

CAMDEN



GAZETTE.

Number 18.

CAMDEN, S. C.

THURSDAY, August 1, 1816.

Volume I.

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.

Wholesale Prices Current.

Domestic Articles.	Charleston.	Camden.
Cotton, Sea Island lb	0 50	0 53
Upland,	0 29	0 31
Rice, prime new cut	0 00	3 75
Flour, Superfine bbl	9 00	9 50
" " " " " " " "	9 00	0 00
" " " " " " " "	9 00	0 00
Corn, bush	0 95	1 00
Wheat,		1 25
Tobacco, leaf lb	0 15	0 16
" " " " " " " "	0 20	0 25
Whiskey, gal	0 60	0 65
Butter, lb	0 25	0 30
Bacon,	0 14	0 16
Lard,	0 19	0 00
Tallow,	0 18	0 20
Bees Wax,	0 28	0 30
Hemp,		0 00
Homepun, cotton yd	0 23	0 28
" " " " " " " "	0 25	0 30
Shoe thread, lb		62
Indigo, prime,	0 75	0 80
Dear Skins in hair,		18
Foreign Articles.		
Coffee, prime, lb	0 23	0 24
" " " " " " " "	0 30	0 32
Sugar, Muscovado lb	0 14	0 16
" " " " " " " "	0 55	0 55
Iron, 100 lb.	5 00	6 00
Molasses, gal	0 45	0 46

Almanac—August 31 days.

Mo	Week	SUN	MOON
		Rises	Sets
1	Th	5 11	6 49
2	Fr	5 12	6 48
3	Sa	5 12	6 48
4	Su	5 13	6 47
5	Mo	5 14	6 46
6	Tu	5 15	6 45
7	W	5 16	6 44

Under Decree in Equity.

Will be sold in CAMDEN, before the Court-House, between the legal hours of sale, On Monday the 5th day of August next,

FOUR separate tracts of LAND, containing 630 acres, (more or less,) situate on Horse Pen Creek, in Kershaw District, having on the same a Grist Mill, sold to satisfy a decree in favour of Turner Joy and Jacob Boon, against Nicholas Swilley.

—ALSO—

A tract of Land containing One Hundred Acres, (more or less) situate on Horse Pen Creek, bounded at the time of the original survey, on all sides by vacant land. Another tract on the north side of the Wateree, containing One Hundred and fifty acres, granted to Wm. Langley, and bounded at the time of the grant thereof, by Benjamin Perry's and Zaddock Perry's land, near Col. Peay's Ferry—Also, a lot in the town of Camden, No. 29, bounding on Broad-street. The said two tracts of land, and town lot above mentioned, to be sold to effect a division between the heirs of William Langley deceased, on a credit of nine months, the purchaser giving bond and good personal security, to be approved by the commissioner and paying for titles.

J. CARTER, Com. in Equity,
June 27, 1816. Camden District.

WRITING SCHOOL.

THE Subscribers intend opening a WRITING SCHOOL, in Mr. Havis's Long Room, on Monday the 29th inst to which they hope to meet with great encouragement in this place, as the institution is great.

HALL & DAY.
Camden, 25th July, 1816. 17a8

LITERARY.

From the American Review.
Observations on the 1st. volume of Dr. Clarke's travels in Russia, Tartary and Turkey.

BY A RUSSIAN.

Continued.
The existence of a society in which, with the exception of one man, all should be condemned to a state of perpetual suffering, is absolutely impossible. We can imagine no tie which could bind together beings destined only to endure pain and misery. Nature herself has fixed the point of suffering beyond which endurance stops, and the absolute power of the most capricious government which fancy can create, must halt at that point, or else change its organ, if not its principle. We admit that humanity has rarely cause to rejoice at revolutions effected in this manner, but we believe notwithstanding, that at every such change, some improvement is necessarily made in the condition of the governed, with respect to their civil existence. If there were any truth in the description given by Dr. Clarke, we should see Russia become a prey of continual seditions from one extremity of the empire to the other, and exhibit to the world, the same spectacle of carnage so often repeated at Constantinople. So far however is this from being the case, that the country enjoyed the most profound tranquility in its interior, at the very time, when from the nature of its external relations, the government was obliged to resort to extraordinary efforts, and to station the whole of its armed force on the frontiers:—when too the chances of war had been unfavorable to our arms, and a formidable enemy had already advanced to the threshold as it were of the empire.

The population of Russia, instead of diminishing continues to increase considerably, in spite of the prodigious consumption of men, necessarily occasioned by the maintenance of a military establishment, second in magnitude only to that of France. The ferocity of its inhabitants, who are represented as groaning beneath the most oppressive tyranny, arrive at an age rarely attained in other countries. We have laid these considerations before our readers, and leave the proper inferences to be drawn by themselves. The Russians are all, "high and low, rich and poor, alike servile to superiors, haughty and cruel to dependants, ignorant, superstitious, cunning, brutal, barbarous, dirty, mean."

It is a pity that the English dictionary could furnish Dr. Clarke with no more epithets to swell this catalogue of vices;—but these are repeated on every occasion, and when his language can afford him no term to vary his abuse, he has recourse to comparing them with some abject animal. Such were his opinions before he arrived at Moscow; soon after which, the festival of Easter gives rise to the following passage. "This was Easter proclaimed; and riot and debauchery instantly broke loose. The inn in which we lodged became a Pandemonium. Drinking dancing and singing, continued through the night and day. But in the midst of all these excesses, quarrels hardly ever took place. The wild, rude riot of a Russian populace is full of humanity. Few disputes are heard; no blows are given; no lives endangered but by drinking. No meetings take place of any kind, without repeating the expressions of peace and joy." &c. &c. We have been taught to believe that the character of a nation can never be studied with more advantage, than amidst those great festivals, which religion and immemorial custom have consecrated. Now we see the Russian populace so habitually barbarous and cruel, (as the Doctor says) lay aside their ferocity, at the very moment when they abandon themselves to all the excesses of debauchery, after a Lent of seven weeks duration, which, as he tells us himself, is observed with scrupulous and excessive rigor, (p. 40.) According to this ingenious gentleman therefore, the Russians manifest some virtues, only in those moments of exhilaration, in which all other nations, even the most highly civilized, forget for a time the good qualities habitual to them. Our poor countrymen however, will be made to pay dear for this naïveté of the Doctor.—Accordingly they are made to resume more than once, in the sequel, all the disgusting attributes, which he had before remarked in their character.

The mode of living of a Russian noble, on his estate, differs little, we are told,

from that of the lowest peasants. We can forgive Dr. Clarke's speaking of the latter. He has seen some of their faces at the post-houses on the road—nay, he had once an opportunity of seeing one of them eat his dinner at Poschok. This is sufficient for a traveller of his perspicacity. But when he enters into details of the manner in which a Russian nobleman, banished from court, passes his time, we confess our astonishment—for he visited none of this description, as far as we know, during his fugitive residence in the country—unless the venerable sage of the Crimea at for the picture; a supposition we will, on no account, admit. To us it is consequently evident, that this is one of the frequent instances, when the writer's imagination furnished colouring to his audacious falsehoods. The nobles often become objects of Dr. Clarke's animadversions during his abode at Moscow. We shall treat this topic more at large in another place.

Some inhabitants of Moscow are stated to have informed Dr. Clarke that the Russian sovereigns, not daring to take up a lodging within the walls, when they visit that city, reside at the palace of Petrosky, at the distance of four versts from it. Our readers shall judge, if such a piece of information, can really have been communicated to him, by an inhabitant of Moscow. At the epoch of the coronation of the Russian emperors, their entrance into that capital is always attended with the greatest pomp. Until the preparations for this objects are completed, (which never requires more than four or five days), it is customary for them, to stop at the palace of Petrosky. The whole remainder of the time appropriated to the ceremony, and the fetes which accompany it, is spent by them at the palace of Kremlin in the heart of Moscow, with neither more nor less security than in any other town of the empire. Possibly some wags of Moscow may have amused themselves with the credulity of the Doctor, and have assumed in his eyes the "little haughty" air of republicans, ascribed to them by the empress Catharine, (p. 32.)—but when we consider the multitude of voluntary and intentional errors, which occur in his book, we think it probable that it is rather Dr. Clarke himself who wishes to impose upon his readers.

Our traveller's entrance into Moscow, is ominous of the account he intends to give of the place.—He sees criminals, condemned to hard labour in the streets, throw snow-balls at the peasants who are passing in their sledges, and is struck with a new trait in the national character, because the officer who superintended these malefactors, was amused with their tricks. He is obliged to go before the commandant in order to exhibit his passport (*padorof-naya*) which he had bought, to use his expression, of the Emperor at St. Petersburg.—How many sins do we see here accumulated upon the heads of the poor Russian nation!—But what we must consider as above all unfortunate for our fellow-countrymen of Moscow, is, that Dr. Clarke should not have looked into Richard's "Guide des Voyageurs," before he bent his steps towards the "Hotel of Constantinople." In that work he would have found a direction to some inns, inferior indeed to the hotels in some other parts of Europe, but in which he might have procured something more than the mere necessities of life, and (we make bold to assure him) better society.—All who have the slightest knowledge of Moscow, will agree with us, that no where but in that obscure and dirty tavern, could he have fallen into the motley company of the representatives of the Oriental Hordes, Kirgissans, Bouchares, &c., and above all, of gipsy fortune-tellers.

An opinion universally admitted by metaphysicians is, that our ideas are always more or less influenced, by the objects which are continually about us. Dr. C.

* All persons who intend to travel post in Russia, are obliged to pay, on receiving the padorof-naya, or order for horses, one copeck (a half-penny), for each horse and each verst they intend to go—this is what Dr. Clarke calls buying a passport of the Emperor. The fund produced by this small tax is appropriated to repairing the roads. Travellers pay three copecks more per mile for every horse at each post;—so that, if they take four horses, it costs them 140 copecks, paper money, (about 80 cents, at par,) for every ten miles English. This charge is reduced 25 per cent. in provinces where forage is cheap.—In garrison towns, all travellers were obliged to present themselves before the commandant;—this formality has been suppressed by the reigning Emperor.

exemplifies this axiom. Surrounded in his hotel by a circle worthy of exercising the pencil of Hogarth or a Calot, the idea of vermin never abandons him. When he leaves his sordid lodging, it accompanies him to the palaces of our Emperors—into whose presence he never had the honor of being admitted; to the saloons of the Russian nobles, to which he rarely had access—to the antichambers of their footmen, with whom he is better acquainted; and into the taverns of the populace, which he seems to have taken pleasure in frequenting. He dares to assure us that "it is a fact too notorious to admit dispute, that from the Emperor to the meanest slave, throughout the vast empire of all the Russians, including all the princes, nobles, priests, and peasants, there exists not a single individual in a thousand, whose body is destitute of vermin." (to be continued.)

FROM THE PORTICO.

View of the present state of Polite Learning.
INTRODUCTION.

At the present day, an inquiry into the state of polite learning, may appear to many to be an useless undertaking. On this subject, diversity of opinion, is the door to perfection; and argument may strike out hints for improvement, which would never have been accomplished, under a silent acquiescence in supposed or imaginary excellence.

To review the past, and apply the lessons of experience to the improvement of the future, has ever been esteemed a salutary precept of wisdom. In learning, this maxim is of superior utility. The revolutions of taste, and fashion, and the gradual changes imperceptibly wrought in opinions, manners, and even principles, make such a retrospection eminently necessary to prevent us from falling into error, or sinking into degeneracy. The aim of genius and invention is novelty, as well as improvement; and it is frequently requisite to pause in the career of conquest, that we may inquire whether we have observed the principles of taste, and obeyed the laws of propriety.

Other considerations make such an investigation of beneficial tendency. Men of Genius are often carried by enthusiasm, to form extravagant anticipations of fresh improvements and discoveries; till the Romance of Imagination fixes the belief of consummate wisdom, and lulls the powers of the mind to contented repose. An opposite opinion often begets equal evil, by inducing despair. The mist in which so immense a tract of Learning, must always appear enveloped to the cursory observer, generates of itself, a thousand indescribable misconceptions. To follow one path through this boundless garden, may help to dispel the illusion; and correct the fancy. I do not presume to explore regions, so extensive, and exhaustless, as those which the world of Literature presents. The flight of the imagination, must be proportionate to the vigour of the mind; and the good effect of the investigation, if any good should flow from it, will at least be adequate to the extent of the design, and the danger of corruption.

It is the fortune, and the delight of the American student, to indulge in the visions of renown, that may hereafter be realized, in regard to our genius, and our Learning. Other nations have attained distinction, and gratified their ambition. Our ambition is yet to be roused, and our perfection is yet to be accomplished. The former is a laudable design, equally open to every capacity; the latter is a splendid achievement, reserved for the united labours of generations of scholars. But the humblest bosom may pant with desire, to behold an enlarged culture of polite Learning, in his native clime; the most diffident scholar, must be bold in the vindication of native genius, though he may confess with a sigh, that we are deficient in taste. To excite this ambition of excellence, to extend this cultivation of Letters, and to espouse the existence and improve the formation of Genius, is a chief part of the following treatise; however unconnected the materials may appear with the design. If it partly succeed, the recompense will be great; and I am only anxious lest this attempt to improve the encouragement of Learning, should impate the Literary Character we already possess.

CHAPTER I.
On the difficulty of determining the precise period of Intellectual Declension.
Wherever the principles of increase and perfection obtain, the seeds of destruction