

provement, we thought it best to make an effort to enlist Congress on our side. This we were so fortunate as to accomplish.—Twenty thousand dollars were accordingly appropriated. Were we not right in doing so? I am sure of one thing—that we believed we were doing for the best. This appropriation was obtained but a few days before the rise of Congress, too late to act on the bill I reported from the committee yielding the assent of Congress to the North-Carolina act.

I thank you, gentlemen, for your attention; and I will here close my remarks. Although I have not touched on a subject dear to my heart, and of vital importance, the all-absorbing subject, I can assure you that it has not arisen from a belief that it has lost any of its interest. I believe that the efficiency, the perpetuity of the elective franchise, in a word, that every thing dear to freemen depends on the issue. In conclusion, permit me to give you a sentiment:

A firm and fearless assertion and maintenance of our rights as free men and as free States; not inconsistent with the rights of others or the hallowed maxim *Epluribus Unum*—"United we stand, divided we fall."

By Dr. A. S. H. Burges. The Hon. WILLIS ALSTON, the Representative of our district in Congress: His services have been long and valuable, we greet him as an acceptable and highly respected guest.

Mr. Alston rose and said, that if the state of his health was such as to enable him to deliver an address, he would not now detain his friends, who had already been so long kept together; and, especially after the able and eloquent address just made by his distinguished and worthy fellow-citizen, Mr. Branch. He was, however, conscious that he did not possess language sufficient to express his feelings of gratitude for the polite attention which had been paid him by the citizens of Halifax. The friendly feeling just expressed towards him, and the manner in which it had been expressed, demanded his most sincere thanks.

If, indeed, his long public services, which had been noticed by his friend, had been productive of any beneficial result to his country, the company now assembled and their ancestors were entitled to all the credit; for, by their aid and support, he had been brought into, and continued in public service. From them he had uniformly received almost a unanimous vote. The highest reward ever asked by him for his public services had just been awarded by his fellow-citizens of the town of Halifax and its vicinity. In concluding his remarks he asked leave to give—

The town of Halifax: The birth-place of the Constitution of North-Carolina.

New Cotton.—A sample of new Cotton, the production of plants which continued alive throughout the last winter, and put out afresh this spring, was shown the editor of the Savannah Georgian, on the 8th July. It possessed the qualities of what is called good cotton, whiteness, fineness, and length of staple.

Political.

Mr. Clay.—There is no prominent individual at present on the political arena, who has more reason to exclaim, "save me from my friends," than Mr. Clay. But a few months since, his friends in the Senate of Kentucky instituted a partial investigation of the charge of bargain, &c. in the last Presidential election, and brought to light the declared motives which induced several of the Kentucky members to vote for Mr. Adams—and now, the "Central Committee of the friends of the Administration in Kentucky," have clinched the nail, by giving from under Mr. Clay's own hand, the perplexing interrogatories which induced his conscience to remain "most mysteriously silent," for six or eight weeks previous to the late Presidential election. What were "the hopes of the Republican party," as expressed by the friends of Mr. Crawford—or, "the anxiety we all had for a western President," as stated by the friends of Gen. Jackson—when put in the balance with the "future interests" of Mr. Clay, as urged in the pathetic appeal of the friends of Mr. Adams? Could it be expected that the republican, the patriotic, the disinterested Henry Clay would hesitate in his choice, when satisfied that his "future interests" pointed out the course he ought to pursue, longer than it was necessary to "strengthen the inclinations" of some of his friends towards Mr. Adams? It will be recollected that at the investigation above alluded to, several individuals stated that it was known in Kentucky, some time before the Presidential election, that Mr. Adams would be elected President, that Mr. Clay would be appointed Secretary of State, and that this information was derived from Mr. Blair the confidential friend and correspondent of Mr. Clay. Mr. Blair was called upon to state from whom he received this information, but he declined doing so, stating that what he knew was communicated confidentially. The Senate did not insist upon his testifying, and the subject was left open to conjecture. Recently, however, the Administration Central Committee of Kentucky addressed a note to Mr. Clay, requesting copies of his correspondence with Messrs. Blair and Kendall, for publication... instead of authorizing the publication of his correspondence with Mr. Blair, which the public were anxiously waiting for, Mr. Clay makes a violent attack on Mr. Kendall, and gives three letters from him, wholly foreign to the purpose. To show the ingenuity with which Mr. Clay gets round this friendly request of the Central Committee, we give the following extract from his reply, which is all in fact that has a direct reference to the subject:

"I preserved no copies of my letters addressed to either of those gentlemen. Mr. Blair has furnished me with copies of several of those directed to him, including that upon which I understand, a reliance is placed to establish the fact of my having made a corrupt agreement, in relation to the late Presidential election. My correspondence with that gentleman was friendly and familiar and sometimes sportive. It is characterized by a freedom of language which is occasionally, admissible in private and friendly intercourse, but which would not be decorous to the public. Mr. Blair has himself refused to exhibit the letter in question, or testify concerning its contents, upon the principle that he will not, voluntarily, consent to the violation of private correspondence. That principle must command the respect of all honorable men. So far as regards the charge against me, the publication would benefit instead of injuring me. Such is the opinion of several gentlemen

to whom I have shewn the correspondence, and such is my own. But I will not avail myself of this advantage, at the sacrifice of a principle, the preservation of which is a necessary guarantee to social confidence and intercourse. I could not, moreover, publish my own letters to Mr. Blair, without some of his, shewing the sense in which he understood mine. Although he has given me permission to publish both, he thinks they ought not to be published; and I will not, on the defiance of a profligate editor, be the first to set a mischievous example, which the other party to the correspondence has refused to establish. I must decline, therefore, authorizing the publication of our correspondence. But the Central Committee is at liberty to exhibit to the inspection of any gentleman, of any party, all such portions of it as relate to the late Presidential election, and I will do the same upon any such application being made to me."

Mr. Clay must certainly have become very indecorous of late... at the last session of Congress, his official correspondence with Mr. Cook of Illinois, was not deemed by him sufficiently decorous to be submitted to the Representatives of the people, and now the people themselves are refused his private correspondence with Mr. Blair, because, forsooth, it "would not be decorous towards the public." After the publication of this letter of Mr. Clay, however, his letters to Mr. Blair were shown to Mr. Kendall, who applied by note to the Chairman of the Committee for a copy of the one dated 8th January 1825, which as he says, "only is of material importance"... the result is given by Mr. Kendall in a letter addressed to Mr. Clay, from which we extract the following:

"The Chairman received the note with that suavity and politeness for which he is so justly distinguished, kindly remarking to my friend who bore it, that if the letters had been left in his possession, I should not have had a sight of them—much less a copy; but he finally promised to lay the application before the committee at their next meeting. As I cannot, from the feelings evinced by the Chairman, expect any thing favorable from the deliberations of the committee, I feel compelled to resort to my recollections for the substance of your letter to Mr. Blair.

Let the date be recollected—it is January 8th, 1825. You commence by giving Mr. Blair your opinion upon a work by Lord Byron which you say you have sent him—(Franked, I presume.) You then enter into the subject of the Presidential election and say, that the time has now arrived when you must begin to think seriously for whom you are to vote. You state that the friends of all the candidates entertained the opinion that on you rested the decision of the contest, and that your situation was singular and amusing. You say that the friends of the several candidates accost you in turn; that a friend of General Jackson says to you, My dear sir, my hopes are upon you—do not disappoint us—our partiality was for you next to the hero—you know the anxiety we all had for a western president: That a friend of Mr. Crawford comes and says, the hopes of the Re-

publican party are upon you; you and Mr. Crawford were the only republican candidates; had you been returned to the House, we should have concentrated our force upon you. The language of Mr. Adams' friends, you give in nearly the following words:

"A friend of Mr. Adams comes to me 'with tears in his eyes' and says—Sir, Mr. Adams has always had the greatest respect for you and the highest admiration for your talents. There is no station to which you are not equal. You were undoubtedly the second choice of New-England, and I pray you to consider whether the public good and your own future interests do not distinctly point you to the course which you ought to pursue."

You then give some reasons why Mr. Adams should be preferred to General Jackson, among which I remember only the statement that the Ohio delegation had determined to vote for Mr. Adams, the alleged want of qualification in the General, and his military propensities. You then declare distinctly, and in nearly the following words:

"My friends entertain the belief that their kind wishes towards me, will in the end, be more likely to be accomplished, by so bestowing their votes."

You then declare, that you have urged them to be governed by their views of the public good alone, and aver that you have been influenced only by that consideration. In conclusion, you use nearly the following words:

"Your Representative is inclined to concur with us in these sentiments, and as I know his respect for your opinion, I request, if you concur in our views, that you will write to him by return mail to strengthen him in his inclinations. Show this to Crittenden alone."

You say you could not publish this letter without publishing letters from Mr. Blair to shew how he understood it. This was written on the 8th of January. About the 20th he must have received it. I have stated, and he has admitted that about the 20th, he told me that Mr. Adams if elected would make you Secretary of State. Does not this shew how he understood it?

Mr. Kendall also gives an extract of a letter from Mr. White, the "representative" alluded to, in which he says:

"I do freely acknowledge; and, therefore, as I have often heretofore frankly avowed, I now state, that I voted for Mr. Adams with a view to promote Mr. Clay's future prospects for the Presidency."

From the West.—Extract of a letter to the Editor, from a gentleman recently from Halifax, dated Portage county, Ohio, 11th July, 1828:

"I have never seen such abundant crops of wheat and corn as there is now growing in this country—flour is worth by the barrel \$2 25; corn, 25 cents per bushel; and bacon, 4 cents per pound—coffee and sugar about the same as in North-Carolina.

"The Presidential question is much talked of here, and from what I can learn the people are nearly equally divided."