

Judge Clayton.

In giving the following communication a place in our paper, we only act towards Judge Clayton and his friend the writer, agreeably to the golden rule, "do as you would be done by." We have spoken plainly of the late political course of that gentleman—nay, he may have often thought bitterly, if not illiberally. However this may be, we can conscientiously say that our strictures never have been prompted by feelings of ill will towards him as a private citizen; so far from it, we have ever held his character in this respect, in at least as good repute as any of those *very dear* friends of his, who have been in the habit of singing in public, *Io Parnassus* to his praise, whilst *privately* engaged in plotting his destruction as a politician, and thereby jeopardizing his interest, if not his reputation, as a private citizen. Our opposition has been confined to his public acts; we have never breathed aught against his virtues as a private individual—whilst condemning the one we have ever admired the other. And now that he has retired to private life, (whether voluntarily or not *is best known to himself*.) we are not only disposed to let him rest there in peace, but to yield all the benefits which

"*From the investigation of the subject propounded.*"

There are many much more competent than we are, to answer the interrogatories of "Fair Play," if they had only the moral courage to throw off the shackles of party, and speak out like men. Not being in the secrets of the party which has in less than two years thrust Judge Clayton from its head to its nether extremity, we consequently know but little of the craft and the policy—those resistless under currents, which have borne him so precipitately adown the awful precipice! We can only look on in wonder and astonishment (as others do situated as we are) at the fact as we find it. We are inclined to believe, however, that his independence in recommending Mr. Gilmer, (a gentleman who repudiates the doctrine of absolute State sovereignty—the very life and soul of nullification,) for the office of Governor, as surmised by "Fair Play," had its influence in losing him the confidence of those who are determined to continue in the service of John C. Calhoun, in his Quixotic exertions to dissolve the Union, and to build up on its ruins a Southern Confederacy.

But it may be said by the few who continue their allegiance to Calhoun, and who yet stick to the Judge, that he has not lost the confidence of his party—that it has not cast him off as a leader. It is in vain to argue thus—it is contrary to reason and fact, for who does not know that so late as Nov. 1833, Judge C. was hailed by the "new-born sons of light" in Georgia, as the master spirit who alone could "ride upon the whirlwind and direct the storm" of nullification, which he had been mainly instrumental in raising? Who does not know, in other words, that he was then viewed by them as the head—as the great leader of the new State Rights, alias Nullification party? And who does not *now* know that there are but few, very few, left among them, so obsequious as "to do him reverence"? His pretensions to, and proffered acceptance of the Gubernatorial office, have not only been treated with indifference and neglect, but his publicly stated wishes as to Mr. Gilmer's nomination, with contempt! And worse than all; one ~~who~~ followed him at a humble distance, who once before, whilst professing private and political friendship, had taken the advantage of circumstances to wrest from his hands the honors and emoluments of office—is to be elevated over both their heads!—These facts we only state as we find them to exist, and whilst we leave the task of unravelling a mystery to us so incomprehensible as the machinery of nullification which has produced them, to those in the secret of it we must say, that no party can be honest, noble minded and patriotic, which could thus treat with black ingratitude, the man who was the first among them to peril his fame as a politician, and his popularity as a citizen, in a cause which they profess to reverence and support with a zeal so sacred and holy. After such an exhibition, we are only surprised that there are to be found some gentlemen of respectability and merit, who are yet willing to follow the desperate fortunes of *such a faction*.

FOR THE SOUTHERN BANNER.

Messrs. Editors:—I have been looking to see some apology from the leading papers of the State Rights, alias nullification party, for the neglect with which they have treated the claims of your townsman, the Honorable Augustin S. Clayton, but it has been in vain.—Surely a man who has risked so much for the sake of his party, should not be overlooked by that party in the distribution of the

loaves and fishes. Is it possible that the nullies have become so infatuated with their odious heresy, that they will trust no man who is not prepared to go all lengths with them? It would really seem so, when a majority of the late Convention was in favor of running George R. Gilmer for Governor, and when that course was approbated by Judge Clayton, and they nevertheless put in nomination Charles Dougherty, a man scarcely known beyond the limits of the Western Judicial District, principally because he is prepared to go the whole length for nullification. I admire magnanimity, but I can really discover no traces of it in the conduct of the nullies towards Messrs. Clayton and Gilmer—one or the other of them was surely entitled to the nomination, and that both have been overlooked, only proves that ingratitude is often the reward of the most faithful services. Can you, Messrs. Editors, inform your readers how the nullies excuse themselves for such a disregard of the common principles of justice, and especially how they can, without blushing, look your talented and amiable townsman, Judge Clayton, in the face?

FAIR PLAY.