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For the Old North State.

The Moral Aspects of the World.

No age has gone before us more pregnant with changeable events. It is true that no sudden moral revolution has in our time broken up, as by an electric shock, long settled habits of thought and action. The wars that for a quarter of a century made Europe a battle-field, and crowns and sceptres but ordinary playthings, have now for another quarter of a century hushed their clangor. But the energy infused into the public mind by those conflicts, has found other objects on which to expend itself. In former ages, wars might be succeeded by apathy, but the power of the press, the multiplication of new inventions, and the increased means of intercommunication, bringing the inhabitants of the world into compact proximity, have kept every nerve of body and mind in activity. The increased attention to education and the diffusion of intelligence in a greater or less degree throughout Christendom, has given to popular opinion, even under the most despotic governments, a power which it has not had before. It is an experimental age—the leading tendency is to change. Antiquity is fast losing its power to command reverence, and both truth and error are subjected to the crucible of unrestricted discussion. China, so long shut out from the rest of the world by her own exclusiveness, has had her barriers thrown down and the light of a different civilization, and the improvements of modern times—the arts of Europe and America; are breaking into her fastnesses, with all their vivifying and renovating influences. While we reprobate the war made on this ancient empire by Great Britain to force on her a trade in a vile and stupefying drug, we can have but one opinion as to the beneficial moral effect that will be the result. Nor are we prepared to say that it would have been either unjust or unwise for the nations of Europe to demand of her, a discharge of the social duties of neighborhood, to ask an abandonment of her isolation, and to require her to take her proper station in the community of nations. The British power over wide and populous regions of India is firmly established and is every year extending. A guilty ambition and a mercenary spirit have been the incitements to many and wasteful aggressions on the rights of independent nations there; but yet both the natural consequence of throwing on these nations the light of modern civilization—the opening a highway for Christianity and knowledge, and an overruling Providence which causes even the wickedness of men to work out its great and beneficent purposes, and will make this overturning of ancient dynasties a rich blessing of many millions. We look again to Western Asia, and missionaries from our own shores are silently diffusing the gospel on regions long darkened by Mahomedan superstition. The steamer with its rapid movements breaks up the torpor of the Mussulman, and the habits on which eyes had fixed their seal. Throughout Asia the inhabitants are awakening from the sleep of centuries. The first symptom of consciousness—the half-opened eye catches a glimpse of a new day, and, however the dreamer may turn from side to side and court a drowsy insensibility, the time has past when sleep can close the eyelids. A new youth must succeed a dotard age; the birth-place of our fathers will be modernized; our cousins of the family of Noah, despite of themselves, from the effect of constant intercommunication, will find themselves insensibly assimilating in thought, feeling and action with their distant relatives. The old stereotype plates, which, generation after generation, have fixed their impress on character, will be broken up. New thoughts, new impulses, the energizing power of the Christian religion and the potency of European civilization, will in less than a century, work a total transformation of moral and physical character throughout the wide realms of Asia. In Africa there are changes, but yet a deep darkness broods over her arid plains. The missionary here and there has erected his tent, and her countless millions, who have for centuries past been bound by the chains of superstition and barbarism, are beginning to immerse into the dawn of civilization. We cast our eyes over Europe, thickly studded with cities, and planted with empires. The busy must meeting the travellers' gaze wherever he wanders; the hum of business, uniting industry active enterprise, the laughfulness of wealth, the pride of birth, unrestricted power, the depths of poverty, the lowliness of degradation; universities, and schools, and lycums, and learning, and debasement, and ignorance; all that that lifts the soul to Heaven, and presses it down to Hell; all that is pure and holy, and all that is corrupt; the beauty of the

The Old North State.

VOL. 9.

"ERROR IS HARMLESS, WHEN TRUTH IS LEFT FREE TO COMBAT IT."

No. 10.

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C. SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 1849.

POLITICAL.

Reply of Will: B. Shepard to the Communication of the Hon. EDWARD STANLEY, published in the Register of March 28th.

When I published a card in the Register some weeks ago, correcting a statement in Mr. Stanley's speech, I did so, solely with the view of exonerating myself from the charge of inconsistency, in voting for Mr. Rayner in preference to Mr. Badger, for the United States Senate. I sincerely hoped my statement would answer its purpose, and that the matter would be permitted to pass into the oblivion which awaited it. The friends of Mr. Badger, however, seem not to be so disposed, and my delinquency in voting against him, is I presume, not to be forgotten.

Mr. Stanley thinks it very extraordinary, that I was not aware of Mr. Rayner's opinions upon the slavery question, because Mr. Rayner was the elector in this District, and frequently addressed the people. Extraordinary as it may seem, the fact is so. I was not present on any occasion when Mr. Rayner addressed the people, and if he discussed or approved of Mr. Badger's views upon slavery, I never heard it. And if he did so, his arguments produced but little effect, for I believe every member from the District except himself, voted for each of the resolutions which passed the Legislature. If my vote against Mr. Badger needed a vindication, it received a most triumphant one, in the passage of those resolutions, which Mr. Stanley thought "ridiculous." It is not for me to reconcile the absurdity of electing a man to the United States Senate, and then passing resolutions in direct conflict with his opinions. The only excuse for such conduct is, that a large majority of the Whig party in the Legislature, were ignorant of Mr. Badger's opinions on that subject. Nor was it the first time in the history of the Legislature of North Carolina, that gentlemen have been selected to represent the interests of the State, whose feelings were lukewarm, and who rather obstructed than advanced these interests. A similar state of things existed in our Legislature in 1840, which resulted in the loss of Mr. Clay's land bill; which, if it were now the law of the land, would furnish North Carolina ample means to execute all her cherished works of internal improvements, without restoring to the precarious resources of taxes, upon an impoverished people.

I have neither the desire or intention to vindicate my course in the Legislature; I presume the public feel no interest in the matter, nor am I disposed to trouble them with it.

The only point in which the people of North Carolina can feel any interest, as regards this controversy, is simply, whether Mr. Badger's opinions upon the power of the Federal Government over the subject of slavery are such as should be entertained by a Senator professing to represent the opinions and interests of the State. This is a grave question, and one amply deserving the attention of the whole people; and as Mr. Badger is a public servant and his friends have provoked this controversy, I will take the liberty of expressing my opinion on the subject. In doing so, I shall judge of Mr. Badger's opinions from his published speech, and his recorded votes, the only fair test by which a public man can be tried.

In order to examine this subject fairly, let us first understand what was this famous Compromise bill, about which we have heard so much, but which is so little understood. I have not the bill within my reach, but I think I can state its meaning very accurately. When the bill to organize a territorial Government for Oregon was before the Senate, a violent controversy arose between the Northern and Southern Senators, upon that feature of the bill which excluded Slavery; the controversy became so warm, that all moderate men were very much alarmed for the safety of the Union, and with a view of an amicable disposition of the subject, the matter was referred to a committee of eight members, four from the North and four from the South; this committee met and after consultation, reported through its chairman, the Hon. Mr. Clayton, the present Secretary of State, the compromise bill. This bill was regarded as a peace offering, and nearly all the moderate and considerate men, both in Congress and in the country, were in hopes it would pass, and calm this endless and dangerous discussion of Slavery, upon the floor of Congress. What were the features of compromise which this bill embodied? The Northern Senators had contended that they had the right to extend the Wilmot proviso over the Territories of the United States, and that it was the imperative duty of Congress to do it—this the Southern Senators denied. The com-

promise bill yielded this question on the part of the North, and imposed on Congress the duty of non-interference. Here was one point gained by the South. Again, many of the Northern Senators contended that the inhabitants of the territories had the right to restrict Slavery within their limits, which the Southern denied; the compromise bill prohibited territorial legislatures from passing any law either to prohibit or establish Slavery within the territory. This was another point of concession to the South. The Northern Senators insisted on ratifying the provisional laws of Oregon, one of which prohibited Slavery; the Southern Senators objected. The compromise bill declared such laws should continue in force only until three months after the first meeting of the territorial legislature. Here was a third point of concession yielded by the North. These three questions being settled by the bill, the controversy between the North and the South was narrowed down to a single point; and that was whether under the guaranties of the Constitution and laws of the United States, the Citizens of the South possess the right to carry their slaves into our Territories? The Southern Senators maintained the affirmative, the Northern the negative of this proposition; to reconcile which difference, it was agreed in the compromise bill, the question should be submitted to the Supreme Court. If the constitution under circumstances guaranties the rights of the South, the Court would so decide; if it does not, the South would not have resisted; all she asked was a fair decision of the questions.

This is a plain, I think a fair statement of the condition of the compromise bill; and no man, it seems to me, can doubt, that it would have settled this vexed question upon the terms honorable to all sections of the Union.

It was against this bill, that Mr. Badger voted in company with, (I write from memory) but two other Senators from slave States, viz: Mr. Underwood from Kentucky, who said his State was desirous of getting rid of Slavery, and Mr. Benton, who is known to be peculiar.

Such however, was the desire of the Senate of the United States, to dispose of the exciting topic, that the bill passed the Senate by a majority of, I think, three fifths of the Senators. The bill left the slave question, where the Constitution left it; this was the leading feature of the bill, and every friend of the peace and quiet of his country should regret that it did not pass the House of Representatives.

Mr. Badger, in his printed speech, assigns his reason for voting against the bill, to be, that the South gained nothing, but surrendered every thing; he says it is his deliberate conviction, that slave-holders should be allowed to settle in California, and then makes an ingenious and technical argument to prove, that Congress have the right to exclude slave-holders from doing so. Knowing then, as he must have known, that there is no probability of Congress ever passing any law to that effect, why did he oppose the only plan which probably ever will be offered to the slave-holders, of doing what he says they ought to be allowed to do? Mr. Badger argues in his speech, that slavery having been abolished by the laws of Mexico, the Supreme Court would decide against the slave-holder, carrying his slaves into the Territory; even if this were so, which many able men deny, why did he not give the slave-holders the benefit of the doubts, and permit them if they choose to run the risk, to carry their property with them to New Mexico, and California? They would have been no worse off then, than they are at present.—What the South surrendered by the compromise bill, I am unable to perceive; the question of Slavery in the Territories is either a political or a judicial one, if political, it must be settled by Congress, where we have every assurance of the Wilmot Proviso will prevail; if a judicial question, the Supreme Court must ultimately decide it. It is the opinion of some of our ablest constitutional lawyers, including Mr. Webster, that Congress has no right to acquire foreign territory, that it is a *casus omissus* in the Constitution. If this opinion is a sound one, is it not monstrous that Congress should first usurp the power to attach a foreign territory to the Union, and then govern that territory in such a manner as virtually to exclude a large portion of the people of this Country from emigrating to it? Yet this is the legitimate deduction from the argument of Mr. Badger's Speech.

If there was any reasonable ground for doubt as to what were Mr. Badger's opinions upon the slave questions at the time of his re-election to the Senate, all doubts must be removed by the course he pursued during the last session of Congress. When the annual appropriation

bill was before the Senate, Mr. Walker offered an amendment which extended the Constitution and certain laws of the United States, over our conquered territories; this amendment was violently opposed by the ultra Northern Senators.—Mr. Dayton, a Senator from New Jersey, said in his speech, that he objected to it, because it would alter the position of certain great interests in the Country; it would give the Southern slave-holder, removing to California, the protection of the constitution of the United States; he Mr. Dayton contending that at present the constitution does not extend there. Mr. Badger's name, without a word of explanation, is recorded in the minority, voting against this amendment, in company with Dayton, Davis of Massachusetts, Hale, Corwin, and all the violet fanatics. If the old proverb is politically true, that a man is known from his associates, Mr. Badger selects his company, in voting, very unfortunately. He opposed the compromise bill because the South gained too little, I suppose; he voted against Walker's amendment because the South gained too much. I am afraid there never will be that equal justice meted out in Congress, which his nicely balanced mind requires, and in the meantime his constituents must "go to the wall."

Mr. Badger intimated in his speech on the compromise bill, "that he could point out a very just and equitable mode which would save the honor of all the parties to this agitating question," and although twice asked on the floor of the Senate what that was, I believe he has never yet divulged it.—I suppose it is quietly reposing along side of his friend Benton's plan of the Mexican campaign; and it is to be hoped for the benefit of posterity, when all the wars are over, they will both be published.

That Mr. Badger is a Southern man with Northern principles, it seems to me no man can doubt who is willing to admit his speech and his votes as evidence of his opinions. When the resolutions which passed the last Legislature were before the House of Commons, they were bitterly opposed by his particular friends, one of whom called them "a trap for Mr. Badger." These resolutions are mild and temperate in their character, and under other circumstances, they would have passed the House of Commons as they did the Senate, without serious opposition. Mr. Badger and his friends certainly have no right to complain that the members of the Legislature did not shape their course to suit his peculiar views. He was treated with extraordinary courtesy and great tenderness, considering the nature of the case. The resolutions are presumed to speak the sentiments of the people of North Carolina; at all events, they were the sentiments of the body which elected Mr. Badger; and if they are not his, he is bound to suppose that he was elected under a misapprehension of his political opinions. Under such circumstances, he has a bright example of what conscientious men deem to be a duty, in the conduct of his immediate predecessor and neighbor; an example the more forcible, as it is taken from a party who, by some of his friends, are said to be particularly fond of office.

One extraordinary feature in this controversy is, that the advocates of Mr. Badger claim to be the peculiar friends of the Union, forgetting that his votes against the Compromise bill and Walker's amendment, were calculated to keep up the excitement and ultimately endanger the Union.

Mr. Stephens, of Georgia, one of the eight Southern members of the House of Representatives who voted with the free soil party to defeat the Compromise bill in that House, said on the floor, that he would vote against the Territories in every shape, unless slavery was admitted expressly. This course, although hopeless of a good result, is at least manly; and I suppose the bold Georgian intends, when voting is found useless, to stand to his arms. As Mr. Badger is not, I presume, prepared for that extremity, I cannot understand how, whilst voting against a measure calculated to strengthen the Union, his friends who sustain him, can claim any merit, as peculiar friends of the Union; unless Mr. Badger's friendship for the Union is exhibited in the same extraordinary way that his friendship for our Southern institution is exhibited.—"Call you that backing your friends? A plague upon such backing!"

I have now stated reasons, which in my judgment, sufficiently justified my not voting for Mr. Badger. If the gentleman for whom I did vote, entertained similar views, I am sorry for it; as a citizen of North Carolina, I am rejoiced they were not entertained by a large majority of the Legislature. I did not attend the caucus and proclaim my objections to Mr. Badger, because I was well aware that by so doing, I would merely incur a

great deal of ill will, without doing any good; and I preferred keeping aloof from the contest about the Senatorial election. It always affords me very great pleasure to act with my political friends, when I can conscientiously do so without violating a still higher obligation—my duty to my constituents. When such a crisis occurs, I have no other guide than the dictates of my own understanding; nor was I aware that in voting according to its promptings, without attempting to influence others, I was giving just cause of offence to any one. If the day has arrived in North Carolina, when the intolerance of party will not allow private judgment to any one, I admit it is of no consequence to the people, what are the opinions and votes of their public functionaries. WILL: B. SHEPARD.
Elizabeth City, April 3d, 1849.

FIRE ARMS DIFFERENTLY CHARGED.

Balls which fit accurately the bore of a piece, have the greatest effect, as they do not come out so readily but give time for the greater quantity of powder to ignite.

When the powder is rammed violently down, its effect is no greater, but somewhat less than when barely pressed down with the ball upon it.

Gunpowder around a ball diminishes its effect, as it expands in all directions, and when it is upon the top of a ball, it must in some measure act counter to its progress.

By taking a ball and putting a little powder under and considerable before it, its effects may be almost nullified, and yet there will be considerable noise when the gun is discharged.

BACON.

In saving bacon through the summer, many persons have it injured by skippers and for fear of this, they use the hams and shoulders early in the season.

I have saved mine in the following manner. When taken out of the salt, I let the brine drain off a little, and take black pepper, ground very fine, and rub well over the flesh side,—being very particular to rub into the cracks; then hang it up and smoke it. I never lost any when well put up in this manner. About one pound of pepper to 600 lbs. meat. Try it once, and perhaps it will benefit you as much as the "Farmer" has me.—(Prairie Farmer.)

MOCK CHICKEN PIE.

Boil common potatoes—season highly with salt and pepper; some prefer a little thyme or summer-savory. Pour milk over them, and stir till of a moderate paste; fill a pie dish with crust below and above the contents.—Some stew pieces of pork through it. Bake in an oven, and serve hot. A single crust, filled and doubled, is called *turn-overs*.

SAGO CREAM.

This article, so grateful to the sick, is prepared in the following manner:—Take dessert spoonful of good sago, and boil it in pure water until it is reduced to a jelly. Add a cup of sweet cream, and boil again. Beat up a fresh egg very light, and pour the sago on white hot. Sweeten and spice with sugar and nutmeg, to your taste.

The following resolution was passed at a public meeting held at Panama on the 10th ult:

Resolved, That whereas vessels have arrived exceeding the regulations, charges to our place of destination, we will not submit to any imposition; that we will not pay over \$150 for a passage in any sailing vessel to San Francisco; and that we hereby, our signatures and our honor, bind ourselves firmly to abide by this resolution.

Three hundred and fifty-five signed the above resolution.

We all complain that our time is short, yet we know not how to employ that which we have; our lives are wasted in doing nothing at all, or in doing nothing to the purpose or in doing nothing that we should do. We complain that our days are few and we act as though there would be no end to them.

Calumny is like the wasp which worries you, and which it is best not to try to get rid of, unless you are sure of slaying it; for otherwise it returns to the charge more furious than ever.

Never take the part of a railer; you would make an enemy of his victim.

He that is little in his own eyes, will not be troubled to be little in the eyes of others.

A venerable man says:—"Let the slanderer take comfort—it is only at fruit trees that the thieves throw stones."

If you desire to be happy when you are old be temperate while you are young.

Fine sense and exalted sens are not half so useful as common sense.

Few are so generous as to praise without making some drawback.

Fortune can take nothing from us but what she gave.

Why is a man sailing up the Tigris, like a man going to put his father into a sack?

Ans—He is going to Bagdad—(Bag dad.)

Why is a side-saddle like a four-quart measure?

Ans—It will hold a gallon—(gal.)

Why is a pastry-cook like an apothecary?

Ans—He sells pies and things—(poison things.)