

Dr. M. L. Junstall

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## THE "FREE PRESS,"

By George Howard,

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## DOMESTIC.

**Com. Porter.**—The Naval Court Martial has sentenced Com. Porter to be suspended from the service for six months, which sentence has been approved by the President. The Court found the Commodore guilty of all the charges; but in relation to the Foxardo affair, they say, that although he has committed an offence, his conduct proceeded from "an anxious disposition to maintain the honor and advance the interest of the nation and the service." Of the charge of disrespect and insubordination, the following letter formed the most prominent feature:

(COPY.)

Captain Porter has the honor, respectfully, to state to the President of the U. States, that agreeable to the suggestion of the President, he, on the 16th of last month, addressed a letter to the Secretary of the Navy, requesting an investigation of his conduct in relation to the affair of Foxardo, and the charges of Mr. Randall as early as was consistent with the public interests, and on the same day he received what purported to be the Secretary's reply, informing him that the Executive had determined that a court should be formed to examine into the occurrences, as soon as circumstances will permit. Captain Porter consequently waited with patience until the 13th of this month, when, not being able to learn that any steps were taken towards the accomplishment of the Executive will, he again addressed the Secretary in the most urgent but respectful manner, to cause his conduct to be investigated, and allow him, if innocent, to relieve himself from the truly unpleasant situation in which the order for his recall has placed him. No notice has yet been taken of this request, and Captain Porter despairing of justice from any other quarter, begs and intreats that the President of the United States will cause it to be rendered him. April 17, 1825.

**Lieutenant Whitlock,** has been found guilty of sleeping on his post, four several times, and sentenced to be suspended from the service for two years, without pay or emolument.

**Lieutenant Hunter** of the Franklin, was honorably acquitted, and is one of the witnesses in the investigation of the conduct of Comm. Stewart, who is now on trial before the same Court Martial which tried Porter, "for unofficer-like conduct, disobedience of orders, neglect of duty and oppression and cruelty."

Commodore Porter has re-

quested leave of absence during the term of his suspension, but we have not yet learned whether it has been granted.

Warrenton Rep.

### Melancholy Occurrence.

In Currituck county on Wednesday the 3d Aug. while one of those inhuman monsters who is more devoted to Bacchus than Cupid, society is sometimes disturbed, by the name of Ives, was chastising his wife, a man by the name of Taylor came up and begged him to desist. Ives immediately ordered him out of the house, taking up his gun and discharging it at him, the contents passing through one of his hands, nearly or quite taking off his thumb, and through both his thighs.—We have understood that his life is almost despaired of. Ives has been taken and committed to jail.—*Eliz. City Star.*

From the Lexington, Kentucky, Reporter.

**Kentucky.**—We are confident that there cannot be found in the annals of party violence and animosity in this country, a more atrocious act than was committed here the last day of the late election. It was characterized by a deliberate and diabolical malignity, which utterly precludes the excuse, which some seem disposed to make, of trick and thoughtlessness. How many, were the actors in it, is not ascertained, but, we trust will be, and their names held up to the abhorrence and indignation of mankind. That a very considerable number were privy and consenting to it, and so far *particeps criminis* is, however, well known.—but for the act itself. It having been manifest after the second day of the election, that the Constitutional ticket would succeed by a considerable majority, and it being known that a large quantity of liquor was making into toddy and punch, to regale the friends of the successful candidates after the election, as is usual in this country, a scheme was got up, and some agent or agents engaged to procure a large quantity of EMETIC TARTAR (accounts vary from half a pound to two pounds) and infused into the barrels of liquor standing open and exposed. The miscreants completely succeeded—and the lives of from 500 to 1000 citizens were thus jeopardized!—Even at the very moment when the infernal scheme was operating on hundreds and producing nausea, vomiting, and cramp of stomach threatening the most serious consequences, they were enjoying the scene with a pleasure more befitting demons than men.—It is not known that it has yet proved fatal to any one of the great number who partook of the liquor, but many are yet feeling its effects, and it may be considered providential should no deaths occur. We have said that it was premeditated, and we say so, because we are well assured, that a person was employed to calculate as to the probable number of persons who would partake of the liquor, and how many grains might be allowed to each person without producing death! Thus were the lives of

our fellow-citizens placed on a footing with those of the unhappy victims of British Military Despotism, where the Surgeon is made to feel the pulse of the sufferer, from time to time to ascertain how far the torture of flagellation may be carried, without producing death. A course of legal investigation has been instituted to detect the authors of this malicious party trick, and one or two individuals supposed to have been concerned, are in custody, or on bail, and others we understand have absconded.

On the 3d of Aug. last, a Coroner's Inquest was held by Mr. John Murchison, Coroner, on the body of an unknown person, found dead near the house of Thomas Davis, Esq. (Rockfish.) The verdict of the Jury was—died by the visitation of God.—There was nothing found about the person of the deceased, except a bundle of clothes, and twenty-five cents in silver—there were no papers about him that would lead to a discovery of his name.—He was about five feet six inches in height, and apparently 35 years of age.—*Fayetteville Sent.*

**Horrid Murder.**—Daniel B. Shelton, and Merideth Parsons his brother-in law residing near Pittsylvania C. H. returning from Mill on Monday evening the 8th. Aug. had a difference which continued until they arrived on the plantation of Shelton, when Parsons discovering a mattock, applied it to the head of Shelton, which terminated his existence on the 2d day following. The fact being made known, the citizens of the neighborhood "turned out" and in a very few hours had Parsons before the civil authority; he is now safely lodged in jail to await the decision of his country. The prisoner states that he did nothing but what was indispensable to the defence of his own person. The coroner's inquest is "without order."—*Danville Va. Sent.*

**Water melons.**—All those who are desirous of having a touch of the cholera morbus, or of the ague and fever, are recommended to eat plentifully of water melons, which are now brought every day to our doors, and may be had very cheap. For a six-pence, enough may be bought to give two persons a decent kind of dysentery, or a gentle shake of the ague; be careful to select such as have lain longest exposed to the sun. Procure the hardest ones, for the soft ones will only produce a common kind of fever. There is "no mistake" in the above prescriptions; only eat as much as your appetite craves, pull off your coat, and cool yourself in the night air, (which is very grateful) and you may depend upon it, you will not fail of having the cholera morbus, the ague, or the fever, without any doubt as to the character of the disease.

Western Carolinian.

**Horses.**—The Georgetown (South Carolina) Gazette states, that there is a disease among the horses in that neighborhood that proves very fatal. They

are suddenly taken with a stiffness in the legs, then blunder about with their eyes staring wide open, perfectly blind, and in a few minutes drop down dead. A great many have died lately.

**The Creek Treaty.**—The accounts from Georgia are so mingled with the local politics of the contest between Troup and Clark, for the Governor's chair, that it is difficult to extract from them the real state of the affair, as relates to the treaty. It appears, however, that there are 26 chiefs in the Creek nation...that the assent of a majority of them is necessary to bind the nation to the act done...that the late treaty was signed by M'Intosh, and two other chiefs only, and that M'Intosh, aware of the danger he incurred, fled to the Governor of Georgia, for protection against the people he had betrayed...that Gov. Troup sent out his aid, with a "War talk," in defence of the treaty-maker...that the aid returned and reported peace...upon which, M'Intosh ventured home and was put to death by the chiefs...that the Governor of Georgia has recommended an immediate surveying of the land; although, by M'Intosh's treaty, the Indians were to hold the country until 1826. These are the facts, as far as we can gather them from the Georgia publications. Connected with them, we have heard a rumor, and believe it founded on fact, which goes to show the deference paid by the Creeks to the correctness and justice of our distinguished citizen, Gen. Jackson. It is said, that the head chief of the Creek nation, at the will of the council, has written a letter to the General, detailing the circumstances of the negotiation of the treaty, to which the nation was no party, and submitting to his opinion what they ought to do. "If you," says the chief, "say we must go, we will go...but if you do not say we must go, the soldiers of your government can kill us on our land, but their bayonets cannot move us."

**Husband and Wife.**—Among some who have read Blackstone, and more who have not, the ungallant opinion prevails, that a man may chastise his wife, provided the weapon be not thicker than his little finger. For the benefit of the ladies, the information of the gentlemen, and the honor of our land, it should be known, that this is not the law of South-Carolina. There was a decision in their Supreme Court, about 13 years since, pronounced by Judge Wilds, in the dignified sweetness of his noble spirit, in which he proclaimed the law of South-Carolina on the subject, in the following graceful extract from the Honey Moon: "The man who lays his hand upon a woman, Save in the way of kindness, is a wretch, Whom 'twere gross flattery to name a coward."

Raleigh Reg.

**Mr. Clay.**—A letter from Kentucky, states that Mr. Clay,

before he left Lexington, "disposed of every species of property he had, except a farm near town which stood mortgaged for more than it was worth; of course it was left...Every thing else, save that, was sold off for cash, and he has left us, never more, I dare say to return."

Alex. Herald.

We hasten to correct the statement made in our paper of the last week, relative to the apprehension of Col. Boswell, son-in-law of Gov. Desha, at Ripley, Ohio. The editor of the *Castigator*, from whom we derived our information, says in his last number, that the affair between Col. Boswell and Mr. Clark was one of daily occurrence in Kentucky, and was conducted without any violation of the customs of that state;...which, we believe, admit of biting and gouging...that Col. Boswell was not arrested, but departed for Maysville, of his own free will, as soon as it was rumoured that the life of his antagonist was in danger, where he met a fair investigation, and was honorably acquitted. We are left altogether in the dark, as respects the fate of Mr. Clark, but as the contest was maintained according to the etiquette of Kentucky, it is not unreasonable to suppose he may have lost at least one ear and a pair of eyes...[*Chillicothe Times.*]

**Mr. Minge's Slaves.**—We have understood that most of the 87 negroes emancipated by Mr. Minge, were very loth to go to Hayti, preferring to remain in slavery. So far as the lessening of our slave population is a benefit to our country, Mr. M. has contributed his mite; but it is questionable with us whether sending our slaves to Hayti, against their will, is, under all circumstances, strictly consonant to justice, humanity, or sound policy. If they are to be forced into freedom and service of the country without their consent, why not send them to our African colony where there is some hope of their forming in time an independent nation, speaking our language, adopting our religion and laws, and owning a filial attachment to our country. Why send them to Hayti among a strange people, speaking a different language from themselves, among whom, in spite of all that may be said, their condition can be very little better than that of absolute slavery.

Norfolk Herald.

**Masonic.**—At the annual meeting of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Georgia, held in May last, information being received that a certain Royal Arch Mason had been engaged in a duel with another Mason, it was resolved that he be excluded from all the Chapters while in session, under their jurisdiction, under penalty of the forfeiture of their charters. Were all societies to adopt the same course towards any of their members who should be engaged in duelling, it might, perhaps, have a tendency of render less frequent this reproach to a civilized community.