

# The Tri-Weekly Commercial

VOLUME XI--NUMBER 17.

WILMINGTON, N. C., THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 24, 1856.

WHOLE NUMBER 1272

## DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION

The Democratic State Convention for North Carolina assembled in the Commons Hall, in the City of Raleigh, on Wednesday, the 16th of April, at 11 o'clock, A. M. The Convention was temporarily organized, on motion of J. G. Shepherd, of Cumberland, by calling Dr. James E. Williamson, of Caswell, to the Chair; and on motion of W. W. Holden, W. J. Yates, of Cumberland, W. Y. Geffrey, of Pasquotank, and C. W. Styrton, of New Hanover, were appointed Secretaries.

On motion the counties were then called, when the following delegates appeared: Alamance—Benj. Trölinger, S. E. Williams, Jas. R. Montgomery, W. G. Duke, J. Gaat, T. J. Turner, B. F. Roney, John Ireland, Benj. Hurdle, H. Harbor, P. A. Holt, J. Tapscott, G. W. Crockett, John Faucett.

Ashe—F. E. Boner, proxy.

Bertie—W. A. Ferguson, W. H. Spell, proxy.

Bladen—T. D. McDowell, James W. Lessner, J. L. McMillan.

Chatham—J. W. Hackney, John Hackney, Marquede Williams, G. J. Williams, Henry Williams, James Burk, Isaac Williams, Benj. Horton, William Griffin, Ransom Poe.

Duplin—N. B. Whitfield, W. J. Houston, B. K. Outlaw.

Granville—Jas. M. Bullock, N. E. Canady, C. H. K. Taylor, Dr. Willis Lewis, F. B. Hester, Dr. W. T. Cheatham, Chas. R. Lewis, W. O. Bobbitt, Geo. N. Hicks, Jonathan M. Stone, T. L. Hargrove, John Jenkins, A. W. Venable, Thos. C. Hicks, John W. Estes, W. B. Hughes, Willie Mitchell.

Brunswick—Joun D. Taylor, Gabriel Holmes.

Burke—W. W. Holden, F. I. Wilson, proxies.

Cumberland—J. G. Shepherd, W. Bow, W. Alderman, F. Fuller, G. H. Roberts, T. H. Massey, Robert Mitchell, James G. Cook, W. J. Yates.

Carteret—Dr. S. Dewey.

Caswell—O. J. E. Williamson, W. A. Lea, Weldon Lea.

Catawba—W. W. Bradburn.

Cleveland—W. W. Holden, F. I. Wilson, proxies.

Gates—W. F. Riddick, R. Gatling, Jr. Harnett—C. H. Coffield.

Lenoir—J. P. Wooten.

Lincoln—W. W. Holden, F. I. Wilson, proxies.

Montgomery—M. Murchison.

Pasquotank—W. Y. Geffrey.

Person—J. J. Brooks, Dr. J. W. Hamlett, W. T. Noel.

Surry—William Haymore.

Guilford—Robt. P. Dick, Jas. M. Donnell, Samuel M. Keys, Jonathan Church, James W. Dick, Solomon Holden, T. W. Whittington, M. D. Smith, Joseph Kirkpatrick.

Gaston—Jasper Stowe, Col. M. H. Hand, Dr. W. Sloan.

Greene—J. J. Hooker, A. D. Speight, M. P. Powell, A. Sugg, J. Sugg.

Halifax—J. W. Johnson, J. H. Panton, J. M. Grizzard, J. H. Whitaker, William Hill.

Franklin—John D. Hawkins, P. B. Hawkins, Dr. L. A. Jeffreys, Allen C. Perry, Col. Isaac Winston, Wm. B. Dunn, A. T. Fuller, H. H. Hight, J. Paschall, W. D. Coppedge, W. F. Green, H. Harris, A. H. Williams, E. A. Gupton.

Forsythe—William Barrow, F. E. Boner, B. Britton.

Jones—William Robinson, proxy.

Onslow—L. W. Humphrey, James B. Avert.

Orange—Gen. Joseph Allison, C. E. Parish, Col. C. M. Latimer, Freeman Walker, Dr. F. R. Jones, R. Nichols, William Nelson, Henry Richards, J. Marcus, Thos. W. Vickers, John F. Lyon, H. J. Pierson, W. N. Pratt, Sidney Smith, Thos. Ferrell, M. Sears, W. Marcum.

Sampson—Thos. I. Faison, P. Murphey, G. H. Daughtry, W. C. Dudley.

Wayne—W. K. Lane, John V. Sherard, J. H. Everett, J. S. Sauls, J. Fields, Dr. J. Murphey.

Pitt—Dr. W. J. Blow, W. K. Delaney, B. May.

Randolph—Dr. W. H. H. Conner, J. White, R. M. Stinson, J. M. Stinson, H. Julian.

Rowan—N. N. Fleming, J. C. Cannon.

Rockingham—J. Slade, Spencer Kallum, Gen. F. L. Simpson.

Stokes—Caleb Hill, Dr. J. F. Riddick.

Moore—Col. John Morrison, W. P. Martin, R. W. Goldston.

Northampton—T. W. Jordan, J. R. Mason, Dr. W. S. Copeland.

Onslow—Gen. C. R. Jones, E. C. Postell.

Onslow—A. J. Taylor, Dr. J. M. Taylor, Dr. B. Thornton, T. F. A. Cooper, H. G. Williams.

New Hanover—Hon. W. S. Ashe, W. C. Bettencourt, George Houston, C. W. Styrton, W. B. Flanner, J. A. Corbett, W. B. Jacobs, T. H. Ashe, Miles Costin, J. G. Walker, R. K. Bryan, James Fulton, Joseph McLaurin.

Johnston—A. Mitchener, Capt. H. B. Watson, W. H. Tomlinson, H. H. Hobbs, P. R. Tomlinson, E. Page, A. Dickson, B. Godwin, J. A. Vinson, N. M. Vinson, S. B. Ballenger, A. S. Smith, J. W. B. Watson, O. L. Dodd, L. Richardson, A. W. Richardson, J. R. Brown, Wyatt Earp, A. J. Leach, B. H. Tomlinson, L. B. Sanders, P. Renfro, J. Harper, T. Ives, C. F. Gerhardt, R. Harrison, S. W. Pate, E. H. Woodard.

Warren—Michael Collins, R. A. Ezell, Dr. R. C. Pritchard, J. T. Russell, W. H. Suite, T. L. Judkins, H. Harris, E. D. Drake, W. C. Drake, G. W. Nicholson, F. F. Brown, Dr. H. J. Davis, Dr. A. B. Hawkins, H. Milan, J. Paitillo, R. A. Davis, H. Mayfield, J. Riggan, N. Nicholson, A. Tucker, J. J. Egerton, W. A. Jenkins, Aaron Hodgers.

Wake—G. H. Wilder, W. R. Poole, W. W. Holden, A. M. Lewis, J. C. DeCarteret, W. H. Jones, Isaac Rowland, F. I. Wilson, S. H. Whitaker, W. W. Whitaker, C. Busbee, J. M. Fleming, J. A. Hicks, W. H. Loughter, J. F. Hutchins, E. G. Haywood, M. B. Royster, H. P. Tucker,

Jeff Fisher, J. K. Marriott, Wilhs Whitaker, G. W. Thomson, N. G. Ramo, W. P. Clements, Alvin Jones, A. H. Turner, A. P. Woodall, A. K. Clements, G. H. Ferris, J. D. Newsum, J. Lassiter, James Ferris, Burwell Temple, D. B. Holland, G. B. Allen, R. H. Jones, Michael Thompson, Simon Smith, Haywood Alford.

On motion, the Chairman was requested to appoint a Committee of two from each Congressional District to report officers for the permanent organization of the Convention. The following gentlemen were appointed: W. F. Riddick, Thos. W. Jordan, J. P. Wooten, W. K. Delaney, G. Cook, W. J. Houston, A. W. Venable, T. I. Judkins, M. D. Smith, Col. John Morrison, Gen. F. L. Simpson, W. Haymore, Jasper Stowe, N. N. Fleming, W. W. Holden, and T. W. Bradburn.

The Convention then took a recess until three o'clock.

THREE O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Committee appointed on permanent organization, made the following report through their Chairman, Hon. A. W. Venable: For President of the Convention, Jesse G. SHEPHERD, of Cumberland. Vice Presidents, 1st Congressional District, W. A. Ferguson, of Bertie; 2d District, Dr. W. J. Blow, of Pitt; 3d District, W. S. Ashe, New Hanover; 4th District, John D. Hawkins, Franklin; 5th District, Robt. P. Dick, Guilford; 6th District, Gen. F. L. Simpson, Rockingham; 7th District, Dr. Wm. Sloan, Gaston; 8th District, T. W. Bradburn, Catawba. Secretaries, W. Y. Geffrey, of Pasquotank; J. C. Cannon, Rowan; W. J. Yates, Cumberland; J. K. Marriott, Wake; C. W. Styrton, New Hanover. And they further recommend that the rules of the House of Commons be adopted, so far as they are applicable, for the government of the Convention.

On motion, the report was unanimously confirmed; and the Chairman appointed the Hon. A. W. Venable and Jas. G. Cooke, Esq., to conduct Mr. Shepherd to the Chair; upon taking his seat, returned his thanks to the Convention for the honor conferred, and spoke at some length upon the state of public affairs.

On motion of Dr. Pritchard, of Warren, the President appointed a Committee of two from each Congressional District to prepare and report Resolutions for the consideration and action of the Convention. The following gentlemen were appointed:

1st District, William Hill, of Halifax, W. F. Riddick, of Gates.

2d District, L. W. Humphry, of Onslow, Dr. W. J. Blow, of Pitt.

3d District, B. Fuller, of Cumberland, John D. Taylor, of Brunswick.

4th District, W. W. Holden, of Wake, R. A. Ezell, of Warren.

5th District, Benj. Trölinger, of Alamance, Dr. J. E. Williamson, of Caswell.

6th District, Gen. F. L. Simpson, of Rockingham, F. E. Boner, of Forsyth.

7th District, N. N. Fleming, of Rowan, Jasper Stowe, of Gaston.

8th District, F. I. Wilson, T. W. Bradburn.

W. S. Ashe, of New Hanover, than offered the following Resolution, which was adopted by acclamation:

Resolved, That his Excellency, Gov. THOMAS BRAGG be, and he is hereby unanimously nominated for re-election as Governor of the State of North Carolina.

On motion, the President appointed a Committee, as follows, to wait on Gov. Bragg and inform him of his nomination: A. W. Venable, William Hill, R. P. Dick, J. G. Cooke, and W. K. Lane.

The Committee retired, and after a short time returned, accompanied by Gov. Bragg, who was received with the warmest demonstrations of regard. Gov. Bragg addressed the Convention at some length in an able and impressive manner—accepting the nomination, and pledging himself to use his best exertions to carry the Democratic banner in triumph through the contest.

On motion, the Convention took a recess until seven o'clock.

SEVEN O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Convention re-assembled, pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. Hill of Halifax, Chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, reported the following, which were read and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That the delegates of the Democracy of North Carolina, in Convention assembled, deeming the present occasion a suitable one to re-affirm the well-defined principles upon which our organization, as a party, is based, do,

Resolved, That we cordially approve and re-affirm the Resolutions of the Democratic National Conventions of 1844, 1848, and 1852, as far as they are applicable to the present condition of the country.

Resolved, That the public lands, being the common property of the United States, any disposition of them for the sole and exclusive benefit of any one or more of the States, or the squandering of them in donations to paupers and convicts, whether of native or foreign extraction, would be unconstitutional and unjust.

Resolved, That we heartily approve of the Kansas-Nebraska act, by which the Missouri restriction was repealed, and the people of the South let in with their property, equally with those of the North, to the common Territories of the Union. That in our opinion the doctrine of popular sovereignty is the true doctrine; that the people of the Territories, when they come to form their State Constitutions and apply for admission into the Union as States, have the right to determine for themselves the character of their domestic institutions.

Resolved, That we have viewed with admiration and gratitude the noble and manly stand taken by the great body of Democrats of the non-slave-holding States, in behalf of the constitutional rights of the South, and we will cheerfully unite with them as heretofore, in general Convention, to nominate candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency of the United States, and to proclaim once more to the world the great principles of the Democratic party;

and we pledge our zealous and united support to the nominees of said Convention.

Resolved, That we regard the Know-Nothing organization as corrupting and dangerous in its influences and tendencies. We congratulate the country upon its rapid decay. The contest for the Presidency, it is apparent, must be between the Democratic National party and the Black Republicans; that a third party cannot strengthen, but must weaken the South in this contest; and that in a crisis like the present it is alike the interest and the duty of all Southern men to unite with that party which gives the strongest assurance, by its unity, its numbers, and its nationality, that it will triumph over the enemies of our constitutional rights, by whatsoever name called.

Resolved, That we are opposed to all secret, out-bound political associations, and to intolerance and proscription on account of religious opinion, either by Catholics or Protestants, by legal enactment or at the ballot-box.

Resolved, That President Pierce, by his inaugural address and subsequent State papers, and especially by the noble vindication of the constitutional rights of the States, contained in his last annual message to Congress, as well as by his uniform devotion to the constitution and his faithful enforcement of its obligations; has endeared himself to all true lovers of the country; and while we freely acknowledge, and proudly recognize, the abilities, the patriotism, and the sound principles of many other distinguished members of our party, and will give a cordial and united support to whomsoever may receive the nomination of the Cincinnati Convention, we yet deem it due to FRANKLIN PIERCE, and to ourselves, to declare that he is our first choice for the Presidency, and that we should hail his nomination with the liveliest satisfaction.

Resolved, That we are proud of the reputation of JAMES C. DOBBIN, Secretary of the Navy. We respect him for his experience and wisdom as a statesman, and cherish a strong affection for him as a man, on account of his amiable disposition and his many virtues; and that his nomination for the Vice Presidency would be gratifying to the people of North Carolina, and serve to bind still more closely together the national Democratic party.

Resolved, That the Constitution of this State ought to be amended, so as to extend to all free white men the same right to vote for members of the Senate as for members of the House of Commons; that we regard the plan of amendment by legislative enactment and the sanction of the people at the ballot box, as strictly republican, as it is certainly constitutional; and that we are opposed, under any and all circumstances, to a change of the basis of representation in the Senate and House of Commons; and that we will never abandon the great principle of Free Suffrage, but will unite with our fellow citizens of both parties in pressing it, in the face of all opposition and difficulties, to its final triumph.

Resolved, That it is our earnest wish and desire to see the resources of North Carolina, agricultural, mineral and commercial, fostered and developed; and the State having already entered upon a system of internal improvements to that end, and made large investments with that view, it would, in the opinion of this Convention, be politic and proper for the Legislature, from time to time, to extend such further aid in the completion of the works already undertaken, and the extension of the same, as a just regard for the interest of the people may require, and the means and resources of the State will prudently allow.

Resolved, That our present system of Common Schools ought to be fostered by the Legislature, and its efficiency increased, until the blessings of Education shall have been afforded to all the children of the State.

Resolved, That the course of Gov. Bragg has been such as to confirm and increase the confidence reposed in him, to reflect honor upon himself, and to promote the best interests of the entire State; and that with the fullest confidence in his triumphant re-election, we again present to the people of North Carolina as the Democratic candidate for Governor, THOMAS BRAGG, of Northampton—a gentleman and a patriot—a statesman fully tried and never found wanting.

Resolved, That a Democratic State Committee, to consist of ten persons, be appointed by the President of this Convention.

Resolved, That four delegates for the State at large, and four alternate delegates, be appointed by this Convention, to represent North-Carolina in the Cincinnati Convention.

Resolved, That two Electors and four Assistant Electors be appointed by this Convention for the State at large.

Mr. Cook, of Cumberland, moved that the Convention now proceed to elect four Delegates to represent the State at large in the Democratic National Convention, and four Alternate Delegates; which was agreed to.

The following gentlemen were chosen: Delegates—William S. Ashe, of New Hanover; W. W. Avery, of Burke; Bedford Brown, of Caswell; and Robt. R. Heath, of Chowan. Alternates—William Hill, of Halifax; John Hill, of Stokes; Dr. Columbus Mills, of Polk; and E. G. Haywood, of Wake.

On motion, the Convention then proceeded to appoint two electors for the State at large. The following gentlemen were chosen: H. H. Shaw, of Currituck; and Samuel P. Hill, of Caswell.

The President of the Convention then announced the following gentlemen as constituting the Democratic Executive Committee for the State, to wit: William W. Holden, of Wake; James Fulton, New Hanover; James H. White, Gaston; Jesse A. Waught, Forsyth; Robert S. French, Robeson; William A. Jenkins, Warren; W. K. Lane, Wayne; David Coleman,

Yancy; R. P. Waring, Mecklenburg; and Joseph Allison, Orange.

The Convention then adjourned until Thursday morning ten o'clock.

THURSDAY, 10 O'CLOCK, A. M.

The Convention met according to adjournment.

Mr. Bow of Cumberland, offered the following Resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we highly approve of the course pursued by our able and patriotic Senators, David S. Reid and Asa Biggs; and our Democratic Representatives now in Congress.

The Convention then went into the election of four Assistant Electors for the State at large; which resulted in the choice of the following gentlemen; Dr. R. C. Pritchard, of Warren; Marcus Erwin, of Buncombe; A. M. Scales, Jr., of Rockingham; and B. Fuller, of Cumberland.

Dr. R. C. Pritchard, Mr. Fuller, of Cumberland; E. G. Haywood, of Wake; Silvey Smith, of Orange, and Dr. Copeland, of Northampton, addressed the Convention in the order named, in an able and impressive manner, and with much applause.

The Convention then adjourned until 3 o'clock, P. M.

THREE O'CLOCK, P. M.

The Convention met according to adjournment.

On motion of Dr. Pritchard, of Warren, a committee of five were appointed—consisting of Dr. R. C. Pritchard, A. M. Lewis, Gen. Joseph Allison, T. L. Hargrove, and Sidney Smith, of Orange—to visit up the military companies of the City of Raleigh, now on parade, and invite them to visit the Convention. The Committee performed the duty assigned them, inviting the Oak City Guards, the Independent Guards, and the Raleigh Cadets into the hall; and they accepted the invitation, and came up and took seats.

Mr. Lewis offered the following Resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That every patriotic heart is filled with emotions of pleasure and pride at the appearance and display of the Oak City Guards, the Independent Guards, and the Cadets of Raleigh; now assembled in this hall; and we assure them that they have our best wishes and feelings for their success and happiness.

The President welcomed them in a glowing and eloquent speech, and Lieut. Tucker, of the Oak City Guards, responded on their behalf in his usually happy manner.

On motion, the Secretaries of this Convention were requested to inform the delegates to Cincinnati, and the Electors and their Assistants, of their appointment as such.

On motion, it was Resolved, That the proceedings of this Convention be furnished the North-Carolina Standard for publication, and that the other Democratic papers of the State be requested to copy.

On motion, the thanks of the Convention were unanimously tendered to the President and other officers for the able and satisfactory manner in which they have performed their duties.

The President then addressed the Convention: after which, on motion, the Convention adjourned sine die.

JESSE G. SHEPHERD, Pres't.

W. A. FERGUSON, }  
W. J. BLOW, }  
W. S. ASHE, }  
J. D. HAWKINS, }  
R. P. DICK, }  
F. L. SIMPSON, }  
W. SLOAN, }  
T. W. BRADBURN, }  
} Vice-Pres'ts.

W. V. GEFFROY, }  
J. C. CANNON, }  
W. J. YATES, }  
J. K. MARRIOTT, }  
C. W. STYRON, }  
} Secretaries.

A STEAMSHIP ATTACKED BY A SWORDFISH.

The San Francisco Herald, of March 9, says:

During the last passage of the steamer Cortes from this port a large swordfish was observed alongside the vessel. For a moment the gladiator of the deep seemed to contemplate the huge proportions of the vessel, and then suddenly darted toward the vessel and plunged his beak into the planking, just above the copper. It struggled fiercely to be free, but to no purpose, until the motion of the vessel as she rolled over to the other side with the sea swell, caused a severance of the blade, and his fishship, wounded and disarmed in the first charge, retired from the field. The piece of the beak which was left in the side of the vessel measured eighteen inches in length. It was removed without difficulty.

PAIR RECEIVED.

300 PAIR Ladies black and colored foxed and lined Gaiters,

100 pair Ladies fine glove kid Gaiters,

Also a fine assortment of Ladies fine Slippers, suitable for Spring, which will be offered at a reduced price.

GEORGE R. FRENCH.

April 10, 1856.

SUPER-PHOSPHATE OF LIME.

100 BAGS SUPER-PHOSPHATE OF LIME, an excellent fertilizer, just received in store, for sale by

ADAMS, BRO. & CO.

Nov. 1, 1855.

WHISKEY.

JUST RECEIVED from Cincinnati, "Direct," J. FOURTEEN BARRELS SELECTED WHISKEY. For sale at the lowest prices for CASH, by

W. L. S. TOWNSEND.

April 10, 1856.

LIME, HAIR, PLASTER & CEMENT.

CONSTANTLY ON HAND, and for sale by

GEORGE HOUSTON.

TEAS! TEAS!!

WE have just received an assortment of the best Teas ever offered in this market. Try our \$1.00 Imperial, it is of an extra quality and flavor. Our \$1.00 Black Tea is of a rosy flavor, and cannot fail to suit the most fastidious. We have also a beautiful Black Tea at 50 cents per lb. also, 37 1/2 cents per lb. choice Teas in caddies at wholesale prices—warranted good, at the Original Grocers.

GEORGE MYERS.

March 20, 1856.

## THE TRI-WEEKLY COMMERCIAL

It is published every TUESDAY, THURSDAY and SATURDAY at \$5 per annum, payable in advance. BY THOMAS LORING—Editor and Proprietor.

Corner Front and Market Streets, WILMINGTON, N. C.

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1 agr. 1 insertion \$5 50 | 1 agr. 2 months, \$4 00

1 " 2 " " 75 11 " 3 " 5 00

1 " 3 " " 1 00 | 1 " 6 " " 8 00

1 " 1 month, 2 50 | 1 " 12 " " 12 00

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All advertisements are payable at the time of their insertion.

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The privilege of Annual Advertisers is strictly limited to their own immediate business; and all advertisements for the benefit of other persons, as well as all advertisements not immediately connected with their own business, and all excess of advertisements in length or otherwise beyond the limits engaged, will be charged at the usual rates.

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All advertisements inserted in the tri-weekly Commercial are entitled to one insertion in the Weekly free of charge.

JOB, CARD AND FANCY PRINTING, EXECUTED IN SUPERIOR STYLE.

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J. M. STEVENSON,

AGENT for the sale of all kinds of Produce.—A. Office on Princess st., under ADAMS, BRO. & CO., Wilmington, N. C. Feb. 12, (1856-57). J. M. STEVENSON

GEORGE R. FRENCH,

MANUFACTURER AND WHOLESALE & RETAIL DEALER

IN BOOTS, SHOES, LEATHER, AND SHOE FINDINGS,

NO. 11, MARKET STREET, WILMINGTON, N. C.

March 5, 1856. 151

GEO. W. DAVIS,

COMMISSION MERCHANT,

SOUTH WATER STREET, WILMINGTON, N. C.

Jan. 22, 1856. 132.

GEORGE H. KELLEY & BROTHER,

DEALERS IN FAMILY GROCERIES AND PROVISIONS.

No. 11 NORTH WATER STREET, WILMINGTON, N. C.

WILL keep constantly on hand, Sugars, Coffee, Molasses, Cheese, Flour, Butter, Lard, Soap, Candles, Crackers, Starch, Oils, Snuff, &c. &c.

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S. W. WESTBROOK, } Greensboro.

Rev. W. H. BOBBITT, }  
Feb. 14, 1856.

W. G. MILLIGAN,