

cap my cordial thanks.—Those services, and greater, had I possessed ability to render them, were due to the unanimous calls of my country; and its approbation is my abundant reward.

When contemplating the period of my retirement, I saw virtuous and enlightened men, among whom I relied on the discernment and patriotism of my fellow-citizens, to make the proper choice of a successor: Men who would require no influential example to insure to the United States "an able, upright and energetic administration." To such men, I shall cheerfully yield the palm of genius and talents, to serve our common country; but at the same time I hope I may be indulged in expressing the consoling reflections (which consciousness suggests) and to bear it with me to my grave, that none can serve it with purer intentions than I have done, or with a more disinterested zeal.

GEORGE WASHINGTON.

#### FAYETTEVILLE, DEC. 31.

Extract of a letter from a member of Congress.

"I think Pinckney will be the man—not altogether from choice, but chance."

A vessel is arrived from the Bahamas—there had been an arrival there from London in 25 days. Differences were accommodated betwixt Britain and Spain—the privateers fitting out, were dismantling, and the Spanish vessels taken had been discharged. The Providence paper mentions the defeat of Moreau, with the loss of 15000 men, and that the French had recrossed the Rhine—also the defeat of the French army in Italy before Mantua, with the loss of 6000 men.

Patrick Henry, Esq. has declined accepting the office of Governor of Virginia.

Sir John Johnson is appointed Governor of Upper Canada, and has arrived at Quebec.

The destruction of property by fire, in the United States, within a few years past, has been astonishingly great. Albany, New-York, Boston, Baltimore, Charleston, Savannah, one or two towns, in North-Carolina, Richmond, Lexington, in Kentucky, have been immense sufferers. To which may be added Quebec in the British dominions. The value of property destroyed in these towns, cannot be less than three millions of dollars, within three years.

Citizens of America, it becomes you to attend to these facts. "Has an enemy done this? Or must we ascribe it all to accident?"

We learn that David McKeehen, Esq. is elected a senator for the state of Maryland, in the room of John E. Howard, Esq.

A most important discovery is announced in Philadelphia.—The President of the Bank of Pennsylvania (who, we understand, is a democrat or parizan of France) has drawn out of the Bank, the enormous sum of one hundred and eleven thousand dollars, and appropriated it to the purpose of his private speculations—a violent proof of his patriotism! It is said also, that J. S. and B. M.—two other patriots (and one of them President of the Democratic Society of Philadelphia) who lately lived in palaces of speculation, and were elected members of Congress, stopped payment for an immense amount, just after they were declared elected. Such, Americans, are your pretended "patriots."

The steady freeholders of our country, will save the republic; but were our government to depend alone on our cities, we should soon experience proofs of fraternity, that would soon appeal humanity.

The General Assembly of Virginia have elected James Wood, Esq. Governor of the State.

ON the 15th December, commenced the semi-annual examination of the students of the Pittsborough Academy. There attended a very respectable and numerous assembly of gentlemen and ladies from all parts of the state. The progress made by the several classes, in their respective studies, gave great satisfaction to the spectator, and far exceeded their most sanguine expectations. On the

following day, the young gentlemen spoke several pieces with great propriety and energy. After the speaking ended, the audience was agreeably entertained by the scholars with vocal music; and an invocation to the city, closed the day. The whole was conducted with strict decorum; and shewed that great care and pains had been taken by the teachers for the improvement of their students, which not only reflected honour on the former, but entitled them to the warmest gratitude from the latter. At night the tragedy of George Barnwell was performed—to which was added, some chosen Dialogues, with "Bucks have at you all."

The characters in the tragedy were well supported, and the performance excited the feelings of the spectators, and drew from many on eye the tear of sympathy.

THE TIMES. No. XVII.

"I'M NOT AT HOME."

A pretty excuse this to get rid of an unwelcome visitor!

What a crooked path is this to the point aimed at! A lady is very busy—perhaps she has a mantuamaker with her—she cannot spare fifteen minutes to see a friend—or she has not on the particular dress to which her pride will be gratified—or, in short she is loitering on her sofa, and can't take the pains to go down stairs. She directs her servants to tell all visitors that she is not at home. Mighty genteel truly! A lie! yes, a plumper, to do that which honest truth would do with half the trouble.

But it is fashionable—it is customary to tell such lies; there is no harm in complying with the fashion!

Pray, madam, is there no danger to yourself in indulging in this? may not practice grow into habit, and lead you astray? are you not teaching your servants and children dangerous lessons? Oh, as to that, we must risk it, it is the fashion—it is well understood; there is no deception in it, every body knows what is meant.

Well, if every body knows what is meant, you may as well tell them the blunt truth at once. Oh no, that would not do, it would be so monstrous vulgar to speak the truth; why the whole town would laugh at us—it won't do, it won't do; but in an evasion there seems to be something so delicate, so polite, so well bred, so fashionable, that nothing suits so well. Sincerity! bless me what an outlandish thing is that; Sincerity, such a coarse commodity that's fit only for a lighthouse. But let me tell you a short anecdote about "I'm not at home." It is a very fashionable evasion in a very happy point of view.

A Clergyman of my acquaintance wanted to write a sermon; he had but one day to do it in, and he wished not to be interrupted. He directed his servant, for the first time, to inform visitors that he was not at home, and retired to his study; at 12 o'clock a gentleman rapped at the door; it was General Washington, who called to return a visit which had been paid him by the Clergyman; the servant did not know him, and obeyed his instructions; the General left his card and departed; the servant handed the card to the Clergyman;—what was his astonishment and regret! it was the first time in a life of forty or fifty years he had directed the excuse of "I'm not at home," to be delivered to a visitor, and it was the first and only opportunity he had ever had to receive a visit from the illustrious Washington! The Clergyman's mortification was extreme! he acknowledged his fault, and declared he would not be guilty a second time.

This fact, which fell within the writer's knowledge, is a fine comment on the ridiculous practice of getting rid of visitors.

Pray why is it not easy to make it polite and genteel and delicate and well bred, to tell the truth? Suppose the servant should be directed to say Mr.—or Mrs.—is very much engaged, but will be happy to see you at another time; a little practice would make it set light and easy on the fashionable world. But, that tyrant custom, how shall we break his chains.

#### THIRTY DOLLARS REWARD.

STOLEN from the subscriber, living near Hillsborough, on Thursday night the 15th inst. a likely SORREL HORSE, five years old, marked with a blaze in his forehead, spreading to his nostrils, having a small and hollow eye, a thin mane, a white spot in his mane, forward of his withers, several white saddle spots—He has also a long tail and one or both of his hind feet white, and a large flat hoof—He is shod before and also one shoe behind, upwards of five feet high, strong and well made—The saddle and bridle both new were carried off with the horse—Whoever will secure the horse, so that I can get him again, shall receive fifteen dollars with all reasonable expenses, and fifteen dollars additional on conviction of the thief.

JOHN HOLDEN, near Hillsborough.  
December 13th.

#### Fayetteville Prices Current.

			dol. c.
Tobacco, per cwt.	5	emp, per cwt.	0
Flour, per barrel,	7	Jamaica Rum, 4th	2-0
Corn per bushel,	55	proof, per gal.	1-60
Pease, do.	65	W. India do. 2d do.	1-20
Wheat,	1	Northward do.	1-20
Butter, per lb.	13	Country brandy,	1-25
Lard none,		Molasses,	1-0
Tacon none,		Brown Sugar, per lb.	2-0
Fallow, do.	10	Loaf do. do.	4-0
Bees wax, do.	25	Collee, do.	4-0
Deer skins, do.	20	iron, do.	8
Cotton, in seed none.		Salt, per bushel,	1
Flax Seed,	2	Pork	13 75
Seal,	7	Green do.	5 50

#### WANTED TO PURCHASE,

A NEGRO WENCH of good character, who can wash and cook—Enquire of the Printer.

Fayetteville, December 22, 1796.

41 3

#### JOHN WINSLOW,

HAS just opened at his store, No. 2 Green Street, near the Town House—an assortment of LRY GOODS, suitable to the season—which he will dispose of at a moderate profit, for cash or produce.  
Fayetteville, Dec. 3.

#### JUST PUBLISHED,

And for sale at the Printing-Office, in Fayetteville  
HODGE'S NORTH-CAROLINA

#### A L M A N A C K S,

FOR THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1797.

Being the first after Belfestile or Leap Year, and the 21st—22d of American Independence.  
Calculated for the State of North-Carolina, being precisely adapted to the Meridian and Latitude of the City of Raleigh; but will serve without sensible error for any of the States adjacent.

#### CONTAINING

The Lunations, Rising and Setting of the Sun, Moon and Seven Stars, Solar and Lunar Eclipses, Remarkable days, Festivals &c. &c.

#### ALSO,

A variety of useful and amusing Articles; Among which are,

HINTS to professors of physic. Farmers excellent advice. The use of turnips, and method of laying them up. New and excellent method of cultivating turnips. A preventative against smut or blighting in wheat. Reflections on an empty purse. An account of Thomas Topham, The Lay Preacher. Another Lay Preacher. Curious calculations. A prophecy. Situation, extent, and boundaries of the United States. Officers of the Executive Department of the United States, with their salaries. Members of the House of Representatives from this state. Judiciary—Judges and officers of the Supreme Court of the United States and of the District Court of North-Carolina, with an account of the Federal Courts, as established by the judiciary laws. Time of holding the Supreme Court, and the Circuit and District Courts in this state. Ministers of the United States to foreign powers. Officers of the Customs, and of the Excise in North-Carolina. Length, breadth, population, &c. of the several states. Brief abstract of the Constitution of North-Carolina—districts and counties—state officers. Judges of the Superior Courts of Law and Equity. Time of holding Supreme and County Courts. Major Generals of the Militia. Rates of postage. Summary of the debt of the United States, unredeemed, January 1, 1795. The annual expenditures of the United States. Schedule of the number of persons in the several districts of the United States. Abstract containing the aggregate amount of each description of persons in North Carolina. A table of the value and weight of coins, as they pass in the respective states of the Union, with their sterling and federal value. A table of gold coins, agreeable to a law of the United States, passed the 9th Feb. 1793. Rules for reducing the currencies of the different states into each other. Ode to friendship. The turtle and traveller, a dialogue. The kiss. Punch the medium of life. Epigrams. Anecdotes. An excellent prescription for the consumption. A composition for preserving weather boarding. Receipt for a perpetual yeast for baking. Mode of trying the proof of distilled spirits—of cultivating apple trees. An effectual method to prevent mice from eating the grain in stacks or mows, or cheese, or other articles usually injured by these vermin. Cure for a locked jaw—for a nail running into the hand or foot—for the bite of a mad dog—for a mortal disorder in hogs, very prevalent at this time, called a swelling in the throat. Substitute for soap. Main post-road through the U. States, &c. Price, 5/ per dozen by the thousand, 6/ per do. by the groce, 7/ per do. by the half groce, 8/ by the single dozen, and 1/ a piece—paper currency, 1/ a dollar.

A Variety of BLANKS for sale at the Printing-Office.