

THOMAS J. LEMAY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR. TERMS. SUBSCRIPTIONS, three dollars per annum...

GARDEN SEEDS. Raised by the United Society of Shakers, and D. & C. Lind, etc., Philadelphia.

- White Onion, Yellow do, Red do, French do or London do, Leek, Early blood turnip, etc.

UNION ACADEMY. The exercises of this institution will commence the 20th instant, under the direction of Mr. Richard N. Bennett...

FAMILY FLOUR. The subscriber has on hand, at his mill in Orange county, Family Flour...

THOS. W. HOLDEN. January 31, 1837. CLEMMONSVILLE ACADEMY. The Trustees take this method of informing the public...

SEALING PROPOSALS. Will be received at the Office of the Secretary of State, until Monday the 13th day of February...

PIANOS. Selected by the very best Musicians in the United States, Charles E. Horn, Esquire, of New York.

Fayetteville Market--February 7. Bacon, 11 a 13; Lump, 16; Coffee, 12 a 14; Salt, 18 a 20...

NOTICE. I shall offer at public sale, on Monday, the 20th February next, on a credit till the 25th Dec. next...

NOTICE. The Subscriber wishes to employ a young gentleman, who can bring suitable recommendations, and is qualified to teach the English language...

DRAFT MISCARRIED. My Draft on Messrs. A. & B. Harris, Norfolk, Virginia, dated 9th inst. for three thousand five hundred dollars...

SHARK. Will make his next and last season in Virginia, again, at my stable, in Mecklenburg, Va. near York's Ferry...

SPEECH OF MR. PICKENS. On the resolution proposing an inquiry into the condition of the Executive Departments, delivered January 3, 1837.

Mr. PICKENS observed, that it had not been originally his intention when this resolution was first brought before the House by his friend from Virginia (Mr. Wise) to have taken any part in the debate...

In opposition to the resolution which calls for a select committee with power to make a thorough investigation into the conduct of the departments, we have been told that there are already standing committees in existence...

The duties of the standing committees of the House are to investigate accounts, to inquire into the various expenditures of the different departments, of the disbursements made, and the vouchers of our public officers...

But, sir, (said Mr. P.) amongst the various efforts and pretexts ingeniously raised to smother the inquiry now called for, there was one argument, if it can be called such, that fell from the gentleman from New York (Mr. Mann), which excited in him the profoundest astonishment and surprise...

POTTERY Market--February 7. POTTERY--Rather more receiving, and better demand, at 14 a 15 cents.

We learn that General SANTA ANNA left the city yesterday morning in the cars for Baltimore. This sudden departure of the Mexican General was a more unexpected here as it had been generally understood that he was engaged to dine yesterday at the President's in company with a large official and diplomatic party...

A Preacher of the Gospel Murdered. We learn by a gentleman from the neighborhood in which the horrid deed was perpetrated, that the Rev. Isaiah Harris, a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, was waylaid and murdered on the 23d ult. in Surry county near Cabin Point...

right to demand investigation, without assigning specific charges. We have the right to investigate all the offices and papers, (except perhaps those that cannot safely be made public, relating to foreign diplomacy, and archives of the government, and of all its agents in every department; and this right is essential to maintain the purity of our government and of our institutions.

Again, sir, the amendment to this resolution, which has been proposed by the gentleman from Rhode Island, (Mr. D. J. Pearce,) has not excited surprise and astonishment in my mind, than the doctrine I have just adverted to. Mr. Pickens said he could view that amendment as nothing more than a pretext to shield the perpetrators of fraud against all inquiry and discovery by the people.

Yes, sir, continued Mr. P. I hope to live to see the day when the doctrines we have heard asserted on this floor will be lost and forgotten amid the glory of purer and brighter days--when the representatives of the people shall have their rights and proudly maintain their authority under the constitution--when pilgrims and votaries of liberty from every quarter of the oppressed earth shall gather together here, and bow in reverence before that monument which a free people shall raise, whose noble shaft shall pierce the very heavens, reflecting back, from its broad and radiant surface, the light of everlasting truth and the beams of universal freedom.

Mr. P. continued. Mr. Speaker! I cannot refrain from declaring the profound astonishment with which I listened to the extraordinary facts related on this floor by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. Peyton) in relation to the electioneering campaign made by the President last summer through the western country. We have heard that he has been zealously engaged in the work of securing a successor to his power and authority. We heard of his interference in this matter, of his labors and undignified speeches in the contemptible work of raising into power one who lived by fawning upon his hand. Mortifying and disgusting as these facts are, not less astonishing did it appear to me, when in answer to them we heard the gentleman from Georgia, (Mr. Glascock) and the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. Ripley) rise in their seats, and instead of offering apology or denial, exert themselves to justify and vindicate the interference.

We are told, in apology for an interference as unconstitutional as it has been undisguised and shameless, that the President has a right to speak his own opinions, "that he is a free man as well as any other citizen," "that he is a man who was never known to hesitate in the frank assertion of his opinion," &c. The private opinion of the President is one thing, the public declaration of his wishes is another. Whenever his opinion, whatever it may be, be it private or be it public, is sustained with all the power and influence of office, is enforced from cabinet ministers down to all the petty holders of office, is proclaimed and preached by menial sycophants and a subsidized press, notoriously under the dictation of power, then, sir, the President's private opinion and preference become a law to a hundred thousand mercenary followers, who live upon his will.

Every people, from their history and education, have a peculiar criterion by which to judge of liberty. In England an idiot or a knave may away the sceptre of empire by the law of legitimacy, and the plumes of a titled nobility may wave over stars and garters, and yet the Englishman may proudly claim to be a freeman; and why? Because these things are sustained by the fundamental principles of the British Constitution as a part of their authorized and lawful government. But when Croswell raised his Government over the ruins of the British Constitution, and against the fundamental laws of the empire, although he added to the glory and the power of the British name, yet he was a dictator, and the people were slaves so long as they acquiesced in the usurpation. So it is here. We live in a land of constitutional law, every principle of which sustains the freedom of the elective franchise, from the highest to the lowest. If this great principle of American liberty be violated and defied by Executive dictation, no matter what character is raised up as the successor of power under such a dynasty, we are slaves and dastards if we tamely acquiesce. As far as practical liberty is concerned, there is no difference in effect, as to the people interested, between the Government of him who comes in, trampling over the freedom of election through dictation, bribery, and fraud, and he who comes into power waving over the desolated fields of his country the bloody sword of a conqueror and usurper. As to all practical effects, they are the same. Is there any man in this House who does not know that the President elect could not have been chosen but by the direct influence and interference of the President? Let no man say there is no proof of this interference. Independent of the facts stated by my friend from Tennessee, (Mr. Peyton,) and the published letters, toasts, &c. of the President himself, I will now call the attention of this House, and of this country, to some facts; upon which I would defy any sworn juror of freemen on earth to bring in a verdict of "not guilty." I will introduce a witness against whom hirelings have poured out their malignity and calumny, but whose veracity and private integrity no man dare impeach. I will give the language of the distinguished Senator from Tennessee, (Judge White), as it is published in his speech at Knoxville last summer. When the President was on a visit to Tennessee, in the summer of 1834, and "after the rise of the State convention, many members wished to nominate me for the Presidency, but abandoned the attempt after they understood that it would incur the President's displeasure. On his journey to Washington the President conversed freely with some of my friends, and remonstrated against any attempt to nominate me; said there should be a national convention, and Mr. Van Buren ought to be nominated for the Presidency, and I for the Vice Presidency; and, when his eight years were expired, that I was young enough then to be taken up as President." "After I gave my consent to the People to run, and before the meeting of the Baltimore Convention, I was repeatedly forewarned what I might expect if my name was not withdrawn," &c.

Such are the unvarnished facts of the case. And who is there bold enough to deny that the President has interfered? Sir! the facts are beyond the possibility of denial, that he has openly interfered, and used his power and authority to nominate his successor, and to do it by bargain and arrangement. Every puerile intrigue and profligate proposition have been used and employed to effect this purpose. The chief offices of the Republic have been bartered away, and the President, through the tremendous power and patronage of his position, has called up a betrayed country to receive its rulers from the hands of a master.

To see the force and bearing of these propositions which the President made, and to show that he fully understood his position and their profligate tendency, I will now refer to a scene in 1835, when his predecessor was chosen by this House. In two letters written by Gen. Jackson, the one dated June 5, 1827, and the other dated July 18, we have the following extraordinary development: "Early in January, 1825, a member of Congress of high respectability visited me [Gen. Jackson] one morning, and observed that he had a communication he was desirous to make to me; that he was informed there was a great intrigue going on, and that it was right I should be informed of it; [how very kind!] that he came as a friend and let me receive the communication as I might, the friendly motives through which it was made, he hoped, would prevent any change of friendship or feeling with regard to him. To which I replied, from his high standing as a gentleman and member of Congress, and from his uniform friendly and gentlemanly conduct towards myself, I

was prepared to worship at the shrine of any image which his master might hold up as the popular idol of the day. Sir, (said Mr. P.) it is the first time in my life that I ever heard that the papers, records and documents of public offices, and of the officers, were to be viewed as private property, belonging to private individuals, and, as such, to be exempted from enquiry and investigation. Such a doctrine he confessed, was new to him; it is a doctrine directly at war with liberty; it is a doctrine calculated to lead to the most monstrous and fatal results. And if this is to be the doctrine practised upon by the coming administration, it is full time that a deceived country should know it. No, sir, all the papers and documents, all the offices of this government, are not private; they belong not to private gentlemen, they are not sheltered by the constitution from investigation; they are the property of the confederacy, and the right over them, the right of search, the right of thorough investigation, belongs to this House; belongs to us; the representatives of a free people. We stand here as guardians of popular rights; as a co-ordinate and independent branch of this government; and we are base traitors to our country if we diminish or weaken our rights, if we abandon the proud prerogatives guaranteed to us under the constitution we have sworn to defend.

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