

## Communications.

FOR THE FREE PRESS.

### THE RAIL ROAD.

Surely every friend to his country will take pleasure in its prosperity, and will feel pained to witness its decline. Such a friend feels not only interested in the welfare of his country in general, but also in the welfare of his particular location. And if all the friends would exert themselves to advance the prosperity of their local and particular sectional interest, they would in the best and most direct way possible advance the interest of his country in general. I am a native citizen of Edgecombe county, and I do not know in what better way I can promote the prosperity of North Carolina than to promote the improvement of this county. Without something is done by its citizens or others for its improvement more than what has been done, it is evident to every intelligent mind, that it must decline. The navigation to and from this county has been attended with such disadvantages, causing so much loss on their exports and such high percentage on their imports, that it has in connection with the low prices of produce gradually been leading its inhabitants to poverty. Heretofore our navigation has been considered unimprovable owing to the barriers of nature, and in consequence of such a belief many of our most useful and intelligent citizens have moved to other sections where they might enjoy a better navigation, carrying away with them the very means by which our navigation might have been improved. This course will still be pursued by many more, unless something is done to better our situation as an inducement to prevent their emigration. Something can be done, and something must be done, and something will be done. I read with regret the disappointment of the Commissioners in Tarborough, appointed to receive subscriptions to the Tarborough and Hamilton Rail Road stock. Can it be true that the citizens of Edgecombe do not wish to better their condition? Why then do they not readily accept the offered opportunity which will so speedily better their condition? Are they unacquainted with the advantages that this Rail Road will give them? Are they unacquainted with the help that the citizens of Norfolk have offered, to accomplish this desirable undertaking? A letter has been received from Norfolk stating that half the stock would be taken there. The object of the Rail Road is to connect us with Norfolk, that we may enjoy its market, which is very little inferior to that of New York either in purchasing or selling, and it is well known that the expense of carrying produce to Norfolk and bringing articles from there is not even now more than half as much as going to New York, and it is evident that the Rail Road would greatly lessen the expense and facilitate our trade. The Rail Road will greatly benefit the farmers in this county and also those in the adjoining counties, though not one of them might ever go to Norfolk to sell or buy any thing, for it would bring capital to Tarborough when the most liberal prices would be given and the most liberal sales offered, which

would be to the farmers almost like bringing the Norfolk market to Tarborough.

I am fully persuaded it would be better for us to have the Rail Road even if we never were to get one cent as interest on our stock. What would \$30,000, (which is one half as estimated) be, divided among the farmers of this county? A mere nothing. We should scarcely feel it. But it is believed by those best acquainted with Rail Roads, that this stock will give to its owners about ten per cent. per annum. If so, we who subscribe have a double advantage, for whilst we are benefitted by the general trade with others, we are at the same time receiving good interest on our funds. I am sorry to learn that some of our good citizens in Conetoe are raising objections to the Rail Road, because it will perhaps run through their land. If they would consider it rightly they would be glad, for if the Rail Road takes some of their land it will increase the value of what is left as will much more than compensate for it, beside being paid for the land and timber taken. And if it takes some of the timber from their land it will make every tree that is left worth just double, whether it be for timber, for lumber, for the fire, or for extracting turpentine. It will increase the value of their cattle, their hogs, their sheep, their turkeys, their chickens, and in fact every thing they have about their farms or in their woods. It will give the citizens of Conetoe a decided advantage over every other part of the county. I hope this subject will again be considered in its true bearing, as I trust it was when first brought before the people. And that the stock will immediately be taken, that we may set the first example in our State, what can be done by individual exertion towards elevating the character of North Carolina and promoting the best interests of our own county of Edgecombe.

A Friend to Edgecombe.

FOR THE FREE PRESS.

### THE TARIFF.

Mr. Editor: I have recently been reading the history of ancient Rome, where a division took place between Cæsar, Pompey, &c. Viewing the distracted and complex situation of that republic a little previous to and about that time, and comparing it with the United States in our present distracted situation, may we not say we are travelling the same road and fear we shall shortly arrive at the same end. It does not require a philosopher to discover a Cæsar and a Pompey in our national councils, each forming his party, and instead of striving to reconcile the conflicting interests of the country, are striving to carry their points regardless of consequences.—Where is that patriotic spirit which displayed itself so visibly in the conduct of the ancestors of our northern brethren? Has it become wholly extinct by generation? It appears to be lost, not leaving a trace to be discovered in all their acts—and in all probability the present Congress will have to rise without materially altering the tariff law, leaving the South to groan under a load of duties uncalled for by the wants of government. (Question.) Shall we, in order to relieve ourselves from this burthen, dissolve our Union and perhaps thereby destroy the

best government ever framed by the hand of man, the wonder and admiration of the world, and perhaps our liberties likewise purchased by the blood and treasure of our fathers—or, shall we patiently submit to the tariff with all the evils attached to it of which we so justly complain, a tax embarrassing the many for the benefit of the few—or, shall we endeavor to devise some plan which will make it the interest of our northern brethren to repeal the tariff or so modify it as to remove the grievance, and thereby restore peace and harmony in our beloved country? The North are not ignorant of their duty on this point, but unless we make it their interest it will avail nothing. May a humble old citizen of Edgecombe submit a few thoughts on the last question proposed, not with a hope that it will be received by the public, but that it may call the public mind into action on the subject, that in their united wisdom they may devise some plan that may save our country from dissolution and ruin.

1st. That all the States in the Union which feel themselves aggrieved by the present tariff, meet in Convention by delegates chosen by the people.

2d. That when assembled, they so modify the tariff law as to bring the revenue within the wants of the government, taking care to apportion it as far as practicable to the protection of American industry that comes in competition with foreign.

3d. That the Collectors of each port be authorised and required to collect no more duties from foreign articles imported into the several States, than according to the regulation of the Convention aforesaid.

4th. That each State forming this Convention be responsible to the General Government for the residue of revenue not collected from foreign importations according to the present tariff.

5th. That the Legislatures of the several States forming this Convention, at their first session thereafter, lay a tax on all merchants and traders within their respective limits who trade on articles of northern manufacture—also, on hogs, horses and mules, from any tariff State—which shall be sufficient to pay the revenue for which the State is responsible to the General Government, allowing a reasonable time for the merchants and traders to dispose of their stock on hand that no loss be sustained.

Some may object to the last proposition as being unconstitutional—but I hold that each State has a right to regulate her own internal concerns, and of course a right to lay and collect taxes within her jurisdictional limits. And should the Legislature think proper to lay a tax that would amount to a prohibition, (according to the old proverb, the hotter war the sooner peace,) the sooner their market is cut off the sooner they will come to their senses, and rather than lose their great customer the South, they will find it their interest to repeal the tariff. And where is the patriot who would not rather pay a direct tax a few years to make up the revenue for which his State is responsible to the General Government, rather than submit to an indirect and unconstitutional tax on the necessaries of life, impoverishing & distracting the whole country for the exclusive benefit of a few manufacturers.

A N. Carolina Republican.

## CONGRESS.

### SENATE.

Tuesday, April 3.—The Senate resumed the consideration of the amendments of the House of Representatives to the bill supplementary to the several acts for the sale of the public lands, and the amendments having been advocated by Messrs. Moore, Kane, Buckner and King, and opposed by Messrs. Ewing and Holmes, were finally concurred in.—The bill making appropriations for the support of the Government for the year 1832, was taken up as the unfinished business, the question being on the amendment proposed by the committee on finance, adding an appropriation of \$4,500 for the return of the ministers from France and England. On this question, Mr. Sprague first addressed the Chair, and continued his remarks until a late hour, when he gave way for a motion to adjourn.

Wednesday, 4th.—The bill making appropriations to carry into effect certain Indian treaties, was reported, read thrice, and passed.—At half past 12, the Senate went into the consideration of Executive business, in which nearly three hours were spent.

Thursday, 5th.—The bill supplementary to the act for the relief of the surviving officers and soldiers of the Revolution, was taken up, and, on motion of Mr. Foot, amended, so as to include seamen, officers and marines of the Navy. Mr. Wilkins moved an amendment, extending the provisions of the bill to "Indian spies." Mr. Marcy moved to amend the amendment, by adding "boatmen, wagoners, and express riders;" which motion was, after some discussion, rejected, and the bill was laid on the table.—Mr. Webster, from the select committee on the apportionment of Representatives, under the fifth census, made a report thereon, accompanied by a bill.—The general appropriation bill was taken up; the question being on the amendment, allowing \$4,500 for the expenses of the return of our ministers from France and England. Mr. Sprague resumed and concluded his speech upon the British Colonial Trade arrangement, which has incidentally become a subject of discussion.

Friday, 6th.—Mr. Smith submitted a resolution, which was adopted, calling on the President for a copy of Lord Aberdeen's letter in answer to Mr. Barbour's, of the 27th November, 1828, and also so much of a letter of the 22d April, 1831, from Mr. McLane to Mr. Van Buren, as relates to the proposed duty on cotton.—The general appropriation bill was considered as the unfinished business, and Mr. Kane, occupied the day in reply to Mr. Sprague.—The Senate adjourned over to Monday.

Monday, 9th.—After the transaction of the usual morning's business, the Revolutionary pensions bill was taken up on motion of Mr. Foot, and Mr. Robinson offered an amendment, to which Mr. Grundy offered an addition, to include in the provisions of the bill those officers and soldiers who served with Generals Wayne, Clark, Harmar, Hamtracck, and St. Clair, in the Indian war after the Revolution. This amendment was supported by Messrs.

Robinson, Bibb, Grundy, and Benton, and opposed by Messrs. Foot and Smith. After a short discussion the bill was laid on the table, in order to take up the appropriation bill. After Mr. Kane had concluded his remarks, Mr. Holmes took the floor, and addressed the Senate until the adjournment.

### H. OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Tuesday, April 3.—Mr. Bell introduced a bill to provide means for extending the benefits of vaccination among the Indian tribes, as a preventative of the small pox, which was committed to a committee of the whole on the state of the Union.—The report of the Committee on the Judiciary on the subject of the charges against the Collector of Wiscasset, was again considered; and Mr. Mitchell, of S. Carolina and Mr. Anderson addressed the House until the close of the hour.—The Indian appropriation bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.—The House afterwards went into a committee of the whole on the state of the Union, and took up the revolutionary pensions bill, which was discussed until half past 4 o'clock, when the committee rose, and the House adjourned.

Wednesday, 4th.—The motion made by Mr. Slade, on Tuesday, to reconsider the vote rejecting the resolution offered by Mr. Arnold, directing the committee on internal improvements to enquire into the expediency of constructing a National Road from Buffalo, in the State of New York, to New Orleans, was, after a desultory discussion upon a point of order, taken up. Mr. Arnold addressed the House in a long and discursive speech, in favor of the reconsideration of the former vote, and the adoption of his resolution. After a few remarks from Messrs. Carson, Mercer, and Blair of Tennessee, the motion to reconsider was lost—yeas 74, nays 94.—The bill making appropriations for the Indian Department for the year 1832, was passed.—The bill providing for the vaccination of the Indians as a preventative of small pox, &c. was considered in committee, reported with amendments, and postponed until Friday.—The pension bill was next taken up in committee. Mr. Davis, of South Carolina, addressed the committee in opposition to the general principles of the bill, until the usual hour of adjournment, when he gave way to a motion that the committee rise, which was carried, and the House adjourned.

Thursday, 5th.—The bill providing for the vaccination of the Indians as a preventative of the small pox, was amended and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.—The House resumed, in committee, the consideration of the general pension bill. Mr. Davis, of S. C. concluded his remarks against the bill, when the committee rose, and the House adjourned.

Friday, 6th.—The consideration of the report of the committee on the judiciary on the charges brought against the collector of the port of Wiscasset, was resumed, and Mr. Pearce continued, until the expiration of the hour, his argument for an investigation by the House.—The internal improvement appropriation bill was taken up in a committee of the whole on the state of the Union. A long debate ensued on the