

GREENSBOROUGH PATRIOT.

"THE IGNORANT AND DEGRADED OF EVERY NATION OR TIME MUST BE ENLIGHTENED, BEFORE OUR EARTH CAN HAVE HONOR IN THE UNIVERSE."

VOLUME I.

GREENSBOROUGH, N. C. SATURDAY, MAY 30, 1829.

NUMBER

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All letters and communications to the Editor, on business relative to the paper, must be **POST-PAID**, or they will not be attended to.

COMMUNICATIONS.

"But still remember, if you wish to please,
To press your point with modest and calm ease."

For the Greensborough Patriot.

MR. EDITOR:—I have not left my seat since I perused the first number of your paper. I like its mechanical appearance very well; and should you keep up, and improve that appearance, I have no doubt but the liberality and pride of the citizens of Guilford and the adjoining counties, and of the surrounding country generally, will amply sustain you in your praise-worthy, but precarious undertaking. On your "Prospectus," and "Address to your Patrons," I have bestowed particular attention; and as I am actuated by no other motives than those of anxiety for your success, you will excuse the liberty I am about to take in suggesting to your consideration a few thoughts which presented themselves during my examination of your first sheet.

In the first place, I observed several typographical errors in different parts of your paper. Against errors of this kind you should most watchfully and vigilantly guard. I admit the probability of their having grown out of the "hurried circumstances" under which you made your first appearance before the public in the new and untried character of an editor; but people in general are more apt to attribute such things to carelessness, than to their proper cause, and if the notion should once get abroad, that you are careless, or inattentive to your business, it will destroy the confidence which your patrons have reposed in you, and create a kind of counteracting carelessness on their part.

Another objection, though not a serious one, is the length of your articles, both original and collected. I am devotedly attached to that long established maxim, that it is always best to be short; and although I cannot well see how you could have said things, intelligibly, with fewer words than you have employed, yet I think it would be well to guard against a tiresome prolixity. Superficial readers will not dive into a long train of moral reasoning, but they might, and frequently would, pick up wholesome reflections from short and disconnected paragraphs.

The principles avowed in your commencing address, prospectus, &c. merit with my entire approbation, but whether prudence will justify you in placing "no restraint upon their discussion" admits of doubt. I discover no impropriety, however, in discussing "fairly and freely," all the subjects which you have enumerated, except that of slavery; but the people are so sensitive upon even the most distant allusion to the subject, that it might, and probably would, check the circulation of your paper, and thus operate against its usefulness, to needle with it at all. As to this, however, I cannot be very certain.—I merely throw out the thought for your consideration. I am an enemy to the principle of slavery myself. I regard it as the sorest calumny that ever Divine Providence permitted to visit our portion of the world; but how we shall ever be able to remove the evil, and thus avert the lowering judgements of heaven, I am unable to determine. Its difficulties and perplexities rise before us like the "Evelasting Hills," and bid defiance to the powers of piny man, and every effort to remove them seems but to increase their size and vitalize the hearts of the most resolute. Upon the whole, I think it would be better for your individual interest, and perhaps nearly as well for the community, if you would close your columns absolutely; against all interference with it, or any of its concomitants. You will, however, of course exercise your own discretion: I merely throw out these disjunctive remarks as they occur to me.

MONITOR.

If our readers can make any use of the application of the following communication it will be well to do so. We confess we cannot.

For the Greensborough Patriot.

MR. EDITOR:—If anything will be of any service, you are at liberty to use it. ALPHA.
Who next? And the way that have, this season, through curious and interesting, visited the Gold region, may be recalled, near Turtle, who regardless of the hostility of the North-Carolinians, was seen wending his way, upon his back his own house, no doubt, in complete delirium.
Query:—Has he not the Gold fever?

SELECTED

"And 'tis the sad complaint, almost true,
Whatever we write, we bring forth nothing new."

NORTH CAROLINA.

The following letter, purporting to be from a resident in some other section of the Union, this found in this State, we copy from the last number of the *York and Catawba Journal*. The subject to which it advert, demands the consideration of every citizen.

DEAR SIR,—Passing through the western part of North-Carolina, I stopped at a village where they were holding a County Court:—there were many persons collected near the Court-House and hearing one of them talking loudly, I walked up to ascertain the subject of his address, and soon found he was the sheriff of the county, and was offering for sale sundry tracts of land, levied on, as he said, to satisfy executions—A against B—C against D, &c. I remained near until he had cried off several tracts of improved land of from 50 to 200 acres, at from \$5 to \$50 per tract:—they were bought by persons who, from their appearance, I took to be of your best class of citizens, I mean your more educated class. I recollected to have been in your State in the winter of 1821, and among those with whom I at that time had business, heard great complaint against a law which they said had been passed by their General Assembly, requiring titles of lands and slaves made by executing officers, to be at the Court-House. I do not remember their particular objection to the aforesaid law; but they spoke of it as an innovation which they conceived might operate unfavorably to their individual interest, lessen the number of freeholds, and give more practical effect to the aristocratical feature, which they thought had been pretty strongly marked in the State constitution, something I recollect was so said with regard to your Banks proving a sort of whirlpool, that would ultimately draw many freeholds within their vortex. I have since observed part of the proceedings of your last General Assembly, in relation to those institutions; but more of this in my next. When returned to my lodgings, "mine host" being a Justice of the Peace, a patriot or something of that sort, I discovered on his shelves a bundle of musty pamphlets containing "Acts of the Assembly," as they are there called. I read the laws which authorized the exhibition mentioned at the Court-House, without coming to any conclusion as to the policy of the law in question; but I fell into a train of reflections on the legislation and general policy of that State, which several questions arose in my mind. I feel deeply interested in the prosperity of North-Carolina; not only because you, my friend, reside in the country of my nativity, but because it is a member of, and might sustain a high rank in this Union. As you sometimes have been, and may again be called into her legislative, I had taken the liberty to suggest some of the questions which occurred in the course of my reflections upon the subject.

1. Are not the laws of your State more prompt in the collection of taxes, than is compatible with the interest of an agricultural community?

2. If this is the case, do they not tend to promote that system of credit, which, I believe, you will admit, has long been the prevalent one for the general prosperity of the State?

3. In every community, and especially in one whose first and great care should be to foster the cultivator, should not the laws protect the tenant in the permanent possession of the soil?

4. Was the law which gives the creditor the power to sell his debtor's land, introduced by your own enlightened statesmen? or does it depend on an old English Statute, made to enable British merchants to collect their debts in the colonies, while your State was one of them and which law never could have been enforced even in that commercial country.

5. Be it what it may, does it not tend rapidly to create in a Republic the unnatural relation of landlord and tenant?

6. Were it not for the single check given to this powerful tendency by your Act of 1784, which, I think, you call the law of distribution, and which is truly republican in its character, how long would it take for the abuse alluded to, to bring forth as complete a practical aristocracy as ever has existed for the oppression of the many?

You rather boasted of having, in the year 1822, abolished imprisonment for debt:—in my next, if I may have to much leisure, I shall make some remarks on that subject, drawn from a review of your law of 1823, as found in pamphlets aforesaid, as well as from what I have witnessed of its application, while passing through the middle counties of your State. At present I can only tell you, that if the tardy progress of improvements, and the depopulating Emigration from N. Carolina, of which you complain, are not attributable, at least in part, to some of the causes above alluded to, I am unable to account for it. You have a country, extending from Haw river to the mountains, which combine more variety and beauty of natural scenery, with natural advantages, and susceptibility of high improvement, than any I have passed through in my late tour—and the least likely, from natural causes, to spue out its inhabitants in the floods of emigration you speak of. Indeed, my dear friend, were your legislature to cease whitening on the surface, and give to agriculture that efficient encouragement which the interest of that State peculiarly demands; and had you something that deserved the name of a system of public

education, which might in time render intelligence more diffusive among your industrious and hospitable citizens; I should wish, devoutly wish, again to be the proprietor of my patrimony in the country that holds the graves of my ancestors, and is still the residence of that friend who is entitled to much of my respect and all my affection.

CHRONICLES

The following chapters are copied from the *Raleigh Star*. We ask for them an attentive perusal. Their length however, will prevent us from inserting more than one chapter in each number of our paper. The novelty of their style would render them interesting, even if they were destitute of substance; but we think those who may read them will know how to make the application.

The Chronicles of the Tribe of N. C. Chapter 1.

1. Now it came to pass in those days, when the people of the thirteen tribes of America were held in bondage unto the oppressor, who dwelt the other side of the great waters, that the oppressor sorely vexed them even past all endurance; and they cried unto the Lord against the oppressor, and girded on their armour and went forth to battle, and fought valiantly; and after a long and grievous war, the Lord gave unto them a full deliverance.

2. Then there was great rejoicing in the land; and the people appointed rulers and judges over them and over the tribes; and entered into a covenant that they would suffer no man to oppress them, neither would they oppress one another; and when they had confirmed the covenant with a great oath, each man returned to his own home to till his inheritance.

3. Howbeit all of the tribes have not since that time been content to dwell in humility, and exercise towards their brethren that charity which esteemeth others better than themselves; but certain scribes have stood up in some of the tribes and been content to write their chronicles and magnify the wisdom and valour of their kinsmen, and the mighty doings of their own tribe, insomuch that they get unto themselves a great name afar off; even as the tribes of the east have magnified themselves as the wisest and most enlightened people under the sun; and are counted to excel all others in the mysteries of bundling and the making and vending of certain precious things called notions.

4. But North-Carolina, mine own tribe, hath had no part nor lot in any such matters; but hath sat herself down in such marvellous humility and meekness, that her chronicles have not been written unto this day.

5. Albeit for this silent wisdom, certain vain men have named at her, saying this is a land which produceth no prophet nor cunning writer nor marvellous things whereof to boast; and where the wise men care not for the writing of chronicles, and only wake from their slumbers to get money and slumber again!

6. Indeed things be not so; for in times past, a man among us wrote a book and magnified himself saying, I have written the chronicles of this people; but the spirit of understanding was not in him, and he could not fail to write them correctly.

7. Then another man, wise and precious in the sight of God and beloved of his brethren, stood forth and said, behold, I will write the chronicles of this people in wisdom and verity!

8. But certain sons of Belial sent forth their usurers, noteshavers and extortioners upon him, and vexed and oppressed him, insomuch that he fainted, and his soul died within him.

9. Then, said I, must the wise man and the good man hold his peace at another's bidding? and must he be, and no man lay it to heart? Behold, I will write the chronicles of this people and set forth some of the doings of these sons of Belial, who, contrary to the covenant and the oath which the rulers and the people swore unto one another, have gotten great power and now lord it over this goodly land, insomuch that it has become desolate and the people, my brethren, are made weary of their lives by reason of the bondage and vexations they suffer!

10. Verily the time has come when the wicked have rule, and our gold and silver is turned into filthy rags! and the daughter of this people, despoiled of her precious ornaments, wandereth in strange and desolate places, bewailing the loss of her beauty and comeliness!

11. And as I have a table, a candlestick, a pitcher of water, a pone of bread and a little barren field, which I fill, is it not for a sign that if I do a good thing and also fall into the hands of these sons of Belial or priests and rulers, who favor them, that God will send unto me a safe deliverance? Verily I will not herefore fear them.

SECRETS IN TRADE.

Not long since we chanced to be in a mixed company, several of whom related some anecdote connected with his individual calling.—Among the rest was a Tin Pedlar, who had all the craft and shrewdness for which that class of society are so much celebrated. How is it, inquired one, when there are so many pedlars traveling, in all directions, who hardly make a living that you contrive to make peddling profitable; why do not others of your craft succeed as well as you? O, replied he, they do not understand the secrets of trade. What secret, in the name of wonder, except cheating, said the first, can there be in tin peddling? I do not gain my living by knavery, I assure you, said the pedlar, I intend always to deal honestly; but the secrets of which I spoke, are simply those of making people know and feel their wants. Why, said the first, when you call at a house and ask

them if they wish to buy any of your wares, they tell you no, I cannot see but that you may have their opinion instead of giving yours on their own. No such thing, said the pedlar; people never buy what they want till they either see it or hear it particularly described. This is a principle in human nature, and it is true in more trades than mine. How often do we see people sending for a physician, who would never have dreamed of being sick, if some careful friend had not told them so? Every body knows how thirsty it makes men to see others drink.—so true is it in this case, that temperate people are persuaded that when children do not see their parents and neighbors swallowing intoxicating liquors, and when they are not met at every corner by a grog-shop, the evils of intemperance will cease in our land. But intemperance has not much to do with tin peddling, I acknowledge, so I will relate an anecdote in point, and leave you to judge of the truth of my remarks. A few days since, in my travels, I called at a house where I supposed the family had money; and I determined before leaving it, to obtain some of it in an honest way in exchange for my wares. Upon inquiring of the good lady, if she wanted any thing in my line, I met with an indignant frown and an emphatic no! But I knew better, I replied, my ware is very superior, I will bring in some of it and you shall judge for yourself. Nothing daunted by her exclamations that she would not buy any, and that I might spare myself any further trouble, I deliberately proceeded to my cart and filled my arms with an assortment of articles which were forthwith deposited on the floor of the house. Then taking them one by one, explained their uses, their beauty, their cheapness, and the lady's absolute want of them. In the course of half an hour, she was fully convinced that she could not do without certain articles, and actually paid me thirteen dollars in cash; besides all the paper, rags, old pewter, &c. she had on hand.

Depend upon it, if you show people your wares, you seldom fail of convincing them they are in pressing need of them. Yes, yes, I know that's the way, said a merchant who sat near him, you pedlars are going all over the country, showing your wares and telling your stories; and although you pay no tax, trade more in proportion to your capital than the honest merchant who keeps an assortment of articles to accommodate the public. I wish the law would put a stop to your unjust traffic. I have no means of showing my wares to all the neighborhood, for I can not put my store in a cart and draw it round from place to place. I do not like the plan of giving pedlars such an advantage over a regular dealer.

There you are wrong, said the pedlar, I have no advantage over you whatever. 'Tis true you do not put your goods in a cart and tumble them over every time you wish to sell an article, wearing them out of spoiling their beauty; but you can, for a trifling expense, show them to the whole neighborhood without. You can show them, not to one or two in a family, as I do mine; but to all, men, women and children. And after you have shown them, (to the mind's eye, I mean,) they know exactly where to find you, and will buy of you of course; while we, poor pedlars, would starve. The merchant appeared doubtful. How is it, said he, that I have lived so long, and have not yet found out this secret in trade? I can not imagine what you mean! Why, said the pedlar, advertise in the Newspapers; every decent family takes one; and you may be absolutely certain, if you specify certain articles, that the children when they read it, will persuade their parents to buy so much of what they would not otherwise think of, that your extra profit for a month in consequence of advertising will be greater than the expense would be for a year.

At this the countenance of the merchant brightened with that peculiar expression which seems to say, "see if I do not make more money next year than I did the last!" The company were well satisfied with the pedlar's reasoning, and we retired in the full persuasion that all who have any thing to sell should immediately profit by his wholesome advice.

American Advocate.

NEWSPAPERS.

A late writer in Scotland remarks, "It is almost superfluous to speak of the value of newspapers as mediums of commercial information. They are, in the most strict and proper sense, instruments of trade. Every man, from the highest to the lowest, has occasion either to buy or sell, and will see something in the advertisements, the notice of markets, or the general information about all sorts of things, which it is his interest to attend to. Setting apart every thing connected with news or literature, it may be truly said, that to all classes a newspaper is useful, and to many it is indispensable."

It is not enough in any country that human industry produces or imports every commodity which the moral and physical wants of man call for. An apparatus is required to make it universally known where, and on what terms, commodities are to be found, to bring those who have and those who want, the buyers and the sellers, together—and this apparatus is the advertising press. What a large show-window is to a single retail shop, the advertising press is to a whole city or a whole country; it exhibits the contents of its stores and warehouses at the fireside of every private citizen. It supplies him with thousand facts which he could not retain in memory, and it informs of new inventions, new arrangements, and of a thousand accommodations in short, to which he might otherwise never hear at all, or to which he was too late, and at the expense of much trouble,