

*To the Citizens of Columbia County.*

(CONTINUED.)

After writing the foregoing part of this address some time ago, I declined publishing it, thinking that a piece published in the Chronicle signed "A COLUMBIAN" was a triumphant answer to Atticus; but a friend in whose hands what I had written happened to be, sent it to the press, after seeing Atticus republished in another paper, which circulated in this county; therefore, what I then began I will now finish; and the more readily, as I see Atticus published in the Georgia Journal, and it seems to be going the rounds in certain papers, as though the editors thereof, wished to attach to it an importance which its merits cannot claim, and give sanction and publicity to its misstatements and reasoning, which nothing but ignorance or impudence could

advance, and which (when investigated,) can deceive nothing but stupidity. It would, therefore, be harmless among us, if every one would investigate it for himself, and had the means of obtaining the evidence of its misrepresentations. That evidence is, in many instances to be found in itself; but in others, to find it, we must search records not to be obtained by all.— This piece of Atticus' has been scattered along our public ways by post-rider and mail, and distributed through the county in every district and nook by partisan emissaries and political pedlars, and used as a text book from which every would-be-demagogue delivers his discourses, without the least regard for truth, provided he can injure the popularity of our Representatives by misrepresenting their measures in the last Legislature. But let us again turn to Atticus himself: He says "if the 24 counties were disposed to pay Jurors they actually have not the means of doing it." In this assertion, Atticus gives a thrust to Mr. Crawford's amendment to the Bill without intending it. If, as he says, the counties have not the means of paying Jurors, could the amendment, (which required each county to pay its Jury,) have helped Jurors to a dollar? This skeleton like amendment would have, and could have done no better than hold out its empty hands to hungry Jurors, and with insulting mockery, point its lean finger to Mr. Crawford's moneyless liberality. The Bill advocated by your Representatives would have taken money from the Treasury of the State which is full; the amendment proposed taking it from the county Treasury, which is commonly empty, after defraying the usual and necessary expenditures; the Bill would have given Jurors compensation in money from a never failing source; the amendment would have given nothing but empty promises of pay, from a source that has not the means of paying; and this is particularly true, as it regards our own county. One of my poor neighbours, whose misfortunes have disabled him from supporting himself, was lately allowed twenty dollars a year for his support, and though more was petitioned for, the Judges would give no more, for the best of reasons, because there was no more in the county Treasury to be given.— What Jurymen then, would have been profited a farthing by this boasted amendment? Nonsense, all—I, for one, would not have thought less of Mr. Crawford, if in the exercise of his best judgment he had independently opposed the Bill; but to have really opposed the Bill, and then, finding on his return home, that his opposition was unpopular; not only to pretend that he was in favour of the measure, but also attempt to throw the blame of its failure in the Senate, upon the mover and the advocates of it, who belonged to the other House, when the Bill passed by a great majority, is surely cause of complaint.— Atticus says further, that the Government of the State has no resource but taxation, and the income from Bank Stock; but according to the statements of the Comptrol'ers and Treasurer, there are sundry other sources of revenue. Both Mr. Crawford and Atticus say, the State, in its extravagance, spends more money than the amount of its income. If this be so, I would ask, how has it happened that, instead of being in debt, we have so much money in the Treasury?

To show that the State has not been guilty of the extravagance of spending more than its income, I make the following extracts from the annual statements of the Treasurer to the Legislature, which may be seen in the Journals. The four years selected, will suffice; but if we go further back, the result will be the same:

Balance remaining in the Treasury			
First October, 1822,	263,656 10	Increased in one year	142,219 30 1-4
Do. Do. 1823,	623,773 89 1-4		177,258 03 1-4
Do. Do. 1824,	892,023 53 1-4		173,692 93 3-4
Do. Do. 1825,	1,172,659 09		

Increase in three years, . . . . . 490,010 09  
From this, it is evident, that there is an annual increase of the amount of money in the Treasury; and this result is produced not by additional taxes, but by the increase of population and of taxable property, acquired not only by the natural multiplication of slaves, and by the industry of our citizens, but also by the extension of our Territory by Indian Treaties.

The above sums remained in the Treasury, on the 1st. October of each year, after all the expenses of Government, subject to be drawn from it, up to those periods, had been drawn. With what truth then can it be said, the State spends more money than its income? To put this subject further beyond doubt, I extract the following sentences from the Report of the Committee on Finance, to the Legislature of 1824.— After suggesting that the attention of the Legislature ought to be early directed to Internal Improvement, the Committee say, "they are further urged in making this suggestion, by the fact, that at this time, the amount of monies in your Treasury is about 700,000 dollars, which is daily accumulating in a proportion far exceeding the ordinary expenses of Government.— It is almost needless to observe that this sum being inactive, must necessarily be unproductive, and that its protection and security rests on one or two locks and a feeble guard of three or four persons.— Possessing then the means, and acknowledging the policy of improving the country, it is respectfully recommended that a liberal provision be made for the attainment of this object." (page 210, Journal of the Senate, 1824.) Mr. Crawford in his late attack upon the Representatives of Columbia, said that the Treasury was in danger of bankruptcy, and that additional taxes must be resorted to, in a few years to save it; this he said to prove that those who advocated the Petit Jury Bill acted ignorantly in proposing to take from the Treasury, \$9,150. to pay Jurors; and Atticus having the same object, among others, in view, says the State has been extravagant in spending more than its income; but do not the above extracts prove them both to be in the wrong? Mr. Crawford was a member of the Committee who made this

report, as may be seen in the Journal of the Senate of that year, (page 77.) But as to Atticus, we vort to take his word in preference to that of an intelligent Committee, made under oath, and with all the necessary official papers before them, and sanctioned by that and the succeeding Legislature as their acts shew, and approved by Governor Troup, as his recommendations of Internal Improvement prove; for would he have recommended to commence the work of Internal Improvement? and would the Legislature have actually commenced it, without the means necessary—without any money at all? Atticus may continue to publish misstatements and to quibble about "incidental" revenue, and permanent revenue, appropriations by the Legislature, and all such kind of evasions; but it will be all in vain; his sophistry cannot disprove facts; his assertions cannot prevail against the Committee, the Legislature, and the Governor. The evidence of his word cannot successfully impeach the truth of public records.

The statement which Atticus has given of the amount of taxes of each county, he says "is taken from the latest returns and documents laid before the Legislature;" yet it is the statement of the taxes of each county for 1823, as may be seen by comparing it with the statement of the Committee on Finance, in 1824, (page 211 Journal of senate of 1824.) By this; however, he endeavors to prove that there are 41 counties that do not pay taxes enough to pay their own members in the Legislature, that they are paid by Columbia and 23 other counties, and which, he pretends, would have borne the whole burden of paying Jurors had the Bill passed; and therefore that the Representatives of Columbia with whom that Bill originated, betrayed the interest of their constituents.—To make this appear, see to what a pitiful trick he resorts. He takes half the amount of the taxes which some of these counties, (leaving others out,) paid in 1823, and from this half deducts 15 per cent for collection, &c. Then takes the number of members in 1823, which some of these counties then had, together with the members from several new counties formed since 1823, and since which time the Census has been taken, and the number of members increased; then he compares the whole amount of the pay of the members from the 41 counties which he puts upon the poor list, with half the amount of taxes, deducting 15 per cent paid by that part of the 41 counties which existed in 1823, but takes no notice of the fact, that both the number of members and the amount of taxes of these counties have increased since that year. Can any calculation be more unfair! In attempting to prove that 41 counties did not pay their members in 1823, he calculated upon the taxes of that year, surely he ought to have taken the number of members which they had in that year, and not in the year 1823, when the number had so much increased. Or if he would take the number of their members in 1823, it is plain, he ought also to have taken into his calculation the amount of their taxes in the same year—and not their taxes in a former year, when the amount was less. Some of the counties which Atticus has so unceremoniously "put on the parish," really did not exist as counties in 1823; and a large majority of them were new counties, and not fully settled in that year, when, of course they paid but little tax; and had it suited the purpose of Atticus, by the same method of calculation, he could have made it equally plain that the richest county in the State does not pay tax enough to pay its own members. Every one knows that the new counties increase rapidly both in population and in the amount of their taxes. The statement which Atticus has given of the taxes is for the year 1823;—I have before me a similar and official statement for 1824.

I will take a few of the new counties which this writer says are not able to pay their own members, and compare the taxes paid by them in those years, leaving out the fractions of dollars:

	1823	1824
CRAWFORD,	221	413
FAYETTE,	275	411
HENRY,	610	1020
HOUSTON,	191	314
MONROE,	1324	2143
PIKE,	338	712

From this statement it will be seen that in one year the taxes of the new, or poor counties, as Atticus and Mr. Crawford call them, nearly double, and some of them, as Pike for instance, more than double, so that in a few years, some of the poor and rich counties may change places. on the list of those gentlemen, and Columbia itself rank among the poor counties; indeed, if the taxes of Monroe, for example, increased in the same ratio in 1825 as they did in 1824, that county already pays more taxes than Columbia.—So that were we, for the sake of the argument, to admit all that Mr. Crawford and Atticus have said about the Jury Bill being oppressive to Columbia, as one of the 24 rich counties and partial to 41 poor counties, this could be so but a few years, after which, Columbia will not be one of the 24 counties that pay the greatest amount of taxes, and of course would receive all the benefit, which the Bill could confer on the 41 poor counties. In 1823 the rich counties had 88 members, and the poor counties, (as some call them) had 75; and in 1825, these poor counties had more members than the rich, being apportioned according to the late Census, & this proves that these poor counties are gaining on the rich as fast in population as in wealth. Atticus puts upon the poor list, no less than seven counties, which did not exist in 1823, which is the date of his list, yet in his calculations, he apportions to them, the number of members they had in 1823, but allows them no taxes at all, because, forsooth, they paid none before they were created, although they paid taxes as soon as they had members; and therefore their members, were not, as he pretends, paid altogether at the expense of Columbia and 23 other counties. But what is worse, he puts upon this same poor list three or four coun-

ties, which so far from being a burden to other counties in 1823 and ever since, were actually formed by act of the last Legislature, and of course have yet had no members, though Atticus gravely calculates the amount of their pay, without allowing these counties to pay a single dollar of taxes for themselves. He seems to have perceived this absurdity, and attempts to disguise it by a poor artifice; he merges the taxes of the new counties, now henceforth and forever, in the amount of taxes paid in 1823, by the counties from which they were formed, yet calculates the full amount of pay to be received by the members of these counties, when hereafter they shall have members, but, before the experiment is made; before they have elected members or paid taxes, denies them the ability to pay their members this year, next year & through all future time.—Such is the result of his calculations.

WARREN.  
[To be continued]