

Daily Journal-Observer

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TUESDAY, MAY 22, 1883.

The Mecklenburg Declaration—Decisive Testimonies as to May 20th.

Editor Journal-Observer: "In the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established. More than three can be added, but three will suffice. I, the Rev. Humphrey Hunter, Orders were presented by Col. Thomas Polk to the several militia companies that were called from each corps, should meet at the court house on the 19th of May, 1776, in order to consult with each other upon such measures as might be thought best to be pursued. Accordingly, on said day a far larger number than two out of each company were present. There was some difficulty in choosing the conveni- ences. To have chosen all thought to be worthy would have rendered the meeting too numerous. The following were selected and styled delegates, and are here given according to my best recollection as they were placed on the roll: Abram Alexander, Sr.; Thomas Polk, Richard Harris, Sr.; Adam Alexander, Richard Barry, John McKnit Alexander, Inell Morrison, Hezekiah Alexander, Hezekiah T. Balch, Zacheus Wilson, John Phosphate, James Har- William Kannon, John Ford, Henry Downs, Ezra Alexander, William Graham, John Gentry, Chas. Alexander, Waitstill Adam Brevard, Benjamin Patton, Matthew McLure, Robert Irwin, John Flenniken and David Ross.

Abram Alexander was nominated and unanimously voted to the chair. John McKnit Alexander and Ephraim Brevard were chosen secretaries. The chair being occupied, and the clerk seated, the house was called to order, and proceeded to business. Then a full, a free, and dispassionate discussion obtained on the various subjects for which the delegation had been convened, and the following resolutions were unanimously ordained.

1st. Resolved, That whosoever directly or indirectly abetted, or in any way, form or manner, countenanced the unchartered and dangerous invasion of our rights as claimed by Great Britain is an enemy to this country, to America and to the inherent and inalienable rights of man.

2d. Resolved, That we, the citizens of Mecklenburg county, do hereby dissolve the political bands which have connected us to the mother country and hereby absolve ourselves from allegiance to the British Crown, and abjure all political connection, contract or association with that nation, who have wantonly trampled on our rights and liberties, and inhumanly shed the blood of American patriots at Lexington.

3d. Resolved, That we do hereby declare ourselves a free and independent people, are and of right ought to be a sovereign and self-governing association under the control of no power other than that of our God and the general government of the Congress to the maintenance of which independence we solemnly pledge to each other our mutual co-operation, our lives, our fortunes and our most sacred honor.

4th. Resolved, That as we not acknowledge the existence and control of no law or legal officer, civil or military, within this country we do hereby ordain and adopt as a rule of life all such, and every one of our former laws, wherein, nevertheless, the Crown of Great Britain never can be considered as holding rights, privileges, immunities or authority therein.

5th. Resolved, That it is further decreed, that all, each and every military officer in this country, is hereby reinstated in his former command and authority, he acting conformably to these regulations. And that every member present of this delegation shall henceforth be a civil officer, viz: a Justice of the Peace, in the character of a "com- mittee-man" to issue process, hear and determine all matters of controversy according to said adopted laws, and to preserve peace, union and harmony in said county; and to use every exertion to spread the love of country and fire of freedom throughout America until a more general and organized government be established in this province.

These resolves having been concurred in, by-laws and regulations for the government of a standing committee of public safety were enacted and acknowledged. Then a select committee was appointed to report on the ensuing day a full and detailed statement of grievances, together with a more correct and formal draft of the Declaration of Independence, written by Richard Brevard, chairman of said committee, and read by him to the delegation. The resolves, by-laws and regulations were read by John McKnit Alexander. It was then announced from the chair: Are you all agreed? There was not a dissenting voice. Finally, the whole proceedings were read distinct and audibly at the court house door to a large, respectable, and approving assemblage of citizens, who were present, and gave sanction to the business of the day. A copy of all those transactions was then drawn off and given in charge to Capt. James Jack, then of Charlotte, that he might present them to Congress, then in session in Philadelphia.

On that memorable day I was 20 years and 14 days of age, a very deeply interested spectator, recollecting the dire hand of oppression that had driven me from my native clime, now pursuing me in this happy asylum, anxious to bind me again in the fetters of bondage. On the return of Capt. Jack he reported that Congress had officially manifested their entire approbation of the conduct of the Mecklenburg citizens; but desisted it prematurely to lay them officially before the House. Extract from Memoir.

out the following month, June, and in passing through Salisbury the General Court was sitting. At the request of the court, I handed a copy of the resolutions to Col. Kennon, an attorney, and they were read aloud in open court. Major William Davidson and Mr. Avery, an attorney, called on me at my lodgings the evening after, and observed that they had heard of but one person, (a Mr. Beard) but approved of them. I then proceeded on to Philadelphia and delivered the MECKLENBURG DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE of May, 1776, to Richard Caswell and William Hooper the delegates to Congress from the State of North Carolina. I am now in the 87th year of my age, residing in the county of Elbert, in the State of Georgia. I was in the revolutionary war from the commencement to the close. I would further observe that the Rev. Francis Cummins, a Presbyterian clergyman, of Greensboro, in this State, was a student in the town of Charlotte, at the time of the adoption of the resolutions, and in as well, or perhaps better, acquainted with the proceedings at that time, than any man now living. Col. William Polk, of Raleigh, in North Carolina, was living with his father, Thomas, in Charlotte, at the time I have been speaking of, and although then too young to be forward in the business, yet the leading circumstances I have related cannot have escaped his recollection. JAMES JACK, Signed this 7th Dec. 1819, in the presence of Job Weston, C. C. O., James Oliver, Attorney at Law.

"North Carolina. Cabarrus county, Nov. 29, 1830. We, the undersigned, do hereby certify, that we have frequently heard Wm S Alexander, deceased, say that he, the said Wm S Alexander, was at Philadelphia on mercantile business, in the early part of the summer of 1776, say in June, and that on the day that Gen. Washington left Philadelphia to take the command of the northern army, he, the said Wm S Alexander, met with Capt James Jack, who informed him, the said Wm S Alexander, that he, the said James Jack, was then as the agent or bearer of the Declaration of Independence made in Charlotte, the 20th of May, 1776, by the citizens of Mecklenburg, then including Cabarrus, with instructions to present the same to the delegates from North Carolina, and by them to be laid before Congress, and which he said he had done, in which Declaration the aforesaid citizens of Mecklenburg renounced their allegiance to the Crown of Great Britain and set up a government for themselves, under the title of the Committee of Safety."

Given under our hands the date above written. ALPHONSO ALEXANDER, AMOS ALEXANDER, J. M. KENT. GEN. JOSEPH GRAHAM, (Extract from Letter.) "Agreeably to your request, I give you the details of the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence on the 20th of May, 1776. "On the 20th of May, 1776, besides the two persons elected from each militia company (usually called committee-men) a much larger number of citizens attended in Charlotte than at any former meeting, perhaps half the men in the county. "The sub-committee appointed to draft the resolutions returned, and Dr. Ephraim Brevard read their report as such as I can recollect in the very words we have since seen them several times in print. It was unanimously adopted, and shortly after it was moved and seconded to have the proclamation made and the people collected, that the proceedings be read at the court house door, in order that all might hear them. It was done, and they were received with enthusiasm. It was then proposed by some one aloud to give three cheers and throw up their hats. It was immediately adopted, and the hats thrown. Several of them lit on the court house roof. The owners had some difficulty to reach them. The foregoing is all from personal knowledge."

Other testimonies could be supplied were it necessary, I shall only add that a few days ago the venerable Rev. Elijah Morrison, of Anson, informed me, that the Rev. Dr. Robinson, of Poplar Tent, had frequently said to him that "nothing would so quickly rally the Scotch Irish in him as to hear any man express a doubt as to the Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence being made on the 20th of May, 1776, for he was present on that occasion and witnessed the entire proceedings of that day." Respectfully, A. W. MILLER, The Manse, Charlotte, N. C. Too Much Radiance.

Denver News. Weems was a very gaudy liar, but the character he gave to his hero was most attractive for Sunday school literature, and it has become so generally accepted in this country that very few Americans think of George Washington as a man subject to the same passions and emotions as his cotemporaries. If he had not been painted as such an angel of light such stories as this foolish fiction about his alleged default to the government would not find so many anxious believers.

California Paper. Chinamen who deal in unstamped, cigarette papers, and other articles, fish scales on their faces, and when brought before the court, begin to scratch off the scales. Then somebody says "A lape!" and the judge holds up his hands in horror, saying: "The defendant is not guilty; get out of here John, as quick as the Lord will let you!"

That Member of Mine. In three times the man, we before we began writing, "Well's Health Renewer." St. Druggists. Mrs. J. H. Home, Linton, N. C., says: "I have found Brown's Iron Bitters a safe and pleasant cure for general debility."

Hostetter's Bitters. CELEBRATED. There has never been an instance in which this celebrated medicine has failed to ward off the complaint, when taken daily in strict accordance with the directions. Hundreds of physicians have abandoned all the official preparations and now prescribe Hostetter's Bitters as the only reliable remedy for cholera and fever, as well as dyspepsia and indigestion. Hostetter's Bitters is the specific you need. For sale by Druggists and Dealers generally.

Lace Curtains, &c. Having special facilities, we can make your Lace Curtains just as well as when new. Ladies' Dressing Gowns. Satisfaction guaranteed. Ladies' hats made to order. For themselves or to send to friends. For themselves before sending out elsewhere. For sale by Druggists and Dealers generally.

FOR SALE. Four Black Cows with young calves. Call at the Greenwell House. A. B. HERRICK & SON.

Miscellaneous

THE TESTS OF 40 YEARS. PROVE BEYOND DOUBT THAT Perry Davis's Pain Killer IS THE GREAT HEALTH KEEPER THE RELIEVER OF DISTRESS THE COMFORTER FOR PAIN THE ENEMY OF DISEASE AND A FRIEND OF THE FAMILY, WHICH SHOULD ALWAYS BE AT HAND. EVERY DRUGGIST KEEPS Perry Davis's Pain Killer.

Gray & Brother OFFER A FINE LINE Spring and Summer SHOES! WE HAVE Added to Our New Stock OF SHOES, A Nice Line of LADIES' OPERA SLIPPERS and NEW-FASHIONED TIES, and a variety of Ladies', Misses' and Children's STRAP SANDALS. Also, in addition to our Large Stock of Gents', Ladies' and Children's Shoes, we have just received a Line of Children's Rib Shoes.

WE HAVE TAKEN ALL The margin and 50 Per Cent. of Cost Price Off DRESS GOODS. THE BEST VALUE Yet offered. Call and See Them.

1883. 1883. SPRING STOCK. Our SPRING STOCK of Ladies', Misses, Gents', Youths and Children's BOOTS and SHOES is now full and complete, comprising the best makes and most correct styles. Ladies', Misses and Children's.

Fine Button and Lace Boots. BUTTON NEWPORTS, NEWPORT SLIPPERS and SANDALS a specialty. Gents' and Youths GAITERS, BUTTON and LACE BALS, STRAP SHOES, CONGRERS and BUTTON OXFORD PUMPS and SLIPPERS all grades.

NOTICE. On Saturday, June 16th, 1883, at 12 o'clock M. I will sell to the highest bidder for cash at the court house door in the city of Charlotte, an undivided one-third interest in a tract of land containing one hundred and sixty-five (165) acres, more or less, all of the interest of L. B. Simpson and his wife M. J. Simpson, in said tract of land, which is more particularly described in a mortgage deed, bearing date February 17th, 1880, and registered in the register's office of Mecklenburg county, in Book 80, page 61.

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DRAINING CASE FOR BBLS. A Penny Saved is a Penny Made.

IF YOU WANT TO SAVE MONEY, write to GEO. M. CRAPON, Agent, for particulars of the best quality of Draining Cases for Barrels. GEO. M. CRAPON, Agent.

Miscellaneous

Just Received. T. L. SEIGLE & CO'S. The handsomest line of NECKWEAR. To be found in the city, consisting of everything new in FISCHEES, COLLARETTES, &c. In Lace, Velvet, Embroidered Mulls, &c. ALSO A LARGE STOCK OF WHITE GOODS And EMBROIDERIES, In both Swiss and Hamburg, and many other new and desirable goods are daily arriving. Call early and secure.

Always on Hand, ANYTHING IN THAT LINE That Anyone Wishes AT SHORT NOTICE. Butterick's Patterns for June J. R. EDDINS. Wholesale and Retail.

Bookseller and Stationer, CHARLOTTE, N. C. A LARGE AND CAREFULLY SELECTED STOCK OF Ladies' Writing Books, Pencils, Pens, and Fancy Note Paper. Wall Paper, Bibles, Books, Scrap Albums, Hyg. Books, Prayer Books, Bibles, and all the current, novels and literature of the day. Rubber Stamps made to order. Agent for McCall's Celebrated Bazar Glove-Fitting Patterns.

FOR SALE. A Valuable HOUSE and LOT in the city of Charlotte. The house contains 9 rooms in main building, 1 1/2 bath room, hot and cold water, butter pantry and two basement rooms. Two-room brick kitchen, slate roof, and servant's room and stable. The buildings are all in first class order. The lot contains four acres, with beautiful shade trees, evergreens and flowers. This lot has two wells of excellent water. The property is conveniently situated on Trade Street, within five minutes walk of the public square. It is one of the most desirable residences in Charlotte and a purchaser can obtain this property at a bargain. Single lots will be sold, if desired. For further information apply to WALTER WHEE.

SALE OF VALUABLE LAND. (In the matter of the estate of R. J. Simpson, deceased.) The residue of an order of the Superior Court of Rowan county, I will proceed to sell at public auction, on the premises, to wit: the premises known as the "Old Mill" in the town of Salisbury, on the 25th day of May, A. D. 1883, all the land and premises (to be sold in lots) of the said R. J. Simpson, deceased, in said county, for said year. The following described lands, to-wit: The estate of the said deceased, R. J. Simpson, consisting four hundred and thirty (430) acres, being and situated in Me. One hundred (100) acres, being and situated in Third Creek Station, a depot on the Western R. C. railroad, and known as the R. J. Simpson Home Place. This land will be sold in four (4) several tracts as follows: One-half of the premises known as the "Old Mill" in the town of Salisbury, and the other half within six (6) months after the date of sale. The balance of the land will be sold in lots of not less than ten (10) acres, with definite streets and boundaries. This land is very valuable, well watered and contains a large lot of wood. The terms of sale will be: One-half of the proceeds to be paid in cash on day of sale, and the other half within six (6) months after the date of sale. The balance of the land will be sold in lots of not less than ten (10) acres, with definite streets and boundaries. Any person wishing to inspect the land, or to purchase, should apply to the undersigned at his residence, in Salisbury, N. C., on or before the 15th day of May, 1883.

WANTED. I desire to secure the services of a first-class carpenter to do work in my shop and also to do the same in my office. A reliable, steady and good worker will be given a reliable recommendation. Apply to J. H. McADEN.

Druggists

J. H. McAden OFFERS TO THE Wholesale and Retail TRADE A Large Stock of PURE WHITE LEADS, VARNISHES, &c. Also—J

Linseed Oil, Colors, KEROSENE OIL. Wilson & Burwell's Drug Store. NOW IS THE TIME!! CHEAP GOODS!!

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WITTKOWSKY & BARUCH. We Surrender. Our Advertising Column To-day is the Simple Notice of the Receipt of that Very Desirable ARTICLE OF LADIES' WEAR, THE JERSEY JACKET. Just received, and which we offer 25 Per Cent Lower Than they can be ordered from the North.

Wittkowsky & Baruch. We are Also Now Daily Receiving Acquisitions of Seasonable Goods To our already LARGE STOCK. Orders in Person or by Mail Solicited.

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