

M. Carlton Jr.

THE NORTH-CAROLINA MINERVA.

RALEIGH:—PUBLISHED EVERY TUESDAY BY HODGE & BOYLAN.

Twenty-five Shillings per Year.]

TUESDAY, JULY 27, 1802.

VOL. VII. NUM. 329

From the Frederick-Town Herald.
To THOMAS JEFFERSON,
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.
WE, the subscribers, humbly complaining, shew unto your Excellency:—

That although we may be also used in the service of the rich, yet, being necessary to the comfort of the people at large; we are regarded by the poor with particular interest and desire. That, this being the case, we saw with much gladness your election into office; since, from the many fine promises made by your party, and the fair reports of your being the great friend of the poor man, we fondly look forward for your tender care of all the poor man's wishes and wants. That therefore, as soon as you told Congress that the public was so rich as to allow the burden of some of our taxes to be taken off, we did humbly expect that we, being necessaries of life, would be the first to relieve! from those high duties which make the price, paid for us, so much dearer to those who are least able to afford it. But so it is, may it please your Excellency, by some great mistake we have been grievously disappointed. With great sorrow we see, that in the law, which you had passed for lessening taxes in the place where our names ought to have stood you have had put the names of "Pleasure Carriages and white loaf sugar," which we consider as being mere servants of the rich, and as having little or nothing to do with the poor, who have been so long made to believe that their ease and welfare would always be remembered by your Excellency. We would not be understood, may it please your Excellency, to lay any thing in order to under value our betters. "Pleasure Carriages and white loaf sugar" may be very good things for those, who are wealthy enough to keep them. But they are kept only by those, who could also very well pay whatever tax was ever laid on them. If not they had their choice to give up using articles, which the poorer class of their fellow-citizens know how to do without. They might give up nice refined "white sugar," and take in its stead plain brown or good molasses, such as contents a multitude of people, who are not for that reason a jot less worthy than themselves. They might come down from their grand coaches, and either walk on foot, being a healthy exercise, or travel in plain waggons, such as the family of many an honest farmer is satisfied to ride in ahead, or to go to church in on Sundays. On the other hand, with respect to us, the people have not such a free choice; because we are commodities which almost everybody in this country must now use: It would be very hard, and partly impossible to get rid of us. We do therefore conceive, with all obedience to your Excellency, that in laying aside a part of the public burdens, we were entitled to your special favor; and that at any rate if you could not do the clever thing by having no taxes at all, we ought to have had your preference over "pleasure carriages and white loaf sugar." These luxuries, we dare say, are monstrous favorites of the big democratic nabobs of Virginia, who will live and parade about in style, even if they don't pay their debts.—But to tell you a piece of our mind, may it please your excellency, we can't help thinking it hard that you should indulge them, and let us be still loaded with all our heavy duties. We did not expect so soon to see the day, when you would bow down and worship mammon, and entirely forget the great body of the people, who labor for their livelihood, who are the main support of

the country, and who all feel a common cause in our behalf. So, begging that you wont be angry at our free-spoken complaint, we must hope that you will take our case into further consideration, and try to get for us such relief, as to your excellency shall seem wise and reasonable.

And, as in duty bound, we will ever pray.

BROWN SUGAR,
BOHEA TEA,
COFFEE,
SALT.

JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM.

Extracted from a letter written by a gentleman, late of Glasgow, to his father.

At ten o'clock, A. M., departed from the Grand Vizier's camp near Jaffa, with a guard of six Turks, on a journey to Jerusalem. At half past ten passed through the small village of Yoad. About twelve arrived at Ramah, where we stopped and refreshed ourselves, and received an additional guard of six Arabs. Continued our journey till we arrived at an Arab village named Allobar, where we baited our horses. At three, P. M. passed the ruins of an old town called Geba, formerly a town belonging to the Philistines. At four entered the passes that lead into the mountains. At five arrived at a village called Filstere, where we halted, and about midnight reached the gates of Jerusalem, which were shut.

Jerusalem is situated on an exceeding high hill, like an amphitheatre, and is surrounded by mountains of very difficult access. It is encompassed with a high wall, having square towers, about thirty feet asunder, and is in circumference about three miles. Three o'clock P. M. had leave from the Pacha for the gates to be opened for our admission, when we were conducted to the Greek convent and retired to rest.

About ten we waited on the Turkish governor, and received permission to visit the remarkable places mentioned in scripture. There being an English interpreter, with an English translation of the Bible, he explained every particular place as we passed, and we particularly found that the description of the city, as mentioned in the book of Nehemiah, was very correct. We rode out of the city to Mount Zion, on which, further to the eastward, stands a handsome Turkish mosque, formerly a Christian convent, and which is built on the spot where Christ ate the passover with his disciples. From thence we descended into the valley of Jehoshaphat, at the entrance of which is the well where the sick and lame were healed by our Saviour. In the valley we passed through two large caves in the rock, in which, according to tradition, the concubines of king Solomon used to dwell. A little to the westward of the cave, is the sepulchre of Zacharius; and a few paces further is the spot on which the temple was built; but no traces of the building at present exist, though they shew a vast heap of rubbish near the spot that was formerly part of the temple. Farther to the eastward is the sepulchre of Madona. From this place we ascended Mount Olives, at the foot of which Judas betrayed his master. At the top of the mount is the church of ascension. From the church we were shewn the place where the Apostles were sitting and walking, (St. Luke, ch. 24, and St. John, ch. 10) when Christ appeared to them after his resurrection; and where they stood when they saw him ascend to heaven. West of the city, about a mile, are two sepulchres where the Kings of Judah were buried, and in these are several apart-

ments, about fourteen feet square. Thus ended the second day.

On the 3d day we went from Jerusalem to Bethlehem, passed by a convent at some distance to the westward, and which is the spot where the angels appeared to the shepherds, close to which is the ground where the French encamped on their first crusade, when they invested Jerusalem. Soon after we passed the tomb of Rachel, where Ramoth Gilead formerly stood, and which is at our one mile north of Bethlehem. At Bethlehem we were conducted to a convent of the order of Franciscans, built on the spot where the wife of the raft assembled to make their offerings to our Saviour. In the chapel of the convent is the spot where Christ was born, and the place where the manger stood on which he was laid. After this we were shewn the grotto of Joseph, and many other sacred curiosities, too numerous to mention.

There is a small sepulchre where the children that were slain by Herod are entombed; likewise the sepulchre and study of St. Jerome. From Bethlehem we went to the village of St. John, the birth-place of St. John the Baptist, where there is a convent and a very handsome church, erected on the very spot where he was born, over which is this inscription: *Hic puerulus domini natus est.*

Seven o'clock we returned to Jerusalem, went accompanied by one of the monks to see the church of the sepulchre built by Helena, the mother of the emperor Constantine. In the church are four chapels belonging to the Latin, Greek, Armenian, and Coptic churches, all of which are handsomely ornamented, but the Armenian most particularly so. In the church is the sepulchre where our Saviour was buried, with a small dome over it, in which dome an immense number of lamps are kept constantly burning. We were then shewn the place where our Saviour was crucified, and the very identical pillar of stone to which he was bound, and the place where the cross was concealed, till discovered by Helena, and the hole in which the cross is said to have stood at the crucifixion. The inside of the church is handsomely inlaid with turquoise shell and mother of pearl, and has a very noble appearance.

We left the church, and visited many other remarkable places in and about Jerusalem, and particularly the house, from the roof of which David fell in love with Bathsheba, while bathing, which is now the residence of the Turkish Cadi.

The Turkish governor resides in a strong house, built on the spot where Pontius Pilate had a house. In the evening, after being regaled with coffee and a pipe, took our leave of the governor, and at 5 o'clock in the morning departed with our guides from Jerusalem, and arrived at Jaffa in the evening, after a very pleasant ride.

To the people of Powhatan, Amelia, Chesterfield, and Goochland.

FELLOW CITIZENS,

THE counties of Powhatan and Goochland being attached (by the new arrangement of districts for the election of members of Congress) to the counties of Amelia and Chesterfield, and Mr. Giles the present representative of the District heretofore composed in part of Amelia and Chesterfield, having declared to me his determination to retire at the close of the next session of Congress, I make you an offer of my services as your representative. The distinguished station at present held by Mr. Giles among the republicans of this country, the confidence he has justly acquired by his exertions for

years, and particularly during the last session of Congress, renders his retirement a subject of regret not only to the republicans of his district but to the friends of that principle, throughout the United States: All I can promise to my fellow citizens if I have the honor of succeeding him, is a steady adherence to principle, and an honest exertion of the little talent I possess, in aiding the great work of reformation to happy commencement, under our late republican congress—the measures adopted during the last session of Congress afforded relief against the pressure of existing evils. It remains for the republicans to guard against a future violation of right, by introducing into the constitution of the United States, such amendments as will insure a complete responsibility of public servants. No barrier against oppression is so effectual as intrusting power for short periods. Every charter however cautiously drawn, leaves some room for human ingenuity, and whenever rights depend wholly on a constitution, they may be violated by forced constructions. The only thing therefore on which republicans can with perfect safety rely, is the wholesome corrective of elections constantly hanging over their heads. To reduce the time of service of the senators of the United States to the same period with the House of Representatives, and to abolish the system of electing them, would introduce into that body the same spirit that pervades the lower house, and render them equally perfectly reducing them to a dependence on those who elect them. To render the President ineligible after a certain period until a term of years shall have intervened, would greatly lessen the danger which may at some period or other arise from the important powers entrusted to that officer. To render the judges incapable of holding any other office during their continuance as judges, to vest their appointment in Congress, and to elect them for a period of years, would insure a faithful discharge of their duties, by rendering them like all other officers, amenable at stated periods, to the public will. The voice of the community has been too fully expressed on the subject of the prels, and the cautious assumption by our Federal judges of powers derived from the common law of England, that permanent provision will doubtless be made on these interesting subjects. To unite with the republicans in forwarding these amendments, or any other calculated to insure to the people of this country and their posterity, a complete responsibility of public servants, will afford to me that real satisfaction which always attends the support of measures sanctioned by our feelings and principles.

With respect,

I am your fellow citizen,
JOHN W. FIPES.

Chesterfield, June 25, 1802.

The above address unfolds much alarming matter, that deserves the most serious meditation of those who reflect that we have still a tattered constitution, on the stability of which rest our greatest respects.

Of this Mr. Fipes we know nothing; but, coming forward in this manner, we have a right at least to conjecture that the sentiments he holds are similar to, if not urged by Mr. Giles; and that they are the sentiments of the leading characters in Virginia.

We will pass by the cant of "aiding in the great work of reformation," or rather *deposition*, a "republican Congress" &c. It seems that among other objects in view towards the destruction of the constitution, one is