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State of North Carolina.
Executive Department.
Raleigh.

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It is much & proper that the picture
of the great Vane, the particular
friend of Education & the first
Advocate of ~~female~~ normal
schools ~~in the State~~ should
decorate the walls of this in-
stitution. (message of 1876) (p 7)
He was the benefactor & defender
women & children of the state
during the war, when their natural
protectors were away bearing their
bodies to bullets of the enemy. He
stored up provisions ^{at} accessible
points, purchasing here & there when
it be had & transporting to places
of soft & easy distribution to

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The most necessitous. He conceived the idea & carried it into successful operation of purchasing a steamer for the State, to import the necessities of life, articles of prime necessity for our people, such as shoes, hats & cloth for our soldiers, & was ever so thoughtful as to bring in cotton goods that our own people might produce more cloth. These latter were distributed gratis to the poor women throughout the State. Continuing along this line of protecting the weak & lending aid & comfort to those of

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Native teachers today is ^{largely} in
excess of the demand [&]
~~of excellent quality,~~ ^{insufficient} so to
Governor Vance may be
assured, at least, the beginning
of the Normal Schools in
N.C. & the placing of this
life-like picture here a
fitting tribute to his memory
& an honor to their schools

I had thought your President had
exhausted himself in surprises at
your last commencement but this
exceeds all others in being the
most appropriate for the occasion &
does his head & heart infinite
credit.

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There are two kinds of greatness
- the greatness that is written
in books & sung in history
& the greatness that is kept
alive by tradition in the
hearts of the people. Measured
by the latter J. B. Vance will
be recorded as the greatest
North Carolinian

not delivered - Could not attend