

DEAR SIR: I deplore with you the putrid state into which our newspapers have passed, and the malignity, the vulgarity, and mendacious spirit of those who write for them; and I enclose you a recent sample, the production of a New England Judge, as a proof of the abyss of degradation into which we have fallen. These orders are rapidly depraving the public taste, and lessening its relish for sound food. As vehicles of information, and a curb on our functionaries, they have rendered themselves useless, by forfeiting all title to belief. That this has, in a great degree, been produced by the violence and malignity of party spirit, I agree with you; and I have read with great pleasure the paper you enclosed me on that subject which I now return. It is, at the same time, a perfect model of the style of discussion which candor and decency should observe, of the tone which renders difference of opinion even amiable, and a succinct, correct, and dispassionate history of the origin and progress of party among us. It might be incorporated, as it stands, and without changing a word, into the history of the present epoch, and would give to posterity a fairer view of the times than they will probably derive from other sources. In reading it with great satisfaction, there was but a single passage where I wished a little more development of a very sound and catholic idea, a single intercalation to rest it solidly on true bottom. It is near the end of the first page, where you make a statement of genuine Republican maxims; saying, "that the People ought to possess as much political power as can possibly consist with the order and security of society." Instead of this I would say, "that the People, being the only safe depositary of power, should exercise, in person, every function which their qualifications enable them to exercise, consistently with the order and security of society, that we now find them equal to the election of those who shall be invested with their Executive and Legislative powers, and to act themselves in the Judiciary, as judges in questions of fact; that the range of their powers ought to be enlarged," etc. This gives both the reason and exemplification of the maxim you express, "that they ought to possess as much political power," &c. I see nothing to correct either in your facts or principles.

You say, that in taking General Washington on your shoulders, to bear him harmless through the Federal Coalition, you encounter a perilous topic. I do not think so; you have given the genuine history of the course of his mind through the trying scenes in which it was engaged, and of the seductions by which it was deceived, but not depraved. I think I knew General Washington intimately and thoroughly; and, were I called on to delineate his character, it should be in terms like these:

His mind was great and powerful, without being of the very first order; his penetration strong, though not so acute as that of a Newton, Bacon or Locke; and as far as he saw, no judgment was ever sounder. It was slow in operation, being little aided by invention or imagination, but sure in conclusion. Hence the common remark of his officers, of the advantage he derived from councils of war, where, bearing all suggestions, he selected whatever was best; and certainly no General I ever planned his battles more judiciously. But, if deranged during the course of the action, if any member of his plan was dislocated by sudden circumstances, he was slow in re-adjustment. The consequence was that he often failed in the field, and rarely against an enemy in station, as at Boston and York. He was incapable of fear, meeting personal dangers with the calmest unconcern. Perhaps the strongest feature in his character was the effect, to make him view me, as a theorist holding French principles of government, which would lead infallibly to licentiousness and anarchy. And to this he listened the more easily, from my known disapprobation of the British treaty. I never saw him afterwards, or these malignant insinuations should have been dissipated before his just judgment as mist before the sun. I felt, on his death, with my countrymen, that "verily great man hath fallen this day in Israel."

More time and recollection would enable me to add many other traits of his character; but why add them to you who know them well? and I cannot justify to myself a longer detention of your paper. Vale, propriae tuum, me esse tibi persuades.

TH. JEFFERSON.

The Emigrations have, this year, been fewer to the British Colonies and more to the United States than last year.

*Russia and Turkey.*—The "postscript" published in our last number, giving an account of several battles between the Turks and the Russians, proves to have been a hoax played off by some wag to astound the London stock exchange—for with a few changes of dates and names, it is a mere copy of an old official bulletin of a series of engagements between the Russians and Turks in former wars.

*Niles.*

On the 15th May the porte received the declaration of war by Russia, and on the following day the news of the passage of the Fruth. Commissioners of the divan publicly announced the declaration of war in the market-places and the mosques. At the same time an ordinance was issued for a general arming, strictly enjoining all the Mussulmans to unite for the defence of their religion and their country, and to go to the residence of the chiefs of the several quarters to receive arms. It is by these measures that the porte has answered the declaration of Russia, and it is preparing to support the contest. At the same time it has made the European ministers acquainted with its resolution, requesting them to inform their respective courts that it was going to try the fortune of arms in defence of its incontestable rights, and that it would rather perish than suffer laws to be dictated to it as long as it had arms in its hands.

To the general surprise, the tranquility of the capital has not been interrupted in this critical moment. The standard of the prophet, which is generally displayed on all declarations of war, has not yet been hoisted.

The Russians are prosecuting the war with great vigor, but have not as yet effected any important measure. At the last accounts the emperor Nicholas and the grand duke Michael, were at Ismail. All the necessary materials are being collected to lay bridges over the Danube in three places, namely—between Ismail and Tomarewa, at Gallatz, and at Oltentza, between Rudschuck and Silistra. Important military operations were expected, and the more so as the delay of eleven days had expired, which the pacha of Ibrail who declared he had no orders whatever to commit hostilities, had obtained for the purpose of procuring instructions from Constantinople.

The London papers of June 13th, state on good authority that the Turkish troops, who are disciplined in the European style, are in excellent spirits—that they go through their evolutions with a precision quite astonishing for the time, and mount guard with bayonets fixed, in true soldier-like style. The men appear to glory in the adoption of the improvements. They are dressed in trowsers, short coats, and cloth caps.

*Bucharest, May 20.*

The head-quarters of count Wittgenstein are at Hadschi Capitani, within two cannon shots of Ibrail, which is closely invested. The grand duke Michael arrived here on the 17th, the day before the artillery for the siege arrived there. The Turkish governor, being summoned to surrender the place, replied, that he did not know that the sultan his master was at war with Russia, and he could not without his orders, give up the place which was entrusted to him. Every preparation was immediately made to obtain possession as soon as possible of that important fortress, and to render the navigation of the Danube free, from Ismail to Oltentza, where a bridge is to be erected. The bombardment of the fortress of Ibrail is to commence on the 18th. The number of Russian troops at present in Walachia amounts to 50,000 men of whom 6,000 have remained at Bucharest; the others have proceeded towards Gertegevo and Oltentza, and to Little Walachia. The chief command of this corps is confided to general Roth who is collecting all the materials necessary for throwing a bridge over the river at Oltentza.

#### GRADUATES AT WEST POINT.

List of cadets who graduated at the United States institution at West Point this 4th July, 1828, with their rank in the class and the states from which they came, copied from the merit roll published by order of the academic staff.

No. 1 Albert E. Church, Connecticut. 2. Richard C. Filgian, Maryland. 3. Hugh W. Mercer, Virginia. 4. Robert E. Temple, Vermont. 5. Charles O. Collins, New York. 6. James Ivers Austin, Massachusetts. 7. Edmund French, Connecticut. 8. Joseph L. Locke, Maine. 9. George E. Chase, Massachusetts. 10. John F. Lane, Indiana. 11. William Palmer, do. 12. Thomas B. Adams, Massachusetts. 13. Robert E. Clary, Massachusetts. 14. Robert Sevier, Tennessee. 15. William W. Mather, Connecticut. 16. Eos G. Mitchell, do. 17. James F. Izard, Pennsylvania. 18. Thomas Cutts, Maine. 19. William H. Baker, Vermont. 20. James L. Thompson, Tennessee. 21. Gustavus I. Rousseau, Louisiana. 22. Benjamin W. Kingsman, Maine. 23. Jefferson Davis, Mississippi. 24. William L. E. Morrison, Illinois. 25. Samuel K. Cobb, Alabama. 26. Samuel Torrence, Ohio. 27. Amos Foster, New Hampshire. 28. Thomas Drayton, South Carolina. 29. Thomas C. Brockway, Connecticut. 30. John R. Gardner, New York. 31. Crafts J. Wright, Ohio. 32. James W. Penrose, Mississippi. 33. Philip R. Van Wyck, New Jersey.

#### A STATEMENT

Of the votes given in Dearborn county at the Annual Election, 1828.

TOWNSHIPS,	Randolph	Union	Cent.- Creek	Lancaster	Sparta	Lawrenceburg	Manchester	Xiles	Leg.	TOTAL
<i>Governor,</i>										
James B. Ray	135	74	74	112	54	154	201	36	6	840
Harbin H. Moore	89	50	14	71	63	245	31	16	9	568
Israel T. Canby	119	4	15	79	16	201	67	52	121	674
<i>Lieut. Governor,</i>										
Milton Stapp	49	33	21	40	18	61	20	18	6	275
Abel C. Pepper	292	89	81	210	115	538	269	86	130	1810
<i>Congress,</i>										
John Test	175	120	84	119	99	354	118	42	18	1129
Jonathan McCarty	164	7	22	141	34	243	175	62	118	965
<i>Senator,</i>										
John Watts	299	119	89	247	116	73	35	24	9	1013
Ezra Ferris	31	6	8	7	13	493	238	66	103	965
<i>Representatives,</i>										
George H. Dunn	95	16	8	15	34	483	226	48	36	961
James T. Pollock	245	102	101	240	121	98	25	2	86	1020
Arthur St. Clair	131	4	7	11	0	412	206	67	122	980
Horace Bassett	236	120	96	237	131	109	33	2	6	970
Samuel H. Dowden	4	1	0	6	3	307	75	74	24	494
Warren Tebbs	39	1	0	8	2	363	192	81	112	793
Davis Weaver	131	33	45	198	71	103	36	4	63	648
Thomas Guion	202	120	100	242	125	67	19	9	5	889
Joel Decourcy	152	65	43	41	21	15	2	2	2	343
Mark McCracken	6	2	0	2	0	73	129	40	52	304
Robert Rowe	2	1	0	0	0	88	54	28	12	185
Aaron Cross	0	0	0	1	0	1	29	0	0	31
<i>Sheriff,</i>										
John Spencer	174	41	38	133	26	280	172	65	113	1042
Thomas Longley	133	74	51	64	56	165	54	24	14	635
<i>For a Convention to revise the state constitution</i>										308
<i>Against it</i>										1779

*The strange combat.*—It was during the last war of this country with Great Britain, that circumstances led me to be a passenger on board one of our large merchantmen, in which I had embarked what little property I possessed; our seas were at that time covered with small privateers belonging to both belligerents, who did more injury to the commerce of both nations than the several public armed vessels of either. They almost invariably eluded the pursuit of the large frigates and ships of the line by hauling sharp on the wind when they discovered an enemy; and their peculiar schooner rig, and being built expressly for sailing, would give them a distinct advantage over their square sail enemies in beating to windward. Again, their lighter draught of water when near the shore would frequently enable them to run so close in, that they could not be attacked unless in boats; and every one who has ever read the account of the attack upon the privateer Neuchatel, by the boats of the Endymion, (I believe,) which engagement happened near Nantucket, will easily see how little force it requires to beat off boats, or sink them previous to boarding. Be these things as they may, I return to my story. We had been sailing for two days with a good breeze, though now and then it would fall, and then we sagged heavily along through a fog, almost as dense as the waters which bore us.

We were not far from our port, and our captain was willing to crowd sail right and day, as the risk of capture was superior to that of shipwreck, or disasters from a crippling of our spars. Our ship was of about 400 tons, heavily laden, and not a swift sailer. Her captain was a man of shrewd judgment, of inflexibility of purpose, and rather given to taciturnity. He was of a slight figure, gentlemanly to his equals, decided and prompt to those under him in his orders, and execution of their fulfillment. His keen dark eyes and naval officer gait, showed a kind of courage, which one would call daring, if they had watched his countenance on particular occasions. Yet at other times, he seemed to be rather the careful matinier who would reef for safety, when safety did not apparently require it. He was one of those kind of men who seemed to be inclined to bend the purposes of others to his own, while they were kept in ignorance of his views. I have seen him fix his eagle eye upon a sailor and require of him to look him steadily in the face for five minutes, and then dismiss him without a comment or reason for so doing; but I would bet my life almost that he had one.

After skimming through the mist for two days, (of which I have spoken,) I happened, to be on deck with the captain. I was in conversation with him as to the probability of reaching our port free from the enemy's cruisers. He replied with his usual brevity, "the fog and carrying sail alone will save us; I am made if we escape; if not, I am ruined." He wtaer, laying the grass and grain flat, spoke this in the same tone of voice that he would have spoken a common order.

—he looked up and said, sternly, there is a fog eater—at this moment the sun seemed to flash upon our deck, and the fog rose from the sea like the hoisting of a curtain at the Theatre—a smart breeze took us back, and before an order was given, we saw directly under our lee, a little black looking, sharp built, tall rigged, port bearing schooner, whose decks were crowded with men. "I know her ejaculated our captain; the next thing there came a ball dancing across our bows in imitation of a distracted porpoise. Our captain took the helm Mr. Denby, which was afterwards killed.

*Mad Horse!* A very distressing spectacle was witnessed yesterday morning, on Grandy street, near the Bridge, that of a horse, the property of Mr. William H. Thompson, under the influence of hydrophobia; the poor animal we learned, was in a violent paroxysm, flying first in one direction, then in the other, utterly insensible of danger. Our informant states, that the horse was bitten a short time since, by a rabid dog belonging to a sailor, and gave orders to lay to.

*Norfolk Beacon.*

*Extract of a letter from Messrs. H. Gates & Co., dated MONTREAL, July 20, 1828.*

"Since this month commenced, we have scarcely had one clear sunshiny day; on the contrary, all over this district the rain has descended in torrents, laying the low land one or two feet under water; I am made if we escape; if not, I am ruined." He wtaer, laying the grass and grain flat, spoke this in the same tone of voice that he would have spoken a common order.

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