

THE TRUE REPUBLICAN, OR AMERICAN WHIG.

"THE TRUTH OUR GUIDE—THE PUBLIC GOOD OUR END."

[Vol. I.]

WILMINGTON, (N. C.) TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1809.

[No. 9.]

FROM THE AURORA.

Perhaps the annals of legislation do not afford an example of a vote so extraordinary, as that of the raising of the embargo, in the house of representatives, on the 3d instant.

The principles of the embargo—and the policy upon which it was entered into, have undergone no change whatever.

The belligerents have neither rescinded nor modified their restraints upon commerce.

Not a port is open now that was not opened twelve months ago, and many that were then open, have since been closed.

What then could have produced such a vote?

We have never, on great public occasions, suffered individual interests to withhold great and necessary truths.

It is a solemn and serious truth, that the vote in question, was the effect of *panic*—artificially produced on a considerable number of members of congress, who under the influence of that panic, have been weak enough to give a vote, which if they have any sensibility, they will ripen as long as they have life.

Whatever point this occurrence may be viewed in, it presents features which are painful for an American to look on, and which must expose us to the derision and increased contumely of the *Cannings* and the *Hawkesburies*, and will give new insolence and new energy to the corruption which has produced it—look at it fairly.

The constitution has established a confederation of states—the fundamental principle of which is, that the *will* of the majority and the *good* of the whole shall be its basis; that a minority, whether of men or of states, must submit to that superior will and that superior good.

The legitimate authorities of the land have taken measures of a double character, *preservation of property and preparation for defence of rights.*

These laws are set at defiance.

A traitor in the senate house, dares to invite a section of the union to treasonable resistance.

A faction, a contemptible, pitiful, despicable faction, echoes this treasonable purpose; and the *gold* and the *emissaries* of England are beheld, *violating the law.*

Their ministers holding out proclamations to violate the law, and proclaiming an indemnity for all who should violate our laws.

Seditious town meetings are set on foot in different states, and subscriptions are opened to hire *braves* by the day to oppose the voice of the people, and to substitute the voice of this *hired mob* for the voice of the people.

Collectors are prevailed upon to resign their offices.

The people are invited to resist the laws. The laws are resisted by force.

British ships come into our waters and force away cargoes, and murder our people who resist.

The murderers are seized and imprisoned, but the prisons are broken open and the murderers set at liberty in defiance of law.

And letters are crowded upon the table of the members of congress—loaded with panic, fear and dread.

In this state of things, so little are these men, in congress fitted for their stations, or to steer the nation through the perils which the executive had already affected with so much skill and so much discretion—that

All law is forgotten—

National rights are overlooked—

National shame is not considered—

Nor is it even perceived, that the scandalous vote will be construed by the enemies of our government into an argument of weakness, and it will be argued, that a

faction headed by so despicable a wretch as *Pickens* is at any time sufficiently powerful to overturn the wisest policy of the American nation, and to make America more effectually the province of England now, than before the recognition of American independence.

What change has taken place?

Why a faction, eager for power, leagued with some of them in the pay of the British treasury—proclaim defiance of the laws.

And it is the house of representatives of congress that shrinks from the menace of this faction!

Shades of Franklin and Washington, Warren, Greene, Gates, Montgomery,—was it for such measures or such ends, your wisdom and your valorous darings were displayed?

But we shall be told that it was preferable to repeal the embargo than let it go to a civil war.

But it may be with equal truth alleged that the traitors who menaced civil war, would not dare proceed upon it—

And if they had dared to draw the sword—what then?

Why, it would be preferable to meet it at once, and end it, than open the temptation to the renewal of those treasonable doings which will always encourage foreign corruption and the intrigues of foreign emissaries.

For the people of this part of the union, we can say that never was there such a sensation of indignation and discontent as at that vote—we do not comprehend in it the people who hired mobs last week, for they are in high spirits.

An appeal to arms is ever to be avoided—but the nation that suffers its own laws to be resisted, by the means which have been resorted to in the eastern states cannot obtain respect abroad, nor expect obedience at home. The remedy for all evils are in the popular suffrages, & the remedy is adequate.

How do the U States now stand in the eyes of the world?

A little faction fostered by England has been permitted to substitute its corrupt wishes for the will of the people.

The senate no doubt, may check this blind and wretched effect of weak or deficient judgments—and thereby save the nation from a portion of the shame. But what must be the effects even in that state of things?

Instead of relying upon the prudent policy meditated by the executive—we shall now see the executive forced into a more ardent system; and instead of avoiding war, this *panic folly* will produce *always what is the effect of fear*—a more pressing danger, and a greater certainty of absolute war.

Will Britain rescind her decrees?

None but an idiot would believe it possible, until she is compelled—she will not, like the *panic struck voters*, rush rashly into a measure which menaces her existence.

What will she do then?

Why, she will be like all that *Pickens* told *Rose*—all that *Allen* at Boston, *Barelay* at New York, *Bond* at Philadelphia and *Hamilton* at Norfolk had written; all that *Coffin* has been told at Boston by the *junco* and all even that the veriest of wretches *Porcupine*, has predicted, will be now held as confirmed—and they will persevere in outrage—and there will be an absolute necessity of making active war because it will now be believed that our counsels are too fickle and wavering to support a year's privations to assert our rights.

The following address to the President of the United States, has been adopted by the Legislature of Virginia. In the House of Delegates, Ayes 128—Noes 29.—The Senate was nearly unanimous.

Sir,
THE General assembly of your native state cannot close their session, without

acknowledging your services in the office which you are just about to lay down, and bidding you a respectful and affectionate farewell. We have to thank you for the model of an administration, conducted on the purest principles of republicanism; for pomp and state laid aside; patronage discarded; internal taxes abolished; a host of superfluous officers disbanded; the monarchic maxim "that a national debt is a national blessing" renounced; and more than thirty three millions of our debt discharged; the native right to nearly one hundred millions of acres of our national domain extinguished; and, without the guilt or calamities of conquest, a vast and fertile region added to our country, far more extensive than her original possessions, bringing along with it, the Mississippi and the port of Orleans, the trade of the west to the Pacific ocean, and in the intrinsic value of the land itself, a source of permanent and almost inexhaustible revenue. These are points in your administration which the historian will not fail to seize, to expand and teach posterity to dwell upon with delight.—Nor will he forget our peace with the civilized world, preserved through a season of uncommon difficulty and trial; the good will cultivated with the unfortunate aborigines of our country, and the civilization humanely extended among them; the lesson taught the inhabitants of the coast of Barbary, that we have the means of chastening their piratical incroachments, and awing them into justice, and that the theme on which above all others, the historic genius will hang with rapture, the liberty of speech & of the press, preserved inviolate, without which genius and science are given to many in vain.

In the principles on which you have administered the government, we see only the continuation and maturity of the same virtues and abilities which drew upon you in your youth, the resentment of *Dunmore*—From the first brilliant and happy moment of your resistance to foreign tyranny, until the present day, we mark with pleasure and with gratitude, the same uniform, consistent character, the same warm and devoted attachment to liberty and the republic, the same Roman love of your country, her rights, her peace, her honor, her prosperity.

How blessed will be the retirement into which you are about to go! How deservedly blessed will it be! For you carry with you the richest of all rewards, the recollection of a life well spent in the service of your country & proofs the most decisive of the love, the gratitude, the veneration of your countrymen.

That your retirement may be as happy as your life has been virtuous and useful; that our youth may see in the blissful close of your days, an additional inducement to form themselves in your model, is the devout and earnest prayer of your fellow citizens, who compose the General Assembly of Virginia.

The following is the answer of the President of the United States to the resolutions and address passed unanimously on the 23d ult. by TEN THOUSAND, and on the 31st, by EIGHTEEN THOUSAND citizens of the city and county of Philadelphia.

To the citizens of the city and county of Philadelphia, in town meeting assembled.

In the resolutions and address which you have been pleased to present to me, I recognise, with great satisfaction, the sentiments of faithful citizens, devoted to the maintenance of the rights of their country, to the sacred band which unites these states together, and relying round their government in support of its laws. After the intolerable assault on our maritime rights, by the declaration of the belligerent powers, that we should navigate the ocean only as they should permit, the recall of our *famen*, recovery of our proper

ty abroad and putting ourselves into a state of defence should perseverance on their parts force us to the last appeal, were duties of the first obligation; no other course was left us, but to reduce our navigation within the limits they dictated, and not to hold even that subject to such restrictions as their interests or will should prescribe. To this, no friend to the independence of his country could submit.

You resolution to aid in bringing to justice all violators of the laws of their country, and particularly of the embargo laws, and to be ready at all times to assist in carrying them into effect, is worthy of the patriotism which distinguishes the city and county of Philadelphia. This voluntary support of laws, formed by persons of our own choice, distinguishes peculiarly the minds capable of self government. The contrary spirit is anarchy, which of necessity, produces despotism. It is from the supporters of regular government only, that the pledge of life, fortune, and honor is worthy of commendation.

I learn, with great satisfaction, your approbation of the general measures pursued by the government, enumerated in your address. For the advantages flowing from them, you are indebted principally to a wise and patriotic legislature, and to the able and indefatigable coadjutors with whom it has been my good fortune to be associated in the direction of your affairs. That these measures may be productive of the ends intended, must be the wish of every friend to his country—and the belief that every thing has been done to preserve our peace, secure the rights of our fellow citizens, and to promote their best interests, will be a consolation under every situation to which the great disposer of events may destine us.

Your approbation of the motives of my retirement from the station to long connected to me, is a confirmation of their correctness. In no office can I be more expedient; and none less admits the indulgencies of age, I am peculiarly sensible of your kind wishes for happiness in the tranquility of retirement. Nothing will contribute more to it than the hope of carrying with me, the approbation of my fellow citizens, of the endeavors which I have faithfully exerted to be useful to them. To the all protecting favor of Heaven I commit yourselves and our common country.

TH: JEFFERSON.

February 9, 1809.

Valuable Land for Sale.

THE Subscriber offers for sale that valuable Plantation, formerly owned by James Clark, lying on Gothen, in Duplin county. It contains about 828 acres; a considerable part of which is cleared and under good fences. An excellent Dwelling House, our houses, and other necessary improvements, are on the premises; and the situation is at least equal to any in the county.

The terms of sale will be made known on application to Mr. Samuel Dunn, near the premises.

WM. DUNN.

Newbern, Feb 10.

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NOTICE.

THE SUBSCRIBER

INFORMS the Inhabitants of Wilmington and its Vicinity, that he has taken the new Back-House in Second-Street, a little north of the market and opposite Mr. Gilbert Geers, where he has opened a

HOTEL.

ALL those, who will favour him with their company, shall be accommodated with the best that the Wilmington markets afford, and due respect paid to his Customers.

JOHN HOUSTON.

February 10.

3a.

A VARIETY OF BLANKS,
For Sale at this Office.