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BY GEORGE HOWARD.

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Communications.

FOR THE FREE PRESS.

Mr. Howard: Our county elections are now over, consequently my remarks can have no effect upon them, therefore by your kind indulgence I will now offer them to the public without fear or affection; though like an ignorant preacher I once heard, what I cannot do by good sound logic I will make up by apologies. I know I am quite an inadequate delineator of circumstances and events, but the simple truth is easily told and I do intend to speak it right out, although a strange commodity to be found in a public newspaper. We certainly live at a strange era, and I very much fear we are fast dwindling into ruin and insignificance; it has come to this, that we must all profess one and the same political sentiments—and those too must be on the side of power. What kind of a government is this? I answer one of tyranny and usurpation, nothing better or worse than a monarchical government. Rest assured it is essential that all governments should have a check, and where there is no dissenting voice among the people, there is no control over their public functionaries; they seize right hold of the reins of government and direct public matters to suit their own ambitious and personal views, and no one dare say yea or nay. I have often been much amused, and at the same time a little vexed, at seeing the fondness and convenience with which men can attach themselves to the strong party. I recollect distinctly, when Gen. Jackson was first a candidate for the Presidency—there were some one or two score of men of my acquaintance, who rallied out against him as being unfit for a town constable, and called him every thing but a clever fellow, and at the first and second election actually voted against him—but he finally succeeded. Those same men set right about to get on the popular side, they kept inclining up by degrees until they got sufficiently near, and they brought a spring-frog's leap and went clear over into the Jackson ranks, to the complete prostitution of every political principle they had previously avowed. Ever since they have been the most open-mouthed, noisy Jackson men in the whole country, from teeth outwards—but their real principle at heart remains in statu quo. Tell them about it now, and they will say the old hero deceived them completely; he no doubt did, for he got elected when they thought he stood no possible chance. And dispute the purity of their Jacksonism, and they will bustle up to you with all the fury of a porcupine. The old gentleman has become to be the most complete pack horse I ever saw, he has to bear the burthens of both friends and foes; in fact it's a difficult matter to designate the one from the other, there are so many who for the mere sake of being on the strong side, will profess Jacksonism, when in reality there is no telling what they are. I have voted for him three times, and am still a moderate Jackson man; though I do believe he has usurped powers, as well in the cabinet as in the field of battle. He has been charged with this by the most profound jurists of the country; but I believe the one

to be excusable whilst the other is not so. Yet I would again vote for Gen. Jackson in preference to a number of others, although unlike many others, I can see and will condemn a fault in my friend as soon as though he was my enemy. I never become so fondly attached to any man as to believe he can do no wrong. I would sooner be found with a piece of cold bread in my hands, and hold on with the grin of death to any little honest party which is contending for principle and justice, than to sacrifice my honest and real principles in order to be on the side of power. This is an extensive game at the present day.

And even in our county, if any man starts as a candidate for any thing, the first enquiry about him is, whether he is a Jackson, Hall, and anti-internal improvement man; and whether or not, understanding things as he does, sings out, O yes, I am all that and more too if necessary, knowing it to be the surest passport to success. But I would like to ask a few simple questions—who took more pleasure in voting against Gen. Jackson, at the ballot box and in the House of Representatives in the first election, than did Dr. Hall? Did he not rejoice at the election of Jno. Q. Adams in the House? though he preferred Wm. H. Crawford to either Jackson or Adams. But Jackson came last with him, and now he is a first rate Jackson man. And I attribute his anti-internal improvement principles as being partially the cause of defeating the grand project of the Tarborough and Hamilton rail road, which was undoubtedly a scheme of vast importance to the farmers and merchants of Edgecombe, and in fact all others who are at all contiguous to the contemplated route. Had he have sanctioned it, the greater part of the stock would doubtless have been taken in Edgecombe; but knowing he was opposed to every thing of the kind, the tocsin of alarm was raised and went like chaff before a strong breeze—which principle has been instrumental in keeping the State of North Carolina in the rear of every other State in the Union. And her citizens are fully aware of her low standing with the citizens of other States, and whenever they go from this to any other State, and are interrogated as to where they are from, they sing out in a loud tone, old Virginia, sir—actually ashamed to own the land of their nativity. I myself am opposed to internal improvements when carried on by the General or State governments—for it is impossible for any plan to be devised to bear on all equally—but where individuals think proper to undertake it, I say throw no obstacles in their way. These remarks are not the result of any hostile or unfriendly feelings towards Gen. Jackson or Dr. Hall, but merely to show what a set of political weather-cocks infest the country at the present day. I do really fear there is but little political honesty in the country. The present crisis warns every patriot of the country to throw off his garb of indifference and mount the watch-tower of liberty, without regard to men or party.

CONSISTENCY.

FOR THE FREE PRESS.

AN ENIGMA.

I am a curious and desperate character. I am a part of the depravity and downfall of man. My space is unlimited, and I am an enemy to all fools; therefore for the benefit of succeeding generations, I will endeavour if possible to epitomise my characteristic habitation, and existence. I was in heaven among the angels before the world was created. When the Deity spoke this world into existence, I came from heaven and was with Adam in the garden of Eden. I was with Cain and assisted in the cultivation of his farm, and accompanied Abel among his flocks. I saw Noah and

was with him 1656 years after the world was created; when he entered his ark, in consequence of the universal Deluge I fled to Uranus, the remotest planet in the solar system. I then went to Mars and found its inhabitants extremely hospitable. I was in Babylon when idolatry was introduced by worshipping the image of Belus as a God, by order of his son. I did not believe in such base religion; neither have I any thing to do with Baptism, nor Methodism, but am strongly inclined to Universalism. I have been in North Carolina ever since her independence was declared. I have taken up my residence in Tarboro' and am pleased with the Ladies, and they of right should be pleased with me—I have no doubt but they will be; but the men I have nothing to do with. I have struggled hard since I came to Tarboro' for one of my friends in an office of high trust and have finally got him elected, in defiance of the combined forces. I shall now deem it my duty never to desert him. I am surprised to see vain mortals contend against me, as I am so old and cunning. After I tell them of my extensive knowledge they will cease to oppose me. I have been intimate with Atlas one of the most eminent astronomers, celebrated in the fabulous poems of the Greeks, on account of his great skill in astronomy: he is reported to have sustained heaven upon his shoulders, and gave name to Atlas, a mountain in Mauritania. I was with the Israelites when they passed the Red Sea into the deserts of Arabia. I was at Sinai when the law was handed unto Moses. I was very intimate with Aaron when he was consecrated High Priest. I was with the Israelites when their number being taken at Jordan, was above 600,000 among whom there was not one of those who had come out of Egypt except Joshua and Caleb. Joshua was my pupil when he was appointed successor to Moses. I was with him when he miraculously exsiccated the river of Jordan and brought over the Israelites; when he overturned the walls of the city Jericho: when he destroyed the Amorites: when he commanded the sun to stand still for the space of twenty-four hours, I checked him, told him he was wrong and knew nothing of the solar system. I stood by him till he had conquered thirty kings and all the nations of Palestine; I went with him to settle the Israelites in the country promised to their ancestors, in the year of the world 2560, and before the birth of Christ 1444. I have been well acquainted with Darius, who caused his fifty sons-in-law to be murdered by his daughters who were of like number, that he might be master of Egypt. I was with Abimelech, son of Gideon, when he usurped the sovereignty of the Hebrews by murdering his brothers, who were seventy in number; he was slain by a woman with a piece of mill stone as he was setting fire to the town of Thebes. I was with a part of the Argonauts when they built the ship Argo and sailed from Thessalia to Troas under the command of Jason; moreover I was with them whilst they were at Troy; also when Hercules delivered Hesione, the daughter of Laomedon king of Troy, from a sea monster to which she had been exposed. I was with the Amazons who were women, natives of Scythia when from losing their husbands in war, took up arms assuming at the same time a masculine intrepidity possessed themselves of the Lesser Asia and built Ephesus. I belong to every department in the government of the United States, am part of the administration of General Jackson and shall continue to be the principal agent of the government until it is subverted. I shall be in North America till time shall be no more: and expect to be with Gabriel when he shall put one foot upon the sea and the other upon the land and declare by Him that liveth forever, that time shall be no more.

At the instance of the Mississippi and Atlantic Rail Road Company, the Secretary of War has sent Col. Long, of the U. S. Civil Engineers, to examine into and report upon the practicability of a rail road from Memphis, on the Mississippi, to Charleston, S. C. A part of the country which has been already examined, is said to be quite favorable for the construction of the work in question. *Balt. Amer.*

Fugitive Slaves.—An important decision has been made in the Superior Court of New York city, defining the rights of slave owners, to recover fugitive slaves, and the manner of exercise.—The rules established rest on the constitution of the United States which directs that slaves "escaping into another State, shall not be thereby discharged from slavery; but shall be delivered upon claim of the owner;" and the law of Congress, providing for the arrest of a slave by the owner or agent, and directing that he shall be taken before a magistrate, and upon "proof to the satisfaction of the magistrate" shall be delivered over to the owner or agent.

The revised statutes of New York added another course of proceeding, allowing the slave to sue out a writ *de homine reptegiendo*, the effect of which was to suspend the operation of the magistrate's decision, and submit the master's title to issue in a court of common law;—thus substituting a State process, for that directed by the act of Congress.

In a late case, the Superior Court of the city New York has decided the State act, allowing this writ, to be "unconstitutional and void," on the ground that the State legislature could not prescribe another mode of ascertaining the title of the master than that directed in the act of Congress.—*ib.*

Extraordinary Hail.—The Hagerstown (Md.) Torch Light, of Thursday, says, "Hail fell in some parts of this county on Monday last, of an extraordinary size. We have been assured that, in the neighborhood of Baker's Cross Roads, some of the hail stones weighed one pound, and many measured from 104 to 12 inches in circumference.

Cholera in Beaver, Pa.—From the Beaver Argus we learn that two or three cases of cholera have lately occurred in that vicinity. A Mrs. Bracy, of Philipsburg, died the forepart of last week, and a Mrs. Venatta, of Moon township, on the 20th inst. The circumstances attending the last case, are remarkable. On the Thursday preceding, Mrs. V. observed a bundle floating in the river, and insisted, against the entreaties of her friends, on going in after it, which she did, and with the assistance of a relative of the name of Day, finally brought it ashore. On opening it, it was found to contain a mattress and bedding, a number of towels, handkerchiefs, &c.—In the centre was a small board, a foot and a half square, on which were inscribed the words "*Cholera—Beware.*" Notwithstanding this admonition, the woman was determined to hold to her prize; and after plunging the articles in the river a few times, spread them on the shore. On Saturday night she was attacked, with every symptom of the Cholera, and on the next day, before medical assistance was obtained, she was a corpse.

Fatal Accident.—On the 24th ult., as several persons were hunting for deer in Cabarrus county, the gun of John F. Barnhart was accidentally discharged, and its contents entering the body of his uncle, Jacob Barnhart, killed him instantaneously.—*Ral. Star.*

The life of Col. Crockett, written by himself, has been re-published in London.