



Carborough,

SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 1827.

This number closes the third volume of the "Free Press"—the first of its publication in this place. We embrace this opportunity to render to its patrons our unfeigned thanks for the encouragement which it has received, and to assure them of our determination to exert to the utmost the slender abilities we possess, to render it worthy of their support. The enquiry has frequently been made, whether an enlargement of our paper would not ensure it a greater extent of patronage—when we look at the difficulties with which similar establishments in this section of the State are confessedly struggling, and their occasional transfers and suspensions, we cannot but hesitate to increase our expenses with the prospect merely of a *probable* increase of income. We have to exercise at present the most rigid economy to avoid embarrassment—we have but little to lose, and feel no inclination to jeopardize the property of others, well knowing that a failure in such cases is generally attributed to "extravagance, incapacity, or indiscretion." In common with the generality of mankind, we are anxious to extend our business to the utmost limit, and would be much gratified to see the Free Press make its appearance on a sheet of superior dimensions—from the support already extended to us, which we trust will be continued and increased, we feel assured that at the close of the ensuing volume we will be enabled to present the Free Press to its patrons in an enlarged and improved form.

We would suggest to those unacquainted with newspaper usages, that it is not customary to renew subscriptions at the expiration of the year—it is presumed that they will continue, unless a notification to the contrary is given, which can be effected personally at the ensuing Courts, or through the medium of the Postmaster at whose office they receive their papers.

We expect to attend Halifax County Court, on Monday next, anticipating renewed assurances of support from our old friends and patrons in that vicinity.

Congressional Elections.—The votes recently taken in the several counties in this district for a Representative in Congress, were to be compared at Washington on Thursday last—we have not received the official returns of all the counties, but we are creditably informed that *T. H. Hall* is elected by a majority of about 300 votes.

We understand that *Willis Alston* is re-elected, without opposition, in the Halifax district.

ELECTION RETURNS.

Halifax County.—We understand that *Isham Matthews* is re-elected, without opposition, to the *Senate*. *Geo. E. Spruill* and *Wm. E. Shine*, *Commons*. *Jesse A. Bynum* for the town of Halifax. [We will give the official statement in our next paper.]

Martin.—*Joseph Williams*, no opposition, *S.* *Gabriel Stewart* and *Jesse Cooper*, *C.* State of the poll: *Stewart*, 424; *Cooper*, 395; *John Ward*, 202.

Bertie.—*George Askew*, *S.* *Thomas Speller* and *Joseph D. White*, *C.* State of the poll for *Commons*: *Speller*, 360; *White*, 291; *Joseph Whatford*, 286; *H. Sessums*, 274; *P. Tyler*, 194.

A reply "to Sampson Snakeroot" in our next.

We would with pleasure aid "A Citizen," in correcting any abuses that may exist in society; but where they are particularly specified, and instances adduced, we must either be knowing to the

facts, or have a responsible reference, before we present them to the public.

Thunder Storm.—Our readers will find on the last page, a minute description of a thunder storm in this vicinity, on Tuesday of last week. We understand that *Mr. Isaac Norfleet*, living within a few miles of this place, lost three horses in the same storm, which were killed by lightning.

The Rev. *WM. E. BELLAMY* will preach at *Hardaway's* meeting-house, in this county, on the fourth Sunday (26th) of this month.—*Com.*

Gen. Jackson and Mr. Clay.—We present to our readers, *Gen. Jackson's* rejoinder to *Mr. Clay*. The name of the individual who made the proposition is now before the public, and his statement will be looked for with impatience. We regret that our limits will not permit us to insert all we receive, that has a direct bearing on the subject—disclosures are accumulating: At a public dinner at *Hamburg, S. C.* on the 2d ult. *Mr. M'Duffie* addressed the company, and in his remarks said, "I know that he (*Mr. Clay*) prevailed upon some of the Western members, who had made up their minds to obey the will of their constituents by voting for *Gen. Jackson*, to vote for *Mr. Adams*."

From the *Nashville Republican*.

To the Public.—A letter addressed by me to *Mr. Carter Beverly*, of *Virginia*, has lately without any consent, agency, or wish on my part, found its way into the newspapers, accompanied by a statement over the signature of *H. Clay*, contradicting and denying, not any thing I have written, but that which he himself makes me to say. It is not the interpretation given by him to my letter, but my own statement, that I am called upon to defend, and expect to vindicate.

To explain the manner in which my opinions have found their way in the journals of the day, seems, in the first place, to be due both to the public and myself. *Mr. Beverly* being on a visit at my house, requested to know of me, other gentlemen being present, whether the overtures heretofore imputed to *Mr. Clay* were well founded, and if I had a knowledge of any of the facts myself. I answered him candidly; being unable, as well as unwilling, to refuse telling things I had heard, and knew to be true. A letter detailing our conversation, shortly afterwards obtained publicity in the "*North-Carolina Journal*," printed at *Fayetteville*. On the 15th of *May* last, from *Louisville, Kentucky*, a communication was addressed to me by *Mr. Beverly*, stating, what before I had not known, that he was the writer of this *Fayetteville Letter*. He explained the reasons for his having repeated the conversation, and requested to be informed if in any thing he had misquoted or misconceived my meaning. Under such circumstances, concealment and silence might have seemed mere affectation, or indeed something of a different and even worse character. Publicity having been given to the conversation, and an appeal made to me for its accuracy, I felt it to be due to *Mr. Beverly*, that nothing of fabrication should be imputed to him, and myself that what I had stated should be correctly understood. Accordingly, on the 6th of *June*, and in reply to his of the 15th of

May, I addressed him a letter of which the public are already possessed. How, and by what means, it found its way into the columns of a newspaper, *Mr. Beverly* has explained: he states to me that he gave it into the hands of *Mr. Noah Zane*, of *Wheeling, Va.* at his earnest request, for perusal under a pledge of honor that it should be returned; and with no expectation that any copy of it was to be retained; that on his applying for, and demanding the letter, it was refused to be restored until two copies should be made. He proceeds to say:

"*Mr. Zane*, an old and most respectable gentleman, asked the loan of your letter as a favor; and, contrary to all custom and propriety in such cases, he, in conjunction with *Mr. Clay* and his friends, took copies of it, without my knowledge or privity in any way, and without asking my leave to do so. Soon as I understood that such was the use they were making of it, I demanded of *Mr. Noah Zane* the letter, and remonstrated against the unprecedented course they were taking. He refused to restore it to me, most peremptorily, until they had satisfied themselves by furnishing to *Mr. Clay* one copy and reserving another for their own use."

The original conversation referred to, and the above extract of a letter from *Mr. Beverly* at *Wheeling*, dated 25th of *May*, are presented to show that I have not, as is charged, "placed myself in the attitude of a public accuser," and that whatever publicity has been given to this transaction, has arisen from no agency or procurement of mine; and that *Mr. Clay*, in fact, has himself held the matter up to public gaze. In doing this, he should have quoted what I had written accurately and fairly; for then, the text and his commentary would have suited together; at present his contradiction is a something suggested by himself, and is not contained in my letter.

The statement contained in my letter is this: That in *January, 1825*, a member of Congress, of high respectability, visited me one morning and observed—"he had been informed by the friends of *Mr. Clay*, that the friends of *Mr. Adams* had made overtures to them, saying, if *Mr. Clay* and his friends would unite in the aid of the election of *Mr. Adams*, *Mr. Clay* should be the *Secretary of State*; that the friends of *Mr. Adams* were urging, as a reason to accede to this proposition, that if I was elected *President*, *Mr. Adams* would be continued *Secretary of State*, (inuendo, there would be no room for *Kentucky*;) that the friends of *Mr. Clay* stated, the *West* did not wish to separate from the *West*, and if I would say, or permit any of my confidential friends to say, that in case I was elected *President*, *Mr. Adams* should not be continued *Secretary of State*, by a complete union of *Mr. Clay* and his friends, they would put an end to the *Presidential* contest in one hour; and he was of opinion it was right to fight such intriguers with their own weapons."

This disclosure was made to me by *Mr. James Buchanan*, a member of Congress from *Pennsylvania*, a gentleman of the first respectability and intelligence. The evening before, he had communicated substantially, the same proposition to *Major Eaton*, my colleague in the *Senate*, with a desire warmly manifested that he should communicate with me, and ascertain my views on the subject. This he declined doing, suggesting to *Mr. Buchanan* that he, as well as himself, could converse with me, and ascertain my opinion; though, from his knowledge of me, he thought he could well conjecture my answer—that I would enter into no engagements whatever. It was the morning succeeding this interview, after *Major Eaton* had objected to converse with me on the subject, and before I had set out from my lodging for the capitol, that *Mr. B.* came to visit me, and when the conversation I have stated took place. The answer returned has already been published, and need not here be repeated.

To be thus approached by a gentleman of *Mr. B.'s* high character and standing, with an apology proffered at the time for what he was about to remark to me—one who, as I understood, had always to that moment, been on familiar and friendly terms with *Mr. Clay*, assuring me that on certain terms and conditions being assented to on my part, then, "by an union of *Mr. C.* and his friends, they would put an end to the *Presidential* contest in one hour;" what other conclusion or inference was to be made, than that he spoke by authority, either of *Mr. C.* himself or some of his confidential friends. The character of *Mr. B.* with me forbids the idea that he was acting on his own responsibility, or that, under any circumstances, he could have been induced to propose an arrangement unless possessed of satisfactory assurances, that, if accepted, it would be carried fully into effect. A weak mind would seldom or ever be thus disposed to act, an intelligent one never.

Under all the circumstances appearing at that time, I did not resist the impression that *Mr. B.* had approached me on the cautiously submitted proposition of some authorised person; & therefore, in giving him my answer, did request him "to say to *Mr. Clay* and his friends," what that answer had been. Whether the communication was made to *Mr. C.* and his friends I know not; this tho' I do know, that while the opinions and course of *Mr. C.* as to the election, were but matter of conjecture with many at and before this time, very shortly after this conversation took place, his, and his friends' opinion became forthwith matter of certainty and general knowledge. Still I have not said, nor do I now say, that the proposal made to me was "with the privity and consent," of *Mr. C.* nor either, have I said that his friends in Congress made propositions to me. These are interpretations of my letter to *Mr. B.* and not what my letter itself contains. What I have stated, are the facts of a conversation be-