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BY GEORGE HOWARD.

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Letters addressed to the Editor must be post paid, or they may not be attended to.

DOMESTIC.

From the Chapel Hill Harbinger.

COUNTIES OF NORTH CAROLINA.

(continued.)

1777. The restraints by which the action of the Legislature had been checked and controlled, being at length removed, that body proceeded with all convenient speed to diminish the size by increasing the number of the counties, and to accommodate both to the new scheme of civil policy lately introduced and to the wants of the country. Several of the counties erected about this time bear the names of British statesmen who were favorably known as the friends of civil liberty in general—or as the patrons and defenders of the rights and claims of the colonies in Parliament. Such are Camden, Burke, Wilkes, Richmond and Rockingham.

Caswell was formed of the northern part of Orange and included at first the existing county of Person. Richard Caswell of Kinston, in Lenoir, had been Speaker of the House of Commons under the royal government, President of the Convention that formed the Constitution, and was at this time governor.

Camden. Pasquotank river was made the dividing line between that part of Pasquotank county which retained the original name, and a new one erected on its eastern bank. Charles Pratt, chief justice, was at this time Baron, and in 1736 became Earl Camden.

Burke. Rowan was divided, leaving Iredell to the original county. This was in April. In the act passed at this time it was provided that the new county should not cross the ridge and extend over the western waters, but in the session held in November it was made to comprehend Buncombe and the whole of the southern part of Tennessee. Edmund Burke was during the revolutionary struggle one of the most conspicuous members of the opposition in the British Parliament.

ry. Debtors will settle their accounts forthwith as no indulgence can be given.

JOHN MERCER, Adm'r.

Feb. 28, 1834.

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Wilkes, formed by a division of Surry, included at the time of its erection the county of Ashe. The life and character of that strange compound of learning, patriotism, wit and wickedness, that bore the name of John Wilkes, are doubtless familiar to many of our readers. Like Burke he was attached to the party of the opposition in the British Parliament.

1773. *Jones*, the southwestern part of Craven. Allen Jones, of Halifax, was appointed commander of a brigade of the State troops at the opening of the war, and a member of the continental Congress in 1779-80. He was at this time Speaker of the Senate. Willie Jones of the same county, was a member of Congress in the following year. They were both leading men, and active in the cause of freedom.

Franklin and Warren. The county of Bute was divided, and the name now become odious to the people of North Carolina, discontinued. The Earl of Bute had the confidence of his master, and was the adviser and promoter of those acts of oppression which had led to the separation of the colonies from the mother country. Franklin requires no statement or remark. Gen. Joseph Warren fell in the battle of Bunker's Hill, June 17th, 1775.

Gates includes parts of the original counties of Hertford, Chowan and Perquimans. Horatio Gates, first Adjutant General, was afterwards commander of the American forces at the capture of Burgoyne in 1777, and of the southern army at the battle of Camden on the 16th of August, 1780. Had the action of the Legislature in relation to this county been delayed a little more than a year, it would probably have borne a different name.

Montgomery was separated from Anson, leaving to the latter the existing county of that name and Richmond. Gen. Richard Montgomery fell in the attack on Quebec, in Dec. 1775. The person who has been at Mount Pleasant, the seat of justice for Anson, before this dismemberment, and noticed the beauty of its situation, depending on the graceful outline of the surrounding hills, the fertility of the soil, and proximity of a noble river can hardly help regretting that the three are not still one great county, determining by the location of its court house, the existence of a flourishing village on this spot. The place is said to be unhealthy—but for this circumstance, there is not a more beautiful spot for a town in North Carolina.

Randolph. Guilford was reduced to its present limits by the separation of Randolph. Peyton Randolph, of Virginia, was President of the first Continental Congress, which met in Philadelphia, Sept. 5th, 1774, and of the second, which met May 10th, 1775.

Lincoln and Rutherford. Tryon county was divided and the old name, as in the case of Bute, exchanged for those of two American patriots. Gen. Benjamin Lincoln, of Massachusetts, assisted at the capture of Burgoyne in 1777, and commanded at Charleston when the town was besieged and taken by the British on the 12th of May, 1780.

Gen. Griffith Rutherford, of North Carolina, was with Tryon at the affair of the Regulators on the Allemande, and an active and successful partisan officer in the revolutionary war.

1779. *Richmond* was separated from Anson. Name in honor of Charles Lennox, Duke of Richmond, "a nobleman of respectable abilities, active, indefatigable and ardent"—opposed to the oppressive measures of the ministry.

Wayne—formed by a division of Dobbs by a meridian line into two equal parts. Gen. Anthony Wayne, of Pennsylvania, was distinguished for his impetuous valor on several occasions during the revolutionary war, and especially in the attack on Stony Point, on the night of the 15th of July, 1779.

(to be continued.)

The Constable Law.—The Salisbury Journal says that in the county of Wilkes 70 or 80 indictments have been found against persons for fighting at Constables' elections; and in the county of Surry there has been much fighting and quarrelling at every place of election in the county except one; and at one place a broken head, and death in a few days afterwards was the consequence!

A Mob.—The Newark (N. J.) Daily Advertiser says: A temperance meeting at a school house in Finesville, Warren county, was interrupted and broken up the 5th instant, by a mob, in a manner which disgraces the neighborhood, and

which we believe is without a parallel in the history of our State. The meeting had been called in the usual way, to consider the objects and principles of the temperance enterprise, and as we learn by the statement in the Belvidere Apollo of Messrs. Peter Sharp and Robert S. Kennedy, who were a committee to the meeting from a neighboring Temperance Society, was respectably attended. On repairing to the school house the committee state that they found that a pole had been raised by the citizens of the place during the day, in front of the door, with a flag inscribed "Liberty for ever!" with the explanatory accompaniment of a rum jug.

Several 56 lb weights bored out to be used as mortars, were placed around the door, and were loaded and fired in quick succession from the time the people began to assemble, jeopardizing the lives of all who entered: the jug being lowered at every discharge to give new inspiration to these ardent patriots. Notwithstanding the tumult, a large collection of people of both sexes assembled from the adjoining neighborhoods, and the meeting organized to proceed with business. The mob however surrounded the house, and effectually stifled its proceedings by shouts and screams, and the noise of trumpets:—not content with this, they assailed the house violently with showers of stones, and threatened to blow it up with gunpowder. Finding it dangerous to remain longer, and the ladies especially being extremely alarmed, the meeting withdrew, leaving the rioters in possession; every effort to conciliate having been found ineffectual.

In our last we gave an account of the discovery of an attempt at Richmond to abduct several slaves. The Whig of Monday furnishes the following additional particulars:—"On Saturday, Captain Townsend, of the schooner Chariott, who had been arrested for secreting on board his vessel, nine slaves, was brought before the Mayor and discharged from custody upon the criminal charge, it appearing from the testimony that they had gone on board the night before they were found, while he and his mate were both absent. We understand a prosecution for a penalty of twenty dollars in the case of each slave is still under advisement. It is contended that the gross negligence of the Captain in leaving his vessel under charge of the Steward, a colored man, during the night, subjects him to this penalty. As there has been many exaggerated statements of this transaction in circulation, inculpating the Captain, it is but an act of justice to give the following brief abstract of the evidence. It appears that the Chariott was not quite loaded with coal. In throwing it into the hold, although the vessel near the hatchway appeared full, the coal in rolling down all sides, had left a vacant space at the bulkhead abaft. In these corners the negroes had contrived to secrete themselves by crawling over the main body of the coal on Thursday night. To discover them it was necessary to remove the coal forward. As more coal was to have been taken in on Saturday morning, it is more than probable all these negroes would have been smothered had they not been discovered. It has not yet been ascertained whether the Steward was concerned; but we understand a slave living at Rocketts has been clearly proven to have been the chief agent in inveigling the runaway slaves for which he received of them ten dollars."

Turn Out at Lowell.—The Boston Transcript says: We learn that extraordinary excitement was occasioned at Lowell last week, by an announcement that the wages paid in some of the departments would be reduced 15 per cent. on the first of March. The reduction principally affected the female operatives,

and they had several meetings or caucusses, at which a young woman presided, who took an active part in persuading her associates to give notice that they should quit the mills, and to induce them to "make a run" on the Lowell Bank, and the Savings Bank, which they did.

On Friday morning the young woman referred to was dismissed by the Agent, from her place in the mill where she worked, and on leaving the office, after receiving "a bill of her time," as the phrase is, waved her calash in the air, as a signal to others, who were watching from the windows, when they immediately "struck" and assembled around her in despite of the overseers.

The number soon increased to nearly eight hundred. A procession was formed and they marched about the town to the amusement of a mob of idlers and boys and we are sorry to add not altogether to the credit of the Yankee Girls, if we are rightly informed of their proceedings. We are told that one of the leaders mounted a pump and made a flaming Mary Woolstoncroft speech on the rights of women and the iniquities of the monied aristocracy, which produced a powerful effect on her auditors, and they determined "to have their own way if they died for it."

The storm, however, has been, as we learn, hushed for the present, and hopes are entertained that it will be entirely lulled by casting on the troubled waters a little oil of conciliation. The Lowell Journal of Saturday is silent on the subject,—from which we are disposed to believe that the reports current in the city are exaggerated, altho' there is no doubt of the principal facts as stated.

There is in the library of a gentleman of New Haven, Connecticut, eight volumes of the "Mercurie" the first newspaper ever established, comprising part of the reign of James the 1st, Charles the 1st, and the commonwealth under the protection of Cromwell and his son Richard. The size of the paper is three inches wide by seven long, and abounds with quaint sayings and singular notices.

The bill to re-enact, with amendments, an act of the Legislature of this State, incorporating the Greensville and Roanoke Rail Road Company has passed the Virginia Legislature. This road will, we understand, commence at Wilkins' Ferry on the Roanoke, and intersect the Petersburg Road at Belfield.

The Cape Fear, Yadkin and Pedee Rail Road Company was yesterday organized, by the election of James Seawell, Hugh Campbell, Sen., Samuel F. Patterson, Robert Macnamara, Edward W. Wilkings, Thomas N. Cameron and Williamson Whitehead, Directors. By the act of incorporation, the appointment of the Directory gives immediate existence to the Company. We are informed that measures will be taken without delay, to commence this important work.

Fayetteville Obs.

A new blacksmiths' bellows has been invented at Charleston, S. C. by a Frenchman. It is so constructed as to keep up the blast in ascending as well as descending; they must come into general use, as they enable the smith to use the hard coal, and the blast can be regulated to suit the convenience of the operation.

The freedom of a negro lad, who made exertions to save the Court-house at Milledgeville from destructive fire, has been purchased, by act of the Legislature of Georgia for \$1800.

A man named Shrader, of Henry county, Ky. after a drunken debauch, killed three of his children, and so shockingly abused his wife that she is not expected to recover.