

Salisbury, April 5, 1823.

"A Voter" shall have a place in our nest.

David Stokes, Esq. has been appointed Post Master at Concord, North-Carolina, vice Elias Travis, Esq. resigned.

WINTER AMONG THE FLOWERS.

For some weeks past, the weather has been remarkably mild—sunshine and showers. The forest already looks green, and the fields are decorated with the flowers of spring; but in the midst of the smiling prospect, winter, with its blustering aspect, returns among us. On Friday night, 1st April, a considerable quantity of snow fell, which, however, was soon washed away by the torrents of rain that succeeded it. Owing to the winter having been unusually wet, farmers are more backward than usual with their preparations for their crops, nevertheless, considerable quantities of corn have already been planted, and in ten days, if the weather admits, the cotton planting will commence.

"SOME DIG FOR GOLDEN ORE."

It is the opinion of some, that ore will be scarce during the next year, in the vicinity of the gold mines. Such is the thirst after this glittering evil, that many will probably neglect their ploughs to wash the auriferous sands. The discovery of Barringer's mine has set the people to searching for gold in places where it was never before thought of. Within the few past weeks, we hear of its being found in fifty places. The fact is, that there is a region of country lying between this place and Fayetteville, which may be called the gold region. In that region, there is scarcely a mile square in which particles of gold may not be found. In the neighborhood of this place, within a few days past, the metal has been found at several places. We have seen specimens from Peter Brown's, (about 7 miles east of Salisbury), where some 40 or 50 dollars have been picked up in pieces, from one to 10 grains in size. Since January, \$ or 6000 dollars of the metal has been sold in this place, principally, however, from the pits at Barringer's, where of late, we learn but little is found. At Parker's, and near Montgomery court-house, the diggers continue to make wages at 50 to 100 cts. per day.

FOR THE WESTERN CAROLINIAN.

Nothing but an ardent attachment for the prosperity and honor of my native state, and a sincere wish to behold it equal, in every respect, with the many sovereignties that constitute this great Republic, could induce me to address the public. A foreigner, totally destitute of the means of information, would naturally demand, why is it that N. Carolina, a state admirably adapted, both as to its soil and climate for moral and physical energy, and, one of the old thirteen, that bore an illustrious share in the conflict that made us independent, should hold so humble a station, participate so little in the acts of the Federal administration, permitting her lustre to be dimmed and in fact entirely eclipsed by her sister Republics? Many answers might be given to this question, correct and striking to any citizen capable of the least political observation, or even endowed with common sense. One is the miserably contracted views of our legislators, proceeding either from their profound ignorance of what is the real and solid policy of the state, as regards its welfare and character, or which is the more probable, from a shameful, selfish love of their own popularity. Instead of entering the councils of the state with a firm and decisive determination to legislate on the most liberal and comprehensive scale, for the improvement of the navigation of her rivers, the construction of roads, and the establishment of schools; risking every thing for the honor and permanent benefit of their native land; but enjoying the solid satisfaction of an approving conscience, they seem to assemble there, at least the greater part of them, either for the purpose of undermining and eradicating what has been heretofore by a combination of circumstances, adopted for her benefit and utility, or to pass some act, partial and limited in its beneficial operation, or perhaps of a deleterious and baneful nature, possessing a specious appearance as tending to public benefit, headed in their measures by some wild and vulgar demagogue, for the purpose of catching the popular ear, gulling the people and exciting party dissension. The proceedings of the last legislature are illustrative of what has been previously said; not enumerating what few acts of public utility they passed, it will be only necessary to mention what they attempted to do, to demonstrate the crude and dangerous materials of which that body was composed.

Their first attempt was an unhallowed, bold, and direct attack upon the supreme Judicial system of the state; the instigator of which, was Willis Alston, formerly a member of Congress, and what will ever be a disgrace to the District that sent him, a triumphant opponent to the late Governor Davis. This system was established a few years ago by a combination of all the talents, and moral worth of the state, after immense labor and a repetition of defeats; and independent of the sound policy of having a court of appellate jurisdiction entirely disconnected from the Circuit court system, upon principles of abstract reasoning; the experience of twenty years prior to its erection, and its practical beneficial results since that time have fully completed the warmest anticipations of its friends, and tested the wisdom of the measure. Another attempt was made to prostrate at one fell blow, the board of Internal Improvement, to dismis our scientific Engineer, which tended to paralyze even the hope of success, and to place us as regards this vital and interesting subject, as we were anterior to the year 1816. It is well known that they would have ignominiously triumphed, had it not been that a few "choice spirits," who by their energy and talents, and regardless of that kind of popularity which is not based on a solid fabric, withstood their destructive and blighting course, and redeemed in some measure the character of the state.

The Internal Improvements of this State is a subject of momentous concern; it is the pivot upon which depends our future destiny; a systematic development of her physical energies, connected with a well matured plan to enlighten the minds, and improve the morals of the rising generation, is the correct path to exalt the character of North-Carolina, and place her on an equal grade with her sister Republics.

I shall cease writing upon this subject, which is of paramount concern to every citizen, and pass on to another, which, although it may not be so baneful to the interest of the state as this dilatory, paltry course of legislation, yet it strikes deeper at the character of our state abroad, and is the real cause why we hold so humble a position as regards the Federal Government, and receive so little of its patronage.

The subject to which I allude, and which has been a source of extreme mortification to many of the most intelligent citizens of the state, is the representation of this state in the legislative councils of the Federal Government, and more especially that portion of it which represents the sovereignty and dignity of this state, as a component part of the Union.

Nathaniel Macon, for an unusual number of years, has represented this state, and it may emphatically be asked, what has he done, and what will he do, for the distinguished favors that have been conferred on him, and the extraordinary distribution of public confidence which he has enjoyed? Has he erected to himself a monument which ensures to him the lasting gratitude of his country, as the champion of some important measure? Has he taken a conspicuous share in that profound policy, which has elevated these United States to their present exalted station among civilized nations? Is he a friend to the Internal Improvement of his country in a national point of view? Is he, in fact, an able, enlightened and efficient member of the Senate? These questions may readily be answered in the negative. So far from rendering assistance by the weight of his character, and the respect due to him as stamped with antiquity, he has been a clog upon every administration in some of their most vital policy. His votes are upon record, and they are conclusive evidence of his contracted views of the policy of this government. Without entering into detail, I will mention a few of them. By the influence and co-operation of his democratic friends, he was dragged with the majority, into a declaration of war against England; but we find him, during the existence of this contest, and at a period when disasters and defeats had humbled our pride, and party spirit had paralyzed the energies of the then existing administration, with the minority, in opposition to a loan to support and carry on the war, the declaration of which he had voted for. The late administration which has terminated with immortal honor to its chief and his cabinet, found in him no efficient support, but rather an opposition to its most matured and salutary measures. He is in favor of the abolishment of the military school at West Point, an institution not surpassed by any in the world, and which has reflected credit upon the nation. He is opposed to that system of fortification so ably devised and matured by the late Secretary of War; he is opposed to an increase of the navy, commensurate with the power and resources of the Union; and, lastly, he is opposed to that system of internal improvement, which directed to objects entirely national, is of the most interesting nature to each individual state, and without which, the existence of the Union will be endangered. His late vote against the appropriation to Gen. La Fayette, in direct opposition to the patriotic feelings of the whole state, towards that distinguished Apostle of human liberty, is decisive of what materials this Politician is compounded of, and how little the character and magnanimity of the state is represented in him. As to his colleague, little as yet can be said; from his votes it would appear that he possesses a happy ductility of mind, in coinciding with Mr. Macon, always upon questions of any magnitude; witness his late opposition to Mr. Benton's bill to open a road from St. Louis to Santa Fee, which was a question of expediency, entirely divorced of any constitutional scruples. Another motive may have actuated him; the expectation of shielding himself by dividing the responsibility, fully aware at the same time of the imminent peril of differing with him upon any important question, as may be exemplified in the fate of a late Senator from this state.

Our members of Congress, so far as they have a bearing upon the character of the state, and its relative grade in the confederacy, will be treated of at another time: suffice it to say, that they, I have no doubt, would pursue a more elevated policy, were they left to themselves, unshackled by the influence of Mr. Macon, an influence which he has acquired over them, by his continued and unceasing re-election, and his pretended political consistency.

The Senate of the United States, at this time, is one of the most distinguished bodies, that ever deliberated upon the destinies of any nation.—Tazewell, Mason, Rowan, Spencer, Hayne, Berrien, are ornaments to their country and to the respective states they represent.

North-Carolina possesses men of the most sterling talents, of spotless integrity, and pure political principle, and if we wish to behold the character of the state exalted, our citizens participating in the administration of the Federal Government, we should make a sacrifice of personal feelings and party animosity, upon the altar of our country's good, and elevate our first men to the first office within the gift of the state.

A NATIVE.

FOR THE WESTERN CAROLINIAN.

GEN. JACKSON'S PRIVATE OPINIONS.

Under the above head, a writer in the Nashville Whig, who says that he formerly belonged to the southern army, has taken occasion to ascribe to Gen. Jackson, certain observations and opinions so unlike Gen. Jackson and so monstrously absurd, that I thought no one would expect a serious refutation of the statements; and I was somewhat surprised that the enlightened editors of the Richmond Enquirer should think it incumbent on Gen. Jackson, or his friends to contradict it, or that they should hazard a doubt as to its truth. But shrewd they and several other editors, that have heretofore pretended neutrality towards Gen. Jackson, have given the piece some importance by inserting it in their columns, it may not be unnecessary to expose the futility of the charges.

The writer professes to detail, verbatim, a conversation with Gen. Jackson at a public house in Washington, Pa., and to that end has jumbled together a mass of rant, quotations and nonsense, as little applicable to his purpose, as the every day nostrums of a quack are to perfect health. What can be more remote from our notions of the plain American General, than the idea of

him playing Sylvester Diggerwood at an inn? Who ever before heard of his juggling into conversation, common place sentences from Shakespeare, and other authors, scraps of Latin and pedantic allusions, without point or aptitude? Who ever heard of his talking about "a tide in the affairs of men," "amor patriæ," "riding on the whirlwind and directing the storm," at the same time writing the action to the word—flushing his eye—rising on his feet and gestulating with earnestness, like a mad player? How happens it that Gen. Jackson, so remarkable for reserve and caution in speaking of himself, should all at once depart from his uniform course and tell his most intimate secrets and dangerous thoughts, to one that he accidentally met at a tavern, and that too to one that does not seem to have been a qualified confessor, or at least a very insecure one? But we are told that this man was an ardent, enthusiastic admirer of the General; a bosom friend that "loved him for his virtues;" that had been intimate with him in the field and in the camp; had shared with him the dangers and sufferings of savage warfare, and who knew that merit alone was the real foundation of his glory—if this be not so, this writer has unrolled the sacred garb of friendship for the unhallowed purpose of giving currency to falsehood, and resembles in depravity the double crime of him, who having stolen the robes of the priest, entered the temple and robbed it of its ornaments; and if it be true, then all honorable men must concur in denouncing him, who could thus abuse the confidence of a frank and unsuspecting friend; so that taking this part of the account as either true or false it demonstrates that the author of it is unworthy of credit. But the whole character of the sentiments shows that they were never uttered by Gen. Jackson; he is made to say in speaking of his being a candidate for the Presidency, that "he was urged on by a popular current, which it was not in the human heart to resist." But how does this comport with the known fact, that at the time Gen. Jackson was brought before the people, there was but little excitement on the subject, and as regards him, perhaps, there was none; when calmly asked by a respectable body of his fellow-citizens, if they might use his name, he, without any of that affectation too common on such occasions, replied that the office was one not to be solicited or refused; and how does it comport with the erect and manly conduct that he has, on all occasions, evinced before congress and the nation.

This anonymous writer makes Gen. Jackson say "that at first he had no idea that a serious effort would be made to put the reins in the hands of a military man," and that "he expected the unanimous voice of the nation would be heard in ridicule of his pretensions." It is somewhat odd, that the general should for a moment entertain such a notion, if he believed, as this writer immediately afterwards says he did, that "the mass of the people are ripe, are always ripe for novelty and innovation;" that "a mere name, a hero can wind himself among the multitude, captivate the imagination and lay the judgment asleep;" and this, too, according to this very consistent writer, was spoken, as he believed, in reference to his own prospects.—Would any man in his senses, consent to strive for an office, nay, even cause himself to be nominated for it, expose himself to the "poignant shafts of satire and derision," and the poisoned arrows of pamphleteers and anonymous scribbles, when he verily believed that the "unanimous voice of the nation would be heard in ridicule of his pretensions?" or would any man in his senses, after having engaged in such a strife, admit his total incapacity for the very office he was seeking? and that too, to one who, though a loving and devoted friend, as no doubt he was, was nevertheless on principle opposed to his election.

But the most precious confession that the General makes to his very precious friend, is the following: "I was once tempted by the influence of Gov. Rabun, of Georgia, to march a hostile army into that state. Had I done so, it would have been in pursuit of personal revenge. I should have had no other motive. But if the work of revenge had been begun, other enemies and other motives would have arisen out of the contest." Heaven only could predict the catastrophe!—And can it be for a moment believed, that such a man, at such a time, and even to such a friend, should have confessed that he had harbored such treasonable and murderous designs? It would be attributing to him a reckless hardness in depravity, a want of ordinary self-regard, that I do not believe the most rancorous of his enemies ever supposed of him. I know not what may be Gen. Jackson's opinions as to the stability of Republics, but I scarcely think it probable that he would have urged an argument against it, at the expense of his own respectability and honor. Nor do I think it possible that any man would have staked his life and reputation in defence of a government that he thought could be shaken by the "least shining excellence" in a hero or a name—which he thought from its structure, might scarcely outlast the life he was devoting to it. In vain may it be said General Jackson fought only for reputation; the whole tenor of his life shows that he was actuated by higher motives; if that had been his only object, he never would have renounced that reputation as he did in many instances, and especially by establishing martial law at New Orleans—that was a measure not in the least calculated to attract the multitude: on the contrary, it was one that he knew rendered him immediately assailable by his designing and malicious enemies—it was without the least benefit or aggrandizement to himself; but he was well assured that the good of his country required it, and though he had "counted the cost" and knew that it for a while might obscure the splendor of his career, he hesitated not to make the sacrifice. I might mention other instances of patriotic devotion to the cause he was upholding; that could have proceeded only from a conviction in the permanency and excellence of our institutions. But I thank God the character of Gen. Jackson needs not the aid of my humble pen to defend it—the aspersions of his enemies, like acid upon the precious metals, serve to test the purity of his virtues. All may be left to wonder at the motives that induced this ill-timed attack upon the fame of Gen. Jackson: was it from the petty vanity of making a figure in the newspapers? Was it from the fiendish disposition which, like the author of evil, delights in the destruction of all that is fair and noble? Or was it because the General has borne himself so gallantly in the late contest, and has arisen so strong from his defeat that he already begins to excite the jealousy of future aspirants; however, this may be, such pitiful attempts at detraction, can not affect him; secure in the affections of his countrymen, and proud in the confidence of his own integrity, such calumnies fall from him like dew drops from the lion's mane.

TESTIMONIAL OF RESPECT.

DEPARTMENT OF WAR, February 28, 1823.

To the Hon. the Secretary of War.
SIR: In a few days, the connexion which now exists between the undersigned officers attached to the Department of War, and charged with its several branches, and you as its head, will be dissolved. Although you have been elevated by the voice of the people to the second office in their gift, the undersigned cannot but regret the separation.

From the situations which they have the honor to fill, the undersigned have had full and frequent opportunities of witnessing the extraordinary zeal with which you have been constantly animated for the promotion of the public welfare. The undersigned deem it unnecessary to enumerate your measures—they are before the nation, and are your best eulogy. The public are now reaping, and will, it is hoped, long continue to reap, the beneficial effects resulting from them: The degree of perfection to which you have carried the several branches of this department, is believed to be without parallel. You have realized every thing in its organization that could be accomplished, under existing arrangements, for the security and honor of the Government, and the convenience and satisfaction of the public.

This brief testimonial to your public services, as Secretary of War, the undersigned are led to offer from considerations of duty to themselves—but they would not be just to their feelings were they to omit to add the assurance of their profound respect for your personal character and private virtues. From these have proceeded the harmonious interchanges which have made the burden of the details with which the undersigned are charged, comparatively light.

Impressed with such sentiments for your public and private excellencies, the undersigned respectfully tender to you, on the eve of your separation from them, their best wishes for your prosperity and happiness! You will carry with you their prayers, that you may long live to adorn the nation whose honor has been the theme of your eloquence, and to whose prosperity you have so largely contributed.

Jacob Brown, Major, Gen. & C. Eng.
Alex. Macomb, Maj. Gen. & C. Eng.
J. Robinson, Lt. Col. Top. Eng.
Thos. S. Jesup, Bg. Gen. & Q. M. G.
Geo. Gibson, Col. & Com. Gen. Sub.
N. Towson, Paymaster General.
Ch. J. Anson, Act. Adj. General.
Joseph Lovell, Surgeon General.
Geo. Burford, Lt. Col. on Ord. Duty.
C. Vandewater, Chief Clerk.
Thos. L. McKenney, Off. Ind. Affs.
J. L. Edwards, Pension Office.
H. M. Stuart, Doan. Land Office.

Washington, March 3, 1823.

GENTLEMEN: I ought not to disguise that your communication of the 28th ultimo, making known in the kindest terms, your approbation of my official conduct in the administration of the War Department, has deeply affected me.—About to retire from an important station, which I have filled for more than seven years, I am consoled with the reflection, that those who from their station are most capable of forming a correct judgment, have borne such ample testimony to the zeal and fidelity with which its duties have been discharged.

Believing that the utility of a military establishment depends much more on organization and science, than on numbers, my efforts have been directed to give to ours the best possible organization, and the highest degree of science; to which, I have endeavored to add, the most exact accountability and rigid responsibility in the disbursements, as being indispensable to the moral and efficiency of the army. In these efforts I have ever met with a zealous and enlightened co-operation on your part; and if they have, in any degree, been crowned with success; to your lot, a large portion of the public approbation ought to fall.

On the eve of a painful separation, permit me, Gentlemen, to add my ardent wishes for your individual prosperity and happiness. I trust that you may long continue your useful labours in the cause of your country; and that you may largely share in her confidence and esteem, which, next to an approving conscience, is the highest reward for public services.

J. C. CALHOUN.

To Maj. Gen. Brown, and others.

MR. CLAY'S VALEDICTORY

Upon a resolution of the Representatives on the 3d instant.

Gentlemen: For the honorable testimony which you have been pleased this day to express to my official conduct in this highly distinguished station, I pray you to accept my profound acknowledgments. Near fourteen years, with but two comparatively short intervals, the arduous duties of the chair have been assigned to me. In that long period of peace and war, caused from without and within, of great public excitement, have occasionally divided our councils, disturbed our harmony, and threatened our safety. Happily, however, past dangers, which appeared to encompass us, were dispelled as I anxiously hope those of the present will be, in a spirit of mutual forbearance, moderation and wisdom. The

debates in this house (to which those who gave rise, were sometimes, ardent animators; but, amidst all the heat, agitations produced by our temporary passions, it has been my happy fortune, experience, in an unexampled degree, the kindness, the confidence, and the affectionate attachment of the house. The numerous decisions which I have been called upon to pronounce from this place, on questions often suddenly started and of much difficulty, it has so happened from the generous support given me that not one of them has ever been reversed by the house. I advert to this not in a vain spirit of exultation; but furnishing a powerful motive for assembling gratitude.

In retiring perhaps for ever, from a situation with which so large a portion of my life has been associated, I shall continually revert during the remainder of my life, with unceasing respect and gratitude, to this great theatre of our public action, with the firm belief that the public interest and the liberty of our beloved country will be safely guarded hereafter, as they have been heretofore, by enlightened patriotism.

Gentlemen: In returning to your respective families and constituents, I beg of you without exception, to carry with you my fervent prayers for the continuation of your lives; your health and your happiness.

The Embassy to London.—Our readers are generally apprized of the fact, that the Mission to London was offered by the President to Mr. CLAYTON, the present Governor of the State of New York. The following Letter, exhibiting the grounds on which that gentleman has declined accepting the appointment, is copied from the New York Statesman:

Albany, 25th February, 1823.

SIR: I feel most sensibly the honor conferred on me by your communication of the 13th instant, and I receive this expression of your good opinion with a correspondent spirit; but having recently accepted from the people of this State the highest office in their power, I cannot, consistently with my sense of duty, retire from it, until I have had an ample opportunity of evincing my gratitude, and my devotion to their interests.

I assure you, sir, that it will afford me the highest gratification, in my present situation, to aid you in your patriotic efforts and to witness the auspicious influence of your administration on the best interests of our country.

I have the honor to be, with perfect respect, your most obedient servant.

DE WITT CLAYTON.

Hon. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS, Washington.

On Gen. LAFAYETTE's visiting the Columbia College, S. C. President CORRA ROSE addressed him as follows: GEN. LAFAYETTE—the President, Professors and Students of the South-Carolina College, rejoice in this opportunity of addressing the Guest of the Nation, in the bosom of their institution. They are well aware, sir, how ardently, how disinterestedly, how faithfully, you have earned this honorable appellation; and with heartfelt pleasure they offer to you the congratulations so justly your due. Your public career, Gen. LAFAYETTE, has been temperate, unobtrusive, fearless, direct, and persevering. You have long lived an object of hatred and jealousy to the satellites of despotism—of anxious and affectionate respect to every friend of the liberties of mankind. Many years yet to come, may you live to enjoy this proud pre-eminence. Accept, sir, on our part, I pray you, these public testimonies of unfeigned attachment and respect, so perfectly in accord with all our private feelings towards you.

Gen. Lafayette's reply to Dr. Thomas Cooper, President of the South-Carolina College.

I am happy, sir, to be so kindly welcomed in this seminary of republican and scientific learning, by its respectable President, the worthy associate of Priestley, a friend to universal freedom. Your approbation of my conduct in every one of the vicissitudes of my life, is highly valued by me. I beg you, gentlemen, Professors and Students of the College of Columbia, to accept my most affectionate acknowledgments.

The reception of General Lafayette at Charleston, on Monday week, and his entertainment during the three days of his stay in that city, will compare, we think, not in patriotism and feeling only, but in splendor, also, with his reception in any of the northern cities. The people of Charleston possess, in an eminent degree, the means of making a great display, and it would have been singular, indeed, if rich and patriotic as they are, they had not strained every nerve to honor him, whom all delight to honor. We could fill our paper with the glowing accounts contained in the Charleston papers, of the Processions, the Dinners, and the Ball; but we must content ourselves with narrating a few particulars. Addresses were delivered to him, at various times, by the Intendant of the city, by Col. Drayton, of the Cincinnati Society, by the gentlemen of the Bar, by the Clergy, by the French residents, by the Faculty and Students of the Philosophical and