

# WILMINGTON GAZETTE.

THREE DOLLS. PER ANN.

PUBLISHED (WEEKLY) BY A. HALL & S. W. CLARK.—TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 1804.

[VOL. VIII. NO. 365.]

THE Patrons of the WILMINGTON GAZETTE are respectively informed that this number commences the EIGHTH YEAR of its Establishment, and new arrangements for its future conduction, make it requisite that all those who are in arrears for subscription, advertisements, &c. should settle their accounts to the first instant inclusive.

THE impaired health of the editor, from seven years confinement to the duties of his office—his wish to extend the usefulness of PRINTING, and his necessary attention to domestic concerns, all urged the propriety of procuring an Assistant to relieve him in part from the cares and fatigues of so arduous an undertaking.—This he flatters himself to have now amply obtained in the person of Mr. SAMUEL W. CLARK, to whom he has disposed of one half the Printing Establishment and received him as a joint Partner therein.

THE liberal encouragement he has experienced in the precarious business of newspaper printing, for the past seven years, claims his grateful acknowledgments; and while he regrets that his abilities have not been proportionate to his love of civil and religious Liberty, or his zeal to repel the rude shocks which the government has experienced from the assaults of its enemies in this quarter of the union, he consoles himself with the pleasing reflection, that within the sphere of his humble capacity he has not been remiss in his duty to the public.

UNDER the firm of A. HALL & S. W. CLARK the WILMINGTON GAZETTE will henceforth be continued on the PURE principles of REPUBLICANISM; and its editors will unite their exertions to make it an useful and entertaining Repository, to the mercantile and farming interests as well as to every other class of the community. They therefore flatter themselves that inasmuch as they shall merit they will receive the support of their fellow-citizens.

THE Gazette shall continue to be sent to all its subscribers, and the receipt of this number will be an evidence of their future patronage.

THE terms of subscription are as usual, Three Dollars a Year exclusive of postage, payable half yearly in advance.

ADVERTISEMENTS not exceeding a square are inserted for 75 cents the first week and 50 cents for each continuance.

Wilmington, January 3, 1804.

From the National Intelligencer.

The People of the United States, to the People of New-Orleans.

BROTHERS,

SPAIN has transferred the country of Louisiana to France, and France has transferred it to us. Spain has received the kingdom of Etruria, and France is to receive fifteen millions of dollars. The transaction is fair, and attested by the solemnities which bind nations. But it is reported, that Spain will endeavour to break her contract, and violate her honour.

The injustice and impolicy of Spain, can never inspire us with folly and cowardice. We will have our right, but you are to determine, whether you will participate in that right or invade it for the sake of Spain; whether you will accept a share of our prosperity, or attempt to stem its current.

New-Orleans, although old, is yet a dwarf; and states in our confederation, born but yesterday, are already arrived to the prowess of manhood. Planted in a paradise, your growth seems checked by drought and nipt by frost; whilst our states up the river with inferior advantages, flourish, as if nourished by the dew of heaven. The freedom and moderation of our government is this dew, refreshed thereby, new blessings will suddenly spring from your invigorated energies. In place of monopoly, you will have commerce, your village will be transformed into a city—and from a province you will become a nation.

Nature has pronounced that the inhabitants upon the Mississippi & on the island of New-Orleans, shall be one people; and it is your peculiar felicity, that her decree is to be executed, under the auspices of a philosopher, who prefers justice to conquest; whose glory is to make men free, and not slaves, and who delights in benevolence, and not in splendour. But studios of your happiness, he will not permit you to destroy it, by withholding our rights.

Your alternative is plain. It lies between making your little district, a field of war, or a garden of peace. Circumscribed as it is, the most rigid discipline could not save it from devastation. It is your own fiat, which will strew it with ruins or with palaces. Spain may advise you to exclaim "let there be war, with all its calamities." But she will not intend to make you more prosperous, or more happy. She will involve you in war, only to advance the interest of Spain, which nature has not made the interest of New-Orleans. We advise you to bestow on yourselves, peace, and all its blessings. In this advice we have also an interest; the benefits of a free commerce. But in the benefits you

must share. If they are advantageous to us, they will be more so to you. New-Orleans will become the emporium of this commerce. Nature has made our interests one. We are the children of the west, not of the east. Let not the old world, cause us to forget that we both belong to the new.

To the cessions under which we claim you were parties. The faith of governments, is the faith of nations; and your loyalty was pledged to us through the competent organ. The government of Spain, and then that of France, could rightfully bind you, so long as Louisiana belonged to them; but neither government can bind you now that it is ceded to us. Will you break your obligations, contracted whilst belonging to these governments, and also those incurred from being united with ours? Pledged by the ties which create allegiance, can disloyalty, attended with war, monopoly and provincial degradation, appear more lovely, than good faith, attended with peace, commerce and federal equality?

Is it for your good, or from the influence of ministerial intrigue & jealousy, that Spain will strive to rob you of the brilliant destiny now inviting your acceptance? Will you seize her sword, and vainly endeavour to kill the fate of New-Orleans? It is a duty of friendship to arrest the self murdering arm of a maniac. We will perform this duty.

We send you this talk, because it is reported that Spain will violate her faith; but we hope it is an aspersion.—From our cradle we have grown up in habits of friendship and intercourse with Spain. She has been just and honorable to us, and we have been just and honorable to her. It has been our glory to emulate her integrity. Reciprocal good offices have begotten a friendship, which will become stronger, the longer it lasts.—But we regard Spain, as a man does an old friend from whom he apprehends an injury. Doubt, affection, regret and resentment, alternately occupy his mind. The dispersion of these sensations, by a continuance of integrity and good faith, would be a new cement to an old friendship, and a strong pledge for its future continuance.

Then, when Spain beholds us extending to you, the descendants of her children & once her subjects, every blessing we can gain by the cession of Louisiana, and every blessing we derive from our form of government, our justice and her gratitude, will constitute a new link in the chain of national friendship. But if the corruptions of Europe shall at length have tainted the honor and good faith of Spaniards themselves, fortune has bestowed upon you the high responsibility of planting and cultivating them as your best birth-right, in America.

If a state, now in our union, should break its faith, withhold our rights, or be wanting in loyalty, we should act towards it, as we will act towards you.—We would enforce our rights, and exert its duties. But we would previously address the people of such a state, as we address you; not as provincials or subjects, but as

FELLOW-CITIZENS AND BROTHERS.

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

The amendment to the constitution, prescribing the designation of the electoral votes for president and Vice-President, has passed both Houses by constitutional majorities. On this event we cordially congratulate the federal republicans of America, or, in other words, the great body of the people; for such is the distinctive title pre-eminently merited by those, who have, so far effected an object, which tends more efficaciously to perpetuate the Constitution than any act which has ever received the sanction of Congress. It is these men, supported by the mass of the nation, who alarmed at the threatening evils developed at the last presidential election, have urged the adoption of a measure which must be a death blow to faction, and which, by averting forever the greatest danger that a republican government can apprehend, has placed the liberties of their country, and the rampart that protects them on ground as strong as the affection of the people for national liberty.

This measure has progressed with the utmost deliberation. During a period of seven weeks it has, with intermissions, been before the national legislature; and an ample opportunity has been offered to its opponents to exhaust their almost inexhaustible powers of subtilty and sophistry. To the republican legislatures of the union their language is, we will divide you by stratagem, if we cannot overcome you by force. But the attempt has perished within the walls of the edifice in which it was made. State jealousies, state interests, state hostility have been rung, in all the tones of dismay! But where are these

monsters to be found? They have been buried long since in the common and capacious grave, which has covered, if not with oblivion, at least with harmlessness, all those anti-republican measures that flared into a momentary existence at the will of our infatuated councils. These spectres, it is true, occasionally rise to the view of a distempered imagination; but they disappear before the light of reason.

On the wisdom, the virtue, the patriotism of the state legislatures, we confidently rely. They cannot, they will not be deceived. Their country's interest is their own. The legitimate promoters of its happiness, they will not incur that deep responsibility which a refusal to obey the voice of the people, will, inevitably, produce. Their reason will go with their feeling, and in advancing the happiness of others they will find their own.

[Nat. Intelligencer.]

WE find in the debates of the Virginia convention this just remark of Mr. Madison,—"If we are happy at home we shall be respectable abroad."

Is that body, as in most other assemblages of men of equal numbers, there appear to have been some few, who dazzled by the glory of mighty monarchies, their vast armies and navies, and all their captivating insignia of power, doubted the respectability in the opinion of mankind of a simple republican system, founded on equal rights and dispensing equal blessings. To such remarks the true and becoming reply was rendered,—"If we are happy at home, we shall be respectable abroad."

And so far as time has tested the remark it is fully confirmed. No nation, perhaps, that ever existed, has been so happy as this nation is, and for some time since has been. And just in proportion to the cultivation and promotion of our internal happiness, has risen the respectability of our national character, in the contemplation of foreign powers. How indeed, could it be otherwise? Our internal happiness, is at once the cause and effect of whatever contributes to national strength. As the power of the government is absolutely dependent upon the wealth, the numbers and the industry of the people, and their love of country and its political institutions, it is impossible to increase the latter without invigorating the former.

When, therefore, we are told by chivalric knights, by men of lofty minds and warm temperament, that it is the first duty of governments to maintain at the point of the sword, the honor of the nation, it is a sufficient answer for our government to say, the honour of the American nation consists in their happiness.

If men were as sagacious in the opinion they form of governments, as in those they form of each other, we should not so often hear the resort to violence recommended for the sake of supporting national character.—In private life, is the bully or duellist, the most esteemed member of society, or is he happier than the man, who, by avoiding to give offence to others, escapes receiving it himself? Or is that man deemed wise or prudent who, for every injury he receives, offers violence to him that injures him?—Were this the fact, we should indeed be in a state of war, without the prospect of its ever being terminated. We should instantaneously rush into a state of nature, and abandoning all the rules and restraints that unite men in the social states we should become little short in dignity or reason, of the brute creation. Physical force would usurp the seat of moral right, and the weak would become a prey to the strong.

Such is not the conduct of a wise man.—When he receives an injury, unless it be of a most peculiar nature, he weighs the good and the evil of avenging it by force; and if he discerns, as is generally the case, that by using violence he will only make bad worse, he controls his resentment, and submits to a small unavoidable evil, rather than incur a much greater one.

Wise governments will act in the same way. They will not madly rush to war, to vindicate what is called national honour, when that honour is not intimately connected with national happiness. While they are alive to the preservation of happiness, they will leave honour to take care of itself, well knowing that it will follow of course. Before they precipitate the nation in war, they will count its cost, and look to its issue. And if they find, on such calculation, the expense of treasure greater than the probable gain, and the ultimate sacrifice of character beyond the present injury, they will refrain from war. Nor will they be influenced by the thoughtless sneers of fools, or the vicious reproaches of knaves, who will always call moderation pusillanimity. These will rather confirm them in an adherence to their measures.

When we consider how few wars there are in which this is not the case, we ought to repress, or at any rate control, that natural

arrogance of soul that, fired by the least indignity, is prompt without reflection to hurry us into excesses, and to inflict deeper wounds upon ourselves than could have been done by all the arts of our enemies.

Let no one interpret these remarks as applicable to all aggressions or injuries that foreign nations may make upon us. Though they do apply to by far, the greater part of the ordinary pretexts of war between nations, there are points to which they do not, to which they never can apply. Objects, there undoubtedly are of such inestimable value that no price can be paid, no sacrifice incurred, no risk run, too great for their maintenance. Such are our liberty and national independence. Whoever strikes at these, kindles a flame among our citizens extinguishable but by a cessation of the cause that produced it. In such a cause we fight *pro aris et focis*. We have long since resolved that death is a less evil than slavery, and that liberty can only be preserved by national independence. One mind, one heart, one arm, would concentrate national energy, and in such a cause, we must all triumph or die. We speak with no uncommon enthusiasm when we say that this nation, whenever it shall fight for its liberties, will prefer death to servitude.

Let then those, whose refined sense of honour is so exquisitely alive to the slightest wound inflicted on the national character, reserve their feelings for nobler occasions.—Let them learn that as a brave man does not draw his sword except on great occasion; and when he does draw it, he draws it with effect; so a great and virtuous nation, the friend of peace and liberty, however it may be above indulging the resentment for trivial injuries, will when those injuries become great and dangerous, interpose with a giant's strength and a lion's spirit. [Nid.]

LAW OF N. CAROLINA.

AN ACT

To raise a revenue for the payment of the civil list and contingent charges of government for the year 1804.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of North-Carolina, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That for the year 1804, a tax of eight pence on every hundred acres of land, within this state, and a tax of two shillings on every hundred pounds value of town lots with their improvements, and a tax of two shillings on every poll, shall be levied, collected and accounted for in the same manner as is directed by the several acts of Assembly in such case made and provided.

And be it further enacted, That a tax on all Stud Horses and Jack Asses, within this State, of the full sum which the owner or keeper of such stud or Jack Ass shall ask and receive for the season of one mare, shall be levied, collected, & accounted for in the same manner as such taxes have been heretofore levied, collected and accounted for.

And be it further enacted, That all free males between the ages of twenty-one and fifty years, and all slaves between the ages of twelve and fifty years shall be subject to pay a poll-tax.

And be it further enacted, That each and every person who shall hereafter peddle or hawk goods in any of the counties in this state, shall first obtain a license from the Clerk of some county in this state under his seal of office; and the person so peddling and hawking shall pay to the Clerk before obtaining said license, the sum of ten pounds to the use of the State, to be accounted for by the Clerks in the same manner as tax fees are accounted for; and any license so obtained, shall authorize said Peddler to peddle and hawk goods in any and every county in this state for the term of one year. And if any person shall peddle or hawk goods in any county of this state without said license, he shall forfeit & pay the sum of 20 pounds to be recovered by the sheriff or any other person of the county in which he shall so peddle, before a justice of the peace, in the name of the Governor, one half to the use of the said sheriff or other person, and the other half to the use of the state.

And be it further enacted, That all merchants either wholesale or retail, shall pay a tax of fifty shillings on each and every store in this state, at which they shall sell any goods, wares or merchandize; and all merchants or owners of stores as aforesaid, shall give in his, her, or their store or stores, as the case may be, with the list of their taxable property, under the same rules and regulations that other taxable property is given in; which said tax shall be levied, collected and accounted for in the same manner as other taxes.

And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That every person who shall come into this state on board any vessel with goods and merchandize on board thereof which shall not be subject to the payment of duties imposed by the laws of the United States, and break, bulk and retail the said goods or merchandize on board any vessel; every such person so retailing any goods or merchandize