

The Star

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COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE STAR.

To the Citizens of North Carolina:

The Presidential contest, as far as your suffrages will affect it, is approaching. The tone of preparation in the opposing camps has been busy, and marked with a variety of common and uncommon circumstances. It is not, as on former occasions, that parties have rallied round some strong differences of opinion on measures of Government, with some shades of difference on some principles of Constitutional theory; but new grounds of contention have arisen out of the elements of that very revolution which had been effected in favor of what had been presumed to be the purest reign of Republicanism.

Scarcely had the administration of the mild and enlightened Jefferson commenced, and the great bulk of his opponents began to feel satisfied with his course, than a turbulent spirit, professing exclusive patriotism, and an overweening regard for the People's rights and property, was seen growing in its lurking places, and annoying the wise policy which tended to consolidate our nation's welfare. It was neither Federal nor Anti-Federal, but a non-descript species of political monster, which is always at work in creating confusion, without the faculty of producing order in any shape.

In the events which led to and accompanied the last war, this spirit developed itself in a disastrous manner. It was sometimes vehement in its effusions; resisting every measure which could give effect to hostility; then bold in its pretensions to patriotism. It contributed to the commencement of the war, and then carried on a system of delinquent resistance to the measures necessary for its success.

It became after the war, the rallying point of a new party, of which the elements of former political difference and present disappointment, form no inconsiderable part. It was impossible that it could obtain extensive influence except by covert and deceptive means. Formed on materials which can, under different circumstances, and in different stations, vary with every current, and adopt every prejudice, it has acquired, by every new measure of legislation, and every step of the Executive, all the resources which could be created by magnifying supposed evils from every whisper of dissatisfaction.

This party has hung round the administration of the General Government, with professions of great regard for maintaining the rights, improving the defence, promoting the prosperity, and, above all, establishing the lasting, permanent independence of these United States, free from the shackles, and superior to the frowns, of other nations. They have even projected some of the most extensive and expensive works of defence, of pensions, and of gratuity. Yet, to every system, to every proper and methodical plan, they have insidiously opposed impediments, to mar the execution. Every strong, well-adapted and well-organized measure, calculated to secure the ends proposed and necessary, has met their opposition, at least so far in detail as materially to impair the effect. Bold in professions of patriotism, they throw upon others the task of forming plans; and derive their popularity from their pretended zeal in protecting the People's rights, and seeing that those who propose measures of Government, are checked in their dispositions to manufacture fetters and distort money.

Thus, after the late war, they joined with the hallooing throng, the cry for future vigilance against surprise; and, under the popular sentiment of the moment, were the warm advocates of a well-appointed army, and an extensive navy; and still more of fortifications. Laws were passed, plans adopted, appropriations made to meet a certain scale of expenditure, and the works of fortification and ship-building commenced. Scarcely had any of these works made an appearance of progress, than this mean spirit, distracting party, began the work of disorder, under the most unfounded pretence of economy. If economy were to be consulted, it should have begun with the plans. For when the great expense of preparation was incurred, it would have been better to have provided, by temporary

means, money for completing the work, than incur the expenses incident to the support of great establishments, with only the means of making little progress; for the expenses is thus much increased in the end.

The true facts of all these manoeuvres are kept out of view among the people by those Members of Congress who are of this party, by means of pitiful circular letters; affecting to give their constituents information. They generally contain a logrum about some measure which has been prevented from bearing hard upon the People; or whereby some money has been saved, because they would not agree to appropriate it; or stating that they have, ineffectually, resisted some monstrous measure which some of the Catalines of the country have inflicted upon them; but which measures generally turn out to have been very proper and well-timed. The measures of which they have prevented the adoption, were generally those of the wisest policy, and the want of which have entailed upon the country great injuries and irresistible embarrassments; while the mere refusal of appropriation has had the effect of incurring heavy expenses to accomplish a moiety of what for a little more would have been completed; whereby the service has been prolonged at greater expense, or the object defeated; and while, at the same time, according to their own shewing, since there would have been money enough in the Treasury to have answered every purpose at the time.

A singular chain, and an extraordinary collection of circumstances, have made WILLIAM H. CRAWFORD the head of this party.

His career has been in the varied toils of eccentricity as a Legislator; of reserve and blank service as a public officer; and of equivocal aspect as a statesman. He has risen by the importance of temporary conciliation in difficult times. He has made no display of principles that might attract strong adherence, or meet directly violent censure. He has expressed himself as a public officer in terms which would give him currency with many; and again qualified his views and statements so as to claim the support of those in direct opposition. His motives are sunk in the shade of deep obscurity, and his expressions are, like the *"Delphic Oracle,"* susceptible of all the constructions of all the wishes of the Confederates. Here a little black, and here a little white; some mixture of all the colours of light and shade; which all the politicians of his phalanx can shew to advantage in all the different positions of reflection. He forms the rallying point of the most incongruous host of politicians which ever sought to arrest the prosperity of our country, to disorganize our means of protection, or to embarrass all our fiscal concerns.

The election of this man has been pursued for many years by secret combinations and astonishing intrigues. All the means of expressing opinion have been denounced as combinations and opposition, where his name was not the first in applause. While the combinations of his party have acted for and independent of the People, with an insolent ostentation, as though acquired by divine right. They claim for him the exclusive exemption from censure. They trample upon the characters and rights of every opponent.

The workings of low cunning had prepared the way for an insolent attempt of the partisans of Crawford to proclaim him the *"National Candidate."* Union was the pretence. The avoidance of a contest in Congress upon the terms of the Constitution, which they declared unjust, was a reason assigned for holding a caucus of Crawford partisans in Congress. The presumption being met by the scorn of an indignant People, no motives of this kind can lead the party or the man, to consociate with a more prominent personage, for promoting union and preventing distractions. Loose manoeuvres, to have different effects in different parts of the country; secret bargains and combinations in utter defiance of all their professions, are making with men of politics which they have proclaimed most hostile to the country, are now everywhere afloat; not to elect Crawford by the People; but to get him into all the labyrinths of intrigue in Congress, which they falsely pretended so much to detest.

The great Washington Caucus is abandoned. In New York, the effort is to conciliate the friends of Clay, with a hose and the party of Crawford in their ground. Pennsylvania, it is supposed, may also be thus affected. For the greatest advocates of manufactures in these two States are many of them for Mr. Clay, the champion of internal improvement and the most ex-

tensive Tariff. In this State, the managing Committee have something on hand. Already no doubt, different statements have been circulated in different counties, with regard to the Vice President, in order to gain a little favor, and work some change.

But the Citizens of North Carolina have a choice before them, recommended by nobler and juster considerations. The independent spirit of her sons has spontaneously introduced before them men, as Electors, who have, unasked, and in the strength of their own personal judgment and feelings, formed attachments to personages of high and brilliant political character. These personages are ANDREW JACKSON, as President; and JOHN C. CALHOUN, as Vice President.

The first of these men stands enrolled amongst the old School of Republicans of the United States. A man strongly and undeviatingly attached to the equal, unalienable rights of man; of long experience and observation in public life; of clear and sound judgment; direct and candid in the expression of his views; unequivocal and undisguised in his public character, and altogether the unmasked politician. The career of General Jackson in public life has been honorable and useful, and, in his private relations, he holds all the strongest ties of common interest among his fellow-citizens; a common inheritance, and common habits. The greatest part of his life has been occupied as a civilian; sustaining occasionally many high and responsible appointments, without reproach, and with great public applause. In later times, and in those too, when the confidence of high pretension had blasted our hopes, and left our country enveloped in darkness and disaster, his firm and penetrating mind was brought to act in another sphere. Not bred a soldier, as a profession, although early found amongst the defenders of liberty, he was necessarily brought into the field amidst all those difficulties, privations and dangers, which gave an opportunity of displaying the features of a great mind; not led by mechanical impulses, and tutored by habit; but creative in itself, and applicable to every situation. The page of history will point, as a bright example, to the deeds of JACKSON; and our country's defenders will learn, in future ages, what the spirit of a true Patriot can accomplish.

The second, JOHN C. CALHOUN, is the man who appeared on the floor of Congress in the days of Jefferson and Madison, as the champion of Republican principles, national rights and prosperity; alike the boast of the South and the pride of the Union. Penetrating and vivid in his conceptions, distinct and decisive in his conclusions, he thinks and expresses himself understandingly and unhesitatingly. He embraces the whole view of a subject, whereon he is to act. He takes a minute view of the details to be connected; carries before him the object and design; and loses nothing by incapacity and indecision in his progress. He is a methodical economist; by making every arrangement correspond with utility, and persevering to accomplish with the plans which he undertakes.

Such men are ANDREW JACKSON and JOHN C. CALHOUN, presented before the Citizens of North Carolina as President and Vice President of the United States.

In the choice of these men to fill the high stations of our Executive Government, we may look most confidently for a furtherance of all our interests to the undeviating and inflexible spirit of Patriotism, with true, independent, AMERICAN FEELING. The Candidate for President comes not before the People, harnessed with secret understandings, well known expectations for warring exertions in his behalf, and a long train of political associates, all looking for his lot of favor. No man of all the Candidates stands so independent; none certainly more independent in himself. When his administration is formed, it will be plain in its professions and undivided. The Representatives of the People may give the tone of the Government, without being deceived in the measure of support necessary, or the measure of restriction proper. If they agree with the President, they will know their zeal and promptitude in furthering their views. If they disagree, he will have no equivocation of character in covering his designs; and the Representative expression of the People's will be more likely to be made at once, than where candor and promptitude are wanting in the Executive. The country has the pledge, that JACKSON can and will defend her against every enemy, but seek no needless foe; that he will side with no intrigues, and encourage no sectional claims; but act as the CHIEF MAGISTRATE OF THE UNION.

Notes, Bell & Lawrence.

Having been long a subscriber to the Raleigh Register, and being displeas'd with the conduct of that Journal, as to the Presidential question, I sent them some time ago the enclosed letter, which they have taken no notice of; and, as this amounts to a refusal on their part to publish it, I have sent it to you, with permission to print it if you think the several hints therein contained respecting editorial accountability, worthy a place in the Star, which, by its dignified and impartial course in the people's cause, has secured for itself a patronage that will be permanent and solid, worthy of its Editors, and of the cause they have contributed so extensively to support; for which service, gentlemen, I beg you will accept the homage of my particular regard.

ALGERON SIDNEY.

Smithfield, Oct. 1854.

Notes, Gates & Son.

I have long been a reader of your paper, and have observed, with attention, your directions and conduct as Editors, since the commencement of the Presidential excitement. It has been such as to induce me to send you the following good natured strictures on the relation you stand in to the people, which, if you will publish in your next, will at least satisfy one of your subscribers.

It becomes journalists, (who would be enterers for the public—who would be disseminators of correct principles, of correct information, touching the interest of the nation, from whom the people are to derive their opinions, of men and measures; and from whom the people are now, to draw their conclusions, in a great degree, on a very serious & important matter, claiming their immediate attention,) in the discharge of their official duties, to have a proper respect, and deference for exalted talents and merit; to be as little susceptible of forming undue attachments to particular men or particular measures as possible; always recollecting that though men and measures change, as circumstances vary, principle is unchangeable. It is the duty of public journalists to give all the information on any important measure, that the nature of the thing admits of; that it may be seen on all sides, that it may be seen in all its dependencies, in all its bearings. Now your course, with respect to the candidates for the Presidency, has been one-sided and partial, calculated to let the people see, only as you see, and as you think. You have not been liberal enough to throw broad-cast, if the expression is allowable, all the many and high pretensions, the just claims of some of the venerable patriots, spoken of for that high dignity, while your paper has been continually filled with the most extravagant eulogiums on your own particular favorite.

Over and above this, I am sorry to perceive in you a willingness, and even a readiness, to prejudice the public mind against that man, who, I must think, your better judgment tells you is pre-eminently qualified for the Presidency, (whose talents as a civilian, as a statesman, and, above all, as a Christian, has in a peculiar manner identified him with the honor and character of the nation; who has been a long tried and faithful servant of his country, both at home and abroad; who is known to be high in the confidence of *Monroe, Madison and Jefferson*; who has, on several foreign missions, and who has in the office he now holds, honored his country more than it has or ever can honor him,) by ungenerously and unfairly admitting into your print effusions calculated to fix the odium of a former administration on him, calculated to divert public sentiment from resting where it is naturally and forcibly inclined to fix itself, by associating his name with the hateful measures of an administration, that existed twenty years ago, with which he had nothing to do. This, I think, you yourselves will, in your reflecting moments, condemn as extremely illiberal, unjust, and even might I not say abusive, very unbecoming the fine motto at the head of your paper—*"Ours are the plans of fair, delightful peace, Unwar'd by party rage to live like brothers."*

Public Journalists are entitled to their opinions, as well as other people, and it is always expected, to find them clearly and distinctly expressed, on all subjects of national concern, in their proper place, which an enlightened community will know how to estimate; but when they become so completely sectarian as to withhold from the people the means of arriving at correct information—so strangely warped by party rage—as to exclude from their print all information that does not accord with their own ideas, on a subject too of such stupendous moment as the choice of a President, least the people might take it into their heads to outrage the commands and opinions of their dictators, and so far disregard their authority as to freely think and choose for themselves—they must soon expect patrons, alone from among those who agree with them in opinion. Very respectfully, yours, &c.

ALGERON SIDNEY.

P. S.—A communication in the Register of Friday 8th, signed an "old farmer," is particularly cited; in which John Adams's administration is arraigned in its worst coloring; against one of the candidates. Such objections evince a want of candor and depravity of sentiment, none worthy of the motives that originated them—altogether commensurate with the baseness of the purpose they are intended to answer.

The late correspondence between the American Secretary of State and the Spanish Minister, in which, by the force and transcendent powers of his reasoning, he saved his country from a ruinous war with Spain.

damns for the presidency, and then deserted him for Mr. Crawford, and they challenge any person to substantiate the charge." If they mean that they made a public declaration in favor of Mr. Adams, nor took any active part in promoting his election, they ought to have said so; for such I believe to be the fact; but if they mean to quibble on the word support, their subtlety shall not cover their design. I have understood, and I have no doubt of the fact, that before the senior Editor made his visit to Washington, where he received the vote from his son, who had received it from the Treasury Department, he expressed his preference for Mr. Adams. This fact can be substantiated; but it becomes the party accused to be silent—the proof lies too near his person to be called upon. As to the junior Editor, who can scarcely be said to have formed an opinion, as yet, on any important subject, & whose voice is but the echo of his parents', I would apply the Greek proverb, "had the crow had the egg," and therefore infer that he, like his father, first preferred Mr. Adams, and then was taught to lip the praises of Mr. Crawford.

TRUTH.

FOR THE STAR.

Gentlemen,—The Editors of the Register, in speaking of the importance of the present Presidential contest, in their paper of Friday last, with a kind of exulting sneer, ask the people of North-Carolina, whether they will, "by choosing Gen. JACKSON, who is deficient both in CHARACTER and UNDERSTANDING, forever forfeit their long established character for political rectitude?" Now this must be allowed to be a pretty sweeping denunciation of that distinguished veteran, as well as of all those who are friendly to his election; but wherein has it been shown, that JACKSON is "deficient both in character & understanding?" I know his enemies have said so; but they have utterly failed to establish the fact. Not that they never can establish it; for the energy and powers of his mind, on all occasions, have shone too conspicuously, for any doubt to exist as to his great capacity. They know that with the theory of government JACKSON is as well acquainted as any other candidate, and in its practical operations, much better versed than either of them; but, to accomplish their designs, they have the hardihood and impudence to denounce him on the score of incapacity, when, as a statesman, he has always shown himself to be infinitely superior to W. H. Crawford, the God of their idolatry; and, to effect his elevation, they would, no doubt, were he a candidate in opposition, pronounce the ANGEL GABRIEL a fool, a murderer & a tyrant. But let me ask who are the Editors of the Register? what super-human beings of intelligence these, who set themselves up as our political pilots; who undertake to guide and direct the freemen of North Carolina, in their choice of a President? Surely one would suppose they were stars of the first magnitude, by whose beaming light one could not fail to make a judicious choice; but, unfortunately for the cause, the luminary from whence they derive their borrowed light, has passed the meridian, and rapidly hastens to his setting, when the Register will now and then only send forth a few flickering scintillations, to enrage, with additional indignation, those who had been the dupes and followers in their fallen fortunes. Who, then, are these Editors; that they should undertake to direct us? What monument of wisdom has ever been erected to the memory of these political *Nabobisms*? What trophy of honor and distinction have they won by the splendor of their intellects & talents at composition? Alas! no trait exists as a memento of their greatness and glory,—is the anatomy of their minds so differently constructed from other men, that they are insensible to light when it shines; or, in their organic vision so bedimmed by the clouds of radicalism, as not to see virtues and talents in JACKSON, so perceptible to others? Why, then, have they the excessive vanity and assurance to offer to dictate to so many men, who, in every respect, both as to "character and understanding," are much better qualified than themselves to decide correctly. But the senior Editor, (for I cannot believe the junior Editor would be so indiscreet,) to gratify his passion for competition, and with a view to further their sinking cause, sets himself down, to abuse and calumniate the most distinguished patriot in this country, and all his friends, by telling them, if they support him, they will "forever forfeit their long established character for political rectitude." What is this, but saying that if we don't support his favorite, we are all wrong, and destitute of "character?" This is evidently its meaning. Are we then to submit to be thus insulted by this "unpledged nesting," this political quailing

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