

## Communications.

FOR THE FREE PRESS.

### To the freemen of Nash county.

Friends and fellow citizens: as we live under a civil government which guaranties (by constitutional arrangement,) to every citizen, the inalienable right to scrutinize the official conduct of every public servant or ruler, and if necessary, to seek redress in a lawful way; surely I shall be excused for what I deem my duty on the present occasion in calling your attention to the conduct of our old Senator Mr. BODDIE and his concurring associates on the Bench, at a late Quarter Session for our county. His vote for the building an elegant and fire-proof Court House, many of you disapprove; because in this instance, he has departed from that course of conduct which is in strict accordance with the genius and many of the maxims of republican government. Will Mr. Boddie, or his associates, or any well informed American patriot, say, that it is consistent with pure and unadulterated republicanism, to tax the people without their consent, in person or by representative? No man conversant with the history of our Revolution, can be ignorant, that it originated in an attempt on the part of the British Parliament to tax the colonies without allowing them a representation, and the oppressive exercise of this tyranny by a power-proud and bigotted ministry, that impelled to resistance those noble spirits, who would die freemen rather than live slaves. I put the question to Mr. Boddie, to the worshipful Court, and to every friend of republican principles or true English whigism in this country or the world, to say, if a people can be free who are subject to taxes levied by a body of men in office for life! and in which they have no representation! It is immaterial by what name such a body are known, whether it be a County Court, a United States' Court, King's Court, or any other Court, it is still the same in principle and effect; names may express, but they do not, the cannot alter the nature of persons or things. You may call a Federalist a Republican if you choose, but he is a Federalist still; and you may call extravagance, economy if you choose, but it is extravagance still.

But the plea of Mr. Boddie and his associates, in justification, is two-fold; first, necessity for the deed; and so did the British Parliament for oppressing the Americans in '76, and so did the advocates of the British Government in its encroachment on our rights in 1812.

But in what respect is it necessary to build this costly edifice, called a fire-proof Court House? Is it necessary for the administration of justice to the good citizens of this county? You know it is not, because the administration of justice has not been obstructed in this county, from the day of Mr. Boddie's birth until now, for want of a Court House.

Is it necessary for the preservation of records, bonds, and

\*See the Bill of Rights in Constitution of N. C. section 16: "That the people of this State ought not to be taxed, or made subject to the payment of any impost, or duty, without the consent of themselves, or their representatives in General Assembly freely given."

other important documents?—You know it is not; because although it may be possible to build a Court House which fire cannot burn, yet we know that the materials of which documents are at present composed are not capable of resisting the destructive energy of that element; and it is possible that they may be burnt by accident or design. And besides it is evident that a fire-proof vault would be a cheaper and safer deposite for records, than so lofty and splendid an edifice as that now building.

For what purpose then is it necessary to build it? The answer must be in accordance with that which now echoes from the circumference to the centre, *the indulgence of County pride!* Alas! fellow citizens, have we come to this, and that too before the Spartan-like soldiers of the Revolution are all cold in their graves? Has *Persian pride* found so cordial a reception where it ought not? Awake, citizens, or your wives and children to the latest generation will curse your apathy, with all the anguish of afflicted Job. The fell destroyer of the peace of heaven and earth has entered your county, and his courtly airs have so fascinated many of our would-be-great-folks, that our old and trusty friend *Economy*, who has stood by us in times that tried men's souls, is now evil spoken of and will soon be kicked out of Nashville and I fear out of the county itself. Come forth, ye grey headed veterans and patriots of former days, and tell the young and inexperienced, that *pride, all pride*, whether it be county, State, or individual pride is of the devil, and if it is not resisted in time will lead to a downfall in this world and in that which is to come. Tell them that pride is the friend of monarchy, aristocracy, high-toned federalism, the tariff, and all the upstart impertinence they ever saw in their lives: but the sworn and untiring enemy of economy, liberty, peace and independence of the many, and consequently a deadly foe to republicanism of the old school. Tell them from the authority of scripture and experience, that "when pride cometh there cometh contention." Tell them that but for this diabolical stimulus to pomp and parade, to extravagance and show, we should now be in harmony and peace like a band of brothers. Tell them that pride is a stimulus more deleterious and powerfully ruinous to the happiness of men than all the other stimuli in the whole catalogue—that it is offensive to Deity and all good men, and hostile to the attributes of the one and the liberties of the other.

But Mr. Boddie also pleads the law of his country and the obligation of his official oath, in justification of this act of extravagance now under consideration. Gentlemen, we are bound to believe that Mr. Boddie has told us the truth, unless some gentleman profoundly learned in the law, will be so patriotic as to show that he is mistaken: For the laws of our State are so numerous, and we have so many acts to repeal acts, amend acts and parts of acts, &c. that sometimes even village lawyers, to say nothing of our country justices, do inadvertently lead themselves and honest clients into difficulties on points of law. But if the law be such, that it did imperiously require of Mr.

Boddie and his associates that they must either build this splendid and costly fire-proof Court House, violate their oaths of office, or resign; then every man of common sense must admit that the law is a bad one—I say a bad one, because instead of protecting the people and taking no more of their money than what is "necessary and proper" for the good of the county, (and this is the only obligatory draught for taxation in any government where rights are respected;) it authorises the taking their money to any amount, which their worships may from time to time, choose capriciously to extort in the shape of a tax for the gratification of county pride, whether it be to build fire-proof Court Houses, water-proof bridges, or "light houses of the skies," &c. without regard to the injury of the county or the impoverishing its citizens.

If the law be as Mr. Boddie says it is, no member of our Court is to blame for its present existence so much as Mr. Boddie and Mr. Arrington, because both being republicans and representatives for years, and members of the Court too, they have had time and opportunity to have effected its amendment for their own county at least, for they are sent to the Legislature at our expence, to repeal or amend bad laws and make good ones whenever we need them. These gentlemen have not only suffered the taxing power to be exercised by a body of men in which you have no representation and who are in office for life, but they have assisted that body to do so without a blush. Their predecessors have erred and they have not corrected that error. Where then is that old dog in the fable (to which Mr. Boddie compares himself,) who so faithfully did his duty in protecting his master's child, tho' in the violent contest the bedding of the cradle in which the lovely babe reposed was turned upside down? Pardon this reference to the dog, tis but a repetition of Mr. Boddie's egotism. But, friends, I have heard once of another dog, the property of a man by the name of Clarke, which did not prove quite so faithful. Clarke was a hard working, old fashioned man; for he went to work before breakfast, and in all probability was a bachelor and did his own cooking, as the story seems to import. However, be that as it may, Clarke had but one Johnny cake for his breakfast, and going out to work left his dog to guard his house and its contents, and when he came in to breakfast himself, he found the dog had *caten up* the cake, to the no small disappointment of his over-confiding master!!!—so much for the dogs. But, fellow citizens, will not this newly adopted intruder, viz: county pride, ultimately rob you of your last Johnny cake, table, plate, house and all? He will, gentlemen, unless you put forth directly all your energies to starve him out of your county by the effectual means yet in your power: I mean the proper exercise of your elective franchise at this election—discard those old dogs (if I may so speak without offence,) and adopt the best puppies you can get, and train them to your wishes as soon as possible and keep a more vigilant eye upon them than you have done on the old ones. We live in an evil time; for county pride is fostered within our own dominions and

he is an artful fellow, and if he finds us asleep or reposing too confidently in others he will not fail to play us some trick to our injury: and while this stately edifice is glittering in the sun, and like Solomon's temple ravishing the eyes of passing strangers, many of your enterprising sons will with Spartan contempt, turn their backs on Nash county forever.

To avoid this sad state of our county, let us instruct our representatives to do what they can, to have the law so amended, that none shall levy a tax upon us for county or any other purposes but our representatives. To that end I would suggest the propriety of a law for the purpose of taking from the Court the taxing power now exercised by them, and giving it to a certain number of representatives duly elected by the people from every district in the county, to assemble at the Court House, clothed with the same power to tax and appropriate as the Court now possess, with such restrictions as may be thought necessary to guard against the unbounded indulgence of county pride and other extravagant and unprofitable expenditures. Thus harmony will be restored and mutual respect preserved; but if things remain as they are, the official pride of some and the devotion to liberty of others will kindle fires among us that will not be easily quenched.

A VOTER.

FOR THE FREE PRESS.

Mr. Editor: I beg leave to suggest to those who may find it necessary to have operations performed on their teeth, to embrace the opportunity afforded them of employing Drs. Cummings and Mobry, who are now practising in this town and vicinity. Having been an eye witness to many of their operations, and practically tested in my own mouth the salutary efficiency of their operations, I venture to suggest the present as a proper occasion to have the necessary operations performed.

A PATIENT.



## TARBOROUGH.

TUESDAY, JULY 24, 1832.

A majority of the Commissioners appointed to contract for building a new Court House, met in this place on Monday of last week for that purpose. Several plans and proposals were submitted to them, and they finally concluded to adopt, with a slight improvement, the plan of Mr. Bragg of Warrenton, submitted to the last Court, and contracted with Mr. Lynch, of Va. to build it for \$6,000, he being the lowest bidder. We understand that Mr. Lynch purposes to attend at August Court, to perfect the contract—he intends also to submit to the Court a plan of his own, which was preferred by the Commissioners, but which they did not feel authorized to contract for, the proposal to build it, \$8,000, so far exceeding the contemplated expence.

Congress adjourned on Monday, the 16th inst. after a session of 216 days, said to be the longest ever held, except that in which war was declared in 1812. The distinguishing feature of this session, is unquestionably a wasteful and extravagant expenditure of the public funds. In addition to the enormous sums required by the Internal Improvement bill, the Pension bill, &c. they passed the Harbor bill, involving an expenditure of upwards of half a million, and a bill to provide for the payment of interest on the advances made by

the States to the U. States during the late war—this bill was passed at almost the close of the session, by a vote of 75 to 35, notwithstanding Mr. Polk said the bill involved an appropriation of about three millions of dollars, and that he had learnt that the aggregate amount of appropriations for the present session exceeded the estimates of the Secretary of the Treasury between four and five millions of dollars. Fortunately for the country, the President with his characteristic firmness, retained the two latter bills for further consideration. The next prominent characteristic of this session is, the want of that dignity, urbanity, and mutual forbearance which have hitherto prevailed among the members, in times of the highest political excitement. In the Senate, hitherto deemed the most dignified and respectable body in the world, several disgraceful wrangles have occurred, but none to exceed that which took place between Messrs. Clay and Benton, in the discussion on the Veto message, which is represented as outrageous in the extreme. In the House of Representatives, in addition to the almost daily altercations which occurred between the members, after some acrimonious sparring a vote of censure was passed on Mr. Stanberry, 93 to 44, for using language reflecting on the conduct of the Speaker—and a motion was made by Mr. Drayton, which was discussed but not finally acted upon, declaring Mr. Adams guilty of a breach of the rules of the House, for refusing to vote on the censure question. But enough—come good or come evil, from their sins of omission or commission, we are truly glad that they have at length dispersed.

Internal Improvements..The following are the sums authorized by the General Government to be expended, under "An Act making appropriations for certain Internal Improvements for the year 1832"—for removing obstructions in rivers, creeks and harbors—repairing beaches, piers, moles, dykes, and breakwaters—for removing sand bars and other obstructions in rivers and creeks—for making roads, bridges, &c.

For Kennebeck river, Me.	\$2,600
Plymouth Beach, Mass.	2,500
Provincetown Beach, Mass.	4,600
Pass au Heron, Ala.	6,050
Pascagoula river,	15,900
Red River, Lou.	22,628
Delaware Breakwater,	270,000
Cumberland Road,	5,868
Military Road in Florida,	4,000
do. do. do.	2,500
Harbor and river of St. Marks, in Florida,	4,500
Piers at Kennebunk river, Me.	1,700
Berwick branch of the Piscataqua river,	250
Deer Island, Boston harbor,	60,000
Breakwater at Hyannis harbor, Mass.	7,600
Nantucket harbor,	6,000
Harbor of Mill river, Conn.	4,490
Pier and mole at Oswego, N. Y.	19,000
Big Sodus bay, N. Y.	17,000
Genesee river, N. Y.	16,000
Pier at Buffalo harbor, N. Y.	10,300
Black Rock harbor, N. Y.	5,100
Dunkirk harbor, N. Y.	10,200
Presque Isle harbor, Pa.	4,500
Harbors of New Castle, Marcus Hook, Chester, and Port Penn, in the Delaware,	10,000
Ocracoke Inlet, N. C.	22,000
Cape Fear river, N. C.	28,000
Ohio, Missouri, and Mississippi rivers,	50,000
Arkansas river,	15,000
Conneaut creek, Ohio,	7,800
Ashtabula creek, Ohio,	3,800
Pier at Cunningham creek, O.	1,500
Grand river, Ohio,	2,600
Cleveland harbor, Ohio,	6,600
Black river, Ohio,	8,000
Huron river, Ohio,	1,500
Piers at La Plaisance bay, Mich.	8,000
Cumberland river,	30,000
Savannah river,	25,000
Examinations and surveys,	30,000
Military road in Maine,	21,000
Cumberland road in Maryland and Pennsylvania,	150,000
Road from Detroit to Chicago,	15,000
Road from Detroit to Fort Gratiot,	15,000
Road from Detroit to Saganau,	10,000
Little Rock & Memphis road,	20,000
Washington and Jackson road,	2,000
Cumberland road, in Ohio,	100,000
Cumberland road, in Indiana,	100,000
Cumberland road, in Illinois,	70,000