

Gen. J. F. Patterson

# THE STAR AND NORTH CAROLINA GAZETTE.

RALEIGH, N. C. WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1838.

VOL. XXIX NO. 39

THOMAS J. LEMAY,  
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

**TERMS.**  
Subscription, three dollars per annum—in  
half in advance.  
Persons residing without the State will be  
required to pay the whole amount of the year's  
subscription in advance.  
**RATES OF ADVERTISING.**  
For every square (not exceeding 16 lines this  
size type) first insertion, one dollar; each subse-  
quent insertion, twenty cents.  
The advertisement of Clerks and Sheriffs  
will be charged 25 per cent. higher; and a deduc-  
tion of 33 per cent. will be made from the  
regular price for advertisements by the year.  
Letters to the Editor must be post-paid.

**THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE,**  
AND  
Miscellaneous Reporter.

Agriculture, Literature, Science, and the Me-  
chanical Arts, the country's stay, and  
the nation's wealth.

Notwithstanding the extensive variety of news-  
papers and periodicals, published throughout the  
country, and the diversity of objects therein  
embraced, it is obvious to every rational and re-  
specting mind, that the conductors of those pub-  
lications, and of rightly guided, those salutary ve-  
hicles of information, have been generally actuated  
by party spirit; and that political contests  
have been carried to such an alarming extent, as  
to threaten the dissolution of our Union. In  
this respect, while subjects relating to  
agriculture, science, and the mechanical arts, those  
immediately connected with our best  
interests, and which would eventually place us  
as an independent nation, have measurably re-  
mained unnoticed.

Annotated, therefore by these views, the sub-  
scriber intends publishing in Jamestown, N. C.,  
a periodical under, and conforming with the  
principles, and the execution of which, he designs  
to place in the hands of the country, in the  
first place, to use all laudable exertions in  
promoting, and disseminating practical informa-  
tion, essential to the interests, and calculated to  
increase the dignity of the farmer.

Secondly, Education, and the literary institu-  
tions of the country, will find in his columns a  
warm and friendly support.

Thirdly, Science, and the Mechanical Arts, will  
be the subjects of discussion, and invariably  
receive a liberal share of attention.

Fourthly, Due attention will be paid to sub-  
jects calculated to promote the cause of virtue  
and religion.

Fifthly, A brief notice will also be taken of  
passing events, of an important and interesting  
nature, both foreign and domestic; excluding all  
political contests, and subjects calculated to create  
party animosity.

In short, no pains will be spared, to render  
the Advocate a valuable and interesting visiter in  
every family, and to every virtuous and intelli-  
gent class of the community.

In order therefore, the more effectually to  
present our purpose, we respectfully solicit the  
friendly aid of every intelligent farmer, Me-  
chanic, literary and scientific gentleman, who  
may have talent and inclination, to communicate  
to us any short, but practical hints, or  
subjects within our province, as may enrich our  
columns, and by a reciprocal interchange of  
thoughts, become a valuable source of informa-  
tion. Communications also on subjects either  
Religious or Moral, will be thankfully received.

**TERMS.**  
The Advocate will be published in monthly  
numbers, containing thirty-two octavo pages,  
(two sheets) neatly printed, on good paper, fold-  
ed and stitched, and promptly mailed to subscri-  
bers; making in a year, a neat volume of 384 pa-  
ges, and furnished with title page and index, at  
\$3 per year, in advance.

Any person by forwarding \$10, free from  
doubt, will be entitled to ten copies.  
In consequence of the difficulties and losses,  
invariably attending the collection of small sums  
at a distance, no order for the paper will be at-  
tended to, until the subscription price is forward-  
ed, or the payment secured by some known re-  
sponsible person.

All letters, communications, &c. to the publish-  
er, must be sent free from postage, or they can-  
not be attended to.

As we intend commencing the publication  
some time in the month of August next, all per-  
sons holding subscriptions are requested to for-  
ward them as early as possible.

All editors favorable to our designs, and those  
who may feel disposed to exchange with us, will  
do us a favor by giving our prospectus an inser-  
tion.  
J. N. SHERWOOD,  
Jamestown, N. C. June, 1838. 28

**Southern Literary Messenger.**  
New terms for the present Volume only.  
In consequence of repeated applications for the  
Messenger for a less period than an entire  
year, the Publisher has concluded to alter  
the conditions, for the present year only, so far  
as to receive new subscribers for the remainder  
of this volume—to commence with either the  
May or July number. The former numbers will  
cost \$3 50; the six numbers, for half year,  
\$2 50.

The heavy expense, which the publication of  
the Messenger in its present style renders un-  
avoidable, and the wish of the Proprietor still  
further to improve it, makes it absolutely neces-  
sary that he should receive all subscriptions  
promptly in advance.

Appeal after appeal has been made to delin-  
quents, and still many withhold their just dues.  
Why this is so, cannot be conceived, since it is  
acknowledged, on all hands, that the Messen-  
ger is really worth the amount charged for it.  
The evidence of this need be mentioned, but the  
fact that the subscription price is known to  
have been frequently paid for old volumes.

As heavy drafts have recently been made on  
the Proprietor, for expenses incurred in establish-  
ing and conducting the Messen-ger, it is hoped,  
that subscribers who are still in arrears, will  
send their arrears in, or remit the amount by  
some other hand in the next volume, or  
responsibly one, or a small amount, which  
would be separately, yet, taken in the aggregate  
present, an amount of considerable importance.

Let, if one half the amount due him could be  
obtained, the Proprietor would be enabled to dis-  
charge every claim against his publication at once.  
That done, he would bring out the next volume  
of the Messenger in a new dress, and improve it  
in many other respects.

The risk of transmitting subscriptions by mail,  
will be sustained by the Proprietor. But every  
subscriber taking proper evidence of the fact,  
and date of mailing, to retain a memorandum of  
the number and particular marks of the note sent.

**ADVERTISEMENT.**  
The impossibility of carrying on the Watch-  
man as it ought to be conducted while absent on  
collecting expeditions, and the impossibility of  
longer doing without the large amount due me  
for six years of labor, have determined me to  
sell the establishment at the end of the present  
year. The subscription list is about 800, and  
on the increase, and the job printing and ad-  
vertising good for at least five hundred dollars a  
year. A gentleman of talents and a sound whig  
shall have the paper on the most liberal terms. I  
would not willingly let it go into any other  
hands. An early application is requested.  
H. C. JONES, Ed. & Proprietor.  
July, 1838. 28

**COMMITTED.**  
To the Jail in Richmond county, N. C. on the  
22d ult. a negro man who calls himself Tom.  
He is five feet 10 inches high, slender built, dark  
complexion, and about 40 years of age, and says  
he belongs to James Harper, of Fairfield district,  
S. C. The owner is requested to come forward,  
promptly, pay charges, and take him away.  
E. H. SEBBERY, Jailor.  
Sept. 4, 1838. 28

**MYER'S  
FOUR YEAR OLD  
ORONOKA TOBACCO**

For Sale at  
BROWN & SNOW'S  
Sept. 12, 1838 39 4w

**Commission Business  
AT HENDERSON.**

The subscriber having permanently located at  
Henderson Depot, on the Raleigh and Gaston  
Railroad, two miles south of Chalk Level, will  
attend to the receiving, forwarding, and selling  
all kinds of produce that may be consigned to  
him, and will pay for the produce that may be  
entrusted to his care, at his office at Henderson,  
as soon as a return can be had, or will make  
liberal advances on its receipt when required.  
He will also attend to the forwarding of mer-  
chandise that may leave the Railroad at Hen-  
derson.

From his extensive acquaintance in both the  
country and Northern markets, he flatters him-  
self that his advantages in business will not be  
transcended. His particular and undivided at-  
tention may be relied on.  
D. E. YOUNG.

References:—  
STEPHEN MOORE, Hillsboro.  
RICHARD SMITH, Milton.  
STEPHEN M. DICKENS, Roxboro.  
Henderson, Granville Co. N. C. July 26, 1838.  
38 if  
Raleigh Register till further.

**RENAWAY**

From the Subscriber, residing  
in Granville county, N. C. on the  
30th day of August last, a ne-  
gro man by the name of JOHN  
DAN, and his wife JANE.

John is a somewhat size be-  
low, light black, large full eyes,  
has a down look when spoken to,  
the 4th finger on his right hand has grown crook-  
ed, by means of a cut. He carried with him  
wearing apparel and bed clothes, among them  
a pair of dark yarn jeans homespun cloth. He  
wore a pair of lined and bound right and left  
shoes, nearly new. The woman is a little under  
common size, and is in a pregnant state. She  
carried with her a purple cireassion dress, a  
white dress, a dark gaudy calico dress, and  
some home made clothes. I believe the said ne-  
gro was seduced off by some infamous charac-  
ter, and they will attempt to pass for free ne-  
groes. I will give ten dollars for their delivery  
or confinement in Jail, in Granville or Wake,  
or twenty dollars, if out of said counties, and thirty  
dollars for the detection and conviction of any  
white person who has assisted them in getting off.  
CLEMENS WILKINS.  
Sept. 10, 1838 38 3w

**LOST OR STOLEN.**

A note of hand given by Benj. D. Rogers to  
the subscriber for 95 dollars, dated about the 1st  
of Sept. instant, with all the rest of my valuable  
papers, receipts, accounts, &c. This is there-  
fore to forewarn all persons from trading for said  
papers, or any of them, and the said Benj. D.  
Rogers, and all others bound by said papers from  
paying the same, except to myself, or properly  
authorized agent.  
WRIGHT L. EARP.  
Wake county, Sept. 9, 1838. 38 1w

**Shocco Land for Sale.**

The subscriber being about  
to remove to Mississippi, offers  
his present residence for sale.  
It is on the Stage road 10 miles  
from Warrenton, 15 from Lou-  
isburg, and three from the  
Shocco Springs, and contains  
200 acres of good land. As a  
healthy and pleasant residence it has few e-  
quals.  
JAMES GORDON.  
Sept. 8, 1838 38 4w

**DANCING SCHOOL.**

Messrs. Ponce & Nichtern  
respectfully inform the citizens of Raleigh  
and vicinity, that he will return in October  
next, to open Schools again, and resume the ex-  
ercises.  
June 30 28 if



**COACHES, BAROUCHES  
AND BUGGIES.**

The Subscriber has on hand an assortment of  
the above Carriages. Some very richly finished,  
which will, he thinks, bear a comparison with  
any manufactured elsewhere. The work is war-  
ranted to be faithfully executed, and will be sold  
on as favorable terms as can be afforded. Those  
wishing to supply themselves, will please call  
and judge for themselves.  
THOS. CORBIS.  
Raleigh, May 21, 1838 22 if

**LAND FOR SALE.**

I now offer for sale a valuable tract of land in  
the County of Lenoir, known as the "Collier  
place," situated on the north side of New River,  
15 miles above Newbern, and 6 miles east of Kin-  
ston, containing one thousand four hundred and  
eleven acres; about one thousand of which are still  
uncleared and covered with Oak, Hickory and  
Dogwood growth, indicating a fertility of soil not  
to be surpassed in its vicinity. The plantation  
extends for two miles on the public road, and the  
same distance on the river, where there is a  
good stone beach, boat landing, &c.  
The terms may be known by application to my  
friend Louis C. Desmon, Esq. of Lenoir.  
Also, lot No. 70 in the town of Kinston.  
I also offer for sale, two or three blooded hor-  
ses of the most fashionable stock in the United  
States. They may be seen at Oak Forest, the  
residence of my father, in the County of Nash.  
SAMUEL C. BELLAMY.  
August 2, 1838. 33 if  
Register and Standard.

**LUMBER FOR SALE.**

The Subscriber has now on hand, at his Mills,  
(late Blake's) 17 miles East of Raleigh, 100,000  
feet of choice Lumber, of every description,  
cut out of Long Leaf Pine, of peculiar ex-  
cellence of which is too well known to need any  
puff. Persons desiring to purchase will please  
make application to Mr. William Peck, Raleigh,  
or to Henry Horton, at the Mills.  
The price at the Mills will be \$1 per hundred;  
but, if a large quantity be bought, even less than  
that will be taken.  
PETER FOSTER.  
Wake co., May 21, 1838 22 if

**DR. W. W. MARSHALL'S  
Ointment for the Blind Piles.**

This invaluable remedy has been several  
years before the public, its virtue and efficacy  
have been well tested, and in numerous instan-  
ces, in the most aggravated forms of the disease.  
It is not a solitary case it has been known to fail  
in effecting a cure. Many very respectable per-  
sons have borne testimony to its efficacy; among  
whom is the Rev. Wm. A. Smith, of the M. E.  
Church, and Editor of the Conference Journal,  
who, from his own experience, confidently re-  
commends it to the public as "A SAFE, AGREE-  
ABLE, AND EFFICIENT REMEDY."  
It may be had at the Store of R. TUCKER,  
Agent, Raleigh, N. C.

**GENERAL ORDERS.**

Head Quarters,  
WARRENTON, N. C. July 18, 1838.  
Officers commanding the different Regiments  
comprising the 7th Division N. C. Militia:  
You are hereby notified and commanded to  
have your regiments formed on the usual ground  
of parade, to the hour of 10 o'clock, for review,  
on the following days and places, namely: The  
29th Regiment, at Louisa, on Saturday the  
22nd September. The 35th and 36th Regiments  
in Raleigh, on Monday the 24th. The 22nd  
Regiment in Nashville, on Wednesday the 26th.  
The 21st Regiment at Bridge's, in Edgecombe  
county, on Friday the 28th. The 30th Regiment  
in the town of Farborough, on Saturday the  
29th of September next. The 13th Regiment in  
the town of Williamston, on Monday the 1st  
October. The 16th Regiment in Jackson, on  
Wednesday the 3rd. The 14th and 15th Regi-  
ments in the town of Halifax, on Thursday the  
4th. And the 23rd Regiment in the town of  
Warrenton, on Saturday the 6th of October next.

The commissioned officers and musicians of  
each regiment must be drilled on days preceding  
days of review, according to law and military  
discipline.  
By order of General M. T. HAWKINS,  
SAM'L E. PHILLIPS, Aid.  
July 18, 1838. 31

Much excitement is created in  
N. York in consequence of the arrest  
of two Frenchmen by some of the Police  
Officers of that city, and their con-  
veyance and imprisonment on board  
the French ship of war Dido, about  
noon as she was dropping down to the  
Narrows, without any trial or arraignment  
before the civil authority. This was  
rightly regarded an insult to the  
constituted authorities and contempt of  
the laws of the land. There is a good  
deal of mystery about the affair. The  
prisoners are said to be deserters from  
the French ship Alexandre, which ar-  
rived some time ago at Newport. One  
of them, Marsaud, the *soi-disant* cap-  
tain of that ship. He it will be  
well recollected was lately bailed  
out by the French Consul General after  
the crime of piracy was proved at  
Bordeaux upon him and the crew. The  
Consul paid the officers \$100 apiece  
for their services. Justice Bloodgood  
repaired to the Battery as soon as the  
affair got to his ears; but the ship was  
out of his jurisdiction. The subject  
was to be carried before the Mayor for  
a thorough investigation.  
Rich. W.

The Fincastle Democrat has  
recently twitted the Editor of the En-  
quirer with his Bank debt, from which  
it deduced the inference, alike unchar-  
itable and absurd, that the hostility of  
the Enquirer to the sub-treasury system  
is the consequence of that indebted-  
ness, the Charlottesville Jeffersonian  
defends the Enquirer, by showing that  
debtors to banks are under no greater  
obligations to such institutions, and can  
be no more corruptly influenced, than  
debtors to individuals. And who is  
not sometimes compelled to resort to  
the credit system? The Charlottesville  
paper then "carries the war into Africa."  
It says: "The Globe at Wash-  
ington was established by contributions  
from office-holders: And the Constella-  
tion, of Petersburg, was got up in  
the same manner." And then it asks  
the very pertinent and significant ques-  
tion, "If all those editors who owe  
the Banks a dollar are bank-bought,  
what are they who were established by  
money from men in office, and are up-  
held by the money of the government?"  
The inference in the latter case is  
pretty clear. The office-holders will  
not establish and keep alive a journal,  
unless the editor supports their inter-  
ests—and that those interests are not  
the interests of the people is clear from  
the fact that they desire to estab-  
lish two currencies, specie for themselves,  
and "bank-rags" for their masters.  
Lynch. Virg.

**AN INVITATION TO DINNER.**

It was observed that a certain covetous  
rich man never invited one to dine with him.  
"I'll lay a wager," said a wag, "I get an  
invitation from him." The wager being ac-  
cepted, he goes the next day to the rich man's  
house about the time he was to dine,  
and tells the servant he must speak with his  
master immediately, for he can save him a  
thousand pounds.  
"Sir," said the servant to his master,  
"here is a man in a great hurry to speak with  
you, who says he can save you a thousand  
pounds."  
"What is that, sir; that you can save me  
a thousand?"  
"Yes, sir, I can; but I see you are at dinner.  
I will go myself and dine and call a-  
gain."  
"O, pray, sir, come in and take dinner with  
me."  
"I shall be troublesome."  
"Not at all."  
The invitation was accepted. As soon as  
dinner was over, and the family retired,  
"Well, sir," said the man of the house,  
"now to your business. Pray let me know  
how I am to save a thousand pounds."  
"Why sir," said the other, "I hear you  
have a daughter to dispose of in mar-  
riage."  
"I have sir."  
"And that you intend to portion her with  
ten thousand pounds."  
"I do so."  
"Why, then, sir, let me have her, and I  
will take her with nine thousand."  
The master of the house rose in a  
passion, and turned him out of doors.

**From the Correspondent of the New York  
Express.**

**NIAGARA.**

To see Niagara river itself, is worth  
a journey from the Rocky Mountains,  
and a sight of the Falls and the Rapids  
would repay all the toil and expense of  
a voyage around the world. Think  
for a moment, from whence comes the  
vast waters that here tumble over the  
rocky cliffs across the Niagara and from  
both the American and Canadian  
shores. Waters that have their source  
more than twelve hundred miles in the  
distance, here find their outlet. The  
mouth of the St. Louis, 1250 miles  
off,—is the Niagara. Lake Superior,  
its water about nine hundred feet deep,  
more than 450 miles long, and more  
than a hundred broad, itself receiving  
forty rivers, here has its mouth. The  
Erie, that St. Clair, the Huron, the  
Michigan, w'th the Superior,—these  
magnificent Lakes, in themselves all  
most vast seas, with all of the innumera-  
ble rivers that empty themselves into  
these great Lakes, covering together a  
space of a hundred and forty or fifty  
thousand miles of water,—here find  
their passage way, and throw their vast  
waters over the magnificent Falls.—  
Half of the fresh water of the Globe  
flows here, an eternity of waters that  
seems without beginning and to have no  
end. Alone, as I was, when first I  
saw the fall of waters, I felt and uttered  
to myself half affrighted:—  
"Look back!"

To where it comes like an enemy,  
As if to sweep down all things in its track,  
Charming the eye with dread, a match-  
less cataract,  
Horribly beautiful!"

Next to the magnificent waterfall,  
the rapids present the most attraction  
to the visitor. The river at the mouth  
of Lake Erie or the head of the Niaga-  
ra, is about three quarters of a mile  
wide. A mile or two in the distance  
as you approach Navy and Grand  
Islands, the middle of the river ex-  
pands to seven or eight miles. The  
contraction of the water as it ap-  
proaches the Falls, gives intense  
velocity to the streams. The noise of  
the waters is heard as you approach the  
rapids, faintly at first, but soon swell-  
ing into a loud and unceasing roar.—  
Never shall I forget the sublime sight  
the Rapids presented, as I first gazed  
upon them from one of the boldest po-  
sitions where travellers can find a firm  
foothold. The sound was "as the  
noise of many waters,"—loud,—deep  
toned,—like the bellowing of the thun-  
der, or the noise of the hurricane. I  
have read the traveller's comparison,  
both of the Rapids and of the Falls,—  
but the most effective painting and the  
most glowing description gives you a  
faint and imperfect idea of the grandeur  
realized when one sees and hears  
for himself. Have you been at sea in a  
storm,—the billows heaving your frail  
barge high above the level of the  
ocean, and anon far beneath,—the  
wide waste of waters around you whiten-  
ed with foam—the spray throwing  
its mist like rain drops all around you,  
far and near, lashing themselves to-  
gether as if maddened with fury, when  
all was wild and terrific? Have you  
seen the sea thus in the storm and tem-  
pest? If so, you have seen a poor  
picture of the rapids near the Falls.

"Through sparkling spray in thundering  
clash,  
The lightning of the water flash,  
In awful whiteness o'er the shore  
That shines and shakes beneath the roar."

The mist ascends in columns from  
the Rapids, and in a clear day may  
be seen miles and miles in the dis-  
tance. In the sunshining the scene  
surpasses description. The spray  
sparkles as stars in the sky of a clear  
night, and the whole air appears in all  
the rich colors of the rainbow. Still  
more striking perhaps is the appear-  
ance of the mist ascending in heavy  
masses from the waters, as they tumble  
over in heaps, as it were from the  
rocks into the chasm below. No man  
who has stood at the top of the stone  
tower, more than forty feet high  
which overhangs the waterfall, it  
seems to me can ever long banish from  
his mind the almost appalling sight  
which lies in view. I stood alone  
there at day dawn, at mid day and at  
night. Whichever way I turned my  
eyes all was beauty and grandeur, and  
the oftener I came and the longer I  
looked, the more wonderful did the  
scene appear, and the more reluctant-  
ly I left. In the morning, through the  
mist, the sky earth and water seemed  
to be encompassed with gorgeous  
bows,  
Whose arches were refraction,—whose key  
stone—the sun;  
A pavilion they seem'd with Deity graced,  
And justice & mercy met there and embraced."

The second visit I made the bridge  
and tower, the Terrapin Bridge and  
Tower as they are called,—the rain was  
descending in floods,—the mist went  
up in mountains,—and met and united  
themselves in the clouds above,—the  
winds were whistling through the trees—  
birds were occasionally seen  
bathing themselves in the mist below  
and some reeling there in the "career-  
ing breeze" were carried far beneath  
the chasm to rise no more. Poor fellows,  
I had almost been envious of their  
sport, until I saw their danger.  
I had seen Niagara by sunlight, but

when the Heavens were black and the  
clouds were pouring forth torrents of  
rain the contrast was truly grand and  
striking. I left my position for one  
more than two hundred feet below,  
and in the heaviest of the storm passed  
down below the bank.

Iris Island and behind the two main  
sheets of water I descended what is  
called the Biddle stair case,—(Oh!  
Nick, by the way, I have found in my  
rambles an interesting, doing good to  
all and in all places.) There is here  
a spiral stair case of ninety steps, en-  
closed in a building erected in a hexa-  
gonal form. At the foot of the stair  
case I found three roads, all leading to  
some interesting spot, and all, there-  
fore, to be visited. Here above my  
head was Sim Patch's jumping off  
place. Aulus's Cave,—100 feet high,  
120 across, and 50 feet wide, was up  
on the right. Behind this cave is an  
other space, and a free and safe ingress  
behind the American wall, the water  
roaring and pouring over our heads.

The path to the left led me to  
what is called the Crescent Fall. I  
bathed myself freely in the spray, and  
returned, after a ramble of three hours,  
to enjoy the luxuries of a good dinner  
and a change of clothing. Seemingly  
a mermaid never swam in deeper water  
than I had been in during the rain  
storm, and no man, I am sure, was  
ever more hungry than myself.

I saw the falls but once again, and  
then under the most favorable circum-  
stances. The storm had ceased, and the  
clouds had dispersed, and a bright sun  
again broke forth. The most beau-  
tiful sun I had ever seen was from the  
Terrapin tower; and I tarried till  
the moon rose, the see I believe, a  
sight which is to be seen in but few  
places in the world,—a lunar bow  
arching two of the waterfalls, and  
painting the moonlit sky in the richest  
colors.

"Hang on the curling mist the moonlight  
bow,  
Arched the perilous river."

But I must close, for in my enthu-  
siasm I have forgotten, both that the  
reader will, i. e. must, see for himself;  
and also that it has been pronounced  
profanation to 'woo Niagara to the ta-  
ble of a song,' and scarce confine 'to  
tint its glorious features with our pen-  
cil's point.' Yours, E. B.

From the Southern Herald.

**GEN. McDUFFIE'S OPINIONS  
ON THE BANK AND SUB-TREAS-  
URY.**

MARION, PERRY CO., Ala. }  
July 18th, 1838. }

Dear Sir—I learn by a private letter  
that you purpose setting out shortly  
for Europe, and as much speculation  
prevails, in relation to your opinions  
concerning the Sub-Treasury, as it is  
commonly called, may I ask of your  
kindness, before your departure,  
to enable me to inform the public cor-  
rectly what are your views on that subject?  
With all difference for your better  
judgment, should you think otherwise,  
it would seem to me that you owe it to  
your friends and the public also—hav-  
ing so long been in the service of both  
—to speak out. The discarded state  
of the currency, and the universal de-  
sire for the adoption of some stable and  
wise plan for the collection and dis-  
bursement of the public revenue, has  
converted almost every individual in  
the Government into a speculative fi-  
nancier, and, as the most of us have  
only light enough to make "darkness  
visible," and know what we believe  
more as a matter of faith than of knowl-  
edge, you cannot be surprised to learn  
that I hear your name frequently used  
as authority both to denounce and sus-  
tain the Sub-Treasury scheme. My  
friends knowing me to have once been  
one of your constituents and uniformly,  
in my humble way, your political friend  
and suppler, frequently refer the  
most question-to-my-decision, and I  
feel regret that I cannot solve their  
doubts. Should it comport with your  
conception of duty to yourself to en-  
able me to do so, you will, sir, doubt-  
less, much oblige the public, as also  
the writer, who has the honor to sub-  
scribe himself, most respectfully,  
Your ob't servant,  
SAM'L A. TOWNES.

Gen. Geo. McDuffie.

**CHERRY-HILL, July 25th, 1838.**

My Dear Sir—I have received your  
friendly letter, expressing a desire to  
know my opinion on the questions  
which now agitate the country, rela-  
tive to the custody of the public money  
of the United States, and regulation of  
the general currency and exchanges.  
As I never had a political opinion  
which I was unwilling to disclose, I  
have no hesitation in answering your  
inquiries. I have regretted to per-  
ceive, what you state, that contradic-  
tory versions of my opinions, have pre-  
vailed in different quarters, owing I  
presume to the fact that I do not con-  
cur entirely with either of the politi-  
cal parties, recently organized upon  
the basis of these questions. It is  
deeply to be regretted, indeed, that  
these questions have been made the  
foundation of a political organization  
of the great political parties contend-  
ing for the Presidency, though I ad-  
mit that the result could scarcely be

avoided:—Such an organization is ex-  
ceedingly unpropitious to the cause of  
truth, and almost entirely precludes  
the possibility of a discriminating judg-  
ment. You must take the whole, or  
reject the whole, by the practical can-  
ons of party discipline. A most un-  
fortunate change has been the conse-  
quence of the whole subject of Bank-  
ing, and of the connection of the Gov-  
ernment with the Banks. You are no  
doubt aware that during all the strug-  
gles of the late Bank of the United  
States, against the warfare urged a-  
gainst it by the Federal Executive, I  
steadily sustained that institution on  
the grounds both of its extensive use-  
fulness and its constitutionality, and I  
will add that there is no part of my  
public life to which I look back with  
more satisfaction than this. I still be-  
lieve a Bank of the United States to be  
constitutional, and am as confident as  
reason and experience can make me  
on any similar question, that it is the  
best practicable means of maintaining a  
uniform currency and a low and uni-  
form rate of exchanges, over the whole  
United States, so long as paper-money  
constitutes the larger portion of our  
actual currency.

But I am constrained to say that in  
the extraordinary disjunction and con-  
junction of political parties which  
have recently taken place, I am left  
almost as "solitary and alone," on the  
subject of a Bank of the United States,  
as Mr. Benton was when he put his  
celebrated bill in motion. I always  
supported such an institution as an  
antagonist power to the State Banks, and  
as a means of restraining their extrava-  
gant issues. Its utility consists al-  
most entirely, in my opinion, in the  
exercise of this salutary control over  
such State Banks as were inclined to  
run into excess. Such were then the  
opinions of those with whom I acted.  
But now the state of opinions is en-  
tirely changed, as well as the relations  
of the Banks. The present advocates of  
a Bank of the United States maintain  
practically if not in terms that as Bank  
credit is the most potent of all the a-  
gents for producing wealth, the more  
we have of it the better; and they seem  
to regard him as an old fashioned po-  
litical economist who should doubt  
that the issue of every additional hun-  
dred millions of Bank paper, added just  
that much wealth to the country. In  
fact the party now urging the es-  
tablishment of a Bank of the U. S. are  
the open opponents and advocates of the  
pef bank system, which they encour-  
aged with me in denouncing, as a most  
fearful and stupendous system of cor-  
ruption and of despotic power in the  
hands of the federal executive. I was  
perfectly sincere when I said that it  
would be easier to resist a President at  
the head of 50,000 regular troops, than  
one who wielded such a confederacy of  
Banks. Yet after this system has ut-  
terly failed, those who denounced it  
when it was a mere experiment, have  
now adopted it as a stepping stone to a  
Bank of the United States, with a capi-  
tal 50,000,000, to be located in the  
city of New York! I confess that with  
my opinions wholly unchanged on the  
general subject, I should regard a bank  
established under such auspices, thus  
located and with such a capital, as an  
institution eminently dangerous to the  
liberties of the country. I will not  
disguise my opinion, that a Bank of  
United States established under the  
most favorable circumstances, however  
perfect as a regulator of the currency,  
is liable to become a very dangerous  
institution in the hands of the Federal  
Executive. The old Bank of the U-  
nited States scrupulously abstained  
from politics until forced in self-de-  
fence, to abandon, in some degree, its  
neutral position. I regarded this as  
one of its great merits. But what  
would necessarily be the character of a  
bank of 50 millions established in New  
York, under the present circumstan-  
ces of the country? Bank or no Bank  
is clearly and distinctly the issue  
which is to decide the next Presiden-  
tial election, and to be decided by it.  
Such a Bank would be unavoidably a  
mere engine in the hands of the discen-  
dant party, a tremendous instrument of  
power and mischief, thus created and  
thus wielded. You may recollect that  
in my last speech on the deposits ques-  
tion, I stated as a reason for support-  
ing the existing bank that its over-  
throw would produce precisely such a  
state of anarchy as we now have in the  
currency and exchanges; that to extri-  
cate themselves from such a condition,  
the people would fly into the arms  
even of a Government Bank, upon the  
principle that men will seek refuge  
from anarchy even in the worst form of  
despotism. I fear my prediction has  
been very nearly fulfilled. For the chan-  
ces are that any bank established under  
the prevailing auspices, whatever be  
in fact a Government Bank, whether it  
might be in form. And here I am re-  
minded of the extraordinary speech of  
Mr. Clay, in which he maintains that  
the proposed organization