Western Carolinian.

It is even wise to abstain from laws, which, however wise and good in themselves, have the semblance of inequality, which find no response in the heart of the citizen, and which will be evaded with little remorse. The wisdom of legislation is especially seen in grafting laws on conscience. *Dr. Channing.*

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TERMS.....The terms of the Western Carolinian will be paper [illegible] Two dollars and a half per annum or two dollars only if paid in advance. No paper will be discontinued, except at the discretion of the Editors, until all dues are paid. Advertisements will be inserted at 50 cents the square for the first week, and 25 cents each week they are continued thereafter. Postage must be paid on letters addressed to the Editors, or they may not be attended to.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

The following Message was transmitted to both branches of the Legislature, on Tuesday the 16th inst. viz:

To the Honorable the General Assembly of N. Carolina.

GENTLEMEN,

You once again the enviable privilege of assembling yourselves together as the representatives freely chosen, of a sovereign and independent people, to deliberate upon their concerns, and to legislate for their benefit; and probably the beneficence of Providence has not been more clearly manifested in any of the political events of the age in which we live, than in imparting that wisdom to the framers of the Constitution under which you are assembled, and by which the happy form of Government was established, which preserves us equally free from the tyranny of the old world, and the confusion and licentiousness of some of the nations in our own hemisphere. Trusting for the success of your labors to the rectitude of your intentions, and above all casting yourselves upon the favour of that being who is "the found[illegible] of nations and the builder of worlds," and without whose blessing, all human efforts must be exerted in vain, they must result in the establishment of measures, tending to the advancement and exaltation of the prosperity and character of our State, and the happiness of its people.

The object of all our legislation is the happiness of our citizens, and in furtherance of this object, I would particularly invite your attention to the education of our youth as the general interest of the State, and the regulation of our circulating medium as the most [illegible] and leading subjects which should claim your attention at this present session. Other subjects of importance will suggest themselves to your consideration, too numerous to receive particular attention in an address. Communication from the Executive, but of sufficient importance not to escape the vigilance of the Legislature.

The importance of a general diffusion of knowledge is universally admitted; nor is it any longer pretended that learning is unfavorable to morals, or injurious to the best interests of a nation. On the contrary, our own experience as a nation, and the history of the world prove to us that most of those who are condemned to the just punisument of malefactors under the laws of a civilized community, are the exceedingly ignorant, who have been hurried into acts of violence, or seduced into excesses, by the example of a few, whose situation from fortuitous circumstances affords them a passport to luxury and to criminal indulgence. If then it be true that the vice, irreligion, and consequent poverty and misery of a large portion of our fellow citizens are to be attributed to their intellectual condition, are these not indispensable considerations to the virtuous legislator? The benevolent designs of the philanthropist, and the particular plans of the political economist to promote the general diffusion of education are mere instrumental expedients in the hands of the legislator; and without the aid of the strong arm of government must fall "still born," and prove inadequate to raising the ignorant from their degraded condition. The object of education is to train the young to usefulness, and to fit them for that station, which they are to assume in after life among freemen. Without a proper cultivation of the moral and intellectual faculties, this end can never be attained—these artificial helps have ever been found to suffice. Whilst other members of this great confederacy have been appropriating millions for the general concern of literature and establishing schools for the education of their youth, thereby enabling them to keep pace with the enlightened age in which we live, has there not been a manifest dereliction of duty on the part of those who have been entrusted with the regulation of the political economy of N. Carolina, that in all its bounds there never has been established a single institution for gratuitous instruction, even in the elementary branches of education? Fellow Citizens of the Senate and of the House of Commons, should this be so? and will you permit it any longer to be the case? Have we not resources approaching almost to immensity lavished upon us? And if they are not properly applied, is it no time to raise a protesting voice against a species of economy, which has so long kept the poor in ignorance, and the State in poverty? Fully sensible of the arduous nature of the duties which devolve upon the Legislature—of the difficulty of reconciling the views even of those most friendly to the establishment of primary schools for the instruction more particularly of the poor, we may yet be consoled by the reflection, that the path is not an untried one, but has led other Legislatures to the happiest results, by improving the condition of society, establishing correct morals and religion always with the dissemination of education—and these are the only sure conservators of the government under which we live. In the archives of our State, you have abundant materials from which to compile a system for North Carolina, for the gratuitous public instruction of the youth of the State. If, in such a system, it be necessary to fix the negative for the benefit of the present, yet the nature of things that it should be so, and it should be recollected that the latter, will be oftenest called on to fight the battles of their country.

The university of the State should, in connection with primary schools, also claim the fostering care of the Legislature. For its instruction, spacious buildings have been erected, extensive and valuable libraries have been collected, costly chemical and philosophical apparatus have been procured, by which the professors are enabled to communicate instruction in the elevated branches of learning and science with more ease; and these have been effected in no small degree by private contribution. After having struggled through many years for a precarious existence, until it has attained to a lofty eminence among the colleges of our country, the trustees are reduced to the necessity of either abandoning it altogether, or of turning it over to the Legislature of our country. The last alternative has been adopted. To you, as the representatives of a people who have ever received your liberal support, with a confidence which cannot be misplaced, they are about to [illegible] their trust; and with this, into your hands, "the constitution," which, if [illegible] the [illegible] of sounding the halls of our Legislature, the Bar, the Pulpit, and the Bar, with that learning and talents which, without it, will be looked for in vain from other parts of the State, and must be sought from abroad. There can be no better test of the enlightened wisdom of a nation, than the extent and sufficiency of its provision for the mental and moral instruction of its population, and we can never hope, [illegible] for North Carolina, to be elevated and [illegible] of education, or even of social and national virtue, until the principles of correct education, and their influence upon society, shall [illegible] acknowledged, and practised among ourselves. Is there not a convention soon to assemble for the purpose of revising our constitution? Should the *Bill of Rights*, (to use an stronger term,) contain a system of *general education*, is it impossible to establish *general morality*, and that from us, *alone*, we can hope to perpetuate the free institutions of our country.

To the general improvement of the State, the attention of the Legislature has for years been directed, without accomplishing many very important objects.—For the improvement of our intercourse, both personal and commercial, the liveliest interest has been evinced in every part of the State, and with much propriety; for by these alone can the rich bounties of nature, distributed over our expanded territory, find a market, and a ready exchange for the varied products of other soils, and the fruits of other climates. Yet this, however correct and sound in principle, is liable to numerous delays, and even utter failure, when undertaken with inadequate means, or managed by incompetent skill. Many of the most liberal and well devised plans for the internal improvement of various parts of the United States have been retarded, and in some instances have proved unsuccessful from these very causes, and have contributed not a little to sink into disrepute the whole system. I an appropriation adequate to some great work of internal improvement cannot be made, it is better to abandon the system entirely for the present—to stop and economize, until our funds accumulate, and our resources are further developed by individual enterprize, and no longer to fritter away our means by small and ineffectual appropriations, which require an additional amount nearly equal to disburse them.

The Board of Internal Improvements, which has ever been distinguished for its intelligence, and never more so than at the present moment, is, nevertheless, with the Governor at their head as President ex-officio, deemed to be, for all the purposes of their appointment, an inefficient body, and, with great deference to the Legislature, should be dispensed with. The citizens of the State will not separate the Executive, from the President of the Board, and that courtesy, which they are disposed to bestow on the former, will produce the most hurtful delays in the transaction of business in every excursion from the seat of Government. It is therefore respectfully recommended, that the Board be discontinued, and if any works of internal improvement shall claim the attention of the Legislature, so as to require an appropriation for their accomplishment, that a superintendent of public works be appointed, with a competent salary, who should be responsible to the Legislature for the performance of any enterprize, and to whom the Engineer should be responsible in turn, for the [illegible] to be produced by his own project. Without such direct, and well founded responsibility, nothing valuable can be expected, and it is certain this kind of responsibility does not obtain in our present system.

In my last annual communication to the General Assembly, I had the honour of calling their attention to the re-opening of communication from the Albemarle Sound to the Atlantic Ocean, and I can do no justice to my own feelings (much engrossed upon this subject by a recent examination of the waters of this commodious bay under an act of the last session) permit it to pass without calling your attention to it again. As much opposed as any one to the constructive powers of the General Government, by which the right to make appropriations from the public funds for purposes not *clearly and undeniably national*, is claimed, I nevertheless believed to be an essential ingredient in the general economy of the nation, no less as regards her pursuits in peace, than a preparation for war, that Congress should have the right of *constructing harbours, erecting light houses, and designating ship channels through dangerous bays*. In opening a direct communication from this bay to "the roaring way of nations" not a work exclusively national in its character? Are not the perils of commerce—the dangers of shipwreck—pursuit by an enemy—invasion—for privateers and vessels of war," are these not national objects, and of such importance to claim the attention of the General Government? Then a harbour constructed here, within the language of their own most distinguished Engineer, "be formed precisely in that part of the coast where it is most needed."

The Good sense of the Legislature will readily perceive the [illegible] which North Carolina would secure to herself by an improved navigation—yet, whatever may be the peculiar advantages which the bay may give to her, in growing out of this improvement, a strong consideration rests upon the mind of every attentive examiner of the subject, that the general advantage to the whole nation is of such preponderating [illegible] as to be an object of paramount [illegible] and to bring within the pale of constitutional appropriations from the General Government. The citizens of Norfolk, with a liberality and zeal which have ever characterized the Commonwealth of Virginia, are still pressing on in an enterprize, by which the rich and abundant products of this important portion of our State will inevitably be drawn from us, unless the course of commerce be diverted by the energies of our citizens. If we are then disposed to give the aid of Legislative authority to our Representatives in Congress, by which that influence to which the State is entitled in the councils of the Union shall be duly felt, nothing can more effectually strengthen them in their efforts at those measures, which, in the prosecution of this business may be found needful.

The permanent and steady value of property, and the certain rewards of industry in any country depend not less upon the uniform value of its circulating medium, than upon the proper quantity for its commercial purposes, nor indeed can the one be well maintained without the other. An undue issue and employment of currency, thereby imparting an adventitious value to property, have, in most of the States of the Union, produced difficulties and embarrassments, which have seldom failed to overtake with ruin, some of the enterprizing, and many of the most valuable of our citizens. So great have been the evils produced from this source, in most of the Western and Southern States, that many are disposed to welcome the return of the precious metals as the circulating medium, to the entire exclusion of paper. This latter, however, has been rendered so popular with most persons, and so indispensable to merchants, for purposes of business and to the emigrating portion of our community, in consequence of its convenience for transportation beyond the mountains, and in innumerable instances, its return to the extensive owners of Western lands residing in our own State, that its almost indefinite augmentation was deemed at one period of our history, not only as justifiable, but the sure means of advancing the general interest. Yet as the science of banking advanced, and redundancy and speculation were no longer considered as synonimous with prosperity, but that the precious metals had therefore been driven from us, and the currency of the country so depreciated as to have lost its exchangeable value, except at so great a discount, that the poor and middle classes of the community in point of wealth, were not unfrequently deprived of all their property, without effecting the payment of their debts. And this will never fail to be the case in any community, where the representative of property is in a depreciated state; for it is upon these classes, that the burden of such a currency must necessarily fall. The defects of the system under which we have been practising, its tendency to produce reckless adventure, improvidence and fraud, and its certain influence and effect on the moral feelings, as well as the industry of the country, are considerations which should keep the subject before the watchful vigilance of the Legislature; and there are reasons to apprehend that the present moment is peculiarly appropriate for its examination—for although the currency of the country is now in as sound and healthful a condition as it can be made, being uniform in value with the precious metals, and the quantity, probably equal to the demands furnished by the commercial operations of the State, yet it is within the knowledge of every member of the Legislature, that this amount is in a course of such rapid diminution, that it may produce such a sudden appreciation in the value of money, and consequent depreciation in the value of property, as will overwhelm the debtor part of the community in ruin. The State Bank has already discontinued two of its branches, and all the local banks have lessened their circulation to a sum, within one third of what it was but a few years since, and by a conventional regulation of these institutions with the State they are all compelled soon to circumscribe their issues within a certain sum much below even what it now is. When to these considerations is added the fact, that they have ceased to produce much profit to the State, and less to individual stockholders, it is but reasonable to suppose, that their charters, if not surrendered, will certainly not be extended by the Legislature. The State of North Carolina will then soon have the alternative presented to her, of submitting to a circulating medium furnished by the United States' Bank, the existence of which be void its present charter is certainly doubtful) or of providing for herself such a medium of exchange, as will best subserve the interests of her citizens, guarding equally against ruinous excess, and sudden deficiency. It is therefore respectfully recommended, that a Bank be established, somewhat upon the principle of the United States' Bank neither *exclusively* the property of the State, or *exclusively* of individuals—relying neither on the prudence of directors *alone*, nor yet committed entirely to the management of the Legislature. The first, actuated by mercenary motives, and regardless of a due limitation of the quantity of paper to the demands of commerce, might multiply the circulating medium beyond all due bounds—and the latter, feeling only a community of interest in such an institution with the other citizens of the State, and subject to annual change, might require the excitement of individual interest to preserve in a healthful condition the affairs of a Bank. In such an institution, restricted in their annual dividends to a specific sum, and this very little, if any, beyond the legal interest of money, it is believed that an innate check would be provided, whose force and influence from its very nature, would operate on the directory at the moment when loans were made, obviate the motive to excess of issues, and thereby ensure a uniformity in the currency with the precious metals—the primary object to be effected by all legislative enactments on this important branch of political economy. And if for such a charter, or any other which the State may grant, a compensation should be required, it should be paid, not in annual tax, but at the expiration of its charter, and out of the surplus profits of the Bank. For this modification of the system of banking, now proposed and recommended to the adoption of the Legislature, I am indebted to the simultaneous suggestion of two of the most distinguished citizens of the State, who have commanded almost an unequalled share of the public confidence, which will, I doubt not, ensure for it the respectful consideration of the Legislature.

The Congress of the United States at their last session passed a law, commonly called the "Indian Bill" by which the President of the United States is authorized to have as much of territory belonging to the United States west of the Mississippi, and not included in any State, divided into a suitable number of districts for the reception of such tribes or nations of Indians, as may choose to exchange for them the lands where they now reside—and making an ample appropriation for their transportation and subsistence for one year.

This measure, emanating no less from humanity than from wisdom, is the only practicable means of effecting the voluntary emigration of the remnant of Indian tribes still to be found in the southern States—and its consummation was devoutly to be wished for. Certainly the friends of this measure had no right to expect the systematic opposition which it has received, knowing that it had been approved and recommended by successive Presidents of the United States, ever since the territory proposed to be exchanged had been acquired for the country. The unsuccessful attempt of the present illustrious Chief Magistrate to carry this law into effect, so far as regards the Cherokee Indians, is believed to have resulted from base advisers, many of whom, having fled from the just punishment which awaited them in the communities of which they were once members, and become intruders among these people, more ignorant, yet more virtuous than themselves. It is therefore respectfully recommended that the laws of North Carolina be extended over that portion of its territory occupied by the remnant of Cherokees, who have remained within the State; regarding those who have sustained a good character among themselves as worthy of all rights of citizenship, not inconsistent with the spirit of our laws, and guarding also against its violation, by such security as the Legislature may deem it expedient to require.

The Tariff of duties, imposed by the Congress of the United States upon imports, has ever been deemed not only unwise but unconstitutional, and calls at this time for your *solemn protest*. Whilst agriculture, commerce, and manufactures, received equal encouragement from the General Government, all parts of these numerous republics were animated by prosperity—but no sooner was a disposition to foster one, at the expense of another manifested, than the violence and animosity of party spirit, which had been appeased, began to threaten the separation of the Union, which would be nothing less than the overthrow of the most beautiful monument of liberty that mankind has ever erected. During the deep excitement which has prevailed on this subject in the South, North Carolina has evidenced a magnanimous forbearance under the heaviest burdens she has ever been called on to sustain—and are we yet required to manifest a patience, which can never be exhausted and a "meekness, which shall bear all things!" Is it supposed that our feelings are but the slumbering embers of discontent, which require only an opportunity to be blown into a flame? Have not recent occurrences in our own neighborhood, from which we have kept aloof, proved that these are not the feelings which have actuated us? Very little is the character of our State understood, if it is believed, that her patience and submission under wrongs inflicted by the General Government, are the effect of servile fear, or a consciousness of insecurity within herself. Interest is the point, upon which she, with all the other States of the confederacy, formed their union, and to suppose that the principles of our government were founded upon any other estimate, and particularly upon any estimate, of human character which admits of no alloy, would argue a want of experience in the framers of our constitution, which our own understanding, and our own experience, discard as visionary.

A common treasury, without deriving a common benefit from it, and a common contribution to replenish it, is as unjust, as a community of goods without a community of toil. It discourages all energy by destroying the rewards of labour, and makes one portion of the country dependent upon, and subservient to another—it counteracts the very principles upon which our government was formed, viz: the *common defence and general welfare*.

I transmit to the Legislature a copy of an incendiary publication, which has been circulated very extensively in the Southern country, the design and mischevious tendency of which, cannot be mistaken. The discovery of this inflammatory production in Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia and Louisiana, and more recently in our own State, can leave no doubt upon any rational mind, that a systematic attempt is making by some reckless per-