

# The Raleigh Minerva.

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## RALEIGH, (N. C.)

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## Fine Arts.

Mr. Alston, whose second historical picture is now exhibiting at the gallery of our academy, is an artist who unites to the talents of a painter, the acquisitions of a scholar, and the manners of a gentleman. He early in life devoted himself to the fine arts; and by a residence of some years in Europe, particularly in Rome, made himself an accomplished painter. After his return to his native country, he resided some time in Boston, where his landscapes attracted universal admiration.

About the year 1811, Mr. Alston visited Europe a second time, and took up his abode in London. Here he boldly designed and executed his first historical picture. The English painters were astonished at what they termed his temerity, and some predicted his failure. The work was, however, finished, amidst a burst of approbation.

Mr. Alston intended to exhibit his picture for his own emolument, but was prevailed upon by the British institution to deposit it with them for exhibition. It is stated that he had reason to believe that they would become the purchasers.—The picture lost nothing by public exhibition, or by a comparison with the efforts of the art by which it was surrounded. Mr. Alston's fame increased, but his picture was returned to him with an awarded prize of two hundred guineas.—The picture has been purchased by the Philadelphia academy for three thousand five hundred dollars.

The picture now exhibiting in this city is Rebecca receiving Eleazar, the steward of Abraham, and giving him water to drink at the well of Nabor. It was purchased by a gentleman of this city in London, who has liberally deposited it in the gallery of the academy for a short time, where every lover of the arts will see and admire it.—N. F. Ev. Post.

## Medical.

The following very interesting article, is taken from the Christian Observer, of September, 1815.—Messrs. Wright & Son, surgeons of Bristol, have succeeded in restoring the faculty of hearing to several persons born totally deaf and dumb. These persons having now acquired the faculty of distinguishing sounds are daily improving in the power of conversing. These gentlemen intend to receive a limited number of persons of respectability labouring under these infirmities into an establishment in the neighbourhood of that healthy situation, Clifton.

## REMEDY FOR THE DIFFICULTY OF HEARING.

DR. D. GREEN.

Takes the liberty of informing the people, that he has discovered a very easy mode of assisting those who are hard of hearing.

Knowing that providence has permitted a remedy to grow for every disease, he has made it his study, this number of years past, to try to find out this remedy.

At length he flatters himself of being successful, more so than any other man yet.

The remedy generally gives help, except to very old people, who begin to lose their eyesight, about the time that the hearing becomes weakened. To all others, it as yet, has seldom failed of restoring that great blessing of hearing.

The medicine, with directions, can be sent to the patient by post or otherwise, to any place, however distant. At the same time, it may be somewhat satisfactory to those distressed to know that they may pursue their usual business, and to eat and drink what tastes best.

The preparing, transmission, postage, &c. of the remedy, will come to about five dollars.

This enclosed in a letter, will cover all expense to the patient.

One great object is to diffuse its benefits as far as possible; therefore, all printers who will give the above an occasional insertion, shall receive its advantages for themselves or relatives, in thus assisting to place it within the reach of the distressed.

## FOR THE MINERVA.

Mr. Editor,—Many people, in letters to me, express a wish to have my principle of cure explained to them.—In return this I cheerfully will do.

The principle of cure—Is, to invigorate the whole system and through this invigorating process, any weak part will have an opportunity to recover itself.

For, "whatever has a tendency to strengthen the whole system, necessarily will STRENGTHEN ANY WEAK PART"—Dr. Rush's Lectures.

On this doctrine, my mode of cure is founded—and as hard hearing is nothing more than a weakness of the ears,—I of course follows, that by strengthening the whole system, this weakness will be strengthened at the same time—consequently HEARING RETURNS.

'Tis well known, that it has been customary, to use

various instruments to cleanse the ears of wax. This has often caused the greatest injury—Before you had time to withdraw such instrument and even before the person was aware of his danger—this forcing the wax out is UNNATURAL.

This wax is nature's defence of the ears; as the tears are nature's defence of the eyes.

True! At times there will be too much wax when this so happens nature gives notice by a call peculiar to the parts—and when feeling this call nothing more is necessary, than to put a little warm water into them. Afterwards by introducing the finger, and working the ears well, until a flow of warmth is felt—all that part of the wax which is too much will come away, and that part which nature requires, nature will keep back. But with the instrument you force ALL OUT.

Heretofore people generally put into the ears—what was recommended for help; this was wrong, perfect madness, it has ruined thousands.

The ears are too tender to bear it—and knowing that hard hearing is owing to a weakness in the ears—putting medicines into them, only increases this weakness and makes them worse.

On the other hand, the reader will be pleased to observe that my principle of cure, goes quite the contrary way; altogether so.

Thus! by this contrary way, (if we may so express ourselves,) we accomplish what could not be heretofore be accomplished, by what has always been considered the RIGHT WAY.

D. GREEN.

Reading, State of Pennsylvania, March, 1817.

## Political.

Extract of a letter from the Hon. Benj. Hardin, to his friend in Frankfort, dated.

WASHINGTON CITY, DEC. 19.

I never thought or acted with the federalists. I once did with the democrats. The leaders of that party, although they retain that imposing name, have, in my opinion, renounced the principles. I congratulate myself, that I am not made of that pliable political kind of material out of which our most flaming democrats seem to be composed. I once did believe, in the happy days of Jefferson's administration, that a system of taxation, both direct and excise, was unpalatable and oppressive to the people. I have not altered my opinion. Some of the democrats have. To be in favour of taxation, was once called federalism; now, to be against it, is called by the same name. Myself and the democrats face, in the days of Adam's iron reign, tho't that a standing army in time of peace, although all Europe was at war, was an unnecessary expense, and a burthen upon the people, and only calculated to strengthen the executive, by extending its patronage. Now the democrats have got into power, and their friends and relations into office. We are now at peace, and so is all the world. Adams had but 8,000, they have 10,000 men in the army, and they think not enough. I am called a federalist because I will not alter my old opinion.

I once thought, and so did the democrats, that confining the general government to act only as was expressly delegated to them by the constitution, was the only way to prevent the general government from swallowing up the state sovereignties; hence I was of opinion, that the charter of the first bank was unconstitutional, and concurred in the resolution instructing our senators and requesting our representatives to vote against the renewal of the charter; so did the democrats; since which time the constitution has not been altered in word or letter. But Lexington had, if report be correct, either over-traded or over-dissipated itself. It wanted money; a branch bank could accommodate. The charter of a bank became constitutional, and I am a federalist because I could not change my constitutional opinions to meet local views. To recapitulate; because I do not tamely submit, under false colours, to Adams' old favourite maxims of government, large armies in times of peace, taxes when there is no necessity for them, and extension of our foreign intercourse to make room for friends and favourites, or shifting them from place to place, to give them the additional benefit of more outfits than one, which is nine thousand dollars each; every effort made to extend executive patronage and increase officers' salaries, encroaching upon the states by unconstitutional acts; because I do not renounce all my old political principles, and like the weathercock, turn to every point of the political compass; because I will not aid and assist in placing in our judiciary a young man, unknown to us, unknown to our customs, manners and laws—and that, too, in opposition to such men as a Rowan and a Trimble, men of Kentucky growth, richly gifted by nature and deeply read in the laws of our state; in fine, because I do not track full and fair, and, to use their own favourite phrase, go the WHOLE, I am a federalist. If this course of putting down men by raising the hue and cry against them shall, ultimately succeed, I will retire contentedly, repeating the words of the poet,

When vice prevails, and impious men bear sway,  
The post of honor is a private station.

## FROM THE NATIONAL REGISTER.

Materials for History.—The current political discussions in Massachusetts have drawn forth, on the one side and the other, much asperity. The candidates of the two contending parties for the office of governor have, in an especial manner, excited no little fermentation. Governor Brooks is applauded by his friends, who depreciate General Dearborn; whilst the friends of the latter eulogize him and depreciate Governor Brooks. It is not our intention to interfere in this party warfare; but it falls in our way to preserve a few documents which the occasion has called forth. Among other modes of recommending their favorite, the adherents of General Dearborn have furnished the public with a brief memoir

of his services; and, among these, his command upon the Niagara frontier during the late war has not been forgotten. His having been withdrawn from that command by the government, at a critical period, seems, with the advocates of the general, to have called for an explanation, which has accordingly been given, in what manner the following documents will illustrate:

War Department, 6th July, 1813.

Sir,—I have the president's orders to express to you his decision, that you retire from the command of district No. 9, and of the troops within the same, until your health be re-established, and until further orders.

I have the honor to be, with very great respect, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN ARMSTRONG.

Major Gen. H. Dearborn.

It may easily be supposed that Gen. Dearborn did not very well relish the substance nor the style of this laconic order; so he addressed himself forthwith to the President of the United States:

Utica, July 24, 1813.

The President of the United States.

From the unequivocal and positive order received from the Secretary of War, (a copy of which I take the liberty of enclosing) I had no option, but implicit obedience, and I retired within 20 hours after the receipt of that order. My health had so much improved as to enable me to re-assume the command of the troops on the 16th of June, of which I had informed the Secretary of War. By a letter from the War Department of the 27th of May, I was informed that Major Gen. Hampton would set out the next day for this army. I anxiously expected his arrival by the 18th or 20th of June, but by a letter dated the 30th of June, the Secretary of War gave me the first notice of the formation of an army in Vermont, and of the destination of Gen. Hampton and Parker to that army.

From the daily expectation of the arrival of Gen. Hampton, Major Gen. Lewis was directed to proceed to Sackett's Harbor, to take command of the troops assembled and assembling at that place.

As I was suspended from all command, I shall retire to my family, near Boston.

I shall never complain of being so disposed of as the goal of the service may require, but the manner of performing an act, gives a character to the act itself, and considering the particular manner and time of my removal from command, I trust it will not be deemed improper to afford me the satisfaction of an inquiry, for investigating any parts of my conduct, that may have been deemed improper, and on which my suspension from command may have been predicated.

I have the honor of being, with the highest respect, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

H. DEARBORN.

President Madison, who understands directly well the art of "taking the catastrophe" of those whose pride has been wounded, returned the following answer:

Washington, August 3, 1813.

DEAR SIR,—I have received yours of the 24th July. As my esteem and regard have undergone no change, I wish you to be apprized that such was the state of things, and such the turn they were taking, that the retirement which was the subject of your letter, was pressed by your best personal friends. It was my purpose to have written to you on the occasion, but it was made impossible by a severe illness, from which I am now barely enough recovered for a journey to the mountains, prescribed by my physicians as indispensable. It would have been entirely agreeable to me, if, as I took for granted was to be the case, you had executed your original intention of providing for health, by exchanging the sickliness of Niagara for some eligible spot, and I sincerely lament, every pain to which you have been subsequently exposed, from whatever circumstance it has proceeded. How far the investigation you refer to would be regular, I am not prepared to say. You have seen the motion of the House of representatives, comprehending such an object, and the prospect held out of resuming the subject, at another session. I am persuaded that you will not lose in any respect by the effect of time and truth.

Accept of my respects and best wishes,

JAMES MADISON.

Major General DEARBORN.

Gen. Dearborn, however, was not to be "fobbed off" in this manner: he had been in the administration himself, and knew to a fraction the value of such complimentary epistles. He made the following reply:

Roxbury, August 17, 1813.

The President of the United States,

Sir,—I have been honored with your letter of the 6th inst. It is peculiarly gratifying in my present situation to be assured that your esteem and regard had undergone no change, and that you are persuaded that I shall not lose in any respect "by effect of time or truth;" but at my time of life, it could hardly be expected that I should quietly acquiesce in so unusual and so unprecedented a measure, as that of being removed from command in the manner I have been. From the peculiar tenor of the order, the measure cannot be viewed in any other light than as the result of an opinion that I had been guilty of such misconduct as to render my removal necessary. To suspend an officer of my grade and situation in command, except by the sentence of a court-martial, or the opinion of a court of enquiry, is such a strong measure, as on generally received principles, could only be justified by the most unequivocal and outrageous misconduct of the officer; and I cannot permit myself to doubt that on reflection, it will be considered proper to afford me a hearing before a suitable military tribunal, previous to my being again ordered on duty.

I find it is pretended that my suspension from command was merely to comply with my re-

peated requests to be allowed to retire, for the recovery of my health, but every one acquainted with the facts, and with the peculiar expressions made use of in the order, will readily perceive that such pretence is unfounded.

In the order I complain of, it being explicitly expressed, that it came directly from the President of United States, will I hope be admitted as an apology for my having addressed my observations directly to yourself. I shall rely with the fullest confidence, sir, on your justice, for such fair and honorable proceedings, as my situation demands.

That your health be speedily re-established is, sir, the sincere prayer of your most obedient humble servant,

H. DEARBORN.

This strong appeal of the general's was answered in the following soothing way:

War Department, Sackett's Harbor,

24th September, 1813.

Sir,—The enemy's squadron having left the Chesapeake, and belief existing, that they mean to shape their course northwards, and perhaps with a view to New-York, you will be pleased, on receipt hereof, to repair to that post, and take on yourself the command of district No. 3.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN ARMSTRONG.

Major Gen. Dearborn, Boston.

The new command, however, did not suffice; and General D. continued to tease the executive.

Albany, January 2, 1814.

Sir,—In my letter to you a few days after I received your order to retire from command, I expressed a wish that I might be allowed a court of enquiry, and I also communicated a similar desire to the president of the United States. I waited for the return of the president and the secretary of war to the seat of government, as a convenient time for having my application attended to. I had hoped that I should be favored with a hearing before a suitable court without any more direct application on my part; but having received no information to that effect, I consider it necessary to state explicitly, and request that as soon as I am relieved from the tour of duty I am now about commencing, I may be indulged with a hearing before such a court as may be deemed proper.

From your own remarks, and from common report, it appears that some general disapprobation had been excited against my conduct as commander of the army in the 9th district, and particularly on account of the disaster of Lieut. Col. Boerstler and the detachment under his command; and for having been guilty of disobedience of orders. It must be evident from the extraordinary manner of my being suspended from command, that strong impressions had been made on the mind of the president, to my prejudice, previous to his giving explicit directions for that measure, as expressed in the order of my removal. It is therefore evidently necessary that a fair and impartial investigation should be had; not only as an act of common justice due to myself, but for affording such information and satisfaction to the public, as ought not to be withheld. I therefore do most earnestly request that a court of enquiry be ordered for the investigation of my conduct generally, while commanding the 9th military district; and particularly in relation to such parts thereof as the president of the United States may have deemed improper; and I must take the liberty of requesting that I may not be ordered on any command until I shall have been indulged with such an investigation.

I have the honor to be, &c.

H. DEARBORN.

Hon. John Armstrong, Secretary at War.

Mr. Monroe replies in the manner subjoined. It is a masterly letter to bring about a pacification. Throwing the ladies in, by way of a remembrancer, is peculiarly tender.

Washington, June 15, 1814.

DEAR SIR,—I ought to have answered your letter sooner, especially as it is related to a subject which I find deeply interests you. The late extraordinary events in Europe, with the duties imposed on me by the arrival of the Olivier, will, I hope, plead my apology.

You say that you ought to have an enquiry into your conduct to justify you against any imputation arising from the terms of the order which withdrew you from the command on the lines. I have communicated your impressions to the president, who is perfectly well disposed to afford you the opportunity which you desire, at a time when it may be done without injury to the service. My own idea is, that you require no vindication in the case alluded to; that public opinion has already done you justice.

You may recollect that you had been informed, and had even intimated a doubt whether your health would permit you to retain the command of the troops. Of the president's constant friendship for you, and attention to every circumstance interesting to your honor and feelings, I can speak with the utmost confidence, as I can that this disposition towards you has undergone no change. I am satisfied that he had the highest confidence in your integrity, attachment to free government, and ability to command, diminished only by the infirmity alluded to, which had more weight,