

THE ELECTION.

On the 14th day of this month, the people of North Carolina will be called upon to exercise the most valuable privilege they enjoy as freemen—the privilege of choosing their lawmakers the right of self-government. It is to be feared, that the frequent exercise of the elective franchise has had the effect of lessening its value in the estimation of some minds. This is wrong. Water is not less delicious, because it gushes from every hill that swells in the landscape; the light of heaven is not less glorious because it shines equally; nor should we esteem lightly our suffrages, because we are called to their exercise once in every year. But however much we may undervalue it, there are parts of the world in which the people long for the same privilege with all the fervour that a lover longs for the smiles of his darling mistress. It was for this that France poured out her blood in torrents! But alas! to no purpose! It is for this, that devoted Spain is now struggling against the leagued tyrants of the old world.

Upon the wise, discreet, and virtuous exercise of this franchise, depends, more than upon all other causes, the continuance of the blessings of a free government, and of good laws. Every man, then, when he goes to the polls, should go with pure hands and an upright heart; he should keep in mind, that he is voting not only for himself, but for the community at large; all narrow views and selfish feelings should be cast to the winds; and he should let his vote respond to the question—"Which is the man best qualified in sense, and virtue, to serve the public?" But, alas! does not common observation, show us, that there are many who act upon different principles? Men who, like poor Esau, sell their birth right for a mess of pottage or a pot of strong drink! These men are to be pitied, and were they more numerous, to be feared. But if the voters are to be pitied, what shall be thought of the voters? They, indeed, deserve the execrations of all honest men, and the severest penalties of the indignant law;—let no such men be trusted. The man that would bribe another out of his free suffrage, would, if opportunity was fitting, cheat him out of his property. Such men are only restrained in their conduct by the fear of justice. Let us pray that none such will rise up among us.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, IN 1801.

Our readers will all remember, that Mr. Jefferson, at his first term, was elected President of the United States by the House of Representatives. As there is some probability that the next President may be chosen in the same way, we presume that the following brief history of the proceedings on that occasion, from the pen of a participant, will not be unacceptable to our readers.

Extract from a Circular of the late A. Henderson, Esq. dated February 28th, 1801.—He was then a Member of Congress from the Salisbury District.

On the 11th instant the votes for President and Vice-president of the United States were counted in the Senate chamber, when it appeared that Mr. Jefferson and Col. Burr had each 73 votes, Mr. Adams 65, General Pinckney 64, and Mr. Jay one. The House of Representatives immediately proceeded to choose, by states, a President from the two highest on the list; on the first ballot eight states voted for Jefferson, six for Burr, and two were divided. The states that voted for Jefferson, are New-York, New-Hampshire, New-Jersey, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Rhode-Island, Virginia, Connecticut, North-Carolina, Delaware, Georgia, South-Carolina, Tennessee, Kentucky, Maryland and Vermont were divided.

We continued to vote without separating until 9 o'clock of the next morning; the result was uniformly the same; the house then suspended further balloting until 12 o'clock; when, on trying it again, there appeared no variation in the votes; we continued voting from day to day, without doing any other business, until the 17th instant, when, on the 36th balloting, ten states voted for Jefferson, four for Burr, and two put blank tickets into the box; Mr. Jefferson was then declared President of the United States, from the 4th of March next. The federalists supported Col. Burr, and the democrats Mr. Jefferson; it is known that neither of those gentlemen are acceptable to the federalists; but of the two they prefer Col. Burr.

FOR THE WESTERN CAROLINIANS.

Fourth of July at Wilkesborough, N. Carolina. A great many of the inhabitants of Wilkes and some of the adjoining counties, met at Wilkesborough on the 4th instant; Gen. Stokes was appointed President of the day, and Major John Finley Vice President; Col. H. Brown Marshal.—The Militia companies of Capt. Vannoy, and Capt. Wellborn, paraded; and with the rest of the company, marched to the grove, when the declaration of Independence was read, and an appropriate and eloquent oration was delivered by Hugh M. Stokes, esq. to the great gratification of the audience. After hearing the declaration read, and the oration delivered, the company with the militia marched in procession to a cool spring on a Branch of the Yadkin river; where an elegant dinner had been provided by Capt. Vannoy, and where the

whole company dined—Gen. Stokes and Major Finley presiding. The following toasts, having been prepared by a committee, were drunk, under a discharge of musketry from Capt. Wellborn's company—after which the company separated in the greatest harmony.

THE TOASTS.

- 1st. The day we celebrate—May its annual return be greeted by Americans, as prosperous and happy as this day, till time shall be no more.
2d. Washington—The hero of '76.—The glory of Americans, at whose name tyrants tremble.
3d. The President of the United States—The unanimous choice of a great and free people.
4th. Benjamin Franklin, Henry Laurens, and the old Continental Congress—Choice spirits for troublesome times, who never shrunk from danger.
5th. The Constitution of the United States—The best barrier and only safeguard of our liberty—May its blessings descend to the latest posterity.
6th. Our next President—May political opposition and sectional prejudices be forgotten, and the spirit of toleration and union guide our choice.
7th. A well-organized Militia—The only safeguard of a free and independent nation—May we never lack a Washington to command them in time of danger.
8th. The Navy of the United States—Her pride and glory—A wall of fire around her in times of danger.
9th. The Union of the States—Cursed be the head that plans, and palmed be the arm which is put forth to separate them.
10th. Internal Improvements—The high road to National wealth—May North Carolina therein emulate her sister States.
11th. South Americans—First rocked in the cradle of war—nursed in the bosom of despotism—May the dark rays of past ages be succeeded by the radiant blaze of liberty and equality.
12th. Spain—contending for self-government—She has the good wishes of every friend of liberty in the world, on her side.
13th. The People of the United States—May good feelings, fine principles and undaunted patriotism, survive to the latest posterity.

FOR THE WESTERN CAROLINIANS.

To the Freemen of North Carolina. In my last, I promised to give you a view of the practical result of federal numbers, as a base of calculation for the State of North Carolina. By federal numbers is meant the free population, added to three-fifths of the Slaves. Thus if a County contains 8,000 free persons and 5,000 slaves, its federal number would be eleven thousand. The principle was adopted by the convention who framed the present constitution of the United States, as a compromise between the jarring interests of the slave and non-slave holding states. The latter contended that slaves should not be taken into the enumeration as forming the base of representation, while the former contended that they should be taken into the enumeration. This conflict of interest proved nearly fatal to the Union of the Northern and Southern States. As a matter of compromise, it was agreed on that three-fifths of the slaves should be added, and the remaining two-fifths excluded. Hence the principle of federal numbers; and whether it is calculated to improve the representation of the State of North Carolina remains to be seen. It has been represented as a principle of great equality, and calculated to correct the existing inequality. The kind of equality which it will produce I shall attempt to show you. The rates of 5000 applied to the several counties in the State, will give the following result:—In the counties composing the first Congressional district, there will be fractions over the rates,

Table with 4 columns: County, Free population, Slaves, Federal number. Rows include 2nd district, 3rd do., 4th do., 5th do., 6th do., 7th do., and Total.

over the rates, and of course unrepresented. The reports made to the last Legislature on the subject of congressional districts, and presumed to be correct, furnish the data from which the foregoing calculations have been made. I hope they will prove to you that considerable inequality will exist in the representation under the contemplated change, and although a small improvement may be made, it will be much less than you expected. Another inequality much more serious to the State of North Carolina, will follow from the adoption of federal numbers as a base for representation. The general result in practice will be this:—That representation and taxation will bring in an inverse proportion to each other. Those counties which bear the greatest relative burden of taxation, will in return receive the least relative power, and those which bear the least relative burden of taxation will possess the greatest relative power. Establishing the doctrine, that those who pay most shall receive least, and those who pay least shall receive most. I hope to be able to prove that such will be the result, not from theoretical reasoning, but from undeniable facts. The following counties, with the federal numbers annexed, paid into the public treasury the sums specified, agreeably to the Comptroller's report, for 1821.

Table with 4 columns: County, Fed. No., Dol., Fed. No., Dol. Rows include Chatham, Caswell, Cabarrus, Mecklen's, Cabarrus, and Chatham, Cabarrus, Caswell and Mecklenburg.

Burke, and would in return possess half the political power. Would this be justice, or the contrary? If the present system was destroyed, and you were called on to form a new one, would you enter into a political association in which the principle would be established that those counties which should pay least should have most power, and those which would pay most, least power? Such I fear would be the operation of federal numbers as a base of representation. The same principle applied to the other sections of the State will produce a similar result. It is believed that as regards numbers a greater equality will be produced, as regards taxation a much greater inequality will result; for it is believed to be demonstrable, that a comparatively small portion of the people of North-Carolina will sustain the greater portion of the public burdens, and in return will possess but little power, and those who will bear the smallest portion of the public burdens will possess the greatest power.

In the aggregate, whether a loss or gain will be experienced from the contemplated change in representation is left for your good sense to determine. In my next I shall examine the remaining part of the project of convention, the biennial meeting of the legislature, and shall attempt to strip it of the gilded trappings with which it has been surmounted, and present it in its genuine features. COMMON SENSE.

FOR THE WESTERN CAROLINIANS.

"I've often seen with armed heel, A wight bestide a common weal."

Andhras.

Mr. Editor: In your paper of the 8th ult. over the signature of Anti-Radical, there appears nothing save the venomous attacks of an electioneering parasite, whose inconsistent assertions serve much to develop his illiberal views in his own political horizon. The right of an investigation of the conduct of civil, as well as military men—a right which has been held sacred, where the smallest portion of rational liberty has been enjoyed, seems, in the heated imagination of this, as well as other modern neocomancers, to be the mere spirit of what they so emphatically denominate Radicalism; though Anti asserts, symptoms of the faction (as he styles them) began to reveal themselves at the close of the Seminole War, when they assumed the name of Radicals. I would know of Anti whether they assumed that name, or whether it was a malignant appellation, which seems so much to affect his high-toned risibility.—The idea he gives of Radicals appears nothing, except the inflexible patriotism of the present day. The principal theme, however, of his effusions, seems to be the political gallows of Jackson's Florida campaign, where he states the Indians or semi-devils, were always led on by two Englishmen by the names of Arbutnot and Ambrister; Jackson pursues them, overtakes and captures them, with these two men, and a Fanatic by the name of Francis the prophet; we would remind Anti, that our memories are rather tenacious to permit us to obliterate the proceedings of their trial with its succeeding consequences; and this late period is not the time to comment on the jurisprudence of the event; Anti, however, in future, should be more cautious in his specifications. On this same gallows, he says, the Radicals built their hopes of overturning the administration, and hanging the General in his turn. If, I believe, was never whispered with such a phrensy as he seems to intimate; his conduct in the investigation was never pursued with the spirit of a base faction, but a stern and inflexible investigation of his civil as well as his military power; he was acquitted in the House of Representatives; the Senate referred it to a committee whose report censured the general; the report was signed by a Mr. Lacock, but it was generally known to be from the pen of Wm. H. Crawford! But I would ask, by whom was it known? He assails Mr. Crawford merely with assertions, and seems to have forgot that Mr. Adams is an avowed enemy to acts that vest arbitrary authority in civil or military men. Anti conceives the people ignorant of the political maze he endeavours to unfold to them, and digresses on it, as the summus bonum of his perfection; as an enthusiast he envelops himself in clouds of egotism, and waves the laurels of the general over the heads of those he conceives will be made his own proselytes; he might have had he continued his numbers, made us all politicians of his own school; but he made a pause, an awful pause indeed, prophetic of his end.

APPLETON.

FOR THE WESTERN CAROLINIANS.

NEW EVIDENCE.

Of God's Communion with the Soul.

Some days ago, I was credibly informed of a very singular circumstance; a man's having a foreknowledge of his own death, when he was apparently in good health; and but a short time previous to his exit. Evan Huie, a citizen of Chatham county, related it to a near neighbor of mine; the circumstances are as follows:

He states, that a week or two ago, a Methodist preacher was riding his circuit, and in the last round that he then was expecting to take; also, near the end of his circuit. The preacher attended a meeting not far from where Huie was living; to which many people repaired. After meeting, the preacher took a certain man into the grave-yard and showed him where he wished to be buried.—Told him that he should not live to ride out his circuit; and it is likely he gave directions relative to other things.—The preacher then went home with this man; and they took their afternoon's repast as usual. After dinner, the preacher arose from the table, took a seat, and instantly sunk down and expired! O, transient pain! O, happy death! But how much

more happy is the life that he now lives! There is no doubt but that it is happy. May we all endeavour, to aspire after it. O I may we all arise from the dust of the earth, whereof we were made—from the petty pursuits of this mortal life—from the selfishness of this world; and set our faces towards heaven; where the Redeemed, by the Grace of God, through Jesus Christ, his beloved Son, rest forever more. Amen. May we, all seek the Lord, whilst he may be found—whilst he continues the operations of his love on our minds. May we walk, while we have the light—the light of Christ, that enlighteneth every man. For,

"Whilst the light holds out to burn, Return ye ransomed sinners home."

May we all improve our talents. May we all seek the Lord for ourselves; and to know his truth, as it is in Jesus our Saviour. May we fear and love the Lord, for he is over all gods. The Lord's mercy is great, and endureth forever. Love ye the Lord.

A FRIEND OF MANKIND.

PASTORAL LETTER.

Of the Bishop of North-Carolina.

To the Clergy and Laity of the Protestant Episcopal Church, in the Diocese of North-Carolina.

Desirous as I am, my Brethren, of extending to all parts of the Diocese, as early as possible, the ministrations of that sacred character, with which, at your call, I have been invested, I am, nevertheless, constrained, by various but imperious circumstances, to put off, for a short season, the continuation of my present journey.

It is my purpose, however, with the Divine permission, to return as early in the month of August as my other affairs will permit; and extend my visit to the western part of the state, so as to embrace as many of the congregations in that quarter as possible, together with such others in the south-western section as the necessary preparations for my removal to this place, as my permanent residence, will admit.

My anxiety for a personal knowledge of you, my Brethren, is very great. My sense of the awful responsibilities of my station, precludes all minor considerations of personal ease or interest; and the pressing demands of the churches stimulate me to every exertion for the general satisfaction, and for the advancement of our Zion. Under the united influence of these motives, you may rest assured of my most speedy and zealous co-operation in every measure calculated to promote the great, because eternal, interests committed to our trust. Considered in this light, the cause, in defence of which we are set, is divested of every character of a party question, or of an interest separate from the great interest of the present and everlasting welfare of all our kind—while it is not divested of the influence and effect of those outward institutions which, as they are coeval with Christian hope, so are they, by Divine appointment, the ground on which we must rest for assurance in the entertainment of it.

Invested with this heavenly character, let us, my Brethren, cherish its holy comforts in our hearts, and adorn it in our lives, that we may be a "living epistle of Christ, to be read of all men." Thus shall we "ador the doctrine of God our Saviour," and best recommend our holy religion to the consideration and adoption of all around us. Thus shall the vital interests of the church of Christ be promoted, and the fruit being unto holiness, the end be everlasting life.

Such information as may aid in the application of my labours to the interests of the church, is respectfully requested from the clergy generally, and from such of the laity as feel an interest in the spread of pure and undefiled religion in the waste places of our Zion.

I shall fix myself in this City as early as I can get possession of the house which I have rented, which will be some time in the month of December next.—Direct, for the present, to Boydron, Mecklenburg county, Va. or to Salisbury, N. C. to be left till called for.

Your affectionate friend and pastor, JOHN S. RAVENSCROFT, Raleigh, July 12, 1823.

FOR THE WESTERN CAROLINIANS.

Rutherford County.

The Corresponding Committee for the county of Rutherford, in conformity to the resolutions adopted by their fellow-citizens at Raleigh during the late Session of the Legislature, met at Rutherford on the 16th of January; and having organized themselves by calling to the chair John Moore, Esq. and appointing Dr. Charles L. H. Schieffelin their Secretary, a number of their fellow-citizens being present. The aforesaid resolutions having been read, James Graham, Esq. politely favored the committee with a succinct and comprehensive explanation of the motives and strong inducements which impelled to their adoption. The committee then proceeded to adopt the following resolutions:

1st. That delegates, consisting of two members from each captain's district within the county of Rutherford, be invited to meet this committee at Rutherford, on the 2d Monday in May next, and there to express the opinion of their constituents on the subject of constitutional reform; and that in the mean time, the members of the corresponding committee be charged with the duty of attending the musters, and other pieces of public duty, for the pur-

pose of explaining to the people the objects of the resolutions proposed at Raleigh, and annually calling their attention to the momentous subject. The committee then adjourned to the 3d day of May.

Accordingly, on the 2d day of May, a majority of the committee met at Rutherford; Gen. Walton took the chair, in the absence of Mr. Moore; and the names of 46 delegates were handed in, 43 of whom appeared and took their seats.

Mr. James L. Terry, one of the delegates, rose and asked politely for information from the committee. Accordingly, one of the gentlemen of the committee explained the purposes for which they had been convened, accompanied with a request that any member present would favor the meeting with his sentiments, casually on the subject. Upon which Mr. Terry addressed the meeting in favor of amending the Constitution, followed by the Rev. Mr. Kern, the Rev. Mr. Richardson, and Dr. Schieffelin, on the same side. Mr. Henry Montague then delivered his sentiments in opposition to the amendments, particularly that of lessening the powers of the Legislature, as every well-informed State ought frequently to have their legislative council in session, to hear and redress grievances, without too much sticking at the expenses;—that when the meetings of the Legislature were protracted to distant periods, business accumulated, the sessions became long and tedious, greatly to the detriment of the members, and not in any great degree lessening expenses;—and in consequence the Eastern States who hold annual, yet short sessions of their Legislature.

Joseph M. D. Carson, Esq. then addressed the meeting. The vote of the delegates was then taken, on the expediency of amending the Constitution; the result was, 41 in the affirmative, and 1 in the negative.

Managers were then appointed to superintend the election of delegates to meet at Raleigh in November next,—to wit:— At the Court-House, Dr. C. L. H. Schieffelin and Capt. Robt. Twitty; Watson's, Maj. John Gentry and Mr. Hugh Watson; Whitehead's, Messrs. Amos Green and Washington Whitesides; Mumford's Core, Rev. Perimeter Morgan and Mr. J. Williams; Mills, Joel C. Cloud and Edwin Harmin; High Shoals, Rev. Jesse Richardson and John Wall, Esq.; Irvinville, Mr. Phillip Hammons and the Rev. B. Hicks; Duncanson's, Messrs. Green and John Harrell, Esqs.; Shufford's, Messrs. McFarland and M. Shufford; Cooper's Spring, Daniel Carson and Jesse Benton, Esqs. The meeting then adjourned to the Tuesday of July Court, 4 o'clock, P. M.

Tuesday, 19th of July, the delegation met according to adjournment.—Mr. Moore in the chair.

On motion of the Rev. Henry M. Kern, Resolved, that this meeting nominate, by ballot, two candidates to represent this county at Raleigh, in the grand committee, to meet in November next. James Graham and Joseph M. D. Carson, Esqs. were designated, whose names are respectfully tendered to the people.

Resolved, That these proceedings be published in the Western Carolinian.

The meeting then adjourned.

JOHN MOORE, Chairman.

CIRCULAR.

General Post Office, 7th July, 1823.

Sir: It is believed that many of the irregularities and losses in the transmission of letters, proceed from the frequent examination of the contents of the mail, between those points at which distributing offices are established. To guard in future against such irregularities and losses, you are required to procure, with the least possible delay, if your office is not already furnished with them, Way-bills, made of substantial materials, and of sufficient size to contain all the letters that are required to be distributed at the intermediate offices, between your office and the next distributing office, so that the principal mail shall in no instance be examined, except at the distributing offices. I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

JOHN McLEAN.

Clock for Sale.

A FIRST rate Brass Clock and Mahogany case, for sale on moderate terms. Apply at this Office. August 5, 1823.

Attention Mechanics.

THE undersigned Commissioner for the building a Court House in Asheville, Buncombe County, do hereby give public notice, that on the first day of September next, at Asheville, a contract will be entered into by said Commissioners, with any person who may become the lowest bidder, (who will give such bond and security as may be required,) for building said Court House, a plan whereof, together with the specifications and terms of contract, may be seen at any time by applying to said Commissioners.

JOHN McELROY, JAMES M. SMITH, JOHN JARRETT, JOHN WOODFIN, SAMUEL GREEN, Duncombs, July 18th, 1823.

Notice.

ALL Persons indebted to the estate of Daniel Cress, dec'd. are requested to call and settle their accounts; otherwise they will find them in the hands of officers by the 10th day of August. And all those that have claims against the estate, will bring them forward and receive payment.

E. CRESS, Ex'r, J. GAY, S'r, July 15th, 1823.

Bank Stock, on Credit.

ON Thursday the 21st of August next, (being Thursday of the County Court,) one hundred and ninety-four Shares Stock of the State Bank of North-Carolina, and fifty-six Shares Stock of the Bank of Cape Fear, belonging to the estate of Daniel Cress, late of Salisbury, dec'd. will be sold in a credit of six months. Bonds with at least two good securities will be required, and other particulars made known on the day of sale, by the executors.

EDWARD CRESS, JOSHUA GAY, ALEXANDER GRAHAM, Salisbury, July 11th, 1823.