

THE STAR

and North-Carolina Gazette,

BELL & LAWRENCE.

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GENERAL JACKSON.

From the New York Commercial Advertiser.

Messrs. Francis, Hall & Co. GENTLEMEN— I have hitherto been and still am undecided in opinion as to the person whom it would be desirable, out of the present candidates, to elevate to the high office of President of the United States.

GALLATIN, TENN. AUG. 23, 1823. —I left Nashville yesterday. During my stay, I paid a visit to Gen. Jackson and his amiable lady.

Although my interview with him was necessarily short, my duties calling me away much sooner than my feelings dictated; yet, I must say, that in correctness of political principles, stern honesty and integrity of character, disinterested patriotism, and that which elevates him much more in my estimation, his great respect for religion and religious persons, he is not excelled by any of the prominent men of the country; and it may be a question if he has his equal.

It is thought by those who best know him, that the character, public and private, of this gentleman, has been basely slandered by some interested men, for sinister purposes. I shall not notice particularly the many facts illustrative of his heart as a man of feeling, of intellect, and of great decision of character.

I saw an Indian boy at the general's house, whose short history is further illustrative of his benevolence. During the Creek war, after one of the battles, an Indian child was discovered sucking the breast of his dead mother!

I was pleased to find him, early in the morning, engaged in reading the second volume. His opinions however are not the only evidences that he respects pure and goddified religion—the religion intended for our salvation through

We have been taught to believe by newspaper writers and others personally acquainted with Gen. Jackson, that he is proud, haughty, and overbearing; but the reverse is the truth.

ners have all the marks of the real gentleman; no affectation of superiority—no pedantry; but his conversation is strongly marked by good sense and sound judgment. He is kind, pleasantly familiar, affectionate to his friends and visitors, and appears to manifest much respect for the feelings and opinions of others.

The general is not only worthy of respect and public attention for the many amiable qualities he possesses and exhibits, but in the various important official posts he has filled, his conduct challenges the admiration and praises of every true patriot, and lover of good order, and his country's weal. No public peculators—no public defaulter will long endure his presence and eagle eye—such miscreant characters would no longer fatten on the blood of the nation, but would retire branded with infamy into the regions of the politically damned, and covered with eternal disgrace.

The most endearing, and, in my opinion, the most elevated trait in the general's character, and that which ought to give him the chief place in the hearts of his countrymen, especially the religious part of the community, is his deliberate and decided testimony in favor of the Christian religion, the religion of the bible, and of the heart; although, as yet, he makes no public profession before the world.

I find it is the opinion of a friend of mine, that the General will ere long, attach himself to the Presbyterian Church in Nashville, by a public profession. The solemnity he manifests in public worship—the interest with which he hears the word of God, and the gravity of his whole demeanor, lead me to entertain a hope that his mind is properly impressed with divine things; and, I trust the day is not far distant when he will prove to the world, that he is, and will be, as good a soldier of the cross as he has been in defence of his dear country's very existence and liberties.

I am told he was favored, with a pious and godly mother, who early instructed him in the great and essential doctrines of the gospel, and imbued his mind with correct evangelical principles; and, that he, by this means, as well as from subsequent, deliberate and ripe conviction, firmly believes in the inspiration of the holy scriptures, and rests all his hopes of salvation and eternal felicity on the divinity and atonement of the Lord Jesus Christ, and views these prominent doctrines of scripture, not as the dogmas of the schools, or the fancies of misguided fanatics, but as revealed from Heaven, for the foundation of christian hope and comfort.

The pastor of the church, who lately visited and preached at his camp. He stated, while here, that Mrs. Jackson was a member and bright ornament of his church; and he further stated that Gen. J. stood up in support of membership in his church, having the opinion of the assembly, experience, and a large number of his countrymen.

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the great sacrifice of the cross. He often gives a practical proof in its favor not to be disregarded. At this time, he and his neighbors are busily engaged in erecting a place of worship, of the Presbyterian order, near his mansion, and but a step or two from a log building in which I preached, and proclaimed my message to the people of his vicinity, a short time since.

He is also the friend of clergymen, many of whom have been fed and clothed by his generosity. To this profession he observes such a course of conduct as excites their veneration and love. They are invited under his roof to perform duties of family piety; and some time ago, his parlour was thrown open for a prayer meeting for the benefit of the neighborhood during the visit of his pastor; and it is the ardent and constant prayer of many pious souls, that the brave Hero of Orleans may become a faithful and dauntless soldier of the Crucified One.

This is the man whom many in every part of the nation deemed it a privilege and delight to honor. He is too't to be too modest to push himself into notice, and too sterling a patriot to court popularity by the prevailing arts of this degenerate and corrupt age. He never makes stump speeches, nor shews himself abroad to the people. But it is to be hoped, that his friends and the true friends of the people and of our country's interests, will not fail to sound his well earned fame, till his worth is universally acknowledged, and till he is honored with the first dignity this great and mighty nation can confer. I am neither a prophet, nor a prophet's son, yet I sometimes think that this man is further destined by Heaven for some more signal service to his natural country, which shall hand down his name to posterity, interwoven with that of our beloved Washington.

I have no more on this subject, and conclude in part with the language of Caesar—

"Veni, vidi, et victus sum."

"The dead's alive, the lost is found."

The most extraordinary case has just happened in this county that has ever occurred within our recollection. Samuel W. Standifer, a young man of respectable connexions, suddenly disappeared on Thursday evening of the 21st ultimo, in a way so mysterious as to induce a general belief in the neighborhood that he was murdered. Suspicion immediately attached to his uncle Jesse Standifer, an old and highly respectable citizen, with whom there was known to be a misunderstanding. But what gave colour to the supposition that he was murdered, and that his uncle was the perpetrator of the foul deed, was, that the next morning the young man's horse, saddle and bridle, were found at two hundred yards from his dwelling. Upon inspection, the saddle and bridle were found to be stained with blood; the bridle reins contained several spots, and the saddle was marked with a large impression as if made with a bloody hand.

This discovery at once fixed the guilt upon the unfortunate uncle, and the whole neighborhood were excited to an active inquiry into the circumstances. It were needless to repeat the many idle reports which immediately took wing upon the occasion. Search was made for several days for the murdered man, but in vain, he was not to be found. Guilt nevertheless was fixed upon the uncle, and he was forthwith arrested, with his two sons, and brought before a magistrate for inquiry, when the following facts were disclosed: It was proved by the uncle that the young man was seen by a neighbor of the first respectability, on the evening of his departure, riding on the road which leads by the uncle's; that after the young man had passed his uncle's about two and a half miles, the witness, between 7 & 8 o'clock at night, overtook him a foot, stopped and conversed with him for several minutes. The witness suspecting from his conduct that something was the matter, pressed upon him a disclosure, when the young man, upon enjoining secrecy, stated that he was about to play a trick, had abandoned his horse, saddle and bridle for that purpose, and was then on his way to some distant place where he would never be heard from again. The witness described his person, clothing, &c. and was positive as to the identity of his person. Two other witnesses were examined on the part of the uncle, by whom it appeared that a young man,

corresponding precisely with the description of Samuel Standifer, had lodged in the house of one of them on that night, and related to them that he was by the name of Standifer, and nephew to the accused. This evidence being so full and explicit that the young man was still living, the uncle and his sons were immediately discharged.

The uncle and his friends, conscious of their innocence, and the more fully to acquit themselves of the unjust imputation, immediately despatched a messenger in search of the nephew, who, after 8 or 10 days, found him near Florence and brought him in triumph to Huntsville, alive, last Sunday evening. Thereby giving an ocular demonstration to a jealous and highly incensed community, that they had been charged falsely. It turns out that the young man resorted to this nefarious and wicked stratagem to effect his uncle's destruction, and actually cut his own finger, stained his bridle and saddle, and left them and his horse at his uncle's cotton gin, for the express purpose of inducing the public to believe that his uncle was the murderer. A most diabolical scheme. But his plot failed, and he is brought back to receive the punishment due to his perfidy.

In addition to the evidence given on the trial of the uncle, it is proper to mention that the young man, before his departure, had made a confidant of another uncle to whom he disclosed his wicked intentions, and enjoined upon him perpetual secrecy. But when the intended victim was found in jeopardy, the uncle promptly interposed and disclosed the whole scheme. The result of this case adds another lesson to the many already given to the world, what little confidence is to be placed in circumstantial testimony. Hundreds of innocent men, no doubt, have suffered death in a similar way, and but for the delivering hand of providence, the venerable Jesse Standifer might, & probably would have been sacrificed to appease the vengeance of an incensed community.

Huntsville Democrat.

Legislature of North-Carolina.

SENATE.

Thursday, Dec. 2.

On motion of Mr. Bryan. Resolved, That the Comptroller of this state be required to obtain from the Clerks of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions and Wardens of the poor in each county in this State, or from any authentic source, a statement exhibiting the amount of tax and sums of money levied and disbursed in their respective counties, annually, for the support of the poor, during the last five years, and report to the next General Assembly.

Mr. Williams, of Beaufort, from the committee appointed on the subject, reported unfavorably to the petition of the Cavalry Company of Rutherford, praying to be furnished with arms. Concurred in.

Mr. Johnson presented a bill to authorize Charles Phelps, late Sheriff of Washington County, to collect the arrears of taxes for 1822; also a bill to appoint Commissioners to lay out a road from Lee's Mills to the head of Newland in Washington county, & for other purposes therein mentioned. These bills were read the first time, and the latter referred to the committee on Internal Improvements.

Mr. Pool presented a bill to legitimate Eliza Bailey and Ambrose Bailey, of Pasquotank. Read and referred to the committee heretofore appointed, to consolidate Bills on this subject.

The Senate entered upon the orders of the day, and took up the bill, for the better regulation of slaves and free persons of color. Mr. Hill moved an amendment to the bill, and Mr. Joiner moved for the indefinite postponement of the bill and amendment, which was carried.

The bill authorizing the Supreme Court to regulate the practice of taking depositions, was read the second time, and, on motion of Mr. McLeod, ordered to lie on the table.

The bill to amend an act, passed at the last session of the Assembly, to amend the laws making provision for widows, was read the second time. Mr. McLeod moved an amendment to the bill, and Mr. Barringer moved that it be committed to a select committee, which was agreed to, and Messrs. Barringer, Bryan, McLeod, Hogan and Hargrave were named as the committee.

Mr. Pool presented the petition of John Reardon, of Pasquotank. Referred to the committee of Divorce and Alimony.

Mr. Johnson presented a bill, authorizing the Commissioners of the town of Plymouth to make conveyances of lots in said town in certain cases. Read the first time.

The bill authorizing Charles Phelps to collect arrears of taxes, &c. was read the second time and reported.

The bill to amend an act, for establishing a College in the Western part of

North-Carolina; the bill to amend Commissioners to superintend the laying out and improving the great State road lying between Jefferson in Ashe county and the Tennessee line; the bill for the relief of the Trustees of the Oxford Academy; and the bill to prevent actions from abating in certain cases, were read the second and third times and ordered to be engrossed.

Friday, Dec. 3.

Mr. Hill, from the balloting committee for Governor, having reported that Hutchins G. Burton was duly elected, a joint committee was appointed to wait upon him to inform him of his election, and to ascertain when it will be convenient for him to qualify. Messrs. Hill and Bryan of the Senate, and Messrs. Donoho and Williamson, of the Commons, form the committee.

Mr. Shober, from the committee of Indian Reservations, moved that the said committee be vested with power to send for persons and papers. Agreed to.

Mr. Welborn, from the committee of Divorce & Alimony, reported a bill to divorce Lewis Tomberau, of Wake, from his wife Nancy; also, a bill to divorce Solomon Davis, of Carteret, from his wife Oelia; also, a bill to divorce Elizabeth Ferguson, of Wilkes, from her husband William Ferguson; which passed their first readings.

Mr. Forney, from the committee on Internal Improvement, to whom was referred the petition of sundry inhabitants of Wilkes, reported a bill to make a road across the Brushy Mountain at Greer's Gap. Read the first time and passed.

Mr. Forney, from the same committee, reported unfavorably to the petition of John Kirk, dec'd. Concurred in.

Mr. Legrand presented the petition of John Kirk, dec'd. Referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Bethune presented a bill respecting the election of Sheriffs, and other County Officers; leaving the county taxes and appointing sheriffs to serve at the Superior Courts in Cumberland county; and Mr. Davidson, a bill to amend an act for the better regulation of the Town of Statesville, in Iredell county. Read the first time.

The Senate resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, Mr. Wilson in the chair, for the purpose of taking into consideration the bill to advance the administration of Justice in Courts of Equity, and to establish a Court for that purpose, and the resolution relative to the Supreme Court, being the unfinished business of Monday last. After considerable debate, the committee rose, the Speaker resumed the chair, and Mr. Wilson, from the Committee of the Whole, reported progress and obtained leave to sit again on to-morrow.

Saturday, Dec. 4.

Mr. Bryan, from the committee on that part of the Governor's message, relating to free persons of color, reported, that, in the opinion of the committee, the provisions of an act passed in 1795, to prevent any person who may emigrate from any part of West India or Bahama Islands, or the French Dutch or Spanish settlements on the Southern Coast of America, from bringing slaves into this State, and also imposing certain restrictions on free persons of color, are amply and effectually operate upon this subject as any which can be enacted, and moved that the committee be discharged from the further consideration of said subject. Agreed to.

Mr. Forney, from the committee on Internal Improvement, reported favorably to the petition of Joshua Allison.

On motion of Mr. Bryan.

Resolved, That the Judiciary committee be instructed to enquire into the expediency of so modifying the act of 1820, relative to the marriage of infant females, as to permit the marriage, by consent in writing of the mother of a free sole, or by the like consent of the Guardian.

Mr. Wilson presented a bill to establish Harmony Grove Academy, in Edgecombe county, and to incorporate the Trustees thereof; Mr. Hill, a bill to amend an act, passed in 1823, for the relief of Female Debtors; and Mr. Montgomery, a bill concerning the election of constables in Orange county; which were severally read the first time.

The Senate resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Wilson in the chair, on the unfinished business of yesterday, relative to the establishment of a Court of Equity, &c. After much debate, the committee rose, and the Chairman reported to the House their disagreement to the bill and resolution; which report was concurred in by the Senate.

Monday, Dec. 6.

On motion of Mr. Spright.

Resolved, that the committee on the Judiciary enquire into the expediency of extending relief to those counties where the suits have so accumulated, that they cannot be tried at the regular terms of said Courts, without any