

COMMUNICATION.

FOR THE WESTERN CAROLINIAN.

The rejoinder of "Junius" to "Brutus."

In the Western Carolinian of Feb. 3d, 1824, was contained the reply of Brutus to Junius, on the subject of the amended Constitution. Junius had expressed a general and decided approbation of the constitution, but entertained the opinion that, in some respects, it might have been better. He pointed out these particulars; 1st. Identifying the present Supreme Court with the Constitution. This he tho't at least impolitic, when, at that very juncture of time, a very considerable dissatisfaction prevailed on the subject of that institution; some, and probably not a few, of its warm friends had changed their opinion; and instructions had been given to the members of Assembly, from a very respectable department of the state, to use their exertions to have it done away. The strictures of Brutus consist of mere assertion. What are they? Universal concession, of all acquainted with jurisprudence, that the Supreme Court is a most respectable tribunal, &c. Prove this point, and then, and not till then, will Junius acknowledge the weight of authority.

2d. Junius thought it improper that the constitution should make Raleigh forever the permanent seat of government. He would suppose it sufficient to fix the seat of government by law; easily alterable, on every suitable emergency. Is it at all, or generally, precedent in the United States to do otherwise? The warmest friends of the amended Constitution do say, and will say, that this is an objectionable feature. However, had a diversity of opinion existed between Junius and Brutus in the two above particulars only, a reply would not have been made. But under the 3d particular noticed by Junius, against the exclusion of Ministers of the Gospel, while holding their pastoral function, from a seat in the Legislature, Brutus has made an illiberal attack upon a body of men, virtuous, learned, and respectable, and ought to be replied to. The reply is made, not by way of investigation of a political question, but in defence of the injured. Whether Ministers of the Gospel shall be eligible or not to a seat in the Legislature of North-Carolina, is a matter of mere theory; for were they permitted, I am persuaded that very few of them would ever exercise that privilege. This, Junius distinctly stated before: he pleaded that the Clergy had not forfeited their common privileges of citizenship; and that no man, nor set of men, had a right to take it from them. He conceded that legislation was not, in ordinary cases, their department; and that, if left to themselves, they would, by their own discipline, exclude their members from it. To this purpose the views and discipline of certain churches, high in respectability, were adduced. To the same purpose, our federal legislative department was adverted to. From that department, the clerical character is not exiled. The federal constitution has now been in operation between 30 and 40 years, and where is the intrusion, where is the ambition, where is the pestiferous influence of the clerical department?

The plea of Brutus, in vindication of the exclusion now on hand, is one that cannot be mistaken. It is necessity; and necessity, founded on the badness of the character excluded. He says, "it is a melancholy truth, that clergymen have, in all preceding ages of the world, been the most cruel, unrelenting set of men." Let it be distinctly noted, that this allegation must be considered as attaching to the Protestant clergy, and to the clergy generally in our own country; otherwise the argument would be altogether impertinent. But Brutus is not done. He adds other epithets to complete the feature—"Revengeful and bloody." The portraiture, in one view, stands thus: Most cruel, unrelenting, revengeful and bloody. Sir, prove your premises, and your conclusion must follow: Prove your premises, and the clergy, abashed by their prostration of character, will shrink from all claims to equal rights and privileges; and will account the measure merciful, if they escape pains and imprisonment—Prove your premises, and the good people of our country will sustain your attack; and will express a lasting amen to that statute that confines their malignant operation. Support your premises, and you will emancipate the world from

clerical influence, and introduce a new order of things. Man will recognize wolves in sheep's clothing, and will duly realize, that if they are so cruel and unrelenting, so revengeful and bloody, that they cannot be trusted in the civil department, neither can they in the ecclesiastical. Thus a way will be paved for a state of things similar to that of revolutionary France, when they had changed the Sabbath day, levelled their churches with the ground, and wrote over their burying-grounds, "This is the place of eternal sleep." It has been the case since man has been on the earth, until this day—sink the character of the ministry of the gospel, and at the same time you sink every thing sacred. Sir, prove your premises, or suffer the imputation of being a slanderer of a body of men, who, in point of intelligence, learning, virtue and ability, need fear comparison with none other whatever.

Junius will duly respect evidence from any impartial quarter, but will demur to the evidence of Gibbon and Hume, or any such deadly enemies of christianity, and every thing of a moral and religious kind. Such testimony would be inadmissible in a court of justice, and must be demurred to before the public. After the black colors in which Brutus has portrayed the character of the clergy, without discrimination, his professed respect for a truly pious clergyman, must be considered a mere salvo, a tub thrown out to a whale.

Brutus, to support his allegations, that the clergy are cruel, revengeful and bloody, summons our attention to the flames of Geneva. He says "Calvin, the great reformer, caused Servetus to be burned at the stake, and Bolsec to be banished. These two men were profound scholars, and patterns of piety at that time; and their only crime was that of propounding certain questions to Calvin, in polemic divinity, which he could not answer." For the sake of brevity, we pass over the case of Bolsec for the present; it is the less of the two crimes charged; and confine ourselves to the allegations against Calvin, in the case of Servetus. The charge is, that Calvin had Servetus burnt at the stake, and for no reason more plausible than a private pique, viz: because Servetus proposed certain questions in polemic divinity that Calvin could not answer, and that Servetus was a man of eminent piety. Sir, prove all this by unexceptionable testimony, and we will concede the point, that Calvin was as bad a man as you wish to represent him. Prove all this, or lie under the charge of being an invader of the repose of the tomb, a plunderer of the illustrious dead.—Contemporary writers that were unfriendly to Calvin, have not dared to assail his character with the virulence of Brutus. If the above allegations had been literally true, Calvin must have sunk: but instead of that, he continued to hold a pre-eminent weight of character, down to his dying day, not only at Geneva, but, to a large extent, throughout the protestant world. According to historical account, deemed correct, the charges under which Servetus suffered, were, 1st. Saying in a book published, that the Bible vainly extolled the fertility of Canaan, though indeed an uncultivated and barren country. 2d. His calling our God in three persons, a three-headed Cerberus.* 3d. His asserting, that God was every thing, and every thing was God. According to impartial history, these were the charges exhibited, and these charges Servetus did not deny, but pleaded the right of toleration. This puts a new face on the matter. Sir, where is your evidence that Servetus was a pious man. If heresy is evidence of piety, he has it. If blasphemy, viz: comparing the sacred doctrine of the Trinity, to the dog of Hell, is evidence of piety, then was Servetus a pious man, &c.

But whatever may have been the heresy of the unhappy man, we do not approve of his suffering capital punishment. The laws on that subject, we believe were unreasonably severe. But such laws were not peculiar to Geneva; but were, at that period, common to that and every other country in Europe. According to historical account, so far was Calvin from wishing to find an occasion against Servetus, that he wrote to him, and warned him not to come to Geneva, for if he did, the consequences must be perilous. Calvin wished him to recant; and when this could not be done, deplored his fate. Before the unhappy man suf-

* In heathen mythology, the dog of Hell.

fered, the Swiss Cantons were consulted on the subject, and gave their opinion against him. Calvin's situation was delicate: Servetus had been under process for heresy in France; had escaped from prison, and fled to Geneva. The Catholics charged Calvin with holding dangerous doctrines; had he been passive in the case of Servetus, they would have construed it into an alliance with him in sentiment. Upon the whole, it was not peculiarly the fault of Calvin that Servetus died; it was the fault of the times; and had Brutus lived at that day, he no doubt, would have been involved in the common error.

The public will pardon the length of this paragraph. The object is important; it is to wrest away from the breath of slander a name hitherto luminous and admired, and will be so while truth is venerated on earth.

The writer begs leave to repeat, and wishes it distinctly noted, that it is not for the sake of obtaining any legislative privilege for the clergy, in common with all other men, that has induced this reply. It is to repel a charge unexpected and unfounded, viz: that peculiar depravity, and depravity dangerous to the interest of society, attaches to that body of men. Does Brutus seriously believe, according to his own train of argumentation, that the clergy, in a moral point of light, when compared with the medical and law departments, stand so far on the back ground? If he does, can he induce the public to believe with him? Probably, since the days of Thomas Paine, until Brutus made his sally from the press, the public has not witnessed such an aggression on the clergy. Certainly, it must have been, *speciali gratia*, that it obtained admission before the public. How very different the views that Brutus would impress upon the public, from that of the apostle Paul: "I resecth you, brethren, to know them which labored among you, and are over you in the Lord, and admonish you and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. How very discordant his views from the spirit of the times; when kings are becoming the nursing-fathers of the church, and queens her nursing-mothers: when the christian world, almost with one consent, are sitting in deep consultation, to send the Bible, and its institutions, to the ends of the earth. Thirty years ago, during the volcanic explosions of France, when they violated every moral tie, such effusions would not have surprised us: we were then accustomed to the ebullitions of infidelity; but now, it is solitary and anomalous. But Brutus, not contented with aggression on the clerical department, turns his hand against the female character. He quotes, with approbation, a philosopher, who says, "The passion of revenge reigns most with priests and women." Here they are marked, as about equal with the clergy, under the domination of a foul and malignant passion. The females of our country, we have no doubt, will duly appreciate this wanton aggression.

JUNIUS.
February 21, 1824.

Virginia.—The following summary of the proceedings of a meeting of the members of the Virginia Legislature, is taken from the Petersburg Republican, and was communicated to the Editor by his correspondent at Richmond:

"There was last night a meeting at the capitol, of the members of both branches of the legislature, for the purpose of agreeing on the nomination of an Electoral ticket.

There were present of both houses, 160. It was proposed and agreed to, that the names of the members should be called, and that each one should name the man of his choice, when called. The calling of the roll produced the following result: For Wm. H. Crawford, 132 as President; Adams 7, Jackson 6, Macon 6, Clay 5; For A. Gallatin as Vice President—120, L. Cheves 30, Macon 10.

The meeting adjourned about 10 o'clock, till Wednesday evening, having made no nomination of electors."

The great pugilistic contest between Springs, "the Champion of England," and the celebrated Langan, the *Irish pretender*, as he was called, which created the highest expectation in the sporting world, and in which immense sums were depending, has taken place, and after a contest which lasted two hours and a half, in which the astonishing number of 72 rounds were fought, resulted in favor of Springs.

One of Mr. Crawford's Alliances.—Mr. John Ridge, a Cherokee Indian, has intermarried with Miss Sally B. Northrop, a maiden of Cornwall, in Connecticut.

FOREIGN NEWS.

LATEST FROM EUROPE.

Paris papers to the 11th of January have been received at New-York, by a late arrival from Havre. The following extracts are taken from New-York papers, mostly from the Patriot, of the 21st ult.

The Courier of the 7th states that a messenger from France had landed at Dover from an open boat. He is said to have been the bearer of despatches, which were immediately sent off to London. The crew, in answer to numerous questions stated that "the fleet was sailed," but it was not known whether they alluded to the fleet intended against South America.

The news from Madrid is to the 31st of December. The long expected decree of amnesty was said to be in the press. It is also said that the four following exceptions will be stipulated: 1. The officers of the Isle of Leon of the rank of Captain and above. 2. The persons who signed the deposition of the King at Seville. 3. All the Municipalities who proclaimed the Constitution before they were authorized so to do by the King. 4. The members of the minority of the Cortes, who at Cadiz, voted against the liberty of his Majesty.

The latest article from Madrid, is of Dec. 31st, which says, great changes have been made in all the embassies; none of the ambassadors at their posts have changed, but the others have received new destinations. A paragraph of the preceding day, give indications that the ministry were already rapidly approaching their downfall.

It is truly ludicrous to observe the pets into which some of the French Editors are occasionally betrayed by their dislike of the independent tone of our Chief Magistrate. They do not confine their anger to Mr. Monroe, however, but rail among other things at the liberty of the American Press.

The Etoile denounces the United States for having 500 public journals. "It is matter of complaint," says that paper, "that they are too numerous in Europe." How then are those in the new world to be tolerated? It is best then to signify immediately that they must be reduced to the number which shall be fixed for them by the Fauxbourg St. Germain, or else declare war against the factious Americans.

Spain is in a condition bordering on anarchy. The disbanded soldiery have mostly taken refuge in the mountains, and seize all opportunities to rob individuals and molest the government officers. Spain will never be tranquil till her imbecile ruler has shared the fate of many a better man.

The Greeks, by all accounts go on well, and we think there is no question of their ultimate independence—provided they are allowed to fight their own battles, unaided by the "Holy" Lords of Russia or France.

GREECE.

The Augsburg Gazette, under date of Constantinople, Nov 30, says, all the news from the Morea agrees in stating that the Greeks had had the entire advantage in the last campaign; in consequence of which, the Divan is seriously engaged in discussing this very important question—"Shall we hazard a new campaign, or shall we treat with the Greeks." This subject has a very interesting consideration, but the result is not as yet known. Intelligence from the same place, and through the same channel, five days later, states, that the treasurer of the porte has declared to the Divan that, in the actual situation of its finances, it will be impossible shortly to levy a single piastre.

Letters received at Venice from Greece, state that a Greek naval squadron took and destroyed several Turkish vessels before Missolonghi; and having raised the blockade, began to transport troops to that fortress from Patras, where 6000 men were collected.

Baltimore, Feb. 21.

The ship of war John Adams, captain Dallas, with commodore Porter on board, and the steam gulliot Sea Gull, Lieutenant Voorhees, went to sea from Norfolk on Wednesday last, bound on a cruise, and for the West India station. The court martial on lieut. Kennon, at Norfolk, has closed its proceedings, and the accused was to make his defence on Thursday last. Patriot.

The Legislature of Kentucky terminated its annual session on the 8th ult. after having passed two hundred laws and agreed to twenty resolutions. Nearly all the laws except about twenty are of a local and personal character. Several resolutions expressive of sympathy for the struggles making by the Greeks for the right of self government, were passed by the same Legislature.—Char. Courier.

A Justice of the Peace in Pennsylvania, recently declared the militia law of that state unconstitutional, and has given judgment against a collector of militia fines accordingly. The laws of Pennsylvania must be in a sorry condition indeed if they are subject to nullity from the construction every Justice of the Peace in that state may put upon the constitution. Balt. Pat.

SALISBURY.

TUESDAY MORNING, MARCH 9, 1824.

We are obliged this week to omit a detailed journal of the proceedings of Congress; a summary notice of the back proceedings shall be inserted in our next. The House of Representatives have been pretty much occupied, for about three weeks past, with the discussion of the Tariff bill; yet they have not attempted to discuss its main principles, but have been engaged in petty squabbles, and have not kept their sittings a week or two longer. There appear to be various opinions, as to the probability of this bill's ultimately passing. It cannot pass, we predict, unless greatly amended in its features.

ALBERT GALLATIN.

This gentleman having been put forth by the radical caucus at Washington, for the distinguished office of Vice President of the United States, his pretensions, his character, moral and political, have consequently become fair game for public scrutiny. From our youth upwards, we have always been taught to respect the name of Albert Gallatin. Although he was born in a foreign land, we could always divest ourselves of those native American prejudices which were inherited from our Revolutionary progenitors, to go all reasonable lengths in respecting his name and honoring his talents; but as he has now lent his name to, and identified his political fortunes with, a party composed in a good degree of meritless aspirants and heartless demagogues, it is due to the freemen of this Republic, that the whole character of the man should be developed. With this view, we shall, from time to time, give publicity to such articles as may tend to exhibit, in its true colors, the political conduct of this aspiring foreigner, who covets the second office in the gift of the American people. Below is a short article, which may serve to elicit inquiry on the subject.

FROM THE WASHINGTON REPUBLICAN.

As the "National Intelligencer" of this morning has kindly furnished a brief outline of Mr. Gallatin's political career, and as there appears a few prominent circumstances omitted, I should like the friends of that gentleman to finish the coloring of the picture, lest it might be spoiled by some political dauber: Is this the same Albert Gallatin that acted Secretary to a meeting of disaffected distillers in Connelville, Fayette county, Pa. in the fall of 1792—and penned certain inflammatory resolutions denouncing the administration of Washington? and who was afterwards furnished with a military escort by the Father of our Liberties, to bring said Albert to Head Quarters at Carlisle? Should this be the same Albert Gallatin, it will enable those to appreciate his merits, that had a hand in the

WESTERN INSURRECTION.
February 17th.

GENERAL JACKSON.

Col. Chas. F. Mercer, a member of Congress from Virginia, having been entrusted, by a relative of General Washington, with the duty of presenting to Gen. JACKSON the pistols which the former wore during the Revolutionary war, the Colonel availed himself of the anniversary of the victory of New-Orleans to pay this high compliment to the distinguished hero of that victory. It must be as grateful to the feelings of Gen. Jackson, to be presented with relics so sacred as the fire-arms which the immortal father of his country's liberty wore, throughout a long struggle for the achievement of that liberty, as it is honorable to those who so justly appreciate the eminent services of him who has bravely fought to preserve, what our beloved WASHINGTON devoted his life and spilt his blood to achieve, for us.

The correspondence that took place on the presentation of the pistols, will be found on the first page of this day's paper.

FOR THE WESTERN CAROLINIAN.

Mr. White: on looking over the columns of your paper of the 17th instant, I discovered that "a voter" of Davidson county has attempted by a misrepresentation of facts, to make impressions on the minds of the public, unfavorable to our representative, Mr. Long. It is a duty we owe to ourselves and the community, to watch strictly over the conduct of our public servants, and see that they do not transcend those powers we have invested them with, or come short of those duties which we expected them to perform; but it undoubtedly is an evidence of a malignant disposition to give a false coloring to an innocent transaction, with an intention not only to injure the individual at whom it is aimed, but also to mislead the minds of the common mass of our citizens; and induce them to believe their rights are about to be infringed upon, when nothing of that description is intended.

The Davidson voter says, "I see that our representative, Mr. Long, has introduced to Congress a measure to prevent Masters from separating man and wife among our slaves;" and further states, that "this proposition shows that Mr. Long has more humanity than knowledge of the laws and constitution of the country." The true facts of the case are, that the society of Quakers, at their yearly meeting, held last summer in Guilford coun-