CAROLINIAN:

SALISBURY, ROWAN COUNTY, NORTH-CAROLINA.

October 28, 1823.

INTELLIGENCE.

LATEST FROM SPAIN.

The brig *Catherine Rogers*, arrived at New-York, in 30 days from Gibraltar, brings papers of that place of the 2d of September inclusive, from which it appears, that our doubts respecting the surrender of Corunna to the French, were well founded, notwithstanding the official bulletin, in the Paris papers, announcing that a convention had been signed on the 14th of August. Corunna as well as Cadiz continued faithful to the Constitution down to the beginning of September. The French had made some attempts against Cadiz on the 25th August, but they were compelled to retire with considerable loss. A meeting of general officers and other persons of rank was about to be held, at which the Duke del Infantado was expected to be present. Nothing is said about the bombardment. General Lauriston's division, which had proceeded to Tariffa, had sustained some loss, which rendered it necessary for him to retire to Algesiras. A private letter, dated Gibraltar, September 3d, states the loss of the French in this repulse at 800 men. The writer adds, "Malaga is in a dreadful state at present; the commander has made a requisition of $100,000 of the merchants—several who refused to pay, have been sent to prison, among them the American Consul, and several have been shot. The English frigate Tribune is to proceed from here to bring the English merchants from that place."

Sir Robert Wilson left Gibraltar for Malaga on the 2d September; and on the preceding day Gen. Zayas and the other officers, who had been arrested by Riego and sent on ship board, arrived at Gibraltar.

It thus appears by the latest accounts from the Peninsula, that there is no reason for believing that the French will succeed in their attempt to subjugate Spain. On the contrary, the brave and determined resistance which they meet with at every point, justifies the opinion we have all along maintained, that the enemies of the Constitutional system will fail in their object. Their career of bribery has apparently been arrested, and unless the Duke d'Angouleme is possessed of more skill than the former generals of France, we should not be surprised if, in a few days, he had concluded a treaty disgraceful to those who had placed him at the head of the expedition, or retraced his march across the Ebro.—[*Even. Post.*

NEW YORK OCT. 6.

We have received by the Catharine Rodgers, a letter from Gibraltar, dated Sept. 3, which states that the French had been repulsed at Tariffa, with the loss, it was reported, of 800 men. The writer adds, "Malaga is in a dreadful state at present; the commander has made a requisition of 100,000 dollars of the merchants—several who refused to pay, have been sent to prison, among them the American Consul, and several have been shot. The English frigate Tribune is to proceed from here to bring the English merchants from that place.—*Mer. Adv.*

OCTOBER 7.

We yesterday received a letter from Gibraltar stating that the American Consul, among others, was imprisoned at Malaga, in consequence of refusing to pay a sum of money required by the Spanish commander at that place. Although the letter came from a gentleman in whose statements we place great confidence, we could hardly credit the account; but find there are other letters in town which not only confirm the fact, but add that all the foreign Consuls in Malaga were in prison. The sum demanded of Mr. Barrell, our Cousul, is stated to have been 3000 dollars. Of the Swedish Consul, $10,000 was demanded, &c. *ibid.*

OCTOBER 9.

Portugal.—A gentleman of this city has received a letter from his friend at Lisbon *without signature*, but known by the handwriting, dated August 14, which says—"I am sorry to tell you, that since I wrote you by the Mentor, nothing but persecutions have taken place. Respectable men have been put in dungeons for the *crime* of receiving letters from their friends abroad, which allude to the politics of this country; in fact one cannot open his mouth. It was for this reason, I said in my last, I did not wish to trust to the casualties of letters. *I hope, ere long, to be able to write and express my mind at large.*" *Ibid.*

A public dinner was given at Liverpool on the 25th of August, at which were present Mr. Secretary Canning, Mr. Huskisson, Lord G. Bentinck, Mr. Hughes, Charge d'Affairs from the United States to Sweden, and many other persons of distinction. In the course of the evening, Mr. Canning proposed as a toast, the health of the representative of the American Government, who was then on his way to Sweden. The toast was accompanied by Mr. C. with a short address, highly complimentary to the U. States. "It appears to me," said Mr. C. "that the relative position of two such States, [alluding to the United States and Great Britain] is not wholly unlike that which occasionally occurs in families; where a child having perhaps displeased a parent,—a daughter for instance, in contracting a connexion offensive to that parent's feelings, some estrangement would for a while necessarily ensue; but after a lapse of time, the irritation is forgotten, the force of blood still prevails, and the daughter and the mother stand together against the world." The toast was drank with great applause, and Mr. Huskes, after expressing his sentiments on the occasion, proposed as a toast, "the Town of Liverpool and the United States of America; their Trade and their Friendship: may they all go on increasing." On the morning of the same day Mr. C. Mr. H. and other persons of distinction, had accompanied Mr. Hughes on a visit to the American ship Canada, Captain Macey, in which he had arrived a few days previous. *Charleston Courier.*

FROM SMYRNA.

PHILADELPHIA, OCT. 9.—The fast sailing brig Torpedo, Captain Chandler, arrived here yesterday afternoon in the short passage of 47 days from Smyrna.

To the politeness of the owners of the Torpedo we are indebted for Smyrna papers to the 14th of August inclusive. The paper of the last date announces that that city enjoyed the most perfect tranquillity.

Capt. Chandler states, that respecting the Greeks and Turks, there were daily reports in favor of both. The Greeks were in entire possession of the Morea, excepting the strong fortress of Petras, in the gulf of Lepanto, where there is at present a numerous Turkish fleet. The Greek fleets were at Ipsara and Hydra—at this latter island they were to meet on the 22d August, where great preparations were said to be making to form a desperate attack on the Turkish fleet, and it was supposed that a great number of boats were to be sent in along with fire ships. There is no doubt that the Greeks are much more forward than ever. A few days before the Torpedo left Smyrna, there was a report that a 74, two frigates, and a sloop (English) had arrived at Corfu with three of the chief Greeks on board, from whence it is said they were going up to the Turkish fleet.

FROM THE BRAZILS.

The ship Panthea, on her passage from Rio Janeiro for Boston, spoke on the 11th September, the English brig Shamrock, from Para, which reported that one of the Brazilian squadron, under the orders of Cochrane, had arrived there, and stated that nearly all the northern provinces had taken sides with the Emperor, in consequence of the news from Portugal, of the downfall of the Constitution.

BALTIMORE, OCT. 8.—By the schooner Col. Ramsay, Smith, arrived here last evening in 22 days from St. Jago de Cuba, we learn that Gen. Morales and his army were still at that place, and that a contribution had been levied upon the inhabitants for their support. [*Amer.*

It is supposed that upwards of four hundred souls perished in the gale at Valparaiso, (S. America,) in July last.

NEGRO INSURRECTION.

Extract of a letter dated St. Thomas, Sept. 4.

"You will have heard before this of the terrible dost that there has been in the island of Demerara. The negroes rose to the amount of 3000, and gave regular battle to the King's troops; they made a desperate attempt to cut off a detachment of the 21st regiment as it was coming up, but they were defeated by the very gallant conduct of a lieutenant who commanded the division. The 21st West India Regiment and Georgetown Militia of Cavalry, were all engaged in the affray, and behaved uncommonly well. The tumult was not quelled when the express left Demerara, but there is every reason to hope that it is so by this time, as a strong re-inforcement was immediately embarked at Barbadoes for the scene of action."

A letter, received in New-York by way of St. Thomas, states that on the 23d of August, an action took place in the East part of Demerara, between a body of 2000 well armed negroes, and the troops of that province, when the blacks were defeated and dispersed with the loss of about 150 in killed.

M. Belzoni.—We are concerned to state the failure of M. Belzoni's intended journey across Mount Atlas to Tombuctoo. By a letter from that traveller, dated Gibraltar, 20th June, he states his having met with an unexpected stop to his progress from the Emperor of Morocco, through whose country he wished to pass. Mr. B. attributes his failure to some intrigues, but adds, "they are wofully mistaken who think they can turn me back with one blow. The only consequence of this reverse is, that, owing to what I have gathered of information, I shall be able to proceed with better prospects in another quarter; and by the time you will receive this, I shall probably be one-third of my journey farther south than I have been in my last route." *Cam. Chro.*

By accounts from Georgia, it appears that an immense quantity of *cotton* will be destroyed in that state by the *ROT.*

DIVISION OF ROWAN.

Nothing more strikingly exhibits the illiberal jealousy of our Eastern brethren on the Convention question, than the fact that almost every member from that section of the State who voted for the division of Rowan, has been beaten in the late election, on the grounds of that vote.—How does this look? The people of Rowan had urged their grievances on the Legislature for nearly thirty years in succession, with unavailing efforts. The western members, it is true, always voted for their petitions; but the power rested with the eastern men, and they always turned a deaf ear to the voice of justice. At the last session, however, a number of the best informed and most liberal of the eastern representation, acting under a sense of moral duty, voted for the division. They expected at the time, that they were furnishing weapons for the illiberal demagogues at home to work upon the ignorant with; but like honest legislators, they determined to sacrifice popularity on the altar of *justice*. Their expectations were realized; their votes on that question were rung through their counties against them, and they were beaten at the election. But it was generally only the votes of the ignorant and prejudiced that they lost; for we learn that their public conduct was approved by the enlightened and liberal minded part of their fellow citizens. An honest man would rather fall in a good cause, than rise in a bad one. These gentlemen were too honest to smother their sense of justice and equal rights, for the sake of an ephemeral popularity. With minds capable of bearing up against all the fury of infatuated prejudice, they have pure hands and clear consciences. Their constituents will suffer much more in the loss of their services, than they will in not going to the Legislature. In the representation from the eastern section of the state, there are, every session, a number of men of talents, intelligence and liberality; the others are mostly pertinacious and illiberal in their prejudices. Those from that section who voted for the division of Rowan, were of the former class; and we will venture to say, where an exchange has been made, it is for the worse.

When we see such consequences follow a vote for the division of a county, what can we expect from our eastern brethren on the great and important question of the call of a Convention?

CASUALTY.

The coroner, Mr. Howard, was called on Saturday, the 16th inst. to summons a jury and hold an inquest on the body of a female, found on the preceding Friday, in an unoccupied dwelling house about six miles below this town. The corpse appeared to be that of a woman of fifty years of age. It was found by some people who were examining the premises with a view of removing a family there.

It appeared that the poor woman had picked up some rags, and made a bed (or nest) of them, on which she had been lying; but as she was found in a corner of the house, off from the bed of rags, almost entirely denuded, it is supposed she must have writhed and struggled a good deal, during the paroxysms of suffering immediately preceding the extinction of life.

No traces have yet been discovered, that are likely to lead to a developement of the name or character of the deceased.

WIDOWS.....*again.*

The American Recorder, printed in the town of Washington, N. C. mentions that there are *forty four* widows in that town, which contains a population of only about 1000 souls. This beats Salisbury. But in neither place does this fact justly afford any evidence of the unhealthiness of the town. It is the natural effects of an extraordinary union of causes; and as such, is as deserving of publicity as any other *curious* thing.

We are so much crowded this week, that we are unable to notice the proceedings at the late meeting of the Bible Society.

FAST.

Thursday, the 6th of November next, has been set apart by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, as a day of public humiliation, fasting and prayer.

"COMMON SENSE."

FOR THE WESTERN CAROLINIAN.

Mr. Editor: I have noticed in your paper, several successive essays on the subject of the Convention, signed "Common Sense." From the very grave and potential manner in which the writer introduces himself to the public, it was to have been expected that he had something new and imposing to say. Instead, however, of this, we find a considerable part of what he has said altogether foreign from a just application to the subject; and the rest of his remarks a mere reiteration of what has so often before been said, sung, and written in the East—a repetition of the old quack-trick, of emptying physic from one phial into another, with a new label.

The writer, by way of apprising the world of the great work before him, opens with the information, "that the subject of the Convention is the order of the day, and that it principally engrosses the attention of the community." But unfortunately it would seem the community is entirely wrong, and it remains for his superior wisdom to bring them "to a correct understanding." He very modestly adds, further, "that the current of public opinion is strongly against me," and that there is great danger of his being overwhelmed in it: yet he does not regard personal consequences, *provided* he only can save "his country in this her day of trial." Generous martyr!! He is willing to be overwhelmed by the tide of public sentiment, if he can only *write:*

"*Condemn'd by fate and his stars, to write.*"

And what has he written?

After having thus introduced himself, with as much solemnity as though he were about to reveal to the benighted world the newly-discovered secret of perpetul motion,* he enters upon the great work before him—*namely*, to prove that the *community* is altogether wrong, and that HE is right.

In all controversies, whether written or verbal, much time and words may be saved by putting aside every thing that does not strictly relate to the point, and by coming at once to the question in dispute. Let us endeavor to do so with the lucubrations of "Common Sense."

The first ground that "Common Sense" takes for the purpose of showing off his logic, is the *inequality of representation;* or, the allegation that a *minority*, under the existing Constitution, can rule the *majority*. This he denies, and admits, in turn. We will state him fairly, by giving his own words: he says, "Before entering into the merits of the proposed alterations, it would seem necessary to examine some defects *ascribed* to the existing Constitution. Among the most prominent of these is the following, viz: That under the existing Constitution, a minority *may* and *do* govern a majority, which is held to be highly *anti-republican*," &c. &c. It is the affirmative of this proposition that is asserted by the friends of a Convention, and "Common Sense" states it for the express purpose of refutation. How does he disprove it? by figures, facts, and arguments? No; take his own words: "It is *admitted*, that in theory a minority may govern a majority; but in practice, it is contended that it very *rarely*, if ever, occurs." *First*, then, as to theory: Even this writer, with all his prejudices, cannot deny that the aristocratical principle of the *few* governing the *many*, does exist in the present Constitution. How could he deny it, when the late *census* stares him full in the face, and shows the fact? When that *census* shows that the following counties, to wit: Washington, Jones, Green, Chowan, Brunswick, Columbus, Tyrrel, Martin, Lenoir, Hyde, Gates, Carteret, Beaufort, Bladen, Bertie, Camden, Currituck, Franklin, Hertford, Moore, Northampton, Nash, New Hanover, Onslow, Pitt, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Warren, Wayne, Person, Richmond and Ashe, in number 32, and all eastern counties but one, containing only 142,000 souls, or less than one-third of the free population of the state, send a *majority* of members to the Legislature; while the other two-thirds of the population send the *minority*. Again: We see there are 12 counties in the West, that contain 144,000 souls, one-third of the population of the State, that only send 36 members, while the same population in the East sends 96. Other examples could be multiplied, were it necessary. But says "Common Sense," this is only in theory, and rarely occurs in practice; that is, he *admits* that a *principle* does exist in the Constitution, by the operation of which the minority of 1-3 *can* control the majority of 2-3; but he puts in a salvo, by saying it *rarely* occurs in practice. To unprejudiced minds, this admission at once gives up the question; for a Constitution is an instrument fixing fundamental *principles;* and certainly the instrument must be defective and anti-republican while it contains a principle which gives the minority the control over the majority. It is no argument to say that the exercise of the principle but *rarely* occurs; to a free people, jealous of their just rights, it is enough to know that a majority may be subject to the minority; for the history of every age teaches us that power never yet has been placed in the hands of the few, but the many have felt the abuse of it. Correct principles are everything in Government. It is just as impossible for a correct practice to follow incorrect principles, as it is for a pure stream to flow from a muddy source. Reason and experience teach us this truth. Hence it was, that our forefathers did not throw off the British yoke so much on account of the oppressions they actually felt, as because the British government had assumed principles unjust and dangerous in their tendencies. It was not for the pitiful tax of 3d. on the pound of tea, that the war commenced; for not one man in a thousand, at that day, even drank tea; but it was against the *principle* they fought. It was for principle that our British ancestors at Runny-mead, stood out against the tyrant *John*, and wrung from him the glorious instrument of Magna Charta. And it is for principle, that the people of Europe are now struggling against those *minorities* that hold power with an iron grasp. In short, let the people of any nation give up *principle*, and they will soon have but little remaining worth contending for.

If, then, we could not point to a single exercise of this unjust principle, still the reasonable apprehensions for the future, would amply justify the West in demanding a Convention, to expunge it from the Constitution. But we can show examples where this principle has been practised—where the minority have ruled the majority. Indeed, this writer does not pretend to deny the fact; he only "strongly doubts it."

If it be true, as report says, that "Common Sense" is from the pen of a person who has had some experience in the Legislature, he certainly will have candour enough to admit, that there do exist in that body two separate and distinct interests, called the *Eastern* and *Western;* that the Eastern party have a majority of members in the Legislature, though they represent only about 1-3 of the free people of the State; and that the Western members compose a minority, though they represent nearly or quite 2-3 of the people. Further, that these parties on certain occasions, are as distinctly marked as ever were the old political parties. Now no man of candour and of common intelligence, either in the East or West, will deny, though "Common Sense" may, that not a session has elapsed, since the close of the war, in which some one or more questions have not occurred on which the two parties were arrayed against each other, each voting together in a body.

That a people may be agrieved, not only by the enacting of unjust laws, but also by the refusal on the part of the majority of the Legislature to pass proper ones, is a proposition too evident to require illustration. Then, can the writer in question deny that the eastern party have often refused the passage of measures essential to the interest and happiness of citizens of the West? Take, for instance, the divisions of counties; and for a particular example, that of an adjoining county, Rowan. For how many years in succession did not the people of Rowan petition the Legislature for a redress of their grievances, both of local and political nature? The Western members always voted *for*, the Eastern always *against*, their prayer. This case does not lose its force by the fact, that at the last session our sister county was divided. It is well understood, that the result was brought about by a combination of circumstances, that may never again occur. But we have not only seen the members of the East act together on particular measures of legislation; we have often witnessed the same spirit prevailing in the elections exercised by the Legislature. Can it be denied that the senatorial election, at the last session, was carried on eastern feelings? The votes of each candidate were known, and it was at the time ascertained, by actual calculation, that those who voted for the successful candidate did not represent but a fraction more than 1-3 of the people of the State. Again; It comes to the writer of this, from good authority, that a high military office, at the last session, was filled on the same principle; with this peculiarity, that the office was in the West, and the votes that filled it are in the east. Again; It will not be disputed, that the Speaker of the House of Commons at the last session, was also appointed under the influence of eastern feelings and prejudice and a few weeks will show that the presiding officer of the next Commons will be chosen on the same principles. Were it deemed necessary, still further examples could be furnished, but it is presumed these are sufficient.

I will now leave it to the candid reader to say, whether I have not shown that the *minority* in the Legislature can control the *majority;* not only in theory, but in *practice*. Indeed it would seem from the following quotation, that "Common Sense" himself almost gives up the argument; for he evidently tries to justify it by a similar defect in the new Constitution. He says, "If, however, such an occurrence, (viz, the minority ruling the majority) has taken place, it will be easy to prove, by undeniable facts, that the same thing may happen under the remedy proposed by the friends of Convention to cure the defect; viz the principle of federal numbers." Here, indeed, is something new! The new Constitution is to be based on the principle of federal numbers. It is presumed that the writer of "Common Sense" must have received this information from his friend the "Indian Missionary," for certain it is that the proceedings of the friends of Convention at Raleigh hold out no such idea. Though he may have made this discovery through super-human means, he is still pleased to offer us tangible reasons for it. Let us, therefore, see how he proves that the principle of federal numbers is to be the basis of the new Constitution. His argument, nearly in his own words, drawn into the form of a syllogism, is as follows:

"The friends of Convention, in their meeting at Raleigh, recommended that the delegates to meet in November next, be chosen one for every 5,000 federal numbers.

But, this arrangement has been highly extolled by many of the corresponding committees."

Ergo, I hazard but little in asserting that it is the *intended* base for the future representation in the Legislature of North Carolina. If there are any who suspect that this is not a fair representation of his argument, I ask them to turn to the first No. of "Common Sense," in the Western Carolinian of the 15th July, and examine for themselves. These, then, are his "deniable facts." It is a logic almost equal to that by which Jack, the

* *This allusion to* perpetual motion *may require a note of explanation; mostly, however, for the benefit of the Eastern reader. It is not very long since there appeared in our county Town a venerable looking stranger; an old man, "whose locks were silver'd o'er with age;" who was returning from his missionary labors among the savages, for the purpose, as he said, of making known to his white brethren the revelation of a great secret from Heaven—the long hidden secret of* perpetual motion! *that Heaven, in a vision, had revealed it to him. As a proof of this miracle, he exhibited the plans and drawings of the secret; and as soon as he had removed all doubts of its divine origin, he proposed* SELLING *on very advantageous terms. A company was accordingly formed of a few select friends, and the purchase made. The great discovery soon took wind, and persons flocked in to examine the wonderous plan of* Perpetual Motion! *The company (of which the reputed author of "Common Sense" was one) all believed that it came from* Heaven; *there were others, however, who suspected that it came from* Redheiffer; *and some were so destitute of "common sense" as to believe that it came from the d***l! Perhaps by this time our friend "common sense" can remove all doubts, and bring the "*COMMUNITY *to a correct understanding."*