

of opinion cannot be a subject of surprise. After the collection and custody of the public moneys had been for so many years connected with, and made subsidiary to, the advancement of private interests, a return to the simple and self denying ordinances of the Constitution could not but be difficult. But time and free discussion eliciting the sentiments of the people, and aided by that conciliatory spirit which has ever characterized their course on great emergencies, were relied upon for a satisfactory settlement of the question. Already has this anticipation, on one important point at least—the impropriety of diverting public money to private purposes: been fully realized. There is no reason to suppose that legislation upon that branch of the subject would now be embarrassed by a difference of opinion, or fail to receive the cordial support of a large majority of our constituents. The connection which formerly existed between the Government and bank was in reality injurious to both, as well as to the general interests of the community at large. It aggravated the disorders of trade and the derangement of commercial intercourse, and administered new excitement and additional means to wild and reckless speculations, the disappointments of which threw the country into convulsions of panic, and all but produced violence and bloodshed. The imprudent expansion of bank credits, which was the natural result of the command of the revenues of the State, furnished the resources for unbounded license in every species of adventure, seduced industry from its regular and salutary occupations by the hope of abundance without labor, and deranged the social state by tempting all trades and professions into the vortex of speculation on remote contingencies.

The same wide-spreading influence impeded also the resources of the Government, curtailed its useful operations, embarrassed the fulfilment of its obligations, and seriously interfered with the execution and the laws. Large appropriations and oppressive taxes are the natural consequences of such a connexion, since they increase the profits of those who are allowed to use the public funds, and make it their interest that money should be accumulated and expenditures multiplied. It is thus that a concentrated money power is tempted to become an active agent in political affairs, and all past experience has shown on which side that influence will be arrayed. We deceive ourselves if we suppose that it will ever be found asserting and supporting the rights of the community at large, in opposition to the claims of the few.

In a Government whose distinguishing characteristic should be a diffusion and equalization of its benefits and burdens, the advantage of individuals will be augmented at the expense of the mass of the people. Nor is it the nature of combinations for the acquisition of legislative influence to confine their interference to the single object for which they were originally formed. The temptation to extend it to other matters is, on the contrary, not unfrequently too strong to be resisted. The influence, in the direction of public affairs, of the community at large, is, therefore, in no slight danger of being sensibly and injuriously affected by giving to a comparatively small, but very efficient class, a direct and exclusive personal interest in so important a portion of the legislation of Congress as that which relates to the custody of the public moneys. If laws setting upon private interests cannot always be avoided, they should be confined within the narrowest limits, and left, wherever possible, to the Legislatures of the States. When not thus restricted, they lead to combinations of powerful associations, foster an influence necessarily selfish, and turn the fair course of legislation to sinister ends, rather than objects that advance public liberty, and promote the general good.

The whole subject now rests with you, and I cannot but express a hope that some definite measure will be adopted at the present session.

It will not, I am sure, be deemed out of place for me here to remark, that the declaration of my views in opposition to the policy of employing banks as depositories of the Government funds, cannot justly be construed as indicative of hostility, official or personal, to those institutions; or to repeat, in this form, and in connection with this subject, opinions which I have uniformly entertained, and on all proper occasions expressed. Though always opposed to their creation in the form of exclusive privileges, and, as a State magistrate, aiming by appropriate legislation to secure the community against the consequences of their occasional mismanagement, I have yet ever wished to see them protected in the exercise of rights conferred by law, and have never doubted their utility, when properly managed, in promoting the interests of the whole, through that channel, and other interests of the community. To the General Government, they present themselves merely as State institutions, having no necessary connection with its legislation or its administration. Like other State establishments, they may be found or not in conducting the affairs of the Government, as public policy and the general interest of the Union may seem to require. The only safe or proper principle upon which their intercourse with the Government can be regulated, is that which regulates their intercourse with the private citizen—the conferring of mutual benefits. When the

Government can accomplish a financial operation better with the aid of the banks than without, it should be at liberty to seek that aid as it would the services of a private banker, or other capitalists or agents, giving the preference to those who will serve it on the best terms. Nor can there ever exist an interest in the officers in the General Government, as such, inducing them to embarrass or annoy the State banks any more than to incur the hostility of any other class of State institutions, or of private citizens. It is not in the nature of things that hostility to those institutions can spring from this source, or any opposition to their course of business, except when they themselves depart from the objects of their creation, and attempt to usurp powers not conferred upon them, or to subvert the standard of value established by the Constitution. While opposition to their regular operations cannot exist in this quarter, resistance to any attempt to make the Government depend upon them for the successful administration of public affairs, is a matter of duty, as I trust it ever will be of inclination, no matter from what motive or consideration the attempt may originate.

It is no more than just to the banks to say, that in the late emergency, most of them firmly resisted the strong temptations to extend their paper issues, when apparently sustained in a suspension of specie payments by public opinion, even though in some cases invited by legislative enactments. To this honorable course, aided by the resistance of the General Government, acting in obedience to the Constitution and laws of the United States, to the introduction of an irredeemable paper medium, may be attributed, in a great degree, the speedy restoration of our currency to a sound state, and the business of the country to its wonted prosperity. The banks have but to continue in the same safe course and be content in their appropriate sphere, to avoid all interference from the General Government, and to derive from it all the protection and benefits which it bestows on other State establishments, on the people of the States, and on the States themselves. In this, their true position, they cannot but secure the confidence and good will of the people and the Government, which they can only lose when, leaping from their legitimate sphere, they attempt to control the legislation of the country, and pervert the operations of the Government to their own purposes.

[The President then refers to the Reports of the Secretaries of War, and of the Navy, and proceeds:]

The progress and condition of the Post Office Department will be seen by reference to the report of the Postmaster General. The extent of post roads, covered by mail contracts, is stated to be 134,898 miles, and the annual transportation upon them \$1,580,202 miles. The number of post offices in the United States is 12,553, and rapidly increasing. The gross revenue for the year ending on the 30th day of June last, was \$4,262,145 00. The accruing expenditures, \$4,680,068 00; excess of expenditures, \$417,923 00. This has been made up out of the surplus previously on hand. The cash on hand on the first instant, was \$314,668 00. The revenue for the year ending June 30, 1838, was \$1,614,510 more than that for the year ending June 30, 1837. The expenditures of the department had been graduated upon the anticipation of a largely increased revenue. A moderate curtailment of mail service consequently was necessary, and has been effected, to shield the department against the danger of embarrassment. Its revenue is now improving, and it will soon resume its onward course in the march of improvement.

[The President then notices the proceedings of the Circuit Court in that district, in relation to the mandamus issued against the Postmaster General in favor of Stockton & Stokes—states that such a power has never before been asserted or claimed by that Court, and concludes his Message as follows:]

Whatever difference of opinion may exist as to the expediency of vesting such a power in the judiciary, in a system of Government constituted like that of the United States, all must agree that these diverging discrepancies in the law and in the administration of justice ought not to be permitted to continue; and as Congress alone can provide the remedy, the subject is unavoidably presented to your consideration. M. VAN BUREN. Washington, December 3, 1838.



TARBOROUGH

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1838.

"A merry Christmas." No pl will be issued from this office the ensuing week. We tender to our patrons the compliments of the season.

Advantages of Rail Roads.—We learn that on Monday last, fresh fish were taken in this town, that were taken from the sea the preceding Saturday, at 12 o'clock, on

the mouth of Cape Fear River—the fish were purchased in Wilmington on Sunday morning, and arrived here via Wilmington Rail Road and express line of stages early on Monday morning.

We are informed, that an inquest was held on Saturday last, in Martin county, on the body of a negro man belonging to Mr. Thos. B. Thompson, found dead near the road. The verdict was, that he came to his death by being shot by some person or persons unknown.

We are indebted to the Hon. Ro. Strange and Hon. Edw. Stanly, for several interesting public documents.

It will be seen from the following, which we extract from an article in the last Raleigh Standard, that our seat of Government also has been the theatre of gross outrage, as well as those of New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

The Assault.—To correct the various rumors that are in circulation it is necessary that I should state the details of the atrocious attempt on my life on Saturday night, and make such remarks as the occasion may seem to call forth. I shall be as brief as possible.

About ten o'clock on Saturday night last, a stone about nine inches long, four and a half wide, and from one and a half to half an inch thick, was thrown at my head, while standing at my desk, in my office on Hillsborough-street. The stone weighs about three pounds. In coming in contact with the window sash (a part of which was broke in) the stone was broken, the larger part falling on the ground outside, and a small piece entering the office. There are no stones of the kind near my office—it must have been brought from some distance. It may be proper to observe that the window curtain was partly drawn, sufficiently to give the assassin a view of my person. Had the missile cleared the sash, death would have been the almost certain consequence.

From seventy to one hundred gentlemen visited my office on Sunday, examined the premises, heard an account of the transaction, and decided, without hesitation, that it was a deliberate attempt at assassination.

It is my duty to state my firm belief that the villain was moved to the attempt by political malice.

It is also my duty to express my belief that no league nor combination of the opposition party in this city instigated this assault—that they condone it and will assist in bringing the offender to justice. But that there are a few (and but a few) who make light of this matter, and would make light of the catastrophe that the murderer intended to consummate, I have a right to believe.

General Assembly.—In our next paper we will commence a detailed statement of the proceedings of the Legislature. The following resolutions, introduced into the House of Commons by Mr. Rayner, have been under discussion for several days.

Whereas we conceive that a great crisis has arrived in the political history of our country, on the issue of which we conceive the safety of our State institutions to depend; and whereas we consider it our bounded duty, as the Representatives of the people of North Carolina, to express our opinion and dispassionate language on this important and dangerous question; and whereas we are of opinion that the great questions which have arisen for some time, and some of which still are agitating the public mind:

Resolved therefore, That this General Assembly do condemn, in the most decided manner, that act of the Senate of the United States, expunging the records of that body, as a separate violation of the plain letter of the constitution, and as an act of petty severity calculated to degrade the character of the Senate.

Resolved, That Resolutions ought to be passed by the Senate of the United States, conformably to that act, and rescinding the Resolutions authorizing it to be done.

Resolved, That the General Assembly do consider the Sub-Treasury system, which this Administration is endeavoring to establish, as another item of that series of fatal experiments of ours and the past Administrations, which are the main source of that derangement of the Currency and prostration of commercial credit, which has been so severely felt of late in every branch of industry, and which, if suffered to become a law, will, by its tendency to augment Executive power, to unite the sword and the scepter in the hands of the Executive, and to destroy the credit system by the excision of specie in the Government dues, ultimately change the real character of our Government, and place in peril the liberties of our country.

Resolved, That we consider the Public Lands of the United States as the common property of all the States, and that we therefore condemn the late act of Congress, allowing settlers on the Public Lands the right of pre-emption at the minimum price, as an act of gross injustice to the old States which originally sold them, or who contributed a common fund for their purchase.

Resolved, That we believe that the most

proper and equitable disposition of the Public Domain, is to divide the proceeds arising from their sales among the several States of the Union, according to the ratio of their federal population.

Resolved, That we do most solemnly protest against the wasteful extravagance of the present Administration, and their profligate expenditure of the public money, which not only creates a demand for heavy taxation in order to meet the exorbitant appropriations of the General Government, but which tends to the corruption of the public morals and the degradation of the national character.

Resolved, That the power and patronage of the Executive Department of the Federal Government have increased to an alarming extent and ought to be diminished.

Resolved, That our Senators in Congress will represent the wishes of a majority of the people of this State, by voting to carry out the foregoing Resolutions.

Resolved, That the Governor of this State be requested to forward a copy of these Resolutions to each of our Senators in Congress, with a request that they lay them before the Senate of the United States, and one to each of the Governors of the several States of the Union, with a request that they lay them before their respective Legislatures.

Accounts from Harrisburg, Pa. to 11th inst. state that all was quiet, but no arrangement had yet been effected.

Bank Dividends.—The Bank of the State has declared a dividend of 5 per cent on its capital stock. The Merchants Bank of Newbern a dividend of 3 per cent. The Bank of Cape Fear has declared a dividend of 5 per cent for the last nine months.

FOR THE TARBOROUGH PRESS.

Mr. Editor: Will you give place in your paper to the subjoined description of an animal, killed by a company of hunters a few nights ago, within two miles of Rocky Mount. He is evidently a stranger in our country—let us honor him by a public announcement of his arrival.

He is evidently an animal of the cat kind, measuring three feet seven inches from his nose to the tip of his tail; his tail measuring only five inches. He is too feet in length, strong, muscular and active in his appearance, and weighed, when killed, thirty nine pounds. The common domestic cat weighs about six pounds and a half. He is of a yellowish brown colour, his tail tipped with black, and his ears graced at the point with a long tuft of black hair—upon each lower jaw immediately under the ear, and nearly meeting under the throat, is a long tuft of hair very much resembling the whiskers of a man; and only nobler in their proportions and more formidable in appearance. His probably unnecessary to inform you, that all the whiskers in the neighborhood have gone by the board, since this family of the forest has become the observer of sleek servers."

There can be no doubt, from the marks noticed above, that the animal was what is termed in Ontario the "Canada Lynx." The only matter of doubt amongst us, is as to the question, where did he come from? How came he in North Carolina, traversing our large and narrow our globe as if he were at home—master of every thing around him? He is the continued pursuer of Canada, and his native woods up to the mountains or have the waters of the Deseret Swamp driven him from his accustomed haunts to seek comfort on dry land? We have expected, suggested, supposed, guessed, reasoned and guessed all to no purpose. We are no longer satisfied than at first.

Can't you help us out of the difficulty? Do so, and forever oblige yours, most respectfully, C. CROSBY.

The skull of the animal skinned, is preserved at B. Bunn's Store, and may be seen at any time by those who wish it.

Internal Improvement Convention.—This body adjourned on Friday night about 7 o'clock, having been engaged with great assiduity, through the week, in attending to the duties which called them here. There were about 200 delegates in attendance, representing 40 counties, and we have not witnessed, in our time, a more intelligent, patriotic and disinterested body. The discussion which took place, though full and animated, was courteous and respectful. Among the principal Speakers, were the President (Judge Saunders) Mr. John H. Bryan, (Chairman of the General Committee) Messrs. James W. Bryan, of Carteret, William H. Haywood, Junr. of this City, Lewis D. Henry, of Cumberland, Hugh McQueen, of Orange, William B. Shepard, of Pasquotank, Thomas Clugman, of Bincome, and E. L. Winslow, of Cumberland.

In our next, we expect to publish the proceedings of the Convention in detail, when we may take occasion to accompany them with some remarks.

Raleigh Register.

The greater quantity than usual of hogs being slaughtered at Cincinnati is im-

puted to the arrival of droves of swine from Kentucky, which are not sent to South Carolina as formerly.—N. Y. Star.

Tennessee.—The Nashville Banner of the 29th ult. says: Pork is easily procured at \$5 to 5.50.

Hulifer, Dec. 12. Pork.—This article is selling here at from \$6 66 2 3 to \$7.00.—Adv.

Norfolk Market, Dec. 13.—Cotton, 11 to 12 1/2 cts.; Corn, 57 to 58 cts.; Bacon (hog round) 14 to 14 1/2; Lard, 13 to 14 cts.—Herald.

Petersburg Market, Dec. 13.—Cotton, 11 to 11 1/2 cts.—and extra quality at 12 cts.—prime old crop commands 13 1/2 cts. Corn, old \$4 50—new \$4 45. Pork (hog round,) \$9.

Washington Market, Dec. 13.—Pentines, new dip, \$3.25; Old, \$3.10. Scraps, \$1.00. Tar, \$1 50.—Herald.

DIED, In this county, on Wednesday, the 20th inst. aged 72 years, Thomas Wallace, formerly a Magistrate of this county, and a worthy and highly esteemed citizen. In Macon county, Ga. a short time since Mr. Lewis K. Cherry, formerly of this county, leaving a wife and several children.

Prices Current, At Tarborough and New York

DEC. 11.	per	Tarborough, New York
Bacon,	lb	12 1/2
Brandy, apple,	gallon	80 100
Coffee,	lb	13 16
Corn,	bu	60 65
Cotton,	lb	9 10
Cotton bagging,	yard	20 25
Flour,	barrel	57 8
Iron,	lb	13 5
Lard,	lb	10 12
Molasses,	gallon	50 55
Sugar, brown,	lb	10 12 1/2
Salt, T. L.	barrel	60 65
Turpentine,	barrel	25 30
Wheat,	barrel	100 105
Whiskey,	gallon	65 70

Public Sale of REAL ESTATE

ON SATURDAY, the 28th inst. next, on the premises, will be sold to sale the late residence of George T. L. Esq., with the lands attached thereto, including



The Tract called The Vacant Land, AND

The Norris Tract.

Supported to be in all from 8 to 100 Acres.

The Land will be sold by the undersigned, at a certain hour to the highest bidder, and a credit of one or two years will be given the purchaser, except the land proved a very bearing nature, the usual terms.

JOS B. LITTLEJOHN, 21 D. C. ASHS.

Grangerville School

Near Lawrence's Meeting House

THE MISSES JENKINS will commence the duties of teaching on Monday in February. Terms of tuition For spell book and writing, \$1 00 per month. A portion of grammar, geography, &c. free. Tuition in arithmetic, \$1 00 per month. Parents and Guardians may rest assured the most attention shall be paid to the education of their children, and will be unnecessary to say any thing of the neatness of the situation, as it is well known to be one of the best in the county. F. G. M. county, Dec. 13th, 1838. The Halifax Advocate will insert in this paper a notice of the school.



Masonic Notice.

THE FUNERAL of one Joseph Lawrence, will be solemnized on Sunday the 30th inst. at the residence of his Father, Elder Joshua Lawrence, of the members of

Concord Lodge, No. 58. Elder William Hyman will deliver a Sermon on the occasion. The friends generally are respectfully invited to attend. T. C. HEARN, Secy. Dec. 13th, 1838.