

POLITICAL.

Hon. John Branch.—We find the following interesting correspondence between some of the citizens of Bertie county and Gov. BRANCH, in the last Halifax Advocate.

Windsor, 14th May, 1831.

Sir: The undersigned, citizens of the 2d 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 the 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, Rob. C. Watson,
I. S. Webb, J. Webb,
Tho. J. Pugh, Dav. Outlaw,
George O. Askew, Jas. S. Jones,
A. W. Mebane, Wm. Watson,
John. E. Wood, John Haywood,
James Duer, J. Watford,
Thos. H. Speller, Lewis Thompson,
David Ryan,

Hon. JOHN BRANCH.

Enfield, May 31st, 1831.

GENTLEMEN: Yours of the 14th instant, 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 most 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 judgment 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 characterised my conduct, give you unreservedly my impressions, under a confident hope that as you have 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 opinion of men.

In the first place, then, as to the motives which influenced Mr. T. in his course in the Senate of the United States on the Turkish mission, I profess to know nothing. With Mr. Van Buren, I have had frequent, personal & 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 talent, 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 that I have no person in view for the succession. I am at a 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 Gen. 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 persevered 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 untiring 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 shew my opinions on the Tariffs of 1824 and '28, which now threaten the repose of the Union, and the prosperity of the Southern country. These afford an earnest of the course 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 renewal of 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 U. 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 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 regulated 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 purpose, or with 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 concealments in politics. My principles remain now, as in 1793, 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,

JONH BRANCH.

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

From the Philadelphia Sentinel.

Mr. Ingham....The following letter from Mr. Ingham to a friend has been handed to us for publication. The intense curiosity which prevails to ascertain the causes which produced the breaking up of the late Cabinet renders all authentic matters connected with it of general interest. Mr. Ingham it seems distinctly repudiates the existence of any want of official harmony among the heads of department.

Washington, 6th May, 1831.

DEAR SIR: I learn with some surprise from your enquiries, as well as those of others, that an impression has been made on the public mind to a considerable extent, that the Cabinet was so much embarrassed by the dissensions of its members as to render it incapable of transacting the public business. You may be assured, that there is not the slightest truth in such a rumor. The official intercourse of the Heads of Departments with each other and with the President has never, to my knowledge been interrupted for a moment; nor has any difference of opinion as to the measures of the government divided the Cabinet in a single instance, so far as I recollect, according to the line of separation now so generally ascribed in the public papers. I am, very respectfully, yours,

S. D. INGHAM.

Judge White—We are sorry to understand that he has declined the appointment of Secretary of War. It is said, that his letter to the President reached Washington on Friday last—and that he assigns, in the most touching manner, his reasons for declining. The domestic afflictions of this worthy man have been severe, almost beyond example. They

have preyed upon his spirits and stripped public life of all its attractions. He has lost, in rapid succession, nine children, and lately his beloved wife. His only remaining child, (Mrs. Armstrong,) is now threatened with the same complaint which has proved so fatal to his family.—Every generous heart will sympathise in his feelings while we lament the loss of so pure and accomplished a man to the Councils of his Country.

Rich. Enq.



TARBOROUGH.

TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 1831.

CANDIDATES.

For the 3d Congressional district.
Dr. THOS. H. HALL,
JOSEPH R. LLOYD, Esq.
Edgecombe County—General Assembly—Senate.
Gen. LOUIS D. WILSON,
House of Commons.
MR. HARDY FLOWERS,
GRAY LITTLE,
REDDING PITTMAN.

Great Calamity by Fire.—We learn from an extra, issued by the Editors of the Journal and Observer, that the town of Fayetteville was nearly destroyed by fire on Sunday week, together with a vast amount of money, goods, furniture, &c. Public meetings for the relief of the distressed citizens have been held in Raleigh and Wilmington—at Raleigh, the Intendant and Commissioners were authorized to borrow \$1000, in addition to \$560 voluntarily subscribed by the citizens. The Register says, "we regret to learn that but one or two individuals were insured, among whom was Mr. Donaldson, of New-York, a large proprietor of real estate." We extract the following particulars from the extra:

About 15 minutes after 12 o'clock P. M. on Sunday last, the citizens of Fayetteville were alarmed by the cry of FIRE, and the other signals usual on such occasions. The roof of a Kitchen belonging to Mr. Jas. Kyle, near his elegant brick building lately erected at the N. W. corner of Market Square, was found to be in a blaze, but to so inconsiderable an extent, that it was believed the efforts made to extinguish it would certainly be successful. Deceitful hope! They were all unavailing. In a very few moments, the flames extended themselves to the large brick building, and to many small wooden buildings in its vicinity. In a few minutes more, the roof of the Town House caught, and that building was soon enveloped in flames. From thence four large torrents of flame were seen pouring in as many directions along the four principal streets of the town, with a rapidity and force which defied all stay or resistance.

It is impossible to form any correct estimate of the entire loss in real estate. There probably is no instance in history of so large a portion of a town being consumed, where it was not the result of voluntary human agency. The fire continued to rage with unabated fury until about six o'clock, when, by the blowing up of houses, and the other means usual on such occasions, it was suddenly deprived of food for its raging appetite.

The public buildings destroyed were, the Town House, the Cape Fear Bank, the Catholic Chapel, the Presbyterian and Episcopal Churches, the Academy, the Lafayette and Mansion Hotels. The building in

which the U. States Bank did business, and the office of the Agency of the State Bank, were also destroyed, but as they were merely rented for that purpose, they are not put down as public buildings. The private buildings destroyed, in number about SIX HUNDRED, would require a long catalogue to enumerate particularly.

But besides the buildings immense quantities of Books, valuable papers, money, household furniture, goods, wares, merchandize and produce, were destroyed. Where the fire first broke out persons near the scene, would remove such things to what were then supposed places of safety, but by the time they would get them fairly deposited they would discover the flames in hot pursuit of them and would be driven to farther efforts for the security of their valuables, until driven from place to place and completely worn down with their exertions, they would at last be compelled to abandon them to the power of the merciless flames;—a very small portion of any of these articles was saved. The amount destroyed it is difficult to estimate. We cannot undertake to offer a correct list of the houses or even point out the principal sufferers. It would be infinitely more easy, to make a catalogue of those of our citizens, who have not suffered. Language is entirely inadequate to the description of the sublime and awful scene of Sunday, or to convey an adequate idea of the appearance of ruin and desolation which our town now presents.

It seems that those who were best able to lose, were most successful in saving.—The Banks were all so fortunate to secure the whole of their money, books, and valuable papers, although their losses must be great in the destruction of real estate, and the entire and partial prostration of so many of their debtors. It is a remarkable circumstance, that some money and many valuable papers, left in the vaults of the two Banks, were taken out after the fire uninjured.

It is due to all the citizens to say that their exertions were unremitting while their strength lasted, wherever there was a prospect of effecting any thing, and although many were ready to faint under their labors, and some were partially burnt, it is a great alleviation to our sorrows to be able to say that no lives were lost.

Many of our fellow citizens from the country attracted by the smoke and fragments of burning materials, (some of which it is said were borne to the distance of twenty-six miles) came in during the progress of the fire, and rendered us real, hearty and useful aid. But a variety of causes combined to render all their efforts for a long time unavailing, and the last remnant of strength and resolution was nearly expended before the enemy was subdued.

The entire loss is estimated at one million and a half of dollars!

[The Fayetteville Editors address their patrons as follows:]

TO OUR PATRONS.

For ourselves, we will say that the Establishment of the North-Carolina Journal is entirely destroyed, and from the wreck of our property we have not succeeded in saving more than \$20 worth. We have been en-