

MINERVA; or, ANTI-JACOBIN.

TWO DOLLARS PER ANNUM, Payable half Yearly.

PUBLISHED (WEEKLY) BY WILLIAM BOYLAN.

TWO DOLLARS PER ANNUM, Payable in Advance.

Vol. 9.]

RALEIGH, (N. C.) MONDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1804.

[No. 443.]

From the National Intelligencer.

North-Carolina election for Members of Congress.

The following gentlemen compose the new delegation:—Nathaniel Macon, Wm. Blackledge, James Holland, Richard Stanford, Thomas Wynns, James Gillespie, Marmaduke Williams, Joseph Winston, Willis Alston—re-elected.

Thomas Blount, Duncan M'Farland—new members.

Among other observations, Mr. Smith then adds—we congratulate our republican friends on the full restoration of pure politics in the respectable state of North-Carolina. There is not a state in the union, in which more respect is habitually paid to the personal qualities of the candidate, instead of a blind regard to his political opinions."

Remarks.—Thus then the editor of the National Intelligencer, not contented with "congratulating his friends on the full restoration of pure politics, in the state of North-Carolina," has found out, it seems, that "there is not a state in the union, in which more respect is habitually paid to the personal qualities of the candidate, instead of a blind regard to his political opinions."

In this instance then Mr. Smith admits that the success of his party is not, as usual, to be attributed to "a conviction of the uprightness of our present excellent Administration," and has refused that it should be called, "the triumph of republicanism over an injurious and obnoxious policy;" but, disclaiming the reasons to which himself and his associates had hitherto pretended to attribute the favorable result of their political contests, he declares, or rather by a sneaking, pitiful and invidious implication he infers, that it was not the triumph of "political opinions," but of private character—and that it is not ascribable to the strength of public principles, but was merely owing to the personal qualities of the candidates.

The application of this remark of the editor of the National Intelligencer must, of course, be intended particularly for the district of Fayetteville, to the representation of which Mr. M'Farland is now elected, as that was the only district in the state which remained federal previous to the "full restoration of pure politics;" and he will therefore be so good as "bear with us," while we state what are the only personal qualities in the character of this very honorable gentleman to which he could have alluded, and which appeared in the contemplation of Mr. Smith to entitle him to pre-eminence, in point of character over Mr. Martin the federal candidate.

In the revolutionary war Mr. M'Farland is said to have taken an active part. Not indeed in favor of America—his personal qualities were exercised in the camp of the royal army, if indeed they were put into operation at all; for by some it is said that contrary to the wishes of his noble commanders, who early perceived his merit he modestly suffered his worth to be concealed and unnoticed in the swamps of Georgia, and himself to remain in an inglorious relaxation until the close of the war. By some however it has been denied that he was so fond of the *latus in umbra* as is here stated and this latter opinion has been sanctioned by no less an authority than the honorable legislature of the respectable state of N. C. There is in that state, a law disqualifying those who had borne arms with the enemy during the period alluded to, from holding a seat in general assembly, and under this law, Mr. M'Farland was expelled from the legislature, to which he had been elected in the year 1800. The vote of expulsion stands recorded on the journals of that honorable body, who it seems had in other instances overlooked his personal qualities, as he had before that time been suffered to retain his seat among them. It is said that the defence of Mr. M'Farland was, that although he had borne arms, he had not used them.

After the conclusion of the war, Mr. M'Farland retired from the shades of public, to the shades of private life, and "reposing under the laurels which he acquired, cultivated the mild arts of peace."—In short, he bought a farm which he calls Laurel Hill, and was appointed a justice of the peace. Here he immediately set about reforming the abuses committed in his neighbourhood, and to which no adequate corrective had been applied. Supposing that a sufficient legal penalty had not been provided for the horrible crime of witchcraft, he roused himself from the lassitude in which he had so

long rested, and undertook by his own manual exertions to supply the deficiencies of the police in this respect. An old woman of a miserable and haggard appearance, was strongly (and perhaps Mr. Smith may think justly) suspected of having by some magical incantations, prevented the cows of Mr. M'Farland from yielding their usual quantity of milk, and of playing tricks with the eggs & butter. The good sense of Mr. M'Farland, proposed a remedy which was immediately put into execution. With the assistance of some of his neighbors he seized this Beldame, bound her neck and hands, cut her over the eye with a brass pin, and threw her into a puddle; for this demonstration of his personal qualities, the court who did not duly appreciate them, caused him to be indicted; he was convicted & punished. The record of this conviction, may be found in the office of the Superior court, for the district of Fayetteville.

This was not the only instance of persecution to which the jealousy excited by the personal qualities of "this brave and honorable gentleman" has subjected him. In returning from Charleston to Laurel Hill, in the year 1800, he unfortunately fell into company with a Mr. M'Innish, who was travelling the same road. In crossing the river Pedee, Mr. M'Innish was accidentally drowned, as is believed, and which, if it is not the most just, is certainly the most liberal belief. With a generosity which does honor to the personal qualities of Mr. M'Farland, he led the horse of his friend, to the house of Mr. Gourdine (a justice of the peace for the state of South-Carolina,) who lives on the road, and advertised him for a stray mare. Soon after the departure of Mr. M'Farland from Gourdine's, the latter gentleman understood that they had been travelling together on the other side of the river; ignorant of the maxim that "*real grief is always silent*," he became surprised that Mr. M'Farland had not mentioned the death of his fellow traveller—he thought that Mr. M'Farland who was *curious enough* in other respects, should have known the sex of the animal, and to whom it belonged; "a thousand dark suspicions now rushed upon his mind," and he instantly issued a warrant for his apprehension. But Mr. M'Farland was "*too fast for him there*," he had crossed the line before he could be overtaken by the officers, and thus by the exertion of his personal qualities, and perhaps by the kind assistance of a good genius, he was, for the present relieved from distress.

But this was only the temporary evasion of a misfortune which he was doomed eventually to suffer. Governor Drayton of South-Carolina, envious, as may be supposed of the personal qualities of Mr. M'Farland, demanded him under the act of congress passed in 1795, entitled "an act respecting fugitives from justice." For this demand he had no other authority than the affidavit of the younger M'Innish, relating to foolish circumstances above-mentioned, and concluded that he suspected him of having contributed to his father's death.—In the propriety of this demand, Governor Williams of North-Carolina, equally envious perhaps of the personal qualities of Mr. M'Farland, thought himself bound to acquiesce, and "this brave and honorable" gentleman was cast into a foalstone dungeon in the county of Richmond, where he remained, loaded with chains, until he was received and ported to South-Carolina, by the agent of that state.

Having arrived at the court of Sumpter district, Mr. M'Farland was discharged by proclamation—no prosecutor appeared against him for the murder.—The truth is, he had committed none; he had made a mistake as to the horse, which might as well have been made by any other man, & which he may some time or other think proper to explain; he had also forgotten to mention that it had been in the possession of his friend, or that his friend had been drowned in crossing the river. "The very head & front of his offending was this—no more"—and all that could be said against him for it is, that a man of his personal qualities, ought, on this occasion, to have been less forgetful as to the master, and more *circumspect* as to the mare.

"Humanum est errare," was one of the maxims of Partridge, & every action of this honorable gentleman's life has furnished proofs of its truth.—But for such shall digressions from the scrupulous exactness of cautious prudence, shall a man's life be jeopardized, and his character ruined? We hope not. 'Tis true, Mr. M'Innish may

say, that Mr. M'Farland has but little character to lose, and that he was but in jest in instituting the prosecution—but he ought to consider, that if he had but a small share of character, he could the less spare it—he ought also to consider, that if he had carried the joke a little farther, he might probably have hanged him, and then "*The Devil and all would have been to pay*."

It has been said, that M'Innish's family retrieved the horse—it has also been said that Mr. M'Innish filed a counter affidavit, in which he exonerated Mr. M'Farland from all suspicion of murder—and that the unhappy affair is now adjusted and settled between them. All these sayings we believe to be true, and we also believe, that here is another instance of the personal qualities of Mr. M'Farland, of the kindly influence of that guardian Genius which had heretofore befriended and relieved him.—Indeed we cannot help thinking that our information is correct, as to every circumstance which we have detailed respecting this persecution, and if any persons should doubt on the subject, they may apply to Mr. Gourdine of Marlboro' (S. C.) who will furnish them with a copy of the advertisement;—they may apply to Mr. Winslow of Cumberland county (N. C.) who will give them copies of the depositions referred to; and they may see the letter of demand from the governor of South-Carolina, recorded on the Executive Letter Book, in the possession of governor Turner, at Raleigh.

The malice of the prosecutors of this amiable and honorable man did not rest here. It was not sufficient that his fair fame should be tarnished with the suspicion of treason and murder;—it was not sufficient that his *genius and personal qualities had outstripped* the attempts which had been made against his life—all this was not enough to gratify the hungry cormorants of justice. It seemed as if the personal qualities of this "brave and honorable gentleman" had excited such general hatred that there was no member of his tribe of his person against which their malevolence was not to militate. They had failed in their attempts against his neck; they now turned their attention to his ears, and these unending passive parts of his personal qualities were endeavoured to be wrested from him, on an indictment for perjury, commenced by his friend & neighbor Philemon Bristow. The records of the supreme court of the district in which he lives will shew the manner in which he was executed from this infamous prosecution—resting his defence on the laws of his country, he quashed the indictment by shewing a misrecital of a word contained in the affidavit on which it was grounded; he was therefore *honorably acquitted*; and, of course, his ears, the only evidences of his integrity which remained, he was still permitted to retain, unpoiled and unpruned, by the sharp knife of a ruthless officer.

We will, for the present, shut out a further prospect of these scenes of depravity, after giving one or two other instances of Mr. M'Farland's misfortunes. It seemed as if there yet remained a thorn in the catalogue of vice which he had omitted to fulfil; he had not run the gauntlet through the various strokes which unrelenting justice stood ready to inflict. The "glossy honors of his skin" had not yet been roughened by her lash. He was now indicted (but the precise time when this indictment was found we do not know) in the court of Richmond, for hog stealing. Mr. Husbards, who was afterwards the friend of Mr. Gallatin, in the western parts of Pennsylvania, became his prosecutor. His good genius again assisted him; when the trial came on it seemed that Mr. Husbards had removed, and the jury, after considerable hesitation, declared him *not guilty*; his personal qualities remained undiminished, and he once more *smoothly* escaped.

These circumstances which attended this latter trial had left some hesitation on the public mind as to the propriety of its termination, and Geo. Elliott of Cumberland, ventured to express an opinion that notwithstanding the verdict of the jury, Mr. M'Farland was "a hog-thief—and had stolen a gang of hogs." Mr. M'Farland immediately sued him in an action of slander, and laid his damages at some thousand pounds; he chose to make this action the test of his character. Mr. Elliott had ordered a part of the very jury who tried Mr. M'Farland to be summoned as witnesses, and Mr. M'Farland was ready with the record of his acquittal. The day arrived when the cause was to be tried; the eyes of the public were drawn towards the specta-

cle with anxiety and impatience; they seemed to regard the issue as the criterion by which the true value of his personal qualities was to be estimated; 40 or 50 witnesses were introduced; the pleadings closed late in the night; the jury retired, and immediately afterwards returned with a verdict estimating the value of his personal qualities at one cent, and finding also the further sum of four dollars, required by the statute to carry the costs.

Those who may think it worth their trouble may obtain from — Mumford, esq. clerk of the county of Cumberland, a record of this suit—as well as we recollect it took place in the year 1797. Mr. M'Farland was asked if he would appeal to the superior court, but his personal qualities induced him to decline it.

Our readers may now determine the degree of credit which is due to the representation of the Editor of the National Intelligencer, when he would insinuate that the wretch who is above described is indebted for his election "not to political opinions, but to personal qualities."—It was not owing to ignorance that he made this misrepresentation; he knew the barbarous savage whose name has stained this paper;—he knew that when the news of his election was proclaimed, decency groaned, and virtue wept aloud at this last mortal sin; and yet this poor embryo of democratic sperm could not resist the fatal propensity of snivelling out another pimpling lie, in hopes to gull those who are beyond the stretch of this lump of putridity, into the belief, that another fair flower is transplanted into the hot bed of democracy.

Perhaps however, the editor of the National Intelligencer did not intend to confine his remark to M'Farland only; perhaps he meant to extend it to the district of Halifax, where it seems Mr. Davie was the federal candidate, in opposition to the present democratical member. From the following short but faithful sketch of his character, the readers of the National Intelligencer, may be able to judge of the truth of its editor: General Davie is universally admitted to be one of the best orators and the soundest lawyers now left in the United States; during the many years he served in the Legislature of the state, he was its greatest pride and ornament. Highly dignified and honorable in the discharge of his duties as a statesman; easy, elegant and graceful in his person; affable, polite and condescending in his manners; he was the favorite of men of sense and virtue of every description of party. He was called to the chief magistracy of the state—It is needless to say how well he executed his duty; he was appointed envoy to France—it is unnecessary to tell how he discharged the task. At the commencement of the revolutionary war, he had nothing to offer to the service of his country but his life; he fought throughout the contest, and rose to honor by his merit and his zeal; "his (says Ramsay) was the only corps of horse in the Southern States, which by this time (1779) had not been beaten or dispersed." While Mr. Smith was trembling at the snap of a pistol, and while his master was skulking in the forests of a mountain, Davie was wrapped in the blaze of war; he was compassionate and generous—and he was BRAVE.

The competitor of this gentleman at the election was Willis Alston. The Editor of the Intelligencer is welcome to the benefit of this comparison. If Mr. Alston has any "personal qualities" he will be left to their enjoyment; we scorn to throw water on a drowned rat. (F. T. Herald.)

LAND.

THE Subscriber has for sale 34½ and a half acres of Land, situate 10 miles north-west of Raleigh, well adapted to bring Wheat & Corn, about 50 acres of which are cleared and under a good fence.—A tolerable Dwelling House, Kitchen, Smoke-house & other convenient Houses. It will be sold low for Cash or Young Negroes.—For terms apply (before the 6th of October) to JOSIAH DILLIARD.

Raleigh, Aug. 24.

The Copartnership of Robert Fleming & Co.

Having been this day dissolved, The Stock of Goods On hand, will be sold at cost for cash, by JOSEPH ROSS.

To whom all persons indebted to the late firm of Robert Fleming & Co. are requested to make payment.

Raleigh, August 1, 1804.