

THE LAY PREACHER.

"The fashion of this world passeth away." As I am only a Lay Preacher, it must not be expected that I should always exhibit that accuracy of sermonizing, which characterizes the settled pastor. But having observed in the course of a long and regular attendance on public worship, that Divines are in the habit of dividing their matter, and of adjourning sometimes the morning exhortations till after dinner, I thought it expedient, when I selected the fruitful theme of last week's meditation, to reserve part of its topics till now. For, during the process of critically examining my subject in all lights, I found that fashion regulated speculation no less than practice, and that opinions, as well as dresses, had their times and seasons. As we are told by a profound reasoner, that as there is but one sun in the natural, so there can be but one truth in the intellectual world; an abstract metaphysician, in his cell, would suppose that, by this time, that one truth was discovered, and hence necessarily induced uniformity of thinking. But this is a mere reverie of a novice in the history of man. In theology, in the healing art, in politics, in the fine arts, and in polite literature, in whatever interests, in whatever amuses our species, perpetual vicissitudes occur, and what is supposed to be settled by one party at one time, is unhinged by different theories at another.

In the infancy of the colony at Plymouth, and at the erection of the Saybrook platform, our emigrant forefathers, rejected with loathing the fat luxury of Luther, and flattered themselves on the mean fare of Calvin. They were doubtful even of scriptural truth, if it had issued from the Clarendon press, and could not read the sermon on the mount to edification, unless imprinted in a bible at Geneva. Willard's body of divinity was their law and testimony, and reprobate was that sinner who would adventure to read and practice a more gentle and generous system. But such heavy and clanking fetters of the mind, were too inkome to be long worn patiently by fretful peevish; and infant Catholicism in its cradle at length ventured innovation. Good works were sometimes associated with implicit faith, and the piety of our primitive christians was not always horror struck at the union. In process of time the reign of rigor declined, and now it may be said the high prerogative of superstition has become as nugatory as kingly power in France. For, a new dictator in divinity, who knew not Calvin, arose, and Chauncy considering brimstone as a Scottish or an old wife's fable, proclaimed salvation to all men, and insisted that a profligate should not be eternally singled for his sins. Hume and Bolingbroke, with elegance and elaboration, but with the darkest sophistry, and Boulanger, an audacious Frenchman, in his "Christianity unveiled," have presumptuously attempted to sip the christian's fortrets, and now, to represent the son of Mary as a mere man, and now, as an impostor. These writings have induced flimsy opinions, called, from their nature, Deistical, to predominate, and their professors, far from consoling the editions either of England or Geneva, will inspect no bible. Perhaps the accurate reader will pronounce my enumeration incomplete, unless I notice that second edition of Tom Thumb's folio, called, "The Age of Reason." But as this, in mechanics' phrase, is but a bungling vamp of obsolete infidelity, written by a drunken author, rarely quoted, except by the lowest vulgar, and then in the lisping accents of intoxication; I will not condescend to an analysis, but terminate this head of my discourse with the warmest wishes, that, in spite of jarring opinions, gospel charity and benevolence may be everlastingly fashionable, and that men will not expect a more excellent mode from the new fangled looms of Paine and of Paris.

Physic has experienced more revolutions than Poland, or even France, since the Capets are no more. Boerhaave has prescribed at Leyden, what Brown would reject at Edinburgh. Gout must be pampered according to one physician, and starved by another. The small pox, like Sancho Panza, is sometimes blattered into submission, and sometimes every wind must be invoked to blow the infection away. Dr. Cheyne insists that his patients shall quaff a perpetual bowl of milk, while a more jolly physician directs as perpetual and much ruddier draughts. Le Sage's Saigrado drained every vein, and now every vein must be inflated like a bladder. Cullen departed from Boerhaave, Brown has exposed and abjured the heresy of Cullen, and probably by this time some European projector, has started a new theory to the utter destruction of the old.

A Logician, considering the two subjects as equally variable, would infallibly class weather cocks and politics together. We behold vast empires sometimes governed by a solitary woman—and petty states headed by a mob of rulers. Kings, once ranked with Gods, are suddenly and capriciously degraded among felons. Government, as a nervous writer expresses it, is sometimes scandalously relaxed, and then violently stretched beyond its tone. The Corinthian capital of society, babriously erected by aristocratical artists, is prostrated by popular fury in an hour. In our own country, political modes are perpetually fluctuating. Prior to the formation of French friendship, that people, their religion, and their politics, were equally detested. The pope was Antichrist, the French king his high Steward, the government of France was the archetype of Turkish despotism, and the nation viewed as a motley collection of cockcocks and slaves. Mark the instant operation of a single defeat on the whole political sense of America! A captured Burgoyne could metamorphose an arbitrary Lewis into the friend, the patron of republicans. But the love towards Lewis soon waxed cold, and Marat has his proselytes here as well as at Paris.

Very suddenly have most of our political fashions pait away. Britain has been called a mother, a hag, a sister, or a friend. Our rulers are perpetually wrangling concerning the garb of government—Some from Geneva or Virginia, affect the broad mantle of republicanism which covers a multitude of sins. Others prefer French manufacture, and of the Paris cut. A few, perhaps, wish to import materials from England, but there is a good, warm, well made, easy garment, made to fit any one, cal-

led Federalism, which the Lay Preacher actually prefers to his canonicals, and prays may be constantly worn, and an unchangeable mode.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MR. FENNO,

IF we do not suppose a certain class of Newspaper writers, to be paid, to calumniate the President and government of the United States—it will be difficult to discover any other adequate cause for their ceaseless and laboured strains of detraction.

The thunder that alarms is not heard every day; nor is Etna always disgorging its destructive lava on the neighbouring fields: Not so a certain paper, which is daily in labour with some portentous monster, and ever vomiting forth torrents of defamation against the most spotless characters.

What is to be the issue of such inordinate and everlasting abuse? Is it calculated to invite good men to serve the public, or to throw the management of our concerns into the hands of the present calumniators. The Athenians it is true—revered calumny and erected a statue to her honor; do these writers or rather their employers expect, that the same causes operating here, will produce the same effects as at Athens? And is the Republic of the United States to be destroyed, in order that they may dine?

According to them, there is no foundation in Government—all is rotten to the core! Even the man whose measures and politics, will draw forth the praises of remotest posterity; and whose conduct and patriotism will serve as a stimulus and contrast to all succeeding presidents, is no longer fit to be traisted with power: He it seems ought long since, to have retired to the shade, and yielded up the vessel of state to some more skilful pilot.

According to them, every act of his administration is a blot upon his character, or a stab to the constitution. To take advice or seek the opinion of the principal officers of the executive departments in critical or difficult cases, is a crime against the Constitution, altho' these functionaries are enjoined by that instrument, to give to the President as often as required, every information relative to their departments.

What objects come under the cognizance of these departments; do they not severally and conjointly encircle and embrace the whole interests of the United States? How then can any thing bear upon the United States, either from abroad or at home, which does not directly or indirectly touch upon objects relative to their duties? And who so proper to give an opinion upon points, that affect the general interest of the Union, as men who see over their whole extent at one glance, and who from their situation ought to possess the most correct, extensive and minute knowledge of whatever in its bearings or dependencies may advance or retard their growth and prosperity? Are men possessing such various information, not to be consulted?

According to the same writers—the virtues which a whole people (even the people of the whole world) believed to reside in the bosom of Washington—are all extinct. They assert, that having forfeited all title to candor and honesty—he ought to be insulted in News-papers and reviled in Legislative speeches—they would besides, wish it to be considered a Republican duty, to represent the man, (to whom a whole people are indebted, for a life of laborious and important services) in every degraded form, which calumny can paint, and to describe him in daily *Philippics*, by every Epithet which they can steal or borrow—from the vocabulary of Billingsgate.

With such men abuse is holy—Calumny is holy—Insurrection is holy—by such men orgies are held, and clubs instituted, and books written to disseminate the one and justify the other.

Tell me, ye men of forecast and reflexion! Do these things augur well to the Republic? Are they not symptoms which prognosticate some terrible disaster in the political world? Have they not always been the harbingers of the final catastrophe of Republics?

Tell me also, ye men of forecast and reflexion; who after Washington will waite the powers of his mind, and wear out the springs of his health, his capacities for the enjoyment of domestic ease and social happiness, in the service of his country? Should that country become indifferent to the obloquy he has sustained, and the mild American suffer a statue to Calumny, to be erected in every village.

MONITOR.

Mount-Hope, 24th July, 1796.
From the Edenton Gazette.

To the Citizens of the State of North Carolina.

Whereas there have lately appeared in the State Gazette, presentments from the grand juries for several counties in the district of Edenton, wherein they present us, the people called Quakers, and our abettors, "as the authors of the common mischief in this quarter;" which presentments, though they seem dressed in the language of an artful orator, yet contain, as appears to us, sundry unjust reflections, absurdities, and exaggerations: Therefore we think it expedient (for the sake of some, who, for want of better information may be led into errors by such misrepresentations) in meekness to express our sentiments touching the charges thus exhibited against us.

First, they present, "That the country is reduced to a situation of great peril and danger, in consequence of proceedings of the society of the people called Quakers—that the idea of emancipation among slaves is publicly held out to them, and encouraged by the conduct of the Quakers—that the minds of the slaves are not only greatly corrupted and alienated from the service of their masters, in consequence of said conduct, but runaways are protected, harbored and encouraged by them. Atfous are committed without a possibility of discovery."

If those counties are reduced, as is said, to great danger, we are conscious the cause thereof cannot justly be imputed to our conduct respecting emancipation; for if an effect be evil, the cause producing that effect must likewise be evil; but what we,

as a religious society, have done therein, we are fully persuaded proceeded from motives truly good, and consistent with the nature and spirit of the gospel, which breathes peace on earth, and good will to men, and is never productive of corruption, disorder, or evil, in the creation; neither doth this beneficent spirit ever inflame any man to commit a criminal act, as the firing his neighbour's house. All such are works of darkness, and proceed from that spirit who is the author of confusion, and an adversary to equity, love and harmony.—And we are apprehensive that the emancipation of the slaves is not inconsistent with a declaration of the general Congress, which is in these words: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and to secure these rights governments are instituted among men," &c.

Further it is said, "The grand jury are so perfectly sensible of the insatiable enthusiasm of the Quakers, as to partial and general emancipation, that they see a present alarm among the minds of the people, and foresee a prospect of immediate danger to impend, by the influence and designing attempts of the Quakers for this purpose, which, unless prevented in due time, must burst with destruction around the citizens of the State." Strange indeed! at this day, when the humane spirit of liberty hath so greatly dilated itself among the people under the federal government, that any of the citizens within the union should suffer themselves to be so far misled, as publicly to stigmatize it with the opprobrious appellation of "insatiable enthusiasm."

As to general emancipation, if they suggest that we endeavor to obtain a law to compel any to emancipate their slaves, we deny it. What we have requested in our petitions to the general assembly relative to the matter, hath been only to this effect viz. That those who are conscientiously scrupulous of keeping their fellow creatures in a state of slavery, might have the privilege of emancipating them, and that the persons so liberated might be protected by law. It is well known that the legislature of this state have frequently granted what is called partial emancipations; why then should we be censured for our sentiment in that respect?

Touching the alarm, which they say see, and the prospect of impending danger, &c. If any such prospects are visible, we have reason to believe that those things arise not from our influence; and we are clear of any malevolent design to this purpose, that might give just occasion for such an alarm.

They further advance, "The grand jury reflecting upon the miserable havoc and massacres, which have lately taken place in the West Indies in consequence of emancipation." To this we may say, we do not conceive, that emancipation, proceeding purely from religious motives hath been the original cause of massacres either in the West Indies, or elsewhere, as may be obvious from an impartial information. As to the other circumstances which they mention, inducing them to present us and our abettors, these appear to us to be futile, and without just grounds, and we doubt not, but upon an accurate scrutiny will so appear to every unprejudiced reader.

Lastly, "The grand jury present, that speedy and resolute measures ought to be adopted by the good sense and spirit of the people, in order to prevent that common appeal to arms, in their own defence, which at present appears to be almost, if not altogether necessary." We hope that people of good sense, and actuated by a good spirit will not be moved by the exaggeration of a few individuals, blinded by prejudice, to adopt measures incompatible with the principles of a free Christian Republic; under which they enjoy their religious liberty, and for which favor we ought to render thankful acknowledgements, in gratitude to the divine all wise Disposer of the hearts of men.

Given forth, in behalf of the society of people called Quakers, from our yearly meeting's standing committee in Perquimans county, the 29th day of the 1st month, 1796.
Signed by order and on behalf of the committee.
THOMAS JORDAN, Clk.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

HISTORICAL NOTICES
Of the Kingdom of Sardinia.

(CONTINUED)
During the former part of the sixteenth century, the dukes of Savoy possessed territories not considerable either by their population, extent, or value. And of these the greater part had been conquered by Francis I. and were in the possession of the French. The reigning duke had been compelled to retire for safety to the strong fortrefs of Nice, where he remained shut up for several years. While his son, the prince of Piedmont, strove to better his fortune by serving as a volunteer in the armies of Spain. The peace or rather truce of Chateau Cambresis placed him at length in possession of his paternal dominions, and from the commencement of the reign of this prince may be principally dated the rise of the fortunes of his house.

By gradual acquisitions he added to his territories as well as importance. His successors, pursuing the same course, at length aspired to the regal dignity, and obtained it, a little more than half a century ago.

During the early periods of its history, the House of Savoy furnishes few materials for history that are interesting to the present age, or that are of any importance to our present object: a long train of princes are therefore passed over in silence: the reign of Charles is conspicuous only for the calamities suffered by his country during its continuance.

Charles, duke of Savoy, was one of the least active and able princes of the line from which he descended. Having married, in 1535, Isabella of Portugal, sister to the emperors, that prince's soon acquired, by her great talents, an absolute ascendancy over him. Proud of her affinity to the Emperor, or allured by the magnificent promises with which he flattered her ambition, she brought about a union between the Duke and the Imperial court, extremely inconsistent with the situation of his dominions had hitherto induced him to observe. Francis I. highly irritated both at this conduct of the Duke and his having supplied the Constable of Bourbon with the money which enabled him to levy that body of troops which ruined the French army in the fatal battle of Pavia, caused him now to feel how severely he could punish the injury.

The French army under the admiral Brion, poured at once into the duke's territories, at different places.

The counties of Bresse and Bugey were overrun in a moment. Most of the towns in the duchy of Savoy opened their gates at the approach of the enemy: the few that resisted were easily forced; and before the end of the campaign, the duke saw himself stripped of all his dominions except the duchy of Piedmont, in which there were not many places in a condition to be defended.

(To be continued.)

Philadelphia,
WEDNESDAY EVENING, JULY 27.

The building of the United States Frigate, now constructing in Southwark, goes on rapidly. Some progress has already been made in planking her.

Norfolk, July 15.

COMMUNICATION.

About the time when Rufus King, was appointed Minister from the United States, to London, it was boldly advanced by certain aristocratic papers, that Mr. Pinckney, our late Minister had solicited his recall:—Although there were many who doubted the truth of the assertion at that time, yet it was received with an acquiescence, that made it pass for a fact.

There is good reason however to suppose and believe, that Mr. Pinckney, did not request to be recalled; from very good authority, there is reason to say that on the 17th of April last, Mr. Pinckney had no idea of leaving London, yet Mr. King was appointed early in May.—The republican character of Mr. Pinckney, was not calculated to please Pitt; a temporary suspension of his functions by Jay, laid the foundation for a scheme that none but his worthy colleague could bring to maturity.

The removal of a minister like Mr. Pinckney, demands explanation; when such men are dismissed, we ought to know for what reasons they are removed.—If Mr. Pinckney requested his recall, it is easy to give an extract of a letter containing such request—again it is said (and the authority will be given at a proper time) that Mr. Pinckney, did not expect to be displaced on the 17th day of April last, although his successor was appointed in the beginning of May.—John Fenno and Noah, the monarchial republican, may caxp at this article, but they will find it does not rest upon the sandy foundation of "extracts of letters."

In the true style of democratic journalism, it is insinuated in the above article that Mr. Pinckney did not request to be recalled. It has been said in this Gazette that the contrary is true.

The authority for the assertion can be cited, if necessary. An authority which, the Editor is sure, the NORFOLK NEWS-MONGER and letter fabricator, dare not contradict.

CONFESSION OF THE AURORA.

In the GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES of last evening the public are roundly assured, that but very few of the writers in the AURORA, who have, unawed by the magic of a founding name, scrutinized the public conduct of the President, have one drop of American blood in their veins. The assertion is false. The Public are assured, upon better authority than the EDITOR OF THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES can possibly possess, that chief of the pieces that have appeared in the AURORA upon that subject are from native Americans.

Neither the Aurora, nor the writers of the Aurora are mentioned in the Gazette of yesterday.

There is a Proverb known long since, "Touch a gall'd horse and he will wince." Tuesday, July 26.

The enemies of the Constitution have never produced a single fact to justify their abuse of the Government, or their professions to patriotism. The friends of our country, its independence and constitution, are charged with the most flagitious enormities. When facts are adduced, which prove the falsehood of these charges, the vocabulary of Billingsgate is ransacked for epithets to lengthen the chain of abuse.

Patriots proceed—tho' envy whirl her stings, The Faction feels "that facts are stubborn things," Look round; our country every where supplies Ten thousand facts to show how faction lies. Lie on—the Patriots best revenge shall be, To point out facts, and tell the truth of thee.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MR. FENNO,

THE letters relative to the capture of Capt. St. Barbe, exhibit the conduct of Potter in a light that must render him detestable in the view of the civilized world. Potter is not the only instance; the present war has developed many such characters—and these are not confined to one nation only.

It is the wish of humanity, that the finger of scorn and contempt may be pointed at such monsters, till shame and remorse shall banish them from Society.—It appears that a proper abhorrence of Potter's conduct is entertained by the officers of the British army, and that they are determined to interdict themselves against him.

When this is taken into consideration, in connection with the truly magnanimous conduct observed towards Capt. Hodge, (who saved a British transport) not only by the British executive, but by individuals and corporate bodies of that nation, I see no propriety in stigmatizing the whole for a transaction which we are sure they must execrate, by a puerile ironicism, in classing it among "evidences of British amity"—In a letter on this subject, a hope is expressed, that Potter's infamous conduct "will be a caution to all Americans whenever they see an English ship in distress to shun her." This was doubtless a slip of the pen—the laws of humanity are eternally binding, and it ought to be remembered are reciprocal.

The contrary sentiment if adopted, would transform mankind to brutes. The magnanimity and justice of the British Nation will be exhibited on this occasion.—The example of Capt. Hodge, is a pledge of the former, and every principle of common right will ensure the other.

HUMANITAS.

"The fashion of this world passeth away." Yes, verily, fashion doth pass. But the efforts