

RALEIGH REGISTER,

AND NORTH-CAROLINA GAZETTE

"OURS ARE THE PLANS OF FAIR DELIGHTFUL PEACE, UNWARD BY PARTY RAGE, TO LIVE LIKE BROTHERS."

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ADVERTISEMENTS.

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Highly Interesting Correspondence
Between Silas E. Burrows, Esq. and the late
Ex-President of Monroe.

Letter from Mr. Burrows.

New-York, January 27th, 1831.

MY DEAR SIR:—Believing myself in your estimation one of those friends whose motives and conduct, since I had the honor of first being acquainted with you, cannot be mistaken, I take the liberty of trespassing on your goodness to obtain information which cannot be as satisfactorily received from any other source.

I am sensible our country will be happy in hearing those opinions which emanate from the Revolutionary Patriot who shed his blood on the battle-field, and who presided for eight years over the destinies of our country, during which period every blessing was possessed by our happy land. Will you be so kind as to give me your sentiments relative to the effect of the U. S. Bank on our national currency, and what your opinion is in relation to the renewal of its charter? The situation in which the Government was placed without its aid, during the last war? its general advantages in regulating exchange, facilitating the remittances of Government and individuals from various parts of the Union, and generally its importance connected with the best interests of our country?

I am &c.

SILAS E. BURROWS,
Col. James Monroe,
Late President of the U. S.

Letter from Mr. Monroe.

New-York, January 30th, 1831.

DEAR SIR:—The confidence I have in your rectitude and patriotism, will induce me to give an explicit answer to the general interrogatories contained in your letter of the 7th, though I fear that my continued weak state of health will make it less satisfactory than it otherwise might be, especially as I have none of the official documents with me which are calculated to illustrate the subject.

You ask me what is my opinion of the effect which the U. S. Bank has on the national currency, and as to the policy of renewing its charter?—what the situation of the Government without its aid during the last war?—what its general advantages in regulating exchange, in facilitating remittances to individuals, and its general importance?

When the old U. S. Bank was first instituted, I was one of those who voted against it in the Senate. I doubted the power of the Government under the Constitution to make such an establishment, and was fearful that the influence which it would give to the Government over the money concerns of the Union, would have a very improper effect on our free system. The Bank was instituted soon after the Government was adopted, and at a period when the question of the relative powers of the two Governments excited great feeling, and divided the Congress and the Union into very jealous and violent parties. I was of that party which construed the powers of the National Government strictly, and sought to impose on it correspondent restraints. So far as any change has since taken place in my opinion, it has been the result of experience, and prompted by a belief that such change would give strength to the system, and not weaken or endanger it.

Between such a Bank, and any arrangement which the Government can make, the alternative must be between a Bank of the government itself, and under its exclusive control, a reliance on its own resources and surplus funds, deposited in a manner to produce the best effect, and a dependence on the Banks of the several States. I have no hesitation in declaring it as my decided opinion that neither of these could accomplish the great object contemplated, and that each of them is liable in other respects to the most serious objections. To a bank of the Government, this remark is applicable in both views, and with peculiar force in the latter. If confined to the metropolis, it could not extend its discounts beyond a very limited circle, nor its agency as a deposit for the revenue received in the several States—nor for remittances to individuals—nor for other objects it would be equally limited.

Such an institution requires an active supervision by those for whose benefit it is intended. The regular, official duties of all the Departments in the Executive render it impossible for that Branch to perform that service without an interference with those duties to the injury of the public. If Branches should be established, their position might enable them to remedy some of the defects stated, but they would accumulate others of much greater force. The interference with the constitutional and regular duties of the executive would, in the same degree, be increased. But that is comparatively a slight evil. A Bank thus instituted being under the control of the Executive, by the appointment of its Directors, and in all its operations, might, in the hands of a bad Administration, be wielded as an instrument to sap the foundation of the Government itself. Appeals would be made to the Government from every part of the Union, for its influence in obtaining discounts, and thus a seduction might be practiced to a great extent for the worst purposes. The influence would be reciprocal. Those connected by such a tie with the Government would be looked to for support at elections, who would not fail to render it. Thus the revenue of the nation, raised by taxes on the proper objects to support their free Government, might be made an instrument to its overthrow.

The second alternative suggested, a reliance on the surplus funds, for the accomplishment of the objects contemplated, it must be obvious, must fail in every instance. The revenue of a Government is generally limited to certain specified objects, according to an estimate for each, and to which it is appropriated. The fund raised, sometimes falls short of the object. It seldom exceeds it in any considerable amount. For the want of a surplus it must be idle in the Treasury until appropriated, & if appropriated as a provision for an emergency, for war for example, it must still lie idle in the Treasury, until that event occurs, or be loaned out. It could not be loaned out, if loaned out, it might be impossible to obtain it when called for, and might even be lost. In this mode, the regulation of the value of the currency, of exchange, and of rendering service, by facilitating remittances, would be abortive. The third alternative which has been suggested, a reliance on the State Banks, would be equally unproductive. The Government would require no aid except in time of war, when immense sums would be necessary, which could be procured only by loans, and when application should be made to them, there is good cause to apprehend that they would endeavor to obtain the best terms it could. There is no particular bond between them and the National Government, and impelled by their interests and that of the Stockholders, it is natural that they should pursue that course. Should such an emergency arise as menaced the overthrow of the Government, the interest thereby excited might be paramount, and force the Banks, under the direction of the Stockholders, to unite in a common effort to save the country. But the great object is to prevent such a crisis by a command of funds, which would enable the Government to arrest it. In every other object the State Banks would fail. There being no standard to which all must adhere, no connection between those of the different States & many of them with limited funds, and in embarrassed circumstances, they would neither regulate the value of coin, of exchange, nor facilitate remittances.

A National Bank occupies different ground. Connected with the Government by its charter, and its capital, which consists of stock, in which the Government participates in a certain degree, there is no instance in which, on principle, there can be a difference of interest between them, and many powerful considerations by which the interest of the Bank must stimulate it, to support the credit of the Government in any situation in which it may be placed. If the credit of the stock should sink, the capital of the Bank would decline in equal degree; the effect of which would be felt in all its operations. Its paper would depreciate, and a check be given to its circulation, if not an entire suspension. Standing at the head of the moneyed operations of the Government, it is its intermediate agent in making remittances to Banks and individuals throughout the Union, and likewise between individuals, from which much credit and influence are gained, if not profit. It has the means, and may be considered as the most powerful agent, in raising and sustaining the circulating medium on a par with specie throughout the Union, and of elevating the State Banks to that standard, by subjecting them to the necessity of reaching and adhering to it, to sustain their credit, and even their existence. Let the credit of the Government sink, and all these advantages are lost. The Bank is therefore, from a regard to interest, its best friend to sustain it. The Director, except the few appointed by the Government, are elected by the stockholders, and are amenable to them. It gives its support, therefore, to the Government,

on principles of national policy, in the support of which it is interested, and would disdain becoming an instrument for any other purpose.

The view above presented is supported by experience, & particularly by the events of the late war. When the war commenced, the Government had not the funds which were necessary to support it, and was in consequence forced to resort to loans, which were with difficulty obtained from any quarter, even in a limited degree, and on unfavorable terms. I have not the official document before me, and cannot state the sources from which any loans were obtained, nor the conditions, with the decline of the public credit as the war advanced. I well remember, however, that when I was called by the President to the Department of War, on the 31st of August, 1814, the Certificates of the Treasury were selling at \$80 in the \$100 by which \$20 were lost. It was evident that if a reliance was placed on the sale of Certificates only, that a still further decline would ensue, and that the worst consequences might be apprehended. The country was invaded through the whole inland and maritime frontiers, and powerful squadrons were at the mouth of every bay and river leading to our principal cities, which were threatened with attack and ruin. The metropolis of our Union had been forced, and its public buildings destroyed. Such was the state of the country, and the funds, when I entered the Department of War. Under such circumstances, an appeal was made to the patriotism and interest of the cities, and Banks within them, by the Department of War, with the sanction of the President, for loans of money necessary for their own defence, for that of the maritime frontier, and the Union. For the first loan that was obtained, one million of dollars from the city of New-York, which took place a few days after I entered the Department, no price was fixed. As the Treasury notes were selling for \$80 in the \$100, that was claimed, but not acceded to. It was left for subsequent adjustment, to be settled on fair principles. Several millions of dollars were obtained from the District of Columbia and principal cities throughout the Union, and according to my recollection, at par. This proves that until the Union is threatened with ruin, no loans can be obtained in emergencies without a National Bank, otherwise than at a great sacrifice. These considerations led to a change in my opinion, and induced me to concur with the President in the propriety of instituting such a Bank after the conclusion of the war in 1815. As to the constitutional objection, it formed no serious obstacle. In voting against it in the first instance, I was governed essentially by policy. The construction I gave to the Constitution I considered a strict one: In the latter instance, it was more liberal, but according to my judgment, justified by its powers.

The above sketch contains my sentiments on the subject of your several interrogatories, which I communicate to you, not for public view, but in a spirit of confidence. Since my retirement I have sought to avoid all political controversies. Having concurred with the President in the propriety of instituting the latter Bank, my opinion was not withheld, and is, I presume, known, as that it remains unaltered. Should a justification of my conduct for the change of sentiment in the interval between the institution of the first and second Bank become necessary, or any other appeal is made, to make it a public duty to explain the cause of that change, I shall not withhold it. I shall be attentive to the course of events, and not fail to perform that duty, should either call be made on me.

I am, dear sir, with great respect and sincere regard, yours,

JAMES MONROE.

SILAS E. BURROWS, Esq.,
New-York.

VOLCANO IN THE MEDITERRANEAN.

Copy of a letter from the Vice Admiral to Major General the Honorable Sir F. C. Ponsonby, Lieutenant Governor of Malta, &c.

The St. Vincent, at Malta, July 25, 1831.

Sir—I have the honor of communicating to your Excellency reports which I have received from Commander Swinburne of the Rapid, and Commander Smith of the Philomel, of the existence of a Volcano, which has lately arisen in the sea on the south west coast of Sicily, and of its position and appearances, during several days of minute examination.

I have the honor to be, &c.
(Signed) H. HOTHAM, Vice Adm'l.

His Majesty's sloop Rapid, at Malta, July 25.

Sir—I have the honor to inform you that on the 18th of July, 1831, at 4 P.M. the town of Marsala bearing by compass E. half N. 9 miles, I observed from on board his Majesty's sloop Rapid, under my command, a high irregular column of very white smoke or steam, bearing S. by E. I steered for it, and continued to do so till 8, 15 P.M. when having gone about 30 miles by the reckoning, I saw flashes of brilliant light mingled with the smoke, which was still distinctly visible by the light of the moon.

In a few minutes the whole column became black and larger; almost immediately afterwards several successive eruptions of lurid fire rose up amidst the smoke—they subsided, and the column then became gradually white again. As we seemed to near it fast, I shortened sail and hoisted to till day light, that I might ascertain its nature and exact position. During the night the changes from white to black with flashes, and the eruption of fire continued at irregular intervals, varying from half to an hour. At day-light I again steered towards it, and about 5 A.M. when the smoke had for a moment cleared away at the base, I saw a small hillock of a dark color a few feet above the sea. This was soon hidden again, and was only visible through the smoke, at the intervals between the more violent eruptions.

The volcano was in a constant state of activity, and appeared to be discharging dust and stones with vast volumes of steam. At 7.30, the rushing noise of the eruptions was heard. At nine, being distant from it about two miles, and the water being much discolored with dark objects at the surface in various places, I hoisted to and went in a boat to sound round and examine it. I rowed towards it, keeping on the weather side and sounding, but got no bottom, till within twenty yards of the western side, where I had eighteen fathoms soft bottom; this was the only sounding obtained, except from the brig, one mile true north from the centre of the island, where the depth was 130 fathoms soft brown dark mud. The crater (for it was evident such was its form) seemed to be composed of fine cinders and mud of a dark brown color; within it was to be seen in the intervals between the eruptions a mixture of muddy water, steam and cinders dashing up and down, and occasionally running into the sea over the edge of the crater, which I found on rowing round to be broken down to the level of the sea on the W.S.W. side for the space of ten or twelve yards. Here I obtained a better view of the interior, which appeared to be filled with muddy water violently agitated, from which showers of hot stones or cinders were constantly shooting up a few yards, and falling into it again, but the great quantities of steam that constantly rose from it prevented my seeing the whole crater.

A considerable stream of muddy water flowed outward through the opening, and mingling with that of the sea, caused the discoloration that had been observed before. I could not approach near enough to observe its temperature, but that of the sea, within ten or twelve yards of it, was only one degree higher than the average, and to leeward of the island, in the direction of the current (which ran to the eastward) no difference could be perceived, even where the water was most discolored; however, as a 'mirage' played above it near its source, it was probably hot there. The dark objects of the surface of the sea proved to be patches of small floating cinders. The island or crater appeared to be seventy or eighty yards in its external diameter, and the lip as thin as it could be, consistently with its height, which might be twenty feet above the sea in the highest, and six feet in the lowest part, leaving the rest for the diameter of the area within. These details could only be observed in the intervals between the great eruptions, some of which I witnessed from the boat. No words can describe their sublime grandeur: their progress was generally as follows:—After the volcano had emitted for some time its usual quantities of white steam, suddenly the whole aperture was filled with an enormous mass of hot cinders and dust, rushing upwards to the height of some hundred feet, with a loud roaring noise, then falling into the sea on all sides with a still louder noise, arising in part, perhaps, from the formation of prodigious quantities of steam, which instantly took place. This steam was at first of a brown color, having embodied a great deal of dust; as it rose it gradually recovered its pure white color, depositing the dust in the shape of a muddy rain. While this was being accomplished, renewed eruptions of hot cinders and dust were constantly succeeding each other, while forked lightning, accompanied by rattling thunder, darted about in all directions within the column, now darkened with dust and greatly increased in volume, and distorted by sudden gust and whirlwinds. The latter were most frequent on the lee side, where they often made imperfect water spouts of curious shapes. On one occasion some of the steam reached the boat; it melted a little of sulphur, and the mud it left became a gritty sparkling dark brown powder, when dry. None of the stones or cinders thrown out appeared more than half a foot in diameter, and most of them much smaller.

From the time when the volcano was first seen till after I left it, the barometer did not fall or rise, the sphygmometer underwent frequent but not important changes, and the temperature of the sea did not bespeak any unusual influence.

After sunset on the 18th, soundings were tried for every hour, to the average depth of eighty fathoms—no bottom. The wind was E. W. the weather serene.

On the forenoon of the 19th, with the centre of the volcano bearing by compass S. by W. one mile distant, good sights, for the chronometer gave the longitude 41. E. and at noon on the same day, when it bore W. by N. 1 N. by compass, the meridian altitude of the sun gave the latitude 37 deg. 7 min. 50 sec. N. an amplitude of the sun the same morning gave the variation of 1 1/2 point westwardly. It is worthy of remark, that on the 29th of June last, at 9.30, P. M. when passing near the spot in company with the Britannia, several shocks of an earthquake were felt in both ships. I have the honor to be, &c.

C. H. SWINBURNE, Commander.

FREE PEOPLE OF COLOUR.

From the Richmond Enquirer.

The indications of public sentiment from every part of the commonwealth, show that the people are deeply impressed with the necessity of getting rid, as speedily as possible, of the free people of colour. No one feels the necessity more deeply than I do: few have felt it longer; none rejoice more heartily at observing that the sentiment is becoming general. I hope the effect will be to lead our thinking men, deeply to meditate on this subject. It will not suffice to say, "leave Virginia;" a place must be provided to which they can go. If any one supposes that our sister States would permit such an addition to their coloured population, as would be produced by the emigration of forty or fifty thousand free negroes from Virginia, with those which will be driven out from the other Southern States, I can only say that I entirely differ from him, and that I suspect he has not very deeply pondered the lesson which the Providence has taught. Would it be wise, if it were practical, to send them to Canada, there to add to the strength of a people, who, upon the principles which have always governed nations, will in a few years, (as soon as the gristle of their infant State is hardened into the bone of manhood) become our natural enemies, unless, indeed, the previous coming of the millennium shall cause the spear to be beaten into the pruning hook, and nations to learn war no more? Does not prudence tell us also, that Canada is too near to our own border? A negro nation in Hayti, and a negro tribe in Canada, would be very undesirable neighbours. These objections would apply most forcibly to their settlement on any portion of this continent, east of the Rocky Mountains; and the expense of their removal to a territory west of those mountains would be intolerable.

It perhaps deserves notice, that immediately after the suppression of Gabriel's Insurrection, our Legislature felt, as our people now feel, the importance of removing the free negroes. In 1801, a resolution was passed, instructing Mr. Monroe, then Governor of the Commonwealth, to consult the President, Mr. Jefferson, on the practicability of procuring on the coast of Africa, a territory to which our free people of colour might be sent. The disturbed state of Europe at that time, rendered the scheme abortive, and it seems never afterwards to have taken a deep hold on the public mind in Virginia, until since the Southampton massacre. Indeed, I have sometimes thought that in this matter, we Virginians are not unlike the Spaniards, of whom I have read, in whose house a traveller once sought refuge from a storm—finding that the rain rushed through the roof almost as freely as it fell from the clouds, the traveller asked him why he did not repair his roof. "You would not have me undertake it in such weather as this," asked his host. "No," was the answer, "but you should do it in dry weather." he replied, "it is quite unnecessary; this roof answers every purpose in dry weather."

But the thought suggested in 1801, though, as I have said, it never afterwards, until lately, seemed to take a deep hold on the public mind, was never entirely lost. In 1811, Mr. Jefferson expressed, in a letter to Mr. John Lynd, the opinion that colonization on the east of Africa, was the most desirable measure that could be adopted for gradually drawing off this part of our population; the most advantageous for them as well as for us. He spoke of it not as an idea new to him, but one of which he had long thought, and on which he had fully made up his mind. In 1816, the Legislature of Virginia passed a resolution (and I believe by a vote nearly unanimous) having in view the same object at which their predecessors had aimed in 1801. The object was at this time attained; a territory was procured and a colony planted. Our State has, I believe, on two or three occasions, manifested the favor with which she regarded the colony of Liberia, by presents from the public stores; but she has never yet embarked in the enterprise with the zeal and energy which I suspect she is now prepared to manifest. It appears to me that the Colonization Society has already done almost all that could reasonably have been expected of a private association. It has provided a territory—it has planted a

colony—it has established a regular government over its territory—it has given just and equal laws to its citizens—it has seen them able to defend themselves against any hostile attack which could be expected—it has seen the institutions of religion and of elementary literature, spring up among them—it has seen their agriculture thrive as fast as the unprecedented profits of their commerce, and the high wages earned by their mechanics, would permit—it has seen them an industrious, moral, enterprising, and thrifty community. There is reason, too, to believe, that their territory may be almost indefinitely extended: not by war and the extermination of the natives, as that of our fathers was, but by freights fairly made and faithfully observed; by imparting to the natives, the arts of civilized life, & the religion of the Gospel, and by receiving them as members of the communities to which they will have been so deeply indebted. In short, the colony of Liberia is now the nucleus around which a free, and happy, and virtuous community may grow; and all that is required of our people is, to transport our free colored population thither. If it be said that the expense of this removal is greater than we can bear, I reply, that the expense is as little as the expense of removal to any other place, where they would cease to be formidable to us. If it is necessary that this should be removed, it is necessary that this expense should be incurred, and we who ask for their removal, must expect it. The expense, I presume, would not exceed \$25 per head, from the time of embarkation.

To persons (if there are yet any such) who are prone to confound the Colonization Society with the wicked and murderous schemes of certain miscreants, who disgrace by their residence, some of our sister States, (States which look on their plans, their speeches, and their writings, with a horror and a detestation less only than our own,) to them I would say, that these miscreants are the most determined enemies of the Colonization Society, seeing that its full success would be fatal to all their plans of carnage and conflagration. I would add that the Colonization Society has no warmer friends than persons who, like myself, are natives and residents of Virginia, part owners of her soil and her slaves; bound by a solemn vow, to protect, to love and to cherish her daughters; bound to her not only because she is the birth-place of themselves and their children, and because her sacred soil covers the ashes of their fathers, but because, with all her faults, they see in her character and the character of her children, more to admire and more to love, than they can find in the character of any other community or people which they have ever known or read of. When these persons search their own hearts for the grounds of their cordial attachment to the Colonization Society, they find few reasons stronger or more cherished than those that the colonizing scheme promises—more than almost any other agent which is, or probably will be in operation, to promote the security, the happiness, the wealth, and the honor of Virginia.—when she shall cease to be to them objects of the very highest interest, they feel that they will have disgraced the fathers whose honored names they bear, and the mothers from whose sainted lips they received their first lessons of patriotism and every other virtue.

APPOMATTOX.

Information Wanted.

In the Spring of 1827, a person whose name is now forgotten, left at my Store, in Martin County, Texas, Keas of Tobacco, supposed to weigh between five and six hundred pounds, for which I gave a receipt as in storage—since that time nothing has been heard from the person leaving the Tobacco, or the receipt given for it. The owner of the Tobacco is requested to come forward with the receipt, pay charges, and receive his property, or the subscriber will be under the necessity of selling so much thereof as will pay for this advertisement, storage, &c. JESSE J. DAVIS.

Davis' Store Martin County, Sept. 6th, 1831. 44 6m.

Religious Notice.

A BAPTIST CAMP MEETING will commence on Thursday, before the second Sunday in November next at the Holly Spring Meeting House, about 15 miles south-west of Raleigh, and will continue five or six days. Ministers, Exhorters and the brethren generally, are requested to attend. October 11, 1831.

TEMPERANCE.

At the State Temperance Convention held in Raleigh, on the 15th of December last, it was among other things, resolved, that several Temperance Societies within the State, be requested to become Auxiliary to the State Society, and report to its Secretary, their Officers and number of members. We therefore respectfully solicit from our Brethren Secretaries of Societies throughout the State, such information on the subject, as will furnish the Managers with the means of making a complete report at the annual meeting to be held on the 15th of December next, as circumstances may warrant. WILL. PECK, Sec. N. C. S. T. S. Raleigh 1st Oct. 1831.

REVISED FOR SADE HESS.