

# GREENSBOROUGH PATRIOT.

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

VOLUME I.

GREENSBOROUGH, N. C. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1829.

NUMBER 24.

## THE GREENSBOROUGH PATRIOT,

Printed and published every Saturday morning, by WILLIAM SWAIM.

Two Dollars per annum, payable within three months from the date of the first number, or Three Dollars after the expiration of that period.

A subscriber will be at liberty to discontinue at any time from the first three months, by paying for the numbers received, according to the above terms; but no paper will be discontinued until all arrearages are paid, and a failure to order a discontinuance will be considered a new engagement.

Those who may become responsible for Ten copies shall receive the 11th gratis.—An allowance of ten per cent will also be made to authorized agents for procuring subscribers and warranting their solvency or remitting the cash.

### ADVERTISEMENTS,

Not exceeding 12 lines, will be neatly inserted three times for one dollar—and twenty-five cents for each succeeding publication—those of greater length in the same proportion.

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 will remember, if you mean to pierce,  
To press your point with modesty and ease."

#### FOR THE GREENSBOROUGH PATRIOT.

MR. EDITOR.—According to a late decision of the Superior Court, the master of a negro slave is not punishable for any private abuse of his power, however barbarous and cruel it may be so the Negro is spared. I was present, and understood the Court to say, that the Law never had interfered between master and slave, and he did not think it could be done where the abuse was privately done, and the slave not killed. A man may, said the Court, be punished for cruelly whipping his horse or his dog, but a company, provided he do it in a noisy business manner, so as to disturb the company; for this he commits a public nuisance, yet no private abuse of this kind is indictable. But it is well known that assault and battery cannot be committed on a horse or a dog—no more can it be committed on the person of a slave, unless the slave be killed, then it comes within our Acts of Assembly.

Query—are not nearly one third of our population slaves? Then are there not more than Two Hundred Thousand Human Beings in North Carolina adjudged to be destitute of all personal security; or in other words, to possess the rights of horses and dogs?

A BYSTANDER.

#### FOR THE GREENSBOROUGH PATRIOT.

MR. SWAIM.—Your paper, from some cause unknown to me, arrives so irregularly at the Postoffice to which it is directed that I am under the necessity of requesting you to erase my name from the list of your patrons. It is a fact that since the publication of the "Patriot," no three numbers in succession have arrived at the proper time. Whether the fault lies in Jackson, Barry and Reform, or whether your own neglect must account for the delay, without better regulations you will shortly consult your own interest by pulling the "Devil's sturdy tail" for the last time, and permitting me, un molested, to receive the news of the day from the columns of the "Star," the "Carolinian," or some other Court Paper, more fortunate than your own in getting an uninterrupted circulation. I am an old man—have usually read the papers for the last 25 years, but never had so repeated cause of complaint of this kind, as since the happy era of Jackson and Reform commenced.

SURLY.

Ashe County, N. C.

### SELECTED.

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

#### HORRORS OF THE SLAVE TRADE.

A letter from an officer of his Majesty's schooner Monkey, addressed to his friends in this town, dated his Majesty's schooner Monkey, at the Havana, April 18th 1829.

"On the morning of the 7th, we fell in with a beautiful Spanish schooner, the Josepha, from the coast of Africa, with 207 slaves on board. I was sent on board to take charge of her, with 3 men, all the crew being made prisoners and sent on board the Monkey, to proceed down here. Such a heart-rending sight I never before beheld, nor could I believe that human beings could ever survive the hardships and cruelties those poor creatures did: there were about 80 women and girls, and the remainder men and boys, some of the little children not more than six or seven years of age, and several old men & women: they were stowed away in a place in the hold in the vessel scarcely large enough for one quarter of their number, and that not more than 2 1/2 feet high; before we fell in with her the Spaniards used them shamefully, more like beasts than fellow creatures; they were all entirely naked, and great numbers of them completely crippled by being confined below; 20 of the poor things died on the passage, from the ill usage they received. I have no doubt; and when I took charge of her, numbers were very ill: one poor woman died just after we came in, and another was delivered of a little girl the night before there were now four little babies at the breast, and several poor women in the family way; when we

consider the distressing situation of the poor creatures, families separated from each other, parents from their children, and children from their parents: torn away from each other, and sold just like cattle: it is enough to make any one shudder at the idea; you can have no conception of the state we found them in, and it is impossible for me to give an adequate description of their sufferings; they used to feed them just as they would cattle—about a dozen of them would sit round a dirty tub of boiled rice, which they had twice a day, and about a pint of water each, until I went on board, when I had some salt meat and peas, for which they used to appear very grateful; I also stood nurse for the sick, and got some messes made up for them: after I had finished my meals, I used to get about 20 little children around me, I christened them, and with names that were familiar to me, and fed them; I found several handkerchiefs on board with which I used to dress them: it made them all as proud as possible; we had a native Princess among them; there was a little distinction made between her and the others; I christened her Ann Maria: they all knew their names, and would answer to them when they were called. When I first came on board, the dirty state the schooner was in, and the horrid smell arising from the hold amongst the negroes, was almost suffocating; I had her thoroughly cleaned out, and sprinkled every part with vinegar, which sweetened her a little, and by degrees I became used to it. The negroes are to be taken out to-day, I understand; they will all be indentured, the same as apprentices, for a certain number of years, after which they become free. We shall get £10 for each negro, besides the money arising from the sale of the vessel, it will give me I expect about £70 or £80. From the smuggler we can expect but little, as the custom-house officers and lawyers will take away the greater part of it."—*Quarterly (England) Journal.*

### FRIENDSHIP.

The world has often heard of fortune-hunters, legacy-hunters, popularity-hunters, and hunters of various descriptions; one diversity however, of this very extensive species, has hitherto eluded public animadversion; I allude to the class of friend-hunters—men who make it the business of their lives to acquire friends, in the hope, through their influence, to arrive at some desirable point of ambitious eminence. Of all the mortifications and mortuities to which mankind voluntarily subject themselves, from the expectation of future benefit, there are perhaps none more galling, none more morose, portable than these attention and friend-making.—Show a man that you court his society, and it is a signal for him to treat you with neglect and contumely. Honour has passions and is disposed to us as a coyulant. Pay implicit deference to his opinion, and he laughs at you for your folly. In all he views you with contempt, as the creature of his will, and the slave of his caprice. I remember Lord's rebuffed the acquaintance and coveted the friendship of a man, and thank God, I can yet say, (and I hope on my death bed I shall be able to say the same) of only one man.

Germanicus was a character of considerable eminence in the world. He had the reputation not only of an enlightened understanding and refined taste, but of openness of heart and goodness of disposition. His name was always carried with it that weight and authority which are due to learning and genius in every situation. His manners were polished, and his conversation elegant. In short he possessed every qualification which could render him an enviable addition to the circle of every man's friends. With such a character, as I was then young, I could not fail to feel ambitious of becoming acquainted, when the opportunity offered, and in a short time we were upon terms of familiarity. To ripen this familiarity into friendship, as far as the most awkward diffidence would permit, was my strenuous endeavor. If his opinion contradicted mine, I immediately, without reasoning on the subject, conceded the point to him, as a matter of course that he must be right, and by consequence that I must be wrong. Did he utter a witticism, I was sure to laugh; and if he looked grave, though nobody could tell why, it was mine to groan. By thus conforming myself to his humour, I flattered myself I was making some progress in his good graces, but I was soon undeceived. A man seldom cares much for that which it costs him nothing to procure. Germanicus found me a troublesome visitor, or whether he was really displeased with something I had unwittingly said or done, certain it is, that when I one day met him, in company with persons of apparent figure, he had lost all recollection of my features.—I called upon him, but Germanicus was not at home. Again and again I gave a hesitating knock at the great man's door—all was to no purpose. He was still not at home.—The sly meaning, however, which was conched in the sneer of the servant, the last time, that half ashamed of my errand, I made my inquiries at his house, convinced me of what I ought to have known before—that Germanicus was at home to all the world save me. I believe, with all my sneering humility, I am a confounded proud fellow at bottom; my rage, at this discovery, therefore, may be better conceived than described.—Ten thousand curses did I imprecate on the foolish vanity which led me to solicit the friendship of my superior, and again and again did I vow down eternal vengeance on my head, if I ever more condescended to court the acquaintance of man. To this resolution I believed shall ever adhere.—If I am destined to make any progress in the world, it will be by my own individual exertions. As I elbow my way through the crowded vale of life, I will never, in any

emergency, call on my selfish neighbour for assistance. If my strength give way beneath the pressure of calamity, I shall sink without his whine of hypocritical condolence; and if I co. sink, let him kick me into a ditch, and go about his business. I ask not his assistance while living—it will be of no service to me when dead.

Believe me reader, whoever that mayest be, there are few among mortals, whose friendship, when acquired, will repay thee for the means of solicitation. If a man voluntarily holds out his hand to thee, take it with caution. If thou find him honest, be not backward to receive his proffered assistance, and be anxious, when occasion shall require, to yield to him thine own. A real friend is the most valuable blessing a man can possess, and mark me, it is by far the most rare. But whatever thou mayest do, bid not friendship. If thou art young and wouldst make thy way in the world, bind thyself a seven year apprentice to a city tallow-chandler, and thou mayest, in time, come to be lord Mayor. Many people have made their fortunes at a tailor's board, and wig-makers have been known to buy their country seats, and bellows-menders have started their curlicues; but seldom, very seldom, has the man who placed his dependence on the friendship of his fellow man and that even the shadow of the honors to which, through that man's aid, he aspired:—Nay, even if thou shouldst find a friend ready to lend thee a helping hand, the moment, by his assistance, thou hast gained some little eminence, he will be first to hurry thee down to thy primitive, and now perhaps, irretrievable obscurity.

### MECHANICS.

An opinion both dangerous and pernicious to the mechanics of our country is prevailing among the majority of them. They imagine that literature, science, and general information are unnecessary to them; and that if they are acquainted with the commonest rules of arithmetic, reading, writing and the trade to which they are called, they have all the acquirements their business demands. What have we to do say they, with polite literature, with history, with the deeper branches of mathematics, the art of composition, eloquence, philosophy, &c? They have nothing to do with our profession; we are to get our bread by the sweat of the brow, and we leave these branches of education to the Ministers, the Doctors, and Lawyers of the land.

Now as long as sentiments like these prevail among mechanics and the laboring classes of the community, so long they will be doomed to an intellectual and political slavery by the better educated classes; so long they are doomed to be stripped of their power and to be ridden by ambitious and designing men. When mechanics are really convinced that knowledge is power, and that the educated part of society give laws to the rest, they will wake up from their present stupor and bestir themselves to get this power into their hands. It is not the wealthy that rule in our legislative councils, in societies, in politics, in town meetings, and the every day concerns of life; it is not the aristocratic part of the community that have sway over the rest; but it is the educated, the active, the intelligent who are the Emperors and Kings of our country; men of superior intelligence who feel the power within them and who exert it to sway the rest.

As matters are now arranged in our country, lawyers are the only tyrants of whom we have to complain: they get into all the seats of power; they give laws to the community and then set about executing them; they are invested with both the legislative and executive power; the ability to make what laws they please and the power to execute them as they please; they frame our laws; sit in our Councils, are our Judges, our Justices, our Presidents, our Governors, Selectmen, our Overseers; they creep into every seat of power from the lowest grade till they reach the last goal of their ambition, in the highest office in the gift of the people. The question now arises, from what source do they derive the immense power? is it from the superior talents of the profession, from superior worth or superior wealth? We think not. This profession is undoubtedly the most intelligent portion of the community; and from this source may be traced all its influence over society in general. Divines and Physicians are equally intelligent; but their avocations do not lead them to mingle so much in the business, the uproar and excitement of the world; and as they are less active they consequently have less influence. Lawyers are not only the most intelligent part of the community who mingle in the affairs of the world; but they are far the most active; exert themselves the most in order to obtain the most influence.

Mechanics might have this same power, yea, much more; for the feelings and the majority of the world are on their side; they have an interest too in proping up themselves, in building up their own professions; and now if they had a disposition to exert their power and acquire information in order to direct their energies aright, they would have within themselves, an irresistible influence over the destinies of others. Mechanics do not hold that rank in society they might hold if they pleased, and which they are entitled to hold by the good they do to mankind. But make every mechanic feel the necessity of cultivating his mind and drawing out his hidden treasures; make him feel that his mental power over society, as in fact it does, depends upon the quantity of information he acquires; let him believe that tact and skill, a knowledge of the human character are as necessary to him as a knowledge of his tools, and you give that mechanic his due proportion of influence with the world.

But we are stopped at once and told by the mechanic, that he has no leisure to cultivate his intellect, no time to spend in acquiring information: his every day avocations demand all his attention and all his time. It is no such thing. Every man, even the busiest, the most industrious, have leisure enough if he is disposed to spend that leisure as he ought, instead of whiling it away in trifling and idleness. Put these questions to yourself, and see if you have no leisure.

How many evenings do you spend in idleness, in lounging, in useless talk, in beating the streets? how many more hours are devoted to sleep than are necessary for your health? how many useless moments are spent in lingering about the table before and after meals? how much of the Sabbath aside from all hours due to devotion, is entirely wasted when all might have been spent in reading valuable books? Let us make a calculation. One hour can be devoted every day by every body, no matter what may be his employment, to reading. One hour a day in a year amounts to 365 hours. Every Sabbath, 6 hours besides going to church, twice can be found which ought to be devoted to reading. This time would give 312 hours in a year, which added to the other make 677 hours that every man can have every year to devote to reading. In twenty years this time amounts to 561 days 4 hours, reckoning the days at 24 hours each; or to 1118 days 4 hours, reckoning the days at 12 hours each.

If a mechanic then spends the time we have allotted him in literary and scientific pursuits, at the end of twenty years, he will have devoted more time to literature and science than any of our educated men will have done in six years, allowing them to spend six hours a day in their studies, (very few of whom spend half that time) Now if every mechanic were to pass his evenings, he would at the expiration of twenty years have an education infinitely more valuable than any of our literary men have at twenty-five, twenty-eight and thirty years of age. It is a fanciful idea that people have, when they say an education cannot be acquired without money, without an instructor. Instructors were intended for boys who have no disposition to study and for dunces who are unable to learn unless their education is wove into them with their growth or beaten in with the switch and ferule, not for grown men who feel the importance of an education, not for apprentices who have got to fight their way for themselves or submit to the direction of the better educated.

The idea about the want of time is a mere phantom. Franklin found time in the midst of all his labors to dive into the hidden recesses of philosophy and to explore an untrodden path of science. The great Frederick with an empire at his direction, in the midst of war, on the eve of battles, which were to decide the fate of his kingdom, found time to revel in all the charms of philosophy and intellectual pleasures—Bonaparte with all Europe at disposal; with armies in his anti-chamber, begging for vacant thrones, with thousands of men whose destinies were suspended on the brittle thread of his arbitrary pleasure, had time to converse with books. Caesar, when he had curbed the spirits of the Roman people and was thronged with visitors from the remotest kingdoms, found time for intellectual cultivation. Every man has time, if he is careful to improve it; and if he does improve it, he can reap a threefold reward. Let mechanics then make use of the hours at their disposal, if they want to obtain a proper influence in society. They are the life blood of the community; they can if they please hold in their hands the destinies of our republic; they are numerous, respectable and powerful; and they have only to be educated half as well as other professions to make laws for the nation.

Portland Gazette.

#### CAPT. HALL'S TRAVELS IN N. CAROLINA.

It is no slight fault in the character of a portion of our countrymen, that they must needs run agape after every English jackanapes whom fortune casts upon our shores—ducking and bowing before the naughty foreigner with unseemly humility, if peradventure out of his abounding gratitude they may exhibit a miserable dole of commendation. This fact, if not degrading to our country is eminently disgraceful to that class of our citizens, who usually undertook to show off institutions to the foreigner—a class too, generally reputed more wealthy and intelligent than their neighbors. Their reward has been, in nine cases out of ten, abuses in no measured terms to themselves and their country, as soon as Mr. English Traveller could hasten home and tell the copy right of his book. The numberless results of this nature ought to have taught every American to regard these book-making travellers with contempt the most profound. But no—a Captain of the Royal Navy makes his appearance, and forthwith announces his intention of writing a book touching those things he might see and hear during his peregrinations—great sensation immediately ensues—the draw-rooms are thrown open—the best table is spread with the choicest bread and butter—the most genteel bows are furnished fourth—the Royal Captain's movements are announced from the press—poets, statesmen, and philosophers crowd tremblingly around him—all as if the everlasting fate of this Republic hung upon the frail opinion of our pretty sprig of the British Navy—Capt. Bash Hall! We are at length favored with this Royal Captain's opinions of us, and our country, based upon what he saw, and heard, and felt, and smelt—and last, though by no means least, what he tasted, during his journey with the Democrats, as he is pleased to term us.

Captain Hall very good naturedly makes us acquainted with the particular inducements of the visit.