

Political.

From the Globe.

The New Movement for the Secretaries. The Secretary of State, Mr. Webster, although so deeply committed to a National Bank...

Mr. Secretary Spencer has, still more impressively than ever, renounced his association with the bank party, and published his ban against the resuscitation of that fatal mischief...

And have these leading personages—once so strenuously engaged with the bank power, to crush under its victorious wheels the masses of the people that opposed it—no motive in common...

The Globe descants in the following amusing manner on the recent elections:

We have heard, ever since our boyhood, that coon-skins were good in every month having the letter R in it; and we are led to believe, from the number of coons which have been skinned in the several States during the last month...

The first was in Vermont, on the first Monday of last month. There the democrats skinned awhile; but, finding the fur not good, they suffered the coons to run until next fall.

On the Monday following they commenced in Maine—which is a little farther north, where the fur becomes good earlier in the fall and there they skinned between fourteen and fifteen thousand. They skinned so many that they have not been able to count skins up to this time.

The skinning commenced in Georgia on the first Monday in this month, where the democrats skinned about 3000. On the Wednesday following they skinned about 2500 in Maryland, where the owners of the coons said they were so wily they could not be caught.

The hunt commenced in South Carolina on Monday last; and up to this time we have heard of but a single coon saving himself—one coon has been elected to the legislature in the Richmond district, which sends four members to that body.

New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Ohio, all commenced the hunt on Tuesday last. In New Jersey the democrats skinned about 3000. The number skinned in Pennsylvania is innumerable.

From the returns now coming in from Ohio, we judge that the democrats have skinned about 3000 there. It would seem, from the devices, or emblems, on the slips containing the returns, that the coons in Ohio, are like the old woman's eels,—they like skinning.

The Richmond Enquirer says of Mr Spencer's letter:

"We lay all of Mr. Spencer's letter before our readers, and we recommend it to their attention, for the mastery ability with which it is written, and for the force of many of its views. Mr. Spencer is no idol of ours, nor do we approve of many of his opinions, nor admire all his political course—but there are passages in this production of superior excellence. His exposition of the mischiefs of a National Bank, has scarcely ever been surpassed, for condensation and force.

No wonder, the Whigs abuse him.—The N. Y. Express denounces his act as that of a dishonest politician. The N. Y. Courier calls him a double traitor. The Baltimore Patriot styles him an abject slave of Mr. Tyler." In fact, the whole whig pack are yelping at his heels—and would tear him to pieces, if they could. No man has hit him more severely blow—or at a more unseasonable period, than J. C. Spencer has done in the remarkable letter now before our readers.

RENUNCIATION.—The Springfield (Ill.) Journal contains a formal renunciation of Mormonism, signed by ten late members of the Mormon Church, who declare that they have been "most scandalously imposed upon in matters and things of a divine character." Oliver H. Olney, late a preacher of the Mormon doctrines, has also renounced all connection with the "Latter-Day Saints," as they call themselves, having been a witness to the corruptions and debaucheries of their leaders. —Ball. Sun.

EXTRACTS FROM A LETTER FROM THE HON. JOHN C. SPENCER—ANOTHER POSITION DEFINED.

New York, October 19, 1842.

The fact that the actual President was without an organized party in Congress, was an extraordinary as it was new. It was the first time in our history that an opportunity had been presented to test the strength of our institutions, and ascertain whether the country could be governed simply by means of the laws, or whether the adventitious aid of a Presidential party in Congress, was necessary to carry on the Government successfully.

When selected as a candidate, I was elected him, no other pledge was expected or asked, than such as his whole political life afforded. The party was composed of men of various creeds on many points, but those professing the republicanism of Jefferson are believed to have constituted a very considerable portion, if not a majority.

I should do injustice to my own feelings if I did not express the deep conviction produced in my mind from a thorough investigation of the subject, and from having become familiar with the statements of all parties, that there was much of mistake and misapprehension between those who were honestly willing to understand each other, some of accidental, and more of intentional misrepresentation of the language of the President in the various conversations held with him; and that throughout he manifested a sincere, honest, and steadfast adherence to the great constitutional objection which he had for years, repeatedly, in public and in private, announced as a fundamental article of his political creed.

In proof of the absence of all selfish, interested or ambitious motives on the part of the President, in the course which his convictions of duty prompted, I may now advert to a fact long known to me, which has been promulgated in the newspapers of the day, vouched for by at least one whig editor, stated by a Representative in Congress from Massachusetts in a speech lately delivered at Newburyport, upon authority, and hitherto not denied. That fact is, that previous to returning the second Bank bill to Congress with his objections, in full view of the assaults to be made upon him, and with the purpose of removing all cause of agitation, as well as to secure himself against unjust imputations, the President submitted to his then Cabinet, whether he should, in the message then about to be transmitted to Congress, announce a resolution to retire from public life at the expiration of the existing term; and that against his doing so, all the members of the Cabinet then present, protested, on the ground that such an announcement would not have the effect to produce peace or quiet, but would only change the direction of faction; that no one had a right to expect such a step from him, as he had not been elected President, and no obligation existed that should interpose any barrier between him and a direct vote of the People.

In connection, and yet in contrast with the preceding, is another fact of an extraordinary character, which, though known to many, has lately been distinctly promulgated. It is shadowed in a letter of Mr. Ewing's, in the statement by him of a proposition having been made to the President, that the majority who had passed the first bank bill, would consent to postpone the second to the next session of Congress, if they could receive assurance that in the mean time no hostile movement would be made on the part of the President. The full meaning of this statement has now been developed by the declaration of a member of Congress, that a message was carried from the whig leaders in Congress to the President, to the effect that if he would engage not to disturb any members of his then Cabinet in the enjoyment of their offices, the second bank bill should be postponed. The answer to such a proposition may be easily conceived. The effect of that proposition was to prove the identity of the members of the Cabinet whose places were deemed in jeopardy by the hostile members of Congress, and if the design was to precipitate matters, it was most effectual.

You will require no aid to determine which of the actors in these scenes, exhibited a lofty disinterested patriotism, and which evinced any tenacity for place or desire for power. These facts are full of instructions, and furnish a key to many mysterious transactions. After the outbreak referred to, the President remodelled his Cabinet, and after that time his administration may be said to have commenced. It began and has been continued thus far, without the support of any party acknowledging him as its political chief, or bound to him by those political associations, which under every preceding administration, had enabled the Executive to look at least for favorable predispositions in a large portion of the members of Congress to sustain his mea-

asures. The same course of events which deprived him of this usual and accustomed aid of an administration, also liberated him from those mere party influences and party obligations which become reciprocal for party service. He was at full liberty to cast the interests of the whole people, of the great masses, without reference to the extreme views of the bigots of any party. And he determined to do so.

If, as seems to be generally conceded, the question lies between this plan [the Executive plan recommended by President Tyler,] and a National Bank, there cannot be much room for doubt or hesitation. Waiving for the present, the insuperable difficulties presented by the constitutional objection to such a Bank, operating through the whole Union—objections so long entertained by a large portion of our fellow-citizens, and strengthened rather than diminished by discussion, and by the sad experience of the tremendous power, and the still more tremendous corruptions of such an institution—waiving these, the very fact of the existence of such objections, and of others of a different character, will effectually prevent a subscription to the Bank by those sound and prudent capitalists who possess the property in a position to be the sport of the alternate triumphs and defeats of parties. The chartering a Bank under such circumstances, would but invite the cupidity of those who intend to become borrowers rather than lenders, and who by means of the irresponsibility of a corporation, and with the impunity that has marked former transactions of similar institutions, would plunder those whose confidence they had invited to betray it. Whatever may have been our opinions heretofore, of the utility of a National Bank, however we may have been compelled to acquiesce in its supposed necessity, the history of the last few years, has, I should hope, convinced all who are open to conviction, that any evils which may be anticipated from the want of such an institution, however great, are more tolerable than the certain, positive and immeasurable injuries which we now know have flowed from the existence of one that was instituted under the most favorable auspices, and was committed to the charge of men at the time esteemed the most honorable and trustworthy in our land. Within four years of its existence, the last bank of the United States became little better than a den of robbers.—Its managers, with few exceptions, pursued a systematic scheme of plunder and fraud, which was arrested by the investigations of a committee of Congress.

Clemency, now believed to have been mistaken, towards innocent stockholders, and a hope that the example which had been made of the offenders would deter others from dissolution. It was allowed to proceed under new restrictions, designed to prevent the recurrence of similar frauds. In a few years, it was found at open war with the Government of the country, seeking the renewal of its charter, subsidizing presses and editors, squandering its treasures in partisan elections and openly purchasing the support of the venal in all directions. The moral corruption which thus flooded the whole country was in itself an evil of the most fearful magnitude. It struck deep at the roots of public faith and private honor, and prepared the way for that reckless and unbounded extravagance, which the Bank itself stimulated by the profuse distribution of its money, and the consequences of which we are now reaping in individual sufferings from which a Bankrupt law affords but slight relief, and in the degradation of the character of our country by the fraudulent insolvencies of our public corporations, and by the shameful refusal of sovereign States to fulfil their obligations.

The final extinction of the same institution under a State charter, and managed by the same individuals, and the consequent inevitable exposure of its affairs, has disclosed scenes of depravity and fraud at which the whole country stands aghast. Who can look back at the immense amounts of public funds which have been entrusted to the fidelity of the same men without a feeling of horror at the abyss which we have escaped? And who would again venture the treasury of the nation upon the integrity of any body of individuals in an associate capacity, when we have before us such reiterated examples of the feebleness of the most unspotted public and private character, to resist the temptations which attend the control of enormous wealth and inordinate power? How can any government justify itself in thus transferring to corporate individuals the functions with which it is entrusted for the welfare of the people? The collection, the preservation, and the disbursement of the public revenue is the business of the Government itself, through its own agencies, with all the responsibilities of office, and with the securities of oaths, bonds, and constant check and supervision. It might, with equal propriety, relieve itself of the burden of governing its territories, by employing the agency of corporations, and the Post Office and other departments might likewise be consigned to their care. If the Government is inadequate to the entire management of its fiscal affairs, should we not be better employed in seeking and providing the necessary powers to enable it to discharge one of its highest duties, than in creating artificial bodies to whom this same and still greater powers must be confided? If there be danger in the exercise of such powers by the selected public agents of the people, directly and periodically responsible to them for all their acts, is the danger lessened by transferring their exercise with the secrecy which invariably attends the proceedings of corporations, to those who are not selected by the People, and not responsible to them, but who hold their chartered rights for a longer or shorter term, by an immutable law, which even the will of the People cannot rescind?

I have dwelt on this subject, my friends, because it has received so little examination in or out of Congress, and because it involves the most momentous interests to the nation and to its citizens. In the election of Representatives to Congress, you are called upon to determine whether the Executive

plan shall prevail, or whether a National Bank shall be established, or whether the whole matter shall remain unregulated and unprovided for. A respectable portion of you, fellow-citizens, avow their desire for the incorporation of a Bank of the United States, and have rallied under the name and banner of a distinguished statesman who is pledged to effect that object by all the political power which may be placed in his hands. The appeal to the electors of the country, to confer such power upon him and those who concur with him, is rightfully and fairly made. Against the creation of any such institution, the President and his administration have contended, and mean to contend, until the people, in their wisdom, shall deprive them of the power of further resistance. Confiding in the intelligent virtue and firmness of that people, they cheerfully abide the issue.

You have had the kindness, gentlemen, to allude to my own position, and to say that it has been the subject of misapprehension and of misrepresentation.—Reluctant as I am to prolong a communication already too extended, I have no right to disregard that reputation which is the property of my children, and to some extent of my country: and I am therefore compelled to speak of myself. With respect to my position, it is proper to state that it is a matter of consultation with the prominent men of the State of New York, then my political associates, comprising the State officers, with one exception, all the members of the Senate to whom access could be had, many members of the Assembly, and a large number of our most esteemed citizens, and upon their advice, without a single dissenting opinion. The press throughout the country, particularly the whig press, spoke favorably of the appointment, and furnished evidence of the general sentiment of that party. Facts which came to my knowledge, before I concluded to accept the offer of the President, and some of which have been stated in this communication, satisfied me that the impressions produced by the manifesto of certain Whig members of Congress, which did not receive the sanction, and was unknown to very many of those whose views it appeared to express, were erroneous and unjust towards the President, and that motives and objects had been ascribed to him, with the semblance, but without the reality, of truth. And between his principles, as explained to me, and my own, I found no incongruity that could prevent a hearty co-operation. We had co-operated in Congress, on all important occasions, and on the same committee had conducted the memorable investigation, in 1819, into the affairs of the Bank of the United States, where we had stood shoulder to shoulder, battling against the frauds, the corruption and the power of that institution, on common grounds and congenial principles. We had together been Republicans of the old school, maintaining the same doctrines, and combating the same political enemy, long previous to, during, and after the war of 1812. In 1823 and 1829, we had made common cause against the administration of John Q. Adams, and had united our efforts to bring Gen. Jackson into power. When the measures of his administration, in our judgment, evinced a departure from what we conceived the principles upon which he had been elected, however pure and upright may have been his intentions, we together avowed our opposition to those measures, and went into a minority, against the strongest party, and the most popular leader of it, that has existed in this country since the days of Washington.

These views and sentiments are presented to you, gentlemen, in explanation of my position, and in defence against the reproaches which have been cast upon me, for not resigning the office I hold. I cannot lend myself to the vindictive feelings which they and their associates entertain towards the President: I cannot be a party to the torrent of vituperation which has been poured out upon him. I cannot consent to aid, in any manner, the success of a party which goes before the people, demanding that it may be intrusted with power, for the purpose of incorporating a National Bank. I am not in favor of an alteration of the Constitution, to abolish the Executive power of returning to Congress, for their more mature consideration, bills which may have passed in haste, or inadvertently, or upon mistaken principles. I deny that few and unimportant abuses of a conservative and suspensive power like this, even if they existed, which in their natures must be temporary, furnish any good reason for abolishing the power itself, and leaving all legislation without check, and without an opportunity for revision, to a multitudinous Congress. I am not for a distribution of the proceeds of the land sales, when that distribution will cause the imposition of taxes beyond the wants of the government, merely to supply the very deficiency it causes. Finally, I will not consent to have any man forced upon me, as my candidate for the Presidency, by associated clubs, to forestall the action of a convention, or by the denunciations of personal partisans. I doubt not that this exposition of opinions will be deemed, by those partisans, but a continuation of the sin committed in 1839, in having used my best exertions to prevent the nomination of Mr. Clay, at the Harrisburg convention. That sin has already been deemed sufficient cause, by those assuming to speak for the party in our State, for pronouncing a sentence of excommunication against those who committed it. With regard to some, that sentence has been promulgated, while it is suspended over the heads of others. Freedom of thought, and independence of opinion, in the choice of a candidate, even before a nomination, have become deadly crimes in the estimation of those whose severest reproach against their opponents, within a few years, was their slavish adherence to party, and their blind devotion to one man. So be it. A party which commences with the prescription of all who will not worship the same idol, at the very time when it is seeking to gain strength and numbers to its ranks, gives us a foretaste of the sacrifices to be offered on the same altar, when power shall serve inclusion.

The occasion seemed to demand this exposition of my views, as I desire to deceive

no one, by wearing or appearing to wear, colors that do not belong to me. Regretting that I have not been able to command more time in the preparation of this letter, and trusting that the fact will be received as an apology for whatever imperfections of language may appear, I subscribe myself,

Your friend and fellow-citizen, JOHN C. SPENCER.

From Kendall's Expositor. Presents to public men.

There is a mode of operating upon public men common in this country, so nearly akin to corruption, as to make the difference practically unimportant.—The good will and kind feelings of the officers of Government, inclining them to lean, perhaps unconsciously, to the interests of individuals, and sometimes producing the mischievous effects of direct bribes, are secured by presents, personal favors, and pecuniary obligations. On taking charge of the Fourth Auditor's office, we learned that some of the pursers of the navy and navy agents were in the habit of making valuable presents, to the clerks who examined their accounts; thereby creating advocates in the office. We forbade the clerks receiving any present of value from any party.

A similar practice prevailed to a greater and more mischievous extent in the Post Office Department.—We were scarcely warm in our seat there, before presents from contractors began to come in upon us. On one occasion a whole deer, just killed, came down from the mountains, and made his appearance one morning in the passage of the Post Office Department. By a letter on our table, we learned that it was a present from a mail contractor. Said we to ourself, "An application for an extra allowance is not far behind."

The contractor, in his letter, requested us to send a piece to his old friend, Parson B. Availing ourself of this request, we sent for the Parson, and delivered him the whole animal—not caring to eat meat which we expected to be called on to pay for out of the funds of the Post Office Department.—Sure enough, in a few days, here came the contractor with a project for an improvement in his mail service, which would increase his pay, and, in other respects greatly promote his private interests. We were as little inclined to swallow his project as his present.

We were not two weeks in the department, before a clerk spontaneously offered to lend us money! In our heart we pronounced him a corrupt man, and took the first convenient opportunity to get rid of him. We have since ascertained that he was an agent and a spy of certain powerful contractors in the department!

On another occasion, we mean to give more of our observation and experience in the department—having said this much only as an introduction to the matter in hand.

The following we cut from the National Intelligencer of the 12th inst., viz: "We find in the N. York papers the following letter from Mr. Clay, written in reply to a communication from some gentlemen at Syracuse, in that State, who forwarded him a present of a quantity of salt: "Ashland, Sept. 24, 1842.

"Gentlemen: I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your friendly letter of the 10th inst., transmitting an invoice of twenty-three barrels of salt, and one box, embracing all the varieties manufactured at Syracuse, and a list of my friends who have done me the favor to contribute it. In consequence of my experience of the superiority of the Onondaga salt in the preservation of meat, and in all other uses to which that article is applied, I requested my friend, Mr. Spencer, to have forwarded me a small supply. I had not the slightest expectation that my request would have attracted any other than the usual attention; much less that it should have elicited a present so liberal, and which comes recommended to me by so many flattering and friendly circumstances. I am advised this morning of the safe arrival of the salt at Maysville, and it will reach this place in a day or two.

"I know not how to express, in terms corresponding with my feelings, my great obligations for this acceptable present. I request you to offer it, to those who contributed it, collectively and individually, my cordial and grateful acknowledgments." Mr. Clay then goes into a defence of the tariff in general, and the duty on salt in particular; maintaining the old absurdity that taxing American labor on all the salt it consumes, to enrich the salt-maker, is "protecting home industry."

In 1830, we visited the carpet factories at Lowell and in the loom we observed an incomplete Brussels carpet, with a lilac ground, and a grape-vine with its broad, dark leaves gracefully filling up the picture. It was one of the most simple, beautiful, and substantial articles of manufacture we ever saw. "This," said our guide, "is a present for Henry Clay." "What may be its value?" we asked—"seen hundred dollars," he replied. It is not long since we observed notice of a "plough" presented to the "farmer of Ashland," from one quarter, and a "hat" from another. Numerous other valuable presents to this personage have, from time to time, been noticed in the newspapers; and now come "twenty-three barrels of salt and one box."

Is not a protective tariff a good thing for Henry Clay? In part, at least, He gets his salt by it; He gets his ploughs by it; He gets his hats by it; He gets his carpets by it; He gets his coats by it; He gets numerous other valuable things by it; And he gets the support of those enriched by his legislation for the Presidency. It is natural, therefore, without supposing him corrupt, that he should think the tariff a very good thing. But who pays for Mr. Clay's presents? Would the manufacturers be so liberal with him, did they not get paid for it? He gets laws passed to tax the people for their benefit,

and they, grateful for their favor, give him a part of the money so raised—or a part of the articles they manufacture with the aid of that money, which is the same thing. Practically, and without reference to motive, it amounts to this: Mr. Clay, by his votes and influence, lays a heavy tax on the whole people, and gives the money to the manufacturers, who pay him out of the same money for his services. To the people, is it not the same as if Mr. Clay were hired by the manufacturers to tax them, on condition that he shall be paid with a part of the proceeds? Is it not the same as a conspiracy between the manufacturers and politicians to plunder them in the name of patriotism and under the color of law, for the emolument of the conspirators? WHO PAYS FOR HENRY CLAY'S PRESENTS?

Let every honest and considerate man ask himself this question, and ponder upon the subject until he is able to answer it to his own satisfaction. If he answer himself by saying the manufacturers, then let him ask himself the further question:

WHY DO THE MANUFACTURERS MAKE AND PAY FOR THESE PRESENTS?

A correct answer to that question will lay bare the whole subject to every unbiased mind.

NORTH-CAROLINIAN. Wm. H. Bayne, Editor and Proprietor. FAYETTEVILLE: Saturday Morning, November 5, 1842.

The Market. Trade has been brisk this week, and the prices quoted in our table, very well sustained. Cotton, though not exactly fallen, is dull sale at 7 1-2. It being low in New York, merchants are chary of buying. Little or no alteration has taken place.

We are glad to receive the Washington Republican again, which paper had been suspended for a short period. It is well printed, on good paper, and deserves a good circulation and support.

ELECTIONS. GEORGIA.—The returns from this State for members of Congress and State Legislature has been received. The average majority is given by the Georgia Constitutionalist as 2271. The democratic ticket for Congress, (Messrs Cooper, Lamar, Cobb, Black, Stiles, Haralson, Lumpkin and Millen) are consequently elected. The democrats will have a large majority in the Legislature.

ARKANSAS.—We have some further intelligence from the election in this State. From the returns in the Globe, it seems that Mr. Cross, democrat, is elected to Congress, by about 2000 majority over a coon and an apostate democrat. There will be a large majority of democrats in the Legislature.

The legislature of Vermont (whig) unanimously passed a resolution in favor of repealing the Bankrupt law.

The question whether a man may be permitted to marry his deceased wife's sister, was debated by the Synod of New Jersey, and was decided affirmatively, by a vote of 55 to 24.

GENERAL MILITARY CONVENTION.—It will be seen by the following, which we find in the Baltimore Sun, that the Military spirit it is being roused from its lethargy:

To the Volunteer Companies of the United States: At the Convention held at Camp Baltimore, on the 15th May last, the commanding officers of the several Volunteer companies of the District of Columbia, were appointed a committee to make the necessary arrangements for holding a General Military Convention in this city, and the 2d of December next, for the purpose of memorializing Congress to reorganize the militia. You are therefore requested to send delegates.

Chairman Committee of Arrangements. The following table exhibits at once, the immense change which has taken place in public sentiment, as expressed through the ballot box, within the last 15 months:

Table showing election results for 1840 and 1842 across various states, including Virginia, North Carolina, and others. Columns include State, Party, and Vote counts.