

THE TARBOROUGH PRESS.

No. 1293.

Tarborough, Edgecombe County, N. C. Saturday, June 21, 1851.

Vol. XXVII. No. 23.

The Tarboro' Press, BY GEORGE HOWARD.

Is published weekly at Two DOLLARS per year if paid in advance—or, Two DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS at the expiration of the subscription year. Advertisements not exceeding a square will be inserted at ONE DOLLAR the first insertion, and 25 CENTS for every succeeding one. Longer ones at that rate per square. Court Orders and Judicial advertisements 25 per cent. higher.

POLITICAL.



From the Raleigh Standard.

We invite the attention of our readers to the letter of James B. Shepard, Esq., in our paper of to-day, declining the nomination for Congress in this District, tendered him by the Franklin Democracy. This letter contains the best exposition of the so-called Compromise measures which we have seen. Mr. Shepard has handled the subject in a masterly and conclusive manner, showing most clearly that while the Southern people have lost important rights by those measures, they have gained really nothing in return. Still, as a friend of the Union and for the sake of peace, and in the hope of peace, he is willing to acquiesce in those measures and abide by them.

MR. SHEPARD'S LETTER.

RALEIGH, June 2nd, 1851.

GENTLEMEN: You will believe me that it is with the most profound gratitude and a deep sense of your kindness towards me—a kindness, at once unexpected and unmerited—that your communication has this day been received, to which I now propose to submit a very few words in reply. It is conceded on all hands that our late respectable representative in Congress recognizes the right of a State in its sovereign capacity to secede peaceably from the Union. It is not less clear that an overwhelming majority, indeed almost the entire voice of the popular party together with a portion of the opposition in this District entertain the same opinion; while the intelligent and influential members of the Whig party regard such a right as inconsistent with the spirit of our institutions and the very nature of the government itself, and hold its exercise (if it have any real existence) as visionary and impracticable. It may, therefore, well be questioned as to what extent and from whom opposition should arise.

While every one, gentlemen, at this juncture of public affairs must have solicitude as to the future, the Republican party have much cause to be proud that they have had but little agency in producing the present state of things; and that their principles, triumphant now in most of the States, and derived, as they are from the only true reading of the Constitution, afford the safest rallying point for all the friends of our system of government. These principles are still what they were in the days of yore; and they have become the laws of the land in the present Tariff and Independent Treasury. They are generally acquiesced in—at any rate, their opponents do not deem it prudent to attack them, and this is at once a tribute to their intrinsic excellence as it is a confession of their propriety, justice, and adaptation to the true policy of the country. And, I verily believe that, if the Republican party had remained in power and their advice had prevailed in the federal councils, we should have had peace, concord, and good will, at this hour, on the paramount question of the day. I hold the institution of slavery (I mean domestic slavery) to be a moral and political blessing; yea more, gentlemen, I deem it

to be absolutely essential—a *sine qua non*—if not to the existence, at least to the preservation and continuance of political liberty—I recognize that the people, in a case of intolerable oppression either as it respects persons or property, have a right to throw off their allegiance and form a new government. It appears to me that the federal legislature has no power either to agitate or to act upon this question, except in relation to fugitives from service; in other words, the doctrine of non-interference, defeated in 1848, seems essential to the preservation of the institution itself, of the rights of the States, and indispensable also to the public peace and harmony. I need not remind you that other doctrines, under other auspices, have of late prevailed; and the fruits of these doctrines we are now compelled to taste and realize in all their bitterness. By departures from the Constitution, and by aggressions upon the rights of the States, as the result of these departures, the Union has been brought to the verge of disruption, and our peculiar institution not only circumscribed, but menaced with ultimate extinction where it now exists. Under the guise of "compromise" we have had aggression; instead of receiving justice, we have been compelled to submit to wrong; and after having made concession upon concession for the sake of the Union, we are still as far as ever, I fear, from the enjoyment of that repose and that quiet for which these concessions were made.

By this compromise, to which I have alluded, California was brought into the Union—Texas was dismembered—Territorial governments were established for Utah and New Mexico—the slave trade was abolished in the District of Columbia—and the fugitive slave law was adopted. Let me briefly examine these measures.

California was won from a common enemy by the common blood and treasure. We did not ask Congress to establish slavery there, but to erect a territorial government without the Wilmot Proviso and leave slavery to take care of itself. What was done? Congress and the Legislatures of the free States, agitated against slavery in that region, and the slaveholder was told by eminent statesmen both of the North and South, that the Mexican laws on the subject would of themselves prevent his removal in that country. In addition to this, Congress refused to establish a territorial government, while the Executive secretly favored the erection of a State in that province, so as to enable him to escape a vote or an approval of the Wilmot Proviso; the people of the free States rushed in, framed a government, applied for admission as a sovereign, were admitted by a majority of the votes of the free States, and, at that time, solely because they had prohibited slavery; and thus the Southern people were forever deprived of the privilege of emigrating with their property to the shores of the Pacific, and were cut off by the act, deliberately performed of their own government, from all participation in the advantages and benefits of a province which their swords and their treasure had contributed to purchase.

Texas possessed some sixty millions of acres which were claimed by New Mexico. Texas was a sovereign—New Mexico was not. Texas had established her limits by the sword, and we received her into the Union as she offered herself, with her limits defined—New Mexico was property and had been bought, Texas paying a portion of the purchase money. These sixty millions of acres were slave soil—New Mexico, it was claimed, was free soil under the operation of the Mexican laws. What was done? The President threatened to make war on Texas on behalf of the claim of New Mexico; and Congress, in order to save the Union, I suppose, offered Texas \$10,000,000 for these acres. The offer to purchase and the purchase implied her right to them, for how could she sell what did not belong to her? Ragged beggar as she was, the offer was accepted; she was needy, and she took the bribe; and thus were the slaveholding States compelled to contribute of their own money, by the action of a common government, to purchase slave soil on which to establish, in due time, a free State!

Territorial governments were establish-

ed for Utah and New Mexico. This was a simple act of justice, long delayed. Here the Proviso was not applied, because, in the opinion of Messrs. Webster and Clay, it was not considered necessary; if it had been, you have their recorded declarations to the effect that they would have sustained it.

The slave trade was abolished in the District of Columbia. North Carolina declared, by large majorities in her Legislature in '48-'49, "that the enactment of any law by Congress which shall abolish slavery or the slave trade in the District of Columbia" would "be an act not only of gross injustice and wrong, but the exercise of power contrary to the true meaning and spirit of the Constitution, and never contemplated by the framers thereof." The act has been passed—the "gross injustice and wrong" have been perpetrated—and are we now called upon to approve that act? Are those who think proper to protest against it, to be denounced as agitators and disunionists? Is self-stultification a necessary ingredient of modern patriotism? Is political inconsistency the best criterion of statesmanship? If Congress can constitutionally abolish the slave trade in the District of Columbia, that body can abolish the institution itself in that District—for the power to do the former carries with it the power to do the latter. Congress has no jurisdiction, anywhere, over the institution of slavery. This is the true ground. But the country was told that the slave trade in the District was *offensive* to our Northern brethren, and that we might consent to so little a matter as the prohibition of it. If offensive there, it is offensive here also; and indeed no one, more than myself, more heartily scorns the mere trade in human flesh, for the sole purpose of gain. The true slavery man regards this property as sacred in some degree, and nothing, save imperative and dire necessity or its gross misbehavior, will induce him to dispose of it. But I am not now pretending to discuss the moral or social duties of man—it is my design at present only to look at this question as it respects the powers which government possesses in regard to it. And I repeat, that the South can gain nothing by yielding its outposts. And besides, when have abolitionists ceased to insult and deery us? Do they ever prase in a course of agitation and assault, of fraud, and falsehood, and injury, which must destroy us? Have we obtained a truce by these concessions? No, and we never shall so long as we dispute and divide among ourselves on party topics.

We were entitled to the fugitive slave law under an express clause of the Constitution—there was no concession here; and what is more, but for the Southern vote, this law would not have passed, for all, but a fraction of the members from the free States, either refused to vote or voted against it.

Here, then, is a "compromise" all on one side, with only one measure intended to benefit the South, and that passed in pursuance of the plain letter of the Constitution and by Southern votes! We compromise by yielding important rights, and they by enacting a palpable provision of the Constitution! We agree that slavery shall be put under the ban as offensive, and that it shall be circumscribed, hemmed in for all time; and they consent—no, not even consent but only allow on their part, so far forth as the law speaks, to deliver up our escaped slaves, because the Constitution says they shall. Is this justice? Is this equality? Is this brotherhood? Is this worthy of approval? I acquiesce in these measures as the friend of the Union—I will not, because I cannot, approve them. But even now, if the people of the free States will return to the path of duty, the Union will be preserved and quiet restored. No man goes before me in devotion to the Constitution on which the Union is based, and no one can deplore, more deeply than I do, the causes which threaten the destruction of both.

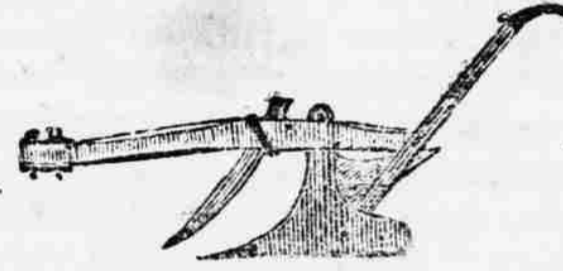
As regards the more special object of your communication, I regret to add, gentlemen, that circumstances beyond my control, the situation of my private affairs, the heat of the season, a possible absence from home, the tendency to a disease of the brain, which might be as it

often is rendered dangerous by constant exposure to a hot sun and a warm climate, all admonish me to decline (as I now do) your nomination. In truth, I have no desire whatever to renew an acquaintance with political life; but, gentlemen, rest well assured, that if any consideration short of an imperative sense of public duty, could induce me to forego such a resolution, it would be the too partial estimate placed on my character and services by such kind friends as yourselves and those you represent.

With great respect,
Your obt. humble serv't.,
JAMES B. SHEPARD.

To Messrs. William Baker, J. Robert Jeffreys, and Joseph Harris, Committee.

AGRICULTURAL.



From the Raleigh Star.

CULTURE OF CORN.

If we were about to prescribe a mode of culture for ourself, we should feel no embarrassment, as we have long since made up our opinion upon that head; but to lay down rules for others, with the full knowledge that every neighborhood of ten miles has its own mode of doing the thing; and that, in some, a dozen different ways are held as being the best, we feel not a little perplexed how to advise.—To make a clean breast of it, however, we will say at once, that our instructions are not intended for experienced corn planters, but for young beginners, who perhaps may stand in need of them. With this brief explanation, we shall tell first how we cultivated our corn, and then give our reasons for our practice.

As soon as the corn plants came up and were a few inches high, we ploughed a furrow from either side, and returned it again; hands followed with hoes, to relieve any plants that might be covered up, and clear off any weeds and grass from immediately around them. All subsequent working was done with the cultivator and hoe; the plough never touched the corn again. We watched our field, and whenever our soil became the least hardened on the surface, or showed the least foulness from weeds, or grass, we set the cultivator to work, cultivating as near the corn as possible, so as to lessen the work as much as possible, to be done with the hoe. Sometimes we worked our corn three times, sometimes four, but always when it needed it, up to the time of its getting into silk; making it a moral duty, to keep the earth always open, light and clean, so that the plants should suffer for nothing, which cleanliness could secure it. In times of drought, we kept the cultivators busy, believing the lighter and cleaner the soil was, upon such occasions, the greater would be its capacity for absorbing and condensing the dews.

Our opposition to the use of the plough, in working corn, arises from our conviction, that the lateral roots of the plants never should be lacerated, torn, or broken, as we look upon them as the mediums through which the plants derive their food from the earth. If any one will dig the earth from around a hill of corn, he will find these lateral roots extending in all directions, a few inches beneath the surface, reaching from row to row; so that it is impossible to use the plough without cutting them off. At the extreme points of these roots, are situated the mouths through which the plants receive their nourishment. Now, if we would destroy these, what is the consequence? It is natural, by an effort of nature, they set to work and replace them by the growth of others? But while these others are growing beneath the earth, the structures above it are suffering for want of food, and of course cannot carry on those of their progressive operations, upon which the perfect elaboration of the grain is dependent.

Again, we are opposed to the use of the plough, because it turns up the manure to the surface, where from exposure to atmospheric influences, all, or nearly all its

volatile virtues are exhaled, carried off by every breeze and entirely lost to the crop. It is our serious belief, that the main cause why there are so many ears of corn only partly filled with grain, may be traced to the use of the plough in its culture. Every ploughing serving to cut off their feeders, deprives the plants of the power of eating, whilst it wastes their food at the same time. All the ploughing that is needed, absolutely, is in the preparation of the ground; then the plough should be made to perform a faithful part—to go as deep as the strength of the team can force it into the earth,—there its offices should cease, and those of the cultivator come into active play. We believe too that corn does not require hilling; that it will resist storms better without it and make much more grain.

In connection with this subject, we will mention, that to secure our corn against the ravages of the cut worm and grub, we sowed two bushels of salt to the acre, about the time that the plants came up and that to impel their growth forward, we treated each hill to a mixture composed of 1 bushel of plaster, 5 bushels of ashes, and 10 bushels of rich mould, or rotten dung, apportioning that quantity to an acre, and giving a small handful to each hill, either before or just after the plants came up, a best suited our convenience.

We will further remark, that there is no better time to apply lime, ashes or marl, than when the corn ground is prepared, and that either should be well harrowed in.

From the Fayetteville Carolinian.

Colic in Horses.—Colic in horses is readily cured by tying a small piece of tobacco on the bit of the bridle. The cure is effected when the tobacco is dissolved in the saliva. We have seen horses cured in this way when swelled up badly and in great agony.

To keep Dogs from Sheep.—A Hartford paper gives the following mode to prevent dogs from killing sheep. If it succeeds it is certainly cheap enough:

Sheep will be protected from being killed or any way molested by dogs by putting common sheep bells upon them—to every 25 sheep put on two bells, which will make sufficient noise to frighten them, as sheep dogs are cowards, and will run away at the first sound. This fact has been amply tested by many farmers around me. Some of them who had no bells on their sheep, had many of them killed in one night; others, myself among the number, who had bells on their flock, were not in the least disturbed.

How to Cure your Corns.—Chambers' Journal says that you can relieve and finally cure corns by pinning them some, and applying with the finger, sweet oil, which should be done on getting up in the morning, and just before stepping into bed at night. Corn doctors are considered great humbugs, as they frequently make them more irritable.

A Quer Suit.—The Waukesha (Wis.) Democrat gives the particulars of a suit brought by a physician of that place, against two persons who took possession of a human body under the process of anatomical preparation. An inquest was held, and the remains were committed to the grave. The plaintiff brought an action against the inquest for damages; and in the prosecution of the suit, there appearing no evidence that the plaintiff was unlawfully possessed of the subject that the defendants acted under due authority, and the court decided that a human skeleton prepared for anatomical purposes, possessed value and should be regarded property, the jury upon the evidence before them, returned a verdict of fifty dollars damages for the plaintiff. From the evidence offered, it appears that a body is worth \$10, and a perfect skeleton \$50.

Orators owe their reputation not to the strength of their arguments, but to the power of their lungs. A Cicero of five bull power is twice as persuasive as a Cicero of only two bull. Again we say make a splurge. Not one man in a hundred can tell the difference between noise and eloquence.