or the razor touched the bullet, and inserting his two thumbs into the gash, 'irted it out,' as he assured us, without costing a cent. The other ball remains in the limb yet, but gives him no trouble, except when he uses violent exercise. He is now one of the most successful hunters in the country, and it still takes the *best kind of a man* to handle him.*

In the midst of mirth, reflect that many of your fellow creatures around the world are expiring, and that your turn will come shortly. So will you keep your life uniform and free from excess.

The following Petuion will be presented to the next General Assembly of Md.

TO THE HONORABLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MD.

Your petitioners respectfully represent, that all Governments are or ought to be instituted for the benefit of the governed, and not the exclusive benefit of the Rulers, therefore office was not nor should be instituted for the sole advantage of the officer, but for the advantage of the community, and when ever an office is perverted from this intent, it should be changed or abolished, and further when even an officer from any cause, the want of integrity or competency cannot or will not perform the duties of his office he should be displaced. Your petitioners therefore humbly pray your Honourable body to pass a law directing the grand Juries of the respective counties to make diligent inquiry and true presentments make of the competency of all officers in the county, and particularly of *Registers of Wills*, and if bills of indictments shall be made, the council for the State shall forthwith proceed to the trial of the same in all cases as in malfeasance or misdemeanor in office, but if he shall be found guilty of want of competency it shall be only a disqualification to hold the same office again in the county. This much your petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray, &c.

It is particularly due to a virtuous public to know what gave rise to the determination, (of those persons who have resolved to present the above petition to the next General Assembly) as it is concisely stated in the petition, offices were created for the advantage of the community and not for the exclusive benefit of the officer, and as in these latter times party drilling has obtained many important offices for some who are *entirely incompetent* to perform the duties for instance. Justices of the peace not accountants, Constables destitute of moral character, Levy Court men, swindlers, orphans' Court, drunkards or cheats, and Begisters of Wills, not even qualified to make out an administration account if their very existence was depending, &c. &c.—it becomes an intelligent people to reflect maturely upon these things, to examine into the competency of their several officers, as well their conduct, and if on such investigation any one (without respect of persons) should be found destitute of the necessary qualifications requisite to a good officer, let him be exposed and held up to public scorn. I aver that no man of sterling principle will ever accept and hold an office that he does not understand, and cannot learn the duties thereof, a base imposition and want of moral honesty that any man should retain an office that he is manifiestly incompetent to fill I am perfectly aware that there are some individuals who are interested and will denounce the principle held forth in the petition and this explanation, but let them flinch who are galled, I know the sound will not wince, for none of them are embraced or intended to be the least implicated. If executive appointments were made solely in reference to the public interest, and representative recommendations disregarding party policy, there would not have been any necessity for the above petition—more anon VOTERS.

☞ Papers friendly to the above are requested to publish it.

THE FIRST SHOT.

An Historical Fact.

"By Jove," cried little Jules, one bright morning in July, "if I had a gun,"—and he pushed away with indignation the chesnut ringlets that clustered round the youthful forehead, struck the table with his clenched fist, his young blood boiling in his veins, at the sight of friends, brothers, murdered in cold blood; then he approached the window, and leaning his smooth and burning cheeks against the panes, which shook with the firing of the royal troops, his eys filled with tears of grief and indignation as he beheld the terrible massacre in the street, and gazed on the result of a monarch's stupidity and a court's corruption. 'Mamma, mamma' he exclaimed, only look: there are some poor fellows carried off on a litter; must be dead or dying." "Oh my God! Jules, come from the window."—"And look, there are some who have just fallen, bruised and wounded. By Jove, if I only had a gun." His mother alarmed at Jules' extreme agitation, drew him from the window, and endeavoured to direct his mind; but he escaped from her kind solicitude, ran up the stairs, four steps at a time, up into the garret, where among other antiquitys, he found an old, and rather rusty, musket, and little Jules clapped his hands in extacy and exclaimed, by Jove, I have got a gun at last. It was rather heavy for so youthful and inexperienced an arm—but what is impossible to a generous and intrepid heart, though it beat in the bosom of a boy of twelve?—Little Jules raised the musket which just suited him, stepped down stairs with his precious burden, 'paede suspenso,' for fear of alarming his anxious and watchful mother. But when Jules got into the street he found his rusty and heavy musket not loaded.—Luckily, as he thought, a grocer's store stood next to his mother's house; he ran into the shop and exclaimed, Do not be alarmed, I am your friend Jules; load my gun, good fellow, and make haste; by Jove I will give it to them yet. What! cried the astonished grocer; you too? Load it, load it, and don't talk to me, replied Jules. But you are too young to fight, remonstrated the friendly grocer; they will kill you, Jules—do you not hear the cannons, and the dreadful firing? just listen. But Jules stamped his foot and answered only, By Jove old man, do not chatter so, but load my gun—and the grocer finding all entreaties vain, did as he was commanded & loaded the gun. Jules, after casting one lingering and affectionate glance at the windows of his mother's house, rushed into the street, already strewed with dead bodies. Oh my God! he murmured to himself—though even at this dreadful sight the courage of the boy failed him but for a moment. Just in front of him was a regiment of the king's household troops. An officer in glittering uniform, and a drawn sword, and threatening gestures, was leading them on to a new and ruthless charge. Jules gazed for a moment at the terrific scowl, and imperious voice, with whom the officer encouraged the massacre, and murmured once more to himself, By Jove I have got a gun! He posted himself behind a low wall, rested his musket on the top of it, took a long and deliberate aim, & fired. The officer in brilliant uniform fell from his horse, shot directly through the heart. Jules rushed into his house, ran to his mother's room and told her in triumph how he had killed his country's foe. And the trembling mother pressed him in silence to her beating heart—and had engraved on the old musket these few but expressive words—*Paris, July* 28. 1830

MYSTEROUS CIRCUMSTANCE.

The New York Courier and Enquirer of yesterday contains the following statement of a very singular outrage.

Considerable excitement has been created in the city by the following act of daring villany, the motives for which are still enveloped in mystery. About half past 11 o'clock on Thursday night, a respectable young lady aged 18 years, was returning down Pearl street from Broadway, from a party, with her parents and some other friends, the young lady had got in advance of her companions about one hundred yards; when within a few paces from the corner of Elm and Pearl, a man started from behind a large cask, threw a rope around or over her head, and immediately fled, while some persons at the other end of the rope commenced hauling it with rapidity towards Elm street. The young lady was dragged along some paces, but fortunately her bonnet, below which the rope had not passed, was dragged off and her friends and several others, alarmed by her shrieks, rushed to the spot—ruffians of course fled. The young lady swooned away from exhaustion, and excitation. The rope was found attached by a noose to the bonnet, and her redicule, which she has dropped in throwing up her hands to protect her neck from the rope, was found at some distance, or where the assault was made. All this was the work of an instant, and had the noose got around her throat, a very few moments would, in all probability, have been sufficient to strangle her.

The person who first found the bonnet did not mention that a rope was attached to it, and a gentleman who advanced towards him, observed him, coiling up his rope hastily, the gentleman asked for the rope that it might be left in Mr. Knapp's store until next morning; and the other expressing an intention to leave it elsewere. The rope, however, was taken, and is now in the Police Office; it is about 20 or 25 yards in length, and has on each end a large running noose.

When we couple this circumstance with the facts that within the last two or three weeks two young females have been missed and not yet heard from; and that yesterday information was communicated that two other persons, one a man named Moffat, the other a lad named Harrison, are also absent from their friends, who know not where they are. The subject is calculated to excite alarm, and should be strictly investigated.

The steam Boat Andrew Jackson, on her way from Charleston to Augusta, wes destroyed by the explosion of her steam Engine, on Saturday the 4th instant. Most of the cargo was destroyed. The Engineer, an Irish passenger, and a free mulatto, were killed, and two others of the hands were injured. The boat is said tobe entirely destroyed.

Funny Assortment.—Messrs. E & H. Rhodes, merchants, Manlius, Onondaga Co. N. Y. advertise among their assortment of goods the following curious articles:—"Apron-strings, axle trees, breeches bottoms, baby boots, cable tows, chicken coops, dandy shirts, dumplings, dishes, easy chairs, edge tools, feather fans, fat firkins, grindstones, goose yokes, gun flints, squash skimmers, sneezing powder, with an innumerable variety of other notions, which they will sell as cheap as at any other place south of Kamschatka or west of Constantinople.'

Communications.

For the Centreville Times.

To the Editor of the Md. Republican.

SIR—A writer in your paper, on the eligibility of Gov. Martin, whose article has recently been published in the Easton Star, has thought proper to depart from the legitimate discussion of the question, in order it would seem, that he might have an opportunity to attempt to cast odium on others; and I deem it proper that I should say a word or two in notice of it.

It is not my purpose to defend those who hold the doctrine of ineligibility, from the charge, that their affectation of this opinion, has been got up from original hostility to the late Governor. They are abundantly able to defend themselves, if they choose; and one would have supposed the names of such men as Judge Duvall, and Wm. Wirt, alone, independent of many other strong men, would have been sufficient to shield them from such a charge, at least at this time.

I am allowed full credit for the off hand opinion I gave, which happened as the writer supposes to be in accordance with the vote I once gave for Governor Bowie; a vote which, when it was given, was known to be only an empty compliment; and the question of his eligibility, I apprehend was not thought of by a single member. This writer then does not stop here; but goes on quite as gratuitously to infer that this hostility is also in part owing to the "mortification from disappointment," felt by Gov. Martin's "jealous rivals;" and adds, that he has had an intimation that this is unfortunately the case. Mr. Goldsborough and myself having been, by the kindness of friends, his only competitors at the election, it is clear that he or I, or both of us, are his "jealous" rivals. If then I am the person alluded to as one who felt "mortification" from "jealousy" on account of the ascendency of the successful rival, I give to the author, or any one also making the insinuation—THE LIE DIRECT.

It is however true that I was mortified and indignant, not from *jealousy* at the result of the election, in favour of a successful rival; but because of the *manner in which the canvass was conducted against me*, at Annapolis.

Whether the late governor be eligible or ineligible to re-election, or whether it be wise and salutary to have constitutional restrictions to protect the great interests of the state against the squabbles and contentions of 'rival' individuals or their friends, who may enter and re-enter the lists for the office, are matters which belong to the Legislature to examine and decide: I am aloof from the contest and shall remain so.

I recognise fully the right of anonymous writers fairly to discuss the merits of men in office, or candidates; but I never have and never will subscribe to their right to impugn the motives of private individuals

THO. EMORY.

Poplar Grove, Dec. 20, 1830

Times & Advertiser,

CENTREVILLE: (E. S.) MD. DECEMBER 25

☞ Nullifying Willie P. Mangum has been elected to the Senate of the United States from North Carolina.

☞ Wr. Wilkins has been elected to the United States' Senate from Pennsylvania. This is rather a damper to the Secretary of the Treasury.

☞ Gen. Jackson's defence of his appointment of Mr. Randolph, as Minister to Russia, is laughable in the extreme—it is weak—it is insulting to the American people. The President says 'Mr. R's. great experience in publick affairs' gave him assurance of his success as a minister! but his 'constitution being impaired in the publick service, Mr. R. was rendered incapable of performing his expected duties!' Mr. R. has grown gray in the abuse of the ablest and best men of our country—Madison, Monroe, Adams, &c. This is the public service he has rendered, and for which Jackson has rewarded him. His constitution has been impaired more probably from the aptitude of his mind to engender spleen than to any exhaustion in the publick service.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

We published last week the annual state paper of the United States' president; not, because we saw so much to admire in it as to give up our whole paper to its publication, but on account of its proceeding from the executive of the United States, and of course supposed to contain an expose of our national affairs.

True, its inordinate length startled us because we knew our Jackson friends now, must have the same antipathy to long messages, that they had when Mr. Adams was president; but we thought withal, with them probably Jackson could do no wrong, of course our fears on that head were soon quieted. And as to our Anti-Jackson friends, we believe, like ourself, they condemn the Message almost in toto.

We regard it as an exculpatory political address, to the publick of the United states, rather thad a message to the Representatives of the people, in congress assembled—it is a kind of after dinner harangue, where the pronoun I, seems to be the most conspicuous feature. Would that this were our only objection. But we condemn it on other and higher motives—it *may* inculcate principles among the people hurtful to the permanency of our government, and the happiness and convenience of our citizens. The objections we complain of are so manifest, it is hardly worth our while now to take up room in repeating them, further than to say they come under the head of—Treatment of the Indians—United States' Bank—Internal Improvement—Treasury Bank—Tariff—and appointment of Mr Randolph.

THE MESSAGE.

We may expect that the message of President Jackson will be subject to some severe ordeals. We do not remember to have read one that would lose more by a trial. We are certain that the friends of the President in this city regret its character, his enemies could scarcely have desired at his hands a more effectual weapon against himself.

We may remark, that the declarations as to the constitutionality of the tariff, mortify some of the ultras of the south while the friends of the 'system' in this state will scarcely be satisfied with the admission against its utility. The special pleadings upon almost every subject mentioned is scarcely becoming an executive message. Perhaps no where is there so much speciousness as in the argument for removing the Indians. The President begs the question; he takes for granted the very things that constitute the subject of discussion, and goes on smoothly with an argument for sending the red men from the graves of their ancestors. He makes the former errors of the government a precedent for new ones, and contrives to keep wholly out of sight, the pledge made by government to the Cherokees.

The reference to Mr. Randolph's sufferings in the cause of the public, is certainly unfortunate, to say the least. It would be difficult, we imagine, to point out any public labours of Mr. Randolph that would have rendered necessary a voyage from St. Petersburg to the south of Europe. When the message is examined closely, critics will enquire whether the interest of the country are indeed safe in the hands of the Secretary of Legation, not from his want of integrity or devotion to business, but from his lack of years, which brings experience and respect.

Those who think that the recommendation to change the constitution so that a president should serve only one term, amounts to a declaration on the part of General Jackson, that he shall not again appear as a candidate, will probably find themselves disappointed. The advantages of legal permission will probably be used against a sense of positive justice; and this may be inferred from a part of the message in which it is stated, that the citizens will have a chance to decide upon his opinions.

The part relating to the Bank of the United States, may be considered as most exceptionable. Those of our fellow citizens who stand most opposed to banks, whether upon the ground of objections to charter institutions, or of opposition to monied monopolies, had acknowledged that the Bank of the U. States was the least liable to exception, and that while others existed, that seemed almost necessary to their proper regulation. The doubts of the constitutionality of the bank, have long since been dissipated; & the succedaneum of a Great Treasury Office with officers to be paid by the number of bills they sell, has excited derision rather than called for argument. U. S. Gaz.

The New York Age says; "The President's Message is obviously the work of at least two different individuals: The "Magician," of course, has had his hand in it, probably the principal part of it is his work. It is marked thoughout with his peculiar spirits, consisting of declaration, seemingly frank and bold, but wound up with a saving clause, so that every party can quote it as authority, and like Lord Peter's will, Jack and Martin can derive different religions from it. The part relating to the Indians, is, we conclude, the Attorney General's. Its style is more rhetorical and flourishing, and is, in our opinion, in worse taste than the rest. It is surely in miserable keeping to make old Hickory talk of things "with which the young heart has become entwined." Old Andrew, whose old heart is as tough as a saddle bottom could no more have used this expression than he could have written Ben Johnson's—"Drink to me, dearest with thine eyes!"

The New York Journal of Commerce gives the following opinion of the President's Message.

Were we to express our opinion of this document in a few words, we should say that it was unnecessarily prolix,—decidedly inferior to the last as a piece of composition, altogether too controversial—and hence undignified, as well as by its half concealed allusion to the leader of the Opposition, and the studied omission of the names of the Adamses, where all the other Ex-Presidents are mentioned. These last items we regard as manifest breaches of courtesy, and can only account for them by supposing they are the promptings of some hot-headed partizan, who is permitted to exert an influence with the Chief Magistrate of the Nation which he has no claim to possess. Like the former Message from the same source, the present document betrays the different hands by which it was constructed, though with more apparent effort to conceal the diversities of workmanship. Were the President to write his own Messages, without interference from others, we have no doubt they would be frank, straight forward expositions of the state of the nation, & its relations with foreign powers, without stepping aside to mingle in extraneous discussions, or convey insinuations to the disadvantage of his rivals.

Coming events cast their shadows before.—We have before us the Kentucky Reporter of December 1, from which we make the following extract:—

POLICY OF THE ADMINISTRATION

We have received information, on which we place implicit reliance that Amos Kendall has written from the city of Washington to an editor of a leading Jackson print, in one of the Atlantic cities, advising him to urge in his paper three points, viz:

1. The gradual reduction of the Tariff. 2. The policy and propriety of the Veto; and 3. Opposition to a renewal of the Charter of the bank of the U. States.

Whether a circular of the same tenor has been addressed to any or all of the other Jackson papers, we have not been informed. Considering the connexion of Kendall with the president & his cabinet, there cannot be a doubt, that the above letter has been written by him with their assent, if not at their instance.

The policy of the present administration, therefore, may be assumed to be—the destruction of the American System, by a gradual reduction of the tariff. It would not do to propose its destruction at once; it must for purposes of deception, be effected by a *gradual* reduction. The destruction of the system of Internal Improvement, & the destruction of the Bank of the U. States! Finding that the huge paper bank of Washington, proposed by the president, did not take with the people that is now kept back. It will be time enough to propose it again when the bank of the United States is destroyed.

The above extract was written nearly two weeks before the president's message was delivered to congress; & yet we find in it almost a perfect anticipation of that document: Is it true, we would ask, that such men as Amos Kendall are allowed a foretaste of the executive recommendation? If so, how shall we marvel, that twice in succession there has been a sudden and important reduction in the price of U. States bank stock immediately preceding the appearance of the annual message of the president, when in other less favored places a similar reduction is found to be naturally consequent upon the publication of that document?

It appears to us, that such a curious coincidence as that above noted, would under the administration of John Q. Adams, have called for very severe animadversion from the watchful presses of the then opposition; indeed, passed into a by-word of reproach—our neighbor of the Inquirer refers those forereachings to the tricks of trade. It seems now certain, that there is a power behind the throne, which, if not greater is more active than the throne.

The Kentucky Commentator of the 7th instant, contains a communication from Henry Banks, esq. charging Amos Kendall with having deserted from Mr. Clay to Gen. Jackson, for a stipulated consideration which he, Mr. Banks, paid him. Mr. B says, "I knew that