

# CENTREVILLE EVENING TIMES

AND EASTERN SHORE PUBLIC ADVERTISER.

IT IS DUE FROM THE PRESS TO THE PEOPLE, THAT ALL COMBINATIONS TO SACRIFICE THEIR INTERESTS AND RESIST THEIR WILL SHOULD BE FAITHFULLY EXPOSED.

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### Jackson Ticket.

Seventh District.—Dr. JOHN REESE

In the city of New York, it would seem that a systematic effort is to be made to brave the public opinion, and hurl defiance at the laws of God and man. A club, called by a misnomer, "The Free Press Association," has been formed, which, among other "laboured deeds of hard earned infamy," meet every Sunday morning and afternoon for the avowed purpose of profaning the sabbath of the Lord by profane songs, when they call "ode to nature;" by retelling Voltaire and Paine's vulgar ribaldry in the form of lectures delivered from a mock pulpit, over which is suspended a portrait of Tom Paine, their prophet and deity, together with a painting of Indians, women, and children, in a state of "nature."

In the morning they have a "scientific lecture," for you may be assured they are the "scientific" of our city. Indeed they openly declare that no ignorant or illiterate man will come from under the yoke of priestly domination into the liberty of nature; and of course the members of the "Free Press Association" will contain the "literary and scientific." In the afternoon they have a "theological lecture," for you must know they are "theologians," having learned "at the feet of Gamaliel," via Scheer, Volney, Gibbon, Boling, broke, Paine, and last, though not least, from the author of that vile compend of blasphemy "Ecce Homo," the author of which having been driven from his own free country by the tyranny of a trial by jury, has found a refuge here from the reach of British officers of justice, is vending his pestiferous contagion in the character of high priest of this anti-priestly association in the city of New-York, this monster being the principal lecturer and chief of the club.

Already a periodical paper has been published called "The Correspondent," the few numbers of which already issued, are filled with the most flagrant abuse of the Bible and its Author, and loaded with sacrilegious ridicule of our holy religion, the most of which is but a collection of the vulgarity and obscenity which have been over and over castigated and refuted by Christian writers who were contemporary with the misguided authors, and these have long since gone to their last account, most of them by their own hand. "unappointed, unannealed, with all their sins upon their heads."

Only a few months has the existence of this association been known, and with all the zeal of a "tract society" they have issued from the press and circulated two editions of the "Age of Reason," having prefaced it with short notices of "distinguished deists," among whom are reckoned, "Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and Elias Hicks," the two former no doubt introduced with a view of courting national and political adulation, and the latter is honoured by this notice to ensure the affection of the misguided and unwary youth of the Society of Friends. A great number of small books and tracts containing even worse blasphemy, are also in circulation, no doubt from the same source. One of these is entitled, by the same sacrilegious artifice, "The great Jehovah, three in one, the God of the Jews and Christians, with a correct likeness!" Having only had a passing glance of this vilest of the vile, I am unable, if my pen would consent, to copy exactly the horrid atheism with which it abounds. My heart shudders when I record that it says of the great Jehovah—[we refuse to follow the blasphemies]—numbering over a hundred or more epithets equally blasphemous and profane, and referring to the chapter and verse in the Old Testament on which the accusations they thus bring against their Maker, are found

ded. Proposals are also issued for an edition of "Ecce Homo," the infamous book before mentioned, and also for a new Bible! to which last, I understand, 250 subscribers have been obtained.

The meetings of this club are free for all, and are accordingly attended by mixed multitude, and the hearts of your readers will shudder, when they learn that fifty or sixty ladies have so far divested themselves of the fear of God, the respect for their characters, and that jewel which alone ornaments their sex, as to attend these lectures, where they are taught from this mock pulpit, in order to ridicule the Bible, that "they may learn chastity from Lot's daughter!" and all such vile obscenity; to the utterance of which the "scientific" and "theological" members of this club respond by a clap of the hands, stamping with their feet, and a loud laugh, such as may be heard at a theatre, and learned at the scenes of drunken profanity, and midnight reveling, to which infidelity ultimately leads its votaries.

All this may be seen on the holy sabbath, in the city of New-York within a few yards of the temple of justice, and within the sound of the bells which ring their church going melody from those "hundred spires which pierce the sky" in this "London of America."

Thus far the laws of our city are inadequate to suppress this heaven provoking conspiracy, and hitherto have delayed, but in the language of inspired prophecy, the time is at hand, when God "shall laugh at their calamity, and mock when their fear cometh." "He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh, Jehovah shall hold them in derision."—National Philan.

### FREE PRESS.

We have been a good deal amused at the construction put by some would be knowing ones on a free press—These gentlemen suppose, or affect to do so, that a free press means a press open to every thing that may be presented for insertion, denying to the editors or proprietors the right to reject whatever may be objectionable on account of scurrility, indecency, or personality. We have been more than once told that a newspaper is public property—and that provided the author of an article, leave his name attached to it, no matter how offensive his production may be, the editor is in duty bound to insert it. To such doctrine as this, we unhesitatingly object, as subversive of every thing like social order and decorum, and calculated to convert newspapers into the degraded channels of a free abuse. We are the advocates of a free press euphuistically speaking, but it is that press which is free from the dictation of any man or set men,—untrammeled by party, and subserving the general good of the community. It is that press, whose only fear is to offend against the tenets of truth, virtue and morality,—which is at liberty to contend against vice, or impropriety of conduct, from whatever quarter it may come—the press which is free from fear, lest the part it may take may draw down upon it the vengeance of the powerful and strikes at evil, whether it be seated on high places, or has its abode in the walks of more humble life: We do not mean by this that the press has a right to invade the sanctity of private life, for so long as evil remains hidden from public view, and does not offend against the rules of well organized society, it is our opinion that the press has nothing to do with it. If the construction put upon a press by those alluded to in the beginning of this article be correct a distinction must be drawn between a free and an independent press, and we range ourselves under the banner of the latter. Independent of all influence, save that of the good opinion of the wise and virtuous, which we would always covet, and strive to obtain, we shall pursue the path marked out to us by our own unbiased judgement, and reserve to ourselves the right of accepting or rejecting whatever may be presented to us, without fear, favour or affection. Regarding the press over which we preside as our own property, we shall exercise the same right of disposing of it as every one does of any other species of property. Being aware that so soon as a press becomes dependent in any way whatever upon parties or individuals, it necessarily loses a portion of free will, and becomes subservient to their whim and caprice, our reliance for support shall be founded on our own exertions to please, and our ability to offer a valuable consideration in return for the patronage of our friends. Conceiving as we do, that a newspaper is or ought to be, worth the money paid for it, we consider the account fairly balanced; and that, with the exception of the good feeling which should exist among friends, we owe nothing, so long as we continue to furnish our columns with well selected matter, and the current news of the day. When we took up our pen, it was not our intention to have proceeded thus far, but as the opportunity has presented itself, we have availed ourselves

of it, to state our creed, and prevent trouble and misapprehension in future; & whilst we shall exert all our energies to pay the consideration we owe our patrons we shall continue to be governed by the views we have just expressed, so long as it is our lot to conduct a public Journal, looking for support where we have hitherto found it, among the wise and liberal members of society. *Balt. Chron.*

### FROM A NEW YORK PAPER.

A plain man's reasons for preferring the re-election of President Adams.

1. Because I think the present administration is proved good by actual experiment; and it ought to require very special evidence to persuade us, that another one, and an untried one, is better.

2. Because changes seem never for their own sake desirable, nor without urgent reason advisable. It has always been my motto—let well enough alone. I have somewhere heard of a tomb-stone with this admittory inscription, "I was well; desired to be better; took medicine, and here I am." I am afraid, if we should admit it, the rival party, (and we may call the rival candidate Gad, for a troop cometh, a hungry, expectant, uncertain retinue,) and they were once installed in the high offices of the nation, that we might soon affix a similar inscription to the mausoleum of the national corpse; we were doing well, thought that change & improvement were synonymous; installed an inexperienced military chieftain, in our national presidency, and we now rot in state, 1830. *Troja fuit.*

3. Because too frequent changes are not good for the nation. A perpetual presidency, and even a hereditary one, were scarce worse, than a succession just rapid enough to keep the nation in a constant ferment of politics. A new president every eight years is, I think often enough. To have a new one every four years is not only to embroil the nation in perpetual feuds; it is to organise a flaming party influence, and to cherish its flame for a perpetual conflagration. It is to adulterate. It is to offer a high premium to stimulated political competition. It is to tempt a rivalrous ambition to feed it with the vitals of the nation. Cincinnati of old was not ambitious. Where are our Cincinnati? Go from the van, search the obscure, the retired, the honest industrious classes. Take thence a patriarch for the nation, and let him be the nation's choice, and be nation's desire, when a change is necessary.

4. Because I always was, and always intend to be, jealous of military encroachments. The supremacy of the civil power, has hitherto been a cardinal principle of our government. If Washington was an exception to this rule, or to its application let it be remembered that Washington was a rule for himself; and let us see his like again, before we reason from what became of him, and what he became. If ever a military man ought to be promoted to the chief place of this national republic, he ought to be a rare one; not

Sudden and quick in quarrel, Jealous of honor, seeking the bubble Reputation e'en in the cannon's mouth; He ought to be dispassionate, self-governed, not fond of martial scenes, or wonted much to camps, a thorough scholar, a practical jurist, a man of consistent character, of large information, and exemplary patriotism. And a friend to arts and ways of peace. But a devoted soldier, a blade of spirit, an ireful military man; such a president we never had; and may our posterity be able to say the same!

5. Because I think the rival candidate not only far the inferior of Mr. Adams, but so really ignorant and ill-informed, as to disgrace this nation the moment he is lifted to the head of it. Mr. Adams is a thorough going scholar. In philosophy, in general literature, to universal, in the political history of this country and matters of state, he has few equals. The king of England could no more write such a document in his whole life as president Adams despatches annually and with facility to both houses, than he could bribe this nation to come back to his dynasty, or reason them into the legitimacy of regal governments. It is questionable if gen. Jackson could parse a sentence of English (to say nothing of Latin and Greek) grammar. Judging from the rare construction and false syntax of some of his written effusions, we should say certainly the man is a false pretender. Do we want such an uneducated ignoramus at the head of this nation? Are we such a nation of

ignorant men? Do we want our president, the head of the nation, to appear, to the eye of Europe and the world, a blunderer, an uneducated man, who can neither speak nor write with correctness his own vernacular tongue? Gen. Jackson is plainly an ignorant man.

6. Because he is too old to learn. Old hickory is not very flexible or ductile in any way. If you attempt to straighten it from its crookedness it breaks like bones. He is now I think about 2 years older than Mr. Adams, who is 63. I cannot be far from right in this estimate, though I have no table of dates at hand. Take an inexperienced military man of 66, (nearly the age at which our former presidents retired,) give him the highest official investiture in the country, and he not only has all to learn, but he has lost the power of learning. Old Hickory has not the elasticity of a sapling. Will you say, he may have wise and experienced counsellors; yes, and he may have wily and unprincipled ones; and he may be inveigled, cajoled, infatuated, perplexed, so as neither to act right, nor on some difficult occasions be able to act at all. And what, a soldier of wax, to be melted or moulded by circumstances, we should have, in the form of an enlightened and venerable civil chief, presiding over the happy destinies of our country! what a national puppet show; a tall body, a military air, an empty head, a confused brain, and a retinue of hungry and angry counsellors, competing for one of his most tenebrious smiles! and all this at least 66 years old, called by toleration or necessity the president of the United States of America!

7. I confess that I felt more easy on this subject till Clinton died! while that star shone and was destined to irradiate the cabinet of gen. Jackson, I had hopes that the secretary might redeem the dishonored character of a future administration, if it came. With such a man as Clinton, how could his respectability kept perpendicular? But he is gone! And there remains no other such to counterpoise the fears of the wise, if such a man as gen. J. gets his martial officiousness once ceremoniously fixed in the chair of the presidency.

### CIVIS

[From the Delaware Journal.]

**SOUTHERN JACKSONISM!**  
"From indignantly upon the first dawning of an attempt to alienate one portion of the Union from another,"—said the lamented WASHINGTON—and so says our neighbor 'The Patriot,' its motto. Let him then as an 'American Watchman,' not only 'frown' on the spirit which dictates the following, but let him publish this at tempted treason, east, west, north & south, and 'cry aloud' until the people become sensible that their liberties are in danger, from this Jackson Southern, anti-tariff spirit—

### LOOK AT THIS!

A writer in the Charleston Courier asserts that application had been made to the Governor of S. Carolina, to convene the Legislature of that State; and it is pretty plainly intimated, that the purpose of the meeting is to take measures preparatory to a secession of the State from the Union, in consequence of the passage of the Tariff Bill. *Georgia Journal.*

*Extract from the Telescope.*  
"How much more of this bitter, bitter, draught does it require to fill the cup of Southern degradation to the brim!"  
Yet there are among us, men, who either ignorantly supporting, or secretly combining with the enemy, would willingly submit even to more degradations if more were possible; who vociferate treason, treason, if you are advised to look into your real situation, and contemplate without prejudice the lot that is awaiting you. These are the men who cry out peace, peace, when there is no peace, who re-echo the cunning howlings of the north; and who playing the game of monopolists, designate, all resistance to legislative oppressions, a disloyalty to the Union.

"But what is disloyalty to the union, if such conduct as we complain of be not so? Those who use the power and forget right, who clothe themselves in the garb of the Constitution to hide their views of avarice and ambition—who convert it into an instrument of selfish injustice—misconstruing its provisions to serve their own interest—who laugh to scorn the wholesome limitations to which our ancestors subjected it—who mould it to their own purposes like a lump of clay in the hands of a potter—who under its sanction and authority, exercise jurisdiction not given, but taken—who commit with impunity all kinds of plunder and oppression against the minority, and denounce as traitors every man who being desirous of keeping power within constitutional bounds, exclaims against their misdeeds.—These delinquents, who thus act as national politicians for their own benefit, oppressing their fellow citizens—these are the real traitors to the union, holding in contempt, perverting, abusing and setting at defiance, the written instrument on which that union was based."

What a contemptible opinion must the world form of the people of the United States, and of their boasted superiority in virtue, wisdom and intelligence over

the people of other countries; if with two such men before them as John Quincy Adams and Andrew Jackson they should select the latter for their President, in preference to the former?

If we look at the moral character of Andrew Jackson; what even according to the testimony of the very men who are now striving to elevate him to the Chief-magistracy, do we find it? He is passionate, headstrong, revengeful, profane; a cock-fighter, a horse-racer, a homicide: a man whose life has been spent in a series of quarrels and feuds; a man who so much delights in blood, that after having defeated a body of hostile Indians and slaughtered them without mercy and without quarter, until "the going down of the sun" he resumed the work of death the next morning and exterminated—to borrow his own horribly emphatic language—sixty of these deluded defenceless and unresisting victims, in cold blood; and then boasted of the exploit.

If we look at his acquirements we find that he cannot write a line of his mother tongue, without such gross violations of orthography and of syntax as would make the most truant school boy of ten years of age blush for his ignorance. Far be it from us to urge the illiterateness of General Jackson against him as a crime. So far from it, we do not urge it against him, as a man and a citizen, even as a fault—though doubtless it is his misfortune. We do not blame him for it. God forbid. It was the natural, probably the inevitable consequence of his situation in early life; an 'for his sake, we lament it. But we do say that, even if there were no other objection, we should consider this as decisive against his elevation to the highest civil station among a people so enlightened as are the citizens of these United States;—a station where extensive and varied knowledge are no less necessary than profound talent, and one in which without a competent knowledge of the ordinary duties of his station, without either rendering himself ridiculous, or being dependant upon some one to clothe his ideas—or purchase their own in a decent dress of their own manufacturing. What American could see without a blush, a President of the United States sending to Congress an annual

Message—that document to which we have hitherto looked with so much pride and the chaste elegance of which, as well as its sound doctrines, has so frequently called forth unwilling praise from European critics—every sentence of which was a burlesque upon the English language; or else a Message, the language, if not the ideas, of which was borrowed like a masquerading dress from some kind friend, for the occasion?

To the questions, what has he done to deserve, and what are his talents for adequately and honorably filling the station to which his partisans wish to elevate him; there has been, and we believe there can be but one answer—he fought, and gained the battle of New-Orleans. This is the ever ready and, as those who make it seem to think, the all sufficient answer to every inquiry. Is he a man eminent for the strength of his mind, the comprehensiveness of his views and the originality of his conceptions!—No; but he saved New-Orleans. Did he ever originate, mature or cause to be adopted any great measure of national utility!—No; but he saved New-Orleans. Has he ever evinced one trait or quality of a great accomplished, or a skillful statesman!—No; but he saved New-Orleans. What a singular qualification, standing alone for the Chief Magistrate of this great and growing republic, with its immense and daily increasing extent and variety of external concerns and internal interests! The brave Militia man who "sped a bullet to the heart" of General Ross, saved Baltimore; but we believe he has never been nominated, or thought of, as a suitable candidate for President. The gallant M'Donough, and the no less gallant Macomb, saved Plattsburgh and perhaps even Albany; yet neither of them was ever elevated to the gubernatorial chair of a single state, much less to the presidency of the Union.

Such is Andrew Jackson; and such are his qualifications and pretensions. Now let us shift the canvass and sketch a hasty but comprehensive and faithful outline of John Quincy Adams;

As a citizen, the bitterest enemies and opponents of Mr. Adams have admitted him to be without blemish and without reproach; his conduct and his character have been, alike, models of the purest simplicity and the most un-