

## No 43.

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### THE PRESIDENCY. THE FOUR LETTERS.

From the Richmond Enquirer. The friends of Mr. Crawford are indeed ve ry active in supporting his pretensions to the Presidential chair. In doing this, if they would confine themselves to firsts and not overleap the bounds of decency, there cerwould be no ground for complaint.-But determined to carry their point at any rate, they throw down the gauntlet of defiance, and pour out the most indecorous strains against those who will not believe in the infallibility of their favorite. A cause supported by such desperate means must ultimately fail, as the people of this state are not of a character to be forced into measures in opponition to their wishes and inclination. Every active that comes into the columns of a news-paper in favor of Mr. Crawford, deems himsolf at liberty to insult and abuse those whose co mons are not in unison with his own. This de deportment has too generally marked the friends of the Secretary. Time and eyents will no doubt correct this habit and produce a more liberal way of thinking.

Let the reader cast his eye for a moment over the four letters addressed to the people of the United States by a fellow-citizen, which have lately appeared in the Enquirer. These letters were pompoisly introduced to the public, and we were led to believe, from the parade which the author made about candor ad impartiality, that his labours at least in some measure would have partaken of those But how disappointed have we Like all the other writers who have qualities. been. figured for Mr. Crawford, he has indulged himself in empty declamation and personal His battery is principally directed against Governor Clark of Georgia. Such a torrent of low abuse I never before have read or seeu in any quarter. There is one fact, however, with respect to General Clark, hich appears to stagger this writer. He is aware that the present elevation of that genfleman to the highest office in his state, is a circumstance that must create doubt in the public mind with respect to the correctness of the character he has drawn of him. He therefore exhausts his ingenuity in endeavoring to escape the dilemma to which that weighty fact reduces him. After ransacking his brain to account for that distinguished honor which Georgia has conferred on him, he ridiculously and absurdly ascribes it to "a apricious *pity* growing out of his disgraces??" had met with honor and office from such a source. This wonderful discovery exclusively belongs to the author of the four letters. Any comment upon it is entirely unnecessary The public will yield that portion of credit to it to which the novelty of such a phenomenon is justly entitled. After abusing all the printers for I take the writer to be a wn state Georgian, who is opposed to Mr. Crawford, he flies to Washington and then pounces upon the Washington Republican. He then turns upon Pendleton and Wythe and wages a terrible war against them for daring to exercise the right of delivering their sentiments in re-lation to Mr. Crawford. We lament that this letter writer with his cast of mind and energy of intellect, should thus suffer himself to be betrayed into such a cant of abusive and gross personality. It will add nothing to his reputation as a writer nor cast any lustre on the cause of Mr. Crawford. We have noticed what wonderfal pains have been taken to give these letters general circulation. We have seen them republished in other prints by request; and they have been called able, &c. All this management and address will not avail. The people will indge for themselves. They will not be led away by the glitter of words or the melody and har mony of periods. A thing that is intrinsically defective can never receive any aid or support from fulsome puffs or other false means of colouging. The rays of truth will soon dissipate a mist like this. I have read over those four letters addressed to the people of the United States. And I have been really at a loss to discover what part of them is distinguished either for ability, truth, er candour. The author it is true gives us words in abundance, but seldom brandishes the weapens of argument and reason. The colours with which he has decorated Mr. Crawford although dazzling is by no means witable to the character. Pursuing the commot and backneyed cant of panegyric, he bountifully showers down upon his favorite the most nausenting and fulsome adulation. The people will smile on viewing this bombast and overcharged portrait; and particularly when they find him placed along side of their Washington and Jefferson. We will now quit this field of words, "all this glorious poup and circumstance," and attend a little to some of the arguments of this able letter priter. Let us see with what facility he can slide over acts and discolor the real facts of a case. With all his words and pomp of diction, he will not be able to deceive and lead the people astray. There is among them too much good sense and intelligence afloat for an artifice of this kind to succeed. Let us in the first place cast our eye over what he says about the Augusta Address. The friends of Mr. Crawford first affected to treat this charge with levity. It was called a phantom, a mere bubble. But when it was discovered that the people of the United States were not inclined to view it in that light, their tone was quite changed, and we find now that every champion in the cause of hr. Crawford draws his quill and endeavors

established, his clauce for the vote of this the would be vain and fruitless. Hence you hear them so often ery out that the charge is refuted and falls to the ground. Let us now see whether this be the fact. We had tho't that the charge aras so well established that had the writer of the letters been silent upon the subject, we should not now have touched again upon that head. His remarks however have forced us to it.

This writer, as well as all others in favor of Mr. Crawford, has called upon the mosdis. tinguished men of Georgia to prove his re-publicanism in '98. The writer of the letters represents Mr. Crawford at that period as an obscure usher, nothing dreaming of politics," &c. Ilis "means were perfectly inade-quate to the objects he had in view, and he was once more compelled to resort to the low but honest calling of subordinate teaching." but nonest calling of subordinate teaching." &c. The charge against Mr. C. is, that he was a federelist in '98. To prove this his op-posets rely upon the Anguers subtreas. In opposition to this, his friends make a tremen-dous levy upon all the great men of Georgia, from all'quarters of the state—collect a great bundle of certificates, to prove—what' why that an "obscure usher, nothing dreaming of politics," in an obscure village, was a repubican in '98!' All that these gentlemen could say upon this subject was, that they believed him to be a politician of that description. If Mr. Crawford moved in that humble and obscure sphere-if he was this poor and " obscare usher, nothing dreaming of politics," it is not probable at that day that his political principles could be known to the first men of his state. It rarely falls to the lot of a young man in so humble and obscure a situation to have access to the polished and enlightened circles of society. If admitted to the company of distinguished men, politics it is presumed would scarcely be a theme of conversation between them. An obscure village usher would scarcely venture to obtrude his sentiments on such occasions. We can well imagine the awe and respectful distance he would keep himself in such a situation. Therefore it is perfectly 1; liculous to be calling upon all the prominent and distinguished men of a state, invoking the living and the dead, to prove the politics of a village schoolmaster twenty-live years back. His own acts must certainly furnish stronger evidence of what he was in the time of his obscurity, than any other kind of testimony.

But then Mr. Watkins, chairman of the meeting, personally knew Mr. Crawford at that time, has been introduced. This old gentleman was and still is a federalist. He it s true asserts that Mr. Crawford was a republican in '98. But what is this to the purpose? All federalists assume that garb and call themselves republicans. Therefore Mr. Watkins could, very consistently with his creed, make that decharation. But this gentleman, manifested rather too much real on this oocasion. He went rather too far with his evidence. He stated that it was well known that addresses of that kind poured in upon Mr. Adams from all quarters, from republicans as well as federalists. After this the public will decide what degree of credit should be attached to Mr. Watkins' statements. Any child could put him right upon that head. The redresses of that description. The federalists alone had the exclusive honor of all that labor.

It was not until some time in the year '90, letters, that Mr. Crawford emerged from his obscure station, and took his stand in his proaccording to the statement of the writer of the fession. Then comes the proof positive of source, he says that all the other candidates This is not denied by his his republicanism, opposers .- They admit that he was in the ranks in '99, but was a deserter in '98. In '99 Mr. Crawford knew well which way the political compass was veering, he accordingly trimmed his sails and took his station. He then became the supporter of such men as Jackson, Baldwin and Early. To shield Mr. Crawford further from the merited reproach of signing that address, he says that in '98 the political parties were not so marked as they were at a subsequent period, nor had those measures which sunk the administration of Mr. Adams been then adopted. Is this truth-is this candot? Will not the good sense of the people frown upon such decharations? Those who are acquainted with the history of that period, and it is presumed that all who have ever read must know it, that the parties were as violent, and the line of their distinction as completely drawn then as at any time afterwards. Even long before that period there were, in this state at least, no friendship between federalists and democrats. The man who would have signed an address to Mr. Adams at that time, would have lost the confidence and sunk beneath the frowns of the people of Virginia. If such would have been the fate of one of her own citizens, how can she consistently give her apport now to a man who was guilty of it in another state? Her patriotism and uniform devotion to republican principles will hereafter answer this question. The author of the letters has not hesitated to stoop to the lowest grade of sophistry in order to serve and uphold his favorite. He gravely undertakes to prove that the address tion, and given us indeed some singular logi was not even of a federal tinge. - After this we shall not be surprised at any attempt that is hereafter made by the friends of Mr. Crawaddress it is before the public and will speak for itself. Its verdict is already formed and its f. detal hue is no doubt discerned from beginning to end. Let us attend however a little more to what the author of the letters savs upon this subject. In executing this part of his task, to prove that the address was not of a federal cast, he asserts that it was the stand which Mr. Adams made ageinst the aggressions of France which the address supported and approved, and not the domestic policy of his administration. Granted-we will take this writer upon his own ground, and he furnishes sufficient matter for Mr. Crawford's condemnation. Without disgusting the public with a detailed and minute history of Mr. Adams' administration, every school boy knows that it was his conduct principally to-wards Erance that caused such a ferment in

the federalism of Mr. Crawford in '98 can be |cy which the then a towarda France. British outrages and en mities were daily winked at. Upon this is Mr. Adams was almost perfectly shent. whenever poor France, then straggling for her existence against a coalition of despots, gave him the least ground for murmur and complaint, he never failed to attempt to rouse

> "I do not wish to confound our controversy with France, with the subjects of discussion upon which the American people differ. The administration have adopted this policy with a success most flattering to them, and post fatal to their country. The yame of same bas been the collation, and scomplished have silenced all opposition and scomplished every measure. Our unfortunate rupture with that republic, has given an unnitural popularity to the friends of aristocracy and monstchy. It has enabled them to propagate prin-ciples which were once heard with disgust and horror, and it has enabled them to accomplish designs which could not have been at tempted two years ago without producing an immediate and universa, insurrection of the people. our party hate exaggrated the cruchties and enormities of the Freich revolution, in order to excite an excessive and franic indignation against France. And then they have artfully availed themseives of the angry passions which they kindled, in order to bring detestation upon republican princi-When they have excited ambhorrence of French principles, they are enabled by a very natural association of ideas toproduce an abhorrence of republican principle-because these are the avowed, if not the atual principles of the French nation."

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The author of these eloquent jemarks was John Thompson, the immortal author of the fetters of Curtains, a citizen of sur statename dear to his country and corsecrated by the affections of his native state. These elo quent and unrivalled essays were written and published about the time that Nr. Crawford got up his Augusta address, and joined in the rusale against republican France. Thompson spoke the language of Verginia and the re-publicans of the United States. The conduct of Mr. Adams towards France was universally condemaed by them. It was too well known that his policy was to provoke a war with that, unfortunate republic; then to push forward his high-handed measures, and to prosurate the constitution of his country. Virginia protest. ed against this course. But it appears that Mr. Crawford thought otherwise, and therefore gave his support to an address applauding Mr. Adams for his wisdom and energy against a devoted country. So much in reply to the author of the lefters respecting the Aumatter of fact, beyond the reach of contradic-We will now proceed to some other tion. charges against Mr. Crawford; and see how he is defended by the writer just alluded io.

Another serious charge against Mr. Craw-ford is his spreah in the United States' senate publicans of Virginia-no-nor the republi, ford is his spreah in the United States' senate cans of no other state, ever poured in ad topon re-chartening the United States' Bank; the abuse which that speech contained against Virginia and other large states. In reply to this, the author of the letters, fike every other writer before him, acknowledged that this truth. \* Chesterfield, Sept. 13, 123. This is denied were guilty of the same sin. Although it is true that some of the other candidates were in favor of the renewal of the charter, yet they did not indulge themselves in a strain of abuse against the large states for instructing their senators upon this great constitutional question. They did not accuse them of wishing to usurp the powers of the general government and to destroy the influence of the small states. In these sentiments Mr. Crawford stood single and alone. The author of the four letters slided over this subject with singular agility. He was wise enough to say but little upon this head. He knew too well the tender ground upon which he rod. He well knew how revolting it would be to the pride of Virginia to be called upor o give her support to a man who had been her calumniator, and who had traduced her in our national councils. Now these fwo acts the Augusta Address, and the abuse of Virginia, are the two principal charges which affect the character of Mr. Crawford: we have seen what the author of the letters has said in re ply to them. In the first case he has said no thing to relieve Mr. Crawford from the reproach which attends him, but his defence has actually added to his condemnation. In theo-ther case, he has said literally nothing. Thus then those two prominent charges stand still in force against Mr. Crawford-stare him still full in the face—and so long as they remain upon the memory, so long will Virginia with-hold from him her confidence and support. In order to shield Mr. Crawford also from the charge of intrigue, the writer of the letters has ranged at large in the field of declama upon this head. He avers that Mr. Crawford cannot be guilty of this crime, because no evidence has yet been adduced to establish it ford. I shall not go into any analysis of that He tells us Mr. C. was intimate with all the great men of the nation, of both political parties federalists and republicans. He then gives us a long list of names in which is com prised men of all political denominationsfrom the rankest federalist down to the most democratical republican. This charge of intrigue, I confess, I know nothing of-it may be true or it may be false. But it is certain that the author of the letters has done Mr. Crawford but little service in his reasoning and deductions upon this subject. He repre-sents him as the intimate associate of both federal and democratic characters-that he has acted, and is in friendship, with all of them. Now, had Mr. C. been an uniform, unwavering repualican, true to the principles of the ortho dox faith, it is utterly impossible that he could ever be the intimate friend, the social companion, with many upon that list. It is not in the United States. This policy of his towards that country, gave birth to his standing army and also to the alica law; then followed other must be some trimming—some shuffling in the points were cleared up; and because some of that number were supposed to and many others who support Mr. Craw-be friendly to Mr. Crawford's election. ford upon the same principle, (not from to refute it. They are extremely sensitive measures which completely disgraced our ranks. Hence we may conclude from the politicular they are shed upon the politicular the politicular they are shed upon the politicular they ar Was this such a mighty offence? Even personal consideration,) believing him

in had adopted cal history of Mr. Crawfurd, if he has not been your correspondent admits there guilty of base intrigue, any great compromise racter, he has for a firm, undeviating rol publicas, been mather, we suspect, too plain says, " the in his political principles, or he hever could honorable and independent men in Con-be intimate with such men as Bufus King, Das gress declaned voting any further apna, &c.-Yet these are some of the characters propriations for the contract." Why, Messrs. Editors, this extreme complaint, he never failed to attempt to rouve which the author of the letters depointmate and excite the nation against her, and repeatpointed to war." This then was the princise the treasury, as drawn by his friend, can never pal cause of contention between the parties, suit the palate of V reinin. She will certain-One condemned while the other appluded it. b prefer a man of a more inflexible, unbendby prefer a man of a more inflexible, unbend-ing character, than the one here given of this "Is the servant above his master?" If rentleman. Her Jefferman her Matiman up. Let us hear what a distinguished c tizen of sing character, than the one here given of this our state at that period asid upon this subject. gentleman. Her Jefferson, her Ma tison, ne-He gives us the true history of those times. character, nor endowed with that pliability of temper, as to make them at the same time the friends and companions of republicans and fe-detalists. "They never mixed and associated with your Kings, and Danas, your Harpers and Otisea They never countenanced and supported addresses to Mr. Adams, approving of against a sister republic. Here let us ask the author of the letters, whether any of the distinguished men of our state ever were guilty of that political sin? No-never, if they had the frowns of the people would most assuredly long since have consigned them to political

ilation. These remarks are proceeding to a length to which the author did not intend to go. He is aware that long and labored essays do not suit the taste of most readers. It is not words, in whatever dress they are uttered, that can carry conviction to the human mind. Arguments and facts can alone operate and wrought change in the opinions of men. To this est must the friends of Mr. Crawford be brought. They cannot expect to gain and se-cure the confidence of the people in the course they have taken. The people of Vire ginia are plain, firm and decided, devoted to the principles of liberty and true to the republican faith. Declamation, however splenlid, will have no effect upon them. Declaratory appeals to their passions are idle, and can by no means affect their understanding. They are too enlightened to be duped by artifices The author of the letters has of that kind. greatly mistaken their character when he preaumed to address them in the manuer he has done. They cannot be seduced by words nor led away by the tinsel sophistry which marks every line of his productions. They are ver et preterea nihil, and cannot blind and mislead for a single moment. The veil is too thin and slender not to be penetrated by the most superficial ave. Fixed and unchangeable in her principles, Virginia will never sully her reputation by giving her support to a character who stands arraigned before her upon charges which deeply affect his republican standing. A suspected character can never expect to claim her support. Pure and spotless herself, the man who is honored with her confidence must be above suspicion. A Cl y, a Calhour, a Cheves, or a Macon, she would greatly pe-fer to a man who has been guilty of the roll-de d allowers attributed and sustained against Mr. Crawford. Were she to act otherwise, she would be guilty of her own political suicide and blast forever her republicar character. But she is not reserved for sich a de-gradation. A higher and s more bullant destiny awaits her. Time will show yhether the opinious I have expressed are correct-till then let us patiently await the dy of trialwe will see whether they ary then the offspring of fancy or the soleon warnings of

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some good cause for delay, when

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sensibility on the part of Mr. Cathor's friends, that one cannot even st a glance of the eye towards him, st ac is Mr. Calhoun is above correction, uspicion, is he also exempt from err hat it should be thought criminal for IN CLUB plain when to ask for information upon any of his acts? Has the come so part, and its officers so im-become so part, and its officers so im-gaculate, that an individual where the proper views, of stigmatised with opprobrious epithets?.

I thought ours was a government of laws, and not of men that there was no man in the nation whose acts yere beyond the reach of the law; no officer under the government who was not responsible for his conduct. And pay, what responsibility is there, if the oor of in-quiry is shut, and the applicant contemptuously driven away by a party of zealots who guard the entrance, and charge him with "Radicalian," or unbraid him with "unchastened and unhallowed ambition;" who witch over the character of Mr. C. as if it vas so puny, that the slightest breath of falsehood would cast the rot of milder and tarnish it forever? Surely your prespontent did not see the point to which his argument extends; and I feel no disposition to press it., If Mr. Cahoun's public life has been so irrepreschable as he seems to think it, involugation ought rather to be courted thin avoided, as every inquiry would see new lastro upon his character.

I do declare most elemnly, that I have no personal hospity to Mr. Calhoun; far otherwise. I admire him for the brilliancy of his trents, his high attanments, and his many virtues; 1 re-spect him for the distinguished services he has rendered ou common country. The greatest injury Mr. C. is likely to sustain, will be inflicted by his friends, who, from an over ardent desire to serve him, indiscriminately apply the lash to all who do not response to their dogmas. As well might the term of apostate, or even raitor, be applied to the friends and apporters of Mr. Cal-hoan, as that of Radical (under any of its various definitions) to Mr. Crawford and his friends/ It is true, geatlemen, I wish Mr. Crawford's election; but I wish it upon fery different grounds to those, which seem to influence some of Mr. Calhouh's supporters. If Mr. Crawford has not strength of character sufficient to entitle him to the confidence of his countrymen, without traducing that of his competitors, or tar-

#### COMMUNICATIONS. FOR THE STAR.

Messrs. Editory-It was with sincere regret I read the remarks contained in a "letterfrom a gentleman at Washington City, to the Editors of the Star," as published in your paper of the 10th instant: frst, because he should so far have mistaken me, and misconceived an injury to the cause of Mr. Calhoun, in that covert way; and, secondly, because he has permitted the warmth of his friendship, and the overflowing of his zeal, to betray him into the expresion of sentiments, unanthorised by he will hereafter himself be sensible.

If your Washington correspondent still W. H. C. stands firm in the opi-had given himself the trouble to ascertain my views, (which he might easily have done by attending to my expres sions,) he might have found that I had no intention of entering upon the merits of either of the candidates for the presidency; for I expressly declared, "without touching the relative merits of either of the aspirants, I would only ask you, if you still think Mr. Crawford's popuarity is on the wane?"

The chief object I had in view, in writing the piece alluded to by my Washington friend, (for, I think, I know him,) was to vindicate the character of the state against an unjust imputation, cast upon her independence by you, in ascribing her opinions to the influence lands and robs them of their game; to of Virginia; and to rescue from obloquy, protect a trade worth \$250,000 at the if possible, the character of some old and tried patriots, against whom Mr. M'Duffie had opened the battery of his eloquence, and threatened with destruction; whom he charged with "unchastened and unhallowed ambition!" For what, Messrs. Editors, were these heavy charges made? Because they re- these sentiments to Mr. C .--- I only menfused to comply with the requisitions of tion them to mark the disposition of his the Secretary of War, until certain friends.

nishing the well-earned laurels of his rivals, then let him fail. Not so with his opponents; there is not a word in the English language too opprobrious to be applied to him, and those who advocate him; they narrate things which common sense revolts at, and tell anecdotes which credulity itself cannot believe. Nor are they satisfied with this: they are attempting to break up the very founmy object, a to suppose I wished to do dation of the Union! destroy the harmony of the States, by sowing the seeds of discord and jealousy among them, by invoking the pride of North-Carolina, to induce her to vote against Wm. H. C. to sacrifice the man of her choice, to prove she is free from Virginia influfacts, with a generality of application to ence. These and many other devices persons who do not merit them, of which have been resorted to by honorable men, for the attainment of an honorable end;

> cans. It is upon principle I advocate the election of Mr. Crawford; it is because believe he will, if elected, administer the government within the rules prescribed by the Constitution; that he will consider the happiness of the citizen to consist rather in the peaceful enjoyment of the fruits of their domestic labors, than in having their substance swallow-

nious and confidence of the Republi-

ed up in the payment of heavy taxes to build a large fleet, support a numerous standing army; to crect forts 3 or 400 miles in the Indian territory, to awe the poor natives into submission to the lawless hunter, who trespasses upon their expence of half a million; contracts and advance of money not noticed. Already have I heard some of Mr. Calhoun's friends say, "I wish our fleet was a little larger, that we might go to war with France, for refusing a passage to the Cougress frigate." I do not charge It would be highly gratifying to me,