innocent just discovered signs of life, and as plainly showed that it was fast fleeting. Never did I wish for the powers of an experienced swimmer until that moment, and I am now convinced that it is a duty to attain them. I had read of casualties, shipwrecks and drownings, but never did I feel such thrilling agony as that moment occasioned. Oh God! it is a fearful sight to behold the thread of human existence severed—to see the tender and the helpless pass, by a single step, from time to eternity, without the power of extending the smallest assistance. In a moment, ere these conflicting and agonised feelings could shoot through my brain, a colored man (a noble fellow!) dashed into the gaping wave and presently rose with the little helpless burthen in his arms. A shout of joy welcomed him from the spectators, but this feeling was soon changed on observing that the brave fellow appeared to be incapable of sustaining himself and his little charge, and was gradually losing strength.

We instantly threw overboard a bench, which falling near him, he would in a moment have gained it, and saved the child: but it was otherwise ordered. A boat from the shore, rowed by two seamen, pulled rapidly for the spot, and encouraged by the shouts of the beholders, strained every nerve for fear of being too late. The head of the poor black was turned towards the floating bench which he had nearly gained: the backs of the rowers were towards him, and in their haste they took no time to look round at his situation. Shrieks were sent out to warn them, but too late. When they sprang to their bow, it was upon the drowning—they seized by the hair the generous black (now almost stunned by the blow)—the boat passed quickly over the spot where they had struggled, and we never saw the poor babe again.—A slight gurgling noise, with a faint discoloration of the water showed, as I thought, where it had just sunk to rise no more.

In the mean time, a servant woman was saved on the other side of the boat; with the two elder children,—one by the prowess of a sailor boy, who was an oarsman in the unfortunate boat, and who deserves something more than mere encomiums. After saving the boy, he espied the body of the sinking lady, and still clinging to his little charge, sprang at and caught her by the string of her hat. But the faithless garment parted in his hand, and its helpless tenant sunk beneath him.

At this moment I saw at my side the frantic mother, who had been elsewhere picked up and put on board without my observing it. Her despair was enough to have melted the heart of a pirate. She had no tears, for grief and despair had drank them dry—"Oh! give me my children?" was her cry—"if you have any pity, give me my children!" She was shown one of them just arrived with her maid servant. Scarcely observing them, the heart of the mother yearned after those that were gone; and she cried 'yes, yes! but there are *three* of them!' She was charitably deceived with the belief that the other *two* were saved. 'Are you sure she exclaimed,—'*both of them!*' Both was the reply. 'Then God bless your lips for that word.'—I cannot continue the subject, and perhaps I have already said too much.—'Tis perhaps intruding upon the sacred privacy of a mother's sorrow, in which none more sincerely sympathized than one who was an afflicted

SPECTATOR.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT!

We hasten to lay the following Official Letters before the Public, as containing the first and only authentic information in regard to the Creeks, they have yet been in possession of. A correct opinion will now be formed, not only of affairs in the Indian Nation, but also of certain warlike preparations in this state. The public can judge for themselves: we forbear making any remarks—*Geo. Patriot.*

TO THE EDITORS OF THE GEO. PATRIOT.

Head Quarters, Eastern Department.
MONTICELLO, GA July 17, 1825.

Gentlemen—Captain Triplett will hand to you a copy of Major Gen. *Gaines'* letter to Governor *Troup*, of the 10th instant, which the General requests you to insert in your paper The object of giving publicity to this letter, at this time, is to counteract certain *false and infamous reports* concerning the adjustment of the Indian difficulties; calculated to deceive the public and aggravate the misfortunes of those helpless and deluded beings, who evince a disposition to reunite their destiny, and to comply with the wishes of the General Government.

Very respectfully, your ob't serv't.

E. G. W. BUTLER, *Aid de Camp*

Head Quarters, Eastern Department,
FLINT RIVER, July 10, 1825.

SIR—The excessive heat of the weather, added to the many inconveniences and interruptions which I have daily encountered, in the course of my visit to the Creek Nation, has deprived me of the pleasure of writing to your Excellency as often or as fully as I have been desirous of doing. I have now the honor, without entering into detail, that could afford but little interest, to communicate to you the result of my conferences with the Indians. After meeting in this state the Chiefs of the McIntosh party, and at Broken Arrow those of the opposite party, and hearing their respective statements with the evidence for and against each party, I have urged them to an adjustment of differences; to which they have mutually assented.

The McIntosh party demand retaliation for their fallen Chiefs, with the immediate restoration of property taken or destroyed: their demands were founded on the 8th article of the Treaty of February last, which promises on our part, protection to 'their emigrating party' against the whites and all others; which party, they, (the followers of Gen. McIntosh,) assume themselves exclusively to be. Whether this provision of the Treaty was or was not intended to protect the Creek Indians against themselves, or to protect a comparatively small part of them against the main body of the Nation, were questions which I was happily not called upon to decide: as in the event of hostilities having subsided, my instructions simply required me to make peace upon just principles, and to require the complainants as well as the opposing party to abstain from acts of retaliation or violence.

The reputed hostile party, consists of all the principal Chiefs, and of nearly *forty nine fiftieths* of the whole of the Chiefs, head men, and warriors, of the Nation—among whom I recognize many who were in our service during the late war, and who, to my certain knowledge have been for twenty years past, (and I think they have been at all times) as friendly to the United States as any of our Indian neighbors could have been known to be. I met them at Broken Arrow, the usual place of holding the great Council of the Nation.

I could not therefore but view this supposed hostile party as in fact and in truth the *Creek Nation;* and altogether free of the hostility ascribed to them.—I have received from them in council assembled, the most deliberate assurances of their determination to be peaceable and friendly towards their absent people as well as towards the United States.

They regretted the necessity which they contend existed for the strong measures they adopted against General McIntosh and others, who they affirm forfeited and lost their lives by having violated a well known law of the Nation.—They have engaged to restore all property taken, and to pay for all that has been destroyed contrary to law—and they have promised to allow a reasonable time for those who have borrowed and run off with money out of their national treasury to reimburse the same. The Council strongly and unanimously objected to the late Treaty, as the off-spring of fraud, entered into contrary to the known law and determined will of the Nation, and by persons not authorized to treat. They refuse to receive any part of the consideration money due under the Treaty, or to give any other evidence of their acquiescence in it. In conclusion they expressed the hope that their white friends would pity their deplorable condition, and would do them the justice to reconsider and 'undo that which has been wrongfully done.' I have, pursuant to my instructions from the department of war, endeavored to convince the council, but without success, of the fallacy of their objections to the treaty; and to dissipate their delusive hopes that it can ever be annulled: I have assured them that in all our Treaties with the powers of Europe, as well as with nearly fifty Indian Nations there has not been one instance, to my knowledge, of a Treaty having been revoked or annulled, after being duly ratified: except by the free consent of all parties to it, or by war.

I yesterday met in council, near Joseph Marshall's ferry, the Chiefs of the McIntosh party, and communicated to them the proposition of the council at Broken Arrow, to which they have acceded. They promised to return to their homes as soon as they are advised of the arrival of the U. States' troops ordered from Louisiana and Pensacola, to the Creek Agency at Chattahoochee.—The Chiefs of both parties have distinctly and solemnly assured me that they will remain at peace with each other; and that they will in no case raise an arm against the citizens of the U. States. Under these circumstances it is my duty to notify your Excellency that there will be no occasion for calling into service any part of the militia or volunteers of the state over which you preside. The certificate of which I enclose herewith a copy marked A., added to the declarations of the Chiefs in Council, of whom Joseph Marshall was principal and interpreter, prove that your Excellency has been greatly deceived in supposing that the McIntosh party ever consented to the survey of the ceded territory being commenced before the time set forth in the Treaty for their removal. This fact giving altogether a new aspect to the subject of the proposed survey of the land, added to a strong conviction on my mind that the attempt to make the surveys would be a positive violation of the Treaty, and will, under existing causes of excitement be certain to produce acts of violence upon the persons or property of unoffending Indians, who we are bound to protect, it becomes my duty to remonstrate against the surveys being commenced until the Indians shall have removed agreeably to the treaty I cannot doubt that the facts disclosed by the accompanying certificate, with the concurrent testimony of the Chiefs in council, will induce your Excellency without hesitation to abandon the project of surveying the land before the month of September 1826.

This will be particularly gratifying to me, as it will relieve me of the painful duty of acting *not in concert with* the venerable authorities of an enlightened and patriotic member of the U. States, to whom I stand pledged by every principle of honor, and under the solemnity of an oath to serve them honestly and faithfully.

(*Signed*) EDMUND P. GAINES,
Maj. Gen. Com'dg.

A true copy,
E. G. W. BUTLER, Aid de Camp,
To his excellency G. M. TROUP,
Gov. of Georgia,

CERTIFICATE.

We certify that we accompanied the express from Gov. Troup to Gen. McIntosh, conveying a request that he would allow the survey of the land acquired by the treaty at the Indian Springs to be immediately commenced. Gen. McIntosh replied that he could not grant the request, but would call the Chiefs together and lay it before them—which was never done.

Signed, WILLIAM EDWARDS,
JOSEPH MARSHALL.

At Portess's, Upson county, July 9th, 1825

I certify that this is a correct copy of the original certificate, signed in my presence, and now in my possession.

E. G. W. BUTLER, Aid de Camp.

FOR THE EASTON GAZETTE.

Is our's a Government of the People?

Certainly it was so intended to be—then let the people manage their own government, and do not let us have, as heretofore, men coming forward and forcing themselves upon the people as candidates for their suffrages, whether they will or no—But if the people will not take upon themselves to manage their own affairs, a certain sort of men will try to make the most of the opportunity, and cunning fellows who are up for themselves, will take advantage of the peoples' listlessness and foist themselves into places to govern them: Now is our government worth preserving? and if so, as all must declare, what is the best mode to preserve and perpetuate it? Is it by the moral and intelligent part of the community keeping retired and taking no part in the political concerns of the state as to elections, and delivering it all up to these who manage for themselves, and to the unthinking world who care not how things go, provided they have their frolick and a few gain their ends? or is it by the discreet and thinking men engaging in these political concerns of elections so far as to give the public mind the right direction, by turning it to the election of the most competent men to serve the people? But men hate labour that brings nothing into their pockets—and will good men, or can good men refrain from doing all in their power to preserve our government in the highest credit and usefulness, because that trouble brings nothing immediately into their pockets? What good will all your gains do you if you have not a well regulated government to enjoy it under? and how long will your good government last if you do not take pains to preserve it both in character and excellence? Some men think that the government is so good that nothing can hurt it—this is like the man of strong constitution, who thinks he can bear any thing, and between exposure and neglect he gets diseased and dies—or it is like a man who thinks his estate so large that he can't spend it, that it will at least last his life under any management—but for the want of care it dissolves before him and leaves him in his old age forsaken and disconsolate, and those who succeed him are the children of poverty—Other men say oh! it is not necessary for me to take any trouble in this matter, there are enough of other people who will engage in it—for if I was not sure others would take care in this matter I would—this is the argument of all, and thus all neglect it—when things turn out badly they all say it is a shame, but no man will move a finger or a tongue to prevent it—this is the next worst and most alarming state to slavery itself—in fact it is the prelude to slavery and humiliation.

If our government is really loved and is held to be worth preserving it is worth the trouble of the men of stability in the country regulating its concerns—they ought not to be trusted to the chapter of accidents.

SEVENTY-SIX.

[For the Easton Gazette.]

MR. GRAHAM,

I had a talk the other day with some of my neighbours, and the subject of the election was brought up—we had been of different politics in former days, but we all seemed to agree now, and we thought it was better for us all, in every point of view, to have good, honest and well qualified men to fill all public stations than to be divided into parties—So we said, one and all, if two respectable and clever men of the Anti-Caucus Democrats, and two respectable and clever men of the old Federalists, can be got to serve the people in the next Legislature, we would all join heart and hand and support them, and we believe such a set of men for the next legislature would please a very great majority of the people. Now, Sir, please to put this in your paper, and see if the people will not like it.

A VOTER.

For the Easton Gazette.

BARREN CREEK SPRINGS,
August 4th, 1825.

Mr Graham,

This place, within a few days past, has assumed quite a lively appearance and become a considerable resort for the gay and wealthy, as well as for those who more *particularly* visit it for the benefit of their health.

The accommodations are good, and the house is large and commodious, fitted up with a considerable degree of taste and neatness; Mr Leary is polite, obliging and attentive, and no exertion on his part is wanting to render the situation of his visitors, agreeable and comfortable.

The Spring is in excellent order and the water *never* was better; I arrived here a few days since, very languid, debilitated, &c. however to my great gratification, I find my health rapidly returning.

My stay here has given me a favourable opportunity of making an analysis of the water, which, for amusement and satisfaction I have done; and after a minute examination, I have found one gallon to contain, muriate of Soda, 7 grains—carbonate of Iron, 58 grains—carbonate of Magnesia,* 3 grains—carbonic acid gas, 230 cubic inches—It contains no carbonate of lime nor soda, its medicinal qualities, are equal, if not superior, to those of Saratoga or Bedford, particularly for bilious diseases, and were it a place of as much fashion, would in all probability be more resorted.

Your's, truly, H.

*It is rather a singular circumstance, that this Spring should contain any carbonate of Magnesia at this time, as it did not contain the smallest quantity last year. Can any of your correspondents explain the cause?

Easton Gazette.

EASTON, MD.

SATURDAY EVENING, AUGUST 13.

A CONVENTION.

Having waited for a considerable time, and waited in vain, for some one more competent than ourselves, to resist the innovating attempt of the friends of a Convention, we must redeem our promise and give a more extended view of our opinions against this serious project; and although we never professed that *we* could make the argument "irrefragable and unanswerable" as our correspondent 'Thrasia,' would impute, yet such is our conviction of the impolicy of the measure, and of the strength of the reasons against it, that we never doubted that men more practised and more deeply versed than ourselves could do so.

Before we enter upon this subject, however, as 'Thrasia' has indulged in a little episode to us, we will reply in a brief proem to him.

We regard it as not at all uncourteous in a correspondent to maintain measures and principles different from our own. In all political discussion our object is truth and our country, and we will cheerfully abandon our own opinions when better ones are presented to us, sustained by force and reason. We have, no doubt, the prejudices, the prepossessions and perhaps even the *vanities* that fall to the share of others, but if these are the topics for sarcasm, they can weigh nothing with an enlightened world in matters of grave debate. So far from our devotion to our own opinions being so great as to bind us or to cause us to wish to make them the standard for others, we submit them to the world for revision and correction, and will with pleasure give a place in our columns to the more able arguments and illustrations of correspondents—We grant to others what we request in our turn, and our correspondents must not consider their favours as less valuable or acceptable to us, because we differ in opinion and maintain that difference.

"An instinctive dread of the people" is the sentiment of plotters and conspirators, not of those who meet all public subjects at the tribunal of the people, and who yield up no salutary principle and embark in no measure to gratify delusive prejudices or to indulge in sinister designs—Neither can we believe that "reason can ever be *instructed* by fears"—it may be overcome, it may be misled, but never instructed. The insurrectionary doctrine of the fretful Governor of Georgia, which 'Thrasia' winds up with so merrily, contains a maxim more fitted to the taste of those who are engaged in resistance to lawful authority, and to the subversion of constitutions and established systems, than to those who upbraid innovations, and who doubt the existence of more talent or virtue in a convention of the present day than were found in that of '76.'

The existing Constitution of the state and the Bill of Rights prefixed to it, constitute the form and substance of that government to which we owe allegiance. That constitution cautiously provides the means of its own amendment, and the rectification of whatever errors time and experience may discover. The authors of that constitution conscious of having discharged their best offices in the most faithful manner, in the comprehensiveness of their views, still took great care to provide for the relief of grievances and inconveniences, as well as to guard against an instability of things so destructive to public happiness. Having provided that the house of delegates should consist of the "most wise, sensible and discreet" of the people, that the senate should be composed of men of "most wisdom, experience and virtue"—and that the like qualifications should distinguish the Governor of the State, they determined that "this form of Government and the declaration of rights, and no part thereof, shall be altered, changed or abolished, unless a bill so to alter, change or abolish the same shall pass the general assembly, and be published at least three months before a new election, and shall be confirmed by the general assembly after a new election of delegates in the first session thereafter." This was the mode of revising the constitution of Maryland, provided by its authors when in convention, in the memorable year of seventy-six, and they would not devise any other mode. This, it is granted, does not exclude and forbid a convention, but so far as the sense and intention of the authors of the constitution go, it dissuades from a convention by rendering it unnecessary, except in the last resort—A convention is an original, inceptive measure, of legitimately social and political character, to which a free people may have recourse, whenever they will it, without any provision in their written constitution for it—but the constitution of Maryland has gone as far as it could go to prevent a recurrence to a convention, by declaring, that the only mode of altering or amending that constitution, or any part of it, should be, by the act of two succeeding sessions of the general assembly—This goes to prove to us that the framers of the constitution designed to prevent a convention, but in the last resort, or in the extremest urgency of things. And what is that state of urgency? It is finely described in the 4th section of the Declaration of Rights, viz: "whenever the ends of government are perverted, and the public liberty manifestly endangered, *and all other means of redress are ineffectual,* the people may, and of right ought to reform the old, or establish a new government." This certainly was our condition in "76," and such were the maxims that governed our predecessors of that day. It is not intended by this to assert that a convention should not be called until the state of things should become as disastrous again as they were then, but we make the quotation as descriptive of that state of things in which the established maxims of our government justify us in having recourse to original measures.

So far as to the intention of the founders of the constitution in relation to a convention as collected from the instrument itself.

But Thrasia seems to dread lest the exertion of the power of altering the constitution by the legislature should be considered as superseding now and at all future times the necessary duty to call a convention, and he thinks it strange, that one should be permitted to remain a dead letter, whilst the other is practically used—Would he have us to exert the power of calling a convention merely to prevent that power from becoming obsolete? or shall we wait as the constitution enjoins, until the ends of government are perverted and all other means of redress are ineffectual, before we take this solemn, this all important step? If it can be shewn that existing defects in the constitution, cannot be cured by the interposition of the legislature, and that the reason why they can't be cured by the legislature is justly and truly ascribable to the constitution itself, then more will be shewn than we have yet seen, and then our views of the subject may change. But we can have no fear that either constitutional or original powers will become obsolete or degraded by disuse—they may lie dormant in store, as pieces of artillery do in time of peace; but the power of calling a convention is always inherent in [*not incidental to*] popular sovereignty, without being expressly given by constitutions, and may be exerted by them at discretion, whenever they believe the condition of the state is such, or that the established maxims of their government will authorise it.

What or who Thrasia means by "the Anti's," *who admire a beautiful feature in the constitution,* we can't tell—whether *old anti-federal* or modern *anti-caucus*—but whether the one or the other, we do not regard the remark as "germain to the matter"—If, however, he is of the caucus party, or constitutes one of those metaphysical politicians, who so adroitly separate essences from substance as to denounce the act and yet uphold the authors, we will review this subject with him at his pleasure, and give him an occasion to exhibit his profoundest stores and sparkling wit.

We have already trespassed upon our readers. Our next remarks will refer to the severe attack upon the Judiciary, &c.

VICE PRESIDENT CALHOUN.

We gave place readily last week to 'Justice,' in defence of the Vice-President, reprehending our style of commentary upon his late dinner speech, as too harsh when applied to so distinguished a man. We take the rebuke in good part, and will retrace our steps to review our imputed error.

Vice President Calhoun said in his dinner speech at Abbeville Court-House, South Carolina, "that there were many men in Congress, distinguished by high reputation and talents, who, in the year 1811, *preferred submission with all its humiliation to war*—meaning thereby, *that those distinguished men would prefer to see their government and country degraded and injured by a foreign government, rather than resist by arms*—for the words *with all its humiliation,* completely explain what was meant by *submission.* Now we reiterate that this assertion is false as to the historical fact it refers to, discolours the intention of the anti-war men, and is calumnious towards their representatives.

'Justice' says, this was matter of opinion