

The Whig accused us of having done injustice to Judge Clayton, by contradicting his statement last summer with regard to the value of gold, after the passage of the gold bill—this was entirely gratuitous, for although our statement on the subject contradicted that gentleman's, yet Judge Clayton was no more alluded to than were other individuals, (some of whom were friends of the Administration,) who had fallen into the same error—this will be readily discovered by our article annexed, the only one we ever wrote or printed on the subject. This was the first injustice done us by the Whig in this matter, but it is light and trivial in comparison with that which followed, accusing us with having, "for the low purpose of glorifying Jackson, undertaken a short time afterwards to prove that the increase in the value of gold was greater than the Judge had stated it to be"!!—Upon this accusation we joined issue with the Whig, pronounced the charge to be *false*, and called upon him to correct it. And what has been the result? He persists in the error, and by a miserable subterfuge endeavors to bear himself out in it! He says he was mistaken as to the *time* of our "glorifying Jackson," but not as to the *fact*; and then brings forward the self same article in which we had contradicted the Judge's statement, to prove that at the time of contradicting him as to the value of gold, we "glorified Jackson" by undertaking to make it appear that its value was greater than the Judge's estimate!!

In order that the community may be enabled to judge between the editor of the Whig and ourselves in this matter, and know where to pin the lie, if one be out, we submit to its serious consideration the Judge's statement, taken from the Whig, as well as our own. It will be seen after a careful examination, that we differed from Judge C. only as to one point: the value of gold *as taken from the mines*. He advances the opinion in his letter, that that the effect of the bill will be to raise the price of "pure gold *taken from the mines*," to something like 102 cents per pennyweight. Now what is the evident intention of his statement. We say that he could not reasonably have meant any thing else than the gold *as taken from the mines, in the best or purest state in which it is found*. Did he intend to be understood as speaking of the price of gold after its being refined? Clearly we think not. His letter was addressed to gentlemen resident in the mining district, and desired to be published for the "benefit of the gold diggers." Every one here well knows, that those who dig the gold, usually sell it in the same state in which they find it. To be of any benefit to them, therefore, it was necessary to state what *they* would get for their gold, and not what it would be worth after going through a purifying process, such as is not attempted in this part of the country. Besides, the Judge is not ignorant of the force of language, and if he did not intend to be understood as we understood him, why did he say—"taken from the mines?" Where else do we get the precious metal? The simple expression, "pure gold," would have answered all necessary purposes, without these worse than useless expletives.—And how comes it that the Whig editor is so sensitive on this subject? Our article said nothing about Judge Clayton, and only alluded to such persons as had endeavored to make the miners believe that gold in its native state would be worth 102 cents per pennyweight. If Judge C. was not one of these persons, our article did not allude to him; if he was, his statement was incorrect, and ours was necessary in order to counteract its injurious effects. In either case, the wrath of the Whig editor was uncalled for—he allowed his bile to get stirred up on the wrong subject.

Finally, we will take the liberty of asserting, that whatever Judge Clayton may have intended by his letter, a fair construction of the language he used will sanction no other opinion of his meaning than that which we adopted. It was to prevent the miners from being injured by this and other statements, by hold-

ing on to their gold in the expectation of a price which we knew they never would realize, that we penned the article below. We entreat its candid perusal. If it contains an error or inconsistency, our efforts have failed to discover either; and we think any mistake on the subject would not have escaped the acute editor of the Philadelphia Examiner, (a conspicuous and talented member of the Whig party,) who in copying it remarks, that it "strongly corroborates our [his] views," &c., and thus have been left for the exclusive discovery of the sapient and courteous editor of the Whig.

From the Southern Whig.

WASHINGTON, Ho. of Reps. }
June 21, 1834. }

WM. E. JONES, Esq.

Sir:—The following is a copy of a letter I have just written to several gentlemen in Auraria, for the benefit of our Gold diggers; it will be serving their interest and doing them an act of kindness, to publish the substance of the information it contains in your paper; and therefore I have communicated it to you, nothing doubting you will very cheerfully do it.

Very respectfully yours,

A. S. CLAYTON.

WASHINGTON, JUNE 21st. 1834. }
House of Representatives. }

Messrs. Hines Holt, J. H. Thomas, Henry M. Clay,
J. J. Hutchinson, Jno. R. Rose, A. B. Holt, Isaac
R. Walker and Allen Matthews.

GENTLEMEN—I have just a moment to say that the Bill for regulating the gold coin of the U. States, as well as foreign gold coins, has just passed the House of Representatives to go into operation after the 31st of July next, and I think it will pass the Senate. As this bill materially affects the value of gold, I have thought it my duty to give our miners the earliest information on the subject, so as to prevent speculation upon the holders of gold.

The law fixes the relative value of gold and silver at 16 to one, which raises the value of the former 6 2/3 per cent., and will make the pure gold taken from the Mines, worth something like 102 cents per penny-weight—if my calculations are right, you see the advantage which will arise to our miners, and will make it prudent in them to refrain from sales of their gold until they learn whether the law finally passes, the result of which must now be known in a few days. Will you have the kindness, if you think this information of as much importance as I do, to diffuse it as widely as possible through the gold region for the benefit of the gold diggers.

I am very respectfully, your fellow citizen.

A. S. CLAYTON.