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BY GEORGE HOWARD,

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COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE FREE PRESS.

Mr. Editor: In language sonorous and musical, "Civis" has tendered his congratulations on the political essay which I had the honor of writing, and which was published in the columns of your paper, 14th Aug. and in accordance, with polished etiquette, I reciprocate the generous sentiment, and condole with the public, that the brilliant "Civis" should waste his invaluable time, in writing "so much against the public good"—and will leave him to the "luxury of its indulgence," with the additional felicity of being displeased with himself, for the precipitate manner in which he needed together—

"The color'd folds, that float around his sitting sun,
Like crimson drapery o'er a monarch's throne."

"Mine shall be the more ingenious purpose" of developing to the enlightened citizens of Edgecombe, a faithful exhibit of the high claims Mr. VAN BUREN has to their disapprobation. Previous to the year 1811, he exercised himself in various magical experiments in politics, preparatory to his grand entree on the public theatre, and it is said that his skill in the first rudiments of his science, attracted unbounded admiration, from that portion of politicians, who were ever ready to attach themselves to the fortunes of the successful. In 1811, Mr. Madison acted as President of the United States, a period of gloom and despondency, and which demanded the best virtue and ability, to meet the approaching storm. A declaration of war and British impunity were the general topics of the day—our country was not prepared for the crisis, but rested her hopes on the chivalrous spirit and patriotism of her sons—concert and union in the republican ranks, were indispensable. It was highly important that Mr. Madison should be re-elected—war with its "notes of preparation," resounded throughout the land—"every American, whether his domicile was in the east or the west, in the north or the south," was expected to rally around the "star-spangled banner"—but, ah! the genius of opposition suddenly arose, and held its midnight orgies, chaunting unhallowed requiems, in the land of its nativity. Didaper republicans were seen to glide suddenly and mysteriously from the genuine republican ranks, and join with recreant revelry the flag of disunion—and under this flag, and at this critical juncture, did the old opposition band, in conjunction with the didaper democrats, offer the name of Mr. Clinton in opposition to Mr. Madison, as President of the United States. At this time Mr. Van Buren not only acted as fugleman against Mr. Madison and in favor of Dewitt Clinton, but amused himself in divers mystical tricks, in paralyzing and dividing the country at the very commencement of hostilities. The declaration of war was declared in 1812—it concluded in glory, and Mr. Van Buren became invisible—and when he became visible again, we find him in opposition to Mr. Clinton. In 1824, Mr. Van Buren opposed the election of Gen. Jackson, and was remarkable and indefatigable in defeating the wishes of the people—his political friends participating large-

ly in denouncing Gen. Jackson as eminently disqualified for the office of President—but, oh! funny to relate, he pointed a moral and adorned a tale, by leaving his former friends in the lurch, and rallying around the standard of Gen. Jackson. Is it not evident that the man is seeking for office—does he not twist and turn with every popular breeze? He found Gen. Jackson to be the man of the people, and he suddenly altered his compass and directed his crew to hail for a new port—many like himself who read the air with tariffism, are "birds of passage," on the look out for better quarters. And when Mr. Van Buren becomes President, the "little birds" of the South will flock around the Great Magician, like black birds do our barn yards.

On the 2d Feb. 1827, a bill was introduced into the Senate for the reduction of the duty on imported Salt—5th Feb. the question was taken on the passage of the bill, and Mr. Van Buren voted against a reduction of duty on salt, an article of prime necessity, an article which is daily used by every family in Edgecombe. "Such is one of the evidences" upon which Lowndes "can sustain his broad allegation," "that in supporting Mr. Van Buren we support taxation and restriction, and consequently the very evils we so loudly complain of."

Civis, whose fancy is ever on a cruise, and whose imagination is bespangled with "castles in the air," has advised me to read Mr. Van Buren's "speech at Albany," before I again draw inferences, etc. I have performed that duty, and will subjoin a few extracts which have not been quoted by either of us, by way of illustrating the manner Mr. Van Buren would dispose of his casting vote, provided he was Vice President, and had to decide on any important question, that would affect the farmers of Edgecombe.

He commences his speech, with much art and adroitness, by unfolding the perplexities which he encountered, in convincing himself, that he fulfilled the duties of a Senator in Congress, by leaving his seat, and hastening all the way to Albany, to partake of the grand tariff banquet which was then before him—Mr. Van Buren said:—

"Every American, whether his domicile was in the east or the west, in the north or the south, wish them (i. e. domestic manufactures) success. They were closely connected with the welfare and prosperity of the country, rendering labor productive, creating and diffusing wealth, affording honest, if not lucrative, employment, raising up within ourselves the means of independence, and opening home markets for the production of our agriculture. As such they had been steadily encouraged by the State and the nation almost since the foundation of the Government."

"In regard to it (the question of protection) there is, in this State, with the exception of the portion of the inhabitants of our chief city, and others of more limited extent, no diversity of opinion. The policy of extending a fair and reasonable protection to the domestic industry of the country, through legislative enactments, is and has for many years been, the established sentiment of the State. Upon that subject the gentlemen who had preceded him, he said, made very sensible, and for the most part, judicious remarks; but here, at least, they related to a by-gone question. But as to the extent to which that protection ought to go, and the best means of applying it, we differ among ourselves, and should probably continue to do so as long as there were different interests among us. Upon the general subject, the sentiment of the State now is and long has been in accordance with the acts of the government."

"He knew that the wool growers had not for the time being, a good market for their wool; for he had himself two shearings of no inconsiderable amount on hand. He knew, too, that the farmers had not obtained good prices for their produce, and he could assure them that it should not be any fault of his if they were not obtained; but it was nevertheless true, that the attentive observer could witness every where throughout the State the smiles of prosperity and plenty. Is this, he asked, a picture of imagination, or is it reality; gratifying, consoling, heart-cheering reality. He put it to the knowledge and observation of every man who heard him, whether there was any thing more certain than there is no spot on God's earth more prosperous and happy than the State of New York. If there was a ci-

tizen of the State who doubted it, let him travel, and he will be convinced of his error; and if he can desire to witness a picture of the reverse, let him pass through the Southern States, of which so much has been said; and if he did not return satisfied with the superior prosperity of his own State, he, Mr. Van Buren, would acknowledge his incapacity to judge in this matter."

"His situation in reference to the wool growers' interests was well known to the most of them. He had, at present, invested more than \$20,000 in sheep and farms and which he meant to devote to that business."

Let us see who composed the Baltimore Convention—viz: advocates for and against a latitudinous construction of the Constitution—Hartford Convention men—advocates for and against the Pension law—advocates for and against a National Bank—for and against the Tariff, etc. Such are the materials, and such was the Convention, that has undertaken to rule and govern the nation, and to palm upon the American people a man of high tariff principles. Mr. Van Buren's "Albany speech" was made in 1827, his instructions by the Legislature of New York were given in the winter of the same year—the tariff act became the law of the land in the spring of 1828—why then instruct a man, who could deliver such tariff sentiments as Mr. Van Buren did at Albany, previous to the instructions given him by his Legislature? The fact is, that this was done in order to place the blame with the New York Legislature, and to make himself less odious to the Southern people. Is it not evident that Mr. Van Buren, in placing himself in a situation to be blamed and not to be blamed, was manœuvring for office—the spoils of which would render him the master spirit of the age. Many highly respectable citizens in the State of New York, declare that the nomination of Mr. Van Buren by the Baltimore Convention, will defeat the election of Gen. Jackson. Mr. Clay and his friends consider the nomination in the same light—this is good evidence. Why then shall the partizans of the tariff candidate, continue to support a hopeless cause—divide and embarrass the republican ranks—let them cease then to urge the claims of a man who has no principles in common with the farmers of this county.

One of Mr. Van's friends said, in a letter to a friend, "As to the Vice Presidency, Mr. Van Buren must be the man, no less volens—if not we can never make him President. It is said the Senate will reject his nomination to England—I hope so, for then his election as Vice President, and afterwards President, is rendered morally certain." Admirable! here then we have another clue, another manœuvre, which will account for the proceedings of the Baltimore Convention. He is to be our President it seems—we are then to be governed by a man, who "uttered a roaring philippic," in the State House of New York, in opposition to our second war of independence.

The Missouri question—yes, the stumbling block to the Van Burenites—well, here we have it. Mr. Van Buren was in the Legislature of New York, he voted against the admission of Missouri into the Union—here then we find Mr. Van Buren, contending against the interest of the South. He was also remarkable for his activity in electing the Hon. Rufus King to the Senate of the U. States—another politician, who stood against the Southern States on the same question. So far from regarding Mr. Van Buren's cause identified with the Constitution and the Union, I regard it as dangerous to our liberties and pregnant with anarchy and confusion. That Mr. Van Buren will be rejected by the American people, no unprejudiced politician will deny, which "will furnish another striking and impressive illustration of that wholesome truth," that political inconsistency does not always succeed, when the glitter of self promotion and the spoils of office are the rewards—and to the "factious and designing, will hold out this admo-

dition," that when taxation and restriction are put in operation to render one portion of our country a paradise, and the other a region of misery—where the curfew sits in sullen silence, and joins in a mournful colloquy the pale-faced buzzard—the "very stratagems practised to accomplish" this state of things, will indeed, cause the high sheriff of disunion to "hover around the sanguinary plain," and perhaps make the "phrensied imagination" of "A Jacksonman," stand agast, "wrapped up in the solitude" of his own misconceptions and partizan absurdities.

The politics of Mr. BARBOUR are honest and consistent, devoted to the Union, to the South, and to the rights of man—his career in politics is worthy of the highest eulogy—he has always voted for every measure which had any tendency to support the interest of the South and the dignity of the Republic. The great popularity which he now enjoys in this State, is the offspring of spontaneous homage voluntarily bestowed by the friends of the Union and constitutional liberty. His popularity is not of that slippery kind, which is obtained without merit—it is of that kind which always accompanies virtuous and enlightened principles. The "six plantation" affair, I leave to be corrected and improved by the quizzical genius who in this era of "strange events" has favored the community with so much political drollery, flashes of wit, and acute deductions on the political state of the Union. And before I conclude, I recommend the farmers of Edgecombe to recollect that Mr. Van Buren voted against the reduction of the duty on imported Salt. And sure enough, he cared for nothing in life, save his anxiety to make the farmers of the South pay high for their Salt.

In closing this short sketch of the tariffed career of Mr. Van Buren, I will notice some additional inconsistencies which seem to be stalking through the ranks of the Van Burenites in this district. At a conventional meeting held at Washington, N. C. the proceedings of which may be seen in the Free Press of the 23th Aug. last—Mr. Joseph B. Hinton was called to the Chair and Mr. Devine appointed Secretary. The meeting proceeded to nominate a suitable person as Elector to be placed "upon the ticket now forming in this State, in favor of Andrew Jackson as President and Martin Van Buren as Vice President." Joseph B. Hinton was first put in nomination, but withdrawn. Gen. Wilson was then nominated, and rejected. Gen. Wilson is an "original Jacksonman," and a warm partizan of Mr. Van Buren. Mr. Hinton was again put in nomination and unanimously elected. The politics of Mr. Hinton I know nothing of, but a friend at my elbow informs me, that he is not an "original Jacksonman," but was a friend to Mr. Adams's election. It appears then, friend "Civis," that you have in your ranks some of the "loyal adherents of the fallen house of Quincy." If the "farmers of America are the objects of Mr. Van Buren's admiration," why did he load them with high tariff duties, oppression and other political evils, which come nigh grinding them to the dust. Mr. Barbour is the man of the people—they will elect him in despite of calumny and detraction. LOWNDES.

Savannah, Aug. 21.—We understand that the four negroes in confinement at Lexington, charged with aiding and abetting the horrid outrage, perpetrated by the man Hemby about a month since, were tried last week and found guilty, and two of them have been sentenced to receive 75 lashes, be branded and sent out of the State; the other two to be hanged on the 1st September. Hemby, the white man, will be tried in October. Appling, the sufferer, is slowly recovering.—Georgian.