

THE PATRIOT,

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length in the same proportion—Let-
ters to the Editor must be post paid.

For the Patriot.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

N. IV.

MR. EDITOR: Let us, for in-
stance, suppose that an insurrection,
from which his Excellency believes
we are protected by "Constitutional
provision," should actually burst
forth in some State South of this,
where the Slaves have become so
dangerously condensed that they, at
this time considerably outnumber
the white population; and increase
in a ratio of more than three to one!
What would be the proud prospects
of the disdamful Slave States at such
a destruction—threatening period as
this? Should such an alarm be
sounded abroad,—where is the slave
to be found, whose bosom would
not kindle at the intelligence, and
after, perhaps, hatching his master,
hasten to the bloody scene of
action? At such a vulnerable posi-
tion as this, would not the Militia of
each particular County and District
be required to keep the negroes in
subjection at home?—Where then
would an army be raised to quell the
main body of Insurgents? Would
we not have to implore the assis-
tance of those States which, at this
time, excite our indignation by la-
bouring to prevent the approach of
scenes?

What humiliating—what soul-
mortifying reflections would crowd
upon our minds on being reduced to
the necessity of making this appli-
cation!—And, more especially,
what would be our consternation,
should our prayers for assistance be
answered in terms like the following:
—We once saw your situation, and
warned you of impending danger;
but you charged us with scattering
"inflammatory doctrines" through
your country:—We once offered to
assist you in averting the Storm
which has now burst upon you;
but you insultingly told us to "mind
our own business!" you turned a
deaf ear to our counsels—despised
our monitions—disdained our solici-
tations, and even threatened to rise
an army against us, for assailing
your "Rights!"—This has absolved
us from all constitutional obligation
to protect you: Go! and learn from
your own destruction, that which
you refused to learn from friendly
admonition, or the downfall of other
nations; and remember, with the
immortal Jefferson, that "God is just
and that his justice cannot sleep fo-
ever!"

Should this be the unhappy re-
sult of an application to the free
States for assistance, would not the
ultimate overthrow of the slave
States be recorded in the blood of

their citizens:—And "may we not
fairly presume" that such will be
the result, if those discordant feel-
ings of jealousy subsisting between
the North and South, and already too
visible, be heightened much more by
"misguided conduct" on our part!—
Let it not be said that this picture
of the subject was drawn by the
pencil of fancy, and that it exists
only in the imagination; because, if
the coloured people continue to in-
crease as they have done for the
past ten years, and the white citizens
to emigrate to the free States as they
are now doing, it will be as impos-
sible to prevent such a state of things,
in the "march of time," as to "pluck
the sun from the firmament, and ex-
tinguish his flames in the ocean!"

Should the magnanimity of the
Free States, however, influence
them to forgive our meanness, and
pass over our childish threats—
Should they regard themselves as
bound by the constitution; and come
to our assistance, when called for
to quell an "insurrectionary move-
ment," could they, consistently with
the principles which they have pro-
fessed to the world and to God, fall,
with merciless vengeance, upon these
long-injured, and suffering victims
of oppression, and determinate them
from the earth?—could they silence
in death, that voice of justice which
animated the patriots of "Seventy-
six"—Could they extinguish in
oceans of blood, that manly spirit of
self defence which conducted our
ancestors through the revolution;
which, alone could influence these
wretched Beings to hazard the
horrors of insurrection?—Would
they not rather give them their li-
berty, on condition of their laying
down arms and emigrating to some
other Country upon the funds of
the United States? Who can doubt the
power of the General Government
to make such a treaty such a crisis?
And from the manifestations of sen-
timent which have already been
given who can dare harbour a
doubt but such will be the result?

Let not Governor Burton, then,
imagine that our rights, in this spe-
cies of property, are so effectually
protected by "constitutional provis-
ion" as to authorise no feminine or
even Masculine—"apprehensions of
danger!"—Under these impressions
I would submit to the consideration
of his Excellency, whether it would
not be as well, and perhaps a little
better, to call the Legislature to a
different side of this "delicate topic"
from that which they have hereto-
fore unhappily espoused before they
are roused into a "Sleepless vigil-
ence!" especially when it is recollected
that they have ever watched,
more intensely, the benevolent
efforts of those who would meliorate
the condition of the "poor, sun-
stricken out-casts of Africa" than
they have the true interest and
character of themselves, and their
Country!—It might not be improp-
er, in the mean time, for him to
reperuse the history of the State,
and blot out the numerous oppres-
sive statutes, operating upon the
slave population, which would dis-
grace the most barbarous Nations
of the earth; and to procure the re-
peal of an act, or two, passed at the
present Session of the Legislature,
before he again proclaims to the
world that our Laws have been so
marvellously "Liberalized," and
their "domestic administration"

so wonderfully ameliorated! Per-
haps, thus, he might find himself so
far swayed by condescension as to
permit those obnoxious "Individuals,
Societies, and States" to "consult
together for the common good"—
to think and even speak against
"public grievances"—and to exer-
cise the numerous constitutional
privileges of free men, for the en-
joyment of which they are under
but little obligation to him. I
must, in conclusion, be permitted
to recommend to his Excellency
the propriety of prosecuting his
benevolent opinions of amelioration,
(if, in fact, such plans were even
commended) instead of making pre-
paration for "calling out the Mil-
itia" to suppress the insurrectionary
movements, of those who feel as
deeply interested in the peace and
tranquility of the State as himself.
This will perhaps lead him into a
cordial and friendly concurrence
with the liberal suggestions of the
Legislature of Vermont; and grad-
ually influence him together with
the Legislature of this State, over
which he seems to possess such un-
bounded influence, to unite with our
Sister States, in recommending to
the General Government, the prop-
riety of adopting measures calcu-
lated to effect the general safety, the
complete abolition of Slavery in
the United States, consistently with
the rights of the people and the
general Harmony.

Should the "doctrines" contained
in these numbers, be regarded as
"inflammatory," let them not be
charged to a "foreign hand," but
set them down to the account of
peaceful, quiet, and good-natured
old—

AMICUS.

Guilford County, March 1837.

AGRICULTURAL.

Hard Times.—Such is, and such
always has been the cry of our far-
mers; and the present times, as must
be confessed, are hard, if we compare
them exclusively with much better
times, so far as it relates to the prices
of agricultural produce. But before
we feel justified in complaining of
hard times and general distress, ought
we not to look to worse times as well
as better? It is true that wheat will
not fetch \$2 per bushel, neither will
tobacco bring \$100 per hogshead.
But does the happiness and com-
fort of life depend indispensably on
those prices? Has not the farmer an
abundance, and more than he can de-
avour of meat and bread? Does he
not manage scandalously whose gar-
den does not furnish him plenty of
good vegetables? and whose dairy
does not yield milk and butter to con-
sume and spare? Cannot every far-
mer raise wool and cotton and flax to
clothe his family and his people?

He who has not enough of all these
owes the deficiency to his own want
of industry and plain obvious man-
agement; and with an abundance of
meat, bread, vegetables, milk, and
clothing, beer, and cider is it not un-
der Providence, ungrateful to be for-
ever repining and moping, and com-
plaining about hard times! Where is
the nation, we speak of the mass of
the people, on the habitable globe,
that would not, if they could change
times and conditions with us, &
relieve themselves and ring hallelu-
jahs to that kind Providence which
had supplied the means of gratifying
every want that is essential to whol-
some and comfortable living? The
bane of our happiness consists in
confounding luxuries with necessities;
and in keeping our imaginations for-

ever fixed on those who have, *per fas
aut per nefas*, accumulated the means
of pampering their morbid and vici-
ous appetites with every dainty, and
their vanity with all kinds of empty
shows, rather than on the millions of
other countries who are literally star-
ved, and perishing for want of bread!

If we would look oftener at these,
we Americans would cease to outrage
Providence with the false cry of—
hard times! Let a benevolent mind it
must be painful to draw contentment
from the contemplation of the wretches
as of any portion of our low
creatures; but reason teaches us that
such contemplation does not aggra-
vate their calamities, whilst it in-
structs us that ours have no reality.
To form a better estimate of our con-
dition here in America, let us turn
our eyes to Great Britain—that nation
which is said to be the most indus-
trious, skilful and enterprising, and
to be governed by the wisest policy
ever pursued by public councils.

From the American Farmer.
TIMBER.

The right time to fell timber for
rails, buildings, and agricultural uses
generally, is when the sap is in full
flow; when the bark ceases to peel
freely, the felling should be stop-
ped.

In support of this opinion, it is al-
luded, that the felling is performed
at the time that timber will season
the soonest—becomes harder and fir-
mer, in consequence of quick season-
ing—the pores, being then full of sap
the drying of which leaves behind
something of a gluey kind, having
somewhat the benefit of oil paint—
being harder and firmer than if felled
in the winter, the worm is deter-
red from commencing its depreda-
tions, which is the main cause of the
decay of all timbers.

To fell timber when the bark does
not peel freely, is at a time of the
year which takes a longer period to
season, in consequence of which and
the absence of the sap, it never be-
comes so hard and solid, hence the
worm, the great destroyer of timber,
commences earlier its depredations.

In most of the newly settled tim-
bered countries, it was the general
practice to leave valuable timber trees
standing in the fields, which were
girdled, or deadened—this operation
being performed when the bark did
not peel, the tree would stand up sev-
eral years longer than if done when
it did, and hence arose the opinion
that the winter was the right time to
fell timber, to insure durability. If
girdled when the sap is in full flow,
the sudden stoppage leaves the trunk
full of sap, a fermentation or sour-
ness takes place, the bark prevents
the escape of the moisture, the wood
becomes soft and the worm soon com-
mences—not so if the operation is
done in the winter.

A large beech tree may be girdled
in the month of February, and on of
the same character in every respect
in the following May—the latter will
rot two years sooner than the former,
and so it would be of two trees felled
at the same periods, and left with the
bark on; but if made into rails (the
bark taken off) or for other purposes,
the latter would be much the most
durable.

From the statement of the Treasurer
of the Mint, it appears that the
coinage effected within the last year,
amounts to \$2,110,679, exceeding
by \$250,000 the coinage of any pre-
vious year, since the establishment
of the Mint. Of the gold bullion
deposited, the proportion from this
State was nearly \$20,000, exceeding
by \$800 dollars the deposit of 1835,
and by 9000 dollars that of any pre-
vious year.