## POETRY.

Like orient pearls at random strung.

FOR THE RALEIGH REGISTER.

*Raleigh, Nov.* 18, 1823.

GENTLEMEN—I spent a night not long since in a small village of an adjoining county, and was much disturbed by the wild ravings of an unfortunate maniac, who is confined in the county jail, and doomed there to spend the approaching winter. Oh that our Legislature would take some steps for the relief of such poor suffering mortals.

The above circumstance has given rise to your receiving the foregoing lines. If you think proper you can publish them in your paper. A SUBSCRIBER.

### THE RUINS.

I've seen at twilight's pensive hour,
The moss-clad dome; the mould'ring tower,
In awful ruins stand;
That dome where grateful voices sung,
That tower whose chiming music rung
Majestically grand.

I've seen mid sculptur'd pride the tomb,
Where heroes slept, in silent gloom,
Unconscious of their fame:
Those who with laurel'd honours crown'd,
Among their foes spread terror round,
And gained an early name.

I've seen in death's dark palace laid,
The ruins of a beauteous maid,
Cadaverous and pale:
That maiden, who while life remain'd,
O'er rival charms in triumph reign'd,
The mistress of the vale.

I've seen where dungeon's damps abide,
A youth, admir'd in manhood's pride
In fancied greatness rave;
He who in reasons happier day,
Was virtuous, witty, noble, gay—
Learn'd, generous and brave.

Nor dome, nor tower, nor twilight's shade,
Nor hero fallen; nor beauteous maid—
To ruins all consign'd—
Can with such pathos touch the breast,
As on the Maniac's form impress'd,
The ruins of a noble mind.

ALONZO.

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

### SENATE.

FRIDAY, NOV. 28.

Mr. Pearsall presented the following Resolution: That a select committee be appointed to enquire into the expediency of altering the Inspection Laws of this State: and that they have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

Which was agreed to, and Messrs. Pearsall, Burges, Baker, Cox, and Beasley were appointed the committee.

Mr. Burges presented the petition of sundry inhabitants of Halifax county, on the subject of building a toll-bridge over the Roanoke River at the town of Halifax: Also a bill to carry the prayer of the petitioners into effect—which was read the first time and passed.

Mr. Graves presented the petition of Sarah Pennix, of Surry county, praying that the property she now has or may acquire, be secured to her. Referred to the Committee of Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Cameron, the Senator from Orange, obtained leave of absence till Monday next.

Mr. Whitfield presented the following Resolution, viz: That the Board of Internal Improvements instruct our State Engineer to survey and lay off the route for a Canal from the Falls of Neuse River to Swift Creek Bridge, or any point on or near the said Creek or River, or any intersecting streams; make out a plan and estimate of the probable cost, the practicability of cutting the same, and report to the next General Assembly: also, to report the practicability and expense of rendering the river navigable by Locks and Dams, with the views of the Engineer upon both projects.

This Resolution, on motion of Mr. M'Leod, was laid on the table.

Mr. Bryan presented a Bill to amend an act to provide for children born after the making of their parent's will—which was read the first time, and referred to a select committee consisting of Messrs. Bryan, Gibbs, Albritton and Callaway.

Mr. Wilson presented a resolution instructing the Committee of Claims to take into consideration the claims of a portion of the Militia of Carteret county, called into the service of the State in the year 1821.

Mr. Wilson also presented the petition of John H. Hill, Colonel of the Carteret Militia, praying an allowance for services rendered in 1821, in a detachment called out to suppress an insurrection of slaves and free persons of color in said County.

On motion of Mr. Love, a message was sent to the House of Commons proposing to ballot to-morrow morning at the meeting of the two Houses for a Treasurer, Comptroller, and Secretary of State, and nominated for those offices the present incumbents.

The engrossed bill to repeal in part the 4th section of an act passed in 1806, to revise the Militia Laws of this State relative to the Artillery Companies of Light Infantry, Grenadiers and Riflemen, was read the third time and sent to the House of Commons for concurrence.

The bill for the better regulation of the Town of Windsor in Bertie county, passed its 3d reading.

The bill to amend an act concerning proving of Wills &c. was rejected on its second reading.

The following bills were presented:

By Mr. Seawell, a bill to regulate the practice in the several Courts of Equity in this State.

Mr. Phifer, a bill directing in what manner the laws of our sister states shall be received in evidence in this state; and

Mr. Harrell, a bill to repeal an act passed in 1822, to encourage the apprehension of runaway slaves in the Great Dismal Swamp—which were read the first time.

SATURDAY, NOV. 29.

Mr. Forney, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, to whom was referred the petition of Elizabeth Wilkins, of Burke county, praying for a divorce from her husband, reported a bill to that effect.

A message was received from the H. of Commons, proposing to ballot immediately for Governor, and nominating for the appointment Gabriel Holmes—Agreed to.

A joint select committee was formed to superintend the public buildings and the expenditures of appropriations thereon: on the part of the House of Commons, Messrs. Taylor, Clancy, McLean, Sellers, and Martin, were appointed; and on the part of the Senate, Messrs. Cox, Wall, Speight, Marsh & Marshall.

Mr. Peebles, the Senator from Northampton, obtained leave of absence until Thursday next.

Mr. Hill, of Franklin, from the committee to whom was referred the Resolution relative to an amendment of the Judiciary system, so far as regards the Circuit Courts, reported a bill to amend and extend an act passed in 1806, for the more convenient administration of justice within this State, by providing relief for the counties in which suits in their Superior Courts of Law and Equity, have or may so accumulate, that they cannot be tried at the regular terms of those Courts—Read the first time.

The bill authorizing the building of a Toll Bridge over Roanoke River, at the town of Halifax, passed its third reading.

MONDAY, DEC. 1.

Mr. Williams, from the balloting committee for Governor, reported that Gabriel Holmes was duly elected.

Mr. Wellborn presented a bill to amend an act to extend and improve the two roads leading from Wilkesborough to the Tennessee line, so far as respects the appointment of commissioners; also a bill to amend an act to appoint commissioners to view and lay off a road leading across the mountain from Wilkesborough to Mrs. Bogle's, in Iredell country—which were read the first time, and the latter referred to the committee of Internal Improvements.

Mr. M'Leod presented a bill to repeal the latter clause of the 8th and the whole of the 9th, 10th, and 11th sections of an act passed in 1822, to promote Agriculture and Family Domestic Manufactures in this State. Read the first time and referred to the committee on Agriculture.

The bill to divorce Elizabeth Wilkins, of Burke, from her husband, passed its 3d reading.

Mr. Hill presented a bill to legitimate Sarah Smith, of Stokes. Read the first time.

The engrossed bill for the relief of Ed. Owen, was read the second time. Mr. Seawell moved to amend the same by adding the following section:

"And be it further enacted, That all and every person heretofore convicted of the crime of petit larceny in this State, be and is hereby restored to credit in the same manner as if he, she or they had never been convicted of any crime."

Mr. Speight called for the Yeas and Nays on the adoption of this amendment, which were Yeas 2—Nays 55. The bill was then read the third time and ordered to be engrossed. It is therefore a law.

The engrossed bill concerning Michael Rymer, of Rowan, was also read the 3d time and ordered to be enrolled. It is therefore a law.

The bill to regulate the practice in the several Courts of Equity in this State, was read the third time and ordered to be engrossed.

### HOUSE OF COMMONS.

FRIDAY, NOV. 28.

Mr. Mebane from the Committee to whom was referred that part of the Governor's Message which relates to reservation of lands which certain Cherokee Indians claim under the provisions of the treaties concluded at the Cherokee Agency on the 8th of July 1817, and at Washington City on the 27th day of February 1819, within the limits of this state, reported a Bill respecting said reservations; which was read the first time.

Messrs. Fisher and Henderson, were appointed a Committee on Enrolled Bills.

Mr. Beall presented the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That a select committee be appointed to enquire into the expediency of repealing the act of 1815, providing for the election of Electors to vote for a President and Vice President of the United States by a general ticket; and in lieu thereof to restore the district principle of electing Electors for the same purpose: And that the committee have leave to report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. *Alston* said, this was a question of principle which might as well be brought before the House at once, as the House would, at last, have to decide the question. He should, therefore, oppose this Resolution which proposes to refer the matter to a committee.

Mr. *Stanly* thought the House frequently erred in coming directly to the decision of questions of importance without going into a previous enquiry into the expediency of the object proposed. It was the practice of most Legislative Bodies first to make this enquiry, and if the measure proposed be deemed expedient, a bill to effect the object is introduced. This appeared to him a correct mode of proceeding. Regarding the present Resolution, he thought it would be well to make it the order for some certain day. On this subject, however, and on every other in relation to general politics, he had an opinion, which he was always prepared to give. He was not disposed to flatter any man, but to speak freely, regardless of the consequences. Respecting Elections, if there were any corruptions on earth to be peculiarly guarded against, they were such as might injure the right of election—and on this foundation our country had attained the pinnacle of the highest glory, and become the admiration of the world.

Mr. S. recollected to have heard a sentiment expressed when a boy, which then greatly shocked him, but the truth of which he had since believed to have witnessed on some occasions—that "Monarchies govern by *force*, Republics by *fraud*."

By the general ticket, what interest do the people take in the election of a President of the United States? Look at the returns of the three last elections. How many votes were given in the whole State? Not, he would venture to say, 6,000 out of 60,000.—And yet, he asked, is there a subject on which freemen ought to be more alive? Do not our lives, our liberty, our all, depend upon the right administration of our General Government? Yet you have cunningly devised a system by which the freemen of the country are deprived of their influence—they know nothing of the men proposed to be elected as Electors, and they therefore feel no interest in the election.

But by the general ticket, it is said, we give the State its proper weight in the election of a President. The eastern and western divisions of the State differ materially in their interests. The east export naval stores, corn, lumber and cotton—to one market: the west drive their beef to Augusta. Where, then, is the propriety of our acting together upon the choice of President? We are told the State is benefited by it. How? Is it that citizens of the State may share the loaves and fishes? If this be the motive, it is a base one. I spurn it. Let us look for what we are entitled to from the General Government, on the ground of our merits; not on account of our giving to the President our 15 undivided votes.

But how have we succeeded in our calculation? Look at the State of Delaware, sometimes called the little Republic of St. Marino, and you will find that she receives more attention from the General Government, than the State of North-Carolina. We are, said Mr. S. mere Puppits moved at the command of some Jugglers who hold the wire behind the curtain.

The Eastern part of the State, he said, were cursed with a large slave population, the possession of which, gives a considerable addition to the number of our votes for electors.—The people of the west have fewer slaves; the curse bears more lightly on them; the price of the increased number of electors is paid by the East, why then should we not have them? Yet although we ought to have, by federal numbers, half the Electors; though every man in the East should unite in support of one man or one ticket, under the present general ticket law, the west exceeding us in the number of votes, can elect the whole.—The East loses all weight in the election. This sacrifice of right was once made on the altar of party—its necessity does not exist, it is unjust and should be abolished.

In his view, Mr. S. said, the fairest possible mode of electing Electors, was, to lay off the State in districts, let every district have his Elector, and every man his vote.

But by the mode of electing by general ticket, how is the ticket agreed upon? A few men at Washington, unknown to us, not trusted by us, debarred by the Constitution from the trust, Traitors to the Constitution, form what they call a Caucus, and tell us who shall be the President. Our State Legislature, acting "like master, like man," go into a caucus too, and determine who shall be Electors. There is not, said Mr. S. a greater fraud upon the Constitution, a greater curse, or more dangerous invasion of the rights of the people, than this Caucus System.

My opinion is, that the law providing for the election of Electors by general ticket ought to be repealed, and every thing which gives countenance to Caucuses should be put down. I would prefer the District System; but if that cannot be got, I would be in favor of giving the Legislature the power of appointing Electors; for as an Election of the Legislature would take place before the Electors would be appointed, the people would have it in their power to elect such persons to seats as would faithfully represent them. He hoped the Resolution would for the present be permitted to lie on the table.

Mr. *B. Brown* concurred in opinion with the gentleman from Newbern, that the Resolutions ought to lie on the table, and be made the order for some distant day. The subject was too important to be decided without consideration. He moved that it be made the order of the day for Wednesday next.

Both motions were agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Polk, a message was sent to the Senate proposing to ballot immediately for a solicitor for the 6th Judicial Distict, and stating that Jos. Wilson and Hugh M. Stokes are in nomination for that appointment. This message was not concurred in by the Senate.

Mr. Blackledge presented the petition of sundry inhabitants of Beaufort County praying to be exempted from serving as Jurors.

Mr. Clement presented the petition of Wm. Neale of Rowan County praying for leave to erect a Gate on a public road running through his lands—These petitions were referred to the Committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Stanly presented a memorial from the Society of Friends, at their yearly meeting, held at New Garden, in Guilford, on the 11th inst. praying that measures may be taken to ameliorate the condition of Slaves.—Referred to Messrs. Stanly, Ward, Blackledge, Pugh and Love.

Mr. Stanly presented the petition of sundry inhabitants of the county of Davidson, respecting the location of the seat of Justice in said county—Referred to the committe on Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Fisher presented the petition of the Executors of Andrew Caldcleugh, late of Rowan, praying that certain negroes, mentioned in said petition, be emancipated agreeably to the wish and direction of the Testator—Referred to the Committee on Propositions and Grievances.

Mr. Melcher presented a Bill to amend an act passed in 1819 relative to the apprehension of run-away slaves.

Mr. Williamson presented a Bill prescribing the duty of Constables and other officers in certain cases; which was read the first time. [This bill directs Constables to return warrants in the district wherein they are issued.]

Mr. Stanly from the Judiciary Committee to whom was referred the resolution instructing them to enquire into the propriety of amending the Laws providiug for Widows, reported a bill to amend said laws—which bill was read the first time.

SATURDAY, NOV. 29.

Mr. ALSTON offered the following Resolution:

*Resolved*, That the Public Treasurer be directed to lay before this House, a particular account and statements of the Receipts and Disbursements of the Board of Internal Improvement for the two years past, up to the first day of this month (November.)

A motion was made that the resolution lie for the present on the table.

When the Reporter entered the Hall, Mr. Alston was giving his reasons for introducing this Resolution; which were, as far as he could collect them, that the Reports made by the Public Treasurer had not been sufficiently particular; that he had stated so much money paid to this person, and so much to that, without saying for what precise object. He wanted to know the particular object to which every sum of money paid out by the Treasurer was applied, and he said this was not only his wish, but it was the wish of many of his friends in the Legslature, as well as of the people whom he represented.

Mr. FISHER observed, that the gentleman from Halifax had, in his usual conciliatory way, consented that his Resolution should lie on the table. For his part, he would rather it should be taken up and at once rejected; as he believed it was intended to reflect on one of the best men in the community, and one of the most correct officers under this or any other government.—The gentleman had said, that the Public Treasurer had not complied with the law in making his Report to the Legislature in relation to the funds appropriated to Internal Improvements. This charge, said Mr. F. was altogether unfounded. The Treasurer had complied with the strict letter of the law, as he had reported the amount of every sum received and paid on account of the Board, which was all he was required to do. Did the Gentleman expect that the Treasurer was to report every particular expence incurred, did he wish to be informed how much the Engineer, when travelling, paid for his dinner or supper; or how much each particular survey had cost the Board All the Treasurer had to do with the fund appropriated for this purpose, was to receive and keep it, until regularly drawn out by the Board. If the gentleman wants to know the particular expenditures of the Board, he ought not to call on the Treasurer, but on the Board for them. Indeed, he believed these particulars were reported to the House on a call at last session; and if the gentleman would take the trouble of examining the files of the House, he would probably find them.

The General Assembly had not yet received the annual Report of the Board for Internal Improvements.—When that was made, it would probably contain the information which the gentleman required; if not, he might call for such other particulars as he wanted. He saw no necessity for this Resolution, and should be glad, therefore, to see it rejected.

Mr. IREDELL would be glad if the gentleman from Halifax would inform the House how the Treasurer could get at the information which is now called for. He knows only that the money has been drawn from him by the proper authority; and there is nothing in the act creating the Board for Internal Improvements which directs the President, in drawing his warrants, to state the objects for which he, from time to time, draws money from the Treasury. The Treasurer is vested with no discretion. Whenever a warrant is presented to him, signed by the Governor, as President of the Board, and countersigned by the Secretary, he has no choice but to pay the money. The Report of the Treasurer states what money he has received from the sales of the Cherokee lands and from the dividends arising from the State's Bank Stock on one side of his account, and an the other recites the sums he has paid, and to whom, and any man who is acquainted with the first rules of Arithmetic may satisfy himself as to any enquiry he could make. But if not, application can be made directly to the Board, they keep regular accounts, and can give any other particulars which may be desired.

But it seemed to be the wish of the gentleman from Halifax to pass a vote of censure on the Treasurer. Mr. I. had supposed that the result of the investigation which that gentleman had instituted some years ago into the official conduct of this venerable Officer, would have satisfied him. A committee, of which he was himself Chairman, after a very full examination, not only exonerated the Treasurer from the charges alleged against him, but very highly eulogised him, and contained the most severe censures on those concerned in instituting the enquiry; and his Report was signed by the gentleman himself. He had supposed, therefore, that he would not so soon have been desirous of another enquiry.

Mr. I. hoped the Resolution would lie on the table until the Report of the Board of Internal Improvement was received; and if that shall not be found satisfactory, he would support a call on the Board for such information as might be judged necessary.

The motion for laying the Resolution on the table was carried.

Mr. Strange obtained leave of absence until Saturday next.

Mr. Iredell who voted in the majority for the indefinite postponement of the Bill for the relief of David Blalock of Orange county, moved for the reconsideration of the vote. The vote was re-considered, and the bill passed its first and second readings.

Mr. Ward from the Committee appointed to conduct the balloting for a Treasurer, Comptroller, and Secretary reported that John Haywood was elected Treasurer, Joseph Hawkins Comptroller, and Wm. Hill Secretary.

Mr. Blackledge from the Committee of Propositions and Greviances, to whom was referred the petition of the Executors of Andrew Caldcleugh late of Rowan County, reported a bill favorable to the prayer of the petitioner—which passed its first and second readings.

☞ *Proceedings continued on 2d page.*

### CIRCUIT COURT.

This Court convened at 10 o'clock yesterday morning and proceeded with the trial of JOHN EMMONHEISER, arraigned for robbing the U. S. mail and putting in jeopardy the life of the mail carrier. REVERDY JOHNSON, Esq. addressed the Jury on the part of the prisoner, and was followed on the same side by U. S. HEATH, Esq. When Mr. Heath concluded, at three o'clock, the Court adjourned and convened again at five. The pleadings were then closed by ELIAS GLENN, Esq. District Attorney. At 8 o'clock Judges DUVALL and BLAND delivered separate charges to the Jury, who then retired to their room. It is here proper to remark that the indictment consisted of four distinct counts, viz:

The *first* count charged the prisoner with the robbery of the Mail by the use of dangerous weapons, and putting the driver's life in jeopardy. The *second* count charged the prisoner with the robbery of the mail, containing letters, packages, &c. by putting the driver's life in jeopardy. The *third* count charged the prisoner with the simple robbery of the mail. The *fourth* count charged the prisoner with the robbery of the mail, by putting the life of the mail *guard* in jeopardy.

The Jury were absent about one hour, when they returned a verdict of GUILTY of the third count, and NOT GUILTY of the first, second, and fourth counts of the indictment. The verdict thus subjects the prisoner to the punishment of imprisoment only.

[American 10th ult.

[He has been sentenced for 10 years.]