

# Carolina Watchman.

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From the Madisonian.

## ABSURD MENDACITY OF THE FEDERAL TORY PRESS.

Calumny and falsehood are the order of the day with the Locofocos. They seem to have brought into requisition every Swiss scribbler found in the market. The whole country is to be flooded with misrepresentations and lies. We should suppose the great father of lies himself had engaged as superintendent of the Locofoco plan of operation for the campaign. Never in the history of the world has a party press made exhibitions of such utter demoralization, corruption and prostitution. We are ashamed of it. Ashamed of being connected with a profession which is disgraced beyond expression, by the utter worthlessness and recklessness of many of those who aspire to lead it. If such conduct is, persisted in, or tolerated, the whole public press of the country will become no better than a vile mass of ordure. Its character, respectability, and influence, and the great object of its establishment will be destroyed. It will become a vast engine of evil, exerting its power only to poison and corrupt the public mind, to deprave the public taste, and to involve the multitude in the mazes of delusion and error. Instead of being the palladium of liberty, it will but aid in forging the chains of tyranny upon the human mind and the rights of mankind—it will become the shield of vice, the conduit pipe of poison, and the palladium of Satan. We regret the course many presses have thought fit to pursue; and for the sake of the press, for the sake of the public, for the sake of justice, and in the name of that respect which is due to themselves, to the country, and to Heaven, we would entreat them to cherish some regard for honor and truth, and keep at least within the limits of decency and probability.

These preliminary remarks are suggested by the numerous slanders upon General Harrison which have been perpetrated in the Baltimore Post and Republican. We are bound to suppose that the proprietors and conductors of those journals are men, yet, we might reasonably infer from the character of some of their publications, that they are incarnate fiends. We bear them no ill-will—we do not know them personally, but, for human nature's sake, we most protest against the manner in which they conduct political warfare. For our part, we do not wish—we do not intend to believe our opponents, nor to treat them with incivility. The worst we wish them is, that the truth may be told about them. If we cannot conquer them with the weapons of argument and truth, fairly met, we would not have a victory. A triumph obtained by falsehood, deception and fraud is not worth enjoying.

It was in one of the papers above alluded to that the sneers against Gen. Harrison's democratic mode of life first originated, and sneers were never more ill directed. The editor of the Richmond Enquirer very justly characterized their author as "a simpleton," and disapproved "such things being said about candidates." The same mint has recently coined a still more contemptible slander. It imputed declarations to Gen. Harrison, reflecting grossly upon the Catholics, and fabricated a story about his visiting a daughter of one of the Presidents of the United States, and declaring to her the utmost hostility to the Catholics. The Hagerstown paper has thought proper to inquire into the matter, and, upon the authority of the lady referred to, denounces the imputation as an infamous slander.

The same paper, we believe (the Baltimore Republican) coined the following: "Mr. Webster, when asked in 1835 if he would be placed on the same ticket with Gen. Harrison, replied: 'I cannot be guilty of any act that shall in the remotest degree, tend to the elevation of a man to the Presidency who is justly the scorn and ridicule of his foes, and the pity and contempt of his friends.'"

This too, we are requested to say, is unequivocally false. And, although it was authoritatively contradicted several days ago, the Baltimore Post, of Wednesday last, has the effrontery to repeat the falsehood at the head of its columns!

The Baltimore Post has published several articles defamatory of Gen. Harrison. It was intimated that Gen. Armstrong might possibly have prompted them. We are satisfied that injustice was done him. They were too grossly inaccurate to be worthy of his mind or his pen. Stimulated, no doubt, by the notoriety its falsifications of history gained, the same paper, in its publication of the 26th inst. undertakes to give twenty reasons why Gen. Harrison cannot be elected President which contain nearly twice that number of falsehoods. They seem to be almost exclusively the result of an effort to fabricate objections out of whole cloth, many of which it would be an impeachment of a man's understanding to pretend that they do not refute themselves.

Take a few examples.  
Charge 2. "General Harrison is an Abolitionist."  
Answer. It is not necessary to show what the truth is on this head—the South has it, and is satisfied.

Charge 3. "He is a federalist of the Reign of Terror stamp; and when charged by John Randolph with being an open and zealous supporter

of the Sedition Law and Black Cockade Administration, he admitted it."

Answer. In his address in 1832, he declared himself "a Republican of the old Jeffersonian school," and in his reply to John Randolph, instead of admitting what is stated, he said (in debate) that "his opposition to the Alien and Sedition Laws was so well known in the Territory, that a promise was extorted from him by his friends in the Legislature, that, as he had no vote in the proceedings of Congress, he would not unnecessarily compromise the local interests of his constituents, by the expression of his political opinions."

Charge 4. "He is in favor of Internal Improvements by the General Government, maintaining that Congress possesses the power to make roads and canals within the respective States."

Answer. In his letter to Mr. Sherrod Williams, he declares his opinion, that "no money should be taken from the Treasury of the United States, to be expended on Internal Improvements, but for those which are strictly national."

Charge 5. "In 1827 and '8, in the United States Senate, he opposed all reduction of the tariff, and in June last, capped the climax of his absurdity on the subject, by declaring that 'he would sooner see the streets of Norfolk and Charleston covered with grass than consent to a modification or repeal of the tariff laws.'"

Answer. This is false throughout, in fact and language. Gen. Harrison quoted the expression of James M. Garnett, of Va., in relation to the operation of the tariff, and declared that if such were really its effects, then 'he would instantly give his voice for its modification or entire repeal.'

Charge 6. "He is in favor of a National Bank with branches penetrating every part of the country."

Answer. Gen. Harrison declared the old Bank of the U. S. unconstitutional, and in his letter to Sherrod Williams, in 1836, said emphatically, that unless a Bank should be 'shown to be necessary for conducting the financial operations of the Government, he does not think one can be constitutionally chartered.'

Charge 7. "When a member of the Ohio legislature he voted in favor of selling white men into servitude for debt."

Answer. This is an old exploded slander, and notwithstanding it was published by the federal tones in Ohio, during the last election, all over the State, the people gave the old hero 10,000 majority.

Charge 8. "He contends for the right of Congress to abolish slavery."

Answer. This is a sheer fabrication; and we do not believe there is a sensible man in the Union who contends for any such right.

Charge 9. "Gen. Harrison is in favor of taxing the whole people to pay the debts which the improvidence of a few States has contracted."

Answer. This is equally false and absurd.

Charge 10. "He is an advocate of the unrestricted fluctuating paper currency system."

Answer. This is false.

Charge 11. "His votes while a member of Congress show him to have favored every profligate expenditure of the public money, and to have opposed every wholesome measure of reform—to have supported the consolidation of power to Congress at the sacrifice of the rights of the States."

Answer. His votes show nothing of the kind. He is, to use his own language, "in favor of every practical retrenchment in the expenditure of the Government."

Charge 12. "He is in favor of that attribute of Monarchy—an imposing standing army—and whilst a member of Congress gave his vote for a standing army of twenty thousand men."

Answer. So is every citizen in favor of an army; and the present Secretary of War, in his last report, proposes to divide the United States into military districts, similar to the military districts of Cromwell, and increase the army of militia to 200,000 men, one half to be in 'active service'! &c.

Charge 13. "Congress itself has pronounced the incapacity of General Harrison.—When a resolution was before the Senate of the United States directing medals to be struck in honor of Gen. Harrison and Gov. Shelby, a motion to strike out the name of Gen. Harrison was decided in the affirmative,—a decision too unequivocal to be mistaken that his services were not entitled to this mark of approbation from the Government.—General Harrison himself considered that by this act he had been disgraced in the eyes of the nation, and in a letter on this subject says: 'A vote of the Senate of the United States has attached to my name a DISGRACE which I am convinced that no time or effort of mine will be able to efface, and which will cause the blush to rise upon the cheek of my children.'"

Answer. When and where did General Harrison ever write such a letter? But the best answer is the resolution of Congress itself, which at once gives the lie to the imputation intended. Here it is:

Resolved, that the medals to be struck, and together with the thanks of Congress, presented to Major General Harrison, and Governor Shelby, and for other purposes.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the thanks of Congress be, and they are hereby, presented to Major General William Henry Harrison, and Isaac Shelby, late Governor of Kentucky, and, through them to the officers and men under their command, for their gallantry and good conduct in defeating the combined British and Indian forces under Major General Proctor, on the Thames,

in Upper Canada, on the fifth day of October, one thousand eight hundred and thirteen, capturing the British army, with their baggage, camp equipage, and artillery; and that the President of the United States be requested to cause two gold Medals to be struck, emblematical of this triumph, and presented to Gen. Harrison and Isaac Shelby, late Governor of Kentucky.

H. CLAY,  
Speaker of the House of Representatives,  
JOHN GALLARD,  
President of the Senate, pro tempore.  
April 4, 1818.—Approved,  
JAMES MONROE.

We will not stoop to answer the base insinuations of the Post, in relation to General Harrison's private character. It sits in the dark, like the midnight assassin, and has not the manliness to expose itself to day-light. If there were charges to be made they would be specified.

The rest of the objections of the Post, are matters of opinion, about as false, in our judgment, as those which affect to be facts.

The Post will gain but little by this prostitution of its columns. It is not possible that falsehood and calumny can alienate the affections of the American People from a patriot soldier, who has bared his breast and spilt his blood in defence of his country.

From the Halifax and Roanoke Advocate.

## THE TOPER'S TAPER.

[By Richard I. Wynne.]

Day's gorgeous monarch from his throne sublime  
Had cast his last effulgent beam upon the Earth.  
His flaming voyage thro' the skies was finished.  
Heaven's golden arch was now  
No longer robed in richest tapestry:  
But clouds of awful magnitude arose  
And spoiled the glories of those gemlit stars  
That on immensity's broad bosom burn.  
Darkness now the world encompassed. Girt with  
Gloom all Nature stood. Nought could be heard,  
save

Inbrinations wilder'd note. Fancy  
Argued that it sounded like the scream of  
Spirits damned; or dread inferna in the  
Terrorific region of perdition. I  
Stopt—I looked—I listened. I saw a light.  
It was the Topper's Taper. It looked  
As tho' 'twere lighted at the fires of Hell.  
It was a baleful luminary. Like  
A sepulchral lamp it shone only to  
Expose annihilated dignity.

Around this light I saw a band of men.  
A band of wretches to who were, unmasked.  
In most horrid rivalry they drank  
Damnation's fearful fire distilled. 'Twas  
Here sobriety was slain. His heaving  
Form continued, and his Taper of despair  
Did only strive to manifest his corpse.  
The aged tribe of sons confirmed, that had  
Proudly sworn an oath to his immortal  
Memory, now gladly sung his funeral  
Song.

The fell genius of destruction  
From his hated cavern sped his flight; he  
Flapped his fiery wings with mighty effort  
Until he reached the place where Religion,  
Honor, and every ornamental  
Virtue was sacrificed to Bacchus.  
I thought, on seeing of this scene of woe  
And horror very seriously,  
I contemplated thus. If any son of  
This stupendous universe would think of  
His great dignity, and moral grandeur,  
His influence and responsibility,  
He would not prevent the Almighty's high  
Design in his creation.

Louisburg, N. C. March, 1840.

## 'Who will get the nation out of the Mud?'

It was related a few days since, by a gentleman from the western part of Illinois, that an old gentleman of that State, who had been a staunch supporter of General Jackson, and even of Martin Van Buren, in 1836, called to see a friend of his in Springfield, a warm Harrison man.

"And you think that old Tappan can bring the Government back to its former purity?" said the Harrison man.

"I do," said his friend. "For I remember, many years ago, when driving my team to Mad River Mills, that my wagon got into a mire-hole, from which the horses could not draw it. While in this dilemma Gen. Harrison came riding by. Without delay the old General dismounted, pulled off his coat, and putting his shoulder to the wheel, helped me to get my wagon out of the rut. The People's wagon of the Government is in the mire-hole of corruption, and I firmly believe that Gen. HARRISON is the only man whose services the People will accept in helping them to get it out once more on hard ground."

The Tories make a great exclamation about Gen. Harrison's employing a committee of his political friends to respond to the innumerable letters, which he receives. The old General's opinions on all subjects of public concern are well known by his Speeches and letters heretofore published, and by his public acts and distinguished public services, and he does not intend at this day to be writing electioneering letters or trouble himself with a written reply to every impertinent inquiry which every Tory may concoct for the mere purpose of personally harassing him.

But the beauty of this outcry on the part of the Tories, is that Gen. Jackson had just such a Committee of Correspondence, and what is still more, one of Gen. Harrison's Committee, (Mr. Guynn) acted in the same capacity for Gen. Jackson—a very good selection—he understands his business and will give a good account of himself.

Richmond Whig.

Short Question.—Where was Martin Van Buren during the last war? Living at his ease in New York, riding about the State in a coach and four, and exciting the people against Madison and his measures to redress our wrongs!

Where was General Harrison during the same period? Leading the armies of his country to victory; battling with the British and their Savage associates, traversing the pathless wilderness of the West, sleeping on the ground at night and riding, during the day on horseback, through the rain and sleet!

Which of the two, Freeman! deserve your gratitude and veneration?

From the Richmond Whig.

## MR. VAN BUREN'S STANDING ARMY.

With amazement and alarm, I have seen in the Whig of Friday last, the Executive project of a military system. On what times have we fallen!—What fatal influence is urging the President to condemn and insult the best considered principles, the most deeply rooted convictions, the most sensitive and excitable feelings of the American People? What inconsiderate rashness, what hardness, what recklessness of consequences does he exhibit in attempting, in total disregard of the jealousy of military power which has ever characterized the People of these States, to establish over them a scheme of military rule more comprehensive and sure in its terrible results than any that has ever upheld a despot's throne since the foundation of the monarchies of modern Europe! Fellow citizens of Virginia, the President of the United States has proposed, through his Secretary of War, to raise a permanent Federal soldiery of two hundred thousand men.—You were incredulous—you are no longer—the project, with all its fearful details, is before you.—Descendants of the men of the Revolution, who overthrew the standing armies of despotism, have you renounced the maxims your fathers bequeathed to you, that standing armies in time of peace are dangerous to liberty? Let the indignation with which you will receive this proposition to put on the military liver of the President, answer the question—Hesitate to condemn the monstrous project and its authors, and you are undone. If the bare suggestion does not outrage your nature—if it does not violate your sense of liberty, and fill you with horror, relieved only by a deep and stern purpose to devote yourselves to your country in opposition to this suddenly revealed but well matured system of military rule, you are lost, irretrievably lost. Pause not, ye men of Virginia, to reason—debate not the constitutional propriety or the expediency of the measure. Is honesty proper? Who will debate that? Is murder right? Who will discuss that? Is political or civil liberty desirable?—Who will argue that? Let a large permanent soldiery incompatible with civil liberty? If you argue that question, you deserve to be slaves, and you will not long be freemen. What a stride towards absolutism! I am lost in astonishment at the grandeur of the scheme, at the vastness of the conception, at the boldness, the intrepid heroism of the man who has designed and proposed it! What a misconception of Mr. Van Buren's character and temper has prevailed! He has been thought to be, still I had ever regarded him as prudent, even to cunning, and cautious, even to timidity. But here, if not the modest rashness, is surely the most Napoleon-like courage—I trust it is the former. True courage considers the practicability of the object, and estimates the sufficiency of the means. God forbid the calculation should have been made in this instance, and the end decided to be feasible.—God forbid the President should believe in the accomplishment of his purpose of converting this Confederacy of independent Republican States into a consolidated, military, imperial Government. His means of information and his admitted sagacity, would tender his belief of consequence enough to strike dismay into the heart of the citizen patriot whom he aims to convert into a mercenary soldier—a military vassal. The President's sagacity, I trust, has over reached itself, and looked too far. However he may be vilified by his enemies, he cannot be accused of resembling the Bourbons. He is not behind the age—let him have all the credit he deserves;—he is not behind the age—he is as much in advance of the age as the Bourbons are behind it. He looks forward with far-searching ken, and sees the degeneracy of the men of the Republic in time to come, and overjoyed at that prospect, so grateful to his vision, he, in the intoxication of his heart, forgets the age in which he lives,—exists only in the future, and adapts his policy to the future. Yes, his military policy may be suited to the future, if it be true, as history teaches, that Republics decay and generations deteriorate. Until that lesson be realized in this Republic, far beyond its present degree of verification, the freemen of Virginia and of her noble sister States, will repudiate and reject with horror a system which, beyond any thing that could be conceived, would degrade and debase them. What is that system? Every able bodied male citizen of the respective States, between twenty and forty-five years of age, is to be enrolled in the militia, by the captain or commanding officer of the company, within whose bounds the citizen may reside. As soon as enrolled, the soldier is to provide himself a musket and bayonet, knapsack, cartridge, powder horn, flask, &c. The citizens thus enrolled, to constitute the first class, and be denominated the Mass of the militia. The mass, embracing, as we perceive, all the male citizens of the United States between twenty and forty-five years of age, is to be divided into companies, regiments, brigades and divisions, and to be organized in the manner pointed out in the 3d section of the project. Within a certain number of months after the adoption and establishment of the system, there are to be taken from this Mass of the militia, one hundred thousand men, who are to constitute the second class, and be denominated the active or moveable force. This active force is to be divided into companies and battalions, and to be organized in the manner prescribed in the 11th section, and to serve and be governed by such rules as may be prescribed, for the period of four years, one-fourth in each State going annually, in order to form the third class, called the reserve, which in four years will of course amount to one hundred thousand men. As fast, however, as the portions of the active force sink into the reserve, their places are supplied from the mass. One-fourth of the reserve also go out of service at the termination of four years—that is, after having served that time—

and fall into the mass. Thus are these forces, the active and the reserve, of one hundred thousand men each, sustained and perpetuated. Go on, reader; now the objects of the system begin to develop themselves. This Confederacy of sovereign and distinct States, under the 4th section, to be consolidated, and re-divided in such a way as the convenience of instructing, disciplining, and corrupting the active force of one hundred thousand men may require. Yes, State lines being obliterated, and a unit empire formed, the imperial territory is to be parceled out into ten Military Districts or Territories, each district containing a certain proportion of the active force; for instance, one of the Military Districts is to extend over that part of the new integral territory, in which, at present, are to be found the States of Virginia, Maryland, Delaware and the District of Columbia, and this Satrapy will furnish 10,000 soldiers to the imperial army. Another Satrapy will embrace the territory that now constitutes the States of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, and the Territory of Florida—and so of the others. Go on to the consummation of the plan, and then ponder over the inevitable results. Under the 17th section, the soldiers composing the active force of each district, are to be marched twice a year, at the bidding of the President, to places of general rendezvous, somewhere within the military district—to remain there and undergo the exercises of discipline for so long a time as Congress, that is, as the President, may determine. The time in reality will depend on the progress the soldiers may make in giving indications of their being penetrated by the influences which, during the rendezvous, will be brought to bear on them, to incline them to the support and service of the President. He himself, may, if he chooses, and no doubt will, appear among them, and his gracious condescension with the favorable regards of his soldiers, he will ever after be his glory. He will sustain him and his men at the polls, and do his bidding to repel any enemy, or subvert any State.—Whilst marching to, parading at, and returning from the place of rendezvous, the President's soldiers are to be considered (as the project declares) in the service of the United States, and to be subject to such regulations, to discipline and training, as the President may think proper to adopt, and are also to receive the same pay as the soldiers of the regular army of the United States. Be it remembered that under this scheme the citizens of Virginia are to be coercedly marched twice a year, in time of the most profound peace, out of the State of Virginia, even into Delaware, and there encamped and disciplined, with the other soldiers of the Satrapy!

Such, fellow citizens, is the gigantic military system proposed to be established in this country.—Will you stop to enquire whether its execution will warrant for it in the Constitution of the United States? What, if the power were given to the Federal Government to elect such a committee—would that manifest its propriety or expediency from the charge of being forbidden by your liberties? Because granted, must the power therefore be exercised? Are constitutional questions the only considerations involved in measures of deep national concernment? Suppose you perceived the Federal Government possessed, under the Constitution, the power of annihilating the political existence of your State, and of extinguishing your civil rights, and contemplated the exercise of its authority, would you be silenced in your condemnation of a constitutional argument, or submit to the grant for your destruction, because, forsooth, your rulers had the right to issue it? If all the powers granted in the Federal Constitution, were exclusively exercised to their full extent, the question would at once be between slavery and the one hand, or resistance and the dissolution of the Union, on the other. To cite but a single instance: It is clear to any reflecting man, the authority with which Congress is vested over the times, places and manner of holding elections for Senators and Members of the lower House, might be so exerted, if it chose to do so, on itself the exercise of the power, as virtually to divest the Government of its representative character. Am I admitting, for a single moment, that the authors of the scheme of an imperial army, have constitutional power on their side? No! It would, indeed, be a subject of regret and humiliation with us, and just reproach to our fore-fathers had they framed for themselves and their posterity, a government armed with such a terrible power.

Under the 8th section of the 1st Article of the Constitution, Congress has power "to provide for organizing, arming and disciplining the militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed in the service of the United States, reserving to the States respectively the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the militia according to the discipline presented by Congress." The States, therefore, alone have the authority of training and governing their own militia, except when employed in the service of the United States.—Where are the States to train them? Surely only within their respective limits. Can Virginia train her militia upon the soil of Maryland? Shall Maryland, Delaware, and the District of Columbia, train theirs within the confines of Virginia? Shall any other Power, be it the General Government or not, introduce into the territory of Virginia for the purpose of Military operations, without her consent, the soldiers of Maryland, Delaware, and the District of Columbia? Crossed would be her sons if they did not resist to the death. Yet this scheme of an imperial soldiery authorizes the President "to call forth and assemble such numbers of the active force of the militia at such places within their respective districts, and at such times, not exceeding twice a year, in the same year, as he may deem necessary, for the purpose of training them, and while training to subject them to such regulations as he may think proper—that is, to govern them in not this a palpable violation of the Constitution? Is it not taking, in time of peace, the right of governing and training the militia from the States, and conferring it on the President? But, observe the artful stratagem to which the authors of this scheme resort, hoping thereby to evade the above mentioned provision of the Constitution. Knowing that it is only when employed in the service of the United States, that the government and training of the militia, pass from the States to the General Government, or to any officer thereof, the daring authors of this flagrant scheme declare in the 17th section, that the Militia of the Military Districts, when assembled by the President for the purpose of being trained, shall be deemed in the service of the United States. Impudent misapplication of the word "service!" What does "service" mean, in the phrase of the Constitution?—employed in the service of the United States? This declaration must be taken in connexion with, and be explained by the clause immediately preceding, and that clause is "to provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections, and repel invasions." It is only in one of these three modes, that the militia can perform the service contemplated by the Constitution. Therefore, it follows, that when assembled and paraded in conformity to the 17th section of the scheme, the militia are not in the service of the United States, and cannot be trained or governed by the President or any of his minions. It follows, also, that the President has