

CAMDEN GAZETTE.

Number 3.

THURSDAY, April 18, 1816.

Volume I.

PRINTED BY P. W. JOHNSTON, KING-STREET, CAMDEN, (S. C.) FOR THE PROPRIETORS.

PROSPECTUS.

IN taking the direction of a Public Journal, the Editor has no other object in view, than, by the exercise of an useful occupation to obtain an honest livelihood—to manage his paper in such a manner, that Society shall derive from it, the greatest possible benefits alloyed with the least possible evils.

It has been unfortunately the fact, that for the last fifteen or twenty years, scarcely a periodical publication has been ushered into existence in the United States, unshielded by the banners of party, and which has not been exclusively attached to some particular sect of politicians; their career has been marked by the unqualified praise of their patrons, and an equally indiscriminate abuse of their opponents.—What improvement of the state of society, what advancement of the cause of truth, light, and liberty, can be expected from papers thus devoted.

The CAMDEN GAZETTE shall not become the exclusive herald of any party, sect, or faction; but glorying in the name and in the character of an AMERICAN CITIZEN, the Editor will as far as his humble talents will permit, make his paper the shield of that name and character, and, if he can be pardoned the vanity, he will attempt to sustain the impartiality of the Press. Whatever may be his private opinions of men and measures, they can be of little use to be obtruded on his readers; if his paper shall be ably and honestly conducted, they will be satisfied; and in a country like ours where civil liberty is guaranteed by permanent constitutions, and secured and regulated by wholesome laws, wisely administered, there can be little or no necessity for public declaimers or party printers.

Having stated what is not intended to be done by the Camden Gazette, it may not be improper to suggest what is intended to be done.

It is intended to chronicle the events of the times in as correct and concise a manner as most printers do: to be vigilant in the publication of all articles of real information in the useful arts of civil life, particularly on improvements of Agriculture and Manufactures;—and one object of considerable interest with Planters, Farmers, and Mercantile Gentlemen of the Interior of South and North-Carolina, will be particularly attended to, viz: a weekly exhibit of the PRICES CURRENT of every Staple of the two states, as they shall be valued respectively in the markets of Charleston, Columbia, Camden, and Fayetteville, to be contrasted in a table at one view: to which will be added the prices of all the principal Articles of first necessity, such as Salt, Iron, Coffee, Sugar, &c. &c. so that every man can be informed at home, by a glance at the tables, which will be the best market at which to adventure his produce.

Although the idea of a party paper is renounced, yet those who shall wish to discuss any political or other subject of public interest, are assured that the columns of this Gazette will be open and free for all temperate discussions; and communications from the Politician, the Philosopher and the Moralist, are respectfully invited. The ebullitions of genius, and the literary effusions of taste and talents, whether exhibited in the sober periods of prose, or modelled to the fascinating measures of the Muses, shall always find a niche in our humble temple of literature.

CONDITIONS.

I. The CAMDEN GAZETTE to be published once a week, with a fair and legible Type, on good paper of medium size, in folio pages of four columns.

II. The price to Subscribers is THREE DOLLARS per annum, for fifty-two numbers, exclusive of postage, to be paid in advance for one year, except in Camden, and in towns or places where regular Agents reside, and there half yearly payments will be received.

Subscriptions for one quarter year, will be ONE DOLLAR exclusive of postage; and in all cases where papers shall be delivered to subscribers at the expense of the publisher, the price will be, including postage, FOUR DOLLARS a year.

April 4, 1816.

WANTED.

AN Apprentice to the Printing business is wanted at the Office of the CAMDEN GAZETTE: A lad between 12 and 16 years of age, of respectable connections, correct habits, and a good English education, might obtain favorable terms.

April 4.

MISCELLANY.

FROM THE GLEANER.

The Cogitations of Uncle John.

Affection is said to descend. The love of children to their parents, it is contended, bears no proportion to the love of parents to their children. The former it is maintained is a sentiment, the latter a passion. Children are said to conform to the will of their parents from duty—while the devotion of parents to their children springs from love. Hence in every state of society, civilized or savage, parents protect and cherish their offsprings with the tenderest care. But the attention of children to their parents is generally proportioned to the degree of refinement existing in society. By refinement it should not be understood that state where every man can speak French—play whist—cut a pigeon wing—waltz—kill his friend the first shot, or smile when the heart is rankling with anger: But where the moral sense is refined—where virtue is cherished—and the will of the High and Holy One is esteemed supreme and sacred.

It is stated by Lewis and Clark, in their tour to the Western Ocean, that some tribes of Indians, when about to change their place of residence, set before their old men provision for a few days, and then abandon them to perish. Every refined and generous bosom is struck with horror at such barbarity.

Notwithstanding this fact, and the general opinion expressed to the contrary, I think there is good ground to conclude that a strong natural affection exists in the hearts of children for their parents. If not, whence arises the horror and detestation that springs in every bosom at the recital of the conduct of the daughters of Lear? And whence the unusual delight that is felt in contemplating the conduct of Aeneas, in bearing on his shoulders his father, the good Anchises, from the flames of Troy?

Whatever opinions may exist on this point, one thing will be agreed to by every good man: That there is no duty more imperative, or that should be performed with greater cheerfulness and delicacy, than that of rendering the declining years of parents happy. Many little delicate attentions to their wishes and opinions are due, a thousand times, due, for their care of us in our infancy. As you hope, young man, for the respect of your children, or for the blessing of Heaven, I charge you to consult the desires, and to promote the happiness of your parents—Remember that, honor thy father and thy mother, is among the solemn behests of the decalogue.

Disgraceful as the fact is, yet we must admit, that even in this enlightened age and country, instances have occurred, of children being disrespectful to their parents—some times rude—and occasionally cruel. An instance recently mentioned in the public prints, as having lately taken place in a neighboring state, is, considering the state of society, more disgraceful and barbarous than the conduct of the Missouri savages. Two sons, having obtained the estate of their father, suffered him to be sued, and actually imprisoned, for a

small debt, refusing him relief!

If I see a man treat his father with disrespect, I set him down as lacking understanding. If he is cruel, in my memorandum book he is noticed as a savage. But the child who could work on a parent's affections and confidence to obtain his property, and then abandon him to want, must be a wretch so vile that no name expressive of his baseness has yet been discovered. Prudence is an estimable virtue. It is an act of superlative folly for any man to give all his property to his children. Keep enough for your own wants, and trust no man too far. Prudence never injured any man—Confidence ruined thousands. Listen a moment and I will tell you a story: An old man had a large estate, and at the solicitation of his children, upon promises of the kindest treatment, he made it all over to them. Immediately their conduct towards him changed. Instead of "Honored Father," it was "The old man." In the place of "What will you choose for dinner, sir?" it was—"There's your porridge."

Although the old gentleman had lost his property, he retained his wit; and hunger, you know, is a wonderful sharpener of the faculties. He took his measures; and pretty soon a neighbour who was about to remove, brought home an old iron-bound chest, very heavy, observing "That he had long felt uneasy at having the property of other people in his care, and was glad of an excuse to return it into the hands of its owner."

"Very well," said the old gentleman, a few thousands, more or less, is no great matter to one who has enough; but it may be of service to my dear children when I am gone." The chest was placed in his room—a lock put on the door, and now and then he was overheard counting and throwing something into it that chinked like gold. No one doubted his wealth; and to the enquiries of his children, he answered, his will would be found enclosed. The scene was instantly changed again. No children could be more dutiful and attentive. No father was ever served more to his heart's content. At his death, his children waited half an hour, for decency's sake, and then ran to open the chest, where to their great surprise, they found some old pieces of Iron, and a mallet, with this homely, but wise distich labelled on the handle: "He that gives away his estate before he is dead, Take this mallet and knock him on the head."

On the other hand—besides the case cited by Aeneas, history furnishes us with numerous instances of filial affection worthy to be recorded.

A noble Roman was condemned to be starved to death. His daughter was admitted to visit him, but was carefully examined, to see that she took no provision to her father. But he did not die as was expected, and on looking secretly into his prison, the father was seen drawing his sustenance from the breasts of his daughter. A sight so lovely melted the hearts of his tyrants, and he was pardoned. The story is often alluded to.

BURKE, in one of his speeches

says: "The scarcity which the old world has felt would have been a desolating famine, if this child of old age (America) with true filial piety—WITH A ROMAN CHARITY, had not put the full breast of its youthful exuberance to the mouth of its exhausted parent."

With one more beautiful instance of filial affection I shall close this paper. When Elijah cast his mantle on Elisha, with the command to follow him, and devote himself to the Most High, what did Elisha ask?—To bury his treasure, or to place his gold at usury?—Oh no!—"Let me, I pray thee," said he, "KISS MY FATHER AND MOTHER, and then I will follow thee." Excellent man! Thou wert indeed worthy to be a prophet in Israel!

THE CLIMAX.

At the conclusion of the American revolution, Dr. Franklin, the English ambassador, and the French minister Vergennes, dining together at Versailles, a toast from each was called for and agreed to. The British minister began with "George the 3d—who like the Sun in its meridian, spreads a lustre throughout, and enlightens the world."

The French minister followed with "The illustrious Louis 16th—who like the Moon, sheds its mild and benignant rays on, and influences the globe."

Our American Franklin then gave "George Washington, commander of the American army—who like Joshua of old, commanded the Sun and Moon to stand still, and they obeyed him."

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Camden, April 14.

A CARD.

DOCTOR DELEON, (late of the Hospital Department of the U. S. Army,) tenders his services in the line of his profession, to his friends and the Public.

Camden, April 3d, 1816.

STORE REMOVED.

THE Subscriber informs his friends and the public, that he has removed to his New House above the ditch, near De-Kalb-street, where he continues to keep a general assortment of GROCERIES & DRY GOODS, on the lowest terms possible.—He will be thankful for a continuation of patronage.

J. B. Mathieu.

April 4, 1816.

N. B. A NEGRO WOMAN, a field hand, who also understands Cooking and Washing, will be disposed of low for cash.

PROFILES

TAKEN at Mr. MATHIEU'S at 50 cents, warranted to be correct likenesses.

April 4.

1—4

30 Dollars Reward

WILL be paid for the delivery of a Negro fellow that answers to the name of BILLY, or BUCK but generally goes by the latter name, a carpenter by trade, well set, 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, pretty broad shoulders, tolerable sensible, went off about the middle of August last. The above reward will be paid on his being secured, so that he may be got, and Fifty Dollars on proof of his being harboured by a white man.

John Adamson.

Camden, April 11, 1816.

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PRINTING IN GENERAL

Executed with elegance and accuracy, on the shortest notice, at the Office of the CAMDEN GAZETTE, King-street.

All kinds of BLANKS for Attornies, Sheriffs, Justices, &c. kept for sale at this Office.