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The Flag has now a weekly circulation of over one thousand, affording merchants and business men generally an excellent medium through which to make public their business.

JOHN A. GILMER.

We regard the "American" party as a patriotic necessity. The sectional differences which have been for years increasing between the North and the South,—fostered by the pandering of old political parties and by a system of actual political rewards from the Pierce administration, have grown so alarming as to present to the patriotic mind of the country the necessity of some efficient check in order to prevent the consequences of disunion—disunion in feeling and sentiment, and finally a disunion of States—which are dreadful to the contemplation of every true American.

A considerable portion of the old Whig party, and perhaps a still greater portion of the Democratic party, regard, or affect to regard, such alarm as causeless. Many of their leaders meet it with ridicule and abuse expressed in the arrogant style of men to whom power has become a second nature. Intent upon the pursuit of a course of policy such as has been pursued by each party for years, and which may now very truthfully be summed up as measures to keep the *Ins in, and the Outs out*—and some of these leaders can not, and others will not, see the dangerous verge which our institutions are approaching.

Besides those actually and deeply disaffected towards the confederacy, (and we apprehend their name is Legion,) we have among us large numbers of men ambitious of preferment, but knowing no paths there to except the beaten tracks of party—old political party tracks—old office mousers—bound by the long and strong ties of habit and self-interest to old organizations—organizations whose chief purpose and end is to preserve themselves, as the sources of patronage and power to their members, and let the country and the people go!

In this condition of things, it requires men of sterling independence and unflinching nerve—men who have the courage to face political death—to whom the hazard of successful popularity is as nothing compared with an honest effort to preserve intact that Union hallowed by the blood of the Revolution,—it requires such men as these to bare their breasts to the storms of disaffection, with hearts prepared to meet with any event with the gracefulness of patriots who have done their duty to their country, but hopeful and confident of that success which manly appeals to American patriotism has never failed to secure.

Such a man is JOHN A. GILMER, of Guilford, the nominee of the American State Convention for Governor of North Carolina—a gentleman whose character and position, we doubt not, combine more of the elements of success than any other who could have been selected to bear the standard of the party through the coming canvass.

Mr. Gilmer is another in that honorable list of American worthies, who has been "the architect of his own fortunes;" whose self-reliance has been the sole element of his eminent success in life; who has struggled up from the humbler walks of life, against disadvantages which would appal the effeminate sons of luxury, to a position of distinction and influence, where the fresh, generous, patriotic emanations of his mind are felt and acknowledged throughout his native State.

His ancestry were of the hardy Scotch-Irish pioneers of North Carolina, and took an active part for their country in the War of Independence. Both his paternal and maternal grand fathers fought and er command of Capt. Forbes, his maternal grand-uncle, who lost his life in the battle of Guilford. Thus his love of American free-

dom comes by legitimate inheritance, and the duty to protect it is among the most sacred bequest of his fathers.

His father, like many other independent farmers of the country, combined a mechanical with his agricultural employment, and reared his sons, (of whom John A. was the eldest) in that best of schools, where, on the farm and in the shop are taught the useful acts of life; and by the rural fireside, under the watchfulness of a religious mother, is instilled that high morality which is the impregnable bulwark of character, whether in the social walk, or in the temptations and storms of public life. By going to a neighborhood school in the winter months, he received a common English education; and afterwards, on means raised chiefly by teaching the same school, he procured a substantial knowledge of the classic and mathematics at the academy in Greensborough. Recruiting his finances by teaching a classical school for two or three years in South Carolina, he came home and engaged in the study of law, under the direction of Judge Murphy, procured license to practice in 1832, and entered the legal forum, without money, without wealthy or influential connexions—without any thing but a vigorous constitution, a stong understanding, and a hopeful heart.

His associates and competitors at the bar were such men as the Morehead, Settle, Nash, Boyden, Mendenhall, Gorrell, Graham, Dick, Poindexter, Waddell, Kerr, and others who had achieved success and distinction in the large circuit which he chose for his career. The array of talent among the older members of the profession, who monopolized the practice, would have been disheartening to a youth less hopeful or less dependent upon his own resources and energies. But he entered the field against this odds—and achieved success—a fact which furnishes its own commentary. He has now for many years held the position of one of the first lawyers of the State.

It has been truly remarked of Gilmer, that "without pretending to be so, or perhaps without knowing that he is such, he is peculiarly the people's man: he is identified with them in history, in manners, in interest and in feeling and sympathy. By his talents, industry and courage, he has grown into fame and wealth on the soil where he was born, and where his ancestors lived. He has been true to the friends of his youth, ever mindful of his origin, and never desiring to tower above the wants, and interests, and sympathies of general humanity." He is generous, to a fault—liberal, almost exclusively from his own genial nature, in the midst of earlier associations necessarily leaning more to parsimony than profusion. The early disadvantages with which he had to contend seem to have warmed his heart peculiarly towards young men in straitened circumstances, who have manifested desire and talent for honorable distinction in life. With uncalculating trust, except upon the characteristic gratitude of youth, he has contributed unsparingly of his counsel, his time, and his money, to set forward young men in chosen pursuits, whether of his own or other professions. If in any instance he has been repaid by blank ingratitude, let them rest in oblivion; he has the satisfaction to know that his generosity has generally been worthily bestowed.

If all the receipts of his aid would stand forward and testify to this magnanimous trait in Mr. Gilmer's character, a canvass of the State would hardly be required to gain for him the affections of those who are not yet acquainted with his personal history.

In 1846 Mr. Gilmer was elected by a unanimous vote of his county to the State Senate, and has been returned, without opposition, to every session since. His course in the Legislature is too recent and too well known to require any recapitulation at our hands. In fact, it has been suggested that his committal by his votes on several measures before the Legislature will be used against him in the approaching canvass. No doubt of it! Such is at once the fear and the resource of small minds. And such is the effect which this thing has repeatedly had upon old party organizations, that they have chosen non-committal leaders—men who had done nothing, and were considered available on that account. Any people or party who act thus deserve to be under a Government of fools. Indeed, it would be hardly too much to say, that this policy has repeatedly resulted in the elevation of a parlor cabinet of fools, directed by a kitchen cabinet of knaves. We go for the liberal legislator, whose views comprehend the whole scope of his State or country, and who has the manliness and independence to vote his judgment, relying upon the more elevated feelings of an honest constituency for support and approval.

Mr. Gilmer's legislative career has been chiefly distinguished by his devotion to the internal improvement of the State. With a few other worthy compatriots, of similar mettle, he was foremost in securing the passage of the charter of the great North Carolina Railroad, recently completed, and was untiring in his exertions to secure the million subscription of individuals which secured the charter itself. With similar cheerfulness and zeal has he advocated the improvement of other portions of the State—countenancing various projects with that hopefulness and energetic spirit for his State which has commanded such eminent success in the affairs of his own life.

To appreciate properly the fortitude necessary to a politician in North Carolina, occupying, on the subject of internal improvement the position held by Mr. Gilmer, it would be necessary to understand the peculiar state of things in the State at the time of his entrance into public life—a situation of affairs truly melancholy, and well calculated to unstrung the energies of the most courageous spirits. As already mentioned, the State had embarked in but few improvements, and, by stopping too soon, had permitted those to be partial failures, and on these failures demagogues had mounted for hobbies; while the cost, debts, and the dilapidated condition of the roads, were themes of perpetual harangue.

There were no large navigable rivers suggesting further improvements—no extensive commercial marts to lead the way. There was a feeling of distrust among the public men—a want of confidence in the intelligence and patriotism of the people. The capital and enterprise of the State were daily moving off to the south west, and local feuds and jealousies interposed barriers between the different sections of the State, and prevented union of counsel and of effort.

This state of things had assumed a most gloomy aspect on the entrance of Mr. Gilmer on the theatre of public affairs; and it was in the face of such a portentous cloud of difficulties that he espoused the cause of a thorough system of internal improvements, manifested an undoubting confidence in the intelligence and patriotism of the masses, and helped to infuse into the legislative councils a vigor efficiency that are now suffusing with the flush of health and beauty the once-waning cheek of North Carolina. With the Central Railroad bill were passed acts for the improvement of the navigation of the Neuse and Deep Rivers, the relief of the Wilmington and Raleigh and Gaston Rail-roads, of the Wilmington and Manchester road, for the construction of the Fayetteville and Western Plank-road the Western Turnpike, &c., &c.

To all these measures Mr. Gilmer gave a most cordial and efficient aid; and during his legislative career, looking on all North Carolina as one State, and as his State, he has favored the interests of every section, giving to its contemplated improvements a judicious and firm support.

To the East he has been more liberal than a majority of its own representatives, never refusing his influence in favor of any measure designed to benefit any part of that portion of the State, and anxiously desiring to see its rivers and ports grappled in wedlock, that cannot be dissolved, with the beautiful and productive West; and to this latter, his advent into public life marked the dawn of a new and brighter era.

In this sketch we have nothing exaggerated; but rather fallen short of a sufficiently high estimate of Mr. Gilmer's character—restrained as we have been by the apprehension that the circumstances of neighborhood and friendship might betray us into speaking too warmly for the appreciation of strangers: It is our conviction that the "American" standard could not have been confided to abler hands—the broad limits of North Carolina, among all her worthy sons, being the field of selection. And if the members of the party and the people of the State, do their duty but half as well as Mr. Gilmer will do his, in the canvass, triumphant success awaits us.

Greensboro' Patriot.

Mr. Fillmore Will Accept.

We omitted in our last to state that John H. Houghton, Esq., in his address before the Greensboro' Convention, stated that in a conversation he had had with the Hon. J. P. Kennedy, that morning, that gentleman had assured him that Mr. Fillmore would accept the nomination of the party, for Presidency. Mr. Kennedy is one of the confidential friends of Mr. Fillmore, is believed to be authorized to speak for him, and therefore this statement may be considered as settling the question, as regards his acceptance or declination of the nomination. Mr. Kennedy happened to pass through Greensborough on Thursday, on his way to Columbia.

Raleigh Register.

FOR THE FLAG.

MR. EDITOR: The subject of the establishment of a Bank with some six or eight millions of dollars is a matter of interest to the citizens of North Carolina. It is evident to all, that the currency of our State must be increased in proportion to the increase of our population, wealth and business. It is true and well known that the currency of our state is far from being equal to the demand. In either case money regulates the price of Commerce in all its various forms; it regulates the price of labor in every form, and in every country.—Where money is abundant, fair prices are paid for labor and times are considered flourishing until little or no oppression is felt amongst the people. But when money is scarce, a depression is felt throughout the country in all classes, unless it is the bankers, brokers, &c. It must be admitted by all, that North Carolina is needing currency to the amount of several millions of dollars to make all classes of people of our State prosperous. This can only be done by the establishment of more banks. For that purpose the question will arise, What kind of a bank does the interests of the people require? It seems to me most clearly; that it should be a bank which distributes its profits amongst the people of the whole State in reducing their taxes. A bank for that purpose may be established in more forms than one: a bank may be established on the faith and credit of the State, with such arrangements and provisions as the General Assembly may, in their judgment, adopt, and the proceeds of that bank to be paid in the public treasury; or the Legislature may, and I hope will do so,—establish a bank connected with the most important schemes of internal improvement, founded on a sufficient specie basis to give its bills free circulation, and also to give security to the holder of its notes, that they will be promptly redeemed when presented at the counter of the bank. I care not in what manner the bank may be connected with internal improvement, so that the State and Stockholders in the Road are fairly protected and provided for.

Now I am clearly of the opinion that two-thirds of the stock in the bank should be owned by the State—that being the principle on which our Central Railroad has been built as well also, as the principle internal improvements of the State. It seems to me to be only justice to the State that she shall receive the same proportion of property hereafter. That she bears the burden of these, is another reason why I prefer the State owning two-thirds of the stock in the bank—the bank would be enabled to go into effect at a much earlier moment. The advantages of changing our banking system at this time, is clear and unquestionable. At the time of the establishment of our old, or principle banks, we were out of debt, and there were no internal improvements in the State—the people only wanted money, while the banks at that time were established on as good basis as possible, and I would now stand by every bank charter in the State until they expire or until they violate their charter.—Good faith requires that all power granted by the Legislature should be strictly adhered to. It would be necessary in the establishing of a bank of the character spoken of, that no one should own stock in the bank beyond the amount of stock that they might own in some one of the projects of internal improvement included in the charter. A bank of this description would raise the stock in all our Railroads at or near par value. Notwithstanding all our Roads are in good repair, yet, I much doubt whether their stock could command exceeding 50 cents in the dollar—the State owning some several millions of Stock in the Road at this time. If the changing our mode of banking will save three or four millions of dollars to the tax-paying portion of the people, instead of paying that amount to a few wealthy men—who care little and do much less for internal improvement—is it not the duty of the next Legislature to do so?—Will not the people rise up in their majesty at the ballot box and demand it to be done? All of our Roads have been built by the patriotic citizens, and many of them have become much embarrassed in consequence of the large subscriptions they have taken in the Road. Is it more than just to them that the stock should be raised at par value by the operation, if it can be done so—at the same time our taxes reduced, and our State progress rapidly in internal improvement? We all know that if stock of Roads of any kind, Navigation or Canals can be made worth dollar for dollar, the stock can be raised sufficient to build either of them when the work is protected, and the Legislature would run no risk in appropriating money on her part, when the profits of both Road and Bank, are owned by the State, and would be applied to the use of paying

the State debt. It may be contended, and no doubt will be by some that the State has no money to bank on. Neither has the State any money to build Railroads with, but she borrows money for that purpose, and pays the interest on it every six months, while the principle sum is worth about one half of the sum borrowed. But if the amount of money that we have already borrowed and expended in internal improvements had been connected with banks and paid 10 per cent interest, instead of our taxes being raised to pay off interest, the profits of the bank would not only have paid the interest, but would have been paying off the principles at the rate of 40, and in a short time North Carolina would have completed all the Railroads needed in every section of the State, and be out of debt, as Georgia and other States. If banks can be made profitable to individuals, can it not be so to the State? Most certainly it can and it may be well to reform. The people in all sections of North Carolina who wish to be accommodated by Railroads, must make up their minds to send men to the next Legislature who will relieve the people of a heavy burden of taxation, as well as to impose upon them, and confer the profits on a few individuals who least need them. Very respectfully,

HENRY WALSER.

April 26th, 1856.

The Raleigh and Greensborough Cliques.

The "old Raleigh Whig Clique," it will be remembered, was composed of leading men in Wake and Orange. That Clique for a time disposed of all the offices, and controlled the State;—but the K. N. party appears to have extended its operations to Greensborough. The two Cliques have again set aside the claims of the Cape Fear country, and have disregarded the country west of Greensborough, by nominating Mr. Gilmer for Governor. A candidate could not be taken from either the East or the West,—Greensboro' wanted it; and Raleigh not only acquiesced, but a portion of her delegates were from the first against George Davis. Well may Mr. Davis exclaim— "save me from my friends, and I will take care of my enemies."

Raleigh Standard.

The Standard prates of "Cliques" for the same reason that "Stop the Thief" is bawled out by the sturdy rogue who is flying before the sheriff and his posse. The object of both is to divert attention; the latter from himself: the former from the unprincipled squad of Locofoco-wire pullers who work the machinery of its party in the gutters and dark alleys about Raleigh—the identical conclave that first received the appellation of "Raleigh Clique" from a prince and leader of the Standard's own party.

But the two "Cliques have again set aside the claims of the Cape Fear country!" And pray, Mr. Standard, how have the claims of the Cape Fear country been set aside? And what peculiar claims did the "Cape Fear country" have on the American party, over and above other sections of the State? The name of a gallant American of the Cape Fear region was brought before the Convention, and it met with a reception and was hailed with a heartiness that filled the bosoms of his friends with gratulation and joy. But no section of the State was wronged in the nomination of JOHN A. GILMER.

"A combination and a form, indeed. Where every god hath seemed to set his seal, To give the world assurance of a man."

But let those that are without sin throw stones. What have the immaculate Democracy themselves done for the lovely Cape Fear Country? Whence have they chosen their Comptroller? their State treasurer? their Governor? their "two small monuments" of United States Senators?—From among the "unterrified" who pile up the majorities along up and down the Cape Fear and its tributaries? Nay verily! Tell it not in Gath! They were every one raked up along the Virginia Border! Not one taken even from the interior of their own State! And yet the crib-fed pet of Democracy has the hardhood to charge the American convention with having disregarded the claims of the Cape Fear country. "Thou hypocrite, first cast the beam out of thine own eye, and then shalt thou see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye."

And strange to say, the interests of the "country west of Greensborough" have been as much disregarded in the nomination of Mr. Gilmer, as those of the Cape Fear! Had an eastern man been put in nomination, then the middle and the west would have been "disregarded." Had a Western man been chosen as a standard-bearer, then the claims of the middle and the east would have been set aside. As matters now stand the east and the west have both been grossly outtaaged! Surely

arguments like these can impose upon no one but a locofoco—and a very silly and stupid one at that.

The Standard need not lay to its lacerated bosom the flattering uction that it will be able to foment jealousies in the American party by its old devices. Its whole success has been attributable to its adroitness in creating discord in the ranks of its opponents, and its industry in circulating falsehood among the ignorant of its own party; but, for the future, however, it may succeed in the latter branch of its vocation, it is doomed to signal failure in the former. George Davis and the Cape Fear Americans are too wise and too patriotic to be allured into the Serbian bog of Democracy by the ignis fatuus held up by the Standard.—Fayetteville Argus.

The Nomination for Governor.

We had hardly time, last week, to announce, without comment, the nomination of JOHN A. GILMER, Esq., the American candidate for Governor. We take occasion, now, to "express our cordial approval of the nomination. JOHN A. GILMER is a man of a high order of talents, a fine speaker, of urbane and popular manners, and is known all over the State. He has been, for a long time, a member of the Legislature from Guilford, has always exhibited liberal views on State policy, and has been zealous in his efforts to promote the prosperity of old North Carolina.

His whole political career, his courteous bearing and his exalted talents, will commend him to the people of every section of the State. Mr. Gilmer will canvass the State thoroughly, from the mountains to the seaboard; and we cannot permit a doubt to enter our mind, that he will bear the American Flag—the "Stars and Stripes"—through the ensuing contest, to a glorious victory. He will be assailed, of course, violently and venomously, by the Foreign Party, but he is able to defend himself, and can successfully parry their thrusts.

We could lay our finger, now, upon a charge that will be made against him, but we understand he settled that in his speech accepting the nomination.

Concord Gazette.

Mr. Fillmore and his Nomination.

The nomination of Mr. Fillmore by the American party has at length reached him at Rome. A correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger, writing from that metropolis, under date of the 20th ult, says:

"The news of Mr. Fillmore's nomination by the 'Americans' was received here on Monday last and caused great rejoicings. It was announced to him by a numerous body of friends, but had not the least influence on him, who really seems to be the most imperturbable man I ever saw in my life. He returned the other day from Naples, in every good health and fine spirits, and will return early this summer to the United States. Balls and festivals have been given to him all over Europe, and at this distance from home, where party feelings naturally subside, and American sentiments naturally become the only ones distinguishable to patriots, it is no exaggeration on my part to say, that Mr. Fillmore has no enemy on this side of the water, where every American, I use the term in its legitimate, most extensive meaning is proud to see himself so handsomely represented in the person of our worthy, dignified, self possessed Ex-President.—We have now some three hundred Americans from East, West, North, and South, here in Rome; and I am quite certain that among the diversity of opinion and political convictions that must necessarily exist among them, there is not one who would not think the country perfectly safe should Mr. Fillmore be once more called to the administration of the government. That his administration would not embarrass our relations with Europe, I feel quite certain myself; though fortunately for the country, we have gone through the darkest period, and may hope for better times, happen what may."

Organ Grinders.

Organ grinders are numerous and popular in Philadelphia. One hundred of these itinerant musicians passed a certain point in a single day, says the Inquirer. Boston can take Philadelphia down and give her fifty points in the game, on organs. You cannot move there without running over a rotary musician, and the tamborine girls punch your ribs with their jingling drums. A person standing at any corner, in the evening, can hear distinctly twenty-five organs, says the Daily Mail.