The Rowan Whig and Western Advocate.

"WESTWARD THE STAR OF EMPIRE TAKES ITS WAY."

SALISBURY, NORTH CAROLINA, FRIDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 11, 1853.

NO. 15.

MILLER & JAMES,

EDITORS & PROPRIETORS. llers if paid within two months; Two Dol-

All advertisements must have the number nes they are to be published marked on them, will be inserted till forbid, and charged

SPEECH OF MR. LEACH.

solutions on the Public Lands, introdu-

WHEREAS, The Public domain of the United States is the common property of all the States, to particular States, for special and particular territory, and is therefore, upon every principle legitimately entitled to her share of the Public Lands. Therefore,

tives in Congress be requested to make application by Bill, or otherwise, to that Body, for an

The above Resolutions coming up as the special order of the day, Mr. LEACH said:

position I labor under this morning, from cannot be expected. sold and hoarseness, will render it difficult for me to speak, or be heard, unless the House shall be very indulgent. But as involved in my resolutions will be settled, no provision had been made, notwithstand- the several States, to carry out the condithis question has, already, been postponed not interpose any obstacles, but proceed

these resolutions, have not until now, come rights, don't urge upon the attention of regarded. up regularly, and in parliamentary form, her delegations in Congress, the importance length, by both parties on this floor; so pose for a moment, that we shall ever get was gone, the debt was increasing, and the section: that, we have already had indications of an acre of the public lands, or a dollar of public faith was prostrated. Even the Fa- Section 22. And be it further enacted opinion upon their merits. Sir, before their proceeds. And yet, while whole del- ther of his Country, appealed in vain, to that the proceeds of the sales, which shall voting on the great principles involved in egations from Western States, (both Whig the several States, called upon them for be made of lands in the western territory, the preamble and resolutions, I desire to and Democratic,) urged on by Conventions their respective quota, and warned them now belonging, or that may hereafter besome of the reasons that will influence me islatures; and pressing into their service blies, to aid the government in this emer- hereby appropriated towards sinking or disin that vote; and I further desire that that sort of political log-rolling, and those those reasons and opinions shall go forth appliances, by which dexterous politicians would have been fought in vain, and that of the "United States" now are, or by to my constituents, and the people, for so oftentsucceed in carrying favorite meas- its fruits would be forever lost. Such is a virtue of this act may be, holden, and shall

thre Legislatures of North Carolina, for for intelligence, stands mute; neither asking ta of men and arms, in wrestling the count- pledge was to cease, was when the debt was years to come. And the recent acquisition for, nor demanding her just share, nor even try from the power of England, and that; paid. So that as soon as the debt should North Carolinian is so deeply and vitally of State Sovereignty. gressional, and Legislative Canvass, until if millions of acres have been given to par-General Government, her rights acknowl- given to North Crrolina, would pour into edged, and until she shall obtain that large her treasury millions of dollars, if these beis, by every principle of law, equity, and ted the importance of this great subject?justice, so clearly entitled; or until a bill And whether it is not the bounden duty of

patriotism, that made the fruits of the stake, shall loom up before their minds, in she Union, and the Constitution, under perity and greatness of the State. which, this great Country has so grown, I proceed now to examine this question

fortunate if I fail to establish them beyond the old States, to their respective equitable so argue, that if Congress shall at any fu- templated by the deeds of Cession, by the uses specified) shall be considered a Const to me to be our true policy that they shall in the public lands, amounting in value to mischief; so corrupt and unprincipled as to part of the General Government to exclude exhibit to the country and the world, such them. It is necessary, therefore, to exam- or Federal alliance of the said States, Vir- above quotation from that Message, to those ly, that the tendency of such a policy, is Carolina, and the other old States, of every restrictions, and under what circumstances and expenditure, and shall be faithfully and opinion of the old Hero, persist in contenwell, and I mean what I say; for, I express Intely necessary to a clear apprehension of the honest conviction of my judgment, af- the subject. ter having investigated this question with By going back to the history of the times

House; and if I should be here two years cluding the Colony of North Carolina geded ding the old States, North Carolina geded ding the old States, and claiming for the be applied to the ordinary expenses of the Iowa and Illinois. This latter State 2,700, Such are the terms by which Nor.h Carthat I submitted on this question, I predicted, (contrary to the opinions expressed by members then on this floor,) that Congress would continue; session after session, and the Confederacy, eeded her portion of the public lands: for the enorgy of the claim of the guage of General Jackson, in the knowledge of this House, that Congress them in session and the knowledge of this House, that the Congress them in session and the last that the congress passed his bill through the colleges public lands as Illinois or any other State.

Such are the terms by which Nor.h Carthat the confederacy, indeed his memoration of the public lands as Illinois or any other State.

Their arms triumpled, and liberty and sovereign State, an independence were achieved. In this great speech the confederacy, eeded her portion of the against the policy sought to be adopted; but the constitution."

In the trans triumpled, and liberty and independence were achieved. In this great speech the confederacy, eeded her portion of the public lands: for the public lands as Illinois or any other State, an independence were achieved. In this great speech the confederacy, eeded her portion of the public lands: for the enderty of the claim of the lands as Illinois or any other State, and that we are opposed to any law for the distribution; and that we are opposed to any law for the distribution; and that we are opposed to any law for the distribution; and that we are opposed to any law for the distribution; and that we are opposed to any law for the distribution; and that we are opposed to any law for the distribution; and that we are opposed to any law for the distribution; and that we are opposed to any law for the distribution; and that we are opposed to any law for the distribution; and that we are opposed to any law for the constitution; and that we are opposed to any law for the distribution; and the report of the constitution; and the report of the constitution; and the true and public lands: I can be report of

Especially should this be the action of the upon and ratified them. appropriation to North Carolina of a fair and equitable portion of said Public lands or the proceeds thereof; which, when so appropriated shall be applied to purposes of Internal Improvement; be applied to purposes of Internal Improvement; be applied to purposes of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purposes of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purposes of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purposes of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purposes of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purposes of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purposes of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purposes of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purpose of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purpose of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purpose of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purpose of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purpose of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purpose of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purpose of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purpose of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purpose of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purpose of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purpose of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purpose of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purpose of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purpose of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purpose of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purpose of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purpose of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purpose of Internal Improvement; for, if the applied to purpose of Internal Improvement; for it is not alternated them.

In the Continuous action of the applied to the applied to the applied to th

Although, the principles involved in through her Legislature, don't ask for her of the interest of the debt, were openly distinct they were extraordinary and unfounded.

whatever they are worth, -accompanied by ures through that body, are asking for, and brief history of the times. such facts and data as I have been able to receiving at the hands of Congress, donaobtain in the investigation of this all-ab- tions, amounting to millions upon millions of acres of those lands, for Railroads, Ca- six States, before alluded to, that owned clusive proof; first, for what purpose the I maintain, sir, that this question, by nals, Education, and other purposes .far, transcends in importance; any that has, North Carolina, true to her former instincts. or will come before this Legislature, or that remains asleep; or what is equally unforcan, by any possibility be submitted to fu- tunate for her interests and her character the war, and had contributed their full quo- pay off the public debt; the time when the of an immense amount of territory, obtain- showing in any way, that she has a knowled by the conquest of Mexico, adds greatly edge of its existence! Such, sir, has hereto the importance of this question, and to tofore been the suicidal policy of North the propriety of its settlement at an early Carolina, and such was the action of the day. I carnestly desire, and so far as last Legislature-at least of the Senute, on erty; but that those lands ought of right, of the public domain. my humble efforts can avail, -am determ- this great question, of the rights of a Sov- to be ceded to the confederacy, as a com- . In further proof of the ground here ta ined, that this question, in which every ereign State, in the true sense and meaning

interested, shall go before the people of the | If therefore, it shall be established that State, to be considered of, and examined North Carolina has a clear and equitable upon its merits; and that it shall enter, right to a portion of the public domain, as prominently, into every Gubernatorial, Con- the preamble and resolutions declare, and the action of the State shall be felt at the ticular States, (as I shall show,) which if shall pass Congress, and be signed by the this Legislature to pass the resolutions, and President, depriving her of every acre of urge upon Congress with earnest importu-those public lands which she, and the other nity this great and just claim of a Sover-

old States, acquired, at the expense of so much blood, in the great battles of liberty and freedom, which they so gloriously fought and which lands they afterwards eeded to the Government of the Confederation, in trust, for certain pur- and opinions, will be strengthened beyond poses, and upon certain conditions. And, measure, when they come to investigate I remark here, it was this noble act of this question, and as the vast interest at Revolution available, and without which, its different bearings, upon the future pros-

sideration that presents itself, is, to estab-Now, sir, if these things that I have as- lish-what I have assumed—the right of sumed, be true, (and I shall be most un- North Carolina, and by consequence, of all controversy,) I then submit, and shall proportions of the Public domain, as courry, so ceded (and not reserved for certain ceded having been accomplished, it seems ture time, become so regardless of justice old States in the original grants, and that and faithless to principle, so fatally bent on it would be a gross violation of faith on the a palpable breach of good faith, and such ine the deeds of Cession, when made, for flagrant abuse of power, as to deprive N. what purpose, with what conditions and acre of the public lands; that the black those lands, once belonging to seven of the bona fide disposed of for that purpose, and ding that the proceeds of the sales of the Act, would stand forth without a parallel colonics, afterwards, became the common in the annals of human legislation. Sir. I property of the thirteen Confederated States. use strong language, but I have weighed it These are important questions, and, abso-

Two years ago, when a member on this granted, from time to time, under charters for the same purpose. In 1787 South Carthe subject, is from that immortal Patriot, floor. I introduced resolutions of a substan- from the Crown, long before the Revolu- lina ceded hers with the same conditions and greatest Statesman of the age—HEN-

s. W. JAMES House; and if I should be here two years cluding the Colony of North Carolina, as before the adoption of the Constitution of the Constitution of the Constitution of the United States North Carolina and of the Constitution of the United States North Carolina and of the Constitution of the Const

Tis true that similar resolutions introduced provided for, and the Federal Government and certain reservations. The rule of disby me last session, passed this House by a was entirely without means. A question tribution is here given: "according to the lie lands were to be distributed among all States. considerable majority, several prominent here arose, of most grave and solemn immembers of the Democratic party having port; how was this heavy debt to be paid? the "use and benefit of the confiderated becoming the law, by General Jackson, who supported them,—but it is also true, (and forever, against the old States get—have never received one acre, nor the amount if generally known by the people, would, I this was during the Confederation, and ceded for the purpose of constituting "a circumstances and influences I will not stop ting an acre of the public domain. The think, be a matter of surprise and regret,) several years before the adoption of the common fund" to pay off the debt of the to enquire. that they were laid on the table in the Sen- Constitution of the United States. At that Revolution, and "for no other use or pur- In the speech referred to, after setting three or four Congresses, in which the dem- that party trammels be knocked off, and a common fund; and whereas, the precedent has been set, and the practice obtained in the Control of the Legislature, by a strict party rote. I for the simple and obvious reason, that they say this is matter of deep regret, for this had not parted from, or yielded up, to the ive clause, providing that the lands ceded, Mr. Clay says: great subject should no longer be made a Congress of Confederation, a single attribute should be held as a common fund, to pay party question, but should be lifted high above "the mire and dirt" of party, and dent nations, confederated, or united to benefit of all the States which at that time States for particular purposes and on prefraternal feeling, coded to the General Govern- made, what in truth it is, -a North Caro- gether for the purpose of more effectually formed, or might, thereafter, form a part of scribed conditions, its power must be under the substitute of the purpose of more effectually formed, or might, thereafter, form a part of scribed conditions, its power must be under the purpose of more effectually formed, or might, thereafter, form a part of scribed conditions, its power must be under the purpose of more effectually formed, or might, thereafter, form a part of scribed conditions, its power must be under the purpose of more effectually formed, or might, thereafter, form a part of scribed conditions, its power must be under the purpose of more effectually formed, or might, thereafter, form a part of scribed conditions, its power must be under the purpose of more effectually formed, or might, thereafter, form a part of scribed conditions, its power must be under the purpose of more effectually formed, or might be under the purpose of more effectually formed for the purpose formed for the purpose of more effectually formed for the purpos tina question! There ought to be harmony prosecuting the war, against a common en- the national confederacy. It was, most questionable, to make some reservations, for satisfy every intelligent and thinking mind, that the amount of the sales exceeds the and unanimity of sentiment upon it, and emy. The old Congress, under the old clearly, therefore, conveyed, not for the similar purposes on behalf of the old. Its that the public domain is no longer to be amount of the donations, only 16,000,000 of there ought to go up to Congress, an unani- Confederation, had no power, whatever to benefit of the United or confederated gov- capacity to bestow benefits, or dispense jusmous vote expressive of the feelings and enforce laws, indeed the enactment of laws ernment, (after the payment of the public tice is not confined to the new States, but and since those lands are being squander- lands at only \$1 an acre, a price much less opinion of the State, as one of the "old amounted to nothing, and were of none ef- debt,) but in trust for the benefit of the is co-extensive with the whole Union. And ed on Western States every session of Con- than those already sold have brought, and we thirteen" on this momentous question. feet, until the States respectively passed States in severalty, according to the pre-

public education, and in relief of the Treasury claiming her just rights, would be likely to ures. There was no power to lay tuxes lands had been given to the Unite carry with it, much more moral force, than and collect recenue, for this power was ex- as a consolidated government, it would MR. SPEAKER: I regret that the judis- bers, that such a result, however desirable, valries sprang up between the States, prin- The United States readily agreed to the gent and thinking man, that the principles paying the public debt; for which, as yet, and thus became the agent and Trustee of disposed of. And if North Carolina, the States, for funds, even for the payment claims to all the public lands, as unjust, as

This indifference and dangerous state of delts shall be paid! gress seeing the difficulty, and the crisis; point, of the very highest character. and anticipating action, on the part of the

those States having no claim to the lands support of education. were thus made known, by their Representhe war of the Revolution.

ing condition : of the United States as have become, or of Revenue.", shall become members of the confederation I commend the concluding part of the respective proportions in the general charge notwithstanding this solemnly announced for no other use or purpose whatever."

on to North Carolina. In 1784 Massa- allude, in another conexion. tive character, with those now before the tion, to Seven of the Thirteen Colonies, in- and restrictions; and in 1789, a few months RY CLAY.

a mere majority vote; but unfortunately, pressly reserved by the States, in the Arti- have been folly, for the States to have we have already had indications from mem- cles of Confederation. Bad feeling and ri- made reservations and required conditions. cipally on the question of taxation, and magnanimous proposition of the States, en-It must be manifest, to every intelli- what should be the quota of each, toward tered into the covenant, accepted the trust, finally settled by Congress in a few years ing, the Continental Congress had urged tions of the deeds of cessions; the States several times, and as there is a manifest disposition and desire on the part of members, to enter upon its discussion, I will be states sought to be excluded by Confact, after the peace of 1782, the States begress from this great source of future wealth: came still more indifferent on this the than a quarter of a century afterwoods;at once to the question; as it seems, to And with the settlement of this question greatest of all questions, at that time, pro- until ambitious and unprincipled Demahave been expected I would lead off;— the immense territories acquired from Mex- viding means for the payment of this heavy gogues, and rapacious States—formed out of the public lands or the proceeds thereof." that have been brought into market:—I having had the honor of introducing the ico, including golden California, will all be debt. The requisition of the very territory thus ceded—set up sary, as I think this part of the question is Now gentlemen attempt to make a very call the attention of this body, to the ac-

submit to the consideration of the House, of the people, and by their respective Leg- that unless they voted the necessary sup- long to the United States, shall be, and are gency, that the battle of the Revolution charging the debts, for the payment wherebe applied solely to that use until the said

things had its origin, principally, with the Here is additional, and to my min!, conno portion of the public lands. They in- lands were ceded; and in the second place sisted that they had shared, alike with the when they would cease to be under a pledge other States, in the perils and disasters of to the government. The purpose was to therefore, it was unjust that seven of the be paid, the States would be freed from States, should hold all the public lands, the pledge-the trust would expire and all which were acquired by the bravery and the States would be entitled to their resblood of all in a common struggle for lib- pective distributive shares of the remainder

mon fund, for the payment of the debt in- ken, I ask the indulgence of the House, curred by the war. The continental Con- while I briefly cite some authorities on this Thomas Jefferson, in his message of 1806,

States, owning the Public Lands, in the where it appears that after defraying all year 1780, passed the following resolution : the ordinary expenses of the government, " Resolved, That the unappropriated land and paying up the regular instalment on that may be ceded or relinquished to the the public debt, there still remained a con-United States by any particular State, pur- siderable surplus in the treasury; and in suant to the recommendation of Congress anticipation of the ultimate payment of the portion of the public lands, to which, she so. I ask gentlemen, if I have exaggera- of the 6th of September last, shall be dis- public debt, recommended both a protecposed of for the common benefit of the tive tariff, and the appropriation of the proceeds of the sales of the public lands to And, sir, as soon as the sentiments of works of Internal Improvement and to the

Mr. Madison, long after he had retired tatives in the Congress of the confederacy, to private life, in a letter to a friend, in the States owning those lands, including speaking of the wealth and resources of the our own noble old State, stepped forward country, among other things says: "The

amble and resolutions under discussion; ce- Again. General Jackson, whose demoded to the confederation, in trust their pub- eracy will hardly be questioned, (at least A most mischievous abstraction, which, forlie lands for the purpose, and for the sole by gentlemen who oppose the resolutions purpose of paying off the debt incurred in under debate) in his annual message of Country, is utterly without friends or ad-1832, after expressing the opinion I have vocates anywhere, or from any party; and It will be found, on examination, that already quoted from that message—"that I am glad of it. Yes, sir, this objection all those deeds of cession are of the same those lands were ceded by the States to the comes alone, from that party claiming to New York ceded her lands first. In harmony, and as a fund to meet the expen-1784 Virginia ceded hers, with the follow- ses of the war"-continues: "As the lands abstractions, and vagaries, that I never may now be considered as relieved from That all the lands within the territo- this pledge, the object for which they were mon Fund for the use and benefit of such cease as soon as practicable to be a source many millions of dollars; I am to be met

or no other use or purpose whatever." public lands, shall remain in the treasury, as a source of revenue, to meet the ordina-

hence, (though I certainly do not desire one of the grantees. The femaling of the leading the old States, and claiming for the be applied to the ordinary expenses of the Iowa and Illinois. This latter State 2,700, new ones, all the public domain, was first. General Government. This appears to be 000 acres for her State, or Central Rail it.) I shall still persist in claiming, as one of the Representatives of the State, at the hands of the General Government, her just share in the public lands; and shall just, and partial policy, by which immense donations of those lands, are being made donations of those lands, are being made donations of those lands, are being made donations of the General Government. This appears to be ceded by wirtue of the act, shall be considered as a latempted to be set up by the governors at the favorite policy with the Democratic party, generally, of this State. I have all the form of the United (confederated) States of America, North Carolina inclusing according to their respective and usual proportion in the constitution of North Carolina are taxed \$2,000,000 for every session of Congress to new States;—
thus plundering and robbing the old ones, without any reason, or show of reason, for which the question of the public lands ought to be sucreally applied as much right to 2,700,000 acres of the public lands ought to be sucreally applied as much right to 2,700,000 acres of the such edieus discrimination. Why sir, at fearful and portentous crisis, that "tried Such are the terms by which North Car. lie lands was referred, made his memorator to the national objects specified in the Con-

"This question ought not tobe considered debateable. The right of the whole is sealed by the blood of the revolution, founded upon solemn deeds of cession, from sovereign States, deliberately executed in the face of the world; or, resting upon national treaties concluded with foreign powers on ample equivalents contributed from the common treasury of the people of the Uni-

I might go on quoting from Mr. Clay, who, thus so nobly and patriotically stood fully established.

for discussion, yet, sir, they have been allowing the states shall pursue the same suicidal policy, who, I ask, is so stupid, as to suplement, by both parties on this floor; so of all the States to share in the residue of treasury of the people of the nation. The latter, by the sacrifices and disasters incident to war; and partly, also, by money from the treasury. So that in both instances there can be no question of the right of all the States to share in these portions of the public lands.

The public debt, for the payment of which, the lands were ceded, as has been shown, was nearly paid off, prior to the late war. This just and righteous war, in which the British Lion, was tamed, and made to crouch to the American Eagle, and by which proud England was taught to know her place, resulted-of coursein the triumph of our arms, but brought upon the government a debtof one hundred and sixty-eight millions .- And although from the terms of the deeds of Cession, not a dollar, of the proceeds of the sales of the public lands, could have been applied to the payment of that heavy debt, yet, the States with the same magnanimity that had characterized them, stepped forward and permitted the proceeds to be thus applied without a murmur; and the entire debt of the Nation was paid off during the Administration of General Jackson; and a large surplus revenue left in the Treasury at the expiration of his official term. So that, after that time, the question at least of the public debt in connexion with this subject, is put to rest.

But there have been interposed to the

passage of these resolutions, other objections which, although, of a minor character. merit brief notice. And the first, is, that that these Resolutions are "Abstractions" "a thing of abstractions!" And that Congress, and not this Legislature, is the proper place for their discussion. This, like every other objection, comes from the other side of the House; and from gentlemen, our own noble old State, stepped forward and in that spirit of generous patriotism and fraternal feeling, declared in the pretunately for the peace and harmony of the and prospered, could never have been form- more in detail, and the first important con- import, and bear the same meaning. United States, for the purpose of general be par excellency State Rights Men; and who have engrafted in their political creed some could understand. And yet, when a Sovereign State, through its Legislature, claims from the General Government its just rights with the objection that it is an "abstraction!" Sir, it seems to me, most manifestginia inclusive, according to their usual of General Jackson's special admirers, who, to deprive the States of their Sovereign rights, and to build up, and consolidate power at Washington City. For, the doctrine carried out practically, certainly would concentrate power at the Federal Capitol. I am a State Rights man, regardvious meaning of the plain and definite lan-guage here used, by Virginia, I will pass this view of the subject I shall hereafter I claim, therefore, to be a State Rights man, in the true meaning, and signification chusetts ceded hers upon the same condi- The last authority I shall quote, before of that term, by claiming for the States, it will be found, that those lands were tions. In 1786 Connecticut ceded hers dismissing this most important branch of from the Government their just and well es-

Again, it is contended, that the lands away. should be sold, and their proceeds, remain

immense donations made during the last Sir, it is time-that party harness be cut, jority of that party in this nation, are not in demanding her just rights at the hands "If the general Government had the in favor of the proceeds being applied, of a pampered and partial government.

those, who are applying the proceeds of the 1,400,000,000 of acres! lands, to purposes of revenue often fall into | Now, sir, it is for this prodigious quanthe error and inconsistency of contending tity of unsold, and as yet, undisposed of, that, they are of little or no value. I will public domain, that I claim, for North Cashow before I am done what a great mis- rolina her just proportion, before it, too, take this is; and will only now, stop to re- shall be disposed of, or its most valuable mark that the Railroads they have built- portions, squandered way, still to the exthe conals thy have cut, the institutions of clusion of the old States. learning they have endowed, the public buil- To, establish to a still clearer demondings they have erected, and the Wall Street stration the absolute necessity of this Legbrokers they have enriched, are so many at- islature and the Legislature of the old testations, to my mind of their great value. States, generally, taking prompt and deci-

up, and defended the rights and interests Carolina "a fair and equitable portion of still further, the value of the public lands, It is hardly necessary to argue the right the lands, and that, of their proceeds in Bill; or rather his amendment, to the Bill companied by the force of reason, and "Tis strange there should, such difference be,

Twixt twedledum, and tweedledee!" amount of the public domain, its immense in the ratio of their federal numbers, or value, North Carolina's equitable portion their respective Representations, in Con-

lonated to the New States. I have an official statement, made out, by the proper Department, at Washington, of all the public lands sold and donated; and showing, also, all the lands unsold,

September 1851. From this official statement, it is shown, there have been sold of the public lands one hundred and one million (101,000,000) of acres, and that the receipts have amounted to one hundred and thirty-eight millions (138,000,000,) of dollars. I emit aiding those of the New.

There have been donated, exclusive of large grants made at last session of Congress, eighty-five millions of acres! It is true that a little more than 27,000,000, thus granted was called (to save the consciences of members, and by a sort of fiction,) wet, or swamp lands; but it is a matter of notoriety, in the circles at Washington, and of infinite amusement and jest among western members, that large amounts of these "Swamp Lands" are the most rich and valuable of any part of the public domain; and that they have generally been surveyed at the wettest season of the year! and after the most noted freshets, in those respective regions! And it has become a matter of political history, and ought not to be forgotten that these twenty-seven millions of acres of the public lands were donated, and granted away, during the session of 1850, by a Congress, largely Democratic, and that but eighteen of that party, in the House of Representatives, veted the old States; notwithstanding the same party, a short time afterwards, incorporated into their national platform, the resolution on the subject of the lands I have already quoted, certainly showing a rather sudden change and a remarkable facility of

ies that Congress, (by an assumption of power that I have shown it does not possess,) has made its beneficiaries. I give it in round numbers, dropping and adding

fractions: 3 Millions of Acres. Miisouri Mississipp Louisiana Michigan Arkansas Iowa Wisconsin Tennessee Min. Territo'y 2 Oregon " 10 New Mexico 8 Utah Territ'y 6 "

85,000,000 Acres !

show the value of the lands, thus given county that I represent, would be entitled For instance, I will take as an illustra-

of all, the largest portion of this public do-

Again, the resolution claims for North sive action on this subject; and to show, nice distinction between the distribution of tion of the last Congress on Mr. Bennett's money. Certainly a very nice distinction! granting large quantities of the public lands is neither established by argument, nor ac- enumerated States, in which they lay, provided then, for a distribution of the balance of the public lands, (that is, the portion that had been surveyed and brought into I proceed now, to show the prodigious market,) among all the states of the Union.

of it, and the vast quantities that have been gress. Even this bill, thus amended .which disposed of but a small portion of all the public domain, and which at the same time was not meting out justice to the old States, gave nevertheless, to North Carolina, 1,650,000 acres. The bill, with this and undisposed of, up to the 30th day of amendment passed the House of Representatives, all the Whig delegation from North Carolina voting for it, and one of the Democrats. It went to the Senate, where, the bemocrats having a large majority,) it was laid on the table, and thus defeated, by Senators from the old States Now Sir, let us see what would have

been the value of that land to North Carolina, had the Bill passed the Senate, and become a law; because its value is easily arrived at. It must be remembered that Congress has made Land Warrants, assignable, and receivable for all lands; and that these warrants will hereafter constitute the principle, if not the only currency in which these payments will be made, for the lands; and I have it from the best authority that those warrants are selling in . Washington, and in Wall street, at the rates of \$1.20 an acre. So that, 1.650,000 acres, at this rate, would have poured into the Treasury of North Carolina, within a very small

fraction, of \$2,000.000 ! Now sir, is not this a substantial reason, why the Legislatures of the old States, should teach their delegations in Congress, especially those who know they are not representing their constituents, their duty?

Another consideration, for the necessity of prompt action, may be found, in the ainst this bill of plunder and robbers of of the Western States, which will soon be great enough, to control the disposition of the entire public domain; and inferring the future from the past, it is safe to conclude, that those States, led on by Cass, Douglass, Chase, Benton and others, will adaptation to surrounding circumstances.

The following are the States and Territothose lands. exert all their power in excluding the old

The great importance of the question, that I have argued at some length,) of the right of North Carolina, to her equitable share in the public domain, becomes obvious and manifest when we consider the prodigious amount, as already given, and the immense value, of the public lands, that still remain unsold, and undisposed of. By dividing all the public domain, as I have given it from the official report of the Land Commissioner, among all the States according to federal numbers, or to make it still plainer, according to the number of Representatives in Congress, it will be found that the portion falling to North Carolina will be more than 51 millions of acres! Put this down at only \$1 an acre, which is 25 cents below the minimum price established by Congress, and we have in round numbers the enormous sum of 50 Now, sir, I propose, for a moment, to millions of dollars! In this division the to more than \$700,000! It is true that

(CONCLUDED ON FOURTH PAGE.)