



PROSPECTUS OF THE CAROLINA BEACON,

Published in the town of Greensborough, N. C.

Believing that a miscellaneous publication, conducted with a strict regard to the chastity of its columns, and neat appearance, would meet with sufficient encouragement in so wealthy and populous a section of our State, we will briefly give a few of the most prominent points of our view, of what we intend this paper to be—a Family Newspaper.

As it will doubtless be admitted that every person should be conversant with the politics of his country, such matters as are of general interest in this line, will be regularly published, in such a manner, as if possible to render them not unpleasant to any person. We shall at all times consider ourselves at liberty boldly to express our opinion on any subject, and shall ever oppose any movements in the heads of Departments, or others in power, tending in our opinion, to subvert the liberties of the people, or in any manner trespassing upon the powers granted to them by the people, and clearly set forth in our National Constitution. We will support such person for the Presidency, whose political course we believe most closely identified with the interests of the South, and interested in its welfare; but hope never, on account of sectional motives, so far to forget ourselves, as to uphold men without regard to principle.

The various projects of Internal Improvement which have been, or which may be, proposed, for the benefit individually of our citizens, and for the State or Country at large, shall receive our most cordial support.

The several topics of Morality, Literature, Agriculture, &c., &c., shall ever receive that attention (so far as our limits will admit,) which their importance respectively demand, together with all other matters usually found in like publications. In addition to which we propose, from time to time, publishing correctly engraved views of native scenery—works of nature and of art—hoping to receive a proportionate increase of patronage.

Well written communications, from whatever party, or on whatever subject, will find place in its columns, so that they be free from low invective and abuse, which cannot otherwise than degrade and lower, rather than uphold and elevate the dignity of the public press.

The paper is printed with entire new materials on a large super royal sheet at two DOLLARS per annum in advance, and THREE DOLLARS if not paid within three months.

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is really superior to any in the State, respectfully invite all persons wishing such work executed, to call at their office on South street, a few doors from the Court-house, and can rest assured that all work done by them cannot fail to be executed in the neatest and most fashionable manner, and on the most reasonable terms at a very short notice.

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♣ Gentlemen at a distance wishing work done, by forwarding the manuscript, or copy, stating the number of copies desired, can rely on having their work executed as promptly as by personal attendance.

TEMPERANCE.—The Annual Meeting of the Guilford County Temperance Society will be held in the Court-House in this place on the 4th day of July next, at half past one o'clock; all the Societies in the County are requested to send in their reports. Several addresses may be expected. A general attendance is requested.

WM. H. CUMMING, Sec'y.

WEST FRONT OF THE UNITED STATES CAPITOL—WASHINGTON CITY.



The Capitol—represented by the above engraving—is an elegant building of free stone, standing on an eminence, with a front of 350 feet, including the wings, and cost over \$2,000,000.—The Senate chamber is in the north wing—the Representatives Hall in the south; the other portions of the buildings are appropriated to rooms for the different committees, Library room, Post office for members, and numerous others for various purposes; and from the Rotunda in the centre, are passages communicating with every part of the building. In niches on the eastern portico are the two statues of Peace and War, lately procured, which are truly very elegant specimens of sculpture, and very appropriately situated. Several acres around the Capitol are very tastefully laid out with gravel walks, grass plots, a fountain and basin, &c.—the whole enclosed by an iron fence.

Washington became the capital of the United States, in 1800. Its population at that time was only 3,210, but it is now over 20,000, of whom about 2,300 are slaves. It is situated on the Maryland side of the river Potomac, on a small stream, called the Anacostia, or Eastern Branch. Like the capitol of ancient Rome, it has also its Tiber; a small stream running through the middle of the city.

SKETCHES OF CHARACTER.

GENERAL HOUSTON.

From the Washington Correspondence of the Pennsylvania Inquirer.

The first time that I ever saw Houston, was, I think, in the year 1820. As I was standing at the corner of College street, Nashville, Tenn. with a friend, a fine looking man dashed by us and I was induced to inquire his name.

That, Sir, said my friend, is Major Houston, a young man of great promise—who is rapidly rising in public favor. He is brave, has fought gallantly with General Jackson, and in the lapse of a few years will be Governor of Tennessee.

I learned that Major Houston was originally a carpenter, but soon quitted the profession, and commenced the study of law, politics and arms. To the latter science he was most enthusiastically devoted; but as war was now at an end, he confined himself to politics and law. Soon after he was elected to Congress, and as a member of the House of Representatives, held a commanding position. His popularity was steady and rapid in the increase, and the year 1828 found him Governor of the State of Tennessee. In the wars of 1816—17, with the Seminoles and Creeks, he distinguished himself as a gallant soldier; and at the celebrated battle of the Horse Shoe, he was badly wounded in the arm, which disabled him. In 1826, having, in debate, animadverted with severity on the removal of Mr. Curry from the Post Office at Nashville, and the appointment of Mr. J. P. Irwin, a near relative of Mr. Clay, he was challenged by that gentleman to mortal combat. The parties met in Kentucky—Irwin was shot and badly wounded; and though no exceptions were taken to the mode in which Houston conducted himself on the occasion, an indictment was obtained against him, for political effect, as he alleged, as he was at that time a candidate for the office of Governor of Tennessee.

On the 20th of February 1828, whilst holding the office of Chief Magistrate of Tennessee, he challenged Chapman Johnson, of Virginia, to the field, and the invitation was declined. At the Virginia Convention of that year, Mr. Johnson reported an address to the people of Virginia, recommending the re-election of Mr. Clay, and in that address, those who had participated in the battle of the Horse Shoe, as Governor Houston understood it, were treated

with great severity. As one of the actors in that battle, Governor Houston demanded redress from Mr. Johnson; in reply to which that gentleman replied that the address was the production of a Convention of two hundred, and he could not consider himself personally responsible for the acts of that body.

On the 10th day of April, 1828, Governor Houston, formally resigned the office of Governor of Tennessee, and adjured the State. Assuming the garb of an Indian, he departed for the remote scenes of Arkansas, and resolved to spend his days in perpetual exile. His letter of resignation to Mr. Speaker Call, is one of the most beautiful productions of the kind now in existence. At the time he resigned the robes of office, he had but just been married to a beautiful woman, one of the most respectable ladies of Tennessee. They had not been married but a few days, or weeks at least, before the lady repudiated her allegiance to her lord, and claimed the protection of her parents. The causes that led to the separation have never been unravelled to the world, and in all probability will perish with the wife and husband. Popular clamor and suspicion were strongly excited against Houston, and to avoid public opinion, as he himself said, he became an exile in Arkansas. Many allege that he was compelled, such was the excitement against him, to abandon Tennessee. After having spent a year or two in Arkansas, he became engaged in some army contracts, which once more introduced him to the walks of civilized life. In consequence of the contracts, he was charged with fraud and speculation by Mr. William Stansbury, a member of Congress from Ohio. As soon as they reached the ears of Houston, he made his appearance in Washington, and taking the law into his own hands, flogged Stansbury in Pennsylvania Avenue. For this breach of "the privilege," he was arrested, and reprimanded at the Bar of the House, and another shade of darkness was added to his character. Although few could justify the course of Houston, fewer pitied poor Stansbury. He had most justly merited all he received, but for all this, from the moment of the outrage until the commencement of the Texian war, Houston was looked upon by the American people as a base, a lost man. In 1833, he commenced the practice of the law in Natchez; but soon after abandoned that place for Texas. It is most probable that he had in

view the conquest of that country, the moment he entered it. The rest need not be told.

General Houston is now about forty-two years of age. He is a man of impetuous temperament, but always firm and ardent and sincere in his friendships. His conduct towards his young bride cannot be defended by any honorable man.

SANTA ANNA.

Some particulars of this personage, which we have derived from gentlemen intimately acquainted with him, may be interesting to the public.

Santa Anna is about 42 years of age, and was born in the city of Vera Cruz. His father was a Spaniard of old Spain, of respectable standing, though poor; his mother was a Mexican. He received a common education, and at the age of 13 or 14 was taken into the military family of the then intendant of Vera Cruz, Gen. Davila, who took a great fancy to him and brought him up. He remained with Gen. D. until about the year 1830. While with Davila, he was made a Major, and when installed he took the honors very coolly, and on some of his friends congratulating him, he said, "Si mi hiciera dios quisiera estar algo mas." [If you were to make me a god, I should desire to be something greater.] This trait developed at so early a period of his life, indicated the existence of the vaulting ambition which has ever since characterized his life.

After serving the Spanish Royal cause until 1821, he left Vera Cruz, turned against his old master and benefactor, and placed himself at the head of some irregular troops, which he raised on the sea coast, near Vera Cruz, and which are called Jarachos in their language, and which were denominated by him his Cossacks, as they are all mounted and armed with spears. With this rude cavalry he besieged Vera Cruz, drove Davila into the castle of San Juan d'Ulloa, and after having been reduced again entered at a subsequent period, and got entire possession of the city, expelling therefrom the old Spanish troops, and reducing the power of the mother country in Mexico to the walls of the castle.

Subsequent to this Davila is said to have obtained an interview with Santa Anna, and told him he was destined to act a prominent part of the history of his country, and now says he, I will give you some advice: "Siempre vayas con los muchos" [always

go with the strongest party.] He always acted up to this motto until he raised the *grito* (or cry,) in other words, took up the cudgels for the friars and church. He then overturned the federal government and established a central despotism, of which the priests and the military were the privileged orders. His life has been from the first of the most romantic kind, constantly in revolutions, constantly victorious, until the last fatal rencontre.

His manners are extremely affable; he is full of anecdote and humor, and makes himself exceedingly fascinating and agreeable to all who come into his company; he is about five feet ten inches, rather spare, has a moderately high forehead, with black whiskers, without mustaches, and an eye large, black and expressive of a lurking devil in his look: he is a man of gentel and dignified deportment, but of a disposition perfectly heartless; but has never evinced a savageness of character except in the massacres in which he has been implicated in Texas. He married a Spanish lady of property, a native of Alvarado, and through that marriage obtained the first part of his estate called Manga de Clavo, six leagues from Vera Cruz. He has three fine children, yet quite young.

The following striking anecdote of Santa Anna illustrates his peculiar quickness and management. During the revolution of 1829, while he was shut up in Oaxaca, and surrounded by the government troops, and reduced to the utmost straits for the want of money and provisions, having a very small force, there had been in consequence of the siege and firing every day through the streets, no mass for several weeks. He had no money and hit upon following expedient to get it; he took possession of one of the Convents, got hold of the wardrobe of the friars, dressed his officers and some of the soldiers in it, and early in the morning had the bells rung for mass. People delighted at having again an opportunity of adoring the Supreme Being, flocked to the Church where he was, and after the House was pretty well filled, his friars showed their side arms and bayonets from beneath their cowls and closed the doors upon the assembled multitude. At this unexpected denouncement there was a tremendous shrieking, when one of his officers ascended the pulpit and told the people that he wanted \$10,000 and must have it. He finally succeeded in getting about \$3,500, when he dismissed the congregation.

As a sample of Santa Anna's pious whims we relate the following:

In the same campaign of Oaxaca, Santa Anna and his officers were there besieged by Rincon who commanded the government troops. Santa Anna was in convent surrounded by a small breast work. Some of the officers one night to amuse themselves, took the wooden saints out of the church and placed them as sentries, dressed in uniforms on the breastwork. Rincon alarmed on the morning at this apparent boldness, began to fire away at the wooden images, supposing them to be flesh and blood, and it was not until some of the officers who were not in the secret had implored Santa Anna this desecration that the firing ceased.

Many similar facts are related of Santa Anna. We have not room at present to say more than there is no man who has filled the space that is so little understood. In short, he is all things to all men. He never was out of Mexico, and the likeness of him in this city, bears no resemblance to him.—N. Y. Star.

The Sea's Bottom.—The bottom of the basin of the sea seems to have inequalities like those of the surface of continents. Were it dried up, it would present mountains, valleys, and plains. It is covered almost throughout by an immense quantity of testaceous animals, or those who have shells, intermixed with sand and grain. A celebrated diver, employed to descend into the Strait of Messina, saw there, with horror, enormous polypi attached to the rocks, the arms of which, being several yards long, were more than sufficient to strangle a man. In many seas, the eyes see nothing but a bright sandy plain at bottom, extending for 100 miles, without an intervening object. But in all others, particularly the Red Sea, it is very different; the whole body of this extensive bed of water is a forest of submarine plants, canals, formed by insects for their habitations, branching out to a great extent. Here are even the madrepores sponges, mosses, sea mushrooms, and various other things, covering every part of the bottom. The bed of many parts of the sea near America present a very different, though a beautiful appearance. This covered with vegetables, which make it look as a meadow; and be-