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COMMUNICATIONS.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE STAR. No. III.

"Give me the man whose liberal mind Means general good to all mankind."

Gentlemen,—In advertising again to the presidential election, it disgusts me to see gentlemen (whose talents, I may say, are prostituted in a cause, the issue and inefficacy of which they are conscious of) maintain, with such determined obstinacy, and attempt to revive, with such puerile arguments, the last expiring remains of Wm. H. Crawford's claims upon our state. They have come forward, and challenged those that do not look with so favorable an eye upon their favorite, to produce a single argument why he should not be the next President; and, in the mean time, have asserted that the qualifications necessary for that office are such, as the enlightened citizens of our state know Mr. Crawford does not possess. "That he is second in peace and second in war," every citizen of our country knows to be the contrary; but that he is second in the hearts of his two fellow citizens and able supporters, we all acknowledge to be the fact. But, it appears, that they have never wished to know whether the abilities of Mr. Crawford entitle him to the presidential chair: they have merely asserted that he is "well deserving of his country" for his great labor in its behalf. He has been minister to France, for which he was very well paid; Secretary of the Treasury Department, for which he has received a handsome salary; but has neglected to tender one farthing to the man who extricated him from almost insurmountable difficulties, viz. John C. Calhoun. Mr. Crawford has been to Europe—has seen the pageantry and useless pomp of kings; and, therefore, deems three millions of dollars a mere flea-bite upon our country's pocket.—He is excusable—he is sufficiently acquainted with the state of our Treasury, and is determined to follow the old maxim, Dum vivimus, vivamus. Under his administration, the fond hopes of foreigners will be realized: our hardy sons will move in the fashionable circles of Europe; and the French etiquette will be the highest pinnacle to which our ambition will soar. This is the "ignis fatuus" which has captivated the Editors of the Register, and taught them almost to say, "When shall we look upon his like again?"

But let us turn to the disciple of Jefferson, the high priest of republicanism, John C. Calhoun, Esq. his country's favorite and his country's friend. Mr. Calhoun, amidst the storms of dissension and political intrigue, has stood as firm as the pillar upon which rests the ark of our national safety. No blemish has stained his character: neither has the virulent invectives, which have been showered upon him through enmity, been able to make the least impression upon his unsullied reputation. From his youth he has been before the public: he has been placed in a situation which subjected his conduct to the scrutiny of every person, and none have found the least fault. Why, then, should he not be the next President? He is too young! say our opponents: "Let Mr. Crawford take the chair, and then, in due time, there will be a vacancy for him. Our country has hitherto been governed by the wise and sage men of the nation." I would now ask them, if they can have the conscience to place Mr. Crawford among the authors and fathers of our independence, who alone are surpassed by those Roman senators who resolved not to outlive the destruction of their city. When party spirit raged with all its malignant fury; when that federal compact, which was deemed to be as firm and inseparable as the rock around and upon which the billows may beat and the lightnings of heaven descend in vain, we beheld Mr. Calhoun firm and immutable to the principles which he professed. In the hour when adversity hovers over our land—we see him its true and firm supporter, acceding with cheerfulness to that requisition which he deemed would promote its interest. I allude to the time when the subject of the embargo was discussed with so much warmth and ingenuity in the great national council of our country. Does not his conduct here shew the mighty powers of his genius? But

we go still further, and perceive, in the minutest particular of his well spent life, the same constant and undeviating being. When the overbearing power of Britain threatened, with one mighty blow, to sweep us from the earth, and our inequality in the contest suggested to us the idea of employing foreigners in our service, who was the man that stood conspicuous in the polemical war that ensued? I answer, John C. Calhoun. Yet, notwithstanding he has been so useful to his country—notwithstanding he has come forward as its defender—his virtues, his honor and his usefulness are lost in the paltry consideration that he is too young. But, as this has been the only obstacle of any importance which his opponents have thrown into his path, we would ask them, To what age must man arrive at before he can indulge the fond hope of enjoying so distinguished an honor? The answer is too obvious to need mention. Mr. Calhoun has nearly attained his fortieth year, and, therefore, their scruples upon this point can no longer be a plea for their arrogance. A writer in the Washington Republican, a journal which has received the approbation and well wishes of the generality of our enlightened fellow-citizens, among his enumeration of "presidential qualifications," produces one which every man of common sense knows to be necessary and expedient, viz. "a firm and inflexible adherence to the policy of the administration." Now, I would ask the "firm and able supporters" of Mr. Crawford, whether the past life of their "Mentor" has evinced a strict adherence to the above qualification? Whether the tenor of this gentleman's life has not exhibited a scene of fickleness and inconsistency? Whether he has not been the pretended dupe of party spirit? Or, plainly, whether he has not twisted and changed sides from motives of self interest, and preferred his own aggrandizement to that of his country? In enumerating the reasons why this gentleman should not occupy the presidential chair, I might almost say that he has forfeited his claim to the department which he now occupies. He has disregarded the mandate of those whose duty it is to watch over the interests of our country. He has refused to act in conformity to a resolution, which received the requisite sanction, respecting the internal improvement of our country.

Notwithstanding such is an outline of the conduct of Mr. Crawford, still there are gentlemen who wish him to take possession of the ark, in which our liberties, our existence as a nation, and our all, are contained. We must certainly be led to believe that these gentlemen are reasoning ex absurdo, as they have evinced a "noble disquisition" in the mathematical department. But, as they have cast their glove upon the arena, and appeared as the champions of their "western luminary." I would retort, and, in turn, challenge them to shew a foul speck upon the character of Mr. Calhoun, or one instance which, instead of exposing his incompetency, did not make us entertain a higher sense of his abilities. As Secretary of War, we can say, with perfect consciousness, that he stands unrivalled; his wonderful sagacity and keen discernment, particularly in his official capacity, justly entitle him to the gratitude and support of his fellow-citizens.

I would again call upon those who have shivered their lances against the cause of Mr. Calhoun, to tell their countrymen, (for it becomes their duty) whether the conduct of this gentleman, through the long course of his political career, can justify them in saying

Were man But constant, he were perfect—that one error Fills him with faults.

But turning from the defensive, we will again become the aggressors, and ask, who was it that forfeited the good opinion which he ought to have entertained of himself, exclusively of that of the world? Who was it, when the two great factions agitated our political world, proved so inconstant and forgot that

The purest treasure mortal times afford Is—Spotless reputation; that away, Men are but gilded loam, or painted clay!

It was William H. Crawford, a man, "like a good apple, rotten at the heart." But it is with pleasing anticipation that we see our state, which had hitherto been, from its infancy, in the horn book of literature, comparatively speaking, about to dissipate the mist: For be it known to the lovers of science, that the Editors of the Raleigh Register are about to reduce the presidential election to a system of chemistry. But, since we have not attained that perfection and expedition, for which our northern neighbors are so much celebrated, they will issue the work in small numbers; the first of which (conscious of their superiority, and disregarding the pre-

scribed form) will contain a dissertation ON MUTABILITY. This shews us the instability of fortune—but a week ago, and the name of our state did not exist on the catalogue of literature. But, now, her sudden elevation has obliterated the remembrance of her former deficiency. We, from the commencement of the paper war which has ensued thought it strange that these gentlemen, who professed themselves the advocates of Mr. Crawford's cause, should merely cast a few missiles, and, on the approach of danger, retire to their nook. But the mystery is now cleared up, and they are determined, with one powerful blow, to silence our "feeble battery."

We now come to answer the remarks of the Editor of the Hillsborough Recorder, if they can be said to merit it. He has commenced his attack with a malignity, which, from his empty declamation about illiberality of sentiment, one would suppose he did not possess. He has disposed of, with unsparing hand, the epithets of traitor, incendiary, &c. but is not he rather the traitor, who, forsaking the interests of his own state, has enlisted himself under the banners of John Q. Adams, a man whose sentiments, I again repeat, are too different from our own. But this is not the only reason why Mr. Adams should not have the preference to the presidential chair; for there are some of the other candidates who are as well qualified, having been firm and inflexible in their politics, and equal in point of talent. I appeal to the good sense of the people, if it is not probable that Mr. Adams has not at least some tincture of the principles of his father. Look through the world, and you will generally—nay, almost universally find it to be the case. The reason is obvious—we are, by nature, prompted to respect the opinions of the authors of our existence. This is the case with Mr. Adams, into whose youthful bosom his father, the head of the Federal party, instilled his principles, when they have ever since been cherished. Let us, therefore, support some other man, with our united voice, of unshaken and even unsuspected principles. If we do not this, we have reason to fear the downfall of the fabric which the united efforts of Mr. Jefferson, and others of our worthies, have erected with so much labour and care. The Recorder has recommended to us to review the ground which we have taken; as he is convinced that we will abjure such "illiberal sentiments." But we can assure the gentleman, that, having founded our conviction on the interest of our fellow-citizens, and desiring to maintain unimpaired the fair fabric of Republicanism, he may puff and blow as much as he thinks proper; for he will find it to no purpose. He may pour fourth his vain invectives, and he will find no impression; for we are armed so strong in the cause of our country, they pass by us as the idle wind which we regard not. But should this unexpected lion again bristle up his mane, and attempt to carry "vi et armis" his favorite point, we will load the aerial pop gun with fulminatory powder—and blast him off the catalogue. The interests of our nation have been the avowed object of every one who has appeared for the man of our choice; but the interests of individuals should not dare to be put in competition with that of our country. It has been shewn, we deem satisfactorily, that Mr. Calhoun is the man whom the "vox populi" would ad will place in the presidential chair; and we think, therefore, that a further discussion and inquiry of the merits and demerits of each unnecessary. But, for the consolation of those who are in doubt which to support, we will give them this to ponder upon: That if Mr. Crawford had acted as a man whose views are directed to the presidential chair, many of our poor fellow-citizens who now "sleep the damp and cold sleep of death," and who were brought to an untimely end by the tomahawk and scalping-knife, would now have flourished—some in the bloom of youth, and others would have lingered out thirld age in peace and security. But, remissness in business has been a prominent fault even in his private character, and our nation, through the misconduct of one man, has suffered wrongs and injuries which time can never repair. These are facts which, although lamentable in their nature, yet they are such as his advocates cannot deny, without the blush of falsehood. Mr. Calhoun is the man, whose sage council and advice, if they had been attended to would have spared us the pain of hearing so disastrous a tale as the murder of our defenceless fellow-citizens.

Turn him to any cause of policy, The Gordian knot of it he will unloose Familiar as his garter. Shakespeare.

The claims of another of the candidates will be considered in our next. OILAND.

In the printing line. [Voice of the people.]

FOR THE STAR.

Messrs. Editors,—I am concerned to see that you and my much esteemed friends "the Editors of the Register," differ so widely on the subject of the presidential election; but in an honest difference of opinion surely there can be no crime. If, therefore, "the Editors of the Register," on a mature and impartial consideration of the subject, prefer and advocate the cause of Mr. Crawford for the Presidency, I am perfectly willing they should enjoy their opinion; nor ought they, in an expression of it in a temperate and dignified sort, to be either reprehended or ridiculed; but when they say "that no other candidate can be placed in competition with Mr. Crawford," they hazard a great deal; and it must be conceded such a declaration is rather extravagant and borders on the immoderate. If they throw the gauntlet, they must expect contention; and, accordingly, in your paper of the 29th ult. as well as your spirited and masterly retort, I perceive an able and interesting article from the pen of your correspondent "CAROLINA," who lashes, with no sparing hand, the political principles and conduct of Mr. Crawford, and, to my mind, not only refutes all the sophistical arguments urged in his favor by Messrs. Gales & Son, but completely establishes the fact of his having once been, if not now, a rank Federalist.

Before I read the paper to which this communication refers, I, nor had any of my neighbors made up our minds for which of the Presidential candidates we should vote; and this, in part, confirms the statement of you and your correspondent; and, as a further proof that the presidential election was not made a question in our county, I and a good many of my neighbors actually supported the successful Congressional candidate, who, we have since understood, is in favor of Mr. Crawford; but this we should not have done had the character of the latter gentleman been sooner made a subject of public discussion; for I must own, I have no great liking for any man who bears the name of Radical. I don't even like the sound, much less the character annexed to it. It seems rather suspicious—I am afraid it is Federalism under disguise.

It is true, in a conversation on the subject of the presidential election, several months ago, with this same gentleman, who had just then returned from Congress, he expressed himself in favor of Mr. Crawford; but, after this, I never thought of it, taking it as a matter of course that the best and most suitable man would be selected, from whatever part of the country he might be started; and even if I had, it is perfectly natural to suppose I should have been greatly influenced, in my choice, by that of our representative in Congress, as he certainly possessed advantages of being better acquainted with the character and merits of the respective candidates, than one of my humble means of information.

Now, although I take the newspapers, and have lately seen communications from your correspondents in favor of Messrs. Adams, Calhoun and Crawford, yet never until reading your interesting number of the 29th August, did I finally determine for whom I would vote.—My mind is now firmly decided, and I am unwilling to support any electoral ticket in favor of Wm. H. Crawford; for if he be the character portrayed in such odious colours by "Carolina," if his principles be so fluctuating and uncertain, and his political views of the policy of our government, be so strangely perverted, he is, in my view, entirely unfit to be the President of these United States. What! to have a man possessing no fixed principles, and who is said to be a Federalist, a Radical, an Intriguer, as President? No! I, for one, will never consent to it; and I am determined henceforward, as long as I can command ink and paper, to dedicate to your pages the effusions of my old grey goose-quill, in favor of the man of my choice, JOHN C. CALHOUN, Esq. In the refined circles, and polished understandings of the citizens of your town I do not expect, in my blunt and uncouth style, to have many readers; but in the country, (and particularly my neighborhood,) where fare of a more ordinary nature best suits their intellectual appetites, I think my reflections will meet with pretty general approbation. I have several times observed in print the word Radical, but never, until seeing your definition of it, could I precisely ascertain what it meant. It means then, as I understand from you, that we have in this country a set of designing politicians, and Mr. Crawford at their head, who wish to dismantle our gallant little navy; reduce our small, but veteran army to a mere skeleton; pull down our military academy; put a stop to our fortifications and internal improvements; and all for the sake of economy; or rather they pretend to

economy, with the view of gaining popularity, when it is sufficiently evident they care nothing about it, so they can succeed in placing the Radical candidate in the presidential chair. That is, they are in favor of prostrating every thing that can protect us in the event of war. But if we listen to the Editors of the Register, "and elect Mr. Crawford, as he will never involve his country in war," we shall need no means of defence. Surely, surely, Messrs. Editors, the good people of these United States will not be thus duped into measures at war with our very existence, as a nation, by these designing politicians; for if we desist our means of defence, do we not at once invite aggression?

Let us not listen to such fatal delusion, but let us harken to the advice of PARE FOR WAR IN TIME OF PEACE.— Let us then gradually go on to "increase our navy, add to our army, strengthen our fortifications, endow one or two more military academies on some of our western waters, and to continue, without intermission, the good work of internal improvements. Now is the accepted time, and now is the auspicious period of our political salvation, as a great and independent nation; but who knows how long we can boast of our freedom, if we listen to, and pursue the policy of these intriguing Radicals? For, in the present treacherous European conflict between liberty and despotism, who can forget but that, if the latter succeed in their nefarious designs, that ours, being the only free government on earth, may not next be the object of revenge and desolation? Let us then be ever vigilant, and scrutinize, with a close eye, every inroad upon our national defence; and, in time, completely frustrate the designs of these radicals, in the election of some candidate who stands above suspicion, "and such a man, or I mistake his character," is the Honorable JOHN C. CALHOUN.

A PLAIN FARMER. Mecklenburg, Sept. 8.

POLITICAL.

From the Washington Republican. Protection of the North-Western Frontier.

We have beheld, with those feelings of distress which are common to every American citizen, the recent massacres and losses which have befallen our traders on the Missouri river. We know full well that this is the natural result of that waggardly policy which withholds the means of affording to this enterprising class of our citizens the necessary protection. But we consoled ourselves with the belief that these disasters would convince the most incredulous of the propriety of establishing military posts high up that river, and which was originally intended for the protection of our traders.—Looking only to the protection of the future, we felt not the slightest disposition to criminate—feeling much more solicitude that protection should be ultimately afforded, than to expose the narrow and contracted views of those by whose efforts it has been heretofore withheld. But guilt cannot be silent—And we accordingly find that the Secretary of the Treasury, who is perfectly conscious that it was principally through his efforts that the establishment of the post at the Mandan Village was defeated, (and consequently is the real cause of those disasters,) has attempted, in his organ of the 25th inst. the Washington Gazette, a justification; and endeavours, in his attempt to screen himself from merited censure, to throw the blame on others. A course so disingenuous compels us to break the silence which we had prescribed; and to place the censure where it ought to rest.

It is well known that after the experience of the late war, the attention of the government was strongly directed to the protection of our North-Western Frontier; and to prevent the introduction of foreign influence among the Indians residing within our limits. Shortly after the present Secretary of War came into office, he projected, under the sanction of president, a line of posts in that quarter, which was intended to give ample security to that portion of our country, and protection and extension to our valuable fur trade, carried on at the sources of the Missouri. With this view, and with the forecast which is so characteristic of him, the Secretary of War took measures to occupy posts at the Sioux of St. Mary's between Lake Superior and Lake Huron; at the mouth of the St. Peters on the Mississippi; at the Council Bluffs; and Mandan Village on the Missouri. These posts, with the exception of the last, were all established. But before the last could be occupied, a party arose in Congress under the patronage of the Secretary of the Treasury, and directly hostile to the views of the administration. (See 4th page.)