



Ours are the plans of fair & delightful peace, Unwarp'd by party rage, to live like brothers.

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From the Enquirer.

Vindication OF MR. JEFFERSON.

No. IV.

Invasions of the enemy into the upper country.

It was shortly after this period, that Mr. Jefferson repaired to Monticello, 2 or 3 miles from Charlottesville, where the legislature had determined to meet in the early part of June. His office was on the point of expiring, but the constitution of his state had still authorised him to serve a third year. Actuated by the most laudable motives, however, his friends determined not to bring him forward as a candidate. Censures had been passed upon his administration by those, who were unacquainted with his measures and the state of the country. They had even declared that it was incumbent upon the legislature, to make a formal enquiry into his conduct. Under these circumstances the friends of Mr. Jefferson resolved to make no exertions to re-elect him. They wished to see the menaced enquiry made, and even an impeachment pursued; and they were unwilling to throw any obstacles in their way by investing Mr. Jefferson with the dignity and influence of such an office.

It is not true then, as Mr. Turner has asserted; that Mr. J. did forward his resignation to the assembly; and that "the abdication of the government is a matter of record." It is true only, that Mr. J. after having served during two entire years, was unwilling to accept of the appointment during the third year; and that the motives of this determination did not spring from any fear of encountering the perils of the situation, but from a desire of promoting a legislative enquiry into his conduct. That such was really the motive of his determination, we can establish by the most satisfactory evidence. We can prove it by the following certificate of the venerable Judge Tyler; for every man deserves to be called venerable who has spent a long life in the service of his country. We can prove it by the journals of the house of delegates, which we have ransacked in vain for Mr. J.'s letter of resignation, or for the slightest hint that may establish the fact, but which furnishes us with the real motives of his conduct in the resolutions which follow below.

Mr. Jefferson finding at the end of the second year of his administration, in 1781, that some people were discontented with his conduct, with respect to Arnold's and Cornwallis's invasions, declined offering for the office of Chief Magistrate, but neither resigned nor refused the acceptance of it. His particular friends, however, expressed a wish to appoint him again, but on its having been moved that an enquiry should take place at the succeeding session into the conduct of the executive for the last year, nothing more was said on that subject, but Gen. Nelson, who then was at the head of the Militia, was elected Governor. Mr. Jefferson was sent to the Assembly in the fall or spring following, and there called on the house for the threatened examination in a very handsome address, but by this time even those who thought him culpable, began to think otherwise on a real reflection and a better information, and the house by a general vote, directed their thanks to be delivered to him from the chair, by John Tyler, then their speaker, who did it accordingly in a warm and affectionate manner.

The appointment of Gen. Nelson was at Staunton, where the assembly sat. Mr. Jefferson I believe was immediately sent to Congress, and from thence to France, where he continued seven years, discharging his important affairs, highly to the interest of his country, and greatly to the satisfaction of the government of France.

JOHN TYLER. Richmond, September 9, 1835. Gen. Nelson was elected Governor on the 12th of June, 1781. On the very same day this resolution appears on the journals of the house of delegates.

Resolved, That at the next session of assembly, an enquiry be made into the conduct of the executive of this state for the last 12 months.

No man who examines the bent and bearing of this resolution can be at any loss for the reasons of Mr. Jefferson's conduct. No man can hereafter attribute his withdrawing from the office of Governor to a dastardly and pusillanimous spirit.

His friends in the legislature, whilst they admired the modesty and the magnanimity of his temper, extended their confidence to the commander, whom he had preferred for his successor. They thought with him that the union of the civil and the military power in the same hands, would greatly add to the success of the operations of the war; and with him they thought that the military genius of Gen. Nelson was sufficient to entitle him to this distinguished honor. Gen. Nelson was therefore selected as the successor of Mr. Jefferson. This appointment took place on the 12th of June, as will appear from the following extract from the journals of the house of delegates:

"Tuesday June 12th, 1781; Resolved that Thomas Nelson, junr. Esq. be appointed Governor or Chief Magistrate of this commonwealth for one year; he having been so elected by joint ballot of both houses of assembly."

Test, J. STEWART, c. n. n.

About the middle of May, Lord Cornwallis at the head of the main southern army, had formed a junction with Arnold, who had become sole commander of his detachment since the death of Phillips at Petersburg. Before this superior force, the Marquis de la Fayette was obliged to retire from his position at Richmond. The English then crossed the James river, and marched up into the country about fifty miles from the capital and within thirty of Charlottesville, where the legislature was holding their session. It appears from the letter of Gov. Jefferson, dated Charlottesville, May 28th; that the combined army amounted to 7000 regular troops, while that of the Marquis de la Fayette did not exceed 3000; and that there was no possibility of increasing that number from the want of arms, which had been sent from Rhode-Island but had not yet arrived. In the same letter Mr. J. urges the necessity of sending Gen. Washington with the northern army to the relief of Virginia, and mentions that though his office would expire in a few days by the constitution, still as a private man (he) should derive great confidence from his presence.

Things were at this crisis; his office having actually expired, but his successor not yet installed in the administration of affairs, when Col. Tarlton was dispatched by Lord Cornwallis with his regiment of horse to surprise Mr. Jefferson whom he still believed to be in office, and the legislature then sitting in Charlottesville. At this moment the speakers of the two houses and some other members of the assembly were the guests of Mr. Jefferson at Monticello. Tarlton having advanced within 10 miles of this seat, early in the morning of the 23d of June, sent off a detachment of horse to secure him and his friends, whilst he himself proceeded rapidly to Charlottesville in order to surprise the legislature. But he was disappointed in both expectations. Notice had been given by sun-rise, both at Charlottesville and Monticello, of the designs of the enemy. The speakers and their colleagues had returned to the former place, from whence they had scarcely sufficient time to escape, with the other members of the Legislature. Mr. Jefferson had already sent his family to a place of safety, but was still at Monticello making arrangements for his departure, when Lieut. Hudson arrived at half speed with the information that the enemy were already ascending the winding hill of Monticello.

Had Mr. Jefferson been possessed of the mystic lamp of Aladdin; had he been endowed with the magnitude and strength of those imaginary giants, who lived only in the tales of the nursery; he might then have bravely resisted the triumphant troops

of Tarlton: And perhaps might have escaped the epithets of "coward" and "traitor." Or had Mr. J. reversed the error of the valiant knight of La Mancha, and mistaken a troop for a flock of sheep, his insanity might have at least procured him some of the honors of chivalry. But even then his federal opponents, while they admired the valour of the hero, would have been ungenerous enough to have ridiculed the temerity of the madman. Or perhaps their pliant understandings, which have already found treason in his escaping, might have proclaimed him a traitor for remaining without a chance of resistance. But as Mr. Jefferson was neither a Polyphemus nor a Don Quixote, he acted perhaps—as most of his opponents would have done on a similar occasion:

"Like a brave General, after being beat, They exult & rejoice, in a prudent retreat."

Mr. J. immediately left Monticello, and knowing that he should be pursued if he took the high road, struck out into the woods of the neighbouring mountain, when he proceeded in safety to overtake his family.

Of this far-famed event, so little understood and so frequently misrepresented Lieut. Hudson has given us the following account:

"In the month of June, 1781, on my way to join the Marquis la Fayette's army, I met near Milton, with Mr. Long, who informed me, that Jonett (for which service the legislature gave him a sword) had arrived the preceding evening at Charlottesville and brought information of the approach of the enemy to that place under Tarlton. Upon enquiring from Long whether Mr. Jefferson had received intelligence, he was ignorant. I directly proceeded to Monticello, where I found Mr. Jefferson tranquil and undisturbed. At my earnest request, he left his house, which was surrounded in ten minutes at farthest, with a troop of eight horse. I was convinced his situation was truly critical, since there were but two men (Mr. Short and his gardener) and Mr. Carr, at that time a boy, upon the spot. I will remember he was not Governor at that period; his term of service having expired, and Gen. Nelson appointed his successor.

SCOTT then, fellow-citizens, is the celebrated adventure of CARTER'S MOUNTAIN, which has so frequently resounded in the slanderous chronicles of Federalism. 'Tis true they have ever cautiously avoided entering into its details, because they well knew how to evade detection, their talismans would then have been broken; their ignorance of their misrepresentation would have been exposed; and this favorite insinuation against the character of Mr. Jefferson would have been frittered down to the simple fact: that Mr. Jefferson did not choose to remain in his house, singly to encounter a whole troop of horse, or suffer himself to be taken prisoner by an inveterate enemy.

This then is the famous adventure of Carter's Mountain! The burthen of every favorite ballad; the butt of every federal humourist. Where now shall the Poet seek a theme for the composition of his satire? Where shall the wit find a point for his curious epigram? Ye Editors, Scribblers, Paragraphists and Punters, array yourselves in sackcloth and ashes—All your genius is reduced to vapour. Alas! the Hero of Carter's Mountain has disappeared, and the wit of Federalism has disappeared for ever!

Having accompanied his family during one day's journey, this hero of Carter's Mountain returned to Monticello. Tarlton meanwhile had retired, after 13 hours residence in Charlottesville. Finding the enemy had flown, Mr. J. once more joined his family, and repaired with them to an estate, which he had in Bedford, about 80 miles S. W. It was here that another adventure befel him, to which the ingenuity of Mr. Turner has given a dramatic effect. Riding on the farm (as most farmers would do) some time after, he was thrown (as some riders would have

been) by an unruly horse, and (as a natural consequence of such an event) he was disabled from riding for a considerable time afterwards. But observe the magic genius of Mr. Turner; how it "annihilates both time and space;" how it shifts the scene of action by a single volition, and stops "the feathered foot of time;" How Albemarle is converted into Bedford, and how he obliterates whole days to give consistency to his tale. This unfortunate fall which he received in Bedford county, Mr. Turner finds it much more convenient to give Mr. J. in his retreat before Tarlton. Does the reader wish to know the reason? He shall have it in the precise language of Mr. Turner himself:

"His retreat or rather his flight from Monticello, on the information that Tarlton had penetrated the country, and was advancing to Charlottesville, was effected with such hurried abruptness, as to produce a fall from his horse, and a dislocation of the shoulder." And then, says our author, "he proceeded to Bedford" and then "he forwarded his resignation to the assembly." "But we have already proved that Mr. J. did never send in his resignation to the assembly.—We have also proved, that the term of his office had expired, even prior to Tarlton's approach to Charlottesville."

We shall now attempt to shew, that Mr. Turner is not a more faithful chronologist with respect to the dislocated shoulder. For we shall first prove that this accident did not befall Mr. J. before he arrived at Bedford; and secondly, that it did not befall him whilst he was there.

The certificate of Mr. Bradfute will prove the first:

"In the year 1781, I lived within two miles of the Poplar Forest, an estate at that time belonging to Thomas Jefferson, Esq. now President of the United States. Sometime in the summer of that year, I went to the Poplar Forest on some business with Mr. Jefferson's overseer, where I found Mr. Jefferson. I had not before heard of his arrival, of course I believe he had been up only a day or two, or some short time. I was in company with Mr. Jefferson, in his tent, perhaps an hour or two; he appeared to me to be perfectly well, and I heard no complaint.

"ROBT: BRADFUTE."

August 2, 1835.

The certificate of Mr. James Steptoe, senr. of Bedford, will establish the last position:

"In the year 1781, I resided within two miles of the Poplar Forest, Bedford county, Virginia; this estate did then belong to Thomas Jefferson, Esq. Sometime in the summer of that year I heard that Mr. Jefferson was at the Poplar Forest, and when riding over his farm had been thrown from his horse and much hurt. Having been acquainted with Mr. Jefferson when he lived in Williamsburg, I immediately went to see him, and found him very much disabled indeed—too much so. I think, to have travelled on horse-back.—The account which I received at that time respecting Mr. Jefferson's fall from his horse, after his arrival on his farm, I did certainly believe to be correct, and I do now believe so.

"JAS STEPTOE, senr.

August 6, 1806.

Other persons could be produced to authenticate this circumstance. The man who lived with Mr. J. at the time and who probably, saw the fall is still alive. His testimony we should have obtained, but that the distance at which he resides was too great, to permit us acquiring such information as might go along with these remarks. Mr. Steptoe's character is however a sufficient surety for the testimony of "numberless witnesses." To a cultivated understanding, he unites an incorruptible integrity of heart and the most graceful urbanity of disposition. Differing tho' he does from the present administration on many political questions, he has never suffered himself to wanton those malignant effusions of party spirit, which betray all the peevishness of passion without the strength of the understanding.

Such then we repeat is the celebrated adventure of Carter's Mountain!

Indian Queen, Raleigh.

WM. SCOTT, FROM GRANVILLE COUNTY,

INforms the Public, that he has taken the above Inn, which he shall enter upon about the middle of October, when he shall be happy to accommodate such as may call upon him.

As he will spare no pains to render his House a comfortable Accommodation for Travellers and others, he hopes to experience Success in his Undertaking.

Particular Attention will be paid to the Accommodation of the Members of the ensuing General Assembly, of whom he hopes to entertain a considerable Number, his House being very commodious, and well fitted up for the purpose.

August 2

VALUABLE PROPERTY.

A Greedily to the last Will and Testament of Peter Mallet, Esq. late of Fayetteville, the Subscribers offer for Sale on a liberal Credit, the following Property lying in different parts of North-Carolina: Cumberland County and Town of Fayetteville. A Tract of Land adjoining Lancaster Mrs Smith and Isaac Williams, Esq. near Ave rasborough, on the south-west Side of Cape Fear River, about 20 miles above Fayetteville.

A Tract of Land containing about 320 Acres, and w'n by the name of Council Hall Tract, adjoining the town of Fayetteville, From the Fertility of the Soil and its Vicinity to the Town, this Land is considered as very valuable, and will be laid off in Lots to suit the Purchasers.

A Lot and House on the west Side of Gillespie Street, in Fayetteville, where the deceased formerly resided. The building are in good Repair, and the whole well calculated to accommodate a genteel Family.

Three unimproved Lots on the west side of Gillespie Street, between Franklin and Mumford Streets, adjoining the Lots on which the Dwelling House stands.

Ten or fifteen unimproved Lots on the west Side of Gillespie Street, between Mumford Street and Mallet's Mill.

A large Warehouse, at present occupied by Messrs. Nesbitt and Campb ll, on Gillespie Street, near the Tow House, subject to a small Ground-rent.

A Lot and Dwelling-House on the east Side of Green Street, near the Court-house, now occupied by Wm. H. Williams, Esq.

A Lot and Dwelling-House on the east Side of Green Street, in possession of Mrs Emmet, and subject to her Life Rent.

Two Lots at Lower Fayetteville, on which there is a Tobacco Inspection, under the direction of Messrs. Davis and McDermald, together with a large three Story Warehouse, three small Warehouses, and three extensive Sheds, with every necessary Accommodation for the Inspection and storage of Tobacco. If the Purchaser should incline, one of the Lots on which stands a large Shed, will be sold separate or divided into two Lots.

Orange County & Town of Hillsborough. 300 Acres of Land in the flat fields, adjoining Lands of General Mebane.

A Grist Mill on Eno River, in the Town of Hillsborough. The Mill runs two Pair of Stones, with the necessary Machinery of a Mill requisite Mill; the whole is in tolerable Repair. From the natural Advantages this Mill possesses, it is considered to be the most valuable in the State.

New-Hanover County & Town of Wilmington. One Half of a Lot in the Town of Wilmington, on the south Side of Prince Street, extending along said Street, from Front Street to the River.

A Tract of Land on the east Side of the north-west Branch of Cape Fear River, about three miles above Wilmington, joining Lands of Wm. W. Jones and Henry Waters, Esq. A considerable Part of this Land is of the very best Tide Swamp, and is considered by Judges to be equal, if not superior to any Rice Lands in the State. It is well worth the Attention of those who profess engaging in the Culture of Rice. The whole will be sold, or it will be divided to accommodate the Purchaser.

A large Body of Land on the west Side of the north east River, extending along the River from Henry Watters's Plantation called Forcput, to Major Moore's on Fishing Creek. A part of this Land is Tide Swamp, and well suited to the Cultivation of Rice. Also, three Tracts of Land on Little Cohery, well calculated for Corn or Cotton.

The Subscribers will receive Proposals at Fayetteville, by letter or otherwise, for all or any Part of the above described Property until the 1st of October next, if unsold, the Mill and Lands in Orange county will be offered at Auction in Hillsborough on the 9th day of October. The Lots, Houses and Lands in Cumberland, at Fayetteville, on the 26th day of the same Month; and the Lands in New-Hanover, on the 18th day of November next. Application may be made to Mr. James Mumford, at Wilmington, who will describe and shew the Land in the Vicinity of that Place.

JOHN ECLES, JOHN WINSLOW, Executors of Peter Mallet's.

June 19, 1835.

CASTOR OIL.

J. GALES has just received a fresh Supply of Castor Oil, which he will sell by the Bottle, or in smaller quantities.