

"When an individual discovers that his habits have lessened him in the opinion of the wise and good, he is apt to think seriously of amendment, and to promise frequently to be an *'altered man,'* but the force of habit is so deeply fixed, that, in nine cases out of ten, his better feelings sink under the load, and he dies as he lived an unaltered man."

The above very pretty little piece of moralizing we find in the Milledgeville Statesman & Patriot, and never did cap fit fool's head better than this learned dogma does its sage enlieter. About the last election he was loud in the cause of good feeling,—deplored, in most dolorous strains, and one would have almost thought with a weeping pen, the excited state of the public mind, and more particularly the want of amenity and dignity of the editorial corps, in their deportment towards each other—talked much of the dissolution of party spirit, of the return of the era of good feelings, of ev'ing doves, peaceful lambs, olive branches and what not, until one was almost led to believe that the man really felt something of the fine subject upon which he was prosing.—But no sooner is the election over, and he finds his lullaby has produced no other effect upon the Republican party than to rouse them to vigilance and to victory, than his gall flows afresh with tenfold bitterness, and his venom is bespattered, without judgment or measure, over all to whom his malignant obliquity of vision and impure imaginings have imputed the least aid or assistance in the great political revolution. His wicked feelings are too strong to be governed by his prudence and policy, and he still "lives an unaltered man."

The above quoted paragraph is the commencement of an article levelled at our respected fellow townsman the Hon. Judge Clayton, or as the Editor of the Statesman & Patriot chooses to designate him, "Judge Atticus."—How ungenerous, how wanting in every thing that should characterize the high-minded and honorable man, thus to hold up a gentleman, high in office and in trust, imputing writings and sentiments to him which he never saw or heard until he found them in print! It matters not whether the sentiments were consonant with those of Judge C. or not, we expressed them, and not him, and we alone are accountable for them. Does this Editor expect to resuscitate his prostrate party by low slander and vulgar abuse? And is an able, a faithful and long-trying public servant to be his eternal theme, because he does not happen to subscribe to the same political creed with himself? Is neither age nor office to be respected? Is Judge C. to be pursued and persecuted without intermission,—his private walks, his home and his fire-side intruded upon and violated, and by one who knows he will never stoop to notice him? Every law of decency and honorable opposition forbids it. How very different is this from the example set by the Troup party? Where do you find such attempts by them to lessen the dignity of the officer, or destroy the usefulness of the man? Not in one solitary instance. The office was held sacred and sanctified the officer, and during the ascendancy of the Clark party the Judges pursued their high vocation in peace, and with all the respect they could command.

We shall now notice one or two other phrases of this page truth-teller. First—"In his [Judge C's.] newspaper": And again—"The Athenian is generally understood to be under the Judge's supervision"—supervision, if he will allow us to correct for him. Now were we not very certain that Mr. Burrill, or the scribbler for the Statesman & Patriot, whoever he may be, knew that the above sentences were absolutely false, we might have smiled at being taken for a better man, and passed them in silence. But the fact is notorious that we have no intercourse with Judge C. very often, either directly or indirectly, for weeks together. He has his avocations to pursue, and we have ours; and we have both too much to attend to to take up our time in idle gossiping. Nothing but downright hardihood in wilful misrepresentation could ever have induced the writer to have used such language. We hope in future he will, if not from a sense of honesty from that of policy, suffer that gentleman to remain in quiet, and let us bear the brunt of our own deeds; and in conclusion we will give him our most serious advice, that honesty, in politics as in morals, is much the best policy.