

Communications.

FOR THE TARBORO' PRESS.

Reading and the difference of style and nature of different kinds of writing and publications.

No. 1.

Mr. Editor: Being something of a reader myself, and having realised great satisfaction, pleasure, and profit, from perusing newspapers, ancient and standard works, and various other publications, I wish to invite friends and neighbors to this means of feasting their minds, employing their leisure moments, and enlarging their souls and understandings. And by your consent, that I may do it more plain and easy, I will address my remarks to them instead of you.

It is with you, friends and neighbors, that I wish to discourse; it is to your minds and reason that I wish to speak, and sincerely wish that I could see you face to face—converse with you, and hear your opinion on the important subject on which I am about to write. I would undoubtedly be much benefited by your ideas, and benefit you in return with mine. If you are aged, I could point you to books and parts of books that in perusing would warm your heart, elevate your thoughts above the troubles and cares of this world, and smooth the rugged path of life in your declining years. If you are middle aged, I could lay before you volumes and sheets suited to your capacity and taste, that would expand your yet vigorous mind, and enable you to perceive and judge of the machinery by which you operate on the world around you, and the secret springs by which you are more or less operated upon by others; and what is more, I would show you that there is a fountain which when gradually laid open, affords abundance of food and materials whether you wish to flourish in public smiles or spend your days in the luxury of retirement and ease—a fountain affording intellectual food and unending raiment to that immortal part until it shall take its flight from earth to a world of knowledge and intellectual improvement. If thou art a youth, whom I am addressing, be not indifferent to this subject; pray give your thoughts and attention a few moments to what I have to say. It is for you I feel and ought to feel the greatest solicitude. It is your heart and understanding that is susceptible of the greatest improvement, and on the other hand, liable to fall into wretchedness and ruin. It is on you, and the improvement you make of the present time and advantages, that depends your future happiness and the state and condition of society, of which when the aged are fallen asleep you will be the constituents. Your mind may now be vigorous and fearless of danger; your limbs may be as active as the cunning and nimble footed fox, but unless you possess more knowledge and means of safety than are afforded you by the trivial affairs of the day—unless you have something more to balance your minds than the chaff and leaves that are whirling about your head, you cannot escape destruction which is ever on your track. Unless you prepare yourself in due time with proper knowledge, or repair early in some way to the fountain of wisdom, your wailings and cries will avail you nothing when you become the scorn of this world, or are singled out for sport by the fiends of destruction; the stagnant place that you may make in society will make your ruin a merited reward. Let not so black a tale be hereafter applicable to you—let me invite your mind from the corruptions of folly and earthly pleasure to a world of food and wine, which the more you eat and drink of, the sweeter it will be to your taste and the more healthful will be its operation and effect. It is to the world of books and papers I wish to invite you. It is in these that are found drawn out the thoughts and wisdom of the wise. It is through the instrumentality of the printing apparatus that they

have become abundantly multiplied and sufficiently plenty and cheap for all.

It is by perusing such works as come in their way thousands, who can only with difficulty spell out the meaning of words, are prevented from falling into recklessness and ruin. Some great readers, it is true, sink into misery; but it will be found to be the case in general, that such characters even in a state of degradation when they can get a book or paper seem to forget their wretchedness, and give their mind full enjoyment in the subject before them. And it is worthy of remark, that it is not unfrequently that such characters take a start from the lowest stages of human existence, and the second time shine forth with respectability in the world, while on the other hand those who have no desire or taste for reading, sink lower and lower in their own misery and estimation of others, until they are no more. In such cases, however, consists but a small portion of the advantages arising from reading. The powerful influence that it has in leading the mind from the days of innocence and youth to a life of enjoyment and respectability in middle and old age, is of much more importance.

Such are some of the thoughts that run through my mind when thinking on the subject before you. And now in conclusion of this piece I wish to say to all, aged, middle aged, and youth, I propose to lay before you a few short papers on "Reading and the difference of style and nature of different kinds of writing and publications;" not with a view of entering into a critical examination of any, but for the purpose of making a few plain and unlearned remarks that may serve to strip some kinds of writing, such as legislative enactment, scripture style, and philosophical works, &c. of their dulness, and enable the common reader better to understand them, and at the same time with a laudable hope of cultivating in the mind a zest and taste for reading in general. However averse to reading some may be, I hope every one will do me the favor to read what is freely and voluntarily laid before them on this subject.

COMMON SENSE.

FOREIGN.

Mexico.—The state of affairs in that Republic is truly deplorable. The expectations entertained by the friends of liberal principles and good order, that Santa Ana's policy would avert a civil war, and restore permanent tranquillity to his unfortunate country, are fast vanishing. On the one hand, that chieftain, it would appear, is misled by a set of ambitious, inexperienced parasites; and on the other, duped by a military aristocratical faction, that are using all the means in their power to get rid of every Mexican, friendly to liberal principles.

According to our private advices, it seems that the mass of the people are so much dissatisfied with the conduct of those that have hitherto ruled the country, so disgusted with the interminable quarrels of the military chiefs, and so indignant at the speculation prevailing in their finances, that strong symptoms of an intention to divide the present confederation, are becoming manifest; and the formation of three or four separate Republics out of the present confederation, has become the subject of frequent discourse.

Our readers may, perhaps, recollect that Santa Ana, in his proclamation on returning to the capital last April, condemned and repealed the decree of his predecessor, in virtue of which certain bishops, canons, priests, friars, and other individuals were expelled the country; and that he then declared, that in future no Mexican citizen should be molested for his political opinions, or banished without a previous trial—his determination being to maintain, at all hazards, the constitution and laws of the Republic. But if we may judge from the distressing accounts of the Mexi-

can presses, the military minions of the priests are introducing, in every section of the country, a system of persecution and terror which by far surpasses the old inquisitorial system of Spain.

New York Cour. & Eng.

From Rio Janeiro.—By ship Edward Bonaffe arrived from Rio, we learn that the barque Vermont would sail from thence in about 3 days. This vessel is sent home under command of Lieut. Chas. Henry Davis of the U. S. Navy, in consequence of a circumstance which took place on board of the Vermont in the Pacific. It is said that the carpenter of this vessel made a blow at the captain with an axe, which nearly cut his leg from his body. The captain was left at Valparaiso in a very precarious state of health. Midshipman Perry and Decatur are also on board of this vessel.

The Montavidian brig "Rio de la Plata" was brought into Brazil a few days since by the English corvette "Raleigh," with 501 Slaves on board; it is said, the prize is not a good one, consequently she must be allowed to depart in a short time—the English have burned their fingers several times in this way, they lately had to pay upwards of two thousand pounds sterling, for the detention of a vessel, under similar circumstances.—ib.



TARBORO' PRESS.

SATURDAY, FEB. 14, 1835.

COMMUNICATED.

Mr. Howard: Sir, an accumulation of private business, together with other considerations equally plausible, seems to dictate to me that I should not again offer myself as a candidate for re-election to the office of County Trustee.

Respectfully,

N. H. ROUNTREE.

Look out for Thieves.—An attempt was made clandestinely to enter the upper window of the store of Mr. H. Austin, in this place, late on Friday night or early on Saturday morning last. Fortunately the iron bars of the window prevented an entrance. A ladder and a huge stick were left on the premises. This is the second or third attempt recently made to rob that store. A few weeks since the store of Mr. J. W. Cotten was entered, and several articles stolen. Other cases also have occurred, which should induce our citizens as well as the police to increased vigilance.

The Weather.—On Tuesday, of last week, we had another fall of snow to the depth of three or four inches, a considerable portion of which still remains. On Sunday, the cold became as severe as probably ever before was experienced in this latitude—the thermometer sunk below zero, and ice formed from three to four inches in thickness, capable of sustaining loaded wagons, &c. The weather has somewhat moderated, but still it is "cold enough for comfort."

We copy the following from an article in the Edenton Gazette, as several of our readers may not be conversant with the politics of Mr. Pettigrew, the new candidate for Congress in this district, nor have heard him declare his political creed during his recent visit to this place:—

We also learn that Mr. Pettigrew in a short address to the people of Tyrrel, declared himself in favor of State Rights and a strict construction of the Constitution—opposed to the Tariff and a general system of Internal Improvement...opposed to the Bank and equally opposed to the removal of the deposits...in favor of Gen. Jackson when he is right, and opposed to Gen. Jackson when he is wrong.

FOR THE TARBORO' PRESS.

Nashville, 10th Feb. 1835.

At a meeting of a large portion of the citizens of Nash county, upon the subject of the Convention, James S. Battle, Esq. was unanimously called to the Chair, and John G. Blount, appointed Secretary.

At the request of the Chairman, Gen. Henry Blount explained the objects of the meeting in a

speech of considerable length, condemning the Bill for a Convention in a manner highly satisfactory to all present. Mr. Samuel Arrington offered a few remarks, concurring in what had been said. The following resolution was offered by Gen. H. Blount, and after having been freely discussed by several gentlemen present was adopted:—

Resolved, by this meeting, as their deliberate opinion, that it is inexpedient to alter or amend the Constitution of this State at present; and, therefore, we do unanimously and most solemnly object to and oppose the call of a Convention for that purpose, believing as we do, that the object is to obtain political power and advantage where it does not at present exist.

On motion it was resolved, that the proceedings of this meeting be signed by the Chairman and Secretary, and published in the Raleigh Standard and Tarboro' Press.

On motion, resolved that this meeting adjourn.

Jas. S. Battle, Ch'n.
John G. Blount, Sec'y.

Happening to be at the Hotel of Mr. Wm. D. Tisdale, in which the above meeting was held, we attended as a spectator and was much pleased to hear "Old Nash" express such decided terms of veneration for our present Constitution, and against the proposed change of its provisions. The meeting was first addressed by Gen. H. Blount, who spoke in strong and emphatic terms against the Convention bill—stating that he was opposed to it because he believed it to be the work principally of some few political aspirants, in order to acquire the ascendancy in the Legislature, that they might involve the State in splendid and extravagant schemes of Internal Improvements—that by looking through the bill to the last annual message of Gov. Swain, it would be perceived that the proposed amendment to equalize the taxation of the whites and blacks, would throw the burden of taxation principally on the eastern section of the State—that the provision granting to the Convention the power to define in what manner amendments to the Constitution should hereafter be made, was dangerous in the extreme—that he believed there was something behind the curtain, which had not yet been exposed, &c. Mr. Samuel Arrington followed, and remarked that Gen. Blount had spoken in such a lucid manner as scarcely to leave any thing for him to say—he had opposed the Convention bill in the Legislature, and still opposed it—the provision for hereafter amending the Constitution, however, he viewed as the least objectionable feature of the bill; for the East would possess the balance of power in the Convention, and could adopt such measures in relation to it, as they might think proper. Mr. Peter Arrington was opposed to a Convention, because he conceived it to be unnecessary—that the Legislature had framed the bill in such a manner as to make mere "broomsticks," of the delegates to the Convention—the Legislature doing all that was to be done, and the Convention had only to sanction their proceedings, for which the delegates were to receive half pay. Mr. Henry Arrington remarked, he could not see how any person could conscientiously be a delegate to the Convention from the county of Nash, for before taking a seat they would be compelled to take an oath to make the specified amendments, although their constituents and themselves were wholly opposed to them, &c.

The above resolution was then introduced, the latter part of which originally read, "believing as we do that the object is [insidiously] to obtain political power," &c. Mr. James S. Mann moved to strike out the word insidiously, conceiving it to be disrespectful to the Legislature and to our western brethren. Gen. Blount said, in reply, that he wished to use emphatic and energetic language, and hoped that the word would be retained. Mr. Peter Arrington stated that the resolution would read nearly as well without that word as with it, and for the sake of unanimity thought it had better be left out. Mr. S. W. W. Vick was for retaining the word, as it more forcibly and correctly expressed the sentiments of the meeting. Mr. Hardy W. Hatton called upon Gen. Blount to explain what he meant by saying there was something behind the curtain, &c. Gen. Blount remarked that he had not sufficiently explained himself on that point, which was sanctioned by the Chair. Mr. John S. Arrington said the word insidiously ought to be retained in the resolution, otherwise we might as well omit the whole of it, and vote for the Convention bill, &c. An attempt was then made by Gen. Blount to substitute the word "covertly," for insidiously, which failed, and the resolution was amended by striking out the word in dispute, and passed. The utmost harmony and good feeling apparently prevailed throughout, and the meeting adjourned at an early and seasonable hour.

Convention Bill.—The following extract of a letter of an intelligent correspondent of the Hillsborough Recorder, contains some views upon the proposed amendments of the Constitution, which may be useful to the reader:—

The Senate will consist of not less than 34, nor more than 50; and the Commons of not less than 90, nor more than 120 members. The Convention is confined within these ranges; and should the highest number be adopted for the Senate, which is 50 members; the following counties will each be entitled to one senator, viz: Orange, Bertie, Craven, Caswell, Cumberland, Edgecombe, Guilford, Granville, Halifax, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Northampton, New Hanover, Rowan, Rutherford, Wake, and Warren. The excess of taxation of any one county may be added to any adjoining county, and if it shall make up her deficit she will then be entitled to a Senator. Where the counties pay a small tax, two or more must be added together to make a district. No county is to be divided in making a district. The amount of taxes that will entitle a county or district to a Senator will be 1407 dollars. I have examined this matter well, and I find that Orange (for I never forget my own county nor my neighbor) will have a senator, and a surplus of taxation for her neighbor of 961 dollars. Randolph has a deficit of 521, Chatham a deficit of 60, and Person a deficit of 433. So I find that the surplus of Orange will, within 55 dollars, make up the deficit of her neighbors Person, Chatham and Randolph. Thus by the assistance of Orange county alone, all the adjoining counties will be entitled to a Senator. Granville also has a large surplus for some of her neighbors. It will require three counties in some instances in the east to make up a district entitled to a Senator.

I have made an estimate for the Commons, and send you a copy of the result. The estimate is made for 120 members, the highest number within the range given to the Convention. I consider borough representation as totally abolished by the provisions of the bill, as it is a matter of discretion with the Convention, and I feel confident that the people will order their delegates to strike it out. By the bill each county is entitled to one member in the Commons, whether she has the ratio of federal population or not; and the remaining members in the Commons are to be made up of largest fractions in the counties respectively. According to my estimate 5342 federal number will be about the ratio required to constitute a member. After that number, the largest fraction in a county gets a member, until the 120 members are made up. You will see by the table, that in the 27 western counties there will be 57 members, and in the 38 eastern counties 48 members, which make 105 members. The remaining 15 members are to be made up out of the largest fractions, and according to my calculation the counties entitled to them will be Duplin, Johnson, Beaufort, Franklin, Wayne, Warren, Bertie, New Hanover, Halifax, Robeson, Person, Stokes, Iredell, Surry and Chatham, 11 eastern and 4 western counties; which will give the 27 western counties 61 members, and the 38 eastern counties 59 members.

Washington, Feb. 7, 1835.

Pork.—Owing to the unusual scantiness of the supply of this article in this market this winter, it readily sells, when it comes in, at six dollars, cash.—Wash. Sta.

Supreme Court.—Thos. P. Devereux, Esq. has been re-appointed Reporter of the Supreme Court; and we understand, that he has associated with him in the discharge of his duties, Wm. H. Battle, Esq. of Franklin. Nat. Reg.

Convention Acts.—The Legislature directed the Governor to have printed for transmission to each county in the State, 400 copies of the Acts concerning the call of a Convention. This has been done, but it may be, that in some instances, the packages have miscarried. If this should prove

to be the case, and information of the failure be communicated to the Governor or to the Editors of the paper, the omission shall be immediately supplied.—ib.

Mr. Gaston.—A Correspondent of the Star enforces the commendation of this distinguished gentleman for the President, recently made thro' this paper.

The People are moving.—Meetings of the People have been held in Chowan and Tyrrel counties, censuring the conduct of the majority in the Legislature for passing the Resolution, instructing to Mr. Mangum; requesting that gentleman resign.—ib.

Allotment of the Supreme Court Circuits for 1835.

Spring, Autumn
Edenton, Judge Donnell, J. S. Seale
Newbern, Strange, Mearns
Raleigh, Norwood, Seawell
Wilmington, Seawell, Norwood
Hillsborough, Martin, Strang
Morganton, Settle, Donnell

Richmond, Feb. 10

Action!—The Democratic publican Members of the Virginia Legislature, held a meeting Saturday night, and appointed a Committee of five, for the purpose of engraving an Address to the people of Va., on the present crisis. The finest spirit prevailed among them. They do not care as if they were beaten; on the contrary, they bear a lofty, unflinching, and invincible spirit. They feel that the People are with them, and that the soi-disant Whigs have undone themselves by their recent victories over the free press of opinion, and the Right of construction. From whatever quarter we hear, we understand our political friends mean to battle, and we cannot entertain the slightest doubt of a glorious victory in the Spring.—Eng.

News from Washington.—I received no papers by yesterday's mail from Washington, but learn from private advices, that on Saturday there was a long debate in the House of Representatives, on referring some letters Mr. Livingston, by the last arrival, to the Committee on Foreign Affairs. Mr. John Q. Adams moved, that the Committee be instructed to report immediately on the state of our affairs in France. It is said, that Mr. Adams came out in support of Gen. Jackson, "out and out," so far as to say, that the Senator had dodged the question, and a firm stand was now necessary to be taken, &c. Mr. Lyle, of Ohio, rose and congratulated the country on Mr. A's course, as stated, to his honor, that he had been defeated by Gen. Jackson, had thus come forward to sustain a successful rival, and was the agitation of this question in the House, which probably gave rise to the rumour in Washington, of accounts having been just received from France, that the Bill of Indemnity had been rejected by the French Chambers.

The new Post Office Bill passed the Senate, unanimously—as it ought to have done—the Department ought to be properly organized; and it has never been done before.—ib.

Squally.—It is very evident from every indication, that the Government at this particular juncture, and in view of the situation of our relations with a powerful nation in Europe, is making every needful and proper arrangement to place the country, as far as it can, in a state of defence. The equipping of ships of war, the transportation of heavy pieces of ordnance—the proving of iron, &c. &c., all "Give no preparation."—Alex. Gazette

We are extremely sorry to see the unfavorable aspect of the news by the last arrival from France as to our relations with that country.—ib.

The firing from the Arsenal at Greenleaf's Point, that we