



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

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1835.

No. 314.

From the Enquirer. Vindication OF MR. JEFFERSON. No. V.

Though the insinuation brought against Mr. Jefferson of his being actuated by personal far be entirely of modern origin, yet there were not wanting men at the time of the Revolution who censured then, as some men are sure now, every act which does not exactly accord with their own opinions. Such opinions were at that time formed on a very partial knowledge of actual circumstances: and yet the censures of such men as Mr. Turner are nothing more than these opinions, "half made up" and stained a little further beyond the limits of truth. Historians like Mr. Turner have indeed little claim to the merit of originality; and even this little consists in throwing a new and more deceitful gloss upon antiquated and related mistakes.

Printed by men of this description, it was, that Mr. George Nicholas, at that time a very young, but at all times a very honest man, was successful in bringing out some specific charges against Mr. Jefferson. He reduced the details of these charges to writing: he communicated them through a common friend to Mr. J. who also refused to write the heads of his justification on each particular charge. This paper is said in existence; and though it was framed, when every circumstance was still fresh in the memory of its author, does it not contain the slightest allusion to Mr. Jefferson's admitted flight from Richmond, or his resistance, singly to encounter a whole troop of horse. The film which spread over Mr. Nicholas's mind was soon removed. Ashamed of the imposition which had been put upon him, he candidly relinquished the further prosecution of this enquiry. But not satisfied with this tribute of justice, he sometime afterwards embodied a conspicuous occasion of repeating his involuntary mistake and retracting in a most public manner the erroneous opinions which he had advanced.

The reader may depend upon it that all the preceding facts are substantially correct. They have been gathered by minute enquiries in various quarters or from visible and authentic records. While such testimony was before us there was no necessity of resorting to vulgar and ridiculous rumours. But whether these facts shall obtain the credence of the public, is a different question; and in the decision of which, we do not hold ourselves responsible. "M'function es de dire la Verite, et non pas de la faire croire."

We shall probably have all the statements related by pompous appeals to testimony. We shall once more be reminded of the declaration of the oldest and most respectable inhabitants of Richmond. Perhaps when we demand a sight of these witnesses, we shall be introduced to certain foreign merchants who have come among us since our revolution, with all their inveterate prejudices against the Republican patriots of the country; or to those credulous listeners, who believe whatever they hear; or to certain high-toned federalists, who believe without evidence, and propagate without belief, the most unfounded calumnies against Mr. Jefferson. If Mr. Turner wishes to establish his charges beyond the possibility of a doubt, he must seek for more substantial testimony than this. Let him produce his witnesses by name; let them be such men as are entitled to our respect, who tell what they have seen, and not merely what they have heard. Surely from these boasted thousands of living witnesses, it will be easy to collect the most incontestible proofs. And yet the very obvious doubt at once presents itself. If these men are indeed witnesses, were they not also existing during the period of the Revolution? Were then did not these thousands of living witnesses lift up their voice against the character of Mr. Jefferson, at that moment when they would have been so much more

powerful in "arresting the progress of vice?" than they can expect to be at the present time? Why did not this host of witnesses arise to criminate and overwhelm Mr. Jefferson, before all those calamities had befallen our country, which have flowed in such copious streams from the celebrated act concerning Religious freedom, from the docking of entails from the revision of the Virginia Code, by which the chaos of the law was reduced to order; from the correspondence with Hammond and Genet, from a report on the American commerce, from a report on the fisheries, from the reduction of our national debt, the abridgement of executive patronage, and the acquisition of Louisiana? Fortunately for the credit of their own patriotism; unfortunately for the federal cause; unfortunately for the justification of Mr. Turner; not one of these thousands was either sent into the Virginia Legislature, or into Congress. For in the fall term of 1781, an enquiry into the conduct of the Executive was instituted at the request of Mr. Jefferson, agreeable to their resolution of June the 12th. When the assembly met six months after, Mr. Jefferson who was a member from Albemarle, called up the subject himself. Still no charges were exhibited against him though that long period had elapsed. It was then that the House of Representatives gave an unanimous vote for his acquittal. It was then that they passed a vote of thanks for his patriotic services during the revolution, in the following strong, sincere, and grateful language:

"In the House of Delegates, Monday November 26th, 1781. A motion was made, that the house come to the following resolution: That this house will on the 12th of December next proceed agreeably to a resolution of the 12th of June last, to enquire into the conduct of the Executive of this state for the last twelve months next preceding the said resolution; and that as well the information against the executive as their defence be heard on that day.—This motion being agreed to, a committee was appointed, consisting of Mr. Banister, Mr. Tyler, Mr. Nicholas, Mr. Southall, and Mr. Morgan.—On the 12th of December 1781, Mr. Banister reported from the committee appointed to state any charges, and receive such information as might be offered respecting the administration of the late Executive; that the committee did according to order, convene for that purpose, and no information being offered on the subject matter of the said enquiry, except that some rumours prevailed, which appeared to the committee to have been the cause of the original order of the 12th of June, directing the said enquiry, and the committee had come to a resolution thereupon, which he read and delivered in at the clerk's table, when the same was read twice, and agreed to by the house as followeth:

"Resolved, that it is the opinion of the committee, the said rumours were groundless.—A motion was made that the house come to the following resolution: "Resolved, that the sincere thanks of the assembly be given to our former Governor, Thomas Jefferson, Esq. for his impartial, upright, and able administration of the powers of the Executive whilst in office. Popular rumours gaining some degree of credence by more pointed accusations, rendered it necessary to make an enquiry into his conduct, and delays that retribution of public gratitude, so eminently merited. But that conduct having become the object of open scrutiny, tenfold value is added to an approbation founded on a cool and deliberate discussion: The Assembly wish to record, in the strongest manner to declare the high opinion they entertain of Mr. Jefferson's ability, rectitude, and integrity, as Chief Magistrate of this Commonwealth, and mean by this pub-

lily avowing their opinion, to oblige all future and to remove all former unmerited censures."

And the said resolution being read a second time, was on the question being put thereupon, agreed to by the house.

NEMINE CONTRADICENTE. Extract from the Journals of the House of Delegates, JOHN STEWART, C. H. D. Signed in the presence of Samuel Coleman.

During the same session, Mr. Jefferson was also unanimously honoured, by the following resolution: "Friday November 30th, 1781. "Resolved, that Thomas Jefferson, Esq. be appointed a delegate to represent this Commonwealth in Congress, until the first Monday in November next, in the room of John Blair, Esq. resigned; he having been elected by joint ballot of both houses."

These honourable tributes were offered to the ability and integrity of Mr. Jefferson, though there were in the lobby of the house, "thousands of living witnesses," who "respected the character of a firm and virtuous public officer, and who abhorred that of a dastardly traitor to the trust reposed in him." Reader, put them upon your imagination! And behold the repeated tributes which have been given of this country, by the public tributes which have been offered to his merit.

Having remained some time in Congress, Mr. J. was associated with Dr. Franklin and Mr. Adams, on an embassy to Europe, the object of which is generally known (see Journals of Congress). This appointment he thought proper to decline soon after he was nominated foreign Minister, but whilst preparing to set sail at Annapolis, he was stopped by certain events, which rendered his mission of no avail. Next he was appointed successor to the illustrious Franklin, at the Court of Versailles. In this difficult and delicate appointment, he exhibited a deportment highly honourable to his country and satisfactory to his government, while in those days, "when certain stars shot madly from their spheres," he preserved his principles pure and unspotted, amidst the intrigues of the most corrupt court in Europe. Even at the footstool of the throne he preserved the attitude of dignity, and spoke the language of truth.

When he returned to his native state, the Virginia Legislature was in session. Immediately it passed a resolution, congratulating him on his safe arrival, and thanking him for his services while he was abroad. But what makes this non-uratic tribute of affection and respect more worthy of remembrance, is that it was conveyed to Mr. J. by some who have since appeared among the most inveterate enemies of his person and his politics; men who have themselves postulated from their ancient principles, and have forfeited all claim to our gratitude for their former firmness; men who now affect to believe those very aspersions which if they had been true, must have been well known to them when the courtly and immaculate Henry Lee presented the following Resolution:

"In the House of Delegates, Monday December 7th, 1789, on motion made: Resolved, that a committee be appointed to congratulate late Thomas Jefferson, Esq. late Minister Plenipotentiary from the United States to the Court of Versailles, on his return to his native country, and to assure him of the esteem which the House of Representatives bear for his tried character and public services." And a committee was appointed of Messrs. Randolph, Mr. Hojkin, Mr. Cobin, Mr. Dawson, Mr. Ed. Carrington, Mr. King, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Strother, Mr. W. Cabell, jun. and Mr. Nicholas. On the 9th W. Lee informed the House that duty had been performed, and answer returned which was reported to the house."

Extract from the Journals. JNO. STEWART, C. H. D. Mr. Jefferson was not long permitted to enjoy the pleasures of retirement when he was appointed by

Gen. Washington Secretary of state. In this office, the most important and confidential under the government, he continued twelve months longer than he had stipulated, retiring at last against the wishes of that illustrious man. Of this fact the offer of an appointment to Spain in no long time after, remains an indubitable proof. But in the very bosom of his retirement, Mr. Jefferson was not forgotten by his friends. Even now the federalists boast, that he was afterwards excluded from the confidence of Washington. Even now they tell us in the proud spirit of contrast, that it was wholly transferred to their favorite Hamilton, to that pious and penitent christian, who after having been always represented "pure as snow and chaste as ice," was compelled by the terrors of a death bed conscience to acknowledge and abjure the infidelity of his life. But though exiled from the affections of the illustrious of his country, by the insidious intrigues of the X. Y. and Z's of the cabinet, and though assailed by the clamorous hirelings of a domestic faction and a foreign cabinet, Mr. Jefferson was not less shown of the reputed merits of his life nor the merited confidence of the people. Like the thrice purified gold of the chemists, he passed through the fiery furnace more pure and effulgent than ever. At length he was selected by the Republicans of the union, to discharge the duties of the Vice-President. During the four years which he presided over the Senate of the United States, he was not an idle observer of the scene before him. He established a laudable uniformity in the proceedings of that body and in the decisions of the chair; digested all the usages of similar assemblies, and compiled a Manual of Parliamentary Practice, which has been adopted in all the deliberate bodies of the union, which has become the basis of all their proceedings, and will remain an honorable and lasting monument of his learning, industry and unquenchable attachment to the institutions of his country. On the ensuing election, he was promoted to the high office of President of the United States, and so admirable were the measures of his administration, so consequent to the interests and opinions of the people, that he was once more elected, and by a majority which no other citizen in the Union could possibly command. And yet will it be believed that these various pledges of public confidence would have been repeated, had Mr. J's conduct been dictated by "timidity," had he been a "dastardly traitor to the trust reposed in him," had he been guilty of such "monstrous atrocity, such diabolical turpitude, of such extensively continued, and deliberate villainy as defies the strongest language" even of Mr. Turner's "pen?" Can such ridiculous tales as these stand up against the common sense of the American nation? Yet with all these suppositious facts staring them in the face, with all this dreadful clamor thundering in their ears, they have committed the dignity of this beloved country to the auspices of Mr. Jefferson, and by him will it be restored in all its original splendor to the fountain from which it flowed.

GENERAL EATON, Lately appointed commander in chief of the forces of the exiled Tripoline monarch, Hamet Bashaw, is a Green Mountain Boy. He was appointed a Captain in the Western army of the United States, about the year 1791, and recruited a company at Bennington. In our army he rose no higher than the rank of Captain. During the latter part of the administration of President Washington, he was appointed Consul at Tunis, in which important station he supported the interests of his country with zeal and ability. When Commodore Morris was at Malta, he was appointed to by a Maltese blacksmith of the name of Bussitil, styling himself Consul and agent of his excellency Sidi Homet Caramalli, the first born of Tripoli, to assist

in placing his master on the throne occupied by his brother. The proposal was that the United States should advance 50,000 dollars, 20,000 stand of arms, and a quantity of gun-powder, and co-operate with their whole force in the Mediterranean; promising that if successful, the new Bashaw would make peace with the United States. Commodore Morris did not think himself authorized to accept this proposal. A correspondence afterwards passed upon this subject between Mr. Eaton, and Mr. Madison, Secretary of State. Mr. Eaton eventually advanced a considerable sum of the public money for this object; a committee of Congress reported in favour of his general conduct in his consulship. The project has since been sanctioned by government, and Mr. Eaton commissioned to co-operate with the exiled Bashaw.

Tavern and Boarding-House, FAYETTEVILLE. JAMES BAKER Begs leave to return Thanks to his Friends and the Public in general, for the very liberal Encouragement he has experienced since he opened a Tavern in this place, respectfully informs them that he has taken that late commodious Brick House, formerly occupied by Mr. Dick, near the Bridge, to which he will remove on the 1st of October next, where he will have in his power to accommodate Travellers of every description in a much more comfortable manner than heretofore; his Stable can take fifty Horses, and has a Shed adjoining for Carriages. He will always be supplied with the greatest variety of choice Spirits, Wine, Porter, &c. &c. The Stables shall always be provided with Corn, Oats and all kinds of Forage, and Servants whose Attention may be required; Public Dinners and Banquets furnished at a short Notice, with every variety that can be procured, and on moderate Terms. An excellent Billiard Table in a large Room, with a Fire-place and good Maces, Cues and Balls, and proper attention paid. N. B. A few more genteel Boarders may be accommodated. Fayetteville, September 7, 1835.

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

For Sale A HOUSE and Lot at the University, situated on a high and pleasant part of the Village. In the House is one Room below, and two above Stairs. The Lot contains two Acres, and has on it a Kitchen, Smokehouse, Storehouse & Stable, all new; is well shaded with Trees, and has a Cellar prepared for enlarging the Dwelling House. For further information enquire of the Printer, or Subscriber. JOSEPH CALDWELL. University July 29, 1835.

I hereby caution all Persons whatsoever from trusting any amate Being on my account, as I am determined to pay no other Engagements than my own, unless it is perfectly agreeable. Wm. Pannell. Oxford, N. C. Sept. 8, 1835.

NOTICE. Will be sold to the highest Bidder, On Wednesday the 20th of November next, at the late Dwelling-house of Abraham Bass, deceased, ALL the Estate of said Decedent, not before given away, consisting of the Plantation containing about 2500 Acres of Land, well improved with Houses, Gardens, &c. Ten likely Negroes, consisting of Men, Women and Children; all the Stock of Cattle and Hogs, Household and Kitchen Furniture, with the Crop of Corn, Fodder, Brandy and Cotton. Twelve Months Credit will be given the Purchaser he giving Bond with approved Security. The Executors. Nash County, N. C. Sep. 16, 1835.

FOOLSCAP & LETTER PAPER For sale at ALES'S Store.