

Since the foregoing was written, the celebrated "Opinion" of Judge Clayton has arrived, accompanied by its patron, the presentment of the Grand Jury of Jackson county. They are twins conceived at Athens and brought forth at Jefferson. It seems the birth of these bantlings was not expected until Hall court, their prematurity, accounts for their weakness.—But as they are relied on, as a "firm and independent resistance" to *encroachment*, I will treat them with that "becoming decorum," due to the *department*, from which they come. Candor, however, compels me to acknowledge, that I do this more from courtesy, than from a conviction of right.

I would first inquire, what "encroachment" is intended to be resisted, or how his honor happened to consider it necessary that *he* should throw himself into this supposed breach of the Constitution. He has powers, to be sure, of a high judicial character, but they are as well defined and as strictly limited as the powers of any other department of the Government; and I consider that his will be a difficult task, who undertakes to defend the propriety of making the decision which the Judge has pronounced. It seems that a grant was tendered in evidence, possessing, in appearance, all the legal requisites of such instruments.—But from public rumor, or newspaper re-