

COMMUNICATIONS.

The favors of correspondents occupy a considerable portion of our columns this week. For a number of weeks past, communications have been accumulating on our desk, which we neglected noticing as they deserved; but our apology will readily be seen to be in the great pressure of matter which claimed, and will continue to claim for a few weeks longer, immediate attention. We, therefore, take this occasion to assure our correspondents, that their papers will not only always be acceptably, but gratefully, received.

Mr. White: Some time last summer, a part of the xv. chapter of 11. Samuel, was sent to you by some one of your correspondents, and was published in the Western Carolinian. With what view it was sent, or what was the application intended at that time, I know not, unless it was to expose the practices of demagogues in general. At this time, and under present circumstances, the moral and application of the transactions narrated in that chapter, will be sufficiently evident. I therefore beg of you to republish that part of the chapter herewith sent you, and Dr. Scott's remarks thereon. The chapter added is merely intended to shew the application of that part of ancient history to transactions of the present day. It has been often said, that human nature is always the same. Designing and unprincipled men will make use of those means which appear best calculated to gain the objects of their inordinate wishes. It is not, therefore, by any means singular, that there should exist a striking similarity between the character and enterprises of Absalom, the son of David, and some considerable characters in our own country.

II. SAMUEL, CHAP. XV.

- 1. And it came to pass, that Absalom prepared him chariots, and horses, and fifty men to run before him.
2. And Absalom rose up early, and stood beside the way of the gate, and it was so, that when any man that had a controversy came to the king for judgment, then Absalom called on him, and said, Of what city art thou? And he said, Thy servant is of one of the cities of Israel.
3. And Absalom said, See, thy matters are good and right; but there is no man deputed of the king to hear thee.
4. Absalom said moreover, O that I was made Judge in the land, that every man that hath any suit or cause might come unto me, and I would do him justice.
5. And it was so, that when any man came nigh to do him obeisance, he put forth his hand, and took him, and kissed him.
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Upon which the annotator, Mr. Scott, makes the following remarks:

"Absalom stole." This expression aptly marks the way in which Absalom ingratiated himself with the people. He did not gain their hearts by eminent services, or by a wise and virtuous conduct; but he affected to look great, and yet to be very condescending and affable to his inferiors: he pretended a great regard to their interests, and threw out artful insinuations against David's administration; he flattered every one who had a cause to be tried, with the assurance that he had right on his side; that if the cause went against him, he might be led to accuse David and the magistrates, of injustice. Though he knew not how to obey, and deserved to die for his crimes, yet he expressed a vehement desire to be judge over all the land; and suggested that suits should not then be so tedious, expensive, and partially decided, as they were. This he confirmed by rising early, and apparent application; though it was to other people's business, and not to his own duty: and by such sinister arts, united with his personal attractions and address, he imposed upon multitudes all over the land, to prefer so worthless a character to the wise, righteous, and pious David."

Mr. Scott continues: "They are commonly most ambitious of authority who least understand its duties, and could least endure its burdens. But when ambition prompts, the most self-indulgent assume the appearance of diligence; and the most haughty that of affability and condescension! and whilst men aspire to the pinnacle of earthly grandeur, they, for the time, pay the most abject court to the meanest of the mob. Such fawning sons of ambition, are peculiar to no age or nation; but let every wise and honest man shun them as a pestilence. They make their way by openly or obliquely traducing the character, or censuring the measures, of their rulers; and the wisdom and perfection of an Angel would be no security against their malignant insinuations. These demagogues always have proper persons on whom to practise. By joining in their groundless complaints, they feed their discontent; by flattering their persons, and approving their cause, they humor their pride; and by lavish promises of what they would do, they excite their sanguine hopes of greater felicity; and by a voluble tongue, an insinuating address, personal accomplishments, and consummate impudence, they steal the hearts of the people. For such is human nature, that these arts and attainments go much

further in gaining the favor of the multitude, than wisdom and justice, truth and piety, or the most important and long continued services. This is the old hackneyed way for men destitute of conscience or honor, to wind themselves into important stations; and yet it is as much practised, and as little suspected, as if it was quite a new discovery. No wise and good man, therefore, should, on any account, promise himself the continuance of popular favor, or be cast down if he meet with treachery and ingratitude.

"The policy of wicked men, and the subtlety of Satan, are exerted in drawing in respectable persons to give an unintended and unsuspected countenance to the basest designs. Our severest trials often come from those in whom we most confided; and our firmest friends are sometimes raised up from among those from whom we had the least expectations."

To those of your readers, Mr. Editor, who do not know who Mr. Scott was, it may be proper to mention, that he was a pious and eminent minister of the gospel, who wrote a comment on the Bible—and who has been dead several years. Dr. Adam Clark approves the comments of Dr. Scott—and I should send you something that he says on the above verses, but that I have perhaps already transcribed too much from Dr. Scott.

Let the reader judge for himself whether the course, which has been pursued and is yet persisted in by a distinguished leader of a party amongst us and his friends, bears a resemblance to that of Absalom and his faction, or not; and whether a correct representation of their conduct be given in the following chapter.

1. Now, it came to pass, that the time when James Monroe should cease to be President of the United States, drew near; and he had been a man valiant in the defence of his country, in the time of her peril and danger, and faithful to his trust as Chief Magistrate of the Republic.

2. Therefore, the people loved him and respected him in his old age; and were exceedingly anxious to look out another citizen to be appointed President in his room, who should also be faithful, wise, and valiant, as he had been.

3. Now, while the people looked abroad and were in doubt and perplexity, in this matter, then many fixed their minds on John Quincy Adams, because of his great talents and long and faithful services to his country.

4. And some much desired De Witt Clinton for President, because he was also a man of powerful mind, and much practical energy of character.

5. Others espoused the cause of John C. Calhoun, who had been the great prop and pillar of the Union in the previous party in Congress, in times of trial and dismay.

6. Others likewise desired Henry Clay, who was an eloquent man.

7. But many looked unto Gen. Andrew Jackson, because that on all occasions he had been valiant and faithful—and the man of the people.

8. For he had fought against the Ishmaelites, otherwise called the Indians, and saved the lives of many women and children—and had likewise defeated the British with great slaughter, when they besieged the city of New Orleans.

9. But whilst all good citizens were thus deliberating and consulting and keeping in view the benefit of the country, and to obtain a suitable President therefor,

10. Then it came to pass, that William H. Crawford prepared him wives and strong drink, and sought out mean persons and men of Beliel to befriend him.

11. And he rose up early, and stood beside the doors of the Congress Hall; and it was so, that when any member of small judgment came that way.

12. That, then, William called on him and said, Of what state art thou? and he said, thy servant is of one of the Districts of the United States.

13. Then William said, O! that I was made President of the United States, that all foolish men would come unto me, whom another, if he was made President, would not regard, then would I give them fat offices, and loaves and fishes, and riches, and honor; and my friends should live daintily, and all who opposed them, should be trodden under foot.

14. Now, therefore, I will tell thee what thou art to do: Write many letters to thy constituents; send them plenty of the "City Gazette," which doth not refrain to publish abusive lies, and evil reports on all who oppose me, and to lavish most bountiful praises on me.

15. For our old President James Monroe, under whose administration the people have lived so happily, it doth abuse continually; and, likewise, Adams, Clay, and Jackson; therefore, it is meet that you should send it forth amongst the people, for it may be that many foolish men will believe these things.

16. And on this manner did William Crawford, to all the members of small understanding, who came into the Congress Hall. Likewise, he invited them to go in unto his house, and drink wine and strong drink with him; and recommended unto them to take squaws for wives.

17. So William stole the hearts of all the foolish members of Congress, and set their wits a longing after offices and honor, and the money of the people.

18. For they hearkened unto his voice, and blew the trumpet, and began straightway to praise William and one another, and continually to abuse James Monroe, and all the tried and good Republicans, to bring them into disrepute amongst the people.

19. Likewise, many of the ignorant amongst the people, who had no opinion of their own, but did only cleave unto what was told them by the members of Congress, did, therefore, adhere to Wm. Crawford.

20. Saying, nay, but we will be his servants, and the servants of the Caucus—for the Caucus knoweth better than we—for we are too ignorant to have an opinion about these things.

21. Therefore, the valiant men and the friends of liberty amongst the people, when they found that such aristocratic and slavish doctrines were propagated, did join themselves the more firmly.

22. Saying, let us adhere unto Andrew Jackson, for he defeated the Indians, and the British, and is one of the people, and hath always befriended the people; he will also defeat Wm. Crawford, and save our liberties a second time.

Mr. White: I transcribe part of a letter which I lately received from a member of Congress from South Carolina, dated May 22; which you may use as you see proper. "Scarcely a word is ever heard in the City on the subject of the Presidential Election. This silence does not arise from any settlement of the public mind on any particular candidate, for the issue of the contest is at this moment enveloped in as much uncertainty as at the commencement of the session. Every one, except the friends of Mr. Crawford, considers the question of success confined to Mr. Adams and Gen. Jackson. And of these two, so far as the ground can be viewed from this pinnacle, Old Hickory seems to be decidedly the most gaining candidate; as to the Secretary of the Treasury, he seems to be losing ground."

So much then, sir, for the stories industriously propagated by our members of Congress, that the contest is to lie between Mr. Crawford and Mr. Adams.—This story is evidently circulated with the intention of inducing Gen. Jackson's friends to view his cause as hopeless, in expectation that some of them may join the caucus candidate. But Gen. Jackson himself never regarded odds, but went fearlessly forward, and was always successful; and his friends seem to be actuated by the same spirit. Whether they are successful or not, they will do their duty to their country: And fortune favors the brave.

Mr. Editor: In the course of sundry conversations with several southern members of Congress, it appears that all our Representatives are in favor of Mr. Crawford for the Presidency! How this happens, I know not, unless, when at Washington, in the sphere of attraction of that resplendent luminary, their dim intellectual vision became totally eclipsed.

A Representative should be such, in the true import of the word; when he is not, he misrepresents his constituents. Our Representatives did know, and do know, that Mr. Crawford is not the man of the people of North-Carolina: He is the very last candidate that they could think of supporting for the all-important office of President.

With these facts before us, it is really astonishing that our members of Congress, in common with many others, should so far forget themselves as not to think of the feelings and interests of those whom they pretend to represent.

But, after all, the power resides in the people, and they will, no doubt, view with indignant contempt, the lordly dictation made at Washington, or any other that may be calculated to deprive them of their elective franchise.

The Caucus Address has for sometime past, burthened the mail towards every point of the compass: It has been sent under cover to Tom, Dick and Harry, with as much confidence as a Bull of excommunication from the Pope of Rome. What effect it has had on others, I know not; but for myself, I must candidly acknowledge, that it has had no more force than a ukase of the Emperor Alexander, or a mandate from the Emperor of Morocco.

Some persons are so good natured and credulous as to believe, that whenever a man is elected to Congress, that he must in consequence thereof, be possessed of an extraordinary share of wisdom; and a letter sent from him while at Washington, puts them as much in the figdigs as Mahomet was, when he received the sheets of the Koran by the miraculous visits of the angel Gabriel.

The poor pitiful tricks practised, and again practised by the enemies of General Jackson, have given me a degree of interest in his behalf which I did not hitherto feel. I have always thought that his illustrious services in his country's cause, entitled him to the highest honor that that country could confer upon him: But while Mr. Calhoun was on the list of candidates, my preference, for certain reasons, was for him. I am well satisfied, that Mr. Adams or General Jackson

would fill the Presidential seat with much more credit to themselves and interest to the country than Mr. Crawford, and therefore either of those gentlemen have my decided preference.

June 23, 1824.

[Our correspondent is wrong in saying all our members of Congress are favorable to Mr. Crawford's pretensions to the Presidency: there are two honorable exceptions.—Gov. Branch is a devoted and zealous friend to Gen. Jackson, and exerts the weight of his influence to secure the election of the People's Ticket; and Dr. Vance is as decidedly opposed to all the caucus and radical measures, and as warmly in favor of the people's cause, as Gov. Branch—the Doctor is believed to be personally friendly to Mr. Adams.]

Mr. Printer: In some editorial remarks, accompanying a communication of mine published in your excellent paper of the 25th of May, I perceive that I either very much mistook my own meaning when I penned those remarks, or have been misunderstood by you. But that the matter may be clearly understood, if there really is any ambiguity in my expressions, let me assure you, most unequivocally, that I not only approve of, and prefer, John Quincy Adams to all others that are in nomination for President, but that I am resolved, if I live to vote at all, to vote for none else for that place but him, and him alone.

Presuming from the liberality of the course that you have hitherto pursued, and from the general invitation that was given in your paper, if my recollection serves me right, for the friends of any of the candidates to forward temperate views of their reasons for their choice, for publication, thinking that I kept within the prescribed limits, I had no other intention in writing the remarks that you have done me the honor to publish, but to promote, to the best of my understanding, the interest of the candidate that I preferred. But I am willing to acknowledge that I wished to promote those interests only by fair and legitimate reasoning, and on grounds that appeared to me to be entirely tenable.

I indeed perceived that the Western Carolinian appeared more desirous of promoting the interests of General Jackson, than any other of the candidates; but I had hoped that an honest difference of opinion would not have subjected me to animadversions that appear to me pretty severe.

But to the point: What is it that has occasioned this castigation to be bestowed on me? For my life I can think of nothing else, than my having suggested and repeated my earnest desire that Adams' Ticket might be separated from all others; that thereby his real weight might be ascertained. And now, unless I am originally constituted of inferior materials, or have been by some means deprived of a competent share of reasoning powers, this is the only plan that has any plausibility in it. If it is otherwise, I desire of some of those who recommend the People's Ticket, to answer the difficulties that I have supposed appeared to that course, not by imputing to me a desire or a design to assist the caucus ticket, which I again deny; but by shewing, by arguments level to my humble capacity, in what sense I shall aid the election of Mr. Adams, by voting for Gen. Jackson?—Some indications that I observe in the public prints, make it as probable that Jackson will be President as that Crawford will; and may I not, then, sincerely deprecate his obtaining the votes of the friends of Mr. Adams, without incurring the charge of having forsaken my choice for either of the others? It may comport well enough, for aught I know, with the views of those who support the General's election, to decry all attempts of the friends of Adams to support their favorite: they may be of opinion, and perhaps justly, that unless they can obtain the assistance of Mr. Adams' friends, they will lose the vote of this state. This reasoning may appear very conclusive to them; but it does not therefore follow that it has the same force with the adherents of his rival. I am altogether desirous of fair play in this business; I am anxious that every candidate should have the most complete opportunity of trying his strength; and am willing, as every citizen should be, to abide the result. But pray, gentlemen, give us some chance of being heard on this occasion, and do not endeavor to trick us into the support of Gen. Jackson, for fear of the success of Mr. Crawford, when we want neither of them, and are equally opposed to the success of both, because they are equally in the way of the man of our choice, and the success of either must be his defeat—and equally so, be it which of them it may.—Let us have a ticket of our own; and then, if we are beaten, we will submit as becomes men, and bow to the will of the majority; but we will not have the additional mortification, of having occasioned our own overthrow.

[As regards our comments on a former communication of "A Farmer," we will observe, that it is with cheerfulness we afford him every facility to remove the suspicion which we thought we were warranted in casting upon the object of his piece. The cause of our suspicion was this:

We knew those who opposed the caucus nomination, did so on the ground of principle—that their opposition was not so much levelled against the man nominated by the caucus, as against the caucus itself. Although they had numerous and weighty objections to the caucus candidate, they had still more insuperable objections to the mode of his nomination—and would more deeply deplore the success of the latter, than the election of the former; for they would undoubtedly bow to any result of the election, if it were gained on fair, republican principles.—Knowing that such were the motives which actuated the opponents of the caucus candidate, we then thought we had reason to be suspicious of him who professed a hostility to the caucus, but at the same time refused, with an unyielding pertinacity, to relinquish the claims of a favorite candidate, on any consideration. Our political creed has taught us, that personal predilections should, when our country's good required it, be sacrificed on the altar of principle—that the personal claims of our best men ought to be waved, when it becomes necessary for the maintenance of the purity of our Republican institutions. Our political reverence is greater for measures, than for men; and we think it ought to be the creed of every genuine American republican.]

The "re-action" in PENNSYLVANIA.

It has been echoed and re-echoed, by every radical paper in the Union, that a "great re-action" was taking place in Pennsylvania, adverse to the interests of Gen. Jackson; but all this noise turns out more empty than a sounding brass, and a tinkling symbol." We should suppose that the paucity of the numbers which attend these meetings, would dishearten any party, or set of men; but the leading caucusmen appear determined to keep up the delusion, that their candidate still has a prospect of success. Their own better judgments, however, warn them of the fallacy of the hope they are so desirous of inspiring their followers with.

Our readers are already informed of the result of the caucus meeting in Chester county, Pennsylvania—where only nine radicals could be mustered in the whole county, which contains a population of 44,000. Their next effort was made in the large and populous county of Montgomery; there they drummed up about 13 men, to say "aye" to whatever two or three leaders proposed. They then tried their strength in the city of Philadelphia; and out of a population of one hundred and thirty thousand inhabitants, they succeeded in getting together about one hundred and thirty people—only one thousandth part of the population; and most of these were gaping, vacant-minded persons, who assented only by silence to what was said and done. But the most futile effort of the caucusites, was made in the city of Lancaster; the city and county of Lancaster, have a population of 70,000 in number—and after a deal of pains, only one man could be found to attend the meeting—which had been so pompously called to further the cause of the radical candidate.

So much for the "great re-action in Pennsylvania!"

Let the PEOPLE be heard.

At a muster of Capt. Bringle's company of militia, about seven miles from town, in the county, on Saturday, the 26th ult. the vote of the company was taken on the Presidential question. The issue was,

For Andrew Jackson, 86 votes  
John Quincy Adams, 1  
Wm. H. Crawford, 1\*

Besides the company, there were 30 or 35 others, generally old men, attending to pay taxes, who were, we understand, unanimously for Gen. Jackson. No vote was taken as to the Vice President; but we understand that it was ascertained that the unanimous voice was for John C. Calhoun.

\* We have conversed with the gentleman who gave the vote for Mr. Crawford; and he tells us he is not friendly to that candidate's election, but voted for him merely for the purpose of keeping the caucusites in countenance.

Presbyterian Church in the United States.

From the synodical and presbyterial reports presented to the general assembly at their present session, it appears that there are under the care of the assembly 13 synods, 77 presbyteries, 1679 congregations, and 1027 ministers. The number of vacant congregations is 769; licentiates, 173; and candidates, 195.—The number of communicants added during the past year is 10,431, and the whole number of communicants is 114,958.—The number of adult baptisms during the year has been 2120, and of infant baptisms 10,642. The amount of collections for missions 6795 dollars; for commissioners' fund, 2,692 dollars; for theological seminary, 1,495 dollars; for presbyterial fund, 370 dollars, and for education funds, 7,938 dollars. As the reports are made only once in four years, we shall have no further returns till the year 1828.

HEZEKIAH DAVIS, Esq. who was nominated as a presidential elector by the little Crawford meeting of mine, in Chester county, has publicly declined that honor.

Ship News.—Among other lists of cargoes, in the Nantucket Enquirer, we find the following:—"Arrived sloop Henry, from Falmouth, 4 ladies, 3 musicians, 1 lion, 1 lama, 1 Shetland pony, a monkey, a baboon, and two lawyers."