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## The Tarborough Press,

By GEORGE HOWARD, JR.

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## POETRY.

FOR THE TARBORO' PRESS.

### TO MARY.

I have observed your gentle ways,  
I've seen what passes there.  
And all my study was to please,  
And you, my only care.  
I do esteem you, for above  
All others of your sex;  
Possessed of every power to please,  
Without a will to vex.  
And while your beauties I admire,  
Your virtues I adore;  
I glow with friendship and esteem,  
And love you more and more.  
Now, if these signs denote a heart  
To friendship feeling true,  
Grant me the mighty boon I ask,  
To be esteemed by you. B—

### THE PRINTER'S MISSION.

BY FREDERICK WING COLE.

To hold and trim the torch of Truth  
And wave it o'er the darkened earth;  
To sway the yearning heart of youth  
And give the earnest thought its birth;  
Abroad upon thy way to fling,  
From off thy never-resting wing,  
Upon the crowds that blindly grope  
In blank despair, a spray of hope,—  
This is thy mission to thy kind,  
Thou mighty Mercury of Mind.  
What though thy torch be often fed  
From fane where falsehood sits enshrined!  
And poison mingles with the bread  
Thou givest to the hungered mind;  
What though the press prolific teems  
With idle trash and skeptic dreams;  
Give open field, and humbly wait  
Till thou shalt see their final fate,  
Truth needs to aid her giant blows,  
No vantage ground above her flows.  
The patient scribe struck long ago  
Upon his slowly yielding race,  
And iron custom felt the blow,  
And after years its mark could trace,  
Think not that thou shalt leave behind  
Upon the Protean public mind  
The image that thy choice would make—  
A shape unknown to thee 't will take—  
But strike! thy arm shall help to mould  
This mental mass no longer cold.  
Who sent thee forth? Thou herald ray  
Of dawning brightness, which so soon  
Has taught us that was far from day  
Which boasting Athens thought was  
noon!  
Was it from Faustus' brain alone  
Thou had'st thy being? Hast thou grown  
In skill so wise, in strength so great,  
To sport with fools or sway the state?  
I see thy brightening path it tends  
From higher source to noble ends.  
Thou art the child of Him who brings  
From man's device His own decree;  
A minister of holy things  
His providence will make of thee.  
The Gospel Angel, far and wide  
O'er earth will find thee at his side.  
And, while he sends in cadence clear  
His message to the heedless ear,  
Thine is the mission from on high  
To hold it to the steadfast eye.  
Then speed the Press! It is the heart  
From which the mental pulse is fed;  
Then speed the Press! Its throbbing dart  
Where all would else be cold and dead.  
It gives a form to mortal strife  
And struggles of the inner life,  
Where errors meet and clash and fall,  
And truth shouts triumph o'er them all.  
Its weary work is all designed  
By one great mind-controlling Mind.

## POLITICAL.

From the Washington Republican.

The following characteristic letter of the Hon. Dixon H. Lewis, was in reply to a communication from a gentleman in Texas.  
WASHINGTON CITY, Feb. 14, 1844.  
My Dear Sir:—I am indebted to you for two letters since the meeting of Congress—the last containing a copy of the expression of the individual opinion of the members of the Texan Congress in favor of annexation. I have so far not written to

you because there has been here as yet, no denouncement of the question—we, who have felt anxiously on the subject, having been hoping a movement from your Congress, which would present a practical issue, from which the mere politicians could not escape, or some action on the part of the Executive who we all know, has his heart deeply in the result. The strong interest both of Clay and Van Buren, as their close friends suppose—is not to meddle with a question, the strength of which has never been tested—lest its explosive power might blow them both sky high. Better friends of Texas than either of them can easily be found, and hence they have a common interest in staving off the issue, though if it is forced on them, I have no doubt either of them could be driven into a support of the measure. In this state of the game, we have felt the difficulty of moving on the abstract question in the absence of any tangible issue presented either by the official action of the Texan Congress or through the diplomatic intercourse of the two Governments. Such a move might be stifled by the cry of being got up for party purposes, sinister to the advancement of both Clay and Van Buren. Still the public mind is gradually bringing up the question in spite of politicians—and without some reasonable ground to hope for some definite movement such as I before indicated before Congress adjourns, the naked issue of annexation, cannot longer be delayed. If no one more suitable, I will move it myself—for I shall never cease to remember with pride, that I was the first man who ever in Congress expressed himself in favor of Texan independence, and Waddy Thompson often reminds me that he and I were the first men who passed through the tellers when the vote was given for recognition by our Government. Whenever the game is fairly up and the chase opened, I have no fears of the result of annexation. Popular sympathy, whenever it is uncontaminated by abolition or British influence, will sweep with a whirlwind's rage the calculating politicians who dare oppose it. I have no doubt it would prove even stronger than Clay and Van Buren both united. To the North it is a question of interest, to the West one of feeling; while to the down-trodden, tariff-ridden, and abolition be-devilled South, it is a question of existence. Let the issue of annexation be once rendered doubtful, and instinct of self-preservation would convince them that their hopes of safety were stronger on the other side of the Sabine than of the Delaware. I send you by to-day's mail a pamphlet copy of Walker's admirable essay in favor of annexation.

I have to day given to Lewis Coryell, of Pennsylvania, a warm hearted friend to Texas, a letter of introduction to you which I hope you will receive. He will tell you exactly how matters stand here on that question. Why do not the people of Texas meet together and agitate the question of American over British annexation, and scourge their public functionaries into an acquiescence with their views? Every thing of that kind would do good. Excuse this hasty letter, which you are at liberty to use in any manner which will promote the cause. I go for annexation heart and soul, and as one I feel that I am not willing forcibly to be kept severed from you, by the influence of those whose sympathies are more in favor of our slaves than the whites of the South or Texas.

Your friend,

DIXON H. LEWIS.

HON. J. RUGELY.

From the Washington Spectator.

COM. STEWART'S POLITICAL OPINIONS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SPECTATOR.

SIR: You will oblige a number of your readers by the publication of the annexed Letter of Commodore STEWART, declarative of his political principles.

Philadelphia, May 22, 1841.

GENTLEMEN: I have had the honor to receive your communication as a committee of the "Old Ironsides Club of the City and County of Philadelphia," accompanied by their resolutions passed at their stated meeting held on the 15th inst.

In your communication you remark, that "the association being composed of a large number of the Democratic citizens of the city and county of Philadelphia, entertaining the fullest confidence in my patriotism and mental endowments, as well as my honest and consistent attachment to the pure fundamental principles of the Democratic faith, as promulgated by that great disciple of liberty, Thomas Jefferson, and perpetuated by Andrew Jackson, have placed my name before the nation as a candidate for the Chief Magistracy of a free and a great people," and you ask whether I will "allow them, in conjunction with my Democratic fellow citizens throughout the Union, to present my name to the peo-

ple for their adoption through a Democratic National Convention;" and further, that "you are instructed to obtain my views of the great Democratic principles which have distinguished the party of the people since the days of 'the great Apostle of Democracy,' in order that the people of the Union may be satisfied that I am, as I ever have been, the firm, consistent and devoted friend of equal laws, equal rights, political, civil, and religious liberty."

For this distinguished preference of my fellow-citizens of the city and county of my nativity, I beg leave to return, through you, their committee, my sincere and grateful thanks, and to express to them a hope that before the period shall arrive for the assembling of a Democratic National Convention, our fellow-citizens may be enabled to present a name more worthy of this high distinction, which may so readily be found in the great and patriotic Democratic family of our Union.

That the resolutions of the club which you represent may be fully complied with I have no hesitation frankly to state, that should our fellow-citizens deem it proper to present my name in the manner they propose, though I neither seek nor desire it, I have no right to withhold it. For although I am filled with the most profound sense of my own deficiencies for the exalted station which has been adorned by names so illustrious, I also conceive that it is not the part of patriotism to shun any duty which may be required by my fellow-citizens.

The circumscribed position of a naval commander affords but few occasions for the development of his political principles or sentiments. Born in the city of Philadelphia during the height of the arduous struggle for independence, contemporaneously with so many glorious events, I could not but, with the first dawning of life, inhale those principles of republicanism, which are so well calculated to confer the largest share of happiness on the greatest number of those who live under their auspices. I early imbibed an ardent attachment to the doctrines taught by the Sage of Monticello, which has been confirmed by the experience of each succeeding year; and, from my first exercise of the elective franchise, down to the present hour, I have unwaveringly contributed my humble aid to promote and maintain the ascendancy of the Democratic party, its principles and candidates.

In the Constitution of the United States will be found every essential rule for the guidance of those who may be designated by the people to carry out its principles, for their protection and welfare. A careful, nay, even a strict construction of that instrument is indispensable to our well-being: such a construction as would effectually exclude every other, not palpably necessary and proper, to effect the execution of its various articles. If this fundamental principle be deviated from, each part of the Constitution may be successively invaded, until the intent of its framers will gradually disappear, and every original landmark be forever obscured in the dark and bewildering mazes of a latitudinous construction.

The people, in confiding to the General Government the *purse* and the *sword*, believed that they were placing them in the most safe and efficient hands. This surrender of the whole means of public defence makes the superintendence of it, in all its branches, a primary duty in the national functionaries. Although the immediate control over this subject has been wisely lodged in Legislative hands, yet the influence of the Executive in recommending defensive measures, in the first instance, and his control over them, under the sanction of laws, afterwards, render him highly responsible for maintaining the rights, interests, and honor of the country. Under this responsibility, it well becomes a Chief Magistrate to keep in view the efficiency of the national defences, for we are admonished by high authority, that "to be unprepared to punish insult, is to court it;" and that "in defensive preparations are to be found the best means of preserving peace."

In a government of checks and balances, the accumulation of power in the hands of any one man, or set of men, should be narrowly watched, as dangerous to liberty. In the influence of Executive patronage may be found a fruitful source of alarm, and its dispensation cannot be guarded with too jealous an eye, lest merit and capacity be proscribed, the bitterness of party spirit encouraged, and successful efforts be made to control the freedom of opinion, or of the press, or to corrupt the people, that place may be retained or power augmented.

Economy forms one of the prominent virtues and duties of a republican government. It does not consist, however, in withholding from faithful public services a just compensation: neither does it consist in according with parsimonious hands the means of promoting the public defence. But it consists in closing every unnecessary drain on the public treasury; and also, for the same purpose, there is strenuously re-

quired a judicious application of the appropriations to their objects and a vigorous execution of the laws regarding them.

Agriculture, commerce, manufactures, and the mechanic arts are the great sources of our national prosperity. These, when sustained by a well-regulated system, which system I should hold, for the most part, to be best, when least shackled, constitute the greatest portion of the wealth and power of the country. In cherishing them, we cherish what enabled our fathers to rise superior to colonial dependence, and disregarding the numberless difficulties and dangers which surrounded them, to establish upon a sure and solid foundation the greatest republic among the nations of the earth.

"To cherish a liberal commercial intercourse with other nations, without involving ourselves in entangling alliances with any," to do justice to others and rigidly exact it in turn, are also among the prominent obligations of the Federal Government.

It is a fixed principle in our Government which cannot be too faithfully adhered to in practice, nor too often repeated, that it was instituted to promote the welfare of the people; that those who make, and those who carry into effect the laws, are but their agents; and that to generate any distinct interests between the people and their government is incompatible with this principle, and was never contemplated by the framers of the Constitution.

A perfect tolerance of political opinion, and freedom in the exercise of the elective franchise, are indispensable; for a government based on public opinion becomes impaired when intolerance and a lawless control of the right of suffrage withdraw from it that support; and we should bear in mind, that while under the imperative Democratic principle, the will of the majority is to prevail in all cases, yet that "the minority possess rights, to violate which would be oppression."

Opposition to political measures should rather be invited than deprecated; for in laudable opposition there may be found security from error; nor should it be forgotten, that "every difference of opinion is not a difference of principle," and that, as citizens of the same republic, we are all equally interested in the honor, welfare, and happiness of our common country.

It may be affirmed as an incontestible truth, that the tendency of corporate bodies and associated wealth is inimical to the liberty, as it is destructive of the equality of the people; and the authority to create them was wisely withheld from the General Government by the States. Should this view be considered as too forcibly stated, my answer is plain and direct: the doctrine has been proved sound by experience, and has received the assent of the Democratic party. If it be erroneous, the responsibility of its maintenance is shared by a Jefferson and a Madison, with a Snyder and a Jackson.

Since the adoption of our present form of Government, questions of importance have arisen, upon which different portions of our fellow-citizens have taken issue. Some of these questions will probably never be revived. Should occasion arise when important ones may be presented, which would turn on a doubtful construction of the Constitution, you may rest assured that my convictions of right would be based upon the only true and safe foundation—that of the Jeffersonian school.

If the views here set forth of the principles of Democracy, under our Constitution, and which embrace perhaps the largest portion of our national policy, prove satisfactory to you, I cannot but feel proud that they have undergone in me no change or diminution, but, on the contrary, they have been confirmed and strengthened by the many opportunities I have had of observing foreign rule, under different forms of government, as well as the happy position of our country under the doctrines of our Declaration of Independence, which have so fully proved to us that man is not incapable of self government.

For the flattering manner in which you have been pleased to express yourselves, in relation to any of my public services, I pray you to accept my thanks. In giving assurance that whatever I may have done for my country, by fighting her battles or otherwise, has not been unobserved, you convey to me the most grateful reward I could receive—the approbation of my fellow-citizens.

Accept, gentlemen, for yourselves and the association you represent, the assurances of the respectful esteem with which I have the honor to be your obliged servant and fellow-citizen,  
CHAS. STEWART.

From the Globe.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GLOBE.

Washington, May 16, 1844.

SIR: The following letter having been submitted to my disposal, I ask of you to give it an immediate publication in your

paper. I am satisfied that you will take pleasure in complying with this request, that the public may be apprised of the sentiments of another distinguished democrat upon the interesting subject to which your letter refers. Your compliance will much oblige your, &c., W. T. COLQUITT.

Detroit, May 10, 1844.

DEAR SIR: In answer to your inquiry, whether I am favorable to the immediate annexation of Texas to the United States, I reply that I am. As you demand my opinion only of this measure, and briefly the reasons which influence me, I shall confine myself to these points.

I shall not dwell upon the policy of uniting coterminal countries, situated like ours and Texas, with no marked geographical feature to divide them, and with navigable streams penetrating the territories of both; nor upon the common origin of the people who inhabit them, upon their common language, manners, religion, institutions, and, in fact, their identity as a branch of the human family. Nor shall I urge the material interests involved in the measure, by the free intercourse it would establish between the various sections of a vast country mutually dependent upon, and supplying one another. These considerations are so obvious, that they need no elucidation from me.

But, in a military point of view, annexation strikes me as still more important, and my mind has been the more forcibly impressed with this idea from reading the able letter of General Jackson upon this subject, which has just come under my observation. With the intuitive sagacity which makes part of the character of that great man and pure patriot, he has foreseen the use which a European enemy might make of Texas in the event of a war with the United States. A lodgement in that country would lay open our whole southwestern border to his devastations. We could establish no fortress, nor occupy any favorable position; for the immense frontier may, in a vast many places, be crossed as readily as a man passes from one part of his farm to another. The advantages an active enemy would enjoy under such circumstances, it requires no sagacity to foretell.

These considerations recall to my memory an article which made its appearance just before I left Europe, in a leading tory periodical in England, which is understood to speak the sentiments of a powerful party. This is Frazer's Magazine; and a more nefarious article never issued from a profligate press. It ought to be stereotyped and circulated from one end of our country to the other, to show the designs which are in agitation against us, and to teach us that our safety in that mighty contest which is coming upon us, is in a knowledge of our danger, and in a determination, by union, and by a wise forecast, to meet it, and defeat it. The spirit of this article is sufficiently indicated by its title, which was, "a war with the United States a blessing to mankind." I cannot refer to it at this moment, but must speak of it from recollection. I have often been surprised it has not attracted more attention in our country. Its object was to provoke a war with the United States and to lay down the plan of a campaign, which would best bring it to a fortunate conclusion in England. The basis of this plan was the organization of the necessary black force in the West India Islands, and its debarkation upon our southern coast. The consequences which our enemies fondly hoped for, in such a case, but with an entire ignorance of the true state of the country, were foretold with a rare union of philanthropy and hatred. I wish I had the number at hand, to cull some choice passages for your reflection. The result was to be the destruction of the southern States, the ruin or depression of the others, and the dissolution of this great and glorious confederacy, on which the last hopes of freedom through the world now rest.

What more favorable position could be taken for the occupation of English black troops, and for letting them loose upon our States, than is afforded by Texas? Incapable of resisting in the event of a war between us and England, she would be taken possession of by the latter, under one or another of those pretences, which every page of her history furnishes, and the territory would become the depot whence she would carry on her operations against us, and attempt to add a servile war to the other calamities which hostilities bring with them. He who doubts whether this would be done, has yet to learn another trait in the annals of national antipathy. It would be done, and be called philanthropy.

Every day satisfies me more and more, that a majority of the American people are in favor of annexation. Were they not, the measure ought not to be effected. But as they are, the sooner it is effected the better. I do not touch the details of the negotiation. That must be left to the responsibility of the government; as, also, must the bearing of the question upon, and