

THE GREENSBOROUGH PATRIOT,
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WILLIAM SWAIM,
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Not exceeding 12 lines, will be neatly inserted three times for
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lication—those of greater length in the same proportion.
All letters and communications to the Editor, on business re-
lative to the paper, must be post-paid, or they will not be
attended to.

COMMUNICATIONS.
Not still remember, if you mean to please,
To press your paper with modesty and ease.

For the Greensborough Patriot.
NORTH-CAROLINA, No. III.
SUBJECT OF ENDS.
I know no change
These notes to be used.—*Milton P. L. Book II.*
Our social institutions have a fatal tendency to aris-
tocracy, or in other words, to Concentration; our
Legislative enactments, our Customs and our Prac-
tices, all tend to the agglomeration of the few, and
the impoverishment of the many. This is a bold propo-
sition; bolder, perhaps, than has ever been haz-
arded concerning this State; but if facts sustain the
assertion, the sooner it is made, the better; the sooner
we break the dire spell that has hitherto bound us
with the magic of enchantment, the more likely shall
we be to arrest the imminent devastation, or to effect
a safe retreat from its consuming influence. He that
follows the current, glides easily, but is often over-
whelmed, and sinks ignominiously; whilst he that
stems the current, engages in toil; but whether he
is covered with glory, or is borne away by the torrent,
he is safe retreat from its consuming influence. He that
follows the current, glides easily, but is often over-
whelmed, and sinks ignominiously; whilst he that
stems the current, engages in toil; but whether he
is covered with glory, or is borne away by the torrent,
he is safe retreat from its consuming influence.

In our sober attempts at reform, I would to Heav-
en, that a majority of the inhabitants of the State,
could effect it, through the medium of their Legisla-
tive Representatives. But in consequence of a fatal
defect in our Constitution, the Representative, instead
of being proportioned to the number of inhabitants,
is chosen by an arbitrary division of the State into
counties; and, instead of being chosen by the male
inhabitants generally, we see one Branch of the Leg-
islature elected by a privileged order, viz: freehold-
ers. Here begin our just complaints, and here are
sown the first seeds of aristocracy.

The laws of the State allow so many appeals,
shifts, and evasions; so many delays, and such an ac-
cumulation of costs, as, in cases of litigation, to give
the rich a decided advantage over the poor; the arti-
ful knave over honest simplicity; and eventually to
deter the lawyers and officers of the courts. The
profession of the law is the high road to wealth and
preference.

Nature has interposed obstacles to our internal
commerce, as well as to our external. These obsta-
cles are not insuperable, nor indeed very great; but
owing to ill-concerted plans, and extravagance in their
execution, an immense sum of money has been squan-
dered, and nothing accomplished;—the subject has
fallen into the long sleep of death, having lost its
breath, popularity; and nothing less than a miracle
can resuscitate it during the present generation.

Next the Banks.—The Legislature, in chartering
the Banks, produced a hideously rapacious monster,
which forthwith sprang into enormous magnitude,
refusing control; and from the contemplation of which
the stoutest hearts recoiled.

*"Hic splunca fuit vasto submonte recessu,
Semitominis Caci facies quam dira tenetat,
Solis inaccessible radius; semperque recenti
ade tepebat humus; foribusque affixa superba
Ora virum tristi pendebant pallida tabo."*
Vergil Aen. Lib. VIII. v 193.
Here was a cave withdrawn deep under ground,
In which dire Cacus, semi-man was found;
No solar ray could here disclose his form;
The ground with recent slaughter aye was warm;
The heads of men, fix'd to the cruel door,
Appended, grisly in their clotted gore.—POL.
Under the mask of law, the vilest frauds have been
perpetrated; the country has been ravaged, and de-
spoiled. Whilst these things were transacting behind
the scene, our feeble, temporising Legislators, though
aware that things were not right, stood aloof from
investigation, permitting themselves to be put off
with equivocation and falsehood. Even now, when
the hope of longer collecting a rich revenue is lost,
and nothing remains; but at one omnivorous grasp, to
pillage the whole State, it is doubted, ah, with good

reason is it doubted, that they will interfere with en-
ergy adequate to prevent universal devastation. Some
indeed may bustle about, and endeavour to ward off
the blow, others will stand in absolute vacancy, pe-
trified with consternation; while more will
"Grin horrible a ghastly smile to hear
Their famine shall be fill'd, and bless their maw
Destin'd to that good hour."*Milton P. L. Book II.*
"Knowledge is power." A bare glance at the con-
dition of learning in this State, is sufficient to charac-
terize it for impotency, and show the tendency to aris-
tocracy. There is nothing like a system of educa-
tion, extending to the means of the common people.
There are, indeed, a University; and various Acade-
mies, established by law, and fostered by the hand of
government; but these, instead of being of general
utility, are accessible only to the rich. In these the
sons of the wealthy, how void soever they may be of
genius, are carried through certain forms, and learn
to be vain of their acquirements; of which they gen-
erally have enough, to enable them to cheat their poor,
illiterate neighbours out of their small property, the
few rights and enjoyments they may possess. Whilst
the State has funds to lavish in vain pagantry, and
vain attempts, at internal improvement, not a cent
is expended to disseminate general knowledge, but
indigent genius, like poor Polydore,
"Is born to bloom unseen
—And waste as sweetness on the desert air."*Gray.*

Any one of the above evils, considered alone, would
seem a sufficient affliction to be borne by a popular
State; in which the people assume to have the power
to redress their own grievances; but our catalogue is
yet incomplete. To cap the climax, we have to add
arrest, for which the annals of the world can furnish
no equal;—we mean the curse of having amongst us,
a distinct caste, of a peculiar colour, deemed the right
of citizenship, and doomed to absolute, hereditary
slavery. Slavery! what a solocism in a free govern-
ment! Absolute slavery! How deplorable the condi-
tion of him who is under the absolute control of an-
other! how demoralizing is the possession of such con-
trol over another! Hereditary slavery! It is not e-
nough that the unhappy slave must drag the galling
chain through life, he is destined to see it riveted to
his posterity, for generations indefinite even to the im-
agination.

To recapitulate: these are the evils which we de-
plore, and of which we complain. 1. unequal rep-
resentation; 2. the oppression of the law, arising
from the delay of justice; 3. the want of internal com-
merce; 4. the fraud of the banks; 5. the want of a
system of education which shall extend to every child
in the State; 6. anti-social, the existence of slave-
ry. To expatiate on these subjects; and perhaps to
digress occasionally to lighter topics, and more ab-
stract speculations, is the design of

POLYDORE.

FOR THE GREENSBOROUGH PATRIOT.
In reply to the editorial remarks in the 14th No.
of the Patriot, to "a Correspondent," in refusing to
correct the typographical errors found in the series of
numbers over the signature of "Enquirer," "Corres-
pondent," the writer of said series makes the follow-
ing observations:

1. That it appears quite "ungenerous," in the Ed-
itor, to have imposed on his "Readers" a bundle of
matter that he could afterwards, with so little diffi-
culty, insinuate was not worth their perusal; thus,
making a concession of betraying that good faith,
which all patrons of papers have a right to expect.
2. That it appears no less "ungenerous," to his "Cor-
respondent," for the Editor to refuse a correction of
those fundamental errors in type, by which the "Au-
thor's" meaning has not only been "perverted," but
in some instances, entirely destroyed; especially,
when they were sent to him, in proper order; and
thus his "Readers" are left unable, fairly to judge,
whether they were "deeply interested" in the com-
munications or not.

3. That whether the "Readers" of the Patriot do,
or do not take a deep interest "in the several num-
bers of "Enquirer," the writer feels well assured, that
the positions, and doctrines held forth are correct,
and that the most shrewd insinuations cannot over-
throw them.
4. If the Editor had suspected his "Readers" would
so lightly esteem the several numbers of "Enquirer,"
that they would not "Re-peruse them," for the pur-
pose of seeing where the "Author's" sense was per-
verted, by a mis-application of the letters of the "al-
phabet," that it would have been more just to his
"Readers," as well as to his correspondent, to have
refused the publication of said numbers, at first; on
the ground of their want of merit, than, after publish-
ing them, without a single hint of their being excep-
tionable, to make the pitiful excuse for not correct-
ing the misprints, that he believed "but few of his
Readers" would take the pains to review them."
5. That the writer of this article has written it,
with a full expectation, that not a syllable of it will be
published in the Patriot.

A CORRESPONDENT.
Advantages of Promptness. A merchant whose
policy expired at 12 o'clock, called at the Insurance
Office at half past 11, and obtained a renewal of it.
At 2 o'clock the same day his store and goods were
reduced to ashes! This circumstance occurred at
the late destructive fire in Augusta, Georgia. What
would have become of that man's fortune if he had
thought it "would do as well after dinner?"

SELECTED.
"And 'tis the sad complaint, and almost true,
Whate'er we write, we bring forth nothing new."

AN ORATION
delivered at Chapel Hill on Wednesday, June 24th, 1820
according to the annual appointment of the two Literary
Societies, belonging to the University, by WILLIAM
HOOPER, A. M. Professor of Ancient Languages in the
University.

My respected Audience, I had hope that this annual
office of addressing you would have always fallen
upon one of the alumni of the College, whose
political standing, or whose space in the eye of his
country, would have attracted public attention and
curiosity.—An annual appointment which would thus
draw within the silent and sequestered precincts some
of our distinguished citizens, might confer several im-
portant benefits on the institution, by awakening
fresh in their bosoms the recollections of youth, and
brightening the links which bind them to their alma
mater—while to the youth, receiving their education,
the presence and the addresses of such visitors, would
be received as a mark of attention, highly flattering,
and fitted to inspire a noble emulation. I need feel no
fortification of pride in informing of the audience, that
if the first wishes of the young gentlemen making the
appointment could have been gratified, you would
have had the pleasure of listening, this day to some
distinguished speaker from abroad;—nor would
the members of the University have had one elected
from their body to fulfil a task which seems more grate-
fully and appropriately committed to a stranger.—
But the failure of their applications in other quarters,
having devolved the duty upon me, I shall be happy
if I am able, in some light degree, to fulfil wishes of the
literary body who have done me the honor of making
me their representative on this occasion, and to com-
pensate this point, auditory for the favor of their
presence.

The subject to which your attention is respectfully
solicited, is one which I know must be acceptable to
every American ear: THE PROSPECT OF OUR COM-
MON COUNTRY. If there is any topic which, more
than others, is selected as the theme of those who aim
either by the voice or the pen, to captivate the hear-
ing and the hearts of this nation, it is the splendid
anticipations of its future destiny. On these we all
love to dwell, and while we lose ourselves in fond
specimens of our country's fortunes, we find a sooth-
ing oblivion, or at least alleviation, of any chagrine
which her present imperfections may have inspired.
So far the effect is happy. But it may be doubted
whether the American citizens, by indulging too sanguine
hopes of the future, is not led to depreciate the
value of his present blessing, and thus to deprive
himself of that fulness of contentment and gratitude,
which is called for by the already auspicious result
of our government, under the smiles of providence.
This dissatisfaction with the present, and this
longing after some good in reserve, is to live in
posteriority—to make ourselves anxious, that they may
be exempt from anxiety. But should we taste with
indifference the sweet fruit which a bounteous heav-
en is now dropping into our lap, or thrust them aside
with disgust because they are not as large or as luscious
as we imagine might be yielded by the same tree
when brought to a higher state of cultivation? And
are we sure that the future is to surpass the present?
Are we sure that our country is not now in its me-
ridian of happiness and glory; and that no subsequent
age will be as prosperous as this? Let us take a
view of our present condition, and indulge in some
speculations on what we have to fear and what to
hope, from the revolution of years.

When we compare the history of our country since
its attainment of independence with that of all other
nations, we see so much of national enjoyment with so
little alloy, that our very felicity begets suspicious
and alarm. Our condition appears too happy to be
lasting. We are ready to apprehend that a long con-
tinuance of such untroubled existence is more than
any one nation ought to expect from the favor of heav-
en; and we sometimes heave a boding sigh, lest our
reverses are to be as rapid and calamitous as our pros-
perity has been early and bright; and that thus is to
be equalized the distribution of providential gifts,
which hitherto seemed to have been heaped upon us
with a partial prodigality. That a people should
have been permitted to settle down in the bosom of
a boundless continent, without any territorial limits
to curb their growth—without any jealous neighbors
to crush or cripple their feeble infancy—that they
should have grown, in spite of impolitic legislation,
to the stature of manhood, and then have been goad-
ed by increasing misuse to try their strippling strength
against the gigantic might of the parent nation—that
they should have persevered in the unequal contest for
seven long years, and at length have gloriously tri-
umphed—that they should have escaped the usual fati-
lity of revolutions, and did not find a master and a
tyrant in some one of the chiefs who led them to vic-
tory—that with a magnanimous calmness and deli-
beration never before witnessed in any people, they
elected a council of their wisest senators to frame for
them a system of government, binding the several
parts into one harmonious confederacy, making "re-
publicanism" that they should have adopted this
government with so marvellous unanimity (the usual
selfish and turbulent passions that might have been
expected to mar such a work seeming to lie dormant
or extinct)—that half a century of almost uninter-
rupted

ted peace, and the exclusive ownership of an immense
territory, should have afforded them the most propi-
tious opportunity of making an experiment, how a na-
tion could succeed under so free and popular a gov-
ernment—that the experiment has succeeded, and
that during that half century we have had nothing to
do but to grow and spread as rapidly as amplitude of
room and exuberance of plenty and incessant emigra-
tion "could make"—if these things compose such
a rare aggregation of political blessings, as may well
awaken fears that we have already had more than
our share of good among the members of the human
family, and that we must now expect our due portion
of those misfortunes which have fallen to the lot of
all other nations. We are now in the simplicity and
innocence of youth. Necessary industry yet keeps our
manners incorrupt. Ourgrown wealth has not yet
introduced enervating luxury with its train of vices.
Our citizens, thinly scattered over the spacious conti-
nent, enjoy, on their extensive farms, all the ease and
plenty they could wish. They are not tempted by
desperate circumstances to aim at revolution; their
wits are not sharpened to crime by hard necessity, and
the rude collision of multitudes struggling for the
same objects. What can we expect in reserve for
us better than is already in our hands? Ought a na-
tion to desire more than that a vast majority of its op-
ulation should possess an easy competence, and the
safe enjoyment of life, liberty and property? Can
we wish or hope for more unrestrained freedom of
thought and action, for lighter taxes, for more undisturbed
rest? Shall we value it at a cheap rate
that our youth are not called out to shed their blood
in foreign battle, that we know nothing of invading
armies passing through our land, sending panic before
them, and leaving carnage and desolation and mourn-
ing in their rear—that every citizen has the fostering
hand of government to encourage his industry and
protect him in its products, while he is asked but a
pittance in requital—that he should be able thus to
accumulate wealth all his life, and bequeath it as he
pleases to his children?—These features in our polit-
ical condition seem to exemplify that image of national
felicity, depicted by the expressive language of Holy
Writ, when in every part of a land is heard "the
voice of joy and the voice of gladness, the voice of
the bridegroom and the voice of the bride." Would
not every political economist and reformer of Europe
think his country happy if it could just enjoy what
ours has enjoyed for the last fifty years? Would he
not consider his darling projects consummated, if he
could only reduce the complicated and oppressive
establishments of the old world to the simple model
of this young republic, and leave man, as he is in A-
merica, to the free pursuit of happiness, untrammelled
by taxes and monopolies and prescriptive rights and
privileged orders? Europe looks on with amazement
and with envy at a nation so free and yet so tranquil
—so safe without the over-awing presence of milita-
ry force—at the spectacle of a government sustained
almost without taxation, and religion flourishing with-
out the succour of the national arm, or the aid of the
national purse.—Her subjects who visit us, and tra-
verse our land, behold with admiration a people
spread over a vast empire, contentedly pursuing the
arts of peace, and at its most distant extremities,
gracefully according spontaneous homage and obedi-
ence to the mild sway of a government, which loves
to draw with silken cords, and to hide, till bitter
necessity reveals it, the strength which can enforce
its requisitions.

Historians admonish us, that nations, like the sun,
have their time of rising, of meridian, and of de-
cline; and we are familiar with the comparison of a
whole people's existence to the life of a single
individual, which has its youth, its manhood, and old
age. It is natural for each nation, while it contem-
plates the transient date and the convulsive deaths
of its predecessors, to imagine that itself will have
the wisdom or the good fortune to avoid the usual
causes of political destruction, and to hope that the
seasons of its glory will be indefinitely extended.—
And must we believe all such expectations to be
merely the pleasing illusion of self love, destined to
certain disappointment? Must we adopt the de-
spising sentiment of the Roman poet

—*omnia fati
In perjurare, et retro sub ipsa referri.*
That all human things tend by a sad fatality to degen-
eracy and dissolution! Must we in the cause of our
own dear country particularly, admit the belief that
the bright vision we have been contemplating will
speedily vanish? that these numerous blessings are
but dew drops which silver the morning of our exist-
ence, as bright and as transient too? Shall we by
unfledged analogies drawn from vegetable and animal
life, where whatever is most rapid in growth soonest
runs to decay—presage, from our early maturity, a
briefer term than ordinary of national duration? No.
Let us rather choose to entertain brighter hopes for
the destinies of the world. Let us hope that the les-
sons drawn from the melancholy rocks of fallen
empires will not be lost upon the present generation.
Let us indulge the delightful belief, that the active
operation of the press, the consequent diffusion of
intelligence and freedom, and above all, the kindly in-
fluence of christianity, controlling the passions and
cheering the hearts of men, furnish a security for na-
tional permanence and improvement, unknown to
preceding ages.

While, however, the American patriot is glad to
cling to such consoling hopes, it is impossible for him
not to feel some solicitude on account of certain
frowning spots in our bright horizon.

The first danger which meets his view and excites
the most diurnal apprehensions, is DISUNION. When