

From the Halifax (N. C.) Advocate.
CORRESPONDENCE
Between the citizens of Bertie and Gov. Branch.
Windsor, 14th May, 1831.

Sir: The undersigned, citizens of the 2nd Congressional District, reposing entire confidence in your talents and political experience, are solicitous that you should become a candidate to represent this district in the next Congress. We do believe that the present state of parties renders it essentially important that we should be ably represented in that body. The recent attack on the administration by Mr. Tazewell, however correct the principle for which he contended, we are constrained to believe mainly resulted from a disposition on his part, to render odious the then administration. We greatly deplore the discord and disunion that have been produced by the alleged intrigues of Mr. Van Buren, and by the publication of Mr. Calhoun: of the existence of the former, we are destitute of proof, but the baneful influence of the latter is too palpable to be overlooked by any friend of the President. At the next session of Congress, it is believed that an effort (with some, perhaps a last effort) will be made to modify the present tariff, so as to render it less burthensome to the South. The renewal of the charter of U. S. Bank, may be expected to become a topic of discussion in the course of a few more sessions. We firmly believe that such an institution has no warrant in our constitution and are perfectly convinced that if it were constitutional, that its dangers far transcend its benefits.

We have, sir, frankly stated our feelings and opinions. We trust that they are in accordance with yours, and we are free to say, that if the fact be so, that there is no man in this district or State whom we would select to represent us sooner than yourself.

Geo. B. Outlaw, L. S. Webb, Thomas J. Pugh, George O. Askew, A. W. Mebane, John E. Wood, James Duar, Thos. H. Speller, David Ryan, Robert H. Watson, J. Webb, Dav. Outlaw, Jas. S. Jones, Wm. Watson, John Hayward, J. Watford, Lewis Thompson.

HON. JOHN BRANCH.

ENFIELD, May 31st, 1831.

GENTLEMEN: Yours of the 14th inst. post marked, Windsor, the 21st, came to hand a few days past.—The confidence which you have been so kind as to express in my talents and political experience, and the desire you have manifested that I should become a candidate to represent this District in the next Congress of the U. States, together with the frank manner, in which you have given your opinion of certain men and measures with a view to elicit mine, merit my respectful consideration, and shall receive my prompt attention. I must decidedly concur with you in believing that discord has been introduced into the ranks of the administration by the intrigues of selfish politicians. A short time, I trust, will be sufficient to enable the intelligent enquirer to obtain the whole truth.

Until then, perhaps it would be the part of prudence to leave the question open, and rely on the righteous judgement of the people. However, recognizing your undoubted right to know all my opinions both as to the prominent men and leading measures of the country, I will, with that frankness which has ever characterized my conduct, give you unreservedly my impressions, under a confident hope that as you called for them, at a period when I must necessarily incur a heavy responsibility in giving them, that you will extend to me your generous charities for any error into which I may be thus incautiously led; for there is nothing about which men are so apt to differ, nay to err, as their opinions of men.

In the first place then, as to the motives which influenced Mr. T. in his course in the Senate of the U. States on the Turkish mission, I profess to know nothing. With Mr. Van Buren, I have had frequent, personal and official intercourse, and the time was when he possessed my confidence. Mr. Calhoun's private virtues and public services, particularly during the late war, together with his high order of talents, always commanded my respect; but his latitudinous political doctrines during Mr. Monroe's administration, met my disapprobation. Hence it is that no one, correctly informed, has ever considered me his political partisan. As to myself, I can truly say I am at loss to say who among the prominent politicians I ought to support. Fortunately for me and the country, this question may yet be advantageously postponed.

The present controversy between Gen. Jackson and Mr. Clay, can never divide southern politicians to any extent. "The American System," the hobby of the latter, has but few advocates among Southern planters, and its author still fewer adherents. On General Jackson then, who is himself a planter, we must depend, with a confident reliance on the justice of Congress for relief against the oppression of a system of exactions which if preserved in, must ultimately lead to the most calamitous results. The great and fundamental principles which divide our country into parties, are of momentous concern, and are every way worthy of the vigilance of the American people. The journals of the Senate of the United States for the six years that I was a member of that body, will best show my opinions on the Tariff of 1824, and '28, which now threaten the repose of the Southern country. These afford an earnest of the course of which I shall feel it to be my duty to pursue in reference to any measures which may be calculated to repeal or mitigate this "bill of abominations," as it has been emphatically called by one of its present most active and efficient supporters.

The next point, to which you invite my attention, is the Bank of the United States. I am unable to perceive how I can vote for the charter in any form. My opinion in relation to Banks is of long standing, and has, in North Carolina at least, become somewhat a matter of public notoriety. I have believed that it was the intention of the framers of the Federal Constitution, that the currency of the United States should have been metallic, and I inferred this from the technical language employed, and the exclusive power given to Congress to coin money and to regulate its value, with the positive inhibition on the states to do the same thing, or to emit bills of credit, or to make any thing but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts. But the ingenuity of man has sought out many inventions, and the person

would be thought mad, who, at this day, would seriously urge the above opinion, finding that every state in the Union, has chartered Banks, and, thereby indirectly regulate the value of money as effectually as though they had the power to coin it.

A national bank has been recommended by the President with certain well defined powers. I am persuaded that the President's views have never been fairly presented or understood. He, I am sure, never contemplated the establishment of such a hideous monster as his political opponents have conjured up. Such an institution in the hands of the executive, for any other powers than the transmission of government funds, from one part of the union to another, I should deprecate as the greatest calamity that could befall the country.

Thus, gentlemen, I have responded to you fully and freely. I have no concealment in politics. My principles remain now as in 1798, when they were first formed at College. They have undergone no change that I am sensible of. "They have grown with my growth, and strengthened with my strength."

I have the honor to be, with the highest respect, your fellow citizen,

JOHN BRANCH.

To Messrs. Geo. B. Outlaw,
Robt. C. Watson, &c. &c.

From the Banner of the Constitution.

POLITICS FOR FARMERS.

[CONTINUED.]

From.—The prices in the two years referred to are quoted as follows:

	1816.	1831.
Pig, ton,	\$40 00	\$30 00
Country refined, ton,	105 00	80 00
Russia, bars, "	105 00	95 00
Swedes, bars, "	98 00	87 50
English, bars, "	90 00	72 50
" sheet, "	150 00	135 00
" hoop, "	120 00	140 00

The duty on pig iron is \$12 50, on Russia and Swedes bar \$22 40, on English bar \$37, on sheet and hoop iron \$78 40, per ton.

That the American consumer may be able to calculate how much he pays for the benefit of a few rich owners of iron-mines, we subjoin the following list of prices at London on November 30, 1830:

Bars, ton,	£6 15	=Equal to	\$32 40
Bolts and Rods, ton,	8 00	=Equal to	38 40
Plates, (sheet), ton,	12 00	=Equal to	57 60
Hoops, ton,	10 00	=Equal to	48 00
Pig, ton,	5 00	=Equal to	24 00

In this calculation we have taken the pound sterling at \$4 80. The freight and charges of importation would not exceed \$10 per ton, and, by adding that sum, therefore, the reader can see at what prices the different sorts could be imported at, and whether high duties make goods cheap.

Leather.—In 1816 seal leather was at 22 cents per lb., upper leather, dressed, \$2 50 per side, undressed \$1 25; the present prices are, sole 20 cents, upper, dressed, \$1 75, undressed \$1 50. The duty on leather, in 1794, was 15 per cent.—in 1812 it was raised, under the war act, to 30 per centum, where it has remained ever since.

Lead.—The following are the prices of the two periods—

	1816.	1831.
Pig, cwt.	\$9 00	\$4 20
Bar, cwt.	11 00	4 76
Sheet, cwt.	11 00	5 60
Red, cwt.	12 00	6 50
White, cwt.	15 00	8 50
Ground in Oil, cwt.	16 00	8 00

This is a great fall—but let us see whether we get Lead as cheap as we should do if the duties were not in the way. The prices at London, on the 30th of November, 1830, were as follows:

Pig, cwt.	14s. 6d.	=Equal to	\$3 49
Bar, cwt.	14s. 6d.	=Equal to	3 49
Sheet, cwt.	15s. 6d.	=Equal to	3 71
Red, cwt.	16s. 6d.	=Equal to	3 94
White, cwt.	£1 3s.	=Equal to	5 51

Thus it will be seen, that notwithstanding the extensive working of our lead-mines, which, by being over-done, has brought down the price of lead below the cost of production, it would still be cheaper than it now is, if it were not for the prohibitory duty. That it is a fact that the lead-mining business has been overdone, will appear from the following article, which is now going the rounds in the newspapers:

"Lead Mines.—According to the reports made to the Ordnance Office, the quantity of Lead made at the United States' Lead-Mines, at Fever River, and Missouri, amounting, in the year

1825,	to	lbs. 1,051,120
1826,	to	2,333,904
1827,	to	6,092,560
1828,	to	12,311,730
1829,	to	14,541,310
1830,	to	8,332,058

In the last item, the return for the last quarter only from Missouri is included, the other three not having been received. The whole amount returned from Missouri, in the four quarters of 1829, was 1,198,180 lbs. The falling off at Fever River, in the last year, exceeds 5,000,000 lbs., owing, no doubt, to the great reduction in price."

Lumber.—The following are the prices of the two periods—

	1816.	1831.
North River Pine Boards, 1000 ft.	\$23 00	\$15 00
Scantling, pine, 1000 feet,	15 00	18 00
oak, 1000 feet,	30 00	20 00
Albany Pine Boards, each	00 25	00 14
Oak Timber, cubic foot,	00 44	00 20
Shingles, cypress, 1000,	6 00	3 25
pine, bundle,	4 00	2 50
Staves, pipe, 1000,	90 00	50 00
hogheads, 1010,	50 00	38 00
barrel, 1000,	35 00	30 00
hogheads, red oak, 1000,	35 00	23 00
Hoghead headings, white oak,	70 00	45 00
Hoops, 1000,	30 00	30 00

The duty on lumber, in 1816, was 25 per cent., and was in that year reduced to 15, where it has remained ever since.

Mahogany.—In 1816 Bay was at 13 cents per square foot; it is now at 5—St. Domingo was at 25 cents; now it is at 6. This article, for the protection of cabinet-makers, has always been duty free.

Molasses.—The quotations in 1816 were as follows:

Surinam,	per gallon,	60 to 62 cents.
Trinidad,		58 to 60 cents.
Havana,		50 to 53 cents.
St. Vincents,		60 to 63 cents.
New Orleans,		60 to 62 cents.

In 1831, they were as follows:
Martinique and Guadeloupe, 25 to 27 cents.

English Islands, 27 to 30 cents.
Havana and Matanzas, 23 to 26 cents.
New Orleans, not quoted.

The duty in 1816, was 10 cents per gallon, but in that year was reduced to 5 cents, at which it continued until 1829, when it was raised to 10 cents—on the 30th September, 1830, it was again reduced to 5 cents.

Mustard.—In 1816 the price of English was 75 cents per lb., and \$2 per dozen in bottles; it is now 28 cents per lb., and \$1 25 per dozen—American was, in 1816, 76 cents per lb., and \$2 in bottles; it is now 25 cents per lb., and 75 cents per dozen. The duty, in 1816, was 30 per centum, and has never since been altered.

Nails.—In 1816 the prices quoted were, for cut nails, all sizes, 11 to 13 cents per lb.; wrought ditto, all sizes, 12 to 16 cents. They are now quoted—

Cut, 4d. to 40d.	5 1/2	cents.
3d.	7	to 8 cents.
2d.	8	to 9 cents.
Wrought,	10	to 16 cents.

This article of Nails, being one of universal use, it is of immense consequence to the strength and security of houses, ships, boats, stores, barns, wagons, fences, mills, factories, and other structures of wood, that they should be as cheap as possible. Let us see whether this is the case or not.

It is not enough, in our estimation, that nails at the present day are cheaper than they were in 1816. We wish to know whether they are as cheap as they would be if it were not for the prohibitory duty now existing—a duty imposed, not for the protection of the great body of blacksmiths and nail-makers, but for the protection of the rich owners of iron-mines. By the above quotations it seems that 4d. cut nails, and all larger ones to 40d. are as low as 5 1/2 cents per lb. These nails are made out of bar iron, rolled to the thickness of the nails, and to a width equal to the length of the nail. The price of this iron may be estimated at \$100 per ton, and as 5 1/2 cents per lb. for nails is only \$123 20 a ton, it would seem that \$23 20, which is a fraction more than 1 cent per lb., pays for rolling the iron, cutting the nails, and all expenses of transportation. These nails are usually made of Russia or Sweden iron, the duty upon which is 1 cent per lb.—and, consequently, if it were not for the duty, these nails could be made for 4 1/2 cents per lb. But, suppose cut nails were made of English iron, admitted duty free, what would then be the price?

The cost of bar iron in England, as we have seen above, is only \$32 40

Add to this, for freight, and all charges of importation, 10 00

Add to this the expense of rolling and cutting it into nails, the same as in the above estimate, 23 20

And the whole cost of a ton would be, \$65 60
Which is less than three cents per pound.

But will English iron answer for cut nails? We think any one will allow that it does answer in England, when we assure him, from authentic statements, that the whole quantity of foreign iron imported into Great Britain during the ten years commencing with 1814, and ending with 1823, did not exceed, upon an average, 14,000 tons per annum—which, when we reflect upon the immense consumption of iron in that country, for buildings, machinery, ships, boats, and all other purposes could have supplied but a very small part of the total demand.

Let us now see how the case stands with Wrought Nails. They are quoted from 10 to 16 cents per lb. The duty upon them is 5 cents per lb., to which it was raised in 1824, and they continue to be imported—consequently, were it not for the duty, they would be 5 cents per lb. cheaper than they are. As evidence that they continue to be imported, we subjoin the following statement, from the Official Report of the Secretary of the Treasury, recently submitted to Congress:

Imports.	Exports.
1825, lbs. 393,863	lbs. 5,814
1826, 230,996	36,105
1827, 502,457	11,248
1828, 653,655	40,048
1829, 532,407	8,870

Naval Stores.—The following are the prices at the two periods:

	1816.	1831.
Tar, per barrel,	\$3 00	\$1 37 1/2
Pitch, per barrel,	3 50	1 50
Rosin, per barrel,	3 50	1 12 1/2
Turpentine, per barrel,	2 12 1/2	2 50
Spirits of ditto, per gallon,	0 56	0 26

The duty on all these articles, in 1816, was 25 per cent., but was in that year reduced to 15 per cent., at which it has ever since remained.

[To be continued.]

From the N. Y. Sentinel and W. Men's Advocate.

UNITED STATES BANK.—The two arguments most depended upon by the advocates of the United States Bank, are, first, that it provides the means of transmitting money to distant parts of the country with little or no expense, while a use of State bank notes for that purpose would subject to a heavy discount; and secondly, that it acts as a check on the State Banks, and prevents over issues, &c. The first of these arguments, as we think we have shown in a late article, (which has been copied into several papers without comment) is without force, for the object might be obtained by the establishment of a National Bank of transfer only—that is, for issuing notes for which the value should be deposited, and no others. Every convenience of traffic might be answered by such a bank that is now furnished by the U. S. Bank, while there would be no monopoly—no privileged class drawing interest from the people's money, as is the case with all chartered banks at present. The other argument in favor of the mammoth monopoly—for we cannot call it by a more appropriate name—is well answered by the following article:

"Sophistry of corruption.—One argument used by the advocates for rechartering the Bank of the United States, is, that it will keep the State Banks within the bounds of justice. This single argument proves all that we wish. It proves that the State Banks are mischievous engines. So it seems, that having one set of petty Tyrants among us, we must call in another set to quell or keep them in order. Had we not better destroy the first brood? Wisdom would say yes. Virtue would say yes. Free-

dom would say yes. What man, but a crazy man, if a mad dog should get into his house, would think of calling in a second mad dog to get the first out? And yet such is the profound policy of our great and immaculate, our wise and wonderful statesmen. When the locusts, the lice, and the frogs, came as so many plagues, or curses upon them the Egyptians did not pray for more locusts, more lice, more frogs, to drive out the first swarms. If they had done so, they would have been just as wise as our wisecrackers are who want the National Bank to keep down the State Banks, which are full as bad, we admit, as the murrain and lice of Egypt, and rather worse. We say destroy the whole brood, or repeal the restraining act and let every man bank it that can do so, on a solid capital of silver and gold—but no rag money—no slips of dirty paper, which represent nothing but empty vaults, and are not worth on an average, if pushed forward for redemption, much more than old continental, at a hundred for one!"
National Observer.

From the Louisville Advertiser.

CONJECTURALITIES.

The Editor of the National Gazette seems to have assumed the character of a knowing one. In other terms, Mr. Walsh would be considered one of the greatest political seers of the present revolutionary era. Thus he prophesies, in his paper of the 14th inst.

"The next congress will not register edicts—will not in short, side with the administration, whether concrete or descrete."

There may be something particularly erudite, strikingly sage, or peculiarly prophetic in the remark of Mr. Walsh, but we confess we are unable to perceive it. We understand the gentleman to say however, that a majority of the next Congress will oppose the present administration—but on what grounds, or principles or policy, "the deponent saith not."

It has been frequently remarked, since the resignations of the late Heads of the four Departments at Washington—by the opposition prints—that the present is "the era of revolutions." The force of this remark may be more sensibly felt before the termination of the next session of Congress, than is now imagined by those who have recently repeated it with so much apparent pleasure. That there is to be a breaking up of the political deep does not admit of a doubt—but it does not follow that the administration is to be injured by it, much less thrown into a minority. On the contrary, the signs in the political horizon appear to be highly auspicious to the administration.

We do not profess to be able to do more than conjecture what may occur at the next session of Congress; but as our predictions may prove as correct as the prophetic out-givings of the learned Editor of the National Gazette, we will favor him and the public with a few of them.

To begin:—a conjecture, that the principle of protection to American Industry, as advocated in the late Message of President Jackson, will be approved by the north and be reprobated (according to immemorial usage) by the south. By this we do not mean to connote, that the north and the South may change positions in relation to the administration. But this is the "era of revolutions."

We conjecture that the tariff, as it now exists, will be satisfactory to nobody, and that the honest advocates of American manufactures will openly concede by their acts, the President was right, when he said it bore oppressively on certain interests and required modification—that it will be materially modified—rendered less oppressive in some instances and more effective in others—in a word more "judicious." With this term ("judicious") the people of Pennsylvania will continue to be pleased, and it is not improbable that our manufacturing interests may generally be considered as connexive with it.

On the subject of internal improvements, ALL the seaboard States, we guess, will be prepared to advocate a system that may embrace those deemed "national, not local," the right of the government to protect the commerce of the country, as well as to regulate it, is universally conceded; and the eastern and middle States know "which side of their bread is buttered." [We hope Mr. Walsh will excuse us for using this vulgar phrase.]

On the "Bank Question" we conjecture nothing definitive will be effected—though a sufficient number of new questions will arise, to cause the Editor of the National Gazette to repeat the motto of the celebrated Sam Patch: Some things can be done as well as others.

No portion of the people of this hemisphere understand their own interests better than those of the eastern or northern States. This fact leads us to the illation, that a revolution in the north is quite as probable as in any other section of the Union. Mr. J. Q. Adams remarked, at Wilmington, on his return from Washington, to his residence in Massachusetts, that the recent change in the cabinet would strengthen Gen. Jackson immensely.

Outre as these conjectures may seem, we are deceived if they are not worthy of very serious and general consideration. At all events, whatever may be the first impressions of Mr. Walsh, after perusing them, we anticipate he will be triflingly cogitating all the points they include anterior to next Martinmas.

We will only add, as our views are not of a concertative complexion, that we trust they will not be received as emanating from a distraught source; and, that they will be examined with sufficient care to enable our erudite contemporary of the Gazette to decide, whether they appear to be concrete or illusory.

"THE PEOPLE'S PRESIDENT."—Some of the opposition papers are busy, endeavouring to create an impression that the popularity of Gen. Jackson in Pennsylvania is on the decline, and that there has been, or is about to be, (they hardly know which,) a sad falling off among his friends in this State. We can hear of no such changes: and if there be any such falling off, it can only be with a few speculators and office-hunters, pretended friends of the President's who, by his prudent and economical administration, have not been enabled to squander amongst them, as they had expected, the public money. But with the independent and hard-working yeomanry, we are confident that he has gained ten true friends, to where he has lost one with any other class. The reduction of duties upon articles which enter into the consumption of every man's family, mainly effected no doubt by the President's warm recommendation of the

measure to Congress; his determination to reduce as much as possible the expenses of government, by paying off the national debt at the earliest practicable period, and otherwise avoiding all extravagance in the government, to say nothing of the many other minor measures, all tending to the peace, welfare and prosperity of the country, which have already signaled his administration, have deservedly obtained for him the warmest gratitude and fullest confidence of the people at large.—Repub. Farmer.

The Rochester (anti-masonic) Enquirer thus notices an arrangement to establish a new Clay paper in that village:

"We understand that the Clay party are about establishing a press in this village. As we do not wish to see publishers sacrificed, we advise them not to commence the enterprise until they finger the ready. They will find about thirty subscribers in the county, and they may poll a hundred votes at the election. There is no such thing as a Clay party in this county, nor materials of which to make one. The Clay masons, with a very few exceptions, have gone over to Jackson. The Anties fight on their own hook, and there is nothing else left for Clay himself. We cannot suppose that any one is serious in supposing that a Clay paper can circulate here. We rather believe that it is their intention to print just enough to exchange with the printers for the reputation of the thing abroad. At any rate that is quite as much as it is advisable for them to attempt."

THE CARVING KNIFE.

Mr. Clay's Reporter gives us a long report, filling nearly a column, upon the subject of a carving knife presented to the great patron of home consumption. The letter of presentation very appropriately insists upon the peculiar adaptation of the article to mark the respect of the donors for "his eminent public services." We must be permitted to add our humble approbation to the felicitous selection of this present, as well calculated to do honor to the "eminent public services" of Mr. Clay. A sword is given by communities to signalize the achievements of a man who has served his country in the field of battle. Could any thing be more appropriate than a carving knife as a memorial of the exploits of the great public DINNER-EATER?

WILMINGTON, (Del.) May 31.

Important Trial.—An action was tried in the Court of Common Pleas of this county last week, which, from several considerations, has excited an unusual degree of interest. It was an action of trespass on the case brought by John Higgins and others, of Red Lion hundred, against the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Company, to recover damages for permitting the waters of the Canal to overflow a large body of marsh belonging to the plaintiffs, by which they have lost the use of the marsh, and the health of the neighborhood, it is said, is materially affected. The nuisance had existed several years before the action was brought.

The case was tried by a special jury: the trial commenced on Monday morning and continued three days. The two first days being devoted to the examination of witnesses, the whole of Wednesday, was occupied with the arguments of counsel, namely, Messrs. Black, John M. Clayton, and Read, jr. for the Plaintiffs, and Messrs. Bayard & Rogers for the Defendants. The argument on both sides was ably conducted. The jury were but a short time absent, and returned a verdict for the plaintiffs—damages Five thousand four hundred and fifty dollars.—The damages laid in the declaration were six thousand dollars.

[Delaware Journal.]

The New York Journal of Commerce notices the following important decision:

IMPORTANT DECISION.—The Superior Court Decided at the last term, that the mere acknowledgement of a debt that was barred by the statute of limitations, was not sufficient to entitle a creditor to recover unless there was a positive promise on the part of the debtor to pay the debt.

Symptoms, Moral, Literary, Political and Personal.—When you meet a friend about five o'clock near his own house, and he stands gazing with you at the street door, without knocking, take it as a symptom you are not wanted to dinner.

When you drop in for half an hour's chat at a friend's house in the evening, and your friend looks at his watch after you have been there two hours, while his wife packs up her needle-work with a yawn, observing, "Well, I think it is time to give over for to-night," it is an infallible symptom you are a bore and that the sooner you export yourself the better.

If you are doing the amiable at an evening party, and in the midst of it are selected to make one at a rubber of whist, it is a symptom there are younger persons in the room whom the ladies cannot spare so well as yourself.

If you are travelling outside a stage,