

Communications.

FOR THE FREE PRESS.

It will require more than the magic of Mr. Clay's eloquence, or the labored attempts of Mr. Webster to show that the ermine of our diplomacy has been sullied, to convince the intelligent people of this country that their conduct was actuated from a high sense of public duty. Those, who have marked the course of the former since the winter of 1824, will not suspect him of doing a disinterested act—and when we recollect the policy, during the war, of that party of which the latter was so prominent a member, we will be better prepared to estimate the extent of his patriotism, and appreciate the sacrifice he would make for his country.

It is not to be wondered at, that those embraced in the implication contained in the instructions should be restive under it. How far this feeling may have been heightened by the fact of Mr. VAN BUREN'S having secured to the country a valuable trade in the acquisition of which Mr. Clay had been defeated, I cannot determine.

The ground taken by Mr. Calhoun and his friends is of a different character, and the vague and indefinite objections urged by them have been fully met in the frank and manly reply of the President to the "Republican members of the New York Legislature." Upon this subject Gen. Jackson says—"I owe it to the late Secretary of State, to myself and the American people to state that as far as is known to me, he had no participation whatever in the occurrences relative to myself and the second officer of the government, or in the dissolution of the late Cabinet; and that there is no ground for imputing to him the having advised those removals from office, which in the discharge of my constitutional functions it was deemed proper to make. During his continuance in the Cabinet, his exertions were directed to produce harmony among its members; and he uniformly endeavored to sustain his colleagues. His final resignation was a sacrifice of official station to what he deemed the best interests of his country." Such evidence, emanating from the highest constitutional officer under the government, and from a man whose integrity has not been questioned by his most uncompromising enemies, is entitled to the fullest credit and must be regarded as furnishing the most conclusive refutation of the extravagant and conjectural allegations of Poindexter and Miller.

When men once bring their minds to act without regard to principle, they begin to tax their ingenuity to furnish them with a salvo—they cast about for something on which they endeavor to make the world believe their fluttering consciences securely rest. I will not assume the responsibility of impeaching the motives of every man who assisted in this attempt to derange the measures of the administration and embarrass the foreign relations of the country. Undue reliance upon those whom they regard as leaders, and that one sided view of things which prejudice and party zeal will surely engender, have often induced men of intelligence and integrity to adopt opinions as repugnant to

reason and common sense as the conduct founded upon such opinions is to wisdom and sound policy.

The history of Mr. Calhoun furnishes another evidence of the truth that no man, however splendidly endowed, or how much favored by circumstances, can command public confidence in any other way than by a steady and uniform devotion to fixed principles. Consistency even in error will ensure respect, for it affords the best guaranty for integrity of purpose. It is to be expected that men should differ in determining the means best calculated to secure a common end; nor can we withhold our confidence and respect from those who honestly and zealously pursue that course which an unbiassed and enlightened judgment may have dictated. John Marshall and Nathaniel Macon may be cited as illustrious examples. Through all the fluctuations and turbulence of party strife they have maintained an uniform consistency and it may be confidently affirmed that no man of intelligence in the country will question the motives of either.

With such men how humiliating is the contrast of John C. Calhoun. Entering life at that period when the storm of party was loudest, he supported with eminent zeal and ability the measures of Mr. Madison's administration. Soon other counsels prevailed and we find Mr. Calhoun nourishing the germ of what has since expanded into the "American System." The Tariff of 1816 and the plans of Internal Improvement which he sustained, were the commencement of that odious scheme of pillage which he now combats with so much earnestness—a scheme which since that period has so desolated the South and produced through a large portion of the country the most unhappy and distracting results.

Questions of expediency may and do vary. Progressive improvement and the gradual changes effected by time and circumstances may at one period justify a measure, which, at another, would have been unwise and impolitic. But the great cardinal principles of the government—the landmarks prescribed by the Constitution are immutable and can only change with the instrument itself. Hence a measure involving a constitutional difficulty in 1832, must have been incident to the same objection in 1816—and I am at a loss to conceive by what sort of logical legerdemain Mr. Calhoun can reconcile his violent denunciation of the protective policy at one period, with his great zeal for it at another. EDGECOMBE.

CONGRESS.

SENATE.

Tuesday, March 6.—Mr. Benton, from the committee on military affairs, reported a bill to increase the pay of the Surgeons and Assistant Surgeons in the United States army, which was ordered to a second reading.—Mr. Smith's resolution proposing an enquiry into the expediency of suppressing the circulation of bills of a less denomination than five dollars, was adopted.—The consideration of the Apportionment bill was renewed, and the discussion was continued by Messrs. Clayton, Tazewell, Ewing and Wester—but no question was taken.

Wednesday, 7th.—The resolution submitted by Mr. Sprague calling on the President for copies of the correspondence between Mr. McLane and the British government was adopted, after having been so modified by the mover as to apply only to the correspondence respecting the Colonial trade.—The Apportionment bill was taken up, and Mr. Webster having withdrawn the amendment previously offered by him, moved another, varying practically from the former, by allowing the State of Maine a representative for her fraction, and making the whole number of representatives 256; this amendment he supported in a speech of considerable length. Mr. Forsyth moved to strike out that part of the amendment, which allows representatives for fractions; and, upon this motion, the debate was continued, Messrs. Tazewell, Sprague, Webster & Clayton, taking part therein.

Thursday, 8th.—The Apportionment bill was taken up, and Messrs. Clayton, Forsyth, Tazewell, Foot, Marcy, and Webster, continued the debate thereon, until the adjournment.

Friday, 9th.—The Apportionment bill was taken up, the question being on Mr. Forsyth's motion to amend the substitute offered by Mr. Webster, by striking out therefrom the provision for the representation of fractions. Messrs. Holmes, Silsbee, and Sprague, spoke in opposition to the motion, and Mr. White in its support.—The Senate adjourned over to Monday.

Monday, 12th.—The Apportionment bill was taken up, the question being on the motion to amend the amendment offered by Mr. Webster, by striking out that clause of it which provides for the representation of fractions. The subject was discussed nearly three hours, by Messrs. Dickerson, Robbins, Buckner, Hayne, Mangum, Sprague, Clayton, Webster, and Frelinghuysen, when the motion to amend the amendment was carried by a vote of 24 to 23. Mr. Hill moved to strike out 47,700 and insert 44,000, as the ratio in the bill, which was lost. The bill was then ordered to a third reading, by a vote of 27 to 20.

Tuesday, 13th.—Mr. Chambers introduced a bill for McAdamsing Pennsylvania Avenue.—A bill was reported for the relief of Columbia College, in the District of Columbia.—Mr. Dallas, from the select committee to which was referred the application of the U. S. Bank for a renewal of its charter, reported a bill, which was read, and ordered to a second reading.—The resolution for the purchase of sixty copies of the Legislative and Documentary History of the United States Bank was adopted, after a long debate, in which Messrs. Hill, Frelinghuysen, Benton, Johnston, Smith, Buckner, Holmes, Forsyth, Foot, and Kane took part.

H. OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Tuesday, March 6.—Mr. Wardwell presented resolutions adopted by the Legislature of the State of New-York, in opposition to the re-charter of the Bank of the United States.—The resolution for the appointment of a select committee to examine the affairs of the Bank of the United States, was again taken up. Mr. Clayton resumed and concluded his remarks in favor of the resolution, in

a speech of about three hours' length.

Wednesday, 7th.—The discussion of the resolution for the appointment of a select committee to examine the affairs of the Bank of the U. States, was resumed. Messrs. Root, Crawford, Evans, of Maine, and Beardsley, severally addressed the House. The former gentleman proposed as an amendment, that the select committee should be chosen by ballot. At 4 o'clock, Mr. Beardsley gave way to a motion for adjournment.

Thursday, 8th.—The resolution in relation to an inquiry into the affairs of the Bank of the U. States, was further discussed by Messrs. Beardsley, Root, and Bell. The amendment which proposed that the select committee should be chosen by ballot was rejected—yeas 88, nays 92. Mr. Wayne then submitted an amendment, that a select committee be appointed to make sundry inquiries, in the recess of Congress, touching the general management of the Bank of the United States, with instructions to report the result of their inquiries on or before the third Monday of December next. Mr. Burges proposed to amend this amendment, but before the Speaker had decided whether the latter proposition was in order, the House adjourned.

Friday, 9th.—Mr. Verplanck reported a bill making an appropriation for the publication of certain diplomatic correspondence.—On motion of Mr. Barstow, the vote of Thursday, rejecting the amendment offered to Mr. Clayton's resolution for an enquiry into the affairs of the Bank of the United States, which proposed that the select committee be chosen by ballot, was reconsidered—yeas 98, nays 93. The further consideration was arrested, by the expiration of the hour allotted to morning business. Some time was spent in committee on the bill for the benefit of Mrs. Susan Decatur, *et al.* The committee finally rose and reported the bill without amendment. The several amendments proposed in committee, were renewed in the House and rejected. The question was then taken on engrossing the bill for a third reading, which was decided in the negative—yeas 78, nays 96; and so the bill was rejected.

Saturday, 10th.—Mr. E. Everett, from the committee on the library, reported a resolution directing the Clerk to purchase 240 copies of the Documentary History of the Bank of the U. S. After short debate the resolution was agreed to.—The bill to establish certain post roads, and to alter and discontinue others, and for other purposes, was read the third time and passed. Mr. Doddridge moved a reconsideration of the vote rejecting the bill for the benefit of Mrs. Decatur; but before the question was decided, the House adjourned.

Monday, 12th.—The House resumed the consideration of Mr. Clayton's resolution for the appointment of a Select Committee to examine the affairs of the Bank of the U. States. The question being on the amendment proposed by Mr. Root, that the committee be chosen by ballot. This amendment was supported by Messrs. Daniel and E. Everett, and opposed by Messrs. Blair of S. Carolina, Leavitt, Drayton, Cambreleng, and Angel. Mr. Jenifer proposed to amend the

resolution by directing the committee to report by the third Monday in April.

Tuesday, 13th.—The House, at an early hour, resumed the consideration of the resolution proposing an enquiry into the affairs of the Bank of the U. S. the amendment offered by Mr. Root, that the committee be chosen by ballot, being under discussion. Mr. Collier addressed the House at length, and Mr. McDuffie briefly, in favor of the amendment. The question was then taken by yeas and nays, and the amendment was lost—yeas 100, nays 100—the Speaker giving the casting vote in the negative. Mr. Wayne's amendment, which proposed the appointment of a committee, to meet in the recess of Congress, to examine into the general arrangement of the Bank, was next considered. Mr. Wayne addressed the House for about two hours in favor of his amendment, but without having concluded, he gave way to a motion for adjournment, which was carried.



TARBOROUGH.

TUESDAY, MARCH 20, 1832.

Sheriffalty.—We understand that the following persons are candidates for the office of Sheriff of this county:

Whitnel K. Bulluck,
Spencer L. Hart,
Benjamin Wilkinson,
William D. Pelway,
Morrison Thomas.

Election to be held on the fourth Thursday in July next.

Superior Court.—The Spring Term of the Superior Court for this county was held in this place last week, Judge Daniel presiding. No cases of public interest were brought before the Court, which finally adjourned early on Friday morning.

We stated a few weeks since, that a respectable citizen had been bound over to the Superior Court, to answer a charge of having attempted to set fire to Mr. C. Windhom's corn and fodder house. We are truly gratified now to add, that the Grand Jury promptly returned the bill of indictment, endorsed "not a true bill."

Cold Weather.—For some days past the weather has again been uncommonly severe, and on Saturday last we had some more snow. We fear that our gardens and orchards have suffered severely.

Nullification.—From an editorial article in the Richmond Enquirer, of the 13th inst. and also from a letter to the Hon. Warren R. Davis, written by Mr. Jefferson's grandson and executor, published in the Telegraph of same date, it unquestionably appears that the South Carolina politicians were correct in asserting that Mr. Jefferson was not only the friend, but the father of the doctrine of Nullification. We will probably in our next paper give the letter entire, with some additional authorities of high standing, on the subject of State Rights. In the meantime we give the following extract from the letter, copied from the manuscript of Mr. Jefferson:—

"That in cases of the abuse of the delegated power, the members of the general government being chosen by the people, a change by the people would be the constitutional remedy; but where powers are assumed, which have not been delegated, a nullification of the act is the rightful remedy: that every State has a natural right in cases not within the compact, [cases non fœderis] to nullify, of their own authority, all assumptions of power by others within their limits; that, without this right, they would