

states, especially at the period referred to. When these are duly considered, I am persuaded, that those who have been disposed to censure Mr. Crawford, for his participation in the common guilt of his countrymen, will not only admit that in these transactions he was "more sinned against than sinning," but will unite with me in condemning the officiousness of those, who, after so great a lapse of time, have dragged them from oblivion. It is possible that some of those who have made them the ostensible ground of their opposition to Mr. Crawford, may be sincere. But what are we to think of their consistency or regard to principle, who, while they endeavor, on this ground, to array against him the moral feeling of the community, are loud in their support of Gen. Jackson, Mr. Clinton, or Mr. Clay, all of whom have been engaged in similar affairs? Will they assert that in the case of Mr. Crawford there were circumstances of aggravation which do not exist with respect to others? With regard to some of them at least, this will not be pretended, by those who have any knowledge of the facts. I regret that I have been obliged to allude to events in the lives of the gentlemen I have named, which perhaps ought not, at this day, to be made the subject of comment. I have done so for the purpose of showing, that the clamor against Crawford is for the most part hypocritical, and that it proceeds, not from a scrupulous hostility to the practice of duelling, but from hatred to the man, and envy of his well-earned and growing reputation. AMERICANUS.

[BY REQUEST.]

From the Democratic Press.

Was Mr. Crawford a Federalist in '98.

The charge against him is founded on his having attended a meeting which addressed President Adams on the subject of our difficulties with France.

The following extract from the certificate of Mr. Watkins, chairman of said meeting, as published in the Georgia (Milledgeville) Journal will set the matter in its true light.

Greensborough, Georgia, March 14, 1824.

To the Hon. Augustine S. Clayton—Sir: The young men who composed the meeting at Augusta in 1798, were of different political sentiments, and the committee selected by the chairman to prepare the address in question were also so considered, and consisted of Messrs. Wm H. Crawford, Nathaniel Coker, Samuel Barnett, Isham Malone and John McKinne—the three first of whom were known as REPUBLICANS. In making this choice the chairman was influenced by a desire that the address should manifest the feelings of Americans without regard to the distinction of political parties then existing. The transaction in relation to this address was PREVIOUS to those acts of that administration (the alien and sedition laws) which seemed not so acceptable to the people.

"It has always been considered that Mr. Crawford never belonged to the federal party, and such has ever been my opinion." GEO. WATKINS.

Mr. Watkins, the signer of the above, has always been a decided federalist. He is a man of honorable character and much esteemed in private life.

FOR THE FREE PRESS.

Mr. Howard:

A writer who assumes the liberty of addressing the public in a political capacity, should always keep his country's welfare in view, and should never by favor be prevailed upon to plead the cause of faction, nor by fear be deterred from exposing those measures which threaten to impair or destroy our liberties. A correspondent in your last number (29), under the signature of "A Friend of Truth," has overlooked these important considerations, and suffering his zeal to get the better of his discretion, has advanced opinions evidently inconsistent with the fundamental principles upon which are based our rights and privileges. His first assault is upon the intelligence of our citizens, in stating that as they "cannot be personally acquainted with all the candidates for the Presidency," the most effectual way of gaining information respecting their qualifications is "the testimony of those of our fellow-citizens who have an opportunity of serving with them in public life." Indeed! where are our public records, our thousand unrestricted presses, that detail the important events, still fresh in the recollection of most of our citizens, in which these men acquired their present ascendancy? these are to pass unnoticed, and we are to look to partial friends or prejudiced foes, to fawning sycophants or hungry expectants, for correct information respecting the talents and integrity of our superior officers. What more could the courtly parasites of legitimacy, or the un-holy members of the Holy Alliance require from their enslaved vassals, than passive obedience to the mandates and a blind confidence in the wisdom of their rulers? But no: our citizens cannot be led astray by such sophistry; there is still a redeeming spirit in this land, and the people, roused up at length from their fatal lethargy, will step forth in their strength, and the selection of their public officers will shew that the intelligent spirit, which actuated our progenitors in resisting foreign usurpation and aggression, still animates the bosoms of their descendants and enables them to repel the insidious wiles of domestic faction; and check the encroachments of intrigue and corruption. The virtue of our citizens is next attacked by this writer: a senseless clamor and an unmeaning parade of words "might possibly go down late of a Saturday evening at a muster-ground, but certainly can never be intended for the sober sense of the good people of this country." What! can our citizens be prevailed upon to gulp down "much of such slang" on a Saturday evening, if not at any other time? Can it be supposed that a man in his "sober senses" would have penned such a paragraph, for the purpose of submitting it to the scrutinizing glance of a reading and reflecting community? Our citizens can best determine how for this mortifying reflection is applicable to themselves, and the imputation thus cast on their morals, will doubtless be treated with the contempt it so justly merits. But what shall I say of his reflection on the understanding of the people? After stating that a Caucus "is nothing more nor less than what happens every day among us the people," he enumerates the following effects which have been produced by them: they recom-

mended Mr. Jefferson, exposed the measures of Mr. Adams administration, "and by similar meetings they have elected Mr. Madison and Mr. Monroe." Can the *Friend of Truth* point to a sentence in the Constitution which authorises, directly or indirectly, the election of a president by such meetings? If he cannot, does not his own words pronounce it an act of usurpation? To give effect to the last Caucus Nomination, it is unhesitatingly proclaimed that Cacus has uniformly elected our republican chief magistrates, and when the propriety or constitutionality of their proceedings are called in question, their advocates unblushingly avow, that it is a trifling circumstance of almost daily occurrence. Can the *Friend of Truth* believe that the people are to be duped by such a glaring absurdity? Mr. Hayne, of S. C. speaking on this subject in the Senate of the U. S. last session, remarked as follows:

"A President of the United States, uniformly chosen by the National Legislature, would acquire a most dangerous influence over all their deliberations. With an immense patronage in his hands, a President might be able, by feeding the hopes of greedy expectants, to secure his constant re-election. He would have the means of doing so, and to ensure his election would be the motive to exert them. An ambitious aspirant for the Chief Magistracy of this great Republic, might have it in his power not only to secure his election, but to mould the Legislature to his will. With so great a prize at stake, no exertions would be wanting to secure it. Promises, threats, intrigue and corruption, would exhaust their resources, to influence and control the electoral college. But the higher, as well as the baser, motives of human action would be enlisted in the service. Party spirit, personal and political attachments, would combine to influence the decision of the National Legislature in the choice of a Chief Magistrate. Men who would rise superior to naked bribery and corruption, would be hurried on by their passions, and even by honorable ambition, to second the views of their favorites."

The advocates of Congressional Caucusing may say that this picture is too highly colored, but it must be evident to every reflecting mind, that the practice is pregnant with evils which at a future day may not so easily be averted. The pompous parade of a few individuals "who have stood high in the republican ranks," that attended the last Caucus, does not alter its character: it is a self-evident proposition that no man thoroughly knows his own heart; almost every one is enticed or led away by some favorite propensity; ambition, avarice, prejudice, partiality, even the importunity of a friend, and sometimes an unwillingness to appear singular and refractory, have debased the reputation of many a politician till then accounted both honest and capable, and placed him among the well-meaning witnesses of his country's misfortunes. The *Friend of Truth* has treated the claims of Gen. JACKSON in a similar manner: he states that the "Caucus would not nominate Gen. J. believing Mr. CRAWFORD to be better qualified;" and, referring to Gen. J.'s military capacity, asks if there is not a great difference between commanding an army and "managing our foreign relations, our commerce, our fiscal concerns, &c." Gen. Jackson devoted his attention in early life to the profession of the law; his superior talents soon elevated him to the distinguished station of Attorney-General of Tennessee, and he was elected a member of the Convention appointed to draft a Constitution for that state; about twenty-

eight years since he was delegated by his fellow-citizens to represent them in our National Councils; he was subsequently appointed a Senator, Judge of the Supreme Court of Tennessee, Governor of the Floridas, and at present is a U. S. Senator: his services in these important stations pass unnoticed by his opponents, and his defeat in the present contest is anticipated by exhibiting in glowing colors the probable dangers to which the people will be exposed in electing a military chief, and the consequent establishment of a military despotism. The friends of Mr. Crawford boast of his having been a plough-boy and a schoolmaster; what would they say if his opponents were to draw comparisons between furrowing the earth or flogging refractory children, and "managing our foreign relations, &c.?" might they not do so with as much propriety as the opponents of Gen. Jackson, who are constantly representing him as a military despot, whose views are bounded by the discipline of the camp, when in fact he has devoted but four or five years to military duties. Gen. J. is no fairweather politician or summer patriot; in time of peace he is ready to serve his country in the cabinet, in time of war in the field; our public records amply testify that his energy and decision in the field are only equalled by his judgment and integrity in council, and his past services are the best guaranty for the faithful performance of any trust committed to him.



HALL J. F. A.

FRIDAY, OCT. 22, 1824.

*Sporting Intelligence.*—The races over the *New-Hope* course, in this vicinity, will commence on Tuesday the 23d November, instead of Wednesday the 10th, as formerly advertised. The races at *Warrenton* have also been postponed; they will commence on Tuesday 16th November.

*Newspapers.*—The *Warrenton Reporter*, a semi-weekly paper, published at Warrenton, has recently made its appearance—the editor, Mr. M. W. Dunnivant, avows his preference on the Presidential question for Mr. Crawford.

We have also received the first number of the "*Catawba Journal*," published at Charlotte, Mecklenburg county, by Mr. Lemuel Bingham, formerly editor of the *Western Carolinian* and recently of the *Fayetteville Observer*—his editorial address is silent on the Presidential election. We are pleased to observe these indications of increasing liberality and patronage to our profession, by the citizens of this state, and heartily wish our editorial brethren success in their arduous undertaking.

*People's Ticket.*—We are authorised to state, (says the *Raleigh Star*), that Col. *Wm. B. Lockhart*, of Northampton county, a candidate on the Peo-

ple's Ticket, will, if elected, vote for Gen. JACKSON.

*Edward B. Dudley*, another candidate on the same Ticket, has declared that if elected he will vote for Gen. J.

To the Friends of Mr. Jackson:

There is no one who can wish more heartily for the success of General Jackson, than myself. I prefer him, because I believe that he is capable, that he is honest, that he is just, and more identified with the people themselves, than any other candidate: He is emphatically the people's candidate. He is not pushed forward by greedy expectants: no hireling prints are bribed to trumpet forth his praise: It is a movement of the people alone; and their voice, I trust will be heard.

But let the consequences be what they may, I deem it proper, in order to remove false impressions, should any unhappily exist, to declare, that my consent of being placed on the people's ticket, was and still is, solely with the understanding of voting, if elected, for General Jackson as President. I feel myself bound by this understanding; and I rejoice that I have not yet out-lived my old fashioned republican principles, that the representative is bound to obey the voice (or, if you please, the instructions) of his constituents.

Candor and fair dealing with the many highly respectable gentlemen in this district, as well as in other parts of the state, friendly in the first instance to Mr. Adams, demanded this declaration, that it may be distinctly known that no understanding on my part can, does, or ought to exist, to vote for Mr. Adams. I make this declaration at this time, because the crisis seems to call for it, in order to silence and put to shame certain of the opposers of General Jackson, and not of any disrespect to Mr. Adams, or any wish to undervalue his distinguished talents and services. Neither do I do it to provoke an opposition from his friends; for I most fondly hope that they will still continue united with us in the support of the people's ticket. Their known intelligence is, I think, a sufficient guaranty as to the course they will pursue. Their policy appears to be our policy, we cherish the same principles; and we are both the friends to the administration of the present venerable chief magistrate.—Thus embarked in the same political vessel, we should not quarrel about the *Hemlock*—peradventure, during the contest, we might be cast upon the rocks, and thus fall an easy prey to the piratical crew, who appear to be hovering around us. My sentiments with regard to Mr. Adams, are known to most of my acquaintances. But even if he possessed, in my estimation, superior claims to General Jackson, there is, I conceive, something improper in a ticket to be voted for by the friends of both, with any other view than as General Jackson may be preferred by them to Mr. Crawford.

My being placed upon this ticket, was through the solicitations alone of the friends of Jackson in this district. I acknowledge no secret committee, or caucus, at Raleigh or elsewhere. If such exists, or has existed, of the friends of Jackson, I KNOW THEM NOT. My nomination has been confined to the people of the district; to no others do I owe, or am I willing to owe, any allegiance. PETER FORNEY.