

# The Raleigh Minerva.

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## RALEIGH, (N. C.)

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## Domestic.

WILMINGTON, JUNE 10, 1820.

On Tuesday, the 6th instant, a brig made her appearance off the main bar—a pilot boat went out and put a pilot on board. The pilots who returned in the boat, reported her to be an English armed brig, from Bordeaux, in want of provisions and water. The men on board alleged that the wind was unfavorable to come in, and offered the pilot, retained on board, \$150 to take them to Charles con. The brig then disappeared for a day or two, when she re-appeared. The cutter has been sent in pursuit.

Information was received yesterday at Smithville, that six men had that morning been landed from the strange vessel, which was now suspected to be a pirate. They were immediately apprehended, and five of them separately examined; from which it appears that she is the vessel alluded to in the following paragraph:

Captain Whiting, of the ship Garonne, arrived at New York on the 26th ult. reports the following:—On the 11th of April (Cape Palos S. W. 5 miles.) fell in with an armed brig, and was ordered to send the ship's boat and papers on board; after some detention, the boat returned with the following note:

"Sir—I will thank you to report the brig General Rondeau, of and from Buenos Ayres, out four months, having manned four prizes.

"Signed, DAVID M. L. MILES, Com."

It was also ascertained, that some time previous to the landing of the men at Smithville, that 18 had gone on shore near Lockwood Holly, and being suspected that some of them might make for this place, a look-out was kept, and four of them arrested last evening. These men have not as yet been examined, in consequence of which although we have the substance of the examination of the men at Smithville, we refrain from giving it publicity until the examination of the men arrested at this place; only observing, that it appeared that there had been a mutiny on board, and an officer killed; that sixteen men had been put on board a vessel bound to Boston, met off Georgetown, S. C. loaded with timber, and two on board an English vessel. The captain, nor the first officer, was not on board; the first was alleged to have been put on shore, the latter to have been put on board of a prize. It was also stated that the captain took the vessel's papers with him. We can only observe, that we are certain every thing is not right, and that we suspect that the deeds for which so many human beings have lately forfeited their lives, have been reacted on board of this vessel.

If we are enabled to give a full account of the transaction, before the regular day of issuing our paper, we will do so, and send it to the editors of the papers with whom we exchange, for the information of the public.

## From the Fayetteville Observer. TO THE ELECTORS,

### OF THE BOROUGH OF FAYETTEVILLE.

Under the influence of those feelings that trust, voluntarily and honorably bestowed, should ever inspire the minds of those designated to represent and guard the interests of their fellow citizens, and a conviction that those interests may be better promoted by a transfer of the trust to another, while my personal convenience will be subserved, I respectfully beg permission to make known to the Freeholders and Freemen of Fayetteville, that I decline being considered a Candidate for a seat in the ensuing General Assembly.

In the selection of a successor more capable of discharging the important duties of a representative, I am persuaded that no difficulty will arise; among the citizens of Fayetteville, there are many to whom I yield the acknowledgment of every superiority in qualification, save that which, emanated from zeal for the individual happiness of those who have honored me with their confidence and their collective prosperity as a society.

That at the approaching election you may so exercise the individual right of

suffrage as to promote the true object of government is the ardent wish of

Your obliged Fellow Citizen,  
JOHN WINSLOW.

## SLAVE TRADE.

We understand that in consequence of the information lately received from the African Coast of the immense and almost incredible number of vessels employed in this detestable traffic, the government are about to despatch some fast sailing vessels of war to that station, to assist the Cyane in bringing to justice those offenders against the laws of religion and humanity. *Georgetown Messenger.*

## Miscellaneous.

### ANECDOTE.

Related by Mr. J. J. J. in a letter of the 4th of December, 1818.

When the Declaration of Independence was under the consideration of Congress, there were two or three unlucky expressions in it, which gave offence to some members. The words "Scotch and other auxiliaries" excited the ire of a gentleman or two of that country. Severe strictures on the conduct of the British king, in negating our repeated appeals of the law which permitted the importation of Slaves, were disapproved by some Southern gentlemen, whose reflections were not yet matured to the full abhorrence of that traffic. Although the offensive expressions were immediately yielded, those gentlemen continued their deprecations on other parts of the instrument. I was sitting by Dr. Franklin, who perceiving that I was not insensible to the mutilations "I have made it a rule," said he, whenever it is in my power—to avoid becoming the draughtsman of papers to be reviewed by a public body. I took my lesson from an incident which I will relate to you. When I was a journeyman printer, one of my companions, an apprentice hatter having his time, was about to open shop for himself. His first concern was to have a handsome sign-board with a proper inscription. He composed it in these words: "John Thompson, Hatter, makes and sells hats for ready money." with the figure of a hat subjoined. But he thought he would submit it to his friends for their amendments. The first he shewed it to, thought the word 'hatter' tautologous, because followed by the words 'makes hats,' which shewed he was a hatter. It was struck out.—The next observed that the word 'his customers' would do more to make the hats if good and to their mind, they would buy, by whomsoever made.—He struck it out. A third said he thought the words 'for ready money' were useless as it was not the custom of the place to sell on credit; every one who purchased expected to pay. They were parted with and the inscription now stood 'John Thompson sells hats? Sells hats? says his next friend; 'why nobody would expect you to give them away.'—What then is the use of that word? It was struck out, and 'hats' followed it, the rather, as there was one painted on the board, so his inscription was reduced ultimately to John Thompson, with the figure of a hat subjoined.

**Melancholy and extraordinary event.**—The last Calcutta papers relate, that on the 14th October, an entertainment had been given on board the ship Bengal, lying there, at which about 50 ladies and gentlemen attended in a short time after, more than one half of the company were seized of a most rapid & malignant fever, and before a month had elapsed from the day of the entertainment, nearly one moiety of this half had died; and only one of those seized, was pronounced out of danger. What makes the event more extraordinary is the fact, that none of the married ladies felt the least disorder, and all the young ladies but one, were attacked.

There was a ball in the evening, is it not probable the exercise of the dance may have pre-disposed the young ladies to take the disease? The sickness is attributed to the effluvia from upwards of 17,000 buffalo horns, which made part of the lading of the ship. Capt. Woodward, of the Bengal, was one of the victims.

## Public Affairs.

Mr Forsyth, Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States at Madrid, to Sir Don Juan Jabat, Acting Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

MADRID MARCH 31, 1820.  
SIR: On the 18th May, 1819, I had the honor to transmit to the Marquis de Casa Yrujo, ad interim Secretary of State and Dispatch, a representation in behalf of some Americans confined at Malaga. On the 31st of July, I asked the attention of his successor, Mr. Salmon, to the same subject. On the 21st of September, I presented to the Duke of San Fernando a statement, on the part of the American government, of all the persons, citizens of the United States, who are known to be in confinement in different portions of the Spanish dominions, with a list of their names. To this list I requested that three other persons' names might be added,

by a note of the 5th of October. To neither of those several applications, have I received a reply. The recent and very interesting events which have occurred here lead me to hope, that a recurrence to this subject may be useful. Having been directed by the President of the United States to use all the means in my power for the restoration of the Americans confined to their country and friends, I trust that I shall be excused for bringing into view a subject of apparently minor importance. I have been unofficially informed, that the Americans who were in confinement at Malaga have been liberated, whether by an order of this Government, or by the spontaneous generosity of the local authorities, anticipating the decision at Madrid, I know not. I persuade myself, if His Majesty's attention should, in the midst of the weighty concerns that now occupy his royal mind, be recalled to this subject, that the same liberal indulgence would be granted to all. A generous forgetfulness of past differences of opinion among Spaniards has been proclaimed and warmly recommended. I should feel the most heartfelt satisfaction if the same magnanimous policy should be extended to my suffering countrymen, without discrimination. Those who are innocent would receive it gratefully, since the culpable would partake of its benefits. I forbear to dilate on this subject, referring you to what has been previously addressed to your predecessors, containing myself with repeating, that such an act would produce the happiest effects on the future relations of Spain and the United States, two nations who have many common, few opposite interests, and who have, at this moment, in the similarity and liberality of their institutions, stronger inducements to draw near to each other, than any other two powers on the globe. I renew to you, Sir, the offering of my most sincere respect and perfect consideration.

JOHN FORSYTH.

Translation of a letter of Don Juan Jabat, Acting Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, at Madrid, to the Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States.

SIR: I have the satisfaction to communicate to you, for the information of your government, that the King of the Spains, desirous to give to the United States of America continued proofs of his friendship for them, and of his wish to evince more strongly, at a period, when, by means, both people have more nearly approximated to each other, has resolved to set at liberty all the Americans of the United States, made Prisoners within the Dominions of Spain, for having taken part in the disturbances of His American Colonies.

His Majesty, in commanding me to make to you this communication, has further charged me to express his hope that this generous proceeding will be duly appreciated by your government; and the rather, when the injuries resulting to Spain, from a conduct so unjustifiable, are taken into consideration; and that it will, in future, exert its whole authority and influence to suppress every hostile or piratical act derogatory to those principles of sound morality, which should form the rule of conduct of all nations governed, as in the case of Spain and the United States, by a constitution founded on wisdom and justice.

I hereupon renew to you the assurance of my high respect, and I pray God long to preserve you.

Madrid, 12th April, 1820.

JUAN JABAT.

### [TRANSLATION.]

Copy of the Decree issued by His Majesty for the liberation of such Americans of the United States, as have been made prisoners for taking part with the Insurgents in America.

Most Excellent Sir: The King having been pleased to issue an act of pardon and oblivion, is desirous of giving immediate effect to it by setting at liberty all such Americans, of the United States, as have been made prisoners within his dominions for having borne arms with the insurgents; for having acted as spies; for having been arrested without the requisite passports; for having aided and abetted, directly or indirectly, the existing rebellion in his American possessions; and, in fine, all such as have not committed the crimes of robbery and assassination, or who are confined for just debts. Circular letters to this effect are to be immediately despatched to all competent officers in America, in Spain, and in the garrisons abroad.

All which I communicate by Royal Order, for your information, and to serve the useful purposes.

God preserve you many years.

JUAN JABAT.

Palace, 12th April, 1820.

Mr Forsyth to Sen or Don Juan Jabat.

MADRID, APRIL 12, 1820.

SIR: I have had the honor to receive your Excellency's note of this day's date, giving me information that the King of the Spains had determined to liberate all the Americans, prisoners in the Spanish dominions, for having interfered in the disturbances with the Americans.

To shall hasten to transmit this pleasing intelligence to the government of my country, who will find in its new motives to prevent all violations of that neutrality, within the strict limits of which it resolved to confine itself at the commencement of those disturbances. It is with infinite pleasure I shall perform this duty, as I well know this act of His Catholic Majesty will be highly grateful in itself to the American government, and be considered as the presage of future harmony between Spain and the United States; the evidence of the spirit of general friendship which is hereafter to animate and regulate the intercourse between them. I rejoice that the policy and the circumstances of his government have permitted the indulgence of His Majesty's benevolent disposition towards my suffering countrymen.

I renew to your Excellency the assurance of my high respect and consideration.

JOHN FORSYTH.

Mr. Forsyth to the Consuls of the United States on the Mediterranean, in Spain.

MADRID APRIL 13, 1820.

SIR: I have the satisfaction to inform you, that the King of the Spains has directed all the Americans, prisoners, in different parts of the Spanish dominions for having intermeddled in the disturbances with the Americans, to be liberated. I give you this information, that you may take the earliest opportunity to convey it to the Americans who may be in confinement in your neighborhood. At the same time, you are hereby authorized to say to them, that the expenses of their voyage, from the place of confinement to the United States, will be advanced, if necessary, by the American government. For this purpose, any advances you may make will be repaid to you out of the contingent fund of this legation, or at the department of State in Washington, at your option, I am, &c.

JOHN FORSYTH.

## Agricultural.

Papers submitted to the Agricultural Society of Virginia, at their last Meeting and published by their order.

No. 4.—LOU DON & FAUQUIER AGRICULTURE.

In compliance with the wishes of the Committee of Correspondence appointed, expressed in their letter of January, 1819, I proceed to give them such information, as my limited means will afford; sensible of the importance of their object, I regret that I can contribute so little to its advancement.

The district of country embraced by my remarks lies immediately below the Blue Ridge, and extends from the Potomac river to the county of Culpeper, embracing so much of the counties of Loudoun and Fauquier, as lies above the hills, running parallel with the Blue Ridge, known in different parts by different names, viz: Cotocton Hills, Bull Run mountain, Leather Coat mountain, Pig, Nut ridge, &c. In an extensive view, this district exhibits the appearance of a valley; but it is undulating, formed of hills and valleys, and well adapted to farming.—The land near the Potomac river and immediately about the Cotocton hills is limestone; from whence there extends southwardly, a small vein of limestone parallel with the mountains, lying mostly at considerable depth from the surface, and only rising to it at distant points. The rest of a different description. The soil is grey in some places, and in others yellow, intermixed with sand, and in some, a red clay. The stone is as various as the soil, consisting either of a very hard iron stone, a sandstone, the white flint stone, or free stone.—Much of this country was sterile in its virgin state; but susceptible of a very considerable improvement from good cultivation, and the growth of red clover which is much assisted by the free use of gypsum. The best of it had been reduced to an unproductive state by the course of cropping, too well known all over the state, to require description.—A very astonishing increase in all crops, but more especially in small grain, and grass, followed shortly after the first use of gypsum and clover: Fields that had been exhausted so as not to produce 5 bushels of wheat to the acre—after lying in clover three years, and having been in that time twice or thrice strewn with a bushel of the gypsum to an acre of land, produced abundantly, raising the wheat product to 20, 25 & 30 bushels per acre, and the land that had usually produced 2 or 3 barrels of corn to the acre, before the introduction of this system, now yields from 6 to 10 barrels to the acre. This great change was made not entirely by the use of gypsum and clover, but partly by the use of better farming implements, and by allowing the soil to repose

for a time under a grass crop.

Wheat is the staple article of our country, the object of our farmers, has to pursue such a course of cultivation would be best adapted to increase the crop. Various experiments have been made by farmers to effecting their lands, and in some instances, some of the period, some less, breaking up the fallow land early, and ploughing it before seeding; or turning up the clover by a late ploughing, and sowing in the seed with a harrow. The wheat crop has however diminished of late years, on the (thus managed) and this diminution attributed by some, to the too free use of gypsum; I think it may be ascribed to an increase of blue grass, in fields. A considerable increase of stock was the consequence of the increased quantity of grass; close feeding, and impurities in the clover, and more hardy blue grass supplanted it. This grass is the greatest enemy known by us to the wheat crop, the hessian only excepted. I am justified in the opinion that the wheat product has been reduced by the blue grass, and by the use of gypsum; from the fact that the corn crop is not diminished. Besides, wheat, rye, Indian corn, and grass, are raised for consumption. The wheat is manufactured at the mill in the neighborhood; and the flour carried to the Alexandria market principally by the horses that cultivate the farm. The turnpike road from Alexandria to the Shenandoah river (a distance of 55 miles) affording to farmers a facility of doing this in the winter months. The great difference of product, heretofore, between corn and fallow, (being in the proportion two to one,) had lessened the corn crop and enlarged the fallow. It is now for that corn is an excellent preparation for blue grass land for wheat, and a system has commenced of planting in wide rows, so as to give the land the advantage of a summer's cultivation, kill the grass, and yet avoid that exhaustion produced by the growth of clover which has proved so fatal to our soil.

The improvement of our land is aided by litter from stack yards, barn yards and stables. There is not much done by manure, cattle or making compost, with us indispensable to good farming. The best in use here is made entirely of iron, by Davis of Washington Co. There are many good ploughs made both in villages and country situations. McKenzie at Aldie, and Idon Middleburg— from whom excellent ploughs may be obtained. The best ones for three horses cost from 20 to \$30; the lighter ones in proportion. There has lately been brought into what is called Lupton's Angular plough, may be considered as combining the properties of the light harrow and shovel plough, being fixed in a shovel and having three or five small shovels so arranged as to break and pulverize the soil it passes over. A patent has been obtained for this improvement; the plough can be had at Aldie, of William Noland, Esq. An improvement has been made on the shovel plough by John Balthrop of Fauquier county, so patented. It is by having two shovels to the same stock; the arrangement is ingenious, and it is said to do good work and to have the labour of a hand. A portable wheat threshing machine has been lately brought into Fauquier county; it is an English invention, but he has by making model wood procured neat castings for the purpose from Blackford's furnace; it swears well; the principal objection is the price, which hitherto has been \$360.

Stone fences are much in use in the parts of this country; they are raised 3 or 4 feet high, and are staked and staked with common rails. The stone is collected at such times as the farmer can spare, from those parts where an incumbrance, and placed where fence is to be raised. He pays about cents per rod for putting up, or do with his own labourers. This requires a smaller reserve of wood land necessary, besides the annual saving of labour in repairs, a third or a fourth retained in wood is thought sufficient; when it can be had for fencing.

There is a considerable quantity of meat, (mutton, pork and beef) carried to market from this district of country. The dairy produces a profit to a farmer, but is not generally attended to, except for family use. For the management of stock I refer you to others better qualified by practice to give useful information than myself.

BURR POWELL

Near Middleburg, Loudoun county.