



The Tarborough Press,

BY GEORGE HOWARD,

Is published weekly at Two Dollars and Fifty Cents per year, if paid in advance—or Three Dollars at the expiration of the subscription year. For any period less than a year, Twenty-five Cents per month. Subscribers are at liberty to discontinue at any time, on giving notice thereof and paying arrears—those residing at a distance, must invariably pay in advance, or give a responsible reference in this vicinity.

Advertisements not exceeding a square will be inserted at One Dollar the first insertion, and 25 cents for every continuance. Longer advertisements in like proportion. Court Orders and Judicial advertisements 25 per cent. higher. Advertisements must be marked the number of insertions required, or they will be continued until otherwise ordered and charged accordingly.

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VARIETY.



FOR THE TARBORO' PRESS.

TO —

Why stay on this polluted earth,
When in heaven thy inferiors rest?
Go up and reap thy share of mirth,
Nor keep this heart forever distressed.

True, none thy beauty dare to cope,
Vain to attempt or presume an effort:
Thou' why bereave a breast of its only hope,
When that alone was life's support!

Why take a heart and not one return?
Is not exchange fair dealing?
And this face be doomed with spurn,
While this breast its pangs concealing.

Is thine image to another as dear,
To cause heart and breast to sever?
Alas! alas! it seems I hear,
The echo of thy request—never.

JUVENILITY.

THE LAND OF LIBERTY.

As Teddy was trudging along in the road,
Just fresh from his home on the edge of a bog,
May-be squinting to see where the voting-house stood,
He was bit in the leg by a slip of a dog.
So smarting with pain he stoop'd down to the ground,
To get one of the stones that seemed scattered around;
But the poor fellow found them as tight stuck together,
As the nails of his brogues were fix'd in the leather,
And in this free country, quoth Teddy, agast,
Where the dogs are let loose and the stones are tied fast!
By the powers, it's myself that am bold for to say,
Then,
There's more freedom for dogs here than freedom for men.

FOR THE TARBORO' PRESS.

ROCKY MOUNT CELEBRATION,

4th July, 1842.

Arrangements having been previously made, to celebrate the Anniversary of American Independence, a very large and respectable auditory, assembled at the Falls church, at an early hour in the morning, where thanksgiving was offered to the decrees of Providence, for the boon of liberty bestowed upon us through the achievements of that day, by hymn and prayer from the Rev. Wm. Bellamy. The Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence was then read by C. Harrison, and the American Declaration by James M. Battle; after which, R. R. Bridgers, Esq. rose and addressed the congregation about forty minutes, in which he travelled over a very extensive field of historical events, giving a very expanded view of the hardships and trials endured by the early settlers of our country; and the consequent events of 1776—in a style that showed deep research, and a mind well stored with literary lore, that could not fail to entitle him to rank among the learned of the age—the intervals being filled by national songs and airs, by gentlemen whose kind services were offered on the occasion. The congregation was then dismissed by Rev. Wm. Bellamy, premised by a few very appropriate remarks. A procession was then formed by Col. B. D. Battle, Marshal of the Day, assisted by Col. J. E. Lindsay, and marched to the Depot, where an elegant dinner was prepared for the occasion, by Mr. Howell Braswell. On motion of Col. B. D. Battle, Chas. Harrison was made President of the Day, and Messrs. R. Bunn, Wm. A. Pope, J. H. Harrison, M. Weston, James George, and Jno. F. Tompkins, Vice Presidents. After partaking of a sumptuous dinner, the table cleared, and when set, the following Toasts were drank.

REGULAR TOASTS.

1st. The day we celebrate: May its annual return be always hailed by a people free, prosperous and happy.

2nd. The memory of Washington: Seldom has it been the lot of man, to go down to the grave so universally beloved.

3rd. The memory of John Adams, Thos. Jefferson, James Madison and James Monroe.

4th. The heroes and sages of the Revolution.

"How sleep the brave who sink to rest,
By all their country's wishes blest."

5th. The union of the States: Cemented by the blood of patriots, consecrated by the devotion of a free people, may it endure till time itself shall cease.

6th. The President of the United States and Heads of Departments.

7th. The Governor of the State.

8th. The University: May it continue as heretofore to shed light, to cheer and gladden every corner of our land.

9th. North Carolina: Earliest at the cradle of freedom, the last to forsake the citadel of our liberty.

10th. Agriculture, Commerce, and Manufactures: The heart, the arteries, and the veins of our country.

11th. Gen. Lafayette: The man who left the blushing vineyards of his delightful France, to volunteer his service in defence of our country in an hour of weakness and woe: May his name be held in ever grateful remembrance by every true American.

12th. The Constitution of the United States: To politicians, what the Bible is to divines—a text book.

13th. The Fair Sex: Guide us by means we know not, lead us by ways we see not, govern us by laws we feel not, add comforts to life we cannot, abandon them ever we will not.

VOLUNTEER TOASTS.

By the President of the Day, C. Harrison. The rising generation: May they be distinguished for wisdom, temperance, prudence in all things, like brothers, and transmit to succeeding ages our form of government, pure as it came to us from our forefathers.

By 1st V. Pres't, R. Bunn. Our State: Though styled "the Rip Van Winkle of the Confederacy," the first to awaken to the people's grievances, the first to assert the people's rights.

By 2nd V. P. Wm. A. Pope. The Militia of the State: May the efforts this day making, render them what they are designed to be, their country's best reliance and defence in the hour of danger.

By 3rd V. P. J. H. Harrison. Nash, Edgecombe, and Halifax: Their sons too gallant, their daughters too wise, to be bachelors or old maids.

By 4th V. P. M. Weston. The Orator of the Day: May his career be as eminently useful, as his efforts to-day were eloquently sublime.

Mr. Bridgers rose and responded to the above, as follows.

Mr. Chairman: I had hoped, when the duties assigned me by your Committee had been performed, my part had been done. I thought not,—no, even a whisper came not to my ears, that a call would be made for me to address this audience again. Fain would I decline it; prudence bids me do it; a consciousness of an inability to respond in a suitable and becoming manner, and a regard for my own individual feelings, under other circumstances would justify the decline. But after the allusions just made to myself, silence would be impossible; nay, it would even be unpardonable, and the pantomimic response often given on occasions of this sort, would be but a poor return for your kindness; an inadequate requital for your liberality and generosity; an ungrateful and indifferent acknowledgment of the distinguished honor you have conferred upon me. But why dread the call? For to suppose those feelings of partiality, and kindness, that bade me come in the first instance, capable of judging, in the second, harshly of the maiden efforts of one just now entering life, would be illiberal, it would be a fear your past conduct would not justify; a charge that years of mingling in the cares of the world had eradicated from your memories the recollection that yourselves have been once young and destitute of experience.

I hope then my inexperience in public speaking, and the unexpectedness of this call, will be a sufficient apology—No, Mr. Chairman, I beg pardon for the sentiment. The tongue of gratitude needs no apology; the feelings of the heart no studied embellishments of oratory, nor decorations of fancy. They have a language of their own; a language as extensive as creation, as unlimited as space; a language common to all animated nature; appreciated as well by the glittering insect that sports in the evening sunbeam, as the mind that darts through space and plucks knowledge from the ends of creation. To express them is to be understood. A mere inarticulate cry; a simple exclamation of the heart will be appreciated.

Allow me, then, Mr. Chairman, through you to acknowledge feelings of deep gratitude and lasting obligations to the citizens of Rocky Mount and its vicinity for the distinguished, though unexpected, and unmerited honor, they have conferred upon me; unexpected, because I was comparatively a stranger to them; unmerited, because my life had been marked, by no act either public, or private, that entitled me to it. But still it has been conferred, and

let the cause be what it may, this tribute of respect shall be duly appreciated; and the recollection that they were the first to hoist flag on my feeble bark of life, shall be the last to fade from my memory; and when the tide of time shall have drifted it to the entrance of waters from which it can ne'er return, in imagination I'll waft myself back to the very spot and in the sweet anguish of past reminiscences will exclaim, here she started,—here her little sail received the breeze that first wafted it on to the ocean of active existence.

It may not be inappropriate, Mr. Chairman, to introduce a few remarks here in relation to our individual State; those of the early part of the day were national, these shall be domestic and fireside in their nature. North Carolina was the first of the United States to avow her independence, and being freed from transatlantic allegiance, the last to merge her State into a national sovereignty. Twelve of the thirteen United States had acceded to the federal compact; she remained a separate and independent nation. Two years on the eminence of the back ground she stood; closely observing the actions of her sister States and examining the articles of the federal compact, that she might know whether they were "like unto whited sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones and of all uncleanness." Her sentiments were "alequies latet error, equo ne crede Teucri. Quicquid id est, timeo Danaos et dona ferentes." She wished to know whether the federal compact was, as the wooden horse; filled with armed men conspiring against her liberties, or as the palladium that was to secure lasting and perpetual freedom. Satisfied on this point her course was determined. She became a member of the Union. Her enemies I know traduce and revile her character for her course; charge her of wanting energy, because her policy was of mature reflection and deliberation. But the effects speak for themselves. Opprobrious epithets cast on her for supposed tardiness of action are already becoming terms of honor; and the alambic of her political wisdom has sent forth new spirits to animate a corpse that was repeated lifeless. The name Rip Van Winkle, in its transplantation to the soil of North Carolina, has become indicative of something higher, and nobler, than the characteristics of the legendary hero of the Kaatskill mountains; and may Rip's rivals never wish for the Appalachian heights to administer a sip from Lethe's cup; not that they need rest, and refreshment, but are unwilling to be longer henpecked by the spouses, fraud, treachery, bankruptcy, speculation and fanciful theories. Even now would they forego the pleasure of their friend's company and society for twenty years, rather than submit to the rebukes and "household eloquence" of their termagant wives. Thy wish to sleep, and to let their old consorts die; to arise from their nap as old widowers ready for getting married anew. But I would ask, Mr. Chairman, what has North Carolina done during her nap. She has constructed two of the longest railroads in the world, built the finest capitol in the United States, and has reared nurseries of learning that blush not in comparison with the oldest of our land—with those that have been consecrated by time and sanctioned by the patronage of the great. An arsenal and mint have sprung up as if by magic; canals opened, harbors improved, and Rip is not yet involved in debt. Her credit is still unimpaired and her plighted faith equivalent to her performed contract; nor has the refusal to discharge legal responsibilities brought disgrace, and infamy, upon her name. All of her bonds duly executed have been duly paid. She has preserved a uniformity of policy, whilst many of her scoffers have had no policy save a policy of ruin and destruction. Her road has been the road to honor, and usefulness; her ways have been, ways of pleasantness, and all her paths have been peace. Her determinations were of reason, they were marked out in the beginning; and they have not been varied from; her enemies have assailed her for this steadfastness of purpose, but their darts have fallen harmlessly at her feet; she has always pursued the even tenor of her way, and her spirits have been ruffled not by the visionary schemes of theorists and speculators; judgment presides at her helm and fancy is only allowed to play in the sail, and fall at the foot of the mast. Industry and economy have given plenty and happiness to her citizen; whilst indolence and extravagance, in many portions of the Union, have deprived the widow, and orphan, of their daily bread. Other lands may pour out wealth in greater abundance; but none are more fruitful in peace and contentment; nativity in her borders is already beginning to be hailed with delight in the land of the stranger, and the exclamation, I am a North Carolinian, a passport to profitable employment.

In the first settlement of the "new countries," they were reproached with a want of energy and enterprise; fortunes realized

by the mere dash of the pen were portrayed to their imagination, but they touched not; they were scoffed at because they preferred digging their wealth out of the ground, to gambling for it in schemes of speculation; but they altered not their course. And where are they now? The storm of adversity, to the ruin and degradation of thousands, has swept over the Union; "the rain descended, the floods came, the winds blew," and their fortunes "fell not;" but of their scoffers, their fortunes "fell," and great was the fall. In support of these statements, I appeal to the people of the South generally. Visit the firesides of her emigrants in the wastes of the far off West and South. You will oftener find them surrounded by the comforts of life than those from any other State, and seldom will you see their plantations deserted, their movable property sequestered or "run to Texas;" and hundreds of honest creditors and unfortunate sureties left behind, to pay the penalty of their fraud. Ask their neighbors who they were, or follow them across the waters of the Sabine, and enquire for their native land! Seldom will they respond, I am from North Carolina.

In point of commerce, commercial advantages and facilities, it must be confessed, and regretted, that she is much in the rear; but so nature has ordained, and man cannot alter. For general intelligence and learning, her reputation is about equal to her neighbors. In talent she is excelled by none; the halls of legislation, the pulpit, the bench and bar prove it beyond gainsay.

You will find many of the biographies of the distinguished politicians of the day commencing, "he was born at or in ———, in North Carolina;" or, his parents emigrated from North Carolina in the year ———. Five or six of her sons are at this very moment, one of whom presides over their deliberations, to be found in the Senate, and in the House of Representatives proportional to her population a greater number than from any other State in the Union. She boasts of two of the most distinguished pulpit orators of the day; the eloquence of one of whom, upon a visit not long since, to Europe, was so great as to induce the enquiry, "can it be possible that he is an American?" She claims the natal spot of three Chief Justices of other States, besides countless numbers of inferior judicial officers, and still has a Ruffin, Gaston, and Daniel at home—a Swain at her University,—a Badger and Haywood, a Strange and Henry, and many others at her Bar. North Carolina, Mr. Chairman, is an interesting and fruitful theme. Hence I shall hope to merit your indulgence for my digression, and in conclusion permit me to offer a sentiment in behalf of old Rip: May she sleep away her life, in years, twenty to the nap, and each one to come be as profitable as the one that has been.

By 5th V. P. J. George. The old North State: With plenty of choice women, nature's choicest gift, we'll forsake her never, but defend her ever.

By 6th V. P. J. F. Tompkins. Gen. Washington: The first in war, the first in peace, and the first in the hearts of his countrymen.

By the Orator of the Day, R. R. Bridgers. To the Revolutionary soldiers, the surviving few: May they live longer yet, enjoy a greater happiness still, in the hour of death be as happy as their lives have been great; and after their departure from this vale of woe, be as blessed as their actions were noble.

By the Clergyman, Rev. W. Bellamy. Christianity, not Naziritism: Tretolaim to the shades, temperance and thankfulness for life.

By the assistant Clergyman, T. L. Coster. Civil and religious liberty: The most lovely of the fair, harmoniously may they live in these U. States, and never die.

By the Marshal of the Day, Col. B. D. Battle. The steam engine, it moves with the speed of thought and the power of the whirlwind: May it never stop its career, till it has run out of debt, and drawn a car freighted with a forty horse power of dividends.

By the assistant Marshal, Col. J. E. Lindsay. Nash county: Tho' her means be small, her spirit is strong; and the fame of her "South Side," is co-extensive with the limits of the Union.

By James M. Battle. Our Navy—justly denominated the right arm of our defence: May its steady increase be not impeded by any penurious policy of the Government, but liberal appropriations be made that it may grow with the growth of the nation, & strengthen with its strength.

By R. H. Battle. Woman: She ne'er with traitorous kiss her Saviour stung, She ne'er denied him with unholly tongue; She when apostles shrank, could danger brave, The last at his cross, the earliest at his grave.

By Jesse Mercer. American liberty—purchased by the sacred blood of our ancestors in their stern and manly resistance to oppression, guarded by Constitution and secured by Union: May the price of its attainment prompt us all to transmit it unimpaired as a legacy to posterity.

By Dennis Sorey. The Fathers of the Revolution: We thank them for our heritage.

By Thos. J. A. Cooper. The blaze of liberty that first cast its light on the United States: May it continue until it illuminates the whole world.

By Joshua Wilkinson. The emigrant sons and daughters of North Carolina—though absent, not forgotten: May they be as prosperous and contented as those they leave behind them.

By Robert Sorey. National honor: A mighty stimulant, with which a people can never become too deeply intoxicated.

By Jno. F. Bellamy. The Star of Bethlehem and the Star-spangled Banner of America—as the first directed the path of the wise men of old to the manger of the Saviour and alarmed a despot, so may the last prove a galaxy of light, to enquiring millions both in the old and new world to the cradle of civil and religious freedom, and a desolating constellation to blight and wither the nativity and reign of tyranny in every clime and age.

By Job Thigpen. Old bachelors and old maids—a cold set; May they be toasted until they are melted together.

By David Barlow.

Man wants but little here below,
Nor wants that little long;
Man wants two drinks every day,
And that is very strong.

By Wm. Hughes. Let a full and choice glass be quaffed to woman—she'll not condemn the wine but the vile excess.

By John W. Mitchell. North Carolina—the first of the 13 to declare, may she be the last of the 26 States to abandon the principles of the Constitution.

By a true lover of Miss M——. The ladies of Battleboro': May their walks through life be as transcendently happy and useful, as their exquisite beauty so eminently prognosticate.

By Gray Armstrong. Our Republic—a government of checks and balances: May it ever preserve its equilibrium.

By F. H. Knight. Edgecombe county—the first agricultural county in the State: May her neighbors profit by her example.

By David L. Bunn. Wealth and prosperity to the tree of our liberty.

By J. G. Rice. May a memento of the brilliant achievements of our ancestors in the days of '76, be perpetuated through all succeeding ages of posterity, and may the genial rays of which, continue to animate the bosoms of all America's sons, and illuminate the civilized world.

By ———.
May this day long remember'd be,
And handed down to posterity.

By Jas. Taylor. The spirit of '76—with feeble means it achieved a nation's freedom and found the truth of holy writ, that "the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong."

By H. Ricks. North Carolina: May she never be humbugged by a foreign foe, as some of her citizens have been by the morris multicaulis.

By John E. Thorn. The signers of the Declaration of Independence: Their spirits are gone, their bodies sleep in their graves—shall we their posterity ever forget to commemorate a 4th of July? Oh, no, no, never!

By H. L. Williford. The farmers of Edgecombe—the most independent people on the face of the globe: May their harvest this season be commensurate with their just deserts.

By Wright Edmondson. The Proprietors of the Rocky Mount Cotton Factory: May they always be rewarded as their energy and industry deserve, and their solvability ever be as its foundation.

By S. P. Jenkins. Cotton and pork—the husbandman's glory: May their prices be such as to compensate us for our trouble.

By N. J. Pittman.

Wine and woman make a man smart,
The one makes his head ache, the other his heart

By T. M. Wilkins. The fair of the good old North State: May God bless one and all with good husbands, and may good husbands be blessed with good wives, and then—oh! what a paradise this good old North State will be.

By Joseph S. Battle. True genuine religion in heart and in practice, true genuine republicanism in heart and in practice—temperance in all things.

By Peter W. Pope. The bonds of wedded bliss: May no change in society ever repudiate them.

By W. J. Armstrong. The Declaration of Independence—a noble proclamation of freedom to the world, a light to guide the oppressed of every age and every clime.

By James Ricks. To temperance—let us fill our glasses and think of temperate men—oh! that we could only drink and do like them.

By Jno. J. Barker. Our guests: We tender them our congratulations, and beg leave to express the pleasure we feel in uniting with them on this occasion.

By J. B. Hunter. As brothers we have met and so let us part.