



WESTERN CAROLINIAN

SALISBURY, N. C.

Friday, June 4, 1841.

"Best paper credit, last, and best supply That leads corruption lighter wings to fly."

The developments that have been made in the progress of investigating the affairs of the United States Bank are truly astounding. We have always entertained a conviction of the perfect rottenness of the Bank, and have never hesitated to express our full belief of the great corruption of Nicholas Biddle and his clique, but until latterly, we had no idea of the vast and extraordinary extent to which their swindling and dishonest practices had been carried. It is now ascertained beyond doubt that nearly the whole capital of 35 millions of dollars, has been sunk by corrupt speculations and bartered political bribes. Many of these transactions are laid open, but others are yet concealed, and carefully suppressed. Mr. Duane, and several of the Stockholders have made the most strenuous efforts to cause various secret transactions of the Bank to be published, but the President and the Committee refuse to allow them to see the light. It is, with good ground, believed that if the "secrets of the prison house" could be revealed, Mr. Webster is not the only man now in power who occupies an untenable place on the Bank Ledger, but the National Intelligencer the only paper owned by that corrupt corporation.

As it possible, with these "awful developments" ringing in their ears, and while every day is showing clearer signs of outrageous robbery, and unadmitted villainy in the conduct of the managers of this concern, that an American Congress can be found willing and ready to establish another such institution, with increased power and greater capacity to do mischief! Can they overlook its enormities in political bribery—its history of speculation, fraud and plunder of the whole community in general, and the stockholders, chiefly widows and orphans, in particular? If so, and another monster monopoly should be established at the Extra Session, let every friend of liberty and the Constitution who believes such an institution to be unconstitutional and dangerous, as it unquestionably is, swear on the altar of his country's freedom never to relax his efforts, or cease his warfare until it shall be overturned and prostrated in the dust—let every Republican solemnly resolve that its abolition shall not pollute the land, and tell the Federalists before they attempt to fix its yoke upon us, that we will not bear it. If they should succeed in erecting another powerful and privileged corporation in the country, the real question at issue then will be,—when shall first fall—the liberties of the people, or this new Juggernaut of the monopoly? Both cannot long exist together—and of the other must fall—the people can choose which.

Hon. John C. Calhoun.—This distinguished champion of the Constitution and of Southern rights, recently paid a visit to his son who resides in Alabama. At every town on his way, he was greeted with the warmest welcome by the people. At various places he was called upon to address large assemblies and give his views on the present condition of things in the country. He no where made formal speeches, but at several places addressed the people in a plain, conversational way, answering questions and explaining public matters. In this week's paper may be found a rapid sketch of his talk at Montgomery, Alabama, as reported by the Editor of the Wetumpka Argus;—it is evidently an imperfect sketch, but yet it is well worthy the attentive and honest consideration of every Southern man, no matter whether he be Federalist, or Republican. All should carefully read, and deliberately weigh the grave opinions of this great and sagacious statesman.

INCREASE OF CRIME

The extraordinary increase of crime in the country, has been so vast and alarming, within the last few months, as to force the conviction on the mind of every reflecting man that there must be something radically wrong in our institutions to produce effects so depressingly bad. We can take up a paper of late, from every quarter without hearing of murders, robberies, and other outrageous violations of law daily multiplying in extent and enormity. The details of sickening horror in cold-blooded crime, follow with such terrible rapidity each darker in atrocity than that preceding it, as are ready to believe all the evil passions of man are turned loose to blacken the annals of crime and make the age as one to be distinguished for the rival of Demons in human form.

This unusual increase of crime is not without a direct and easily ascertained cause. It follows, beyond all doubt, as the natural and inevitable effect of that "system" which, for some years past, has controlled all other systems, and institutions in our country,—which has utterly disregarded, and set at naught all law, and all justice,—violated its promises, and filled the land with universal distress.—we mean the abuse of what is called banking, and which has been too generally but another name for the practice of fraud and swindling, devised by the few, to appropriate to themselves, with cunning trickery, the hard earnings of the laboring many. It cannot be denied that the direct tendency of a banking "system" such as we have been oppressed by for some time, and yet have among us, is to discourage honest labor, induce a wild spirit of speculation, lead to prodigal extravagance in living, lower the standard of moral and political character, and corrupt all integrity, public and private. Look for an illustration of this, at the iniquitous course of the late United States Bank, one glaring instance, among hundreds of others, which we have known recently.—Who can reckon the amount of moral evil, connected with

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