

POLITICS OF THE DAY.

It was remarked a few days ago in our Journal, that no man in office under the present administration, dare express his sentiments in the approaching elections throughout the country, in opposition to the candidates of the party who support the present Executive.—When this sentiment was uttered we were not aware that we should be called upon so soon to extend the declaration, as we now do, that no man even dare defend his character and conduct against the attacks made upon them by the favorites of the Junta who lord it at head quarters—the following case in point will justify the remark:—

The Washington papers of Tuesday, announce the removal of Abraham Bradley the Assistant Post Master General. Mr. Bradley has long stood in the highest rank of public officers for intelligence, skill and fidelity. It is believed at Washington that this useful public servant has been sacrificed to appease the private malignity of Amos Kendall, growing out of the following circumstances. Mr. James Hawkins, the Post Master at Frankfort, Kentucky, had been recently removed from office. As Mr. Hawkins had been an excellent officer, his removal excited great dissatisfaction in Kentucky. For the purpose of justifying the government, the old story of a defalcation was raised—we take the statement from the Kentucky Argus, Amos Kendall's own paper. It says—"He (Kendall) was informed by a clerk in the General Post Office, that Mr. Hawkins was a defaulter, and had been for nearly two years." He sent this information to Frankfort, and it was published in the Argus. He afterwards got an account certified by Mr. Bradley, and sent it to the Marshal of Kentucky. When the statement appeared in the Argus, Mr. Hawkins indignantly denied the charge, alleging that of the \$1200, the amount of the defalcation charged against him, he had paid \$1020 in a draft from the General Post Office, and that he was ready to pay the balance when drawn on as customary. The tables being thus turned upon him, Mr. Kendall who had travelled out of his own department to pry into the affairs of another, and collect materials for a newspaper slander upon an innocent man, undertook to throw the odium upon Mr. Bradley, towards whom he uses the following language, in his Argus—

"Of the existence of that draft, Mr. Kendall was totally ignorant. He had no access to the books of the department, and never saw them. Amos Bradley, a good coalition man, keeps the books and certified the account. For all errors, he alone is responsible. It is not believed, that the present Post Master General himself knew that such a draft had been drawn. Both he and Mr. Kendall were deceived by Bradley. They have the singular fortune of being deceived by one coalition man, and being abused by all the rest for being deceived! Not a word is said of Bradley, who keeps the books and certified the account; but Mr. Kendall is made responsible for his errors."

To this impudent attack, Mr. Bradley made the following temperate and gentlemanly response:

To the Editor of U. S. Telegraph, GENERAL POST OFFICE, September 5, 1829.

Sir: I have read in your paper of yesterday evening, with feelings which I will not attempt to describe, an extract from the Kentucky Argus, under the authority of Amos Kendall, in which my name is frequently introduced with expressions which I will not pretend to retort upon him.

Some time since, while busily engaged with similar persons, I was presented with an account against Mr. Hawkins, the late Postmaster at Frankfort, Kentucky, prepared, as is usual in the case of audits, for my signature. It was brought by the clerk who usually performs that business, and after enquiring its object, and if he was sure it was correct, I signed it. This was the only concern I had in the affair. Soon after I learned that the account was incomplete; that is, it was correct in so far as the books were at that time posted, and I wrote an apology to Mr. Hawkins, and advised him that a complete account would be forwarded as soon as his accounts were adjusted—which was done.

Mr. Kendall has resided close to the General Post Office for several months past, and been in its employ, and knows very well, that I am not the book keeper. I am your obed't. servt. ABRAHAM BRADLEY, Assistant Postmaster General.

Mr. Bradley's letter is dated the 5th inst.—Nine days afterwards, he was dismissed from office!

If the people of this country should calmly look on and witness such high handed measures as those which characterize the course of the present administration—if they should tamely fold their arms and submit without murmur to the oppressive system of dictation which now rules the executive and the nation, the patriot may soon have to deplore the existence of a state of things in our country as humbling to his pride as it will be destructive of his personal rights. The name of a Republic will in such an event be but a sad consolation, and afford to the American citizen but a poor equivalent for the deprivation of those immunities and privileges to which he has been heretofore accustomed. That we are verging to this state there seems to be but little room to doubt, when a high officer of the government for merely defending his official character from a viperous attack of the ungrateful Amos Kendall, has been punished by removal. Such instances of civil tyranny were unknown to our country before the present Executive came into power—never until then was it ever attempted to deny the exercise of such a right to an American citizen. However justly hateful the Gag laws under the elder Adams may have been to the feelings of our people—however repugnant they were to the spirit and genius of our institutions, they were preferable to the summary method of inflection now visited upon those who render themselves obnoxious to the displeasure of the minions of power—under their operation, punishment could only be inflicted after an impartial trial in a court of law, where the party offended was allowed the right of defending himself; but now, no one in office who may be assailed by a favorite of the Regency, dare exert the common right of every man even under a despotic government, for the moment he does so, he is marked as the victim of a system of unrelenting cruelty. Baltimore Chronicle.

POPULAR EDUCATION.

The last North-American Review notices, in a very able manner, an English Work by the celebrated Mr. BROOKS, on an improved mode of educating the People at large, by means of abridged and condensed Views of all the useful Sciences—which it thus concludes:

"We must be indulged in a brief appeal to patriotism, in furtherance of a cause, which abler pens than ours might be well employed in recommending. We have hitherto abstained from arguments drawn from our political condition; but they are too powerful to be passed over in silence. There is a solemn responsibility resting upon every real republican to strengthen the foundation upon which republicanism rests. This foundation is knowledge and virtue in the mass of the people. With them the physical force of the community resides; and if the theory of our government were fully realized in practice, they too would control its moral energies. Looking to an enlightened populace, there is nothing fearful in the thought, that they are, theoretically speaking, our legitimate and acknowledged governors. But the mind recoils with horror from the idea of submitting the most precious interests of society to the suffrages of an ignorant majority. We do not intend to affirm that a majority of our population are absolutely ignorant, for we do not so believe; on the contrary, we are sure that, compared with the mass of any other nation now existing, they must be pronounced enlightened. But knowledge and ignorance are relative terms; and, speaking with reference to that state to which well-directed efforts might speedily advance them, they are comparatively ignorant. This is not their own fault, but the inevitable consequence of their present condition. Individually their means and resources are scanty; but by union and concentration they might become ample. And when we compare the power they might constitutionally wield—and would wield, if a political convulsion should disjoin them from the salutary influence of the enlightened minority,—with the largest measure of wisdom and ability that a demagogue, in the impudence of his flattery, would dare to ascribe to them, the question of their improvement at once assumes a magnitude, which we know not how to describe. For such a crisis, however remote it may appear, it is the part of wisdom to be prepared. We have the experience of all history against the ultimate success of our great political experiment; warning us, that if we would avoid those dangers which no free government has yet survived, it must be by taking such precautions as none has ever yet taken. Let us listen reverently to this monitory voice, and take the best of all possible precautions, by diffusing intelligence far and wide among the people."

THE GOLD REGION OF VIRGINIA.

From the Richmond Compiler, we extract the following article relative to the Gold Region in Virginia:

It may be premature to give it this name as yet; for the mines are very lately discovered, very imperfectly wrought, and may be, comparatively speaking, very inferior to others which may be ascertained in the course of time. All that we can do at present is to state the facts as far as they have been made known to us. We understand, that the first appearance of Gold in the county of Spottsylvania, was at the farm of Mr. Goodwyn, about twenty-five or thirty miles from Fredericksburg. A small particle or lump or two was found, some years ago, either accidentally seen upon the surface, or brought to light by the plough or some other instrument. No great curiosity, however, was excited at the time; and it was reserved for the Gold search in North-Carolina, and the accidental discovery of a few other pieces in Spottsylvania, to bring to light the decided indications of the precious metal in that particular region of the State.

The gold is generally found on a ridge of land, or at the bottom of it, which seems to be between some of the head waters of the Mattapony river, and the Pamunkey. That part of the Ridge, which has hitherto yielded the most metal upon the most active scrutiny, is near the branch of the Mattapony, which is called Mat. The ridge seems to run on without interruption through the back parts of Spottsylvania, and into Culpeper and Orange. A part of the District, it is supposed, also runs into the county of Louisa. The land where it is discovered, is generally indifferent, & one of its most decided indications here, as we believe it is in North Carolina, is the appearance of quartz stone upon the surface; particularly if there be little cells or honey comb in the quartz.

There are five or six companies already formed for working these mines on shares. The shares vary in number from 5 or 6 to 18 or 20. The capital they contribute is very small, varying to their number, scope of operations, &c. The mine, which is worked with the most spirit and yields as yet the greatest returns, is wrought in the simplest manner. All the fixed capital perhaps does not exceed 250 or 300 dollars. The earth is dug up and conveyed in a cart to a neighboring dam, whence the water is discharged by tunnels to a moveable box. There are two of those boxes close by each other and put into motion by a common crank. The earth being thrown in the upper part of the box, all the particles of earth, stones, &c. of a certain size pass through a sieve, while the course are retained. What passes through the first sieve falls again upon a second still finer—and at the bottom there is deposited in a particular arrangement a quan-

tity of quicksilver, which attracts & catches the finer particles of gold, which come near it. The water is constantly washing the earth, and the earth is shifted backwards and forwards by the motion of the oblong box. The gold lumps are separated from the admixtures in the sieves; and the fine gold, which is united with the quicksilver, is exposed to heat in a closed vessel, which drives the quicksilver from the metal, and the evaporated quicksilver is caught in the upper part of the vessel. This mine yields from 40 to 50 dollars worth of gold a day. It has been wrought about five weeks, and has yielded about \$1500 worth of metal. The proprietor of the land gets about a fifth of the gross produce; besides his own proportion of the net profit as a shareholder.

We have seen some of the particles of the metal, which vary very much in weight and value. We saw a small lump that was estimated to be worth about \$3 50 cents.—It looked like pure gold. One or two other pieces had a different appearance; looking reddish, and seemed to have a portion of earth mixed with it.—We understand that one lump has been found in Spottsylvania, that is supposed to be worth near \$120.

Most of the Gold that has been found is near the surface, or within three or four feet of it.—It also appears in another form, combined with stones. Experiments are making to test the richness of this compound. It is said, that unless it produces about \$7 to the bushel of the ore, it is scarcely worth the working—for, the stones have to be pounded and pulverised, and subjected to other processes—and the expense of machinery, &c. becomes so great, as to make the gold cost more than it comes to.

There is one company formed upon a large scale. It has contracted in a pretty large district of country for mining privileges—and they are about to test the capacities of the soil, to a large extent.—This company is said to have enlisted a citizen of Baltimore in its service, who had obtained some knowledge of the mines of South America.

We have not seen the mines, and we are in truth no judges of such matters. Without pretending, therefore, to pass upon the 'golden prospects' in Virginia, we may be excused for suggesting that honest and industrious superintendents, men of sagacity and business habits, for President and Directors, an enterprise not too sanguine, a discretion that avoids all empiricism, and that much good management and economy can secure any thing like a handsome dividend to the undertakers. Those who observe these rules may make money. Such as run to the other extreme, will probably lose money. The spirit of gold-hunting has been so eager and wild in all ages and countries; it runs away with so many people of sanguine minds, that business is very often overdone, and productive of very little profit or of actual loss.

RALEIGH REGISTER, MONDAY, SEPT 28, 1829.

There are some encounters which prudence admonishes us to avoid, for whether victor or vanquished, no honor accrues from the contest. There are some adversaries, whom it is better to pass by unnoticed; or if they commence an onset, even to retreat, rather than to risk the contamination of inglorious victory. When uncourteous language flows from some sources, we receive it with the silent contempt which it merits. But when it is accompanied with misrepresentation, we hesitate between pity for the ignorance, and indignation for the malice, that distorts truth to serve its paltry purposes. Our readers will give us credit for the possession of the apostolic virtue of patience, when we inform them that we actually read the whole article in the last Star, "levelled" at us. We might imitate the acrimonious style of its Editors, and like them, "swear terribly in Flanders," but there is something so supremely ridiculous in their ill-natured stupidity, that we have room for no feeling but that of mirth—and their waspishness only serves us for laughter.—Who can resist indulging in obstreperous merriment at such predictions as this—"but his fame, (Duff Green's) which they have assailed with their vulgar epithets, will be cherished and venerated, while their versatile course and irascible temper (the Editors of the National Intelligencer and our humble selves) shall have escaped even the remembrance of charity." Well done, Messrs. Editors! you are certainly determined to conciliate that award of fat offices, the Editor of the Telegraph. No slander we hope in this, as he has said, "myself and the President are worn out with applications."—You have indeed been slighted—you have garbled, invented and perverted as yet in vain. But be of good heart, such incense as the above will not be lost. We may yet live to congratulate you on your pre-ferment to the situation, which the correspondent of the Newbern Spectator suggested, as worthy of your principles and talents.

You concluded your scurrilities with a quotation from Dr. Johnson, we will terminate this paragraph with a passage from the political works of a no less distinguished personage, to which we would refer both our public and our private detractors. "The flowers they gather at

Billingsgate," says Lord Bolingbroke, speaking of similar assailants in his time, "to adorn and enliven their productions, shall be passed over without any reflection. They assume the privilege of scoundengers and fish-women. Let them enjoy it in that good company and exclusively of all other persons. They cause no scandal; they give no offence; they raise no sentiment but contempt, in the breasts of those they attack; and it is to be hoped for the honour of those whom they would be thought to defend, that they raise no other sentiment in them."

The present Administration.—In a late National Intelligencer, a friend of Gen. Jackson, who loves his Country too much to approve, what his judgment tells him is not only wrong, but pregnant with serious evils to our future peace and prosperity, undertakes to examine the grounds on which the propriety of the removals which have taken place since the 4th of March last is defended. They are stated as follows:

- 1. Because the persons removed have used their offices in such a manner as to interfere with the freedom of elections.
2. That others have been removed on account of incapacity, or official misconduct.
3. Their removal was required by the principle of rotation in office.
4. Because this course was pursued by Mr. Jefferson when he came into office.

In relation to the first ground, he asks if the man who holds an office is to take no part in elections? Or, if he be allowed to act at all, to what extent may he go? Is he to be allowed to vote? If he be, is he to give a silent vote? Or is he to be allowed to speak, provided he does not go beyond certain set phrases? In respect to the second reason: So far as incapacity or misconduct calls for removals, such removals deserve the thanks of the community. That some officers have been removed for good cause, no one will doubt. But the effect of removals for cause, may be greatly lessened by not clearly distinguishing them from removals without cause. A failure to make this distinction may do cruel injury to honest and estimable men; for though the letter of the Constitution may authorize an Administration to take away offices from men, neither the letter nor the spirit of that sacred instrument will justify the depriving them of their unblemished characters.

The third reason assigned, is the principle of rotation in office. This is the hobby of the office-hunting demagogue. A liberal and enlightened Administration must view it with contempt. This is the first of our Administrations that has bro't it forward. If it were to be acted upon at all, it ought, of course, to have nothing to do with party considerations. All who had been in office a certain time, must make room for a successor. The wishes of the office-hunter are directly at variance with the true interest of the people; for it cannot be right to remove an able, faithful officer, to make way for an unqualified stranger, merely because he wants the office.

The fourth reason given is, that Mr. Jefferson pursued a similar course. If Mr. Jefferson, highly & deservedly as his memory is respected, set a bad example, no one can desire that it should be followed. If he was guilty of visiting on free Americans, the sins of their honest opinions, so far from being a subject of praise, it would be a reproach on his memory.—But no one can say, that he made a general sweep from office, any thing like the one now making. When he was placed in the Presidential Chair, the political complexion of the Government was entirely changed from Federal to Republican, and yet he thought it necessary to change the Heads of Departments, and a few other principal officers, only. And none of the Presidents, since his day, have scarcely thought it necessary to make any change in the public officers. And the supporters of Gen. Jackson's election having no wish to change the policy which had been pursued by the last three Administrations, expected from him nothing but liberality, and an economical administration of the Government. They did not suppose that he would have engaged in the small business of hunting out petty Clerks and Postmasters, to punish them for their political opinions—still less to see him involved in trifling and insignificant squabbles with Letter-carriers and Porters. This will tell badly in history. It will be said, that General Jackson came to the Presidency of the Union under circumstances that left him free to administer the Government on the most elevated principles; to call around him the greatest amount of virtue and talents; but, the duty of the Historian will oblige him to state, that, instead of improving the opportunity thus offered to him, he had indulged his personal feelings, by rewarding his political friends and punishing his political enemies, by an exercise of the power entrusted to him by the People,

which should be used only for the promotion of the welfare and happiness of the Nation.

This writer concludes his Essay, by enumerating the effects which the course of policy adopted by the present Administration is calculated to produce:

- 1. The removals violate the freedom of elections, by subjecting the citizen to inconvenience, if not danger, in making his choice.
2. It is indelicate and ignoble in the person elected, to reflect on any one, in any way, for not having voted for him—it tends to corruption, to reward out of the Public Treasury those who have voted or electioneered for him.
3. The removals and appointments have been made without consulting the wishes of the People or their representatives.
4. The removals for mere opinion's sake, will have a tendency hereafter to cause elections to degenerate into base and vulgar scrambles for the loaves and fishes, and most necessarily pervert and corrupt the public mind.
5. By occasioning uncertainty in the tenure of office, the people will be deprived of the services of the best men, and be obliged to put up with those of a second or third rate.
6. Every one holding an office will be compelled to become an active partisan in order to secure himself; for, if he remain neutral, his office will be wanted as a reward for some political favorite; & hence these offices will become the workshops of corrupt bargains, electioneering and low intrigue. The question will not be, is he faithful, is he honest? but, Can he electioneer well?
7. Introducing party men into the Post Office Department, and rendering it necessary they should be so to get in, or stay in, must tend to lessen the confidence of the community in that important branch of the Government.
8. The recall of foreign ministers, the appointment of members of Congress, and the selection of printers as a reward for the use of their press and types, cannot but give cause of great dissatisfaction.

A correspondent of the Western Carolinian, who writes from Mecklenburg, states that a degree of mortality now prevails in that section, which is almost without parallel. He says that the proportion of deaths to the number attacked, has been seldom greater in Philadelphia or Charleston, during the prevalence of Yellow Fever. Indeed, the writer adds, if the disease prevailing in Mecklenburg, be not the Yellow Fever, it approaches nearer to it in character, than any type ever witnessed by him.

A letter from Athens, (Ga.) dated 14th inst. says: "On Saturday morning a slight frost was discovered in this place, which I believe is the earliest ever known in this part of the State."

It is generally believed that the bad habits of the intemperate must be broken off by degrees, and not suddenly, lest delirium tremens or death should follow. We observe however, from an article in the Baltimore Post, that in the House of Correction in Boston, the habit is suddenly broken off, and the apprehended danger has been guarded against by a strong decoction of wormwood. This is prepared in the form of tea, and given freely, and with one exception, there has been no fatal consequences from delirium tremens since the practice was introduced. Some of the worst cases of drunkenness in the city of Boston have been subjected to this treatment.

Usefulness of Tracts.—At the late meeting of the Board of Managers of the New York City Tract Society, it was stated that a gentleman of respectable family and genteel appearance, while travelling on Long-Island, incautiously indulged himself in strong drink until he became intoxicated. Deeply mortified at finding himself in such a situation, with reason prostrated, he resolved to destroy himself. When he came to a suitable place, he pulled out his handkerchief from his hat to execute his dreadful purpose. Along with the handkerchief came out a tract, entitled, "A word in season," which providentially had found its way there. He looked into it—his purpose was arrested—reason began to resume her place—conviction touched his heart—he fell on his knees, and cried to God for mercy. He at length arose, and made his way to a neighboring house, where happily dwelt a pious Christian. Here he spent the whole night wrestling with God like Jacob of old. In the morning he returned to the city, thanking God for deliverance through the instrumentality of the "word in season"

Navigation on the Cape Fear.—We are gratified to communicate to our readers renewed evidence of the safety and convenience of the navigation of the river from Haywood to Fayetteville. Mr. Murphey has just returned from a trip with his boat. He carried a load of flour to Fayetteville, and returned to Haywood without any accident or hindrance of any kind. The flour was sold at 4, 50 and 5 dollars per barrel.

We learn that the work at Smiley's Falls is successfully progressing. The river, for the first time this season, is now in good working order, and nothing is wanting but hands, for which liberal wages are offered. The skill and persevering industry with which the work is now prosecuted, we trust will speedily make perfect the navigation of the whole length of the Cape Fear river to Haywood. Hillsborough Record.