

Present His Honor AUGUSTIN S. CLAYTON.

WE, the Grand Jury, for the county aforesaid, do present as a grievance of considerable magnitude, the riotous conduct of some of our citizens on the day of the general election, in October last; their conduct was not only contrary to all good order in society, but was fraught with consequences of a most mischievous and dangerous nature, if tolerated in a free country like ours; it was at once denying to a citizen a free and independent right of suffrage, one of the first blessings of a freeman, and striking at the very root of our constitution: therefore it becomes the duty of every good citizen in the country to put down such base and infamous conduct, and brand the authors of it with that contempt which they so richly merit. We are decidedly friendly to an honest difference of political opinions in this country, as we believe it is the rock on which its safety rests; but every man in society ought to recollect that the right of free suffrage, is common property, therefore every free citizen is entitled to a public expression of his opinions, as regards public men and public measures, and he who dares to deprive him of that great right ought to be marked with eternal infamy, and viewed as an enemy to his country—a majority ought to rule, and any attempt of the minority to wrest that right is a stab at our liberties.

We take the liberty of recommending to the serious consideration of the next Legislature, the propriety of extending, by law, the powers of the convention of Judges, so as to enable them, or a majority of them, to decide on points of law, as well as a rule of practice, shall be adopted throughout the different Circuits of the state.

We again take the liberty of drawing the attention of the Legislature to the propriety of a change in our Constitution, to wit: that our Legislature shall not convene but once in two years (except by an Executive call,) and that the Governor be elected by the voice of the people. We further suggest to their consideration, the propriety of curtailing the number of the members in the Legislature.

We present it as a public grievance the ruinous and decayed state of the railing around the public square. By keeping up the railing around the square, we thereby preserve the public wells, the China trees, and the grass on the square, which is a convenience and luxury that every citizen in the county more or less enjoys.

We present it as a public grievance, the leaky condition of the cupola on the court house. Immediate repairs ought to be made, as the plastering in the building is now materially injured by this leak, and if not immediately attended to it will certainly fall down.

We take this opportunity of returning his honor Judge Clayton our thanks, for his patient attention, and the able manner in which he has dispatched business during the present term.

BUR. POPE, Foreman.

Edward Cone

Henry Hartsfield

Elias Beall

John Rupert

Davis Owen

Wm. Glenn Sen.

Joel Barnett

Nathaniel H. Smith

Gabriel Jones

David McLoughlin

William Stewart

Wiley Sims

William Campbell

Eli R. Callaway

Robt. O. Williams

Edward Jones

Wm. L. Ponder

We, the Grand Jury, request that the foregoing presentments be published immediately in the Georgia Journal.

Ordered, that the foregoing presentments be published, pursuant to the request of the Grand Jury. True copy from the minutes.

ISAAC COLLIER, Clk.