

Mr. Carlton

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JEFFERSON & CALLENDER.

"Are you solicitous, my friend! that within five years hence, your wife should want a shirt to her back; that your boys shall want hommony for their breakfast? In that case the shortest way will be to vote for the man of Braintree and be assured that within a smaller space of time he and his navy, his *beast with a great tail*, and his loan at fifteen thousand dollars per annum, shall devour the last ear of corn, and the last blade of grass that vegetate on the surface of America. But if you are desirous to live in peace and plenty, to keep your money for your own purposes, to see your barns full, your fences in repair, your cattle sleek, your slaves hearty and contented, if you are ambitious to be revered as a protector and adopted as a benefactor, to read in the books of your wife and children the language of happiness, of gratitude and of love, in a word if you wish to taste of those delicious sympathies that sometimes prevent us from regretting this bitter tragedy of existence, then go—fly—and as you value soul and body—vote for the Jefferson ticket. We have reason to expect that under a better president [Jefferson] we shall hear as little as can be of stamp duties, of pugners, of Prussian ambassadors, of the harpies of the assessed tax, and above all of that ocean of abominations, the department of the navy."—*Prospect before Us*,—2d v. p. 47.

To accomplish in the most certain manner the election of this better president, it was supposed nothing would more effectually conduce than an attack on the most eminent federal men, and the most prominent federal measures. Accordingly the writer commences his work by a bold and direct attack on our forms of government that is, the federal constitution. "After a short introduction he says

"I return to the tremor of 1787, by which the government of your own choice, viz. the federal constitution, was crammed down the gullet of America. 10. Again, By a most absurd clause of the constitution, the senate, although they are at present above three times less numerous than the other house can negative any law." 11. "The admission of the two Lilliputian states [Delaware and Rhode-Island] to an equal number of senators with the larger ones, was eminently ridiculous."

12th. We must remember that the senate has always been particularly the object of dissatisfaction and jealousy with the Virginians and precisely for the reason here given by Callender, because it detracts from her haughty pretensions to dominion over the smaller states. This part of the "Prospect" must have been in a very special manner grateful to our worthy president.

"The longer we examine, the harder we shall find it to prove what America has gained by this government of your own choice. 19. Every Virginian who values his freedom should prepare himself to meet the worst that may happen. He should perfect himself in the use of the musket with as much diligence as the devotee learns his catechism." 20. "In wealth and population Virginia constitutes at least a sixth part of the whole union. The federal government and the interest of the national debt, cost, at this time, fifteen millions of dollars per annum. Of that sum it follows that two millions and five hundred thousand dollars fall to be discharged by this land of debts, by us, the holders of slaves, by wretches who are not fit to be citizens of a republic. This, Virgi-

nians! is the dialect of the New-England aristocracy: and yet among yourselves, men are said to exist who profess to be the friends of that execrable faction '88. Men of Virginia! this is the glorious government which draws from your pockets twenty five hundred thousand dollars per annum, besides the net seven millions of dollars that are annually sunk upon the price of your labors" page 142.

It is a primary object to create or awaken deep and odious prejudices against New-England, as the kindest foil of federalism. He therefore spares no occasion to speak slightly and acrimoniously of N. England. Instances abound, but we select the following.

"The whole New-England system rushes directly towards the establishment of an immense standing army; the augmentation of an immense public debt; and the foundation of an absolute monarchy. 86.

Under this head, and as designed to bear upon a religious institution more particularly observed in New-England, we notice the following line:

"Mr. Adams is fond of recommending a national fast; an interval of grimace and casting of idleness & dissipation." 115.

"Such citizens [New Englanders] are unfit and even dangerous characters in a government which asks to found itself on republican principles." 102

And having shewn as he supposes, that the representation of the southern states would be much augmented by a new census while that of N. England would be lessened, he says,

"These facts prove that the present unnatural supremacy of New-England cannot be lasting; and that by losing it at this day, the inhabitants would retain an hundred thousand dollars per annum of the federal allotment, a sum, which their barren soil and inhospitable climate feverently demands for domestic purposes." 163.

Lastly, "The congressional conduct of New-England has hitherto supported the same kind of likeness to that of Virginia, which a water closet [privy] bore to the closet of Sir Isaac Newton." 14, 2d vol.

In our next we shall show more of the righteous labors which so liberally loosened Mr. Jefferson's purse strings. All we ask at present is, that the reader will peruse these extracts with some attention as he goes along, because we shall have occasion by and bye to call upon his memory to accompany us in the pretty, decent, honorable contrast, we shall present between the language and conduct of our Republican President at one time and at another according to circumstances. We have not hall done with him and it.

From federal measures Callender turns to federal men and directs his attacks against those most distinguished for talents and virtue—Of Mr. Marshall he says he was either a 'knave or a fool'; that Mr. Gouverneur Morris, was 'a bawler for monarchy, a banker and agent for the French princes and a spy for England'; Mr. Ellsworth is stigmatized as 'a 6 per cent veteran of the Senate'; Messrs. Hillhouse and Sedgwick, he says 'made considerable purchases in the certificate of the army'; an 'audacious and detestable transaction,' and that the latter was one of the 'wretches who burnt the war office.' Of Judge Patterson he thus expresses himself—"It was his [Mr. Adams'] wisdom to have instantly sent a pardon to Vermont [to Lyon] leaving the creature Patterson to wipe his breech with his verdict; he calls Kettera, Harper, Sewall, and

Sagreaves, four 'bankrupts, who attempted to plunge the country into desperate measures.' Judge Chase he declares is 'the most detestable and detested rascal in the state of Maryland.' Mr. Jay he says, 'fold the rights of the United States to Britain'; and of Mr. Bayard, 'that he is if possible, the rankest aristocrat, the most unblushing advocate for political corruption, that pollutes either house,' with much more in the same style against many other gentlemen.

All this was truly delectable to our good president! our worthy President! and it opened his philanthropic soul to compliment and reward. For all this he flattered Callender on the score of his talents, and he violated his own nature so far as actually to pay him money from his pocket.—But it is doubtful at least whether he would have given so much for these samples alone; no, there were other men, whose destruction he had more much more at heart. The great and good Washington, with a character and conduct which exhibited a standing reproach of his own, was the main pillar of Federalism, and as connected with him, as his friend and adviser on whole 'intuitive judgment' more than that of any other man he could more confidently rely. Mr. Hamilton; and in one of his last publications Callender expressly says, 'It was a darling object with Mr. Jefferson to destroy the character of John Adams his competitor for the Presidency. Let us then see how far the 'Prospect' went to gratify his wishes.—We began with Washington—

Mr. Washington entered into a commercial treaty with England. He it accepted by two thirds of the Senate. He then published it as the law of the land, before the subject had ever come before the representatives. He could not have committed a more pure and net violation of his oath to preserve the constitution and of his official trust; or a grosser personal insult on the representatives." 12.

"The picture drawn by Mr. Munroe is upon the whole rigidly correct, and if we are not quite incurable, it must extinguish our admiration, for the Presidential Talents of Mr. Washington." 13.

"By his own account Mr. Washington has been twice a TRAITOR. He first renounced the king of England, and thereafter the old confederation. His farewell paper contains a variety of mischievous sentiments." 16.

"By the way it is incomprehensible how Mr. Washington came to think that he had any call to write such a letter. It was a bait for popularity. Many suspect that Mr. Washington printed it on the supposition that he would be courted to remain his situation." 16.

"Delicious repast this for Jefferson! The extravagant popularity possessed by this citizen, reflects the utmost ridicule on the discernment of America. He approved of the funding system, the assumption, the national bank, and in contradiction to his own solemn promise, he authorized the robbing and ruin of the remnants of his own army." 17.

How must this passage have delighted the soul of Jefferson? It was here, I presume, he felt an involuntary emotion to put his hand in his pocket, to feel if he had not some change about him.

"Under the old confederation, matters never were, nor could have been conducted so wretchedly as they actually are, and have been, under the successive monarchs of Braintree and Mount Vernon." 18.

How pertinently does this come in aid of the passage in the Mazzei let-

ter, charging Washington with being at the head of an 'anglo monarchical, aristocratic party? A slander so base, that after it first came to light Mr. Jefferson never could assume assurance enough to look General Washington in the face. Before that time he was in the habit of visiting Mount Vernon to bestow an obsequious attention on its venerable inhabitant, and he seldom passed the place without calling, or if not, he sent a formal apology for the omission; but after the mask was thus torn from his countenance, he felt so haunted and oppressed by a guilty conscience, that he never more attempted to enter the house, but even went occasionally out of his way to avoid it. But since the death of Washington he has once dared to introduce himself there again, and under the pretence of paying his last respects to departed worth—yes, he who slandered Washington while living; he who bribed the fell calumniator to direct a mortal blow against his fame, has dared when his head was laid low, to enter and disturb by his presence the grief of the venerable matron left behind him—has dared to violate the decency of mourning—to trespass on the sanctity of sorrow—Nay he went to the tomb of Washington and there acted over the pageantry of high wrought, and as he believed, well dissembled grief. A piece of conduct undoubtedly dictated by the cunning desire of impressing a belief, that there existed a real friendship between Washington while living and himself—Nothing but this audacious display of base hypocrisy was wanting to render the picture complete in all its odious and monstrous deformity.

DOCUMENTS

Relating to the Fine of CALLENDER.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
Washington, 17th March, 1801.

SIR,
I enclose a pardon in favor of James Thomson Callender, now or late in your custody, in execution of the sentence of the circuit court for a libel. I am, very respectfully,
Your most obedient serv't,
LEVI LINCOLN.

David M. Randolph, Esq. }
Marshal of the Vir. District, Richmond. }

(No 2.)
Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States of America,
To all to whom these presents shall come greeting:

Whereas James Thomson Callender, late of the District of Virginia, was lately convicted in the circuit court of the United States, for the same district, of the misdemeanor or misdemeanors, in making, uttering, and publishing, certain false, scandalous, and malicious writings; and thereupon the said James Thomson Callender was adjudged by the same court, among other things, to be imprisoned for the space of eight months, and to pay to the use of the United States, a fine of two hundred dollars, as by the record thereof remaining in the same court, will more fully appear: Wherefore, I, Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States of America, for divers good causes and considerations me thereunto moving, have granted, and by these presents do grant, unto the same James Thomson Callender, a full, free, and entire pardon of the misdemeanor or misdemeanors aforesaid, and of the conviction and judgment of the court thereupon: Hereby remitting and releasing all pains and penalties incurred or to be incurred by him the said James

(See last Page.)