

reply, which we hope will be read by all who feel any interest in this affair.

We most cordially agree with him in denouncing the "scene" at General Henry's a shameful transaction; but we think, as all must believe, when the real facts are known, that the "shame" is all his own. That scene was produced by himself, and we were unwillingly made actors by his own rash conduct. He has thought proper to make it public, and must now abide the merited reprobation which will be awarded him by public opinion.

Mr. Polk's publication contains the following statement:—

"The infant daughter of my niece, Mrs. Virginia Polk, whom she had not been permitted to see for nearly nine years, was taken to Mr. Henry's by her grandfather and uncle, while the mother of the child went accompanied by myself and sister, for the purpose of endeavoring to effect an interview with her, previously to her leaving the county. (She had been permitted, for the first time since the child was three years of age, to see it a few days before this transaction, for a few minutes only, and was then not suffered by the same Mr. Henry, who was present, to approach nearer to it than the width of the room. The child has been brought up in dread and abhorrence of its mother, and consequently expressed a repugnance at seeing her.)

"Leaving my sister in the carriage at the door, I accompanied my niece into a room where she was conducted by Mr. and Mrs. Henry. Her wishes being made known to Mr. Henry, and to Mr. Crisfield, one of Mr. Williams' attorneys, after obtaining the consent of Mr. Williams, who claims the guardianship of the child, notwithstanding her father by his will disinherited her, giving all his property unconditionally to another, they accompanied by Mrs. Henry, led the little girl into the room and seated her near the door. The mother of the child was at the opposite side. On the entrance of her child she approached her but was opposed by Mr. Henry, who met her near the middle of the room with a chair, and desired her to be seated there. Seeing her hesitate, I encouraged her to proceed and take the child in her arms—hoping that a mother's caresses might in some degree abate the force of her worse than savage education. In complying with this suggestion, she was opposed by Mr. Henry and Mr. Crisfield, who not only exclaimed against the act, but endeavored to pull the child from her. She however succeeded in clasping it in her arms, and seating herself on a chair, drew it on her lap, these gentlemen still striving to separate them. In this effort the mother and child were drawn up from the chair. I remonstrated in vain against this conduct—begging them to suffer the mother to have her child to herself, if it were but for a minute. Mr. Charles Carroll, another of Mr. Williams's lawyers, joined them; and seizing the child round the waist, with the most savage and brutal violence, succeeded in tearing her from those arms which then clasped her for the first time since she was three years old. True, I was not idle. I strove to prevent so rude and hasty a separation. I thought I was justified in so doing, notwithstanding it was at a private house—seeing that the gentleman of the house had disregarded the rites of hospitality, and with his own hands had invaded and violated the sacred privileges of a mother. In the struggle the mother's clothes were torn, and the