THE JOURNAL.

NEW BERNE, N. C.

THURSDAY, AUG. 3, 1882.

Rejoinder of "Warwick" to the Communication of E. Murrill, Sheriff of Onslow County.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—The offices in this county were created solely for the benefit of the people, and no man has any more intrinsic right to official station than another man.

It is wonderful that the short article of "Warwick, Jr." published in the JOURNAL of May 11th, should have produced such commotion among the Bourbon officials of Onslow county, and that a solitary solid shot fired from a 40-pounder gun, by a lawyer, at long range, should have wrought such fearful execution—two officers mortally wounded and the entire company in full retreat. That paper brought out two lengthy replies, each one nearly twice as long as "Watwick's," and one over the genuine signature of the Sheriff of Onslow county. And they both set out with the remark that the article is undeserving notice, and labor hard to show that they do undeserving things. If "Warwick, Jr." had opened upon them with a whole battery of artillery, composed of Napoleon guns of heaviest calibre, and maintained a steady fire at short range, the consternation could not have been greater nor the casualties more afflictive. Ah! Messrs. New River and the Sheriff of Onslow county, it is the proclamation of the truth which "makes the galled jade wince." Now for a few more facts:

In 1870 the Commissioners of Onslow county were empowered by Act of Assembly to levy a special tax of one-half of one per cent. *to pay the outstanding debt of the county.* (See Acts of 1869-70, chap. 123.) That tax was in addition to the regular levy. In 1872, only two years later, the Legislature again granted to the Commissioners authority to levy a special tax of one-half of one per cent. *to pay the outstanding debt of the county.* (See Acts of 1871-72, chap. 123.) That tax was also additional to the regular levy. A provision was inserted in the last recited Act, requiring the proposition to be submitted to a majority of the qualified voters, and people having been assured that this would free the county from debt, cheerfully and trustingly voted for the power of taxation. Here were two special taxes together amounting to one per cent. within the short space of two years, authorized to be levied and collected from the tax-payers of Onslow county, and approximating $9,000 in augmentation of the regular levies, which were invariably up to the maximum allowed by the Constitution. These special taxes were sufficient to pay the indebtedness of the county, or they were not. If they were, the debt was paid, if the money was not misapplied, although the Sheriff of Onslow county says over his own name the county has never been out of debt since the adoption of the new Constitution. If the amount raised by the two special levies was not enough, then the officials of the county practiced a fraud and a deception upon the Legislature in obtaining the grant of power, and upon the tax-payers of the county in persuading them to vote for said power, or the money was misapplied; and these gentlemen can take either horn of the dilemma that suits them.

In 1877 the Legislature again empowered the Commissioners of Onslow county to levy and collect a special tax for 1877 and 1878, not to exceed $2,000, for both years, *and to be applied under the direction of said Commissioners.* (See Act 1876-77, chap. 211.) A clause was put in requiring the levy to be ratified by a majority of the qualified voters of the county, and if the recollection of Warwick, Jr., is not at fault, the proposition was submitted, and received about 50 or 60 votes in a voting population at least 1500 strong. Such an emphatic rebuke of any further grant of power by the tax payers of Onslow county, shows whether *they* considered the officers of the county as being honest, faithfully and competently cared for. In 1881 the Legislature again empowered the County Commissioners of Onslow to levy and collect a special tax amounting to one-third of $7000, to be paid each year for three years, for the purpose of paying the outstanding indebtedness, without any clause leaving it to be voted upon by the tax payers of the county. See Act, 1881, chap. 84. Now wherefore all this waste of the public money, and it has been the standing rule all these years, with occasional exceptions, that the jurors were not paid for their services at the term of the Court when they served, and many times have been under the necessity of selling their tickets at a heavy discount.

In 1876, a statement was made public by authority of the Commissioners that the county was out of debt, and a surplus in the treasury. The announcement of the facts can be supported by the evidence of many respectable and credible persons, and among the number some of the largest tax payers in the county. Now whether the statement was true or false, Warwick, Jr., has no means at hand of showing, but that such statement *was made*, can be proved by abundant testimony of the very best sort, and the question as to whether the Commissioners' authorized statement was true or not, is an issue raised between them and their champion co-adjuters, New River and the Sheriff of Onslow county, and Warwick, Jr., has nothing to do with their brawls or misrepresentations.

The charge many times made, and in his communication insinuated against the tax-payers of this county, by the Sheriff, to the effect that property is not valued high enough, can be most triumphantly met by "Warwick Jr.," referring everybody interested or curious in the matter, to the Auditor's Report of 1879, which will show the property in this county to be valued as high as the tax-payers can bear, and that in comparison with adjacent counties, is as high as the greatest number, and higher than many neighboring counties. There is a great quantity of barren and worthless land in Onslow county. But the motto of the Sheriff of Onslow County seems to be this: "Increase the value of all property, that will increase every body's taxes, and in increasing all the taxes which are collected, the commissions of the Sheriff are augmented in a corresponding rate.

If such a state of affairs as this does not justify the tax-payers of a county in appealing to the county for protection from oppressive taxation, and from unlawful and unjust levies, then "Warwick Jr." will confess he cannot conceive of the existence of any condition making relief necessary. It is worthy of consideration in this connection that no public buildings of any sort have been erected, except three small houses with two rooms to each, constructed for the accommodation of the poor at an expense of about four hundred dollars, and the repairs upon the bridge across New River, they say costing $600, at the county seat, and these constitute almost the entire expense incurred for public works.

Therefore two injunctions, at different times were applied for and obtained, and the Courts presided over by Judges learned in the law, sustained the plaintiffs in both these suits, and awarded judgment against the defendants, officials of Onslow county, and the costs have not been refunded to the plaintiffs, to this day. Now the question naturally presents itself, who are wrong, the courts, or the Democratic officials of that county. In both cases where the injunctions were granted the limitations of the Constitution, had been exceeded although they had taken a solemn oath of office to be governed by that instrument. "Warwick Jr." leaves the answer to this question to the sense of justice and the enlightened public opinion of intelligent and impartial people everywhere.

In preparing these rejoinders, "Warwick Jr." has endeavored to preserve the decencies and proprieties of his position and rejoices in the proud satisfaction of being able with a reasonable quantity and fair quality of intelligence, with the robust strength of the cause, and the omnipotent power of truth to carry on this controversy without compromising his sense of dignity and decorum and without insulting the intelligent readers of the JOURNAL by descending to the level of those who have attempted to reply to his first article, and engaged in vituperation, personal abuse and vilification of private reputation. Such a course of procedure either in the hustings or in a written argument is not in accordance with good taste in the opinion of

WARWICK, JR.

June 15, 1882 Richlands, N. C.

Joe Lautter at Bradford Pa.

We clip from the Sunday *Morning Star*, a paper published in Bradford, Pennsylvania, a paragraph from the account of the races there on June 17th. The Maud Monroe which is spoken of in this paragraph is the well known Maude McDonald, Kinston's favorite, and the 290 pounder is the owner of Maude McDonald.

First heat.—Pools sold Bronze $50, Mollie H, $15, field $35. The word was given at the third attempt. Maud Monroe, a southern horse, was driven by a gentleman who tips the scales at about 290 pounds and who drove in a sulky about sixteen inches higher than any on the track, immediately showed her nose at the front, cutting Bronze out of the pole, who broke badly and fell into the last position. At the quarter Monroe was leading by three lengths, King Wilkes second, with Mollie H. at his wheel, the rest being strung out. The same positions were maintained to the finish. Time, 2:33¼.

Prosperous Farmer.

On Thursday Mr. Henderson Scott from near Grantsboro, Pamlico county, brought to market two barrels of home made pork which he sold to Reel & Bros. for twenty dollars per barrel. It is a rare thing to see a farmer bring a barrel of pork to market at this season of the year, but we think, as a general rule, it is a true sign of a prosperous farmer.

An Irish Farm.

Imagine a level county, with few trees and no forests, cut up into very small irregular fields by stone walls. It is of such land that Irish farms are composed. In most counties there is a great deal of boggy, swampy land from which the farmers cut peat, which serves them as fuel.

An Irish farm is generally as large as an ordinary village green of New York or New England, say, form five to fifteen acres. In some districts, a farm of ten acres is considered rather large, and it is often the sole support of an immense family,—father, mother, ten children, and, perhaps, an old grandmother.

Boston Common contains forty-eight acres of land. It would make six good-sized Irish farms, which would maintain fifty or sixty human beings, half a-dozen cows, a horse or two, some donkeys and many pigs, besides paying about three hundred dollars a year to the landlord, and something to the priest.

In good seasons, all this teeming and swarming life can just be maintained. But suppose a crop fails! Suppose the peat cannot be dried! Then what! Why, hunger and starvation, of course. And, remember, there are no factories or other business to fall back upon. If the crops fail, all fails.

If the crops of New England should be as poor this year, as they were in Ireland last year, it would be a great calamity, but very few persons would go hungry on that account. The fisheries, the shops, the factories, commerce, and the saving-banks would go on about as usual, and the people would buy their food from other States.

Irish farms do not all lie along a high road, as with us. Farms are behind farms, and a great number of them can only be reached by a donkey path three or four feet wide. All the work is done by hand. The fields are dug, not ploughed, and many farmers have no implements but a spade, a hoe and a turf-cutter, and no vehicle except a small donkey-cart.

The farm-house is generally one story high, and very often consists of a simple large room, with perhaps a roof of thatch, but many of the houses are made of earth, with a hard floor of home-made cement. In this one room, the dairy-work is done, and all the family live, the pig coming in and going out as he pleases.

Are the people then miserable and degraded. By no means. When the harvest is good and the rent reasonable they are among the most cheerful people in Europe, and, in all the world, there is no land where the women are more modest and pure.

The children are ruddy and robust. The houses are generally clean and neat. The people enjoy life so much upon those little black, boggy farms, that when they emigrate to America or Australia, they sometimes almost die of homesickness.

In many instances, a poor Irish girl among us never goes to bed for six months after leaving home, without crying a little for the old house of mud and thatch, and the old folks within it.

The Man Who Circled.

A young man of 23, built like an ox and full of ambition, came in on one of the popular excursions to Detroit, and while idling around the Central Market caught sight of a policeman about half as big as himself. He was instantly taken with an itching to try conclusions, but having a grain of prudence in his head he inquired of a stall-keeper:

'Suppose I should walk up to that officer and tell him I could lay him on his back—what would he do?'

'Tell you to move on.'

'Then suppose I circled around and came down on him and offered to bet that I could stand him on his head?'

'He'd probably give you another chance to clear out.'

'Well, I'm aching to try him on, and I'll begin now.'

He din't lose a minute in walking up to the officer and asserting his belief that he could dust the floor with his back.

'You move on!' placidly replied the officer.

The young man took a circle around and came back with the information that he could pick the blue coat and make his heels kick the air.

'I tell you to go away from me!' exclaims the officer as he walked on.

The young man off again, and at the end of ten minutes a row was heard at the further end of market. People rushed down to see the officer wollloping the bluffer over the empty benches and rubbing his back on the floor, and the handcuffs had just been snapped on when the stall-keeper came up and asked:

'Well, have you got through circling around?'

'Say! what a fool I was!' replied the young man. 'You told me how the first and second bluffs would work, and durn my butons if I din't forget to ask about about the third! Why, I hadn't finished telling him that I din't want over fifteen seconds to turn him wrongside out and sell him for pulh when he knocked a barrel to peeess with my heels!'

Fight With a Hyena.

The hyena is cowardly and treacherous, but when enraged, the beast becomes brave, and his powerful jaws are death." At a show given at Winchester Va., there was a performance not down in the "bills," being nothing less than a terrible fight between a man and a hyena. It is thus described by the *Times* of that town:

The den of spotted hyenas was placed in position and Herr Drayton entered as usual, to take his position as master. The instant he made his appearance the largest and most ferocious of the animals made a determined stand, and refused to retire to his accustomed place.

Drayton at once saw that something was wrong, and ordered the iron doors of the cage which make separate apartments to be closed, and attempted to close them himself.

"Gabriel," the oldest male member of the hyena family, seemed to understand the meaning of the movement, and refused to obey orders, and at once took a defiant position.

Drayton, a man of Herculean strength and iron will, the instant he saw that there was a rebellion inaugurated, said to the outside attendants,—

"Here is trouble. Send for some iron bars."

The men obeyed his orders, but before they returned, Gabriel made the attack, and the struggle was something terrible to witness.

The young animals seemed inclined to befriend their master, but Gabriel was determined to have his life. Drayton had nothing but a common cowhide whip, which he saw was of no avail, and he grasped his terrible antagonist by the throat, and threw him bodily to the floor of the den.

This for a moment seemed to subdue the animal, but for a moment only. Regaining his feet, he waited, as it appeared, to consider the situation, and with a determination to die or conquer, made a desperate attack on his master. After Gabriel recovered from the momentary surprise at the strength of his master, his rage was uncontrollable. With a bound, he seized Drayton.

Up to this moment, the other animals had only taken a passive interest in the struggle, but at the sight of blood, their rage knew no bounds, and they attacked each other, rolling and leaping with lightnig-like rapidity, over, under and around the man and his antagonist, snarling, howling and tearing indiscriminately, adding greatly to Drayton's peril.

This terrible scene continued in the presence of the terrified spectators for fully two minutes. Drayton, in the meantime, with his naked hands, fighting the ferocious beast which had attacked him, and with wonderful strength and pressence of mind, preventing him from seizing a vital part or pulling him to the floor.

In the meantime, the attendants had not been idle, and finally, with the aid of crowbars and pitchforks, succeded in breaking the hold of the beast. Drayton had fought his way to the door of the den, and the instant it was opened, fell into the arms of his friends.

No ordinary man would have lived five minutes in this terrible position. No man without an iron will, undaunted courage, and Herculean strength, could ever have left the cage alive. The expression of Drayton's face as he stood holding by the throat his terrible antagonist, was something never to be forgotten. Blood was flowing in streams from his wounds. Fear, hope and determination were mingled in one expression—a noble specimen of God's noblest work.

Few men have passed through such an ordeal and escaped with life.

Bent on Business.

We are familiar with the marked peculiarities of the Jews in trade. When the Danbury man or the Detroit *Free Press* man make use of these characteristics in a story, they never let them dwindle below their due proportions—as in the following colloquy between a Detroit Jew and a stranger:

Yesterday afternoon a stranger who was coming up from the Union depot stepped aside to ask a man in the door of a clothing-store "My friend, can you tell me how far"—

'Do you want to buy some c'othing?' interrupted the other.

"I guess not. I simply wanted to inquire how"—

"I sells you a spring oafercoat for tree dollars."

"I never wear more than one spring overcoat at the same time. I wanted to ask"

"I have some vest for a dollar."

"That's cheap enough but I don't care to invest. Will you let me ask you how far"—

"Dean' you vhant some bantloons for twelve shillings?"

"No."

"Some stokings for ten cents?"

"No."

"Some suspender for two shillings?"

"No. I wanted to ask"—

"I sell you a hat for sixty cents."

The stranger picked up his satchel and walked across the street. Then, facing about, he shouted out,—

"I wanted to ask you how far it was from Dan to Ber,"—

But the clothier drowned him out right here with:

"Und call and examine my undershirt sfor forty cents."

What Relation?

We often hear Congressmen accused of ignorance of the Scriptures, but that even ministers are sometimes caught napping in some of the minor matters presented in the sacred book, is shown by the following story told by one who was on a fishing excursion with Rev. Robert Collyer and some other ministers.

I cannot refrain, he says, from telling a conundrum that was proposed to the four ministers when the bluefish party went ashore at the "Pint" and took their picnic dinner under the shade of a fisherman's hut. It was, "If Solomon was the son of David and Joab the son of Zeruiah, what relation was Zeruiah to Joab?" Every man among the clergymen said "father," and when assured that the answer was wrong, there was much curiosity excited.

"Will you state that again?" asked Mr. Collyer, laying down his fork. It was restated.

"Well," said he, "David and Solomon had nothing to do with it, but Zeruiah was Joab's father."

"No, guess again," was the reply.

The clergymen all insisted that the answer was right, and Mr. Collyer said, "He certainly must have been his father, and I won't eat another mouthful till you tell me where the catch is."

When told that "Zeruiah was Joab's mother," he was much amused, and expressed his surprise that his brethren of his cloth didn't know their Bible better.

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E. M. FOSCUE,
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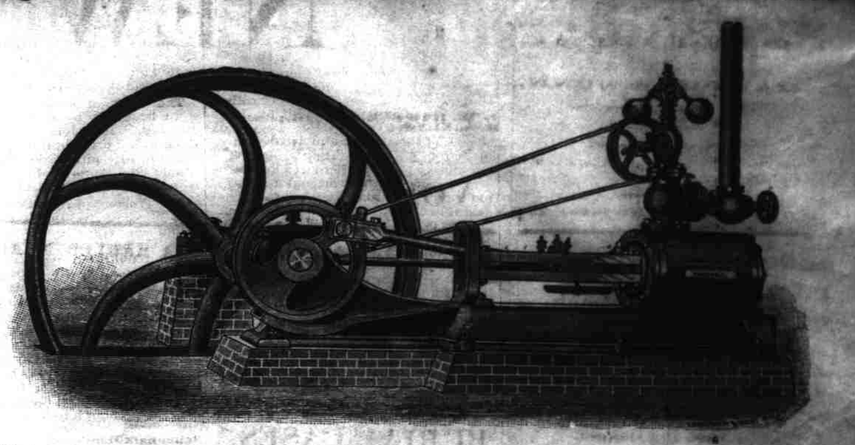

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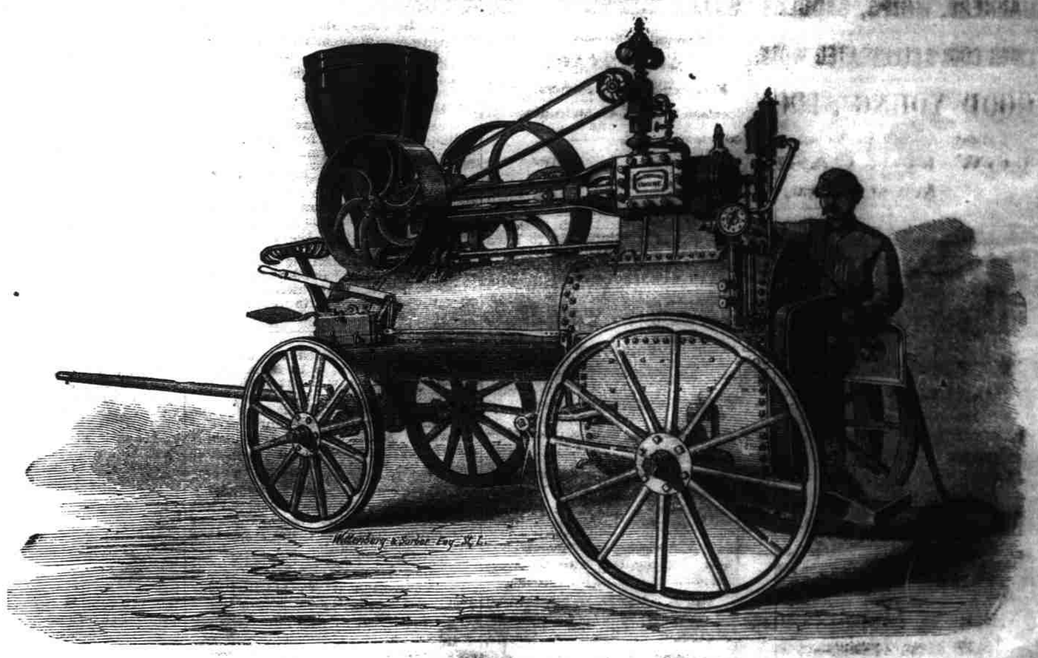

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