

# Indiana Palladium.

EQUALITY OF RIGHTS IS NATURE'S PLAN—AND FOLLOWING NATURE IS THE MARCH OF MAN.—BARLOW.

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## ADDRESS

of the Administration Standing Committee to their Fellow Citizens of Indiana.

(CONCLUDED.)

It is with great reluctance that we enter upon a scrutiny of the life and character of General Jackson. We are well aware that for his military services, he merits, as he has received, a copious tribute of the nation's gratitude. We have on all occasions liberally accorded him the meed of honor due to meritorious and successful efforts in repelling the enemies of his country. The laurels won by him and his brave companions on the 8th of January, might have bloomed and flourished in perpetual verdure, had he not sought to entwine them with the civic wreath, which alone befits the brow of the accomplished statesman. He has asked at our hands more than we can afford to give. He has asked that which justice to ourselves demands we should inquire if he be worthy to receive.

Duty then, stern duty, compels us to declare, that the military achievements of Gen. Jackson have been so tarnished by acts of insubordination, tyranny and oppression, as to have made it a nice and questionable point, whether we should admire the hero or detest the man. I has been an invariable practice with him to carry the exercise of power to the extreme verge of constitutionality and legality, and where legal power was wanting, he has never hesitated to assume it. For acts of insubordination, we refer you to his repeated refusals to obey the orders of the President of the U. States, issued through the Secretary of War, and to his famous general orders, issued at Nashville in April, 1817, in which he forbids his officers and troops from obeying the orders of their government unless the orders came through him. For acts of tyranny, we need only refer to his treatment of Mr. Louallier, a member of the Legislature of Louisiana, and of Judges Hall & Lewis, wherein he plainly manifested a determination to set the civil authority at defiance, and to establish a military Dictatorship.—(See Dallas' official letter.)

In proof of insolence and a domineering, brow-beating, temper, beyond all parallel, we cite you to his letter to Gov. Rabun of Geo. "You, sir, as Governor of a State, within my military district have no right to give a military order whilst I am in the field;" and his still more intemperate and indecent language to Mr. Frothingham, a U. S. Judge in Florida. For acts of cruelty, we refer you to the execution of John Woods and the six militiamen, who died the victims of the reckless intemperance or the gross ignorance of their Commanding General.

But, fellow citizens, time and space would fail us to enumerate all the acts of arbitrary conduct in office, which have planted in our minds the irrevocable conviction, that General Jackson belongs to a class of men, who feel power, and forget right. If these things be done in the green tree, what shall be done in the dry? If we voluntarily lodge power in hands that have so often abused it, then indeed do we deserve to be the victims of tyranny and misrule. Did there exist no other evidence against the General than what has been exhibited by his public and official conduct, we should feel bound to decide, like the patriotic people of Louisiana, who recently on the very theatre of his glory, on the spot where the battle of N. Orleans opened to him the temple of immortality, by their votes declared, that, comparing his good deeds with his bad, setting his virtues in one scale & his vices in the other, the latter far outweighed the former.

But unfortunately for the General, the volume of his history contains several pages that either never were seen by Mr. senator Eaton, his biographer, or which he took the liberty to suppress: pages which implicate him deeply as a citizen, patriot, and man. We do not allude to gambling or horse racing, nor even to tavern brawls and duels, in which unless history and Senator Benton be false, he has played a conspicuous part. We mean to state that Gen. Jackson is publicly charged, in his own state, by respectable and responsible men, with having been a dealer in human flesh, for the purposes of speculation, in other words, with having been a *Negro trader*, and of having been an associate accomplice of the notorious AARON BURR! Fellow citizens, these are no trifling charges; nor are we trifling with you, when we state most solemnly, that we have seen evidence that convinces us that the charges are true. In order that you may have an opportunity of understanding these charges and the evidence on which they rest, we shall present you

with a brief summary of each of them, and refer you to the evidence in our appendix.

The charge of *Negro trading* is made by Dr. Byrd McNairy, in the Nashville Whig of July 18, and by Col. Andrew Erwin in the same paper of August 2, and supported by the letter of Horace Green, a partner in the speculation, and Mr. R. Weakly, & one letter and one memorandum, both in the hand writing of Gen. Jackson; by all which it appears, that on the 18th of May 1811, Joseph Coleman, Horace Green, and Andrew Jackson, entered into articles of agreement with R. Apperson for the purchase of Negroes to the amount of 10,050. The terms of payment were, \$2,050 in hand, 4,000 at the expiration of six and \$4,000 more at the expiration of twelve months. Dr. McNairy and Col. Erwin are among the most respectable citizens of the state of Tennessee. It is further in proof that these Negroes were taken to the lower country and part of them sold, but the speculation not turning out as profitable as was expected, General Jackson bought out his partners, went down to Natchez and brought back the unsold Negroes to Tennessee. Evidence has also been published in the same papers, shewing one or two other speculations by the General in the same detestable traffic?

The charge of *Burrism* is founded on and supported by the following statement of facts. In December 1827, Judge Williams of Tennessee wrote to Mr. Kerr of Virginia a letter, of which the following is an extract:

"My dear sir:—It is madness to think of Jackson for President of the United States. This Burr matter I cannot be mistaken about—my eyes and ears are my witnesses. He, Jackson, offered me a commission of Captain in Burr's army, or told me I could get one, if I would accept it."

This letter to Mr. Kerr excited some attention in Virginia and a friend of Gen. Jackson wrote to him informing him of the fact; upon which Gen. Jackson on the 23d of February 1828, addressed a letter to Judge Williams, inquiring if it were true that he, the Judge, had given the sanction of his name to what he, the General, pronounced a base calumny, and demanding a prompt and frank reply. This letter appears to have been sent by a special messenger, all the way to Sparta, a distance of one hundred and odd miles from the General's residence; from the tone and style of the letter, Gen. Jackson evidently anticipated an answer that would be satisfactory. On the 27th of February, four days only after the date of the General's letter, Judge Williams replied to him, affirming most positively that he the General had told him (Williams) that he could, if he would accept it, obtain a commission of Captain in Burr's army, and he made other statements going to shew that Jackson was concerned with Burr.

Now, notwithstanding Gen. Jackson was so eager to obtain the answer of Judge Williams as to send his nephew specially a hundred miles to Sparta for that purpose, thereby shewing his own view of the importance of the charge, yet on the receipt of the Judge's answer, he remained perfectly quiet for upwards of six months! It is past the middle of September, and no effort has been made to contradict the statement of Judge Williams. On the contrary, abundant evidence has appeared that Jackson was concerned with Burr in forwarding his expedition, that he advanced money for him, endorsed his bills, was his agent in purchasing boats and provisions, and in seeking to enlist men to accompany him down the Cumberland. The General himself has sworn, and the affidavit is of record in the state of Mississippi, that Burr was indebted to him upwards of \$500 for monies advanced and paid on his account. Gen. Coffee also made an affidavit to the same effect.

Now, fellow-citizens, we request you to mark the responses made to these accusations, and to notice particularly the manner in which they have been met. To the charge of *Negro trading* the downright lie is first given. Afterwards finding that the facts proved, are too strong to tolerate a denial of the charge, the act is justified "because Gen. Jackson was only a security, and it is the duty of a security to take all measures to protect himself." Just so it is in reference to Burr's business; the lie is first given to every assertion connecting Gen. J. & Aaron Burr in the remotest manner. Gen. Jackson himself pronounces the charge of his connexion with Burr a *base calumny*. But finding the facts in sup-

port of this calumnious charge multiplying, finding witness after witness and letter after letter, rising in judgment against him, his friends resort to the plea of justification, and plead the General's ignorance of Burr's bad intentions, and his supposition that the government had sanctioned his plans!

This latter is a lame and clumsy excuse for a man who had been a Representative and Senator in Congress and Judge of the Supreme Court of his own State. Did not Gen. Jackson know that the government of the United States had no power to sanction the ambitious schemes of Mr. Burr or any other daring unprincipled projector?

We are however triumphantly referred to Gen. Jackson's letter to Claiborne of Nov. 12, 1806; in which letter the General wars Gov. C. against Wilkinson, but says not a word of Burr. If Jackson really wished to act like a patriot, and warn the Governor of his real danger, why not mention the head of the conspiracy at once, why name one of the subordinate agents and leave the head unnoticed! To shew that this attempt to exculpate Jackson fails, we have only to remark that there is the most convincing testimony to prove, that more than a month after this letter to Gov. Claiborne was written, Burr was an inmate at Gen. Jackson's house, that he left the refuge of the 20th December 1806, and was accompanied on his expedition by Stokely D. Hays, a nephew of Gen. Jackson. Is it likely that Gen. Jackson would have suffered his nephew, a youth of 17, to embark his fortunes with Burr, six weeks after he had denounced this same Burr to Gov. Claiborne?

Some men have been so uncharitable as to declare their belief that Gen. Jackson's letters to Mr. Jefferson and Gov. Claiborne were written with a view to his own eventual security, in case Burr's schemes should fail. Whether they were or not, we do not pretend to say. But for fear some men may be so unreasonable and extravagant as to intimate the General himself, and hazard a bold sweeping denial of the charge of connection or association with Burr, we will just advert to the correspondence between Gen. Jackson and Gen. Adair, as published in the Lexington Reporter in 1817. In that correspondence, Gen. Jackson himself, with more spite than prudence, had cast in Gen. Adair's teeth the charge of having been associated with Burr! Gen. Adair in his reply observes: "Whatever were the intentions of Col. Burr, I neither organized troops, nor did I superintend the building of boats for him, nor did I write confidential letters, recommending him to my friends, nor did I think it necessary, after his failure was universally known, to save myself by turning informer or state witness."

Why, we would ask, do Jackson and his friends tell two stories on this subject?—Why do they in one breath pronounce the charge of connection with Burr a base calumny, and in the next excuse and justify it? Truth is simple and uniform. Either the General was connected with Burr, or he was not. If he was, why not openly avow it and assign the reason? Why call those who say he was, calumniators? If he was not, then Gen. Coffee and Gen. Jackson himself have both written and sworn what is false!

We have thus, in the discharge of a painful but necessary duty, exhibited to you our views of the real character of Gen. Jackson. We have shewn you that his character, his temper, and his conduct furnish but indifferent vouchers for the mild and impartial exercise of power. We have shewn you that his public life is disgraced and deformed by intemperate proceedings, by violations and insults of the civil authority, by tyranny and usurpation on the one hand, and insubordination on the other. We have shewn you that his private character is stained with speculation in the flesh and blood of his fellow-beings, and stamped with the strongest suspicions of having entertained designs unfriendly to the union. Admit for a moment with his friends, that his subsequent good conduct has justified and redeemed his character, still will you choose for your chief magistrate a man who is justly obnoxious to odious charges, and whose purity has been soiled by imputations which either of you would esteem dishonorable to have fastened upon you by one half the proof that exists against the General. The private character of president ought not only to be pure, but above suspicion.

On the other hand, we have shewn you the public life and private character of Mr. Adams. We cannot say of him, nor of any other public man, that he is

without enemies. He has an abundance of them, not on account of his own errors or foibles simply, but he is held responsible for the faults and mistakes of his father. But weigh them all in the scales with the acknowledged vices and faults of General Jackson, and we fearlessly ask you, which will preponderate? When did Mr. Adams ever feel power and forget right? When was his ear ever closed against the voice of mercy and compassion? When were his hands ever stained with a detestable traffic in the persons and lives of his fellow creatures? When was he the host, the agent, the friend, and associate, of a suspected traitor? When was it his boast and pride that he could look on blood and carnage with composure?

But look for a moment at the policy of Mr. Adams, under which we now thrive and flourish, and the policy of a large majority of the friends of Gen. Jackson? Do you wish the heated partisans of the South to obtain power, and thus inflict a vital wound on your interests? They already refuse to trade with you. They say they want your horses, your cattle, and your hog! They threaten to drive you from your opinions; to coerce you into their measures, by taxing you into anti-tariff notions; and they most charitably offer to convert your hemp into straight jackets and tight collars, for your special benefit. They are now fortunately in the minority? What think you these kind hearted people will do when they mount the ladder of power, with a man at their head who can look on blood and carnage with composure? Already is Mr. Duffie, singled out as the Jackson Secretary of State! Already is the South chafing in anticipation of the downfall of Henry Clay and the American System! Yes, fellow citizens, whilst they are burning your first patriots and statesmen in effigy, and threatening you with civil war in case you do not yield to their insolent demands, they impudently rely upon your gullibility, and expect you to unite with them in voting for a President!

Great pains are taken by the friends of the General, in boasting of their numbers, to proclaim victory by anticipation. But, fellow citizens, be not deceived. Their cause is sinking. The Hero is losing ground in his own state. His character has been probed and found tainted to the core. Hundreds and thousands are leaving the Military Chieftain, to rally round the civil guardian of the laws, our peaceful and virtuous President. There is no earthly doubt of Mr. Adams receiving the united votes of the six New-England States, 51 in number, 24 votes in New York, the whole of New-Jersey and Delaware, nine votes in Maryland, the whole of Ohio, Kentucky, and Louisiana, making in all one hundred and thirty votes! If you do your duty, fellow-citizens, you will give him five more, which will secure his election. But we are speaking far within bounds. We have not mentioned Pennsylvania, of the vote of which in our favour there is a strong and increasing probability. Which will give us a clear majority of 27 votes.

But fellow citizens, let the anticipations and prognostications of politicians be what they may, you have a vital interest at stake, and are bound by every principle of honor and patriotism, to discharge the solemn duty you owe your country, by conferring your suffrages on an honest, enlightened, and experienced statesman. The nations of the earth are gazing with interest on the manner in which you exercise your sovereign power. They are zealously scanning the principles that regulate the bestowment of your suffrages. With most of them, the contest between the civil and military power has resulted in the triumph of the latter and the downfall of the former. At this moment Europe herself is the advocate for the supremacy of military power! Beware how you suffer them to imbibe an opinion that your views on this vitally important subject coincide with their own. Shew them by your votes that ours is a government of Laws, of Religion, of Morals, and of Peace, and that to obtain the highest office in the gift of enlightened freemen a man must exhibit other qualifications than those of a MILITARY CHIEFTAIN.

## PUBLIC MEETING.

At a meeting of the friends of the Administration, held at Corydon Ind. the following, among other resolutions, were adopted:

Resolved. That the following interrogatories be propounded to the Hon. Wm. Hendricks and James Noble, by a committee to be appointed for that pur-

pose, and that explicit answers in writing, be respectfully requested:

1st, Do you know or believe that there was any direct understanding between Messrs Adams and Clay, at or before the last Presidential election, that if Mr. Clay would vote for and support Mr. Adams for President, that he Mr. Adams, would in consideration thereof, nominate him Mr. Clay, to the office of Secretary of State?—If any, please to state the evidence on which your knowledge or belief is founded:

If no,—2dly, Do you know or believe, there was an indirect understanding between the said gentlemen, through their leading friends, for the purpose and object before expressed? If so, please state the facts and reasons upon which that knowledge or belief is founded.

3rdly, Do you believe in the charge of waste and prodigality made and circulated against the President in relation to any public expenditures that have been under his control; and have you any evidence, knowledge, or belief, that Mr. Adams has expended one cent of the public money, except in the manner and for the purpose authorized by the laws of Congress and the long established usages of the government?

Resolved. That the Chairman of this meeting, the Hon. John F. Ross, John H. Thompson, James B. Slaughter, and Dr. Benjamin Adams, be a committee to forward a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolutions to each of our Senators, and to carry on such correspondence in relation to the same, as the said committee may think proper.

DENNIS PENNINGTON, Chm.

JOHN H. FARNHAM, Sec'y.

BROOKVILLE, Sept. 25, 1828.

GENTLEMEN: I had the honor to receive your favor of the 17th inst. last evening, covering resolutions adopted by the citizens from several counties in the second Congressional district, convened at the Court house in Corydon on the 15th instant.

The first resolution authorizes three interrogatories to be propounded to Mr. Hendricks and myself, by a committee composed of our fellow-citizens, named, and organized by virtue of the second resolution, and that those interrogatories must be answered explicitly in writing for publication.

Your address, resolutions, interrogatories, with the preamble thereto, emanating from the proper and legitimate source, in the language of the preamble, I feel myself called upon, and bound explicitly to answer each of the interrogatories.

The first interrogatory, I answer in the negative, and will add, that before the election of the President on the 9th of February, 1825, nor since, I have not any knowledge of, nor do I believe there was any direct or indirect understanding between Mr. Adams, and Mr. Clay, that if Clay would vote for Mr. Adams to be President, that Mr. Adams would in consideration thereof, nominate Mr. Clay to be Secretary of State.

The second interrogatory, I answer in the negative, and say, that I do not believe nor had I any evidence then, nor have I now, to induce me to believe there was ever an indirect understanding between Mr. Adams and M. Clay through their leading friends for the purpose and object expressed in the first interrogatory.

Before I proceed to answer the third interrogatory I beg leave to say, not being the friend of Mr. Clay to be President, and many of my fellow-citizens in this state know it, that I was really the friend of Mr. Crawford; upon hearing the charge against Mr. Clay, of bargain and sale, I looked at him with a jealous eye, and was determined if the charge could be supported, and be nominated to the Senate for the office of Secretary of State I would vote against him.

In the Journals of the House of Representatives in the years 1824 and 5, page 198. 3rd of February, 1825, Mr. Clay rose, and addressed the house, stating the charges made against him by a member of the house, that if true the house would be scandalized—asked for an investigation, and requested that a committee should be raised—if he was guilty he merited expulsion. His accuser I believe was present, and now he failed to prove the charge, though every opportunity was afforded before a committee that was raised for the express purpose, to receive and hear evidence.

The framers of the constitution had in view at the time of the creation and organization of the senate of the United States as the constitutional advisers of the president, and one of the branches