

# CAROLINA CENTINEL.

VOLUME III.]

NEWBERN, N. C. SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1820.

[NUMBER 134.]

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED WEEKLY, BY  
PASTEUR & WATSON,  
At \$3 per annum—half in advance.

## FOREIGN.

NEW-YORK, SEPT. 29.

### THE QUEEN'S LETTER.

On Wednesday we published the very singular and extraordinary letter from the Queen of Great Britain, to the King her husband. Perhaps no document has appeared in modern times, which was better calculated to gain public attention, or excite individual speculations, than that above mentioned. The statement which it contains, the boldness as well as force of its language, its pathetic as well as indignant style of accusation and recrimination, and, in short the whole character of its composition, and sentiments, all combine to render it a highly interesting as well as extraordinary production.

The strength, pungency, and touching nature of the recapitulation of the origin, progress, and effects of the estrangement of the King from the Queen, one would think would hardly fail to rouse his sensibility, if he has not become absolutely callous. We have rarely met with a narration or description in which more apparent feelings was displayed than in this part of the epistle. And since the death of the Princess Charlotte, it would seem almost impossible that his Majesty could so far command his affections, as not to be deeply disturbed at the pathetic appeals made by her mother, to her father.

With regard to the policy of writing and publishing such a letter, at such a time, we, at this distance, and uninformed of the peculiar circumstances that may exist on the spot, may not be competent judges. We cannot however but doubt of its expediency. If the Queen had the slightest expectation of being acquitted of the charges made against her, and for which she was a few days after the date of her letter to enter upon her trial, we cannot but consider the style of her letter at least as indiscreet. The trial, whether right or wrong, legal or illegal, is to take place, in the first place before the House of Lords. The Queen certainly states very strong circumstances to shew that she is arranged before a very improper tribunal.—But, as she must go before it, and as its decision will necessarily have great influence over her future welfare, condition and character, it would have been prudent at least on her part to abstain from such expressions as the following:—"To regard such a body as a court of justice would be to calumniate that sacred name; and for me to suppress an expression of my opinion on the subject, would be tacitly to lend myself to my own destruction, as well as to an imposition upon the nation and the world." And as it regards the House of Commons, the other body which must eventually decide upon her case, she says:—"In the House of Commons I can discover no better grounds of security." If her case was considered desperate both by her counsel and herself, there is perhaps no objection to this course of proceedings; but, if she had any chance of acquittal we cannot but think she has mistaken her own interest.

Much, very much must, however depend upon one point, concerning which we have not in this country, thus far, the means of forming an accurate judgment. WE MEAN THE QUEEN'S GUILT. If the Queen is, as she boldly declares herself to be, an innocent woman, this letter is a most interesting and important document. In that case, the force of her appeals, the tenderness of her affection for her daughter, the energy of her sufferings under severe and unrelenting persecution, and the boldness and intrepid style of her address and her conduct, unite to call forth in her favour universal admiration—and, as a necessary consequence, against her enemies and persecutors universal reprobation.—But, if it should prove to be the fact, that the charges against her are well supported and substantiated by clear, creditable, and conclusive evidence—if she is in fact a loose lewd, and abandoned woman; then this letter, forcible as its style is, & pathetic and eloquent as are its appeals it will be considered only as containing the most decisive evidence of the most hardened assurance, and her reputation will sink even lower in the estimation of the virtuous part of mankind than if the letter had never been written.

Her case appears to have become a

controversy between the ministerialists and the opposition—her counsel are leaders in the opposition, and her principal friends, in Parliament and out, appear to be almost exclusively of the same political character. This is unfortunate for her, if she has any merits to rely on in the investigation, because such questions rarely turn upon the point of merit or demerit, but solely upon their party character. In drawing up and sanctioning this letter, the opposition appear to us to have formed a resolution to hazard the public safety upon the result. After protesting against Parliament as a tribunal from which she could not expect an impartial trial, nor a righteous judgment she says—"I demand a trial in a court where the jurors are taken impartially from amongst the people, and where the proceedings are open and plain.—Such a trial I court and to no other will I willingly submit. If your Majesty persevere in the present proceedings, I shall even in the House of Parliament face my accusers; but I shall regard any decision they may make against me as not in the smallest degree reflecting on my honor; and I WILL NOT, EXCEPT COMPELLED BY ACTUAL FORCE, SUBMIT TO ANY SENTENCE WHICH SHALL NOT BE PRONOUNCED BY A COURT OF JUSTICE." This is a language which we never saw used on any other similar occasion—and when it is considered that it is beyond doubt adopted on this occasion by the advice of two eminent lawyers, both members of the House of Commons, and one of them the acknowledged leader and parliamentary head of the opposition, it must be considered as full of meaning. We take it for granted, that this threat was introduced on a strong expectation that the result of the trial in Parliament would be unfavourable to the Queen. The declaration is, that whatever judgment may be rendered by that body, which is the strength and power of the nation, she will resist, and never submit until compelled by force.—In the present state of fermentation in the public feelings, this seems to be a determination in the Opposition to support the Queen, or rather to oppose the Ministry, even at the risk of positive resistance to the government, and the hazard of an insurrection.

If the construction we put upon this passage be just, the affairs of Great Britain are in a fearful train, and the consequences of the present struggle between the male and female heads of the nation may be most disastrous. Arrivals from England will now be looked for with more than ordinary interest; for tho' a controversy between a king and a queen may be intrinsically of little importance to us in this country, any subject that may involve the peace, and possibly the existence of the government, of a nation, possessed of the influence and power of Great Britain, cannot fail to be of the highest universal interest.

### HOUSE OF LORDS.

Wednesday, August 16.

The House met at an early hour, and several members having taken the oaths and their seats, adjourned during pleasure. At 5 o'clock the House resumed. Lord King rose with a paper in his hand, and moved, as far as we understand, that certain persons therein named as witnesses, should be ordered to attend the House.—The paper was then handed up to the Lord Chancellor, and the motion being put, was agreed to. The Earl of Shaftesbury read to the House a report from the committee of precedents, which was to the following effect:—"That each individual peer should only issue one order a day, to be signed and sealed, and that the days of giving such orders be alternate; that for the first day, Dukes Marquises and Earls, issue orders for admission, and the rest of the peers on the following day, and so alternately, for each day, respectively, during the proceedings of the approaching investigation, and that the persons to be admitted below the bar be limited to a certain number.—Lord Holland feeling as he did that the House would be occupied for some time to come in weighing matters, and therefore unwilling to trespass on their lordships' time, yet, notwithstanding, he was induced to give notice that he should in the course of 3 or 4 days submit several questions to his Majesty's ministers, on a subject of great importance. He would not detain the House now with any specification of those questions, he would only say they related to the relations subsisting between this country and Russia. The principles to which he should have to allude were to be found in certain documents connected with the present situation of Spain, which, if adopted, and acceded to by

this country, were of the most dangerous nature, as being calculated to embroil this country and the continental powers in a new war. Lord Gage gave notice of a motion relative to the standing orders of the House, which regulate the mode of proceedings in cases where the sense of the House is taken on the second readings. In one of the orders, the regulation is, that each individual peer, beginning at the junior peer, should, on being called on by the Lord Chancellor, say himself, standing and uncovered, "content," or "not content." In the second order the decision is regulated by division. A conversation of some length took place between Lord Holland, Lord Lauderdale, and the Earl of Liverpool, which was terminated by Lord Chancellor, by moving that the House be called over to-morrow at 10 o'clock.—Agreed to. After which their lordships adjourned.

### TRIAL OF THE QUEEN.

London, Thursday, 7 P. M.

This being the day appointed by the House of Lords for the commencement of the proceedings against the Queen, and it being generally known that her Majesty was resolved to appear in person, during the trial, at the bar of their lordships' House, an immense crowd of people assembled at an early hour, in front of her Majesty's house in St. James-square, to testify their sympathy on her Majesty's sufferings, or to gratify their curiosity in witnessing the procession. The people gradually increased from seven until ten o'clock when they not only filled the space directly in front of the house, but completely occupied every part of the square, with the exception of the enclosed cultivated space in the interior, which was guarded by constables. Repeated cheers spoke the anxious feelings in favour of her Majesty, which pervaded this enormous mass of people, while prayers for her success, and execrations "deep and loud" against those individuals who are considered to be her enemies, evinced the sentiments too generally entertained respecting the conduct pursued by the ministers towards her Majesty.

At a quarter past nine precisely, the Queen arrived at St. James-square from Brandenburgh-house, where her Majesty slept last night. The people assembled in the square greeted her with the most enthusiastic cheers, the clapping of hands and the waving of hats and handkerchiefs. Her Majesty graciously expressed her gratitude by frequent inclinations of her head, and on alighting from her travelling carriage, repeatedly bowed to the assembled multitude as she ascended the steps in front of her house.—The cheering still continued, and her Majesty appeared at the window and repeated her grateful acknowledgments.

The doors of the House of Lords were opened at nine o'clock. At twenty-five minutes before ten o'clock, the Lord Chancellor entered the house. The Bishop of Llandaff immediately read prayers. The lower part of the house became a scene of unusual bustle and interest, the fulness of attendance seeming to cause some difficulty in the appropriation of seats. Three Judges of the King's bench (the Chief Justice, and Justices Best and Helroyd) took their seats on the wool-sack. Barons Richard and Garrow entered soon after and took their seats beside them. They were soon afterwards joined by Judge Dallas. By ten o'clock the house was filled, and the attendance of peers complete. Mr. Cooper clerk of the house, read the order for calling over the house. The names were immediately called over. The Lord Chancellor delivered apologies which he had received from several peers. While the names were calling over, the Queen attended by Lady Anne Hamilton and followed by her counsel, entered the house from the robing room. Their Lordships rose and made an obeisance. Her Majesty took her seat in a chair prepared for her, beside the steps of the throne. Her Majesty was dressed in mourning, with a white veil thrown over her head, which covered her bust. Lord A. Hamilton attended her Majesty on coming in, and took his stand behind her chair. Petitions against the bill of pains and penalties from the common council of London, and from the freeholders of Middlesex were presented.—The Dukes of Sussex and Cambridge were excused from attending, the former on account of consanguinity, and the latter from being appointed his Majesty's viceroy for the kingdom of Hanover.

The Earl of Liverpool moved the order of the day for a second reading.—The Duke of Leinster moved that the order should be rescinded. The house divided:—Contents 41—Non Contents 200. Majority against the amendment 159.

### SECOND DAY.

On Friday morning, at about 8 o'clock, a crowd began to assemble in St. James's-square, in expectation of the arrival of her Majesty, who had slept at Brandenburgh-House, from which place she arrived at ten o'clock; and at half past ten her Majesty entered her state carriage. Her Majesty was dressed in black and looked extremely well, with a firm and tranquil countenance. The whole of the streets through which her Majesty passed were crowded in the same manner as they were on Thursday.—The windows were every where filled with ladies, and the cheering and the waving of hats and handkerchiefs were universal. When her Majesty passed the barrier, the crowd were with difficulty restrained from following her. Her Majesty arrived at the House about 11 o'clock, and was received with the accustomed marks of respect.

### HOUSE OF LORDS—FRIDAY.

A petition was presented from Liverpool, by the Earl of Derby, against the Bill of Pains and Penalties.

The Counsel and Agents were then called in.

Mr. Denman presented himself at the bar, and in a speech distinguished as much for eloquence as it was for sound argument, argued against the principle of the Bill; and in our limits it would be impossible to give even a faint outline of his powerful appeal. In conclusion the learned gentleman said, "I feel a perfect conviction of her innocence; I feel also, that there cannot be brought against her any thing, which to an honourable mind, will be proof of her guilt. But whatever be the consequences which follow this investigation, whatever may be the sufferings inflicted on her Majesty, I shall never withdraw from her that homage and respect which I owe to her high station, her superior mind, and those resplendent virtues which have shown thro' a life of persecution and of suffering. I shall never pay to any other who may usurp her place, that respect and duty which belong to her, whom the laws of God and man have made the consort of his present Majesty, and the partner of his throne."

Her Majesty entered the House during the learned counsel's speech, and at its conclusion withdrew. She was treated by the House with every mark of respect.

The Attorney and Solicitor Generals were next heard at considerable length in support of the Bill; but the great length of the Attorney General's speech on the opening of the case, prevents us from giving their replies.

Mr. Brougham then replied, and the House adjourned till Saturday morning.

### THIRD DAY.

Her Majesty, on her return to Brandenburgh House on Friday night, was greatly exhausted. The occurrences of the week, although in the highest degree gratifying, were still calculated to produce on her mind the most overwhelming sensations. She declared that she was incapable of expressing the delight which she experienced in witnessing the enthusiastic affection of her subjects, and only prayed that an opportunity might be afforded her of evincing the true sentiments of her heart. Of her eloquent advocates, Messrs. Brougham and Denman, her Majesty spoke in a strain of grateful exultation, and said, that while her interests were in such hands, it was impossible that her cause could be otherwise than triumphant.

Previous to her Majesty quitting St. James's square on Friday evening, she expressed her determination not to attend the proceedings of the House of Lords again until the examination of the witnesses for the crown should commence.

Her Majesty on Saturday had a select party to dinner, and we are happy to hear had recovered her wonted flow of spirits.

### HOUSE OF LORDS—SATURDAY.

A few minutes before 10 o'clock the Lord Chancellor took his seat on the wool-sack.

Lord King rose and said, that the Counsel having closed their arguments on both sides, he thought this the best and only opportunity of endeavouring, by some means or other, to interpose a motion which should avert what he considered to be one of the greatest calamities which could happen to the country at large. His lordship concluded by moving, "That it appears to this House that it is not necessary for the public safety or the security of the country, that a Bill entitled 'An Act to deprive her Majesty,' &c. should pass into a law."

The question having been put by the Lord Chancellor—

Lord Liverpool, after stating the reasons why he should oppose the motion of the noble Lord, moved as an amendment:

"That the Attorney-General be directed to be called in."

Earl Grey opposed the amendment.—contended that impeachment was a far preferable mode; and concluded by saying, that when the present question was disposed of, he should propose a resolution, the object of which should be to put a stop altogether to the further progress of this bill. The House divided. In favor of Lord Liverpool's amendment 181; against it 65—majority 116.

On our re-admission, we found Lord Calthorpe on his legs, suggesting to the House whether some arrangement might not yet be adopted, by which all further proceedings in this painful inquiry might not be avoided.

The Lord Chancellor now called upon Earl Grey for his resolution, which the noble Earl handed in. It was as follows:—"That it appears that the bill now before the House does not afford the most advisable means of prosecuting the charges against her Majesty, and that therefore, under present circumstances, it is not necessary or expedient to proceed further with it."

This resolution was put as an amendment to the motion of Lord Liverpool:—"That Counsel be called in," which was negatived by a division, as follows:—Contents for the amendment 64; non contents 179—majority 115.

The Counsel were then called in, and the Attorney-General and the Counsel for the Crown on the one side, and Mr. Brougham and the Counsel for the Queen on the other, appeared at the bar.

The Lord Chancellor—Mr. Attorney-General, you will proceed to open your case.

The Attorney-General then proceeded to address the House in a speech of considerable length, in which he stated the circumstances to be adduced in evidence to their lordships, in support of the charges preferred against the Queen; and concluded at 25 minutes after 12, when he proceeded to call his witnesses.

Lord King inquired whether an indictment would lie for perjury against a witness without an order from the House.

The Lord Chancellor would not say that his individual opinion was conclusive; but his opinion was, that it might.

The rolling of the drums without announced the Queen's arrival. In a few minutes she entered the House and took her seat. There was a greater vivacity in her countenance, and demeanour than we have previously observed.

The Lord Chancellor desired the Attorney-General to proceed.

The Solicitor-General then summoned a witness by name "Theodore Majacci," who was immediately attended to the bar.—He was a robust man, large whiskers, and bushy hair. The Queen on hearing his name, turned round and loudly screamed, "What!! Theodore!!" and hastily darted from her seat, through the door to her apartment, followed after a short interval, by Lady Anne Hamilton. This was about half past twelve o'clock. Her Majesty had not been seated above three minutes. The scream and exclamation of the Queen operated upon the feeling of the House with electric effect. A long pause succeeded.—Peers, counsel, strangers, looked as if they doubted the evidence of their eyes and ears; not a word was spoken, and five minutes elapsed before the proceedings were continued.

The Solicitor-General then gave directions for the interpreter to be sworn.

Mr. Brougham begged to ask the gentleman who was in attendance as interpreter, previously to his being sworn, whether he attended on that part of the house collectively, or whether he had been engaged by any particular individuals.

The gentleman observed, that he had been engaged by Mr. Planta and Mr. Maule.

Mr. Brougham—Mr. Planta, the Under Secretary of State, and Mr. Maule, Solicitor to the Treasury.

The Interpreter—"I believe so."

Mr. Brougham then observed, that as he had been specially engaged, as he might conclude, on the part of the prosecution, the house would see the propriety of swearing in a gentleman whom he had engaged in the same capacity.

The oath was then administered to each successively, as follows:

"You shall well and truly interpret according to the best of your skill and understanding, between the several witnesses who shall be examined at the bar of this house, such matter as they may depose, so help you God."

The witness, who maintained the utmost composure, notwithstanding the extraordinary occurrence we have noticed, was then sworn through the medium of one of the interpreters, in the usual form.