

THE MUSE.

FOR THE WESTERN CAROLINIAN.

Mr. Editor: On reading the "First lover," the following Parody was immediately penned. If it be possible, give it a place in the Poet's corner.

MISS —

True art gone from thy lover,
Who once did enchain me!
The illusion is over,
That bound me to thee!

I cannot regret thee,
Though dearest thou wert;
Nor can I forget thee,
Thou queen of my heart!

I loved thee too deeply,
To cause thee to grieve;
But I'll turn from the brightness
My jewel can give!

For I cannot behold thee
Make sport with thy power!
No: thy — will name thee
In fondness no more!

FOR THE WESTERN CAROLINIAN.

Mr. Editor: An evil prevails in our country. It is this: People are too precipitate in affixing to a young gentleman the report that he is courting some young lady. It may be they know that he has been once or oftener at a certain place. If a neighbor, he may often have visited where some fair one resides. What then? Is he courting the lady whom he sees on his visit? It may be so, or it may not be so. If not acquainted with the young lady, he may have called to form that acquaintance which is necessary before any young man can with propriety aim to gain the affections of a young lady. Some are slow, others quick, in attaining the knowledge of character. Some, indeed the most, need to be placed in the company of a young lady often, before they can form an opinion of her. To acquire a knowledge of a young lady, without acting the spy, any young man has a perfect right.

Time and opportunity should be granted for this purpose. He has his election to make, as a lady has hers; one as important to him, as it can be to her. Marriage is a serious concern, a life-during engagement. When we enter the married life, we put up at a port-for-life. Then let a young gentleman, or a young lady, have time to be acquainted with the person, respecting whom there is a tendency to form a good opinion because of the recommendation which the person carries in engaging features of manners, the recommendation of a friend, or the family connexion. If there is no mutual attraction, let the gentleman discontinue his visits without an imputation of being rejected in courtship; or of being offended; or being capricious. If a young lady could, in general, not give any response to a young gentleman, generally, be ready to pronounce, after two or three visits, whether he would wish to marry any certain lady. If time for acquaintance should be enjoyed by both sexes, then let not the occasional visits for the sake of acquaintance, be called courtship. Let no young gentleman or lady be injured in their prospects by false reports. I know it is rare news to hear who this and that person is going to marry. There is always a restiveness to know how the election goes, in this place, or in that place. But let impatience be curbed a little. Wait my friends, till you know before you circulate, that I am courting Miss — —, or that I am going to be marred to Miss — — on next Thursday. Not so fast, if you please. Such reports will tend to disconcertance the visits of others, when they might be of more consequence than mine. For my part, report is no obstacle to me, if I wish to see a young lady. But some, doubtless, are intimidated by reports, and those reports groundless. Let the authors of such reports be cautious. A busy-body in other men's matters, the Scripture singles out for reprobation. These reports may injure a young man much. They will make him bear the burden of having courted several ladies. Why did he not succeed in each case, will be the wonder. He was rejected, or he was offended, or he was capricious, will be the conclusion. And very probably the contrary of any of these was the fact. If he never courted the lady spoken of, such reports and such conclusions are injuries, — I need not say how deadly.

A young gentleman, discontinuing intentional visits to a young lady, does not discredit her. Why did he not court her? No one but themselves can tell. She may have dis-

liked him; he may have disliked her; prudential reasons may have forbidden love; the weight of affection may have been all on one side; there may have been disparity and mutual repulsion; any of these may have been the fact.

Besides, may not a young gentleman be privileged to spend an hour or two in an agreeable family, though he has no matrimonial views relative to any member of it? Certainly. Let our visits be dictated by friendship, and sociability, as well as by love.

But if people will not call in all their reports and give us *specie*, let us examine well the reports we hear. By all means, if there be no signature, reject the currency. Some bills must be discounted largely, as they come from a distance. Others were from a bank, that was *never in good credit*. These are nothing but rags. Those are on the Utopian bank. Worse than all, are counterfeits—so like the reality—so utterly worthless, when detected. With all these difficulties, frequently occurring, let us be cautious in receiving and circulating what may discredit us.

A. B.

Mr. White: Should you deem the following lines worthy the attention of your patrons, you will please give them a place in your highly esteemed paper: taken from Dr. Franklin's works.

Pleasant Grove, Oct. 29, 1823.

The way to make money plenty in every man's pocket.

At this time, when the general complaint is, that "money is scarce," it will be an act of kindness to inform the monyless, how they may reinforce their pockets. I will acquaint them with the true secret of money-catching; the certain way to fill empty purses; and how to keep them always full. Two simple rules, well observed, will do the business.

First, let honesty and industry be thy constant companions: and,

Secondly, spend one penny less than thy clear gains. Then shall thy hide bound pocket soon begin to thrive; and will never again cry with the empty belly-ache. Neither will creditors insult thee; nor want oppress; nor hunger bite; nor nakedness freeze thee. The whole hemisphere will shine brighter; and pleasure spring up in every corner of thy heart. Now, therefore, embrace these rules and be happy. Banish the bleak winds of sorrow from thy mind, and live independent. Then shalt thou be a man, and not hide thy face at the approach of the rich; nor suffer the pain of feeling little when the sons of fortune walk at thy right hand; for independency, whether with little or much, is good fortune, and placeth thee on even ground with the proudest of the golden fleece. Oh then, be wise, and let industry walk with thee in the morning, and attend thee until thou reachest the evening hour for rest. Let honesty be as the breath of thy soul; and never forget to have a penny, when all thy expenses are enumerated and paid. Then shalt thou reach the point of happiness, and independence shall be thy shield and buckler, thy helmet and crown. Then shall thy soul walk upright, nor stoop to the silken wretch, because he hath riches; nor pocket an abuse, because the hand which offers it, wears a ring set with diamonds.

Captain Parry's Expedition.

The Discovery ships sent from England under the command of Capt. Parry have returned, it seems, without having been able to prosecute their advances towards the pole, even so far as on their former expedition. This will be a subject of serious regret and disappointment, not only in England, but throughout Europe and America. For ourselves, we confess we have never entertained the slightest expectation of any useful information from these expeditions. We look upon the notion of the existence of a northwest passage to be quite as chimerical, as the theory of an inner world maintained by Capt. Symmes. It is certainly not impossible that they may both exist; but if they do, we are inclined to believe that the uses of their existence are not for our world. We shall look with great anxiety for the publication of Capt. Parry's narrative.—*National Journal.*

A curious story was in circulation, and is pretty generally credited. Two men went into a grocery store, a few evenings ago, which is kept by an elderly woman in South Eleventh street, and requested permission to put a barrel into her store for a few hours. The men not returning, and the store becoming rather tainted, the barrel was broken open, and a dead negro was found in the vessel, with six dollars in his hand, which have since been appropriated to burying him.

[*Philad. Dem. Press*, Nov. 19.]

CAUCUS nominations.

The following preamble and resolutions were presented to the Legislature on the 2d inst. by Mr. Fisher, of this town, and were ordered to be printed, and made the order of the day for Friday following:

The General Assembly of North-Carolina, cherish with zeal and veneration, the just principles on which the Constitution of the Union is established, and the pure spirit that animates the Federal system; and we view with distrust and apprehension, every practice which may have a tendency to impair these principles, or to violate this spirit. The history of all governments shew, that the institutions of the people are in less danger from open violence, than from secret and insidious encroachments. In the first instance, the people are apprised of the danger, and may guard against it; in the other, the evil is fatal—coming under the mask of patriotism, suspicion is lulled, and its danger unperceived.

Of the latter description, we consider the practice, which heretofore has existed in the City of Washington, of holding Congressional Caucuses, for the nomination of Presidents of the United States—a practice directly opposed to the spirit of the Constitution, and fatally calculated to subvert the principles of our Government.

The Constitution of the Nation is one of checks and balances; its framers knew the frailties of mankind, and to preserve pure the integrity of its agents, it contemplates keeping separate and distinct from each other, the Legislative and Executive branches of the Government.

Members of Congress are chosen by the people for certain specific and defined purposes

—to exercise the functions of legislation, and not to elect or to nominate Presidents, except in the event as provided by the Constitution. In conformity to this caution of prudence and wisdom, the second Article of the Constitution forbids members of either branch of Congress from acting as Electors of President. Guarding against their own frailty, the people, by the Constitution, have taken from themselves the power to elect a Member of Congress, as an Elector. Yet by the practice of Caucusing, these Members of Congress indirectly do, what by the Constitution they are prohibited from doing directly.

The election of President, under the Constitution, is removed one degree from the people, by the intervention of the Electoral College, but by the practice of Caucus nominations, it is, in effect, taken away from the people altogether, and exercised by a selfish combination of unauthorized individuals—assuring power, and leaving to the people the empty privilege of ratifying their decrees.

The advocates of Caucus have in view to cause some one, by means of the nomination, to be elected President, who otherwise might not be elected. If this object be not effected by it, then the Caucus was useless: if it be attained, then the conclusion is irresistible, that the Members of Congress make the President, and in spirit violate the sacred instrument, which they have sworn to support.

We disapprove Congressional Caucuses for nominating Presidents, not only on Constitutional grounds, but on consideration of just policy. By the Constitution, in the event of no election by the Electoral College, the House of Representatives is to choose from the three highest, and voting by States; a provision deemed so important as to have been repeated, though modified by an amendment to the Constitution, solemnly ratified by this State in the year 1813. It is therefore certainly improper, unwise and highly censurable, for Members of Congress to go into Caucuses, and prejudice the case, by pledging themselves to support a certain Candidate, when in twelve months thereafter they may be called upon to vote as final Electors. When the election of President goes to the House of Representatives, the functions of that body for the time being are wholly changed: they lose the character of Legislators, and become clothed in the privilege of the people, as Electors. An Elector is an Agent chosen by the people, not to exercise discretionary powers, but execute a qualified trust; to do what the people themselves would do, were they present; but Members of Congress are elected with reference to their sentiments on the Presidential question; in truth it may so happen, that while they prefer one person for President, the people prefer another; and we appeal to our knowledge of the fact, that whatever consideration may have induced the election of the present Members of Congress from this State, their opinions on the Presidential question had no manner of influence. The consequence therefore is, that when they go into Caucuses, they do not carry with them the feelings and wishes of the people; they usurp a power denied by the Constitution, and not given by the people; they obtain by fraud what they dare not attempt by violence.

It has been advanced, in defence of the practice of Caucusing, that it is necessary to prevent the election from going into the House of Representatives. The constitution prescribes, that Congress, voting by States, shall elect the President from the three highest on the poll, if no one have a majority of the whole. Does not the guilt of perjury rest on the man, who, taking an oath to support the Constitution, yet betrays himself to pervert and defeat its provisions? To this Legislature it would appear, that there is less danger of the House of Representatives being corrupted, than there is of the Caucus. In the one situation the Members act on their oaths and responsibilities; in the other they are impelled by their own selfish views, and they are exposed to the operations of intrigue, management, and oftentimes corruption.

This Legislature further object to this practice, because, in our government, we ought vigilantly to avoid giving sanction to improper precedents, so fatal in other governments. What at first is cautiously assumed, if unresisted, will, at last, be openly demanded as a right. Already do the friends of Caucus urge as argument, the practice of former Congresses; and unless the people now resist these usurpations, the period is not distant when Members of Congress will claim them as a right, by the law of immemorial usage—the people will be deprived of influence in the choice of President; or, Members of Congress must be chosen, not for their qualifications as Legislators, but for their opinion as Electors.

On former occasions, the plausible apology for Caucuses was, to unite the sentiments of the dominant party, to prevent it from being broken and shattered to pieces, lest their opponents might thereby supplant them in power. If this was ever a good apology, it is certainly not such at this time, since party rancour has subsided, the spirit of faction has disappeared, and most, if not all good men, unite in opinion upon questions of leading national policy.

The rights, the liberties of the American peo-

ple were achieved by the blood of our fathers, and won from the iron grasp of tyranny. These patriots fondly hoped they had secured, by their wisdom in the Federal Constitution, the enjoyment of these rights. Against the treason of open violence, we should be degenerate indeed if we did not rally round the standard of the Constitution, and with the sacrifice of life, shew that we can greatly prize and bravely defend the valuable inheritance. Shall we, then, when aware of our danger, permit a self-created Aristocracy to deceive, delude, and rob us of our rights? The Legislature of North-Carolina, resolute against this unconstitutional and dangerous usurpation of a Caucus nomination of President by Members of Congress at Washington.

We believe an open, manly and candid effort should be made to check the unhallowed design in its progress; and if the effort be not successful, that the people may be awakened and alarmed at the danger which threatens our rights and apply the correction.

With these views, and for these reasons, the General Assembly of North-Carolina

RESOLVE: First, That the Senators in Congress from this State be instructed, and our Representatives be requested, as a means of preserving the rights of the people, in choice of President, to withhold their countenance from the practice of meeting in Caucus by the Members of Congress; and that they use their exertions to prevent a nomination from being made in Caucus, of persons to fill the offices of President and Vice-President of the United States.

Second, That our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our Representatives be requested, to bring before Congress, and urge the passage of an amendment to the Constitution, providing that each State in the Union shall be laid off, at stated periods, into Electoral districts for the election of Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the United States.

Third, That the Governor of this State transmit a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolutions to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

Fourth, That the Governor transmit a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolutions to the Executive of each State in the Union, with a request that they be laid before their respective Legislatures.

There resides at present, near Ver-sailles, a retired subaltern officer, who accompanied Napoleon to most of his wars, and who is the father of nine children, all born in different countries. The first was born in Milan, Italy; the second in Switzerland; third in Egypt, fourth in France, fifth in Germany; sixth in Naples; seventh in Spain; eighth in Prussia; and the ninth in the Island of Elba. They are all able to converse in the language of the country in which they were born, and all residing under the paternal roof; they render the house something like a tower of Babel.

[Eng. puf.

There is at present exhibiting in the Argyll Rooms, London, an American *alo* in bloom, nearly twenty feet high. This extraordinary, beautiful and stupendous plant, flowers but once in one hundred years! and has at present 2000 blossoms upon it.

An English publication, in describing the improvements of the celebrated Perkins in the construction of the Steam Engine, makes a shew of candour by confessing that he is an American; but endeavours to allay the mortification of John Bull, by saying that he is of English descent! And so were the Washingtons and Franklins of the old times, and the Jack sons and Perrys of the new.

[Eng. puf.

A Gold Medal was on the 10th instant presented by a committee of the Surgical class of 1822-23, to Dr. Valentine Mott, the distinguished Professor of Surgery in the University of New York.

A new work from the pen of Miss Porter, author of "Ihaddeus of Warsaw,"—"Scottish Chiefs," &c. will soon appear in three volumes; entitled "Duke Christian of Luneburg," or tradition from the Harts.

Capture of Puerto Cabello.—After a siege of more than Trojan duration, this fortress has at length yielded to the gallantry of the Colombian arms; and we may now congratulate our sister Republic, upon having driven her enemies from the last foot-hold in her territory. The capture of Puerto Cabello, has cost much toil and blood; but it secures the independence of Colombia, and places it beyond the reach of any future annoyance from the Mother Country. The valour of men determined to be free, is irresistible; and Colombia now, so far from

having any thing to dread from the threatened attack of France and Spain, may fearlessly turn all her energies to the assistance of her still struggling sister Peru. With the reinforcements which she may now send to her brave and chivalrous Bolivar, that champion of Liberty would soon be enabled to extirpate the few remaining minions of despotism, and give freedom to the whole of South America. N. Journal.

Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, October Term, 1823. Eliza Beving, vs. Simeon Beving; alimony; Nancy Cox, by her next friend Thos. Fright, against Braxton Cox, and Jas. Wellborn, administrator. It appearing to the satisfaction of the court, that Simeon Beving, the defendant, is not an inhabitant of this state; it is therefore ordered by the court, that publication be made three months in the Raleigh Star and Western Carolinian, giving notice to the defendant, that he appear at the next Superior Court of Law to be held for Lincoln county, at the court-house in Lincoln, on the 4th Monday of March next, and there to answer, plead, or demur to said petition, otherwise it will be taken pro confesso, and adjudged accordingly. Witness, Lawson Henderson, clerk of said court, at office, the 4th Monday after the 4th Monday of September, A. D. 1823, and in the 48th year of the Independence of the United States.

3m91r LAW'N. HENDERSON.

State of North-Carolina, LINCOLN COUNTY.

SUPERIOR Court of Law, October Term, 1823. Eliza Beving, vs. Simeon Beving; alimony; Nancy Cox, by her next friend Thos. Fright, against Braxton Cox, and Jas. Wellborn, administrator. It appearing to the satisfaction of the court, that the defendant, Braxton Cox, is a non-resident of this state; it is therefore ordered by the court, that publication be made in the Western Carolinian for three months successively, that unless the said defendant appear at our next Court to be held for the county of Wilkes, at the Court-House in Wilkes-boro, on the second Monday in March next, and there to plead, answer, or demur, or said bill will be taken pro confesso, and heard ex parte.

J. GWYN, Jr. C.M.E.

Price adv. \$4. 3m89

State of North-Carolina, WILKES COUNTY.

COURT of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, October Term, 1823. George Shuman vs. Henry Verble; original attachment; James Wiseman, Maurice Davis and William Wiseman, summoned as garnissiers. It appearing to the satisfaction of the court, that the defendant is not a resident of this state, it is therefore ordered that publication be made in the Western Carolinian, published in Salisbury, for six weeks, for the above said parties to appear, and answer, plead, or demur, or judgment, pro confesso, will be taken against them, and the cause heard ex parte.

Witness, James Hathorn, clerk of the court of Equity for the county and State aforesaid, September, 1823.

JAMES HATHORN, C. & M. E.

Price adv. \$2. 6w17

State of North-Carolina, DAVIDSON COUNTY.

COURT of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, October Term, 1823. George Shuman vs. Henry Verble; original attachment; James Wiseman, Maurice Davis and William Wiseman, summoned as garnissiers. It appearing to the satisfaction of the court, that the defendant is not a resident of this state, it is therefore ordered that publication be made for three weeks in the Western Carolinian, for the defendant to appear at the next Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions to be held for the county of Davidson, at the court-house in Lexington, on the 4th Monday of January next, and plead, and plead, &c. otherwise judgment final will be entered against him.

A copy from the minutes.

Attest, DAVID MOCK, C.P.

Price adv. \$1. 3m84