

Highland Messenger.

LIFE IS ONLY TO BE VALUED AS IT IS USEFULLY EMPLOYED.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

WASHINGTON.

The following is the conclusion of a long article in the October number of the London Foreign Quarterly Review; being a review of Sparks's Life of Washington.

His administration has never been equalled by succeeding Presidents. Credit was restored, the national debt secured, and means for its ultimate payment provided, commerce prodigiously increased; tonnage in American ports doubled; imports and exports both augmented; a larger revenue produced than had been calculated on; the Indian War terminated; foreign treaties, all honorable and advantageous to American interests, ratified. Even the election of his successor, Adams, a federalist like himself, proved the magic of the name and measures of Washington. He retired to his beloved Mount Vernon, but he was not even then to bid adieu, even at sixty-five, to the arduous duties that unquestionable ability entails on its possessor. He was fitted to die—

"Like a warrior taking his rest,
With his martial cloak around him."

An open rupture with France appeared at hand. France herself being in a state of revolution, and disposed to violate wantonly every moral, social, religious and political principle. The instant war appeared necessary, all eyes were turned on Washington. Hamilton immediately wrote to him to apprise him of the sacrifice that he would again be compelled to make, and a letter from the President Adams intimated to him their intentions: "We must have your name if you will permit us to use it." There will be more efficiency in it than in many an army. Before receiving any reply, the President had nominated him commander-in-chief of his armies of the United States. It was unanimously confirmed on the 30th July, 1798. From this time to the close of existence, Washington busied himself in military matters, and in supplying from his veteran experience information to his raw recruits. France, however, never seriously contemplated the invasion of America from the moment she saw the nation busying herself. Buonaparte then came into power, and settled all matters with America amicably.

This adjustment of differences, however, Washington never lived to witness, dying in command of the army destined to operate against her ancient allies. On the 14th Dec. 1799, he had ridden round to his farm as usual, and returned late in the afternoon, wet and cold from the rain and sleet. The waters had penetrated through his clothing to his neck. A soar throat and hoarseness on the next day soon gave evidence that he had taken cold. He did not seem to apprehend any danger, passed the evening with his family, and after some pleasant converse retired to bed. He was seized in the night with an ague, and on Saturday, the 14th, his breath and speech became impaired. One of his overseers bled him at his request, and a messenger was sent to his friend, Dr. Craik, who lived ten miles off. Dr. Craik and two other physicians arrived on that day. Their united efforts proved useless. Towards evening he said to Dr. Craik, "I die hard, but I am not afraid to die. I believed from my first attack that I should not survive it. My breath cannot last long." He thanked the physicians for their kindness, and requested them to give themselves no further trouble, but to let him die quietly. He kept sinking gradually, and almost the instant before dissolution felt his own pulse. His countenance then underwent a change. His hand dropped from his wrist, and he expired. His country paid to his memory all that then remained to her of her Washington—every possible tribute of gratitude and affection. France then a republic also, paid due honors to the republican chief; and England, as far as the example of Lord Bridport, then commanding the fleet, may be given in proof, rendered in a sincere tribute still, by lowering her flag half mast on the news of Washington's decease. He had commanded during his life the applause of many distinguished men. Fox and Erskine may be adduced among others. The former said of him, "notwithstanding his extraordinary talent and exalted integrity, it must be considered as singularly fortunate, that he should have experienced a lot which so seldom falls to the portion of humanity, and passed through such a variety of scenes without stain and without reproach. It must indeed create astonishment, that placed in circumstances so critical, and filling for a series of years a station so conspicuous, his character should never have been called in question;—that he should in no one instance, have been accused either of improper insolence or mean submission in his transactions with foreign nations. To him it was reserved to run the race of glory without experiencing the smallest interruption in the brilliancy of his career.

Erskine wrote to Washington as follows: "I have taken the liberty to introduce your august and immortal name in a short sentence; which will be found in the book I send you. I have a large acquaintance among the most valuable and exalted class of men; but you are the only human being for whom I have felt an awful reverence.—I sincerely pray God to grant a long and serene evening to a life so gloriously devoted to the universal happiness of the world." Washington certainly combined materials that wonderfully fitted him for the position he had to occupy. As a leader he appears calm, calculating, brave as his own sword yet free from the general accompaniment of personal bravery—reckless hardihood. It is possible that all this might not have held in a wider scene of action, and his mind certainly does not seem to have possessed so much reach as many men of inferior note have shown; but nature had well mixed ingredients in her cauldron when he was formed, and taken in a whole, his powers must be considered large. As a writer, his style is generally defective in succinctness and elegance, and coherence of sentences; but a fine broad line of common sense and judicious reasoning is discernible throughout all he wrote. There are strong affinities of character and disposition between him and Scott, yet was he neither imaginative nor loyal, like that distinguished writer. Still, in the gentleness of their natures, there is a wonderful resemblance. They did not think alike on many subjects, save on the immutable forms of moral law on which they were both agreed, and of which they were punctiliously observant. Probably the Bard of Caithness might not have considered this comparison complimentary, but a resemblance there is both in habits and intellect and piety. On this latter point we think it fitting to say a few words. Washington never appears, in the later years of his life, to have taken the sacrament of the Lord's Supper, though a constant attendant at church, and always advocating the cause of religion. We are inclined to think that he was rather a latitudinarian in his religious notions; since it is difficult to conceive a churchman, when dying, not outwardly testifying his faith, and uttering prayers for his soul. Possibly the character of Washington led him to much internal musing and inward untraced supplication to God. His character possessed great moral goodness, his life was free from reproach, and his external devotions were constant. Still it is difficult to reconcile such a death with the holy and ennobling hopes of Christianity. Something of such a system, if held deep at the heart, must have evinced itself.—We do not say this reproachfully over the warrior's bier, but to us it would have been most satisfactory, and to the world more strongly evidential of a firm indwelling hope had there been even a slight development of the holy bodeiments of futurity. Still, in the duties of his public station, in his charity to the poor, in the constant ascription of all his success to the Divine Being, in offices of son, husband, and brother, in his warm and generous friendship to his military associates, and especially La Fayette, in his love to his country, there are no points of reproach, but in all these offices he appears to merit the highest commendation. "Non omnia possumus omnes."

In this combination of qualities it is to be found the power of Washington. On him we conclude our remarks, in the language of his last biographer: "It is the harmonious union of the intellectual and moral powers, rather than the splendor of any one trait, which constitutes the grandeur of character. If the title of great man ought to be reserved for him who cannot be charged with an indiscretion or a vice, who spent his life in establishing the independence, the glory, and durable prosperity of his country, who succeeded in all he undertook, and whose successes were never won at the expense of honor, justice, integrity, or by the sacrifices of a single principle, this title will not be denied to Washington.

private correspondence or the public documents of Washington, he appears (reserving the question of his allegiance for the British Crown) to merit equally the position he attained. To his biographer it must have been deeply gratifying to trace his writings "no life which, dying, he might wish to blast;" in his actions no moral temperance, to be extenuated or defended by the force of circumstances; but a singular faultlessness, a wonderful freedom from all the vices that have stained, degraded, and dimmed the lustre of many a helmed chief, many a crowned king, and many a mitred sovereign.

"The reviewer is certainly wrong here. There is abundant proof that Washington was not a latitudinarian in his opinions, and much reason to think that he was a believer in the best sense of the word. If a man lives the life of a Christian, it is not of much importance whether he dies in ecstasy or in a calm."

[Eds. J. of C.]

TO PREVENT THE GROWTH OF WEEDS ROUND YOUNG FRUIT TREES.—To diminish the growth of weeds round fruit trees, spread on the ground round the fresh transplanted trees, as far as the roots extend, the refuse stalks of flax after the fibrous parts have been separated. This gives very surprising vigor, as no weeds will grow under flax refuse, and the earth remains fresh and loose. Old trees treated in the same manner, when drooping in an orchard, will recover, and push out vigorous shoots. In place of flax stalks, the leaves which fall from trees in autumn may be substituted, but they must be covered with waste twigs or any thing else that can prevent the wind from blowing them away.

PRESERVATION OF CABBAGES.—The following methods of preserving cabbages for winter use, are the result of experience:—

The cabbages should be gathered before injury is done them by the severe fall frosts; the heavy outside leaves should remain on the stalk. Fix a string or cord round the stump near the roots, suspended from the sleepers with the heads downward in a cool cellar, and they are ready and fit for use at all times. Cabbages kept in this manner retain all their peculiar flavor and sweetness; the whole virtue of the stump and leaves is concentrated in the part which is used, are handy of access, occupy but little room which would be occupied by other purposes; and seldom if ever rot; the outside leaves wilt and contract, and in time become quite dry, which forms a sort of coating that serves to exclude the air from the inside of the head.

Another method practised by some, and highly recommended, is to cut the head from the stump, pack close in a sack, taking care to fill up the vacancies with dry chaff, thereby excluding the air, and keep in a dry cellar.—*Albany Cultivator.*

Herbs if dried in the sun, turn yellow, lose their fragrance and much of their real virtue. They should be spread out thin, say upon the floor of a garret or open chamber and left to dry in the shade, being occasionally turned. When sufficiently dried, they may be tied in bunches and hung up.—*Maine Cultivator.*

SOIL FOR WHEAT.—Rich, heavy loams, containing a considerable mixture of clay, are most suitable to wheat. Wheat has been cultivated with tolerable success on sandy or silicious lands; but on lands of this description it cannot be repeated oftener than once in five or six years, and the land ought to be prepared and enriched by the cultivation of preceding manured crops. Lands strongly calcareous, or abounding in lime, are favorable for wheat and indeed all other crops. Wherever clover may be made to grow, there wheat may be cultivated to advantage with proper management.—*Yankee Farmer.*

BOTTS IN HORSES.—Mr. John L. Smith, an old citizen of this country, and who has dealt much with horses, informs us that he has not had a horse die with botts for twenty years. When it is recollected that almost every farmer is losing horses time after time with this disease, we should be disposed to pay some attention to Mr. Smith's remedy for botts, which he assures us has been so effectual. It consists simply in feeding occasionally on heads of rye, a quantity of which he always keeps on hand for that purpose. He is convinced that the heads and chaff of the rye seem to cut and effectually carry off the grubs, and that if a horse, every few days, be fed with rye heads, he will never be annoyed with botts. The rye may be fed in the sheaf. It operates as a preventive, rather than as a cure. We hope soon to hear of its being more generally tried.—*Southern Cultivator.*

We have heard that when a Scotch duchess, once "the admired of all observers," was questioning the children at one of her charity schools, the teacher asked, "What is the wife of a King called?" "A Queen," bawled out one of the philosophers. "The wife of an Emperor?" "An Empress," was replied with equal readiness. "Then what is the wife of a duke called?" "A drake," exclaimed several voices, mistaking the title duke for the biped duck, which they pronounced the same.—*Richmond Star.*

GOOD EXAMPLE.—Oliver Ames of West Bridgewater Mass., commenced life by making a dozen shovels, which he took to market in a wagon. He now owns three extensive factories at Easton, Braintree and West Bridgewater—employs 60 workmen, and has four teams to carry his shovels to market. His profits are \$20,000 annually. He commenced life without a dollar.

Governor's Message.

To the Hon. the General Assembly of N. Carolina:

GENTLEMEN: The declarations of the people against the administrations of the Federal and most of the State Governments—the deep sensation and embittered feelings of the contending parties as to the cause, must necessarily greatly deepen the interest which usually attends the meeting, and increase the responsibility of your honorable body.

But, while we have, in the confident hope that it will restore the country to its former happy and prosperous condition, abundant cause to rejoice over this peaceful revolution; yet we should remember that our fellow-citizens of the administration party, with the exception, perhaps, of the officers and aspirants, although mistaken, as we believe, in their views, can have but one common interest with ourselves, and are rather entitled to our sympathy and conciliation than to our hatred and persecution.

Their fortunes have failed in their own hands, and under their own management, and it becomes us, as those on whom the responsibility has devolved, calmly to survey the position we occupy, and prepare ourselves with energy and dignity to meet the crisis.

As it is the part of wisdom to profit by experience, it is necessary and proper to refer to the causes of the revolution, and particularly where connected with our peculiar interest, the better to enable us to avoid the evil and embrace the good.

The Bank of the United States, which grew out of the necessities of the country, at two periods of great distress, (and which would seem almost to give sacredness to its existence,) and which answered every purpose promised by its most sanguine friends, or anticipated by the public, was doomed to Executive hostility, because it would not yield political obedience. It was re-chartered by Congress, but vetoed by the President. The public money was then removed from its lawful place of deposit, in the Bank of the United States, to the local Banks, by the President, under the plea that it was unsafe. This ground, taken by the President, was disproved by a report from a committee of Congress.

The Senate of the United States became alarmed at these indications of violence and usurpation, and declared the removal of the deposits unconstitutional. The President appealed to the people, against both the Bank and the Senate—declaring the Bank dangerous to the liberties of the country—a monster of foreign materials and that a better currency could be given by the local Banks, without the danger; and that the Senate had done him gross injustice. The appeal was sustained. Nothing was recollected but his splendid and successful career. Several of the State Legislatures were filled by his partisans, who supported his opposition to the Bank, and instructed their Senators to expunge the resolution declaring his act unconstitutional for removing the deposits, or to resign their seats to more unscrupulous hands; and it was done. Some yielded to the servile act, in defacing the journals of the Senate; and others, through a cherished though mistaken abstraction, abandoned their posts; which has impaired, and, if continued, will destroy the most stable and valuable part of our Constitution, and, in all probability, the government itself.

The House of Representatives could not but feel the influence of the will of the people concentrated in the Executive. His power was tremendous enough to intoxicate the brain of a less philosophical chief. The fate of the Bank was decided. The deposits were retained in the local Banks, and recommended to be loaned out. Banks increased rapidly, and discounted freely. The disbursements of the government increased some fifty per cent., or about twelve millions of dollars annually. Property and labor of all kinds rose in price.—Public works were commenced, and some completed, of vast magnitude; and general prosperity reigned not only in this country, but in Europe. Up to 1834, under the operations of the "bill of abominations," the payment of the public debt, mostly due to Europeans, filled that country with money seeking investments a great deal of which was taken by our States, Banks, Rail Roads, Canals, and Manufacturing Companies, and returned to this country at a rate of interest higher than had been given by the government. Whether designed or not, this command and disbursement of large amounts of money completely, at the time, covered the consequences of the destruction of the Bank of the United States, and gave to the country a hollow and factitious prosperity.

Notwithstanding the great increase of expenditures, some forty millions of surplus had accumulated in the vaults of the local Banks. Upon a previous occasion, the President had advised a distribution; and, after a fierce struggle in Congress, an act was passed directing it to be deposited with the States; and although his views had subsequently undergone a change, he reluctantly approved the measure.

Foreign capitalists, used to wars and convulsions, watched the operations of our government with a vision true to their interests, and taking the alarm at the attack of the President on foreign capital, his revolutionary spirit, and daring usurpations, withdrew their funds, in time, to a place of safety. The Banks commenced curtailing, to meet the provisions of the distribution act. But it was soon discovered that it could not, with other demands, be met; and a suspen-

sion of specie payments ensued throughout the land. A tremendous and frightful revolution, in every branch of business, took place; and credit and confidence were shaken to the centre. Money became more scarce in both hemispheres it seemed, indeed, to have vanished. Interest rose, and with difficulty negotiations could be effected on any terms. Instead of coldly investigating the causes, and applying such relief as his elevated and powerful position might command, to save thousands from ruin and distress, the President denounced the local Banks as worthless, and faithless—cursed them with an invective rancour—and turned upon them the full tide of public indignation—made them the stalking horse of the demagogue—robbed them of the people's confidence, and paralyzed all their useful energies. But, by his own act, the deposit of the public monies, the Banks had been stimulated to wild expansions; they were, for the most part controlled by his own political friends, and were the creatures of his devoted States.

In the Treasury Circular, the President added another link to the already lengthened chain of Executive usurpation. This circular required specie only to be received at the land offices, which checked sales, and, by further alarming the capitalists, added another blow to the already sinking credit of the Banks. Congress returned on a vote of disapprobation, by a large majority in both houses, repelling the order.—But the President placed it in his pocket, and thus defeated it.

The President's popularity was yet so powerful as to contribute very largely to the election of his successor, the present incumbent, whose other claims on the confidence and affection of the American people, were certainly questionable. He promised however, to tread in the footsteps of his illustrious predecessor, and declared that it was glory enough to have served under such a chief; and the people were satisfied.

The present incumbent came into power at a period most unfortunate for himself and for the country. A reaction, as we have shown, had commenced—in a bloated and boasted prosperity; and he had pledged himself to the course best calculated to urge it on. He had, in his zeal to support the views of his predecessor, denounced a Bank of the United States as unconstitutional, and cut off all relief from that quarter.—The local Banks had been denounced as unworthy of public confidence; and he sunk them yet lower by concurring in their condemnation. The affairs of the country had become desperate—money scarce and Bank notes depreciated—the prices of property and labor crumbling down—improvements suspended—and bankruptcies numerous. Indeed, so gloomy were the affairs of the country, that the President convened an extra session of Congress, to devise means of relief; to whom he gravely recommended the withdrawal of the public monies from their places of deposit, and to lock them up in safes and vaults, as the remedy.

As a part of his argument for a Sub-Treasury, he decried institutions which had been used, from the establishment of the government, as depositories; and which in times of emergency, responded patriotically to the calls of the government; and which had aided the great interests of the country to enter honorably the list of competition, in all necessary and valuable works of improvement, with those of the old world. At the first moment of difficulty, they were condemned as unworthy of public confidence, and even dangerous to liberty. Again, in December, 1837-38, this Sub-Treasury is pressed on the consideration of Congress as the grand panacea of all our woes.

Congress was composed of a majority of his friends, and it is quite immaterial whether they considered his project incompetent for the crisis, defective in principle, or nerveless in expediency—it was rejected.

The President now seemed to take the matter seriously to heart. The only measure he had concocted, by the aid of the Secretary of the Treasury, must not be treated so lightly. His forces are marshalled anew—the unfaithful discharged, and more supple tools put in their places. They open their battery on the dead Bank. The dying and living banks they represent then as the Hydra-headed monster, against which the former President had to exert his Herculean strength to keep in check. Corporations of all kinds were declared dangerous to liberty, to the poor, and to democracy. Congress convened, and the President draws a strong and vivid picture of the distresses of the country, and again recommends the locking up of the public money in safes and vaults, as the means of relief. This, doubtless, was *pro forma*; he had no money in the Treasury to be locked up. The fact that he has had to issue from time to time, Treasury notes, shows how preposterous it is to expect relief at present, at least, from a scheme on which the Government is destitute of the materials to operate.

To make this Sub-Treasury scheme a law, the State of New Jersey has been disfranchised—her legal and official attestations trampled under foot—her sovereignty violated—her rights disregarded and insulted, by the friends of the present Administration in the House of Representatives, by refusing seats in that body to persons regularly commissioned under her authority, and clothed with all the attributes of her sovereignty. By this act, every State in the Union has received a blow which should not be disregarded. By the request

of the Governor of New Jersey, therewith submit the resolutions of her Assembly on this subject, marked A.

While the rights of New Jersey were being desecrated in the House of Representatives; the Senate was engaged in passing a resolution gratuitously refusing to assume the debts of the States, alike insulting to their feelings and injurious to their character. If, under circumstances of peculiar hardship and distress, a State were to petition Congress to assume her debts, and Congress was to do so, it would not differ in principle from assistance granted to an ally in distress by war, or to the relief afforded Carracoe suffering from the effects of an earthquake, or to New York, when almost devastated by fire. At all events, a State would be entitled to a respectful attention and friendly consideration; but to refuse without being asked, is marked with the grossest impropriety and injustice. The Senate knew that many of the States were engaged in improvements of great importance, and depended on negotiating loans in Europe to complete them, and requiring unimpaired credit for advantageous success; which was necessarily injured by that action of the Senate, and the works most probably defeated.

It is true that North Carolina has no public debt; but it is not the less injurious and insulting to her character, to be told by her servants, (who are presumed to know) in the Senate chamber, that she is unworthy of credit; and such a declaration by the Senate, when seen in distant parts of the world, where negotiations for money are sought, must be injurious to her credit—and probably would have defeated her object, if she had attempted to procure the loan contemplated by the act of your last session.

Now, gentlemen, I have shown you the destruction of the National Bank, in total disregard of the wish of Congress and the mercantile and commercial parts of the nation; the violation of law and contract, in the removal of the public treasure from the place where the representatives of the country directed, under a false allegation; the issuing a Specie Circular; at the Executive will, and the continuing its operation after Congress had condemned it; placing the public money in favorable local Banks, and urging them to use it in expending discounts—and, because they could not return it when called for, denouncing and persecuting them; the outrage upon the sovereignty of New Jersey; the gross and gratuitous insult on the character and credit of all the States; were enough, surely, without referring to the operations of trade, or the abuse of the banking privilege, to alarm capitalists as to the stability and integrity of our institutions—to banish money and destroy credit—in view, to produce the terrible pecuniary revolution which has shaken our country to its centre, bringing ruin and distress on thousands. And the Sub-Treasury remedy, gentlemen, for diseases like these! Surely the Singraho theory never has been so graphically illustrated. The weakness and inadequacy of the proposed remedy is, indeed, like sporting with our wrongs and sufferings.

What good can result from the withdrawal of all governmental connection—all its fiscal operations from the Banks, and leaving the States to regulate the currency among themselves as they best may? It is like separating the head from the body, and expecting their joint functions to be continued. The President says that the banks form a chain of dependence from one end of our country to the other, and that it "reaches across the ocean and ends in London, the centre of the credit system;" and with this chain of dependence of mighty magnitude, he will have nothing to do, but leave us to the tender mercies of the English to regulate our currency and credit, perfectly indifferent to our fate, so that the Government and its officers get their dues in gold and silver.

The President certainly looks to a total destruction of all banks when he says, "It is a principle than which none is better settled by experience, that the supply of the precious metals will always be found adequate to the uses for which they are required. They abound in countries where no other currency is allowed." Like the fabled appearance of men in Rhoderick Dhu, it is only necessary to will, and we shall have a plenty of specie, which seems to be so dear to his feelings. He overlooks, or forgets entirely, the sacrifices to which we must submit to obtain it in competition with those countries where it is now held. It will be first necessary to make the balance of trade preponderate in our favor in order to effect this, (the aid of bank credit and our hitherto liberal and enlightened policy having been dispensed with. We must submit to the European and Asiatic prices of labor, their rigid economy, their grinding slavish habits of toil, before we can successfully compete with them in trade, agriculture and manufactures, or produce a balance in our favor to be discharged in coin. To expect a permanence of the precious metals from a forced and unnatural importation, would be about as rational as to attempt a suspension of the laws of gravitation.

The President says, "in a country so commercial as ours, banks in some form will probably always exist," and thinks the Sub-Treasury will deprive them of the character of monopolies, and be a salutary regulator and keep them in check. In this expectation of the continuance of banks he may be sincere; but the recent destruction of these institutions in the District of