

TWELFTH FEDERAL PILLAR.
NORTH CAROLINA.

It is with a great degree of satisfaction we announce to the public, the RATIFICATION of the CONSTITUTION of the UNITED STATES, by the respectable State of NORTH-CAROLINA; the intelligence of which agreeable event we received yesterday morning, by Capt. JOSHUA BACON, master of the *Petersburgh Packet*, in FIVE DAYS from North-Carolina. The particulars are:

The Convention of North-Carolina met at Fayetteville, the 1st November, and after debating the Constitution throughout, the 20th November the question of Ratification was put, and passed in the affirmative—

YEAS, 193
NAYS, 75

MAJORITY, 118

This intelligence was received at Edenton, by express, on the evening of the 30th of November. The next morning the colours belonging to the town, and on board the shipping were hoisted. At Twelve o'clock Twelve cannon were discharged, in honor of the several States in Union—and a collation provided for the spectators. At three o'clock, an elegant dinner was provided at the Merchant's Coffee-House, and after dinner the following toasts were drank:

1. The United States of America.
2. The President of the United States.
3. The Vice-President, and Officers of the United States.
4. The King of France, and French Nation.
5. All the powers of Europe, in alliance with America.
6. Our late Convention.
7. The Governor and State of NORTH-CAROLINA.
8. May the NEW CONSTITUTION be a blessing to the people.
9. Commerce, Agriculture and Manufactures.
10. The Officers, Soldiers and Patriots, who distinguished themselves in the late army.
11. The fair Daughters of Columbia.
12. May the State of Rhode-Island follow the example of our late Convention.

In the evening, Twelve large lanterns were hoisted on the flag-staff belonging to the town; the lantern of the Court-House, and several of the houses, were beautifully illuminated; and a very large bonfire made at the back of the town.

The bells of this town [Boston] rung one hour on this joyful occasion.

OF NORTH-CAROLINA.

The history of this State, now the more interesting, as it has become a member of the Union, is less known than that of any of the other States. It was settled in 1710, is 750 miles in length, and 110 in breadth—inhabitants 270,000, of which 60,000 are Negroes. The North-Carolinians are mostly Planters—their exports tar, pitch, turpentine, rosin, Indian corn, peltry, lumber, tobacco, ginseng, snake root, &c. &c.—Agreeably to the Constitution, North-Carolina will send five Representatives to Congress.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CLASSICS.

AN EXTRACT FROM DR. BLAIR.

It is in vain also to allege, that the reputation of the Ancient Poets, and Orators, is owing to authority, to pedantry, and to the prejudices of education, transmitted from age to age. These, it is true, are the Authors put into our hands at schools and colleges, and by that means we have now an early prepossession in their favor; but how came they to gain the possession of colleges and schools? Plainly, by the high fame which these Authors had among their own contemporaries. For the Greek and Latin were not always dead languages. There was a time, when Homer, Virgil, and Horace, were viewed in the same light as we now view Dryden, Pope, and Addison. It is not to commentators and universities, that the classics are indebted for their fame. They became classics and school-books, in consequence of the high admiration which was paid them by the best judges in their own country and nation. As early as the days of Juvenal, who wrote under the reign of Domitian, we find Virgil and Horace become the standard books in the education of youth.

Quot stabent pueri, cum totus decolor esset
Flaccus, et haereret nigro fuligo Maroni.

SAT. 7.*

From this general principle, then, of the reputation of great ancient Classics being to early, so lasting, so universal, among all the most polished nations, we may justly and boldly infer that their reputation cannot be wholly unjust, but must have a solid foundation in the merit of their writings.

Of correct and finished writing in some works of taste, the moderns may afford useful patterns; but for all that belongs to original genius, to spirited, masterly and high execution, our best and most happy ideas are, generally speaking, drawn from the Ancients. In Epic Poetry, for instance, Homer and Virgil, to this day, stand not within many degrees to any rival. Orators, such as Cicero and Demosthenes, we have none. In history, notwithstanding some defects, which I am afterwards to mention in Ancient Historical Plans, it may be safely asserted, that we have no such historical narration, so elegant, so picturesque, so animated, and interesting as that of Herodotus, Thucydides, Xenophon, Livy, Tacitus and Sallust. Although the conduct of the drama may be admitted to have received some improvements, yet for poetry and sentiment we have nothing to equal Sophocles and Euripides; nor any dialogue in Comedy, that comes up to the correct, graceful, and elegant simplicity of Terence. We have no such Love Elegies as those of Tibullus; no such pastorals as some of Theocritus's; and for Lyric Poetry, Horace stands quite unrivalled. The name of Horace cannot be mentioned without a particular encomium. That "Curiosa Felicitas," which Petronius has remarked in his expression; the sweetness, elegance,

and spirit of many of his Odes, the thorough knowledge of the world, the excellent sentiments, and natural easy manner which distinguishes his Satyres and Epistles, all contribute to render him one of those very few authors whom one never tires of reading; and from whom alone, were every other monument destroyed, we should be led to form a very high idea of the taste and genius of the Augustan Age.

To all such, then, as wish to form their taste, and nourish their genius, let me warmly recommend the assiduous study of the Ancient classics, both Greek and Roman.

Nocturna versate manu, versate diurna. +

Without a considerable acquaintance with them, no man can be reckoned a polite scholar; and he will want many assistances for writing and speaking well, which the knowledge of such Authors would afford him. Any one has great reason to suspect his own taste, who receives little or no pleasure from the perusal of Writings, which so many ages and nations have consented in holding up as objects of admiration. And I am persuaded, it will be found, that in proportion as the Ancients are generally studied and admired, or are unknown and disregarded in any country, good taste and good composition will flourish, or decline. They are commonly none but the ignorant or superficial, who undervalue them.

NOTES.

- * "Then thou art bound to smell, on either hand,
As many stinking lamps as school-boys stand,
When HORACE could not read in his own fully'd book,
And VIRGIL'S sacred page was all besmear'd with smoke."
DRYDEN.
- + "Read them by day—and study them by night."

From Mr. London's paper of yesterday.

FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

THE GUEST. — No. VII.

"His greatest action which we find;
"Was, that he wash'd his hands and din'd."

"We are mistaken," says the Duke de Rochefoucault, "if we think that none but the more hot and violent passions, such as love and ambition, do triumph over the rest. Laziness, as weak and languishing as it is, seldom fails of subduing them. It gets the better of all our designs, and controuls all the actions of our life; and both our passions and our virtues are, together consumed insensibly by it."

Few men have any idea, how great a proportion of indolence enters into the composition of our nature. If men were not naturally inclined to be indolent, we should find very few, who really would be so. It is evident, upon a little survey, that no men are so unhappy as those that are idle. And though man is a being made for activity, yet a great many people choose to be busy in doing nothing. I mean that men ought to be active in order to be happy. But as many men are averse to labour, their restless spirit drives them to such methods of getting rid of time as most properly may be called idleness. It may seem odd to make the assertion, but it is very true, that some persons weary themselves exceedingly in finding out how to be idle. Those, who go about asking news in the streets to know who has got a wife or a place, are of this stamp. We may also include in this description, those superficial visitants who go to see folks because they are not at home. There are several others of this kind who, as it were, labor to be lazy.

Many men are obliged to stretch their ingenuity to devise modes of wearing away their time. This will be the case with those who have no fixed employment. It should therefore be a settled maxim with every person, that unless he is employed in something useful, he cannot meet with contentment.

[ERRATUM—In last number of the Guest, line 10th from the top, for "wind" read mind.]

For the GAZETTE of the UNITED STATES.

ON CHARITY SCHOOLS.

CHARITY SCHOOLS owe their rise undoubtedly to those innate principles of benevolence which the Deity hath impressed upon the human heart. But charity in these instances, may with propriety be said to begin at home; and commonly ends there too. Indeed, from the nature of these institutions, it must always be found, that they are not competent to the design. Particular denominations and societies, form these plans for the exclusive advantage of the poor of their own persuasion: But with the aid derived from the contributions of the charitable of other denominations, was it ever known that all the poor children, without exception, of the society which is designed to be particularly benefited, were, or could be accommodated by them? What is the consequence? A charge of partiality; and this idea cannot be erased from the mind of a parent, who standing exactly on the same ground with his favored neighbor, cannot his get child admitted. Charity schools, where the object extends to cloathing poor children, prove a very expensive mode of

conferring our bounty, without producing the good intended, in any degree commensurate to the charge. A charity school for 50 or 60 children upon this plan, will cost probably seven or eight hundred pounds per annum: a sum that would support two schools, in which from 150 to 200 children might be equally well taught. The expense of cloathing being the heaviest charge, is the most useless, and might be saved; as it is immaterial how children are clad, provided they are clean; for uniformity in cloaths does not facilitate their progress in learning; and "he that hears the young ravens when they cry," does in the course of his providence, enable the poorest of our citizens to provide such covering for their offspring as would be sufficient for them to attend school in. In addition to the incompetency of the funds to support charity schools, and the utter impossibility of giving general, much less universal satisfaction, there is in the minds of the free citizens of these States, a principle of conscious independency, which revolts from the idea of being under obligations to charity, for the education of their children, as fully as it does to be indebted to it for the blessings of freedom and civil society. That charity schools cannot be competent to the object of making universal provision for the education of the poor, is exemplified in the city of London; where there are the most extensive institutions of this kind, that are to be found upon the face of the globe. Let us advert to facts. At the late procession of the King to St. Paul's it is said there were six thousand charity scholars mustered, doubtless the whole that could be collected—for we well know that absence is not dispensed with on such occasions—six thousand appears a large number—but how many times six thousand must remain to be brought up in ignorance among a million of inhabitants, when only six thousand are provided for—and a great proportion of these, not the poorest—for English authors will inform us that the poor, are not always benefited by those institutions originally designed for the poor.

In the small state of Connecticut, there are no charity schools; but there are upwards of FIVE HUNDRED FREE PUBLIC SCHOOLS. The dignity of human nature—the rights of property, and a due sense of the blessings of government and civil liberty, are no where better understood, or more extensively enjoyed than in that highly favored land of equality and freedom. CIVIS.

NEW-YORK, DECEMBER 23.

Members of Congress now in this city: Senate—PRESIDENT of the Senate—MR. DALTON; MR. JOHNSON; MR. SCHUYLER; MR. KING; MR. LIZARD; MR. BUTLER.—Representatives—MR. GILMAN; MR. GERRY; MR. LAWRENCE; MR. BENSON; MR. SCOTT; MR. COLES; MR. BROWN; MR. GRIFFIN; MR. HUGER; MR. SMITH, of South-Carolina.

The public expectation begins to awaken at the approaching sessions of Congress. When we reflect on the various and difficult objects to be accomplished by our legislators, we must suppose their task is weighty and critical. The patience and candor of the people will be equal, we hope, to every reasonable allowance for any delays or errors that inevitably result from circumstances so new and embarrassed.

The tranquillity and contentment that prevails among the citizens of the United States, under the operation of the national government, are a proof of their general determination to give it support. If we may judge from appearance, the various branches of the executive departments are filled with such characters, as do honor to their appointments and give general satisfaction to the people. When men of abilities and integrity are at the head of affairs, we may always expect that the government will operate, in such a manner, as to obtain popular sanction and promote the important ends of political association.

It is worthy of contemplation how rapidly the people of this country are extricating themselves from the calamities and burdens of the late war. Many towns that were laid waste by the ravages of the enemy are restored to their former size and prosperity. The progress of an industrious frugal people, towards wealth and comfort may be accelerated to such a degree as almost to elude calculation. We have many striking examples how soon the disasters of fire, and many other misfortunes may be surmounted, when once the people assume resolution, and practise industry.

The amendments to the Constitution proposed by Congress to the several States, appear to receive that cordial approbation which does honor to the candor and patriotism of the respective State Legislatures, to whom they have been submitted.—If they do not in every respect meet the ideas of those who never liked the Constitution, it ought to be remembered that they are the result of a concession on the part of the majority, who were satisfied with the system in its original form—but from the best motives were induced to acquiesce in amendments to reconcile, if possible, opposition, and to conciliate the doubting.

[We are much favored by the "Sketch on Poetry"—want of room prevents its insertion this day; but it shall appear in our next.]

ARRIVALS.—NEW-YORK.
Saturday Schooner Sally, Patterson, Shelburne, 5 days.
Sloop Sally, Sampson, Boston, 17 days.
Monday Sloop Saratoga, Thrasher, Cape Fare, 28 days—
Sloop Polly, Bartlett, Cape Fare, 28 days.