

1810 August 25 *Foreign Correspondent and Georgia Express* (Athens, Georgia), pp2-3, "For the Georgia Express."

*"He that soweth iniquity shall reap vanity, and the rod of his anger shall fail."*

I DID expect to have trespassed oftener upon the patience of the good people of this county – but it is probable the present may be the last observations from me, respecting the approaching election – If what follows, together with that has already been said, should not be sufficient to deter the republicans of this county from bestowing on federalists their votes, I confess I feel at a loss to know what will – If we do not guard our 'republican institutions,' we shall again experience the 'reign of terror!' we can only do this by frowning indignantly on Federal jackets, and intriguing apostates.

You stand charged, Mr. Clayton, with prevarication – with anti-republicanism, &c. and with making use of unconstitutional means to obtain your election, by soliciting individuals for their support. These, with the whole of my charges against you, remain uncontroverted and uncontrovertible. You have indeed *pretended* to reply – but how unlike a gentleman do you appear, in the estimation of every honest man, after a perusal of that production – which is at once an acknowledgement of your ignorance, & a proof of the baseness of your heart – and of your *brilliant talents* in the composition of BILLINGSGATE. If there be any merit in the celerity of writing mean, dirty abuse, instead of argument, it will not be denied but that you have far surpassed any that have preceded you, for which you richly deserve the *filthy palm*.

As it is my wish and intention, that you should be fairly dealt with, I will relate a circumstance to which you may not be an entire stranger: I have it from good authority, that when the sale of the College land was agitated before the Board of Trustees, a distinguished and patriotic member of that board unfolded the secret of a band of speculators, who had associated themselves together for the purpose of purchasing those lands, to the exclusion of honest men. The way in which the above member became acquainted with their nefarious plan, was – one of the junta, who had made a little too free with Bacchus, presented their articles of agreement to him for perusal – villainy will, sooner or later, always expose itself – after this gentleman had read the instrument which bound them in their intended fraud, he was asked by this speculator what he tho't of it? Think of it, says he, with honest indignation – I think, sir, you do not know that I am [missing] the Board of Trustees! – [missing] dumb with this answer, the [missing] wight received his scroll and [missing] ...

[The next 1.5 columns continue this missive of Voter, but about one quarter of every single line is missing, so we only can get the gist of his accusation but not all the words. In the next paragraph, he calls the attempt to sell the college lands to speculators, "this *little Yazoo Company*" and continues in the next paragraphs to say that voters should elect followers of Troup and Clarke but not those who would defraud the public. He never says Clayton was involved in the scheme, just that he knew about it.]

[Voter corresponded several times in the previous three weeks newspapers, not limiting himself to discussing Clayton. He also opposed Forsyth and others whom he said were not consistently republican. Clayton got his largest dose of opposition in a column on July 28, p2, entitled

“Codicil” but much of the column is missing in the margins of the microfilm and thus lost. The gist of the column was that Clayton spoke glowingly about the Adams administration and always seemed opposed to Jefferson and Madison, and that he called the Baltimore Federal one of the best newspapers in America. There is something else about untrue statements read at the Trail Creek Baptist Church by Mr. Hailes. Voter continues on September 29, p3, that Clayton is unfit and that Federalists will say anything to get elected so they can replace William Crawford with a Federalist as US Senator.]