resigning, for it was reported some time back that he intended to retire. Under Mr. Brown's administration they expect to close the concerns of the Bank as rapidly as possible, and that upon the most rigid and unaccommodating terms. This is a manifest violation of the spirit of the law passed during the session before the last wherein it is expressly provided that no unnecessary despatch be to characterize the proceedings of the Bank and its branches in the winding up of its concerns. It is said that some recent regulations have passed the Board at Raleigh under the present administration, which takes the power from the Branches to adopt any measures which may conflict with the present policy of the mother Bank. If this be true what man of firmness and independence would consent to serve as a Director? Who, poor of spirit, as to be willing and passive agents to execute the decrees of an arbitrary and unprincipled faction against themselves and their neighbors?

We were gratified to hear that Mr. Maxwell Chambers, the President of the Board of the Branch in this place, seeing the servile dependency in which they proposed to place him, immediately resigned. This does him great credit, and we hope his motives will be properly appreciated and his course followed by the Directors. We hold ourselves to be fully justified for these remarks since the late proceedings of the State Bank deeply concerned the people of this section of the State of North Carolina. It is not the stock-holders nor the debtors alone who suffer under the rigid regulations and unwise operations of the present policy of the Bank, but every man of the community feels their inconvenience. The creditor is not less than the debtor—no buyer in an equal degree with the vender—each and every one suffers from the selfish measures of the Bank. Without noticing any other inconveniences which result from the same selfish and illiberal practices of the Bank, we would remind our readers, who are interested in this subject, that all notes except those of the State and United States