



**THE "FREE PRESS,"**

By George Howard,

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Letters addressed to the Editor must be post paid.

*For Presidential Electors.*

**CRAWFORD TICKET.**

*Economy and Free Trade against Prodigality and the Tariff.*

- John Paxton, of Rutherford.
- Mesack Franklin, Surry.
- Robert Williamson, Lincoln.
- James Legrand, Montgomery.
- Abraham Philips, Rockingham.
- Alexander Gray, Randolph.
- Benj. H. Covington, Richmond.
- Thomas Ruffin, Orange.
- Nathaniel Jones, Wake.
- John Hall, Warren.
- George Outlaw, sen. Bertie.
- Charles E. Johnson, Chowan.
- Tho's W. Blackledge, Beaufort.
- John Owen, Bladen.
- Wm. Blackledge, sen. Lenoir.

**PEOPLE'S TICKET.**

*For Gen. Andrew Jackson as President.*

- Gen. Vine Allen, of Craven.
- Josiah Crudup, Esq. Wake.
- James Mebane, Esq. Orange.
- Gen. Ed. B. Dudley, New Hanover.
- Gen. Wm. A. Blount, Beaufort.
- Walter F. Leake, Esq. Richmond.
- Dr. Wm. Martin, Pasquotank.
- Gen. Peter Forney, Lincoln.
- William Drew, Esq. Halifax.
- Col. W. B. Lockhart, Northampton.
- John Giles, Esq. Rowan.
- Gen. Montfort Stokes, Wilkes.
- Augustin H. Shepherd, Stokes.
- John M. Morehead, Esq. Guilford.
- Col. Robert Love, Haywood.

**COMMUNICATIONS.**

FOR THE FREE PRESS.

Mr. Howard:

Among the extraordinary productions which have been called into existence by the Presidential controversy, *Jesse Benton's* pamphlet is certainly entitled to a rank pre-eminently conspicuous. Yes, sir, one of "the intelligent and honest men of Tennessee," despite the pistol, the dagger, and "apparent martyrdom," has declared at this late hour, that Gen. JACKSON "is unfit by temper, talent and disposition," for the exalted station which awaits him. It is not surprising that a personal enemy, a man who has frequently attempted the life of Gen. J. should resort to such a desperate measure to defeat his "projected elevation;" but that those flaming patriots, who some few months past were so feelingly alive to the reputation of our public men, should now give currency to this wonderful production, is assuredly matter of astonishment. But, say they, this is a different case. Mark the difference: A man who had been Governor of a State, Senator in Congress, and then held the appointment of Minister to Mexico, charged a cabinet counsellor, the Head of the Treasury Department, with malfeasance in office; the specifications were to be substantiated or refuted by public documents, the judges were the National Representation in Congress assembled, and the charges were exhibited six or eight

months previous to the election, affording sufficient time for ample justification or condemnation. Now the reverse: a man unknown to fame, save as the brother of a Senator, has congregated in a mighty mass all that history, tradition, report, surmise, and we may add envy and malice, can array against the pretensions of Gen. Jackson; nay even the misconduct of his connexions, his friends, and his partizans, are paraded against him; these, on the eve of the election, are circulated with eager avidity by "intelligent and honest men," some hundreds of miles from the scene of action, where the parties are unknown, and time is not allowed for refutation. But it will not avail; "the people know the truth they will do right;" the fame of Gen. Jackson is interwoven in the history of our country, and his upright administration of our government will doubtless entitle him to the appellation of "first in peace," as his past services have already secured to him those of "first in war, and first in the hearts of his countrymen." Fellow-citizens, read this miraculous statement, for nothing short of a miracle could have so suddenly displayed those hidden imperfections in Gen. Jackson with which this "disgusting detail" abounds: read it, and learn this flattering truth even from Jesse Benton, that "Gen. Jackson is not to be shook by weak and malignant efforts of private enemies." To the enemies of Gen. J. I will remark, that amidst the pleasing anticipations of certain defeat they can console themselves with the reflection that should we "by the appearance of another Caesar in the history of Republics, require yet another Brutus to wind up the scene," they need not despair while Jesse Benton breathes.

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FOR THE FREE PRESS.

Mr. Howard:

No man in this country was ever so maliciously or perseveringly persecuted as Mr. CRAWFORD has been; the combined influence of men who fill exalted stations, their deep intrigue, in connection with the low villany of unprincipled slanderers, threatened him with destruction, but he, conscious of his innocence, anxiously solicited an investigation of the charges of mal-administration in the affairs of the Treasury. Three times he was tried on the same charges, and as many times honorably and satisfactorily acquitted; he thereby has gained superior greatness of character, by passing the ordeal of three of the most rigid scrutinies on the same subject, each time exhorted by malevolent slander to more exact and close investigation. It might before this have been a mere probable case, in common with other men, as to his integrity; but now it is proven to the world, beyond the possibility of a doubt, that he is one of the most honest men and faithful public servants in the world, all the malice of his enemies now recoil on their own heads, while he shines in the blaze of the unsullied glory of his greatness; these envious and

vicious office-hunters pushed their efforts to blast his well-earned reputation so fast that the explosion took place too soon to succeed; they have, happily for him, placed him on the ground of unparalleled honesty. In all this studied slander of his character, he says not a reproachful word of his base persecutors, leaving them to quiet their own guilty consciences in the best way they could. They availed themselves of the period of his affliction to make their most desperate attack, this evinces the unworthiness of every candidate engaged in it, for the high office to which they aspire; there is so much want of sensibility, and generous sympathetic philanthropy, that they cannot in safety be trusted with the high destinies of a nation of freemen; they hoped this circumstance would secure success to them; their unfeeling cruelty has been most happily detected and ably exposed to the world by committees of the Congress of the United States. If he wished to avail himself of detraction, here he is furnished with the means of success. But detraction is too corrupt an employment for his great mind to engage in; he is aware that detraction is the employment of little and corrupt minds only; he had nothing to gain by it, for his greatness was already sufficiently established in the splendor of the utilities of his public life, and that the fame predicated on detraction from other men's characters rested on a rotten and sinking foundation. But his competitors would willingly be in office by even the corruptions of slander, rather than not be in office at all; which evinces their own conscious want of qualifications and merit to entitle them to the office at which they so eagerly grasp. Aware of their inferiority, contrasted with Mr. Crawford, their only hope was in detracting from the high dignity of his character; thus hopelessly circumstanced, they had recourse to the base and ungentlemanly employment of detraction, which to every observing and honest mind is the most conclusive evidence of the entire unworthiness of the office after which they so mightily hunt. Beside the superior talent and transcendent integrity of Mr. Crawford, his frankness of character and plain republican manners, recommend him to every man that really loves truth and understands the simplicity of the constitution, of man and all nature; these features in his character are so immediately opposed to that reserved stiffness which some of the other candidates abound so much in, that compared with him they are in the estimation of sober common sense eclipsed by his familiar agreeable intelligence, both in public and private: such a man only, is the proper person to preside over a republican nation: for a man after the people have conferred on him the highest office they can bestow,—the privilege of having the honor of presiding over them, to hold himself aloof is ungrateful and dangerous to the freedom of the people, and immediately tends to jeopardize their rights and liberty.

Mr. Crawford, the southern candidate opposed to manufacturing monopolies, is the candidate which North-Carolina is bound to support, if she is at all controlled by her interest or local situation, and more particularly so, as the Bill of Rights, a member of her Constitution, says: Art. 23. "perpetuities and monopolies are contrary to the genius of a free state, and ought not to be allowed." She is therefore opposed to all monopolies. The 43d Article of her Constitution says: "the legislature shall regulate entails in such a manner as to prevent perpetuities." The true interest of this state and this nation imperiously calls for his election at the present cloudy political crisis, whether he is elected or not: That the same good old republican administration of Jefferson and Madison, may be handed to future generations unadulterated, that the beauty of democracy may invariably in all future ages be manifested by the people's governing themselves. He is opposed to those monopolies which the good people of North-Carolina deplore as calamities, and have guarded against in their Constitution. As to his being a tariff man, it is a mere farce, as all his reports on that subject sufficiently show: It is true he recommended, for the purpose of replenishing the Treasury, and preventing a recurrence to direct taxes, an increase of duty on some imported articles that could bear it the best, without any intention to exclude them from the country to create monopolies, which instead of increasing the revenue would diminish the receipts into the Treasury, and thereby destroy the very principle for which he recommended the increase of duty. If this was not the fact we should not find Jefferson and Madison his patrons for the Presidency. Their names rouse the recollection of their administrations, and we naturally hope to see them acted over again in the administration of our third Jefferson, W. H. CRAWFORD.

He has been very justly denominated the National Candidate, inasmuch as he frankly and politely withdrew, at the first election of the present incumbent, though their votes of nomination were nearly equal. We think he is also justly denominated the National Candidate by being duly nominated by the members of Congress in the good old republican way, that has given us for our President Jefferson and Madison, under whose administrations the nation has greatly prospered, to the astonishment of the world. And why a caucus nomination should just now become so much more offensive than it has heretofore been, we think no man of common sense can on rational principles say. We are aware that these office-hunters have endeavored to impose the idea on the public mind that "the people" are opposed to Mr. Crawford because he has been nominated in caucus in the ordinary way. But when the people have decided that they disapprove of such nomination, these invidious men will be sufficiently in time, if they then announce to the world that the

people are opposed to the nomination. The truth is, this is only an electioneering trick, the object of which is to inveigle the people to say thus; that they may get into office and power, they have dared to say this for the people. We are at a loss to know how they will ever clear themselves from the reflection of presumption, or the want of candor, the people will not thank them for dictating to them what they must say. The insinuation at once throws the door of suspicion wide open, and exposes the motives of the men, and also shows how little they think of the opinion or decision of the people. If men will take these liberties while they are office-hunting, if they should get the office how will they treat the opinion of the people then? Answer, with contempt. The people see already that they are designing men, for what authority did the people ever give them to say this thing? They elected Jefferson, Madison and Monroe in precisely the same way with the greatest promptitude: nor have they ever given the smallest evidence of their dissatisfaction; nor will we ever believe they disapprove of the ordinary course of concentrating the republican strength of the nation to check the corruptions of faction, until they shall determine so by vote, for we think it extremely ungenerous to think otherwise of the people who have uniformly acted in this way.

As to the unconstitutionality of Caucusing, we are of opinion that these men should have been the last to object on that ground, inasmuch as they know the whole of their political manoeuvring has been conducted by caucusing, and that principally clandestinely too. But, forsooth, now it is unconstitutional, is reiterated in caucus time after time. We are apprised of the fact, that the Constitution of the United States does not enjoin the practice of caucusing, we are also aware that the people have retained to themselves the right of caucusing as much as they please; see the 9th article of the Amendment of the Constitution of the U. S. which says: "The enumeration in the Constitution of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people." The right of the people to assemble together, to deliberate and resolve has not yet been voted away by them to any institution deriving its existence and power from them; indeed they cannot vote this away without making a swift approximation to monarchy. The Members of Congress are a part of the people, and have all rights in common with them, and have retained to themselves the unalienable right to assemble together and entering into resolutions on any subject not prohibited by the Constitution. They are particularly to do so to arrest the progress of faction, so destructive to the peace and happiness of the community, beside it is in opposition to the Declaration of Independence made by our fathers, which was sustained at the expense of their blood and wealth, and we will suffer as much and make as many sacrifices to "retain" as they