

Mrs 620

strain of Blain's Son can full bis bundrb eges to ofren

December 12, 1857.

angress the "Minnesote bill," giving about n millions of acres of public lands to cor-infroms for railroads in Minnesota, Ala-tra, Minsissippi, Arkansas and Florida, and both houses of Congress over the to of President Pierce; and such is the wer of the combination, that this conser-tive check, which was the last sheet an-or of the Bouthern non-land-holding nes, in powerless for their protoction...-ot only is the Northwest clamorous for pulls, but South western democrats have and in the cry, and a plan is now well stured as sout as Kausas, Minnesota, were anal Nebraska shall, be admitted, ress the "Minnesona bill," giving about in its several conventions passed a resoluthe largest donations to State and private in Status, Minnesota, in Status, Minnesota, in Congress, to seize public lands, and give which they lie, and in cause of a denuerat who had given his binnes Sintes; and

every application for the Northwest Mr. Neither Dougha, long my favorite for the Presihonesty nor justice will impede or prevent dency, and the second choice of the demo-it. The decree has gone forth, and nothing cratic party of this State in 1852, had built ean avert it but our, own prompt and deci-sive action. I feel that this question of the nearly all the rest. When the democratic public lands is at this moment a far more party in Congress made Mr. Boyd Speaker important one than that of slavery, and a of the House of Representatives they voted much mure practical one. Upon the slavery for a man who had introduced tha advoquestion we have nothing more to hope cated a bill to give all the lands to the from legislation. Free States have been States in which they lie, for a mere nominal the result of every compromise we have price. Since then Jefferson Davis, Houston of accepted. We now rest on the doctrine of popular sovereignty, as embodied in the Nebraska Kansas bill; if this be palpably Committee of Ways and Means-indeed,

violated, the united South must determine the whole Democracy of the land States, on her course. Should any sudden cause have fled forever from the Baltimore platdisturb the relations of the States and dis- form-have advocate, and taken the benesolve the Union, a vast property will have fit of land donations. Mr. Perkins of Lou-been secured by those who will then be island, a favorite of Gen. Pierce, and to our fors-indeed, it is a solemn view of the whom was committed by the State Deland question, that all these donations of partment, to reform the Diplomatic and our mutual property is building up in power Consular system, introduced a bill but little and strength one side, to the impoverish- different from Mr. Boyd's, by which the whole of the land was to be absorbed by the States in which they are situated-only thing to be done by legislation. If the he postponed for ten years the completion South and Northeastern States will unite of the iniquity. Mr. Andrew Johnson, just in claiming a fair and equal distribution of elected Senator by the democratic party a portion of this common domain, among of Tennessee, not only has favored these gifts of land, but has even gone far beyond, by advocaring a proposition to give away at one lunge, one hundred millions to individuals, natives and foreigners, who choose to settle on them and call them theirs.

The Cincinnati Convention which nominated Mr. Buchapan, broke down the Balmammoth company, and Mr. Buchauan civing away these lands is acquiesces in the measure and supports it.

OSTHODOXY.

In no State out of Virginia, North Caro a democrat on the land question, made a event is likely and probable. The systest of orthodoxy. It is manifest that he tem is at variance with State rights and

Whole No. 205 venue to be derived from her by the g

TERMS: TWO DOLTARS IN ADVA

al government ?- The argument sust distribution as well as the other system CONSTITUTIONALITY OF DISTRIBUTION.

Consertations ality of Distantions, The opponents of distribution and that it is unconstitutional. Without statisting to find the power to distribute in the classe authorizing Congress to "dispose of the land," &c. I answer, the land has been distributed from the earliest periods of the gavernment; only it has been partially and unjustly distributed. But I find the power to distribute exactly where Mr Jefferson found the power to acquire territory. There is to constitutional right to ac-quire territory, so said Mr Lefferson to be

quire territory, so said Mr Inference he purchased Louisiana; get he de the power from the necessity of the the power from the necessity in the term and be was sustained by the democratic party throughout the country. A security equally as argonit and pressing demonds distribution. The land system has become by all authority a source of the most ini-

quitous corruption, consuming much of the time of every Congress, prolonging its sessions, increasing its expenditures, produc-ing log rolling, lobby canvassing, bribery and all sorts of dishonest combination. But the overpowering necessity is, that this valuable domain, a common property, which all have contributed to pay for, and which belongs alike to all, is melting away, is being distributed to a pari, and the balance of the owners left whoily without its benefits.

Again : this land fund is now no longer needed for the expenses of the government. It is now ascertained, that the lower the tariff is reduced, and the more closely the revenue basis is approximated, without going below it, the larger will be the revenue produced. Each year, since 1846, there has been an increasing sarpius, and immense sums have been locked up in the public treasury to the great injury of commerce and manufactures. This evil, and the necessity of some policy to avert the unjust distribution, his inaugurated a principle far worse, than fair distribution of the land itself. I mean the deposite system for which all the Democratic members of Congress from the State felt compelled to rote. If this deposite be any thing else than distribution, it is a policy the most dangerous to States rights ever entered on. By it the general government becomes a money lender-ine States, borrowers of heirown funds; and as a temptation to fregent and unnecessary loans, they are not to pay interest, are only morally bound for the reimbursement of the loan.

Suppose North Carolina was called upon to-day to pay back the sum deposited in 1836-that sun constitutes her school fund. She would be obliged to restore it or repu-diate. What would become of her common school system in this event ? And yet, and South Carolina, is the opinion of according to the principle of deposite, the who clings to the Baltimore platform on State dignity. If, however, no interest is this principle, bugs a ghost, a phantom, to be charged, and the money is never to that melts before his eyes; and those who be called for and not to be refunded, then profit by our action, laugh in their sleeves a democratic paper of this State widely at the folly of our simplicity and credulity. circulated and highly respectable both for I put this question, and a satisfactory the ability with which it is conducted and the independence of its Editors, I mean the Wilmington Journal, said truly, "deposite is the same thing as distribution," and te pretend otherwise is a cover and deceit. But it is said distribution is impracticable that the measure is dead and cannot be revived. The same may be said of all measures, if no effort be made. But let us see the facts. Mr Bennett, of New York All the important Railroads of the West has twice introduced a distribution bill. have been constructed by these grants of not very fair in its details, into the House land, and individual subscription and State of Representatives. Once, if I am not mistaken, it passed that body. At another session it commanded a tie vote. At presthe alternate sections reserved seil for dou- ent, there is no doubt if the south unite, a die, and thus the government loses nothing; bill will pass. The action of North Caro-At a caucus of the democratic party States, monuments at once of the benefits that as a prudent proprietor the govern- lina could produce it in the House and ia ment does right to give away one half to the Senate -The non-landholding States double the value of the other. A more art- have a majority and they are vitaily interful bait was never set for any gudgeon, ested to pass this measure; and it is not to There are twenty States and Territories and no trout was ever more caught by an be supposed that the present Chief Magisartificial fly than were those Southern trate of the nation, who approves the buildpresses, and Southern leaders who darted ing of the Pacific railroad out of the pubhe lands, would interpose the executive veto upon a bill fairly distributing among ever asked to give away one-half his land the several proprietors their common pro-That is at this time a vital question to North Carolina. She has a debt and liabilities of near ten millions of dollars. She has a system of railroads commenced but long argument to convince any of them not finished, and which in their incomplete thus to diminish their broad acres. A gross- condition will produce no revenue if they keep up and pay their debts, while the stock I take the case of the Illincis Central of some of them is selling from 25 to 30 Railroad, and this is the most favorable dollars in the hundred. The taxes upon the people amount now to more than five The number of acres received by this hundred thousand dollars, besides specific company amounted to 2,593,092 acres; re- debts for which certain counties have bound ceived at double price 1,223,921 acres. themselves, and these taxes must of neces-The land granted to the road was worth at sity be still further increased. The people government price, five million two hundred cannot for a long time bear this taxatien. and forty-one thousand two hundred and with their limited resources. Within the ninety-six dollars, and if the whole of the aext two years provision must be made to reservation sold for double the government pay a large amount of the principal of the price, it would fall short of this sam more debt; and this must be done by additional han one hundred thousand dellars. But I taxation, or a renewed loan. The former say to you, without feur of trathful con- is impossible. No Legislature would pass tradiction, that the whole of the reserved a tax law to draw in one or two years a sections have never in a single instance million and a half of dollars ; and the peo-brought the double price. Indeed, the ple could, not support it if it were passed. Company usually absorbs in its alternate A new loan from Peter to pay Paul is inevsections the best land, and the reserve thus itable. The example having already been cut off and of the worst, far from bringing set, of borrowing at more than 6 per cent. the double price, is injured in value and by a corporation in this State; she cannot doctrine of distribution, in view of the de-parture from the mational platform by demo-works, buildings and institutions are erected price. The people have no idea of the corcrats of the land States, and the certain loss of the whole of the public lands to the State of North Carolina. whole so the set of improve the remaining land and indemnify the next two years of from six to seven the government, would not a donation to hundred thousand dollars a year. How is North Carolina, in freeing her from debt, and euabling her to complete her works, tend to improve her prosperity, build up her population, and greatly increase the re-l greatly fear it will drive population and

" Unless some succeness in the bottom lie Who cares for all the crinkling of the pie." [From the Tarborough Southerner.] STATE DEBT AND DISTRIBUTION.

EDITOR OF THE SOUTHERNER, SIR : I COMnun cate herewith a letter from D. K. Me-Ras, Esq., in reply to one addressed him by

Mr. McRae, but its nature and purport generally, will be readily indicated by the

WM. F. DANCY.

KINSTON, N. C., Oct. 22nd, 1857.

My DEAR SIR : I have now the first tall the States, the claim would be recog-cisure time since the receipt of your letter nized; it is their refusal to receive, which asking my views "on political questions atrengthens the adversary, and at this time now of great interest to the State," to make so needy is the West, and so eager for furyou a reply. Our long acquaintance- ther assistance, that even she will go for the relations of personal friendship which this general distribution. But in a very have always subsisted between us- and the short time the preponderance of representahave always subsisted between us- and the fact that we have ever been active mem-bers of the same political party, prompt me, without hesitation, to comply with your wishes; and having no political aspiration to gratify--having voluntarity yielded an honorable effice into the hands of the ad-

ment of the other.

On the land question there is yet some-

fersen to the present, in donations of swamp lands, school lands, &c., the whole system calculated to excite our liveliest concern. having ever been one of fraud and rohbery She is evidently not advancing in pros against the constant protest of the South, perity at an equal pace with her sister made always, but made without avail, and

How may the State be extricated from in Alabama, Arkansas and Florida.

this situation and placed on the road to prosperity-- is a question of the arst imper- vily taxed for their deaf and dumb asylum, tance- and happy will be be who will strike and also for the asylum for the insane -

which sat in Convention at Ruleigh in May 1852, I called their stiention to the unjust and iniquitous system of squandering the have been made. public lands, which was robbing North in uter violation of the principles regularly out the payment of one cent for them, the set forth in the national Convention of the vast amount of one hundred and thirty-four pariy, and I pointed out the prospect of a millions seven hundred thousand acres of speedy and entire loss to North Carolina of public land, in which North Carolina had tuis valuable inheritance. That Denio as equal an interest as any of them. illicratic Convention in that cancus then re- nois received lifteen millions, Louisiana ten jected the resolution on this subject re- millions, Michigan ten millions, and Ohio, ported by the Committee-(which was in Indiana, Iowa and Wisconsin in similar substance from the Baltimore platform,)- proportions. and resolved "that in view of the settled "With these lands converted into money,

itself solemnly and with deliberation to the cult.

prompted such policy, has greatly strength-ened since the party in this State took the positions I have referred to. The strength of the land squadderers in Congress has

on a system of internal improvement, which, gle for an equal participation by all the ow as yet, helds out no promise of recompense ners in this common fund. It is startling. and scarce a hope of stability. The rad- but it is the truth, that up to this time roads, while they are of great convenience more of the public land has been given and advantage to the public, are so far a way than has been sold. The Congress and advantage to the part, are property of 1819-50, alone, gave away filty-four is depreciating in value-our people, whose resources so far as they are developed are inan received seven and a half millions of quite limited-our State bonds below pur- acres, ander the name of swamp lands, but railroad stock unsaleable and unproductive, in reality covering much of the very best our revenue system uncertain and ill arang- lands in the Western States. Two of the ed, and a necessity of increased taxation- old States, Kentucky and Connecticut, have may well inspire as, with every son of built their deaf and damb asylums out of North Carolina, with apprehension and donations of lands made by Congress; not of lands lying in their borders, but located

The citizens of North Carolina are heawhile noble monuments adorn the Western conferred by these donations, and of the partiality and injustice with which they

Carolina of her interest therein-which was to whom has been granted up to 1854; with-

policy of donations-and the impossibility and gotten so cheap, only for the asking, of maintaining the old democratic doctrine, they have established schools, universities tion of this common property should be had and deal dumb and insane asylums; their among all the States." whole borders are permeated with railroads

Subsequently, the democratic party in and macadamized turnpikes-capitols, splenthe Legislature of 1852-'53, resolved in did in their architectural structure to grasubstance, "that if this system of squander-ing was to continue, North Carolina should, the bereft and unfortunate, capacious and in common with the old States, assert her beautifully constructed, ornament their claim to her rightful portion of the public towns, while all branches of knowledge find domain." This resolution was introduced cover and protection under the lofty domes by Mr. Bynum, an excellant democrat from of extensive universities, academies and Northampton, and was voted for and ad-vocated by such good democrats as Gen. R. M. Saunders, Mr. Dobbin, at that time the party candidate for the U. S. Senate, Mr. Sam'l P. Hill, of Caswell, Mr. Thos. D. that all the elements of prosperity gather in McDowell of Bladen, and indeed, by most its borders? What, wonder on the other of the leading democrats in the House of hand, that with us population stagnates, Commons. Thus has the democratic party our representation grows smaller, and proin this State on two occasions committed grass and improvement are slow and diffi-

Every consideration which could have go without them; and even our very sub-

林北省 "我们是我们不能们的。"林州的话题:"

answer will change at once my convictions.

Why should the children of Ohio and Illi-nois and Minnesota and Iowa be educated out of the mutual property of the the several States, given to them by the common trustee, and the children of North Caroliaa go uneducated?

RAILBOAD DONATION.

aid have done little or nothing. This system has been justified on the ground that

at this suggestion.

Has any man in North Carolina been to double the value of the rest? Do rail. perty. road companies go through a man's land with us scot free on this principle? Or, are there no prudeut pioprietors among our sturdy old tarmers? It would take a er fraud was never attempted.

case 1