

MINERVA; or, ANTI-JACOBIN.

TWO & A HALF DOLLARS PER ANNUM. Payable half Yearly.

PUBLISHED (WEEKLY) BY WILLIAM BOYLAN.

TWO DOLLARS PER ANNUM. Paid in Advance.

Vol. 8.]

RALEIGH, (N. C.) MONDAY, MAY 30, 1803.

[No. 373.]

FROM THE WASHINGTON FEDERALIST.

To Stanislaus Hoxton, Esq.

DEAR SIR, May 3, 1803.

Without enquiring into the motives which induced Mr. Paine to address his six extraordinary letters to the People of the United States—it seems to be high time at least, to disclose to the world the effects which this man's general conduct and these letters in particular, have produced upon our people—never having seen Paine, I can be actuated by nothing arising from the disgusting egotism which every one complains of in his conversation. My opinions are founded upon his own words and works, and upon a knowledge of the political and religious creed of our native American Republicans—since seventy-six it has been my pride to be one of this sect; I shall remain one, so long as our native virtue and strength shall be exerted to protect us against such Foreigners, and the insidious doctrines they avow! Revolution is this man's darling passion!—His ineffable vanity and arrogance has constantly intruded him into scenes of convulsion—and it we could believe his fanatic scribbles, he controuls the destiny of the political world!

Not satisfied with this ideal importance upon politics, he has filched from deistical writers of a former age, the hackneyed doctrines of infidels, in hopes also to prostrate christianity, the sweetest consolation of mankind! He has done more—he has set up a standard for infidelity to rally round, and a precedent for ingratitude to skulk into! In his Age of Reason, he has reviled the religion of our country—in his letter to Gen. Washington, he has traduced his benefactor! But we thank God, that the religion of this western world is not to be overturned by the pigmy lucubrations of an unprincipled revolutionist! Our vigilant and enlightened government will frown upon his disorganizing and officious impertinence, and the people will cry out with one voice, "away with such foreign miscreants—Paine has been a Callender towards Washington, and Callender has been a Paine to Jefferson."—But let us turn this fellow round and see what he has done—he tells us, that after he finished the revolution in America, he went to Europe! I would ask for what purpose? If he really considered himself an American citizen, why did he desert his favourite country, and deprive her of his immaculate energies at a time when the constitution was in the infancy of experiment? He has never dared to say, he was sent by the government as an agent of any kind, altho' he has the audacity to complain, that the Executive did not claim him when he was jeopardized in France by his own folly! No—the actual cause of his leaving this country at that time was the very same which bro't him here in the first instance—to partake in more revolutions! And in this movement we see his own maxim verified, "that every vice has a virtue opposed to it," for so soon as our government assumed a shape of virtuous energy, he shrunk from its terrors and hastened into the vortex of European infamy! His Rights of Man addressed to the People of England is of the same complexion—It unhinges the fundamental principles of American independency—The natural right of every nation to govern itself without the interference of strangers. It goes to sap the foundation upon which every well regulated political institution builds its hope of wealth, peace and happiness! By stirring up discontent among the ignorant—by alarming the fears of the credulous—by misrepresenting the motives and actions of men in power, (and by this means displace those whom a majority of the nation have declared shall be their rulers,) and by inculcating doctrines which go to produce civil war! This was Paine's employment in England! and Oh! sad to tell—while this political Quixotte was busily employed in distributing his Rights to the people of England, but for his sudden disappearance the Magistrates would have presented him with one of theirs—the right of hanging a Scoundrel! Tom found England would not do for him, and he stole over to France! Here this political vo-

luptuary could glut his passion for revolutions! He had been by turns an Englishman—an American—and a French Citizen, but so much did he prefer the last, that he honored their national legislature with taking a seat—from this dignified stand did he look on without emotion, and witness the shocking massacres of these horrid times! But when his colleague, the tyrant Robespierre, had usurped the power over the Guillotine, and declared "that it was the interest of America to arrest Paine," then and not till then do we find our hero alive to the miseries of France, and his own danger! Poor Tom has exerted all his sophistry and logic to color over this act in his Tragic Comedy, but it won't do! Every man must ask, why did he go to France at all? Or why did he remain there after Robespierre's execution? There can be but one answer, that to the first his pride was too much gratified to part with his importance—to the second, he felt free again to renew his former enjoyments, while the same scenes were playing over again, and he could not bring himself to part with such exquisite gratification!—But mark my gentleman—No sooner had Bonaparte stopped the revolutionary excesses, and there appeared something like law & gospel in France, we find him whining to our generous and humane executive, for leave to return in a government vessel, by which he would be protected against Britain where his life had been forfeited, and enable him too to leave France unmolested. But to secure this departure more certainly, and with some eclat, which his little soul is always panting after, he published (wrongly translated) the President's letter of permission written in the easy confidence of old acquaintance! Thus did this man avail himself of an indecorous publication, to deceive the world as to executive patronage. Mr. Jefferson's enemies have "seized the golden opportunity" & charge him with advocating all the crimes of this detestable monster! Altho' the President will feel no sort of uneasiness at this twitted inference among the numberless others, yet the friends to the administration cannot suffer Tom Paine, who has cap'd the climax of iniquity, to intrude himself into our republican sect—we disclaim the association and despise his principles! He has had the presumption to place himself (uninvited) in the front rank of our party! And our adversaries rejoice, because he is the sure instrument to do us injury! The republicanism of Americans is as opposite to this man's doctrines, as is vice to virtue! I know that mine is, and I believe from every thing I have heard and seen, that such is the universal sentiment.

I am Dear Sir,
Your most obt. servant,
WILLIAM BAKER.

The above letter, as it respects the principles and conduct of Paine, expresses the natural feelings, the honest independent sentiments of an American. We cannot however subscribe to the opinion, that the President is untarnished with their irreligious, envious and ungrateful principles of his friend Paine. If Doctor Baker will teach the repository of his own bolom, he will find nothing there to justify Mr. Jefferson. The Doctor feels indignant at the restless, turbulent spirit, which would let the world in arms, and draw from the breast of man every source of consolation. He spurns the man from his society, who scoffs at religion, reviles the greatest ornament, the most munificent benefactor of our country. This is natural, it is American. But do we find any thing like this in the conduct of the President? Do we not find him in the habit of frequent and familiar correspondence with Paine?—Would Doctor Baker do this? The President does not merely give him permission to come to this country, but compliments him on his "useful labours," applauds his conduct, addresses him with the confidence and familiarity of friendship, on the state of parties in this country, and refers him to a MEMBER OF CONGRESS, for further information on that head. "Did this in the President seem like" disapprobation? Does not this exhibit the "blasphemer," as an useful friend and partizan? A mere permission to come to this country, (which

by the by was not requisite) might have been expressed in very few words. It was unnecessary to interlard it with fulsome compliments.

Doctor Baker speaks of the President's letter, as being improperly disclosed. Part of it was published before Paine left France. On his arrival here, did Mr. Jefferson express any disapprobation at Paine's thus giving publicity to the letter, or to any of those infamous writings, and abandoned principles which disgraced his correspondent? Did he even treat him with cold indifference or mere formal respect? No. Paine had not been half an hour in George Town, before the President's Secretary was dispatched to enquire after his health, and to attend to his accommodation. Mr. Lewis was almost constantly engaged for several days, in performing the Presidential honors to Paine, in shewing him the City and procuring lodgings—for even this was attended with no small difficulty, backed as it was by the whole weight of Presidential influence. There were many who thought and acted as Americans, and would not receive such an inmate as Paine. The day after Paine's arrival, all ceremony being waved, he dined with the President. This familiar and easy intercourse was kept up by these loving friends, and Paine was almost a constant guest at the table of our Chief magistrate, the successor and professed friend of Washington. He dined with all the heads of the departments, and all those in and about Washington, over whom the President had any influence. With all these facts staring us in the face, can it be called a "twitted inference," to say that there is a cordial friendship subsisting between Mr. Jefferson and Paine, founded on and cemented by the similarity of their religious and political principles? There are no doubt many honest men of the democratic party, who with Doctor Baker, "disclaim the association and despise the principles" of Paine. But this is no proof that their sentiments accord with those of the government. The variance between professions and actions, between principles and practice, has become so familiar with our rulers, that it ceases to excite wonder. The admirers of Mr. Jefferson and his professed principles, from an anxious desire to approve, frequently suffer themselves to be led away, by the most flimsy pretexts, and bald assertions. Let any man lay aside his prejudices, and calmly reflect on the conduct of Mr. Jefferson and his particular friends and dependants, and then say, that they have been entirely uninfluenced by the principles and sentiments of Paine. No individual could have attracted such assiduous and respectful attention, greater than any man in the United States ever experienced from our present rulers without his having gained their esteem and admiration. They could not have feared his influence or talents. By what other motive could they then be directed but love. We will carry this question home, by asking Doctor Baker, if any thing would have tempted him to act the same part? We readily undertake to answer for him, No. Why? Because he despised the man and his principles. What then but love and respect could have influenced the conduct of those who acted differently.

The following pertinent remarks in the Frederick-Town Herald on Mr. Griswold's Resolution, which had for its object the investigation of Mr. Gallatin's Report, and which we published some time since, are too valuable to be suffered to expire in a single paper:

In this days paper we conclude the debate on the resolution proposing an investigation of the report of the commissioners of the Sinking Fund. The reply of Mr. Griswold to Messrs. Randolph, Nicholson and Smith, cannot be read with too much attention; nor do we wish our readers lightly to pass over the speeches of Democratic members. If their remarks are not attended to, it may perhaps be supposed that much was said in defence of Mr. Gallatin. But if they are carefully perused, it will be obvious, that no one fact nor argument was adduced by the friends of the Genesee, which tended in any degree to exculpate the Secretary of the Treasury. On the contrary, they involved the obscure and contradictory statements of Mr. Gallatin in still greater obscurity. As to Mr.

Randolph, who spoke first in behalf of the Secretary, if he had the happiness to understand his own meaning, we are sure he had better luck than any person who heard him. And if he was able to convince himself of the innocence and ability of Mr. Gallatin, we are afraid that he is the only person on whom his speech produced the desired effect. One thing, however, is very plain, and that is, that Mr. Randolph could not, for the foul of him, find out what had become of 114,000 dollars, which had been taken from the Treasury, and of the expenditure of which no sort of account had been rendered by the Genesee. But the gentleman consoles himself, and endeavours to console the people, by speaking of 114,000 dollars as a mere trifle, and of no consequence to the United States. He was astonished "that so small a sum (as 114,000 dollars) should appear unaccounted for, on the payment of 7,300,000 dollars."—In Virginia, where it is said to be the fashion to talk rather largely upon money matters, it may perhaps do well enough to talk of 114,000 dollars as quite a trifle of nothing, and hardly worth looking after. But we must confess that we are not inclined to think altogether so lightly of the sum—114,000 dollars would make several people tolerably rich.

It would be a right handsome capital, for a man to trade upon. It would be very convenient, for a good many democratic merchants, who bawled pretty loudly for Mr. Jefferson, and Monsieur Gallatin, to receive from the Treasury 114,000 dollars without interest for a year or two. In that time, if they were successful, their fortunes would be made, and they might even return the money they at first obtained. And if they were unfortunate, or should take it in their heads to run off, why the United States could but look it, and the people would think nothing of paying "so small a sum" as Mr. Randolph calls it, over again. So much for Mr. Randolph. Mr. Nicholson seemed really disposed to explain the accounts, if he had known how. But finance is a subject rather above his ken. General Smith, (of Baltimore) indeed, was astonished that Messrs. Randolph and Nicholson were "able off-hand," to answer so effectually the objections that were raised. But it so happened, that what General Smith termed "off-hand," was a preparation of several weeks; aided all the time by Secretary Gallatin. And truly, it was enough to astonish the General, that in so short a space of time, Mr. Nicholson should be able not to know, the debt from the credit side of the accounts. It might have taken another man a life time to get to the bottom. But yet, it is a certain fact, that Mr. Nicholson, after several weeks study, did discover that the commissioners were to take care for about 23,000 dollars, which they had drawn from the Treasury, instead of its being charged to their debit. So that, according to Mr. Nicholson's calculation, Secretary Gallatin, after taking from the Treasury, 23,000 dollars, and rendering no account of the expenditure, would be entitled to 23,000 dollars more, merely for having done so. But it happened, unluckily for Mr. Nicholson, that Mr. Griswold, who knew something more about these matters, than he did, detected his mistakes, and corrected his calculations. Mr. Nicholson's speech did not therefore much mend the Secretary's report. General Smith appeared to think that Congress knew quite as much of the business as he did (which was very probably the case) and instead of speaking about the report of Mr. Gallatin which was then under consideration, the General amused himself and the House of Representatives in talking upon other subjects no way connected with the subject of enquiry. He told them how he had been consulted by Mr. Wolcott—how his advice was followed—how much he was near getting for his bills on Holland, and how cunningly citizen Gallatin had disappointed his schemes. If the General had talked about every cent's costing "half a dollar," it would have been just as much to the purpose, as what he did say: only he could not, then, perhaps, have said so much about his own dear self. But as the General seemed to think he could not throw any new light upon the obscure accounts of the Secretary, it might have