

CAMDEN GAZETTE.

Number 9.

THURSDAY, May 30, 1816.

Volume I.

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

CONDITIONS OF THIS GAZETTE.

THE price to Subscribers is THREE DOLLARS per annum, for fifty-two numbers, exclusive of postage; and in all cases where papers shall be delivered at the expense of the publisher, the price will be, including postage, FOUR DOLLARS a year, payable half yearly in advance.

Terms of advertising in this GAZETTE.

Advertisements not exceeding eight lines will be printed for FIFTY CENTS, for the first publication, and half that price for every subsequent insertion. Larger advertisements will be charged in proportion.

A liberal discount will be made on the bills of those who are constant or considerable customers in this line.

If no directions are given with an advertisement, it will be continued till forbid.

Sheriff Sales.

BY virtue of an Order of the Hon. Court of Common Pleas, will be sold on the 1st Monday and Tuesday in June next, before the Court House in Camden, within the usual hours of sale,

ONE Chest of Carpenters Tools, levied on by virtue of an attachment as the property of Alexander Spears, at the suit of Royal Bullard, Indc. of A. Matheson. Conditions Cash.

Francis S. Lee, S. K. D.

Camden, May 9, 1816.

By virtue of sundry Executions to me directed, will be sold on the first Monday and Tuesday in June next, before the Court House in Camden, within the legal hours,

THREE Hundred and Fifty acres Land more or less, situate on Little Lynch's Creek, levied on as the property of William Simms, at the suit of James Simms.

ONE Horse levied on as the property of Abraham Richardson, at the suit of O. Wilson.

Conditions Cash, purchasers to pay for Sheriff's Titles and Bills of Sale.

Francis S. Lee, S. K. D.

Camden, May 9, 1816.

RATES OF POSTAGE.

THE following rates of Postage are to be charged after the first day of May, conformable to an Act of Congress, passed on the 9th inst.

On Single Letters.

For any distance not exceeding 30 miles - 6 cents.
Over 30 and not over 80 miles - 10
Over 80 and not over 150 miles - 12 1/2
Over 150 and not over 400 miles - 18 1/2
Over 400 - 25

Double Letters, or those composed of two pieces of paper, double those rates.

Tripple Letters, or those composed of three pieces of paper, tripple those rates.

Packets, or letters composed of four or more pieces of paper, or one or more other articles, and weighing one ounce avoirdupois, quadruple those rates, and in that proportion for all greater weight.

Ship Letters, not carried by mail are chargeable with 6 cents.

Newspapers.

Each paper carried not over 100 miles - 1 cent.

Over 100 miles - 1 1/2

But if carried to any place within the state where printed, whatever be the distance, the rate is only one cent.

Magazines and Pamphlets.

Are rated by the sheet.

Carried not over 50 miles - 1 cent.

Over 50 and not over 100 miles - 1 1/2

Over 100 miles - 2

Every four folio pages, eight quarto pages and 16 octavo or lesser pages are to be considered as a sheet; also the surplus pages beyond even fours, &c. Journals of the state legislatures are to be charged with pamphlet postage, although not stitched or half bound.

Post masters are not to forward pamphlets in the mail, where the latter is very large, or where it is carried with great expedition or on horseback.

Return J. Meigs, jun.

Post Master General.

General Post Office, April 16.

N. B. The post master at every post town where a newspaper is printed, is to have this advertisement published in one of the papers (or more if he thinks it expedient) three times, to pay the expense, and charge it to this office in his account current as a contingent expense. 7. 3t

JOB PRINTING, neatly and correctly executed at this Office.

FOR THE CAMDEN GAZETTE.

A MAN of discernment in the causes which effect the prosperity and happiness of society, once exclaimed, I thank my God that I was born in a country which has not yet arrived at her state of maturity. Without arrogance and with equal fervour I repeat, I bless heaven that my birth was in the American Republic, where all things, the arts, sciences, literature, and whatever conduces to the welfare of the community, are in a state of progression.

No country ever enjoyed brighter prospects of happiness than the United States. At the birth of the Union, the ages of barbarism and darkness pined away. History had accumulated her stores for the instruction of our fathers and sages. The revolution of other states and empires were a fund, whence they could and did derive the purest principles of government and policy. Science had far and wide diffused her rays, and the fathers of this nation partook of the common bounty of heaven. The fine and the useful arts, long suffocated beneath the Roman empire, had been revived, and extending westward through Europe, had there already arrived at a high state of improvement. In our hemisphere, intellect had exhausted its powers in elucidating their science and their principle. That hand-maid of the sciences, printing, had for upwards of three centuries been recording the efforts of taste, industry and genius; and, to cultivate the human understanding, to diffuse a knowledge of the sciences and arts, to extend to such a knowledge of man as he appears in the savage, barbarian and civilized states, in his general nature as well as in his individual character; no longer degraded to the employment of the slave and the freedman, had become not merely the business but the delight of no inconsiderable portion of our race.

Such were the auspices at the birth of the republic. Such never strove on the birth of other states. Greece, Rome, France, Great Britain, and other states of Europe—these sprang as from chaos—the dawn of science beamed not on their origin; their foundations were not laid on principles, approved by nature and by reason, but for the most part, chance, or fraud, or force begat them, and those which still survive bear to this day marks of their generation. Wisdom may have dictated to two ill-givers forms of government. Athens and Sparta, and fancy may imagine a convention of the Roman banditti, deliberating with deep views of political laws, upon the form of government for the once mistress of the world; but it was reserved to America to exhibit the grand spectacle of a convention of patriots and statesmen, formed by thirteen independent sovereignties, forming a government for the whole, which, resting upon the most enlarged notions of political science, while it seeks the preservation of the whole community, consults in a particular degree the equal rights and the happiness of each individual.

But notwithstanding the union came into being at a most auspicious period, when the world was enlightened and refined by the effusion of knowledge, and when the science of government, of all others the most important, having long arrested the attention of the first talents, was better understood than at any former time; notwithstanding men of tried abilities and patriotism, who knew the genius, habits and manners of their fellow citizens, have, aided by their own experience, by the works of genius employed in discovering and elucidating the true principles of government, and by the history of other nations as well as their own, given in that sublime operative system which we now enjoy, and which we justly prize as superior to any other form, because it secures to us self government; and notwithstanding the rapid progress America has made, since that government came into operation, toward wealth and renown, still room is left for improvement in the condition of the republic. We have not yet arrived at perfection, nor do we, in my humble hope and estimation, yet realize all that high state of felicity, which awaits our country.

If I can reach the public ear and find leisure to compose, I shall hereafter make, perhaps in a more scientific manner, some further observations upon our national felicity.

FERGURSON.

FOR THE CAMDEN GAZETTE.

Ancient and Modern Eloquence.

AFTER taking an impartial view of the human understanding, it is extremely questionable whether its strength or weakness preponderates. We have honorable testimonials on the one hand of its acuteness and perspicacity, and on the other, humiliating marks of its feebleness and fallibility.

Civilization though occasionally retarded by wars, and fettered by governments, is spreading through the world its affable and benignant influence. Its residence hereafter promises to be more durable and its progression more rapid and regular. The eye of philosophy is dissipating by its beams the clouds that formerly enveloped its vision. The progress of the ancients in natural philosophy was slow and inconsiderable. The phenomena of nature was supposed to have resulted from the immediate agency of their Gods.

Many of the most important improvements in politics and jurisprudence, owe their origin and establishment to the experience and discernment of modern times.

The palm of eloquence seems to have been conceded by the modesty of the present age, to the illustrious orators of Greece and Rome. This however is no evidence of modern degeneracy in that noble and fascinating art. The greater renown of ancient orators, however, apparently paradoxical, evinces the superior refinement of the present age. In ancient times when the art of printing was unknown, the obstacles to the acquirement of knowledge were great and discouraging. The people were ignorant of many of the arts and sciences that now polish, enlighten and meliorate mankind. Demagogues created and preserved their power amidst the conflict and turbulence of passion. At that time none but the wealthy possessed the means of acquiring literary distinction. He who was ambitious of governing the minds and commanding the applauses of his countrymen, devoted himself to the study of rhetoric and its auxiliary sciences. Ardent in pursuit, and regardless of personal hazard and labor, he visits every country capable of affording improvement, becomes conversant with human nature, with passions and prejudices that influence mankind. On his return he finds perhaps a rival to fill for a while the path of his glory with thorns, or to strike out by collision, the scutillations of his greatness. Recommended by all the graces and accomplishments that travel and refinement can bestow, his fellow citizens harassed with difficulties, surrender to him the guardianship of the "golden fleece." Opposition sinks from around him; age and experience bows to the melody of voice and splendor of anticipation.

The exterior graces of oratory were then paramount in their influence to the suggestion of reason and the motions of time. The contortions of the body, and grimaces of the face were historical embellishments. The tear must flow, and the eye must flash. The profanum vulgus of antiquity without penetration to discern "the blaze of eloquence from the light of truth," considered the most frothy declamation, the most turbulent harangues as the divine effusions of a heaven-born intellect.

Why is the celebrity of the ancient orators still unrivalled? Not that they possessed more mind; not that they excelled in eloquence; but that an "ancient" audience was more easily excited to action; more quickly agitated to enthusiasm. Prudence and deliberation were not its virtues. Passion and pleasure were its lordlings paramount. The effect of the same oratory is different in separate assemblies. An enlightened audience may feel only a mild and momentary glow at that burst of eloquence which would throw an ignorant multitude into convulsions. Speakers who address the latter, are consequently more successful. When we reflect that Demosthenes and Cicero, harangued a populace, and that Chatham, Burke and Mansfield, addressed an enlightened assembly, we are no more at a loss to discover the cause of the superior effects of ancient eloquence. In times so distant from the troubled ages of Greece and Rome; when refinement has sharpened the intellect, and lapse of time become a security against prejudice and partiality, we read with delight, of the powerful effects of their eloquence. We hear that the Grecian orator roused the sleeping energies of democracy; that he drove the grand enemy of freedom within the limited precincts of his own principality. We hear that the Roman orator by a single blast, put to flight a host of midnight conspirators. That the heart of Caesar, which was wont to be unmoved "amidst the shouts of embattled enemies" trembled at the force of his eloquence. We turn to their orations with ardent hopes; we read with avidity the parts which produced these extraordinary effects. When lo! what disappointment! we see no astonishing aberrations of genius, no unrivalled effusions of fancy. We behold in modern speakers, many specimens of equal eloquence; a display as splendid of intellec-

tual powers. In those times imagination was the ruling faculty, but now, judgment is "lord of the ascendant." A statesman may feel indignant at the injustice of foreign nations; he may wish the emancipation of the world from ecclesiastical and military bondage, but he must pause; must deeply reflect before he prejudices his country by premature hostilities, or by attempts to execute his wild and nugatory speculations. Greece and Rome might have been thrown into confusion by the fancy and frenzy of a popular orator. An appeal to their Gods would have sent thousands from the Tarpeian rock. The flight of ravens or the spasms of a Delphian prophetess have made many voluntary tenants of the gloomy realms of Erebus.

In the present age, when reason and moderation have the ascendancy of prejudice and passion, extravagant appeals to the Author of the Universe, are inadmissible. The Gods of antiquity enjoy in their land of Elysium a repose as undisturbed and solitary as the slumbers of the Heathen giants.

Since modern oratory consists more in strength of argument than violence of gesticulation; since declamation, however plausible, cannot infatuate the minds of modern judges and politicians, it behoves the ambitious votary of eloquence to attend to this grand-improvement in the taste of the present age. Let him not be seduced by the wonders that have been wrought by the rhetoric of "older times." Let him consider that vehement gesticulation, uncouth contortions, and lungs of adamant can only drive a horde of savages to war; can only plant the spirit of extermination in the bosoms of Indians and Vandals. Let him then cultivate the reason and judgment, which are the noblest powers of the mind. Let him not trust to the sensibility of his heart, to the graces of his person, to the volubility of his tongue or the enthusiasm of his feelings.

Give to the ancient orators the advantages, derivable from superior melody of language, the ardor of liberty, the passion and recklessness of their auditories. We acknowledge that the orb of their glory is full, solid and durable, that its exterior is furnished with refined unfading splendors. We acknowledge that Philip may have found Demosthenes more formidable than fleets and armies; that Cataline's visions of disorganization vanished before the light and power of Ciceronian eloquence. But let us descend to our own times. Let not a comparison be considered presumption. Ireland, a country, covered with "chains and laurels," whose bodily powers bear no proportion to her intellectual resources, is fruitful of noble specimens. In the Parliament of England, the fire of eloquence has frequently darted its coruscations through the sturdy ramparts of power and despotism. The eloquence of Voltaire, Rousseau, and their proselytes started the French revolution. A revolution which has crumbled into dust so many thrones, extinguished so many dynasties, effaced so many national landmarks and "venerable institutions." A revolution which has been the fountain of rivers of blood, the spring of countless calamities, the theatre of terrible and disastrous tragedies.

Every demagogue who governed France at that time, acquired his power by impetuosity of eloquence and of action, every general infused into his army his own principles, energy and enthusiasm. Notwithstanding the existence of so many monuments of the power of modern eloquence, Cicero and Demosthenes will hold their pre-eminence while a reverence for antiquity, and the prejudices of infancy exist.

VENDOME.

Swindlers.—On Saturday last were apprehended at Harrisburg four men, having in their possession notes to the amount of three hundred and fifty thousand dollars, purporting to be notes of the Miami Exporting Company of Cincinnati, signed Daniel Sharp, president. It being ascertained that there was no such bank, they were committed by John Kain, esq. to the goal on a charge of swindling.—*Lat. pap.*

BEAUFY.

Milton was passionately fond of music. Sometime after his unfortunate blindness, hearing a lady sing finely: "Now will I swear," said he, "this lady is handsome." His ears were then eyes to him.