

Editor of the Standard:

Sir:

In the Tribune of July 10th, I find an account of a false and slanderous attack made upon me, by the great North Carolina Hearlequin, Vance. I do not propose to bandy epithets with this man, but as he has repeatedly taken it upon himself to declare, at home and abroad that I am merely an ignorant foreigner, entirely unfit to hold any office of trust or emolument in North Carolina, I make this challenge — I will meet Gabriel B. Vance, at any time previous to the first Monday in September, or at any time thereafter, when not engaged in official duties, to discuss with him, ^{in the City of Raleigh} and before the People of North Carolina, the present national political issues.

I have been elected to the office of Judge of the Superior Court, by the people of North Carolina. ^{and sworn to perform its duties} I have not been ^{and am} a candidate for any political position. Further, I ^{should} not accept any nomination which might be offered me, while holding this position.

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~~Civil Executive Office.~~

As a judge, I can have no part in any local political struggle, for I should despise myself ^{even} more than I despise this vulgar buffoon, could I permit any partizan feeling to affect my action even though he stood at the bar in Randolph County, charged with those fearful crimes, claimed to have been perpetrated there by his explicit orders.

As a citizen however, and especially as a former soldier of the United States, I am bound ^{by my official oath to} defend support and maintain the Constitution and laws of the United States which he and his traitorous accomplices have assailed. Again he has assailed me as a man and as an officer. Set him measure his manhood on the same platform and I will prove my capacity or incapacity on the bench.