EASTON GAZETTE.

WHERE THE PRESS IS FREE--"Literature well or ill-conducted, is the Great Engine by which all Popular States must ultimately be supported or overthrown." RELIGION purifies the Heart and teaches us our Duty--Morality refines the Manners--Agriculture makes us Rich and Politics provides for the enjoyment of all.

VOL. XIV. EASTON, MD. SATURDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 5, 1831. NO. 45.

PRINTED & PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY EVENING BY

ALEXANDER GRAHAM.

TERMS

TWO DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS Per Annum, payable half yearly in advance.

ADVERTISEMENTS

Not exceeding a square inserted three times for ONE DOLLAR; and TWENTY FIVE CENTS for every subsequent insertion.

TO THE PUBLIC.

On the Presidential elections of 1824 *and* 1828.

LETTER V.

In the preceding letter, the discriminating reader will have remarked the distinction between the sentiments of this writer as expressed at the present period, in reference to the supposed character of Andrew Jackson, and those which he felt and expressed in 1828. This change of opinion, in those who dissent from the derelictions of men in power, is too often attributed to inconsistency in the citizen, instead of apostacy in those who hold the dazzling sunshine patronage and power in their hands, to kindle affection, awaken hope, and attract flattery from the servile herd, who have no perception but that of interest, no instinct but blind and devoted selfishness. At the time that the parallel was instituted between the great *Washington* and the unfortunate old man, whose folly has blighed almost every leaf of his glory; no grossness of error, nor possibility of deception, was perceived to lurk beneath the well intended comparison. The suggestion of the parallel to this writer, by one whose head is as quick to conceive, as his pen is able to execute was adopted with eagerness and alacrity and drawn *con amore*, in vivid colors, and with sincerity of belief, that the subject, if he did not then justify the fulness of the assimilation, might at least be incited to attain the parallel by a series of future actions to correspond to the noblest model of a man, a hero, and a statesman, that ever [illegible] the world's wide stage: the only man of modern times to whom these lines of the immortal Bard of Avon, would apply without exaggeration bordering on the burlesque; with a slight variation, we may apply the whole passage as a faithful portraiture of Washington and Jackson:—

"Look here, upon this picture and on this;
The counterfeit presentment of two *Presidents*.
See what a grace was seated on this brow:
Hyperion's curls; the front of Jove himself;
An eye like Mars to threaten and command,
A station like the Herald Mercury,
New lighted on a heaven-kissing hill;
A combination and a form, indeed,
Where every God did seem to set his seal,
To give the world assurance of a man:
This was your President.—Look you now what follows:
Here is your President; like a mildew'd ear,
Blasting his wholesome brother."

There was reason to believe, at the time the comparison was made, that, by appealing to the just pride of Jackson it would itself incite him to emulate those virtues of Washington, which had engrossed the admiration of the world; and extorted the spontaneous homage of applause from the most remote nations of the globe. True, our perception of his character was imperfect and partial; but when the fairness of his professions was considered, and the apparent moderation of his temper and passions at that time, daily strengthened by the false glosses and depraved fictions of John H. Eaton, who so assiduously labored to disguise his Indian Warrior in the trappings of a civilized patriot, and invest him with the robes of a perfect statesman, the grossness of the error common to all his supporters, as they perceive it now, but was considered no error at that time; receives much extenuation from the deceit practised to blind them, on the one hand, and from the laudable motive on the other of inciting of Gen. Jackson to emulate the virtues of him whom we fondly believed might prove his prototype. Independent, however, of the want of capacity and learning in Gen. Jackson, to realize the full extent of the parallel, had he fulfilled the professions, when he came into power, and realized but the honest anticipations of his early friends, by a mere adherence to the rules he had established for his government when a candidate, the grossness of what now appears so serious an error, would never have been revealed to the public gaze; his temper, his passions, and his violence would have been forgotten in the blaze of his patriotism, and overlooked in the sincerity of an honest zeal to do his country service, regardless of all considerations of self-ambition or cupidity. But the appeal was lost upon one, whose ambition is only equalled by his excessive vanity. Gen. Jackson instead of receiving it as an admonition to stimulate him to virtue, merely seized at the compliment as food for his self-love; not perceiving that even the shadow of the parallel was to be made out by his future conduct as an honest, consistent and enlightened statesman. By converting what ought to have been improved on as a lesson, into the mere aliment of vanity, he transformed a sanative medicine into a deadly poison, which produced ruinous intoxication and fatal delirium, instead of that lofty & chastened ambition that builds its hope of fame alone on public good, and the disinterested career of unbiassed patriotism. The lesson was not received as a truely great mind would have applied it, evinces the shallowness of his understanding, and his utter incapacity for supreme power. But the delusion has passed away. His gross derelictions have inspired disgust among his honest supporters; and few men, sound in principle, honest in purpose, or respectable in intellect and character, who originally supported him from pure motives, now remain under his banner. Convinced of his corruption, or satisfied with his incapacity, they have renounced adhesion to his empty name, as an act of justice to their own reputations, as well as an obligation of duty to their country and its constitution.

I have stated that gross and sytematic deception was practised by Eaton, to prevent a true perception of the real character of Andrew Jackson, by those who supposed him honest and patriotic. The separate duties of Wm. B. Lewis and John H. Eaton, were very artfully arranged, to promote this object; whilst Jackson himself occupied a commanding position in the rear, to act, "as circumstances might require." It has already been shown with what facility Lewis could execrate Crawford and his friends, at one time; and "pour oil into their wounds" at another. But this vacillation was governed by *no* principle; regulated by no honesty. It was the ever varying impulse of interest and ambition, pointing for, or against men and parties, as it was perceived that men and parties were inclined to favor or oppose the unhallowed ambition of this unprincipled [illegible] printer, you will find this tool of power, Wm. B Lewis, breathing curses and praises against the same man, as his imagination or the passions of his prompter suggested it as probable, that he might favor or resist the ambition of Jackson, on the presidential chair. I say prompter—and by this prompter I mean Jackson himself; for he who would suppose Wm B. Lewis to be thus intriguing, electioneering and managing of his own pure volition, would subject himself to unmitigated contempt for the singleness of his ideas; in other words his fatuity. Lewis, in 1828, as in 1831, is the Buckingham of the king, with less virtue than Buckingham; for had Lewis been ordered to strangle or stiletto the infant princes he would not, like Buckingham, have hesitated; no, his hands would instantly have been reeking in their innocent blood.* Let me not be misconceived. I use the illustration to show the extreme devotedness of Lewis to his friend and master; and which forms his own recommendation in the eyes of Jackson; who gives his friendship only to his slaves. A thorough going tool like Lewis is indispensable to a man so ambitious, depraved, and hypocritical as Jackson. Of the utter subserviency of Lewis, no doubt shall be permitted to exist. That Lewis would shed blood for him, I do not believe, because he wants the courage to do it; but he would be restrained by no virtue from perpetrating the most revolting atrocity that his master might command. His duty is that of the eunuch slave of the palace—and if he has not risen to the dignity of a sanguinary minister, it is because like Eaton, he lacks the courage essential to the office. This explanation of character is necessary to a proper understanding of the following letter; which the reader is to understand, not as the simple effusion of the tool Lewis, but as the dictated sentiments of the master-spirit, whose passions he infused into language, and whose ambition he pourtrayed in the wavering animosity of his soul, as it pointed against the conflicting candidate that opposed his march to the Presidency.

The allusion to the feud of Jackson with the Bentons, "Jesse and Tom," is covered with a false gloss by Lewis. It was Jackson who proceeded to a tavern, as was his custom, to assassinate those gentlemen—and who, acting in self-defence, inflicted a pistol wound on Jackson's arm in which the ball remains to this day.

In the letter published last week the sentiment of conciliation towards Crawford, was predominant. In the following, it will be seen that the feeling was one of deadly hate—Lewis now stigmatises him as the "giant of intrigue," invoking maledictions on his head—together with all the obscenity of the 'Five Points' lavished upon the head of him whom he terms "that vile hypocrite, Colonel Andrew Erwin, who wears the sacred mantle of religion to conceal his infamous designs."

I must also solicit the attention of the reader to that part of the letter of Lewis, in which he courts Mr. Adams, because he prefers Jackson to Clay!!! And the fact to which I have so often adverted, of the personal hostility of Gen. Jackson to Mr. Clay, as forming the sole ground of enmity on the part of Jackson and Jackson's slaves, against the eminent statesman of the West. Had Mr. Clay's mind been constructed of materials to permit him to act the part of one of those slaves, he would now have stood on the eminence recently abandoned by that pigmy of intrigue, Martin Van Buren. The following letter will show this:

NASHVILLE, Sept. 6, 1831.

Stephen Simpson, Esq.
55 Chesnut Street, Philad'a.

Dear Sir:—I have just been informed, by a gentleman of indubitable veracity, that Van Buren of New York, has written to a Mr. A. Balch, his deputy, of this place, that the friends of Crawford and Clay have agreed to unite their forces in favor of the former; and in that way to secure his election. It is believed there is a decided majority of the members of the New York legislature friendly to those two candidates; and when united in favor of Crawford, will give him the vote of that state. The scheme in the western section of the Union is, that the name of Mr. Clay shall be kept up with a view of getting as many votes as they proceed to elect the President and Vice President; are to be turned over to Crawford. Mr. Balch was so much elated with the idea of Mr. Crawford's being elected, that he could not keep the secret. However, some of the leading Kentuckians are apprised of the arrangement, and are determined to blow it. There is no question, Clay out of the way, Jackson would get the unanimous vote of that state. The friends of Gen. Jackson here have long since been convinced that Clay has had no other view in permitting his name to be run, than to defeat the election of General Jackson, whom he politically and personally dislikes. I have also been informed by a gentleman who, I know, is in the confidence of the radicals, that if Mr. Crawford shall be elected, Clay is to be his Secretary of State, and that Mr. Cheves is to be made Secretary of the Treasury. If this be the fact, it accounts for Mr. Cheves having eulogised Mr. Crawford in the manner he did while on examination before the committee of investigation; it also accounts for the radicals still calculating on getting for their chief the additional vote of South Carolina. The same gentleman informed me that Mr. Webster is to be made Secretary of the Navy. When I look at the conduct of these gentlemen, I cannot doubt the correctness of the information; and I trust IN GOD the people will arise in the majesty of their power, and arrest this *Giant of intrigue*,* in his career, before it be too late.

Binns, some short time since, published in his paper a long list of charges against General Jackson, which were as destitute of truth as he is of moral honesty. I have no doubt that the charges, or the materials at least, were sent him from this place by one of the General's most implacable and unprincipled personal enemies—I mean that vile hypocrite, Col. Andrew Erwin, of negro-smuggling memory, who wears the sacred mantle of religion, the more effectually to conceal his wicked and nefarious designs. You will see the second edition of those vile and malicious falsehoods published ere long in pamphlet form, with a view of disseminating them in every direction through the United States, on the eve of the election. The reputed author of this book is the intimate friend of this same Col. Erwin, and also a violent personal enemy of the General's—it is the famous Jesse Benton, of whom, perhaps, you may have heard as the person who once attempted to shoot Gen. Jackson from behind the door in a rencounter with his brother, *Tom Benton*, the present senator from Missouri. He is, in fact, considered here a *maniac*, and is only used as a catspaw, or bully, for the radicals. Col. Erwin, it is known, keeps up a correspondence with John Binns, and did send a letter to him but a very little time previous to the publication alluded to above as having been made in his paper. I have thought proper to advise you of these things, in order that you may understand the movements of these electioneering, intriguing, and unprincipled gentry.

Permit me to suggest the propriety of not being too severe on Adams and his friends. I have no doubt, if Mr. Adams cannot be elected himself, he would prefer the election of General Jackson to that of any other person. I am somewhat fearful that if Mr. Adams should be broken down altogether, that the New England states will go for Crawford, if he should get the state of New York. You, however, understand the politics of those states better than I do—I only suggest this course of moderation towards Mr. Adams for your consideration. If I am not mistaken, the conduct of the N. York legislature will have a most beneficial effect in favor of Gen. Jackson in Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois. The Kentuckians are in great confusion at this time. Very many of Mr. Clay's friends, are desirous that he shall withdraw, believing he has no chance of success—others, the real Crawford men are opposed to it. At the late elections in that state, Mr. Clay was re-elected to Congress; and although he had no opposition, I have been informed by a very respectable gentleman, that he, on the first day of the election, got some upwards of 500 votes, and General Jackson got some upwards of 300 in Lexington! The Kentucky Editors have kept this fact entirely from the public view. That the General will get Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Tennessee, North and South Carolina, in the south, and south-west, I think, at this time, there is not the shadow of a doubt. [The facts in this letter are given to you, not for publication, but with a belief that they may be serviceable.]

Yours, &c.

The foregoing epistle will exhibit the profound intrigues and duplicity, that marked the election campaign of 1823-4 with [illegible] Jackson, and it will tend to prepare the [illegible] for the fabrication of the charge of "bargain" afterwards got up by Jackson and Eaton, to bring popular odium upon Mr. Clay and Mr. Adams, who rose and fell in their standard of patriotism, accordingly as they promoted, or opposed the insatiate ambition of Andrew Jackson.

STEPHEN SIMPSON.

Hamilton, Oct. 17, 1831.

*The manner in which Lewis and Jackson attempted to reduce the children of this writer to penury and want, fully authorises the illustration of character by an allusion to a bloody deed. Men as callous, cruel and reckless of the human misery they produce in the desperate career of their ambition, as Lewis, Jackson and Eaton, may be termed more ferocious and bloody than he who uses the physical means of destruction. They, who by one fell scheme of duplicity and intrigue, aim to produce a broken heart and a ruined fortune and to inflict through the father the same misery on the children, can hardly be called human and never can aspire to be thought humane.

*MR. CRAWFORD!

Mr. Calhoun's reply to Maj. Eaton.

From the Pendleton Messenger.

Major Eaton has, in his late address, gratuitously dragged my name into his controversy with a part of his associates in the late administration. The station which he recently occupied, and the relation in which he is well known to stand to the head of the Executive branch of the Government, are calculated to give more weight to his representations, at least with many, than what belongs to the anonymous communications of the day; yet I would not have deemed his statement worthy of my notice, had he confined himself to the vague insinuations which constitute the great body of his address, as far as it relates to me. To give color to his general charges, he has ventured, in a few instances, to descend into detail, and to give statements of facts, but in a manner wholly erroneous; which however, might be received by the public as true, were I to remain silent. They have, in fact, been already so received in some respectable quarters. I am thus compelled, in self-defence to correct the errors of his statements, as far as they concern me. The occurrences which are the subject of his address, are of a character to render me solicitous, that the part I took in relation to them, should be presented in the light which truth and justice require. The memory of them will probably outlive the present day; & a decent regard for the opinions of those who are to succeed us, naturally makes me desirous that I should not seem to have any other connexion with events, little calculated to do credit to the history of the day, than what I in reality had.

It is impossible to doubt that the main drift of Major Eaton's address is to hold me up as the real author of all the discord which is alleged to have prevailed in the late cabinet, and to which he endeavors to trace its dissolution, and which, he would have the public believe, originated in a low and miserable squabble, on my part, in relation to the succession to the Presidential chair.

With this view, and in order to give a political aspect to the refusal of Mrs. Calhoun to visit Mrs. Eaton, he states, that she and myself called in the first instance on him and Mrs. Eaton, during their absence at Philadelphia; intending it to be inferred, that in declining intercourse afterwards, we were actuated by political motives, and not by considerations connected with duty. Unfortunately for Major Eaton his statement is not correct. Mrs Calhoun never called on Mrs. Eaton at the time he states, nor at any other time before, or since, nor did she ever leave her card for her, nor authorise any one to do so; and she is entirely ignorant through what channel, or by what agency her card could come into his and Mrs Eaton's possession; to which I add, that it was not done through my agency, or with my consent or knowledge. If Major Eaton had reflected, he would have seen that there must have been, to say the least, an imposition somewhere. He states, that our visit took place while they were in Philadelphia, and of course, preceded their call, which, as he represents, took place after their return, and which; he must know, according to the usage that governs intercourse at the place could not occur. The Senators and their families invariably make the first call on the Vice President and his family; and in conformity with this rule, Major Eaton had called on me, on my arrival at Washington, before his marriage, which I afterwards returned; and not finding him at home, left my card. This was probably, while he was absent at Philadelphia, and was the only intercourse I had with him, as far as I can recollect, during the whole session, except what took place in the Senate chamber, or when we casually met at parties.

This is not the first time that Mrs. Calhoun has contradicted the statement that she had visited Mrs. Eaton. It was reported at the time, that she had visited Mrs. Eaton, and that her card had been left. She then on all suitable occasions, contradicted it, as directly and pointedly as she now does, and in particular to two respectable ladies from Tennessee, (wives of members) who then resided in an adjoining boarding house.

The erroneous statement of Maj. E. compels me to give a correct version of what actually occurred; but which I never intended to intrude on the public, and now state, with great reluctance, even in self-defence. When he and Mrs. Eaton made their visit, I was not at home, as he [illegible] return till after they had retired. When I returned, Mrs. Calhoun mentioned they had been there, and said she would not have known who Mrs. Eaton was, had she not been with Mr. Eaton, as the servant had not announced their names. She of course treated them with civility. She could not with propriety, do otherwise. The relation which Mrs. Eaton bore to the society of Washington, became the subject of some general remarks. The next morning she informed me, that she had made up her mind not to return her visit. She said that she considered herself in the light of a stranger in the place; that she knew nothing of Mrs. Eaton, or the truth or falsehood of the imputation on her character; and that she conceived it to be the duty of Mrs. Eaton, if innocent, to open her intercourse with the ladies who resided in the place, and who had the best means of forming a correct opinion of her conduct, and not with those who, like herself, had no means of forming a correct judgement. I replied, that approved of her decision, though I foresaw the difficulties in which it would probably involve me; but that I viewed the question involved as paramount to all political considerations, and was prepared to meet the consequences, as to myself, be they what they might.

So far from political motives having any influence in the course adopted, could they have been permitted to have any weight in the question, the very reverse course would have been pursued. The road to favor and patronage lay directly before me, could I have been base enough to tread it. The intimate relation between Gen. Jackson and Major Eaton was well known, as well as the interest that the former took in Mrs. Eaton's case; but as degraded as I would have felt myself had I sought power in that direction I would not have considered the infamy less had we adopted the course we did from any other motive than a high and sacred regard to duty. It was not in fact, a question of the exclusion of one already admitted into society, but the admission of one already excluded. Before the marriage, while she was Mrs. Timberlake, she had not been admitted into the society of Washington; and the real question was whether her marriage with Major Eaton should open the door already closed on her; or, in other words, whether official rank and patronage should, or should not prove paramount to that censorship, which the sex exercises over itself; and on which, all must acknowledge the purity and dignity of the female character mainly depend. Had the case been different; had a scheme been formed to exclude Mrs. Eaton, with political views, as is insinuated, the folly would have been equalled only by its profligacy. Happily for our country, this important censorship is too high and too pure to be influenced by any political considerations

©Maryland State Archives, msa_sc2940_scm11030-0152.jpg