

POETRY.

From an Eastern paper.

An ELEGY on the Court of Sessions.

Written in the Court-House.
WEEP, O ye friends of litigation, weep—
 All who in mad confusion here resort,
 Whome'er, permit your warring souls to sleep,
 But love the raptures of a noisy court:
 But, first ye swarms of peace-commanding 'quires,
 By whatsoever names or titles known,
 Put on your mourning (so the day requires)
 And join to heave the grief created groan.

For now no more the stated term shall come,
 When g-thering Squireships meet with heavy pride,
 To tell how many eyes made red with rum,
 Or black with boxing, by themselves were tried.

To tell how many love-inspiring tricks
 Have in close confab been by them disclosed;
 That to the weakness of the weaker sex
 May to the gaping crowd be now exposed.

And O ye frail ones, who by nature led,
 And the soft whispers of your sweethearts dear;
 Have lov'd too well the pleasing paths you tread;
 Here mourn your loss, and drop the expressive tear.

For now no more each sex rewarding 'quire
 With solemn phrase—shall mount the justice seat
 To view the squalling babe, then fix the fire,
 Who from their honors brows, can read his fate.

Mourn then ye damsels, with uncommon grief,
 Nor check the currents of the burbling tide,
 But bring for safety, many a handkerchief
 To wipe the various streams of grief aside.

For now alas, the mournful time is come,
 When all your hopes of future justice flee;
 Hear it ye votaries both of love, and rum,
 For lo, this week the Court of sessions—DIES.

CHARACTER OF ROBESPIERRE.

Nature seems to have destined for the lower employments of the bar the celebrated Robespierre, whom an extraordinary concurrence of circumstances, amidst the dangers of a revolution which devours all its tools, has raised to the highest pitch of power. This man, gifted with an uncommon share of perversity and cunning, to which he owes his whole success, in the year 1785, confined his most ardent and most daring wishes to become procurator general of the parliament of Paris, that he might be noticed by the Public. He made his appearance among the states general, undistinguished either for his talents or his knowledge. Appointed to a seat in the criminal courts, he gave up that place without ever having entered on his functions, which for a moment placed his civism in a suspicious light. He always warmly embraced the faction of the Jacobins, and was constantly talking of the republic, without ever bearing her image in his heart. The cause of monarch he never seriously abandoned till after the 10th of August, when it was despoiled at Paris of all its means and resources. He had but little share in that day on which Pethion, Manuel Kersaint, by an attack on the ministry began to prepare the total destruction of the authority of the king. During that decisive crisis, Robespierre withdrew himself from public business; for which conduct he has often been severely censured. In a pamphlet which he published in July, 1792, he expressed himself in the following manner: "The system of national representation, blended with a monarchical form of government is the only one fit for so ancient and vast an empire as that of France!" However in September following, he suffered the Brissotine faction to receive from the Abbe Seyes the decree which erected it into a republic; a strange contradiction of principles and conduct, which at once unmasked the baseness of his character. In the massacre of the 2d of September, he acted a principal part, but it was not till after the retreat of the Duke of Brunswick that he began to shew his real design. Perhaps he did not even conceive it before that time, but it has never since been out of sight.

The murder of his king seemed to be necessary for the execution of his plan, and he was the principal author of this act of cruelty. Weighing the strength and resources of his antagonists, he induced the Brissotists to an appeal to the people only

that he might be able to raise a host of enemies against them, and arm the Jacobins for their prosecution. With great dexterity availing himself of all favorable circumstances, profiting by the faults of his opponents and rivals, and following the revolution through all its wandering, he constantly chose his partizans and supporters in the tribune of the Jacobins.

Robespierre is of a weak, puny constitution, his complexion is dark and livid; his eye-sight short and delicate, and his voice faint and low. He possesses, of course, none of those physical advantages which captivate and seduce the multitude.—Born almost without any passion whatever, or rather endowed with the powerful art of hiding all those passions which might endanger his popularity and impair his success, he possesses, in the eyes of the people, that character of incorruptibility, which, amidst all the attacks of the Brissotists and the commons of Paris, has preserved his influence and his power. In appearance entirely devoted to the functions of a Jacobin, and a member of the committee of Public Welfare, his private life presents the greatest simplicity of manners. By this modesty in his triumph, this economy and obscurity of his private life, he has been able so long to preserve popularity, and to fix it in his favor. He lives in the same manner he did in 1790; having given up none of his habits, none of his pleasures, the tenor of his private life is still unvaried.

Constantly screened behind those whose excesses he favors: seldom speaking, unless at fit opportunity; enhancing the faults of his enemies over all the events of the foreign and civil war, he made himself master of the revolution, when the Brissotists shrunk from the task of accomplishing it; and with trembling hands erected the scaffold that was to prop their power. It was then that Robespierre opposed all the energy and all the crimes of the Jacobins to their shifts and cunning, and instigated the important events of the 31st of May, and the 1st and 2d of June, which surrendered Paris and the Convention into his hands.

Robespierre connected himself very early in the revolution with that man, Marat; prevailed upon him to leave his cellar, when the Brissotists united all their efforts for his destruction prepared his triumph in the convention: and since that time conceived the design to destroy that dangerous man, whose influence over the mob he dreaded. Marat died in the full conviction that the poison by which he was consumed, had been administered by Robespierre, who employed Grangeneuve and Faucher to bring Charlotte Corday from Calvados to Paris, and to prevail upon her to murder Marat whom they represented to her as merely aiming at the ruin of the Republic, and the plunder of all private property.

After having written a treatise on atheism, along with Herbert, who always received from the committee of Public Welfare the subject of his next day's paper, entitled, "The violent passion of Father Duchesnee; after having annihilated all Roman Catholic worship, in which he was assisted by Gobet, who from the same committee received 30,000 livres for abjuring before the convention his sacerdotal character; after having pressed upon Camille Desmoulins to publish the six numbers of his "Old Cordelier." Robespierre sent these persons, Camille Desmoulins, Gobet, and Herbert, to the scaffold.

Danton, who had some claim to the dictatorship, gave a great deal of uneasiness to Robespierre. He was therefore constantly employed in working his ruin. He shewed the avaricious man an opportunity of enriching himself in Belgium, in hopes that he would soon furnish himself with a subject of accusation. Under continual demonstrations of friendship, at the very time he invited Danton to a seat in the committee of Public Welfare, he launched from the very bosom of that committee the order of his arrest, the act of his accusation, and his sentence of death.

Born with a very ordinary share of intellectual strength, devoid of those great talents which prepare, direct, and divide revolutions, Robespierre's powers are far be-

neath that dangerous and elevated station to which he aspires. But he is now strong, by the terror the spreads around him, and the death of all his enemies and rivals. Love of revenge, pride, and self love, govern him. His faction is entirely on his own head, and the Abbe Seyes directs his affections. Ever suspicious and timid, without a friend, as without affection, he sacrifices all those who have either served or unmasked him. The Abbe Seyes himself, for whom he has reserved the office of Patriarch of his new religion, will no doubt be doomed to destruction, as soon as he ceases to be useful, or begins to appear dangerous to him. La Clois who for the last six months has been immured with his own crimes, and the bishop Gregotie, who serves him with the most ardent and unwearied zeal, are no doubt at least to experience the fate of their colleagues, Faucher, Gobet, and Gouttee.

Sovereignty is the aim of Robespierre, though as yet he disclaims its name. Absolute master and sovereign lord of the whole empire, he is more powerful than ever Cromwell was then he dismissed the parliament of England, For the convention unable to impair his power, increases it, by laying at his feet the sanction of the people. Very long and strenuous efforts will be necessary to wrest from him that power he has usurped. He has neither guards nor the least pomp about him. Want of provisions in the interior of France never makes him uneasy, as it was thought it would. Plenty and licentiousness reign in the armies, and constitute their strength, and want in the interior secures its thralldom. Palaces and churches are his arsenals; all his fellow citizens his soldiers; and the moment seems to draw nigh, when they will either be his subjects or his judges.

Private Laws of the State of North-Carolina.

THE publication of the *Private Laws* of this state is now in the Press, under the patronage of the General Assembly. It is in great forwardness, and will be completed by the fifteenth of November next.

The gentlemen to whose care subscription papers have been committed are desired to transmit them to the Editor, that the names of the subscribers may be inserted at the head of that publication.

Should any gentleman, who has not yet honored that work with his patronage, be desirous of doing so; he may find a subscription paper at the different Post and Printing Offices in this state, and in the hands of the gentlemen who receive subscriptions for this Gazette.

The subscription is 40s. for each copy, 10s. payable at the time of subscribing.
 October 11. F. X. MARTIN.

THE Partnership of FISHER & GLANVILLE being this day dissolved by mutual consent all persons having any claims against the said firm is requested to send them in for payment and all persons indebted to the said firm are requested to make speedy payment to Samuel Fisher who is fully empowered to receive the same.

SAMUEL FISHER,
 STEPHEN GLANVILLE.

Newbern, October 24, 1794.

N. B. The business in future will be carried on by SAMUEL FISHER.

SUPERFINE letter paper, for sale at the Printing Office.

THE Newbern races will begin on the second Thursday in December next. The first day, the four mile heat.

The second day, the two mile heat, and on the third day the sweep stakes.

Free for any horse, mare or gelding. The horses to be entered with Mr. John C. Bryan, the day before the race.

NEWBERN:

PRINTED BY F. X. MARTIN.