

investigation which you may bestow upon the labors of these gentlemen, may be such as to induce you zealously to prosecute this work. Could these lands generally be reclaimed, the advantages resulting to the farming interest of the State, from the addition of such an immense body of arable lands, would be incalculable. To the benevolent and philanthropic no undertaking could be presented so acceptable as one proposing to diminish the quantum of human misery, by removing a fruitful source of disease, and converting a curse into a blessing. To the Legislator it must be consoling to know, that while he, in this way, prevents the partial depopulation of his State, he is at the same time creating the most ample and permanent provision for the education of the poor of the rising generation. Did the subject hold out no other advantage, this of itself would entitle it to deep attention and untiring exertion. For, upon the education of the generation now growing up, and those that will come after, depends, in a great measure, the continuance in their purity, of our happy forms of government. It is at once the source of public and private respectability, the spring of social and individual happiness. Yet with all the advantages which must incontestably flow from reclaiming the swamp lands and a system of free schools, they are both in danger of failing, from the failure of the provision upon which both were measurably based. In their aid, the last Legislature authorised the Board of Internal Improvements, and the President and Directors of the Literary Fund, respectively, to raise, by way of lottery, \$50,000, and allowed them to sell the privilege. After a fair experiment, it has been found impossible to procure a purchaser. With you it remains to make such other and further provision, as shall seem best calculated to attain objects so desirable. Whether the practice of some States, of granting exclusive privileges to the purchasers of lotteries sold by such States, by totally prohibiting the sale of tickets in any other lottery, would render the privilege offered for sale, by this State, more valuable, or whether any other system can be resorted to, are subjects which may deservedly claim your attention.

In reference to our Judiciary, I hope to be excused in again calling the attention of the Legislature to the present mode of compensating prosecuting officers.—The public interest and the due and impartial administration of justice alike require that the most efficient talents should be secured. This can only be done by offering such compensation as will amply reward the toils and exertions of the officer. To destroy any undue bias, and render the administration of justice in our Courts completely impartial, this compensation should be fixed and certain, and should be paid upon the issue of a verdict, and cannot fail to attract to itself your serious attention.

of the last Gen-

eral Assembly, the Executive was requested to make application to the British government, for liberty to procure such materials as were in their possession, relating to the colonial history of this State. In compliance with this resolution, I addressed a letter to Mr. Gallatin, through the Hon. H. Clay, who, with promptness and that urbanity for which he is distinguished, immediately attended to it, and had the communication forwarded. Mr. Gallatin gave the application his zealous and efficient support. That it was met with great liberality of feeling on the part of the British authorities, will appear from the following extract, taken from Mr. Gallatin's letter, and the correspondence and documents herewith transmitted: "I received, in June last, through the Department of State, a letter from the Governor of N. Carolina, enclosing a resolution of the General Assembly of that State, and requesting me, in conformity therewith, to apply to the British government, for leave to procure copies of such documents, in the public offices here, as relate to the colonial history of North-Carolina. I found, in every quarter, the most liberal disposition on that subject. Not only the leave was granted; but the Board of Trade had an index prepared, of all the records that had reference to the province of North-Carolina, in order that the State might point out those documents of which copies should be wanted, and I now transmit my answer to the Governor, enclosing the index and other papers relative to the subject." In compliance with an act of the last session, "prescribing the mode of surveying and selling the lands lately acquired from the Cherokee Indians," Gen. Thomas Love, of Haywood, and Col. C. D. Donoho, of Caswell, were appointed Commissioners, and Matthew Baird, Esq. of Burke, the Principal Surveyor. The appropriation, made by the Legislature, for this purpose, proved insufficient. From this cause and several defects in the law, after these gentlemen had made considerable progress in the discharge of their several duties, it was found necessary to discontinue their operations and await the determination of your honorable body. The correspondence upon this and a collateral subject, together with the advice of the Council of State, who were consulted, are herewith transmitted, and respectfully submitted to your consideration. In compliance with a resolution of the same session, in reference to the fee simple held by the State in the Tuscarora lands, notice was given in the papers published in this place, that proposals would be received, by the Executive, for the purchase of said right. No proposals have yet been received, either from the lessees of said lands or others. I respectfully refer you to the report of Dr. S. J. Baker, Wm. R. Smith and Wm. Britton, Esqrs. Commissioners appointed by the resolution, to make an appraisal and the survey of the lands, for information on these points.

During the last summer, the unexpected and lamented death of

Col. J. Hawkins, late Comptroller, a faithful and efficient officer, caused me to convene the Council of State, who advised the appointment of Jno. L. Henderson, Esq. of Salisbury. With you it remains to make a permanent appointment.

It has also become my painful duty, to announce to you the death of that excellent and venerable man, John Haywood, Esq. late Treasurer of this State. To attempt to recount his many virtues, would far exceed the limits of this communication. His character was beyond reproach and without a stain—his integrity unquestioned—and his reward, was the unlimited confidence of his fellow-citizens, enjoyed for more than forty years. That North-Carolina had, at the head of her financial department such an individual, was justly her pride and boast. It remains with you to supply the vacancy, which this melancholy event has occasioned.

The resignations of Justices of the Peace and Militia Officers, are herewith transmitted.

In a few days, my constitutional term of service will terminate. Permit me to say, on this occasion, that I shall ever cherish, with lively gratitude, the continued confidence reposed in, and the friendly indulgence exercised towards me, on the part of your honorable body; and to express a hope, that it may, in some degree, have been merited by a faithful and conscientious discharge of the Executive duties. If I have failed in aught, it is ascribable to errors of judgment; for I feel assured of having acted with an "eye single" to the welfare and prosperity of the State. That your exertions may be successfully directed to the best interests of our common country, is the sincere wish of,

Gentlemen yours, with high consideration and respect,

H. G. BURTON.  
Executive Department, N. C.  
21st November, 1827.



### Tarborough,

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1827.

**Political.**—The advocates of the Administration in this State are on the alert—meetings have been held in different places, and preambles and resolutions are multiplying rapidly. A meeting of the citizens of Beaufort county, was held at the Court-house in Washington, on the 21st ult. and resolutions adopted expressing their approbation of the "present wise and virtuous administration," and "the utmost confidence in the talents, integrity, virtue and patriotism of the Hon. Henry Clay"—consequently they "view the election of Gen. Jackson to the Presidency of these U. States, dangerous to the liberties of the people;" because, as the preamble says, he is "an ambitious Military Chieftain, without a single qualification for the office of President." A few months before his death, and since the present "wise and virtuous Administration" assumed the reins of government, Mr. Jefferson, speaking of Gen. Jackson, said that he was "an honest, sincere, firm, clear-headed and strong-minded man, of the soundest political principles;"

and that "it was fortunate for the country that Gen. Jackson was likely to be fit for public life four years after; for it seemed to him to be the *only hope* left of avoiding the dangers" with which we were threatened. Will the people of North-Carolina place greater confidence in the "virtue and patriotism of the Hon. Henry Clay," who first sounded the alarm against the "ambitious Military Chieftain," by declaring that he was "devoid of civil talents," than in that of the Patriarch of Republicanism, the immortal Jefferson? Can the people be persuaded that it would be dangerous to entrust the destinies of this nation, with the man who in the hour of peril exposed his person and pledged his private property in its defence—and at the same time place it in the hands of him, who at that critical period, while far from the scene of danger, could taunt his government with being "feeble and penurious," and say that "half the nation were sold to the enemy by their prejudice and ignorance?" We cannot believe it—the advocates of the Administration calculate too largely on the "prejudice and ignorance" of the people—a single qualification that Gen. Jackson possesses, will outweigh in their estimation the combined talents of Messrs. Adams, Clay & Co.—the political honesty of Gen. J. is unquestioned, and the people begin to think that this inestimable qualification has grown into disrepute at the seat of the General Government; and they look to him as their *only hope* of its assuming its accustomed ascendancy in our national councils.

☞ We were presented a few days since, with a large *Beet*, from the garden of Mr. Figures Philips, in this county, which measured 11 inches in length and 21 in circumference.

On the night of Tuesday last, a cabin on the plantation of F. L. Dancy, Esq. near this place, was consumed by fire, and an aged negro woman burnt in it—the fire is supposed to have originated accidentally.

☞ **Look out for Rogues.**—About a month ago, a man calling himself LITTLETON PRINCE, came to this place with two negro fellows, whom he offered for sale and finally disposed of one of them to Mr. N. H. Rountree, and the other to Mr. L. D. Wilson. On Tuesday last, the negroes were claimed by two young men, as runaways belonging to Mr. John Barham, of Southampton county, Va. and by them lodged in jail. Prince said he was from Sussex county, Va.—he is about 22 years of age, 5 feet 6 or 7 inches high, sallow complexion, light hair, cross eyed, and evidently has "the rascal peeping out his eyes"—he bent his course westward, and it will be well enough perhaps, for the people in that direction to keep a sharp look out.

☞ **Squirrel Hunt.**—On Friday, 16th ult. 20 men of this county, divided into two companies under the direction of Cullin Adams and Edm. G. Hammonds, killed 850 squirrels on that day—Mr. Hammond alone killed 94. On the preceding Friday, 32 men divided into four companies, under the direction of Silas Wilkinson, John Mooring, John Lawrence and Exum Little, killed 1117 squirrels on that day.

☞ **Halifax County Officers.**—At the County Court of Halifax, held last week, Mark H. Pettway, late Sheriff, was elected Clerk of Halifax County Court, in the place of Richard Eppes, deceased—and James Simmons, Postmaster of Halifax, was elected Sheriff, in the place of Mr. Pettway.

We understand that the candidates for the Clerk's Office were, Mark H. Pettway, Samuel Johnson, Edm. B. Freeman and M. T. Ponton—Mr. Pettway was elected on the first ballot, having received about 30 votes. For the Sheriffalty, James Simmons, John Binford, L. H. B. Whitaker, Wm. Wooten and Henry Garrett were candidates—after several ballotings the election terminated by Jas. Simmons receiving 27 votes.