

THE STAR

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COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE STAR.

"In Marcia, 'tis not a set of features or complexion, The feature of a skin, that I admire; Beauty soon grows familiar to the lover, Fades in his eye, and falls upon the sense; 'Tis her cultivated mind that extorts from me Admiration, a little short of idolatry."

Addison's Cato.

From the earliest period of my reflection and observation, it has been to me, not more a matter of astonishment, than serious regret, that, in the U. States, where civilization and refinement have advanced within the last century, with a rapidity hitherto unparalleled in the annals of the world; where the education of young men is not duly inculcated, but absolutely advanced by legislative patronage, that such apathy should exist in the minds of men with regard to female education. Whence arises this cold indifference? Why should they be debarred from the feasts of the mind. In excluding them from the temple of science, do we not act rather like Turks than Christians? It is said to be an article in the Mussulman's creed, that the women of this world are not to participate with the blessed in the joys of heaven. Mahomet is said to have taught that the women will be permitted to advance to the palings of paradise, and view, through them, the joys of the blessed, without sharing any part in them. Such is the treatment of the Heathen Philosophers of the present day towards the women, with regard to that intellectual paradise which they permit them to behold, without sharing. Will any man say that there is any thing in science or literature, calculated to demoralize the female heart or freeze the fountains of generosity and benevolence? To wake the soul, to raise the genius, and to mend the heart, are its objects. It draws women into close communication with her maker; for it is the glass by which she looks through nature up to nature's God. Compare, for instance, the young lady, whose education has been conducted on the plan ordinarily practised in the U. States, with one who has been graduated in the North-Carolina Female Academy. Whilst the former beholds, with cold indifference, the objects of nature around her, incapable of contemplating any one of them, except within itself, without connecting it with numberless others; whilst she views the world as an uninteresting blank, utterly insensible to the goodness, and wisdom and grandeur, displayed in our Creator's works; the latter is able to groupe, to combine, and to connect these objects, and thus to observe and feel the harmonies, which every where prevail throughout the universe. She knows the close affinities by which all nature is connected, and is taught to believe that the twinkling star is as essential an ingredient in the constitution of nature as the sun which glows with fervency in the Heavens; the breeze which fans the sleeping infant, as the storm which rocks the sturdy mountains.

An "Arcadian" would view the planetary world as little else than a cerulean void; at one time bespangled with stars, and at another illuminated with a huge ball of fire. A recital of the astronomical discoveries of Newton, Herschel, Tycho and Keplen would be to her as "the sounding brass or the twinkling cymbal." Whilst an "Eolian" would behold the heavenly bodies with sublime and pious conviction, and could read in their relative motions and situations, their magnificence and grandeur, the incomprehensible wisdom of divine Providence. She would follow a Newton through all the haunts of his enterprising mind, and, hawking with him through

"The range of planets, suns and adamantine spheres, Wheeling unshaken, through the void immense,"

would exclaim, with rapturous exultation, "an unweary astronomer is mad." Of a woman who has received such an education as this, joined to moral virtue and native goodness of heart, a man of sense would exclaim, in the language of Juba,

"Let Caesar have the world, if Marcia is mine."

It is said that Providence has bestowed on the human race nothing in vain. His gift, however, are not forced upon

us; for it is the freedom of the will that makes the merit of virtue or the reward of guilt. They are only tendered to us, and it is optional with men whether to accept or reject them. Has he not bestowed on women minds of a divine and heavenly mould? Is not this sufficiently indicative of his design towards them? Why, then, do we, by the wretched system of education usually practised, draw a cloud over the rising glories of female genius, and hide them from the world forever? I am aware of the opinions of selfish and ungenerous men on this subject. I know that the inferiority of the female mind has been frequently insisted on by them, with the most scrupulous pertinacity. With such men as those, my remarks about female genius would need further demonstration. I shall, however, decline it, not because it is unsusceptible of proof, but for other obvious reasons; the bare recital of the names of Madame De Stael, Miss Porter, Miss Barney, Mrs. Edgeworth, Miss Hannah Moore, &c. would prove this fact sufficiently satisfactory, if I felt any disposition to go into an examination of the subject.

Is not our neglect of female education injudicious, and even foolish, in relation to our own happiness? Is it not to reject a boon wisely offered by Providence, which, if accepted and improved by men, would enlarge the spheres of their enjoyment beyond the bounds of human calculation. As the companion of a man of sense and virtue, what would be the most beautiful woman, without a cultivated mind, capable of an animated correspondence with his own, and of reciprocating all his thoughts and feelings? A Venus De Medici is little calculated to entertain a rational and sensible man during his moments of relaxation from ordinary business. Such a wife would only subserve the purposes of fops, and others of that fraternity, in whose estimation a beautiful exterior is the most powerful of all recommendations.

By placing the cultivation of the female mind beyond their reach, we deprive them of the most angelic portion of their character, and debase them into mere instruments to satisfy the concupiscence of man.

The conduct of men with regard to female education, is not only injudicious and ungenerous, but it is dastardly. We do virtually acknowledge our apprehensions, that, with equal advantages of education, they will refute the theory of their mental inferiority, and wrest from men their boasted supremacy of intellect. It is directly playing off upon them the policy of the Roman Church, and tacitly confessing that it is only whilst we can keep them in ignorance; that we can hope to govern them, on the plea of our superiority.

There is another light in which this subject cannot be too often viewed; for it appeals directly to that anxiety for the advancement of his son, which is constitutionally interwoven with the best feelings of every father. The young ladies of the present day, if they are not particularly unlucky, will become the nursing mothers of the future patriots of our country. Who is it that directs their educations for the first ten years of their lives? Not the father; for the reserve of his manners, and his professional avocations are such as to prevent their frequently coming in contact. No, it is in the lap of the Mother, it is her gentle tutelage and salutary counsel, that gives the proper inclination to the twig. Their age and her domestic employments cause them constantly to associate together, and render it peculiarly the business of the Mother

"To wake the soul by tender strokes of art,

To raise the genius and to mend the heart."

Since, then, this important task is committed to females, how extensive ought to be their reading, how perfect their educations! How well stored their minds with sound orthodox precepts! Ah! if to the personal graces and virtues of our country women, they would superadd that additional culture of the mind which would fit them for this noble task, I should not envy Rome her Agrippina, Atia, Aurelia, Julia, Procilla or Cornelia.

In thus earnestly recommending female education, I hope that I am not misunderstood as to the system. It is extraneous to my object to recommend the plan ordinarily practised in the United States, a system radically defective, and as little calculated to effect the intellectual regeneration so earnestly desired by all lovers of women and literature, as was the lever of Archimedes to overturn the world.

There is but one seminary in our State—I had almost said the United States—where the talents of the instructors, the course of education, and internal administration of the School, are calculated to withdraw the veil which has so long obscured female genius, and present their rising glories to

the world in a true and impartial light. I allude to the "North Carolina Female Academy." I would attempt a description of the Institution, but the picture would be so unlike the original, that I will say no more than that it cannot be recommended to the public in too extravagant terms.

When may North Carolina boast of her literary Institutions. With a University inferior to but two in the United States, though not specially organized and supported by the bounty of the State, yet established in her bosom, she has cause to rejoice in the day of her birth, and to exclaim, with the Prophet,

"I am glad that the day of my redemption has come."

These are only a few considerations which might be offered on this subject, but the necessary brevity of a newspaper essay prevents me from multiplying them further.

PHILANTHROPICUS.

FOR THE STAR.

Amid all the bustle and turmoil of the electioneering campaign for President; of canvassing the policy of caucusing; and the unremitting din occasioned by the honors and salutations so feelingly & so justly paid the "National Guest," allow me to intrude upon your attention, a word on a subject at present but little thought of, but, nevertheless, of momentous importance to the citizens of a free State.

At the ensuing session of the Legislature, among other important elections, a selection is to be made of a Chief Magistrate. Who may be the candidates for that all important office, is altogether unknown to me. None as yet have been named as filling the public eye, & promising in all things to satisfy the public expectations. And yet the office of first Magistrate of a Sovereign and independent Republic, as I should suppose, is of sufficient consequence to induce those most interested, the Citizens, to enquire before the honor and the responsibility is conferred, Who is worthy of the trust? Whom shall we have to rule over us?

Would the people select a man who has been tried in the ordeal of the Revolution and through the whole course of our subsequent prosperity and alternate adversity? Who, to a most discriminating mind and a clear and retentive memory, adds the discretion and judgment of age, together with bodily and mental vigor, to enable him to bear the fatigues of the station and to weigh "all things and hold fast that which is good?" Would seven years eminent services in the Revolutionary struggle—the performance of one of the most prominent parts in the glorious drama of King's Mountain, and the bearing thence four glorious wounds, have any weight in determining the question "who shall rule over us?" Would an unsullied life, spent in the service of his country from childhood to age, in a manner even forbidding the tongue of calumny to reproach it;—would probity, integrity, temperance and fortitude, with every other virtue that can enable the man, or adorn the politician—weigh any thing in this selection? "Most unquestionably," you answer me, "all these things would determine a wise people in their choice. But who is this man that unites these many virtues?" He is Gen. WILLIAM LENOX, of Wilkes. Simply to mention his name is sufficient. There is not a patriot bosom but beats high with the recollection of his well tried zeal, both in the council and the field. Laying aside, then, all party and sectional prejudices, and he is, he must be, the man whom the people would most delight to honor.

ARISTIDES.

FOR THE STAR.

The Grand Jury of Greene county, (Fall Term, 1824,) after being discharged by the Court, took into consideration the approaching Presidential election, and unanimously adopted the following resolutions:

Resolved, That we highly disapprove of the practice, heretofore pursued by members of Congress at the city of Washington, of meeting in what they term a Caucus, for the purpose of nominating a President of the U. States—a practice directly opposed to the true spirit of our Constitution, and, if persisted in, fatally calculated to subvert the principles of our government; and we do actually view the late Caucuses held at the cities of Washington and Raleigh as tyrannical and in direct opposition to the true and genuine principles of republicanism, and inimical to the liberty of this country.

Resolved, That we will support Gen. ANDREW JACKSON for President, believing him eminently qualified for that important office above all others.

Resolved, That, at the approaching election, we will support the People's

ticket, under a firm belief that, should it prevail, it will support General Jackson.

JESSE SPEIGHT, Foreman.

A Mammoth.—A short time since, Mr. William Morrison, in digging under the seat of his saw-mill, on West Kishacoquillas, in this county, came upon four large grinders of some unknown animal; together with two bones, apparently that part of the spine adjoining the head. Two of the grinders are six inches in length each, three inches in width, and sixteen inches in circumference, and one of them weighs three and a half pounds. Mr. Morrison is fully satisfied that if he had dug further on, he would have obtained the whole of the skeleton, as there appeared a cavity in the earth, and the soil of a different colour. He found the teeth about four feet under the surface. Here is a speculation for the naturalist! In this country at present, there is no animal that has grinders of one-fifth the size of those found. That they are the remains of some enormous unknown animal is evident. However, in a few weeks, we expect to lay before our readers a more detailed account, as Mr. Morrison and his neighbors intend continuing the search.—Lewistown (Penn.) Paper

Singular Legal Question.—An interesting law suit is at this moment carrying on at Paris. The city had sold a house on condition of its being pulled down within a certain time, retaining the property of the ground. The workmen employed in pulling it down, found a treasure concealed in one of the walls. The city now claims this treasure, because it has never ceased to be the proprietor of the ground; while the purchaser asserts his right, as the treasure was not found below the surface, but in the wall bought by him. The bricklayer, too, pretends it is his, because he found it; and as if this was not enough, the administrators of the domains come forward and affirm that none of these parties have any title whatever. As the coins discovered are ancient, and as the building, before the Revolution, belonged to a convent, it is very likely that the whole will be declared the property of the State. The Judges will find it difficult to make peace between these four contending powers.—London Literary Gazette, Aug. 14.

Female Heroism.—Juana Maria Pola, of Santa Fe de Bogota, was a woman whose husband, brothers, and sons, were deeply engaged in the Patriot cause. When Santa Fe was taken from the royalists, after the barracks of the infantry and cavalry had been seized, the patriots paused, to collect numbers sufficient to attack the artillery; and then was that interval when the boldest held his breath for a time. Juana Maria found her sons among the troops who were awaiting the rest. "What do you do here?" said she. "I expect each moment to fight for La Patria." "Kneel down, then, and take a mother's blessing. We women will go and receive the first fire; and over our bodies you will march and take yonder cannon, and save your country." She blessed her sons, and rushed by the foremost, and the day was theirs. From that day she held a captain's pay and rank. But the royalists retook Santa Fe, and Juana Maria Pola was one of their first victims. She was led to the market-place, and shot.—Mrs. Graham's Journal of a residence in Chili.

The Spaniel.—"What animal (exclaims an observing writer) is more cunning than a Spaniel?" A dog of this kind was trained to carry money to his master's friends. One day, employed on this errand, he had a fierce quarrel with some petulant curs, who made an attack upon him. The Spaniel was brave, and not averse to the combat, but a great difficulty embarrassed him: he carried in his mouth a crown piece; so that his assailants bit him terribly when he could not retaliate. His situation was a trying one; so running immediately to conceal his crown, in a neighbouring walk, he returned, fiercely, and routed them. After this scuffle, our champion went back, breathless, to recover his money; but some officious knave had taken it away. The distressed creature returned, dragging his tail between his legs, and holding his ear to the ground. He was traversing the streets, sadly, when he heard the chinking of silver: the clerk of a rich banker was just counting out the contents of some bags of silver, in a hall on the ground floor. The arch creature profited by his good fortune, to retrieve his loss.—In an instant he leaped through the open window, seized the crown which was wanted, departed as quickly as he came, and succeeded, in spite of the blows of the servants, in performing his

mission.—This is remarkable enough in a brute. It was thus that the Spaniel avoided the punishment he would otherwise have received. His master, however, being informed of the circumstance, forgave him; but he took care to make him, the next day, carry to the banker another crown, in the place of that he had taken away.

Singular Cave.—The following account of a curious cave in Jackson county, Pensacola, is given by a gentleman who lately visited it, in company with some others.

It is situated about two miles west of the Chipola River, and near the road leading from the Big Spring on the Chattahoochee, to the Tallahassee. The entrance to the cave, is on the side of a small eminence at an elevation of about ten feet above the level of the land immediately surrounding it. The mouth is about ten feet broad and four high. After a moderate descent of about twenty feet, it opens into a spacious hall of white lime-stone, about 180 feet in length, by 100 in breadth, and from 30 to 50 feet high. The top is a regular arch, supported by two pillars, which appear to have been formed by the dripping of water from the top of the cave. These pillars appear like fluted columns, with base and capital of curious carved work. The dripping of the water from the top of the cave, has also formed stalactites, which are suspended from the roof like icicles from the eaves of a house. On the floor of the cave are numerous bodies, formed also by the dripping of water, of a variety of shapes, some resembling benches, tables, &c. and others the heads and bodies of animals, and all appearing like the most beautiful carved work. The walls of this spacious room are in some places perpendicular to a considerable height, in others a little projecting.

At the extremity of this hall is an almost perpendicular descent of a few feet, at the bottom of which is a sink or basin of water, about 30 feet deep, and so very pure that by the assistance of a torch light, the minutest pebbles could be seen upon the bottom. As this basin extended entirely across the cave, which at this place is not more than ten or twelve feet wide, with perpendicular walls, we could explore it no further. How far we might have penetrated into this subterranean cavern, had we been provided with the means, I do not know.

The atmosphere within the cave was remarkably cold and damp. Although the morning was quite cool for the season and the sun obscured from clouds, yet on coming into the open air, we were thrown into a violent perspiration, and the effect the sudden change produced on us was similar to what would have been produced on going out of the open air into a heated room. We were informed by a gentleman in company with us, that about five or six miles distant from this cavern, is another, out of which issues a beautiful stream of water. This last has been penetrated to the distance of about a hundred yards from its entrance; but either for fear, or want of curiosity, no person has yet explored it sufficiently to give a description of it.

One of the most extraordinary facts connected with modern or ancient warfare, is one in relation to the invasion of Hayti by General Le Clerc. The fact would be altogether incredible, if we had it not on the very best authority, that of Napoleon Bonaparte, the brother-in-law of General Le Clerc. In the volumes recently published by M. Montholon, and dictated by Napoleon, at St. Helena, the failure of Le Clerc in his expedition against St. Domingo is attributed to his disobedience of orders. His whole course of conduct was dictated by a desire to conquer the island by force of arms, whereas his orders were to conciliate to the utmost of his power by offices and otherwise; the coloured population of the island. On the defeat of the expedition and the return to France of what remained alive, it was found that the orders of Bonaparte to Le Clerc never had been opened. They were returned to Napoleon made up and sealed as they had been delivered to General Le Clerc.—Dem. Frées.

A brewer, at Paris, has lately produced a species of Porter, the excellence of which is highly vaunted in one of the French journals. The notes of it is headed, "Another conquest over England" and it is confidently predicted, that this new invention will soon supersede all other malt beverages, throughout Europe!

To become either virtuous or useful, we must be habitually active; not breaking forth occasionally with transient lustre, like the blaze of a comet, but regular in its returns, like the light of day.