

Communications.

FOR THE TARBORO' PRESS.

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

No. 4.

History.—Among the numerous classes of writing into which literary works may be divided and subdivided, none is more plain and familiar, none is more powerful in its operation on the heart and understanding, and certainly none more valuable and interesting, than pure and unincumbered history. That which stands first on the records of ancient or modern times, as to importance of events or purity and capability of style, is found in that too much neglected book called the Bible. On the historical part of that we might discourse with much propriety on this or any other similar occasion, but as its merits are generally acknowledged, we will pass it by for the present.

The Lives of Plutarch rank high among the numerous works of profane history, (as all beside the Bible is denominated.) And what is the reason of it? It is simply because his narrations are unincumbered by diversified fragments of other kinds of writing, or by attempts at eloquence and pathos of the author's own imagination. The great powers of his mind, (for such he is allowed to have possessed,) are employed in selecting the most prominent and characteristic events, and in giving connected and correct accounts, wisely leaving the narrations themselves to perform their due operation on the feelings of the reader. Hence it is, on perusing the Lives of Plutarch, we have a clear view of the men whose lives he has written, and see them sustaining that unanimity of deportment through life, or through the years of manhood, peculiar to every rational human being. If he treats of a man who in his early days acted the philanthropist and patriot, and afterwards became a profligate or tyrant, we see something from the beginning in his character that has a tendency to such results. For instance, in the life of Pompey, (although evidently a favorite of Plutarch,) the reference that he makes to Pompey's intercourse with the prostitute Flora, leads every reflecting mind to the apprehension, without reading his history, that the course of such a man would be destructive to morals, and his end miserable and disgraceful, which indeed proved to be the case. The clearness and simplicity of Plutarch's style, and the evident correctness of his narrations, will cause his writings to live as long as the world stands, and be as popular in ages to come as they have been admired in ages past. It is true, in his writings there are some passages which seem to give a sanction to vice and some of the blackest of crimes; but when we take into consideration the sunken and distracted state of morals and religion at the age in which he lived, and the almost hopeless prospect of ever leading men to the acknowledgment of the true principles of virtue and religion, he may be reckoned a good as well as a great man.

The works of Josephus, which were written about the same time with Plutarch, ever have been and ever will be highly esteemed on account of the bold stand the author took on the side of virtue, morality and religious principles, and for his strict adherence to truth and conflicting parties and opinions about many of the subjects on which he wrote. Josephus was a man of great learning and profound talents; he wrote for great national, political and moral purposes, in times when if fame had been his principal object, he might have pleased the critics and the learned ones with which he was surrounded better, and gained more fame for the time being, by making an ostentatious display of his abilities; but his object was more noble, he wrote, as but few do, though as every learned writer should, for the benefit of common readers. His language and phraseology are

plain and simple, his ideas are deep and comprehensive. His narrations are in general clear and more full than those of any other historian. The writings of Josephus or Plutarch may with interest and profit be read at intervals, taking a chapter or section here and there; but with much more interest and profit if taken through by regular course. Many other historical works might be mentioned of ancient and more modern origin, of great value and interest to the common reader, but none perhaps that he would be justified in reading to the neglect of the history of his own country. Amongst the historical works of our own country, and by our own countrymen, no one is more comprehensive, none is written in a purer historical style, than the History of the United States by Charles A. Goodrich. Grimshaw's History of the United States is also a good work. There has lately been published in London, a very minute and thorough History of the United States, embellished with splendid engravings; but unfortunately for this country and for the author, it is too large and too costly to find a ready sale. We are far, however, from being destitute of works adequate to give us a complete knowledge of our own country, from its discovery through all its eras, changes and revolutions, and of its distinguished sons and daughters down to the present day. The pleasure, advantage and necessity of being acquainted with the events of our own country, we are not able to estimate. Through its history in its settlement by our ancestors we see a change taking place among men second to few or none in the history of the world. From the earliest of these settlements down to the present day, in every age and in every part of the country, we have the pleasure of looking on individuals of profound talents and distinguished philanthropy. We look on a community from which we have descended, in which there have been found of both sexes, of all ages and conditions, those who have become the evil sacrifices at the shrine of liberty, and the altar of virtue and religion—we look on a community to whom we are indebted, next to our God, for life, liberty and the abundant blessings we enjoy.

COMMON SENSE.



TARBORO'.

SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 1835.

Sudden Death.—A few days since, Mr. Thomas Barron, of this county, started from Sparta on his return home in a cart, in company with a young man who drove the horse. He appeared to be in good health, and laid down in the cart, as his companion thought, to go to sleep—but, on arriving at his house and attempting to rouse him, he was found to be dead. He has left a wife and two children.

We learn that a gentleman named William R. Leggett, arrived at Louisburg in the stage from Enfield on Sunday evening last, in a very low state of health, and died early on Monday morning. He received every care and attention from the people of Louisburg, and was decently buried. It is supposed, from papers found in his possession, that he was from Martin county. He had \$144 in money with him, and some notes, which together with his clothing, &c. are in possession of Mr. J. Wood, tavern keeper in Louisburg.

Convention Election.—The Polls of the several districts in this county will be compared in this place to-day. The vote in this district stood "Convention,"

18—"No Convention," 54. We learn that in several of the districts the votes were unanimous, "No Convention." We believe that there will not be 50 votes given for a Convention in the whole county.

FOR THE TARBORO' PRESS.

A truth-loving Senator.—The Hon. W. P. Mangum said on the Petersburg Rail-road last fall, that if he should be instructed by the Legislature of North Carolina to do what he could not conscientiously do, he would resign. If denied, it is believed that the above fact can be proved. The writer's name is with the Editor. *Rectus in Curia.*

The French Question.—A gentleman at Washington, who has the best means of information, writes us, that "We have nothing new from France. No one, however, doubts but that the appropriation will be made by the Deputies."

It may be some time yet, before we learn the result. During the last year, when the bill was rejected by a majority of 8 only, it was on the 13th January, that M. Humann, Minister of Finance, submitted the Bill to the Chamber of Deputies. It was not before the 10th March, that M. Jay made the Report, from the Committee of 9. Eighteen days after, the discussion came on. The Debate continued four days; and the question was taken on the 1st April. Yet it is highly probable, from the critical state of the relations between the two countries, that the question will be much earlier decided at the present session.

But let it reach us when it may, it will be seen that the President's Message has mainly contributed to its production. *Richmond Eng.*

Highly Important Treaty.—We have been favored by a friend, with a highly important Treaty, concluded at Washington City on the 14th inst. between the President and a Delegation of the Cherokee Tribe of Indians; by which, all the lands belonging to the Cherokees, east of the Mississippi, are ceded to the United States, in the event of the provisions of the Treaty being ratified by the people of the Cherokee Nation, to whom it is to be submitted.

The Government, in consideration of this entire relinquishment and conveyance of the Indian lands, agrees, to pay (including \$500,000 worth of land west of the Mississippi) the sum of Five Millions of Dollars—a sum which, if equally divided, would give, it is believed, \$500 to every man, woman and child in the Nation. But what greatly astonishes us, is, that this Treaty, so important in its details, so materially affecting the States of Georgia, Alabama, North Carolina and Tennessee, and so full of interest to the whole Union, is not mentioned, or the slightest allusion made to it, in either of the Washington papers, although a fortnight has elapsed since its consummation. The sum stipulated to be paid, seems to us immense; but the object to be accomplished is so desirable, that we feel disposed to give the Administration the credit of at least one judicious measure. Whilst this arrangement will terminate all the difficulties which the Cherokees have experienced during a residence within the settled portion of the United States, under the jurisdiction and laws of the State Governments, it affords adequate protection to them, and lays the foundation of such social and political establishments in the place of their new abode, as will render them, we hope, a happy and prosperous people. *Raleigh Register.*

State Bank of North Carolina.—At an adjourned meeting of the Stockholders of this Institution, on Tuesday last, a further Dividend of Capital, of \$5 to the Share, was declared; which, added to the previous Dividends, makes a payment on each Share of \$88. It is believed, that on winding up the business of the Institution, its situation will au-

thorize the Stockholders in dividing *five or six per cent.* more.

We would direct public attention to the notice of the Bank, in this paper, requesting the holders of their Notes to present them for redemption without delay.—*ib.*

Likeness of Judge Gaston.—Mr. A. S. Waugh, Sculptor, of this City, has just completed his model of Judge Gaston's bust, ordered by the Philanthropic Society of our University. We barely do justice to the performance, when we say that the Artist has executed his task with a spirit and fidelity that reflect credit on himself, and confer no mean reputation on the rising excellence of the Fine Arts in this country. Of the large number of persons who have visited Mr. Waugh's Studio, we have seen no one who does not pronounce the likeness inimitable.—*ib.*

Right at last.—We announced week before last, that an individual had been arrested in Orange county, on suspicion of being the murderer of Porteus. Last week, through mistaken information, we stated that he had been liberated for want of proof. We now learn, that he is still in jail, at Hillsborough, awaiting further developments.—*ib.*

Bishop Ives.—We regret to state that this eminent Divine has been compelled, by the precarious state of his health, to absent himself (we trust only temporarily) from the Diocese. He travels North, his friends hoping that a change of air and gentle exercise may restore him to health and usefulness in his sacred office.—*ib.*

Another British Outrage.—We learn from the Charleston Courier, that the brig Enterprize arrived at that port on the 15th inst. from Hamilton in the island of Bermuda. The Enterprize sailed from Alexandria D. C. 22d Jan. bound to Charleston, with 78 slaves on board, belonging to a Mr. Simpson of the latter place, who was there awaiting their arrival. By stress of weather, the Enterprize was driven into Bermuda for supplies; where the vessel was seized, the Captain thrown into prison, the slaves forcibly taken out by a writ of habeas corpus from the chief justice, and set at liberty.

After several days, the captain was liberated, and the vessel set at liberty. One negro woman and four children, determined to stay by the vessel, and have returned in her. The Editors of the Courier remark that "this unwarrantable conduct of the officers of the British Government, in interfering with, and forcibly taking possession of the property of American citizens, this piracy under cover of law, this high-handed insult to the Flag of the United States, calls for the action of our Government, and we confidently trust that prompt measures will be taken to redress the wrongs, and avenge the insult which has been thus a second time offered to this country. We understand that \$20,000 was insured upon the property, by one of the insurance offices in this city."

It is but recently that a similar outrage was committed on a citizen of North Carolina, Mr. Waddell of Wilmington, whose slaves and vessel were seized and confiscated by the British authorities of Nassau. Very spirited resolutions were unanimously adopted by our last Legislature on the subject, calling on the General Government for a redress of the flagrant outrage and breach of neutrality. And there can be no doubt, now that there has been an aggravated repetition of the outrage, but what the authorities at Washington will promptly make a demand on the British Government for an investigation of the affair, and satisfaction for the injuries.—*Raleigh Standard.*

New York Market, March 28.—*Cotton.*—In the early part of the week the demand was active, but for the last three days the market has been quiet, still there is no change of moment in

prices. The sales of the week amount to 5500 bales, of which 2400 were Upland at 16 to 18; 1250 New Orleans at 16 to 20; 1050 Mobile at 17 to 20; and 800 Florida at 17 to 20; including a fine parcel at about 20 cts.

Naval Stores.—No change in the market for Turpentine. Tar is in better demand, and sales have been made at 1 87 to 2, which is an advance.—*Star.*

Petersburg Market, March 31.—*Cotton.*—The supply is much reduced, little else than by the Rail Road is now receiving, and sales are effected at an advance of half a cent on our last quotations—say at 15 to 16 cts.; choice lots would bring a fraction over.—*Con.*

THE PRESIDENCY.

From the Nashville Republican. **Nashville, March, 17.**—Had the letter from Gen. Jackson, which we give below, been shown to us under the seal of confidence, however much our feelings might have been wounded by its perusal, we should have passed it by in silence. But, as through one channel or another, its contents have been already extensively circulated, and as it has been handed to us for publication by the Reverend Gentleman, to whom it was addressed, we conceive it our right and our duty to accompany it with the article alluded to, and with a few remarks. These shall be made in the manner in which a son might remonstrate against a misconception of his views by a venerated father, and in the spirit with which every free man has a right to express his opinions. To the letter—to the article itself, (which we republish from our paper of the 10th of February,) and our comments upon both, we request the dispassionate and unprejudiced attention of our fellow-citizens in this State, and throughout the Union.

Washington, Feb. 23, 1835.
My Rev. Sir:—I observe in the Nashville Republican of the 10th inst. an article headed "General Jackson's Preference," which I think it my duty to notice.

All my friends know, that since I have been in the Executive Chair, I have carefully abstained from an interference with the elective franchise; and have invariably acted upon the principle, that to the people belonged the exercise of this sacred right—uninfluenced by any considerations but those which related to the public good. And yet the Editor of this paper, professing to entertain great respect for my character, undertakes to connect me personally with an attempt to divide the great body of Republicans in the choice which they are to make of a President; and by way of giving effect to his insinuation, appeals in the language of my bitterest enemies, *here and elsewhere,* to the independence of the people as a shield against "my dictation," which he supposes may be attempted.

Every one must see that the professions of the Editor in that article are made to take the form of friendship, in order that he may more successfully carry out his purpose of opposing the great Republican principles which I have endeavored to advance, as President of the United States:—and one of which, not to say the most important, is the necessity of looking above persons in an exigency, which threatens the ascendancy of those principles. All my friends must perceive, that, to be consistent, my preference, as far as men are concerned, ought to be for him who is most likely to be the choice of the great body of Republicans: and yet, if the individual should not be Judge White, the Editor of the Republican is ready to cry out "Dictation."

Under such circumstances, seeing also that there are various misrepresentations of my views on this subject, I commit this letter to your discretion in order that you may do me justice.

You are at liberty to say on all occasions, that, regarding the people as the true source of political power, I am always ready to bow to their will and to their judgment;—that discarding all personal preferences, I consider the true policy of the friends of republic-

can principles, to select fresh from the people, at a Convention, for the Presidency and Vice Presidency, candidates for office, that to impeach that selection, if it is made, or to resist it, is fairly made, as an exercise of Executive power, and the virtue of the people's effect, to oppose their own govern.

I send the paper containing article I refer to, and request to show this letter to the Editor in order that he may not misrepresent me. Acknowledge the receipt of this letter.

I am, in haste, your true friend,
ANDREW JACKSON.
The Rev. James Gwinnett,
Nashville, Tenn.

(From the Nashville Republican of the 10th of February.)

General Jackson's Preference.—It must be apparent to every superficial observer, that is making, both in this State elsewhere, by those who are opposed to Judge White, the impression, that General Jackson would decidedly prefer Van Buren to any other man as his successor, and thus the influence of his power, to bear upon the approaching election. General Jackson is a man, and, like the rest, has his preferences and dislikes, and no reasonable person can blame him for wishing the success of his friends, in relation to those who have been and bitterly decried every measure of his Administration. It was believed that the preference for the Presidency would be given to Mr. Van Buren, or Mr. Clay, or some other prominent member of the Opposition; but, natural, it was to be expected, that General Jackson should prefer Mr. Van Buren, of whose character and capacity he has heard that he entertains a high opinion, by appointing him, on some one occasion, to an important position. But a different result has now arisen. Judge White, a staunch Republican, has been brought out, without consultation or management, as a candidate for the Presidency, and all probability the contest will be between him and Mr. Van Buren. In this contest can General Jackson prefer Mr. Van Buren to Judge White? We should not. If he have a preference, we should suppose his preference would all be in the favor of Judge White. They are of the same State—nearly of the same period of time, yet adventurous and enterprising, they emigrated to the West Tennessee—together they "grew up with her growth strengthened with her strength on the bench and at the bar have toiled together—and more than thirty-five years have been united by the bonds of an intimate and uninterfering friendship. On most of the political topics of the day they thought alike, and side by side have they battled for those principles, which have been pronounced by a large majority of American people to be salutary, and correct. Judge White has been an efficient, and independent, and not a sycophantic, supporter of the most important measures of Gen. Jackson's Administration and no man would, we are convinced, carry out those measures with more ability, firmness and discretion. How then can General Jackson prefer Martin Van Buren to Hugh L. White? He will not for an instant believe that he will descend from a high estate, to take an equal part in the ensuing election, and to lend an improper and unrepudiated influence in the appointment of his successor, but we speak now of his private and personal feelings, of which as a man, he cannot entirely disown, and we ask again, can he prefer Martin Van Buren to Hugh L. White?

Besides all these considerations, nineteen-twentieths of the people of Tennessee, we are convinced, in favor of Hugh L. White; we cannot believe that General Jackson will separate himself from his long-tryed, his faithful and his sincere friends, where