

RALEIGH REGISTER

AND NORTH-CAROLINA GAZETTE.

"Ours are the plans of fair delightful peace, unwarped by party rage, to live like brothers."

THREE DOLLARS FOR ANNUUM,
ONE HALF IN ADVANCE.

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Deferred Articles.

Washington, Dec. 29.

From the Foreign advices to be found in our columns to-day, our readers will learn that Mr. BARRON, our Charge des Affairs at Paris, had "peremptorily" demanded his passports from the French Government, had received them, and may be expected home in the next packet. This is, of course, no more than the consequence of his instructions from his Government, of which information was given to the public in the President's message. Of such instructions no different result could be anticipated. That it was expected by the Executive is, indeed, clear from the tenor of the message. Mr. BARTON, in acting as he has done, has done no more than obey his orders, and we have no doubt he has obeyed them to the letter.

On the receipt of Mr. BARTON's official communication of his return, the President, in our readers know, to send a "special message" to Congress. Whether the administration will do more than communicate the official papers, whether it will communicate, with them, information of the overture by France before the transmission of Mr. BARRON's instructions, with the reasons of the dead silence of the annual message in reference to that essential "circumstance"—essential, we mean, to enable the American People to comprehend the true state of the case between the United States and France; whether it will accompany these documents with a recommendation of any measures, active or alternative, proximate or ulterior, it is impossible now even to conjecture. The language of the orthodox expositors of the views of the Executive is, upon this point, discordant, and is besides not to be relied upon, because they are themselves left in the dark. Even the Official Government paper blunders and stumbles at every step in its attempt to grope its way along.

One thing is clear. The Executive, having rejected the overture of the French Government through its Diplomatic Representative here, and withdrawn from Paris our diplomatic Representative there and thus cut off direct communication at both extremities, has left the whole burden of the French question to rest upon the President's late Message to Congress. France will certainly not act further before receiving that message. What her action under it will be, will not be probably known before the middle of February. Whether the President do or do not recommend any specific measures for the consideration of Congress, on the return of Mr. BARRON, it does not appear at all probable that Congress will be disposed to take up the question of the remedy until they hear what France has to say upon the issue made by the President himself in his late message.

Nat. Intelligencer.

We are pleased which the spirit of one of the Resolutions of the Legislature of North Carolina, (in another column,) which expresses the kind and grateful feelings excited in the breasts of the People of that State by the conduct of those brethren of theirs in the North who have respected and upheld what the People of the Southern States understand to be their constitutional rights. This conduct on the part of North Carolina does, in our opinion, more credit to herself even than her Northern friends. We wish that her frank and generous reception of the liberal proceedings of her sister States were universal, or rather universally made manifest among the States of the South.—*Id.*

THE WESTERN CAROLINIAN, in allusion to the purely party appointments which were made by the late Legislature, says—At the next Election, when Representation shall be equalized, when the large Whig counties of the West, which now send three republicans, shall then send four; and the small Van Buren counties of the East, which now send three Van Buren men, shall then send one. Van Burenism will give its last gasp in North Carolina. These things will certainly be so. "Mark them down!"

A most revolting spectacle was exhibited in Broadway on Thursday afternoon, nearly opposite the residence of his honor the mayor. A funeral procession was slowly passing up the street, which was met by a four horse omnibus, the hearer

overthrown, the coffin thrown out and broken, and the dead body of the female enclosed in it, exposed to the view of the passers by. It is time the omnibus system was better regulated, and the drivers of them placed under wholesome restraint.—*N. Y. Com. Adv.*

Fattening Pork in N. C.—Every body knows that country pork is selling about here at six dollars. This unconscionable price is in part owing to the circumstance that the Kentucky drovers have not been through this way. The last was a "mast year," and the silly drovers perhaps think we are to have "seven years plenty" of acorns, and that we will "save our bacon" ourselves.

A gentleman travelling through Kentucky, asked an old drover whether they intended to drive many hogs to Carolina this fall.

"No, sir—no pork carried there from Kentucky."

"None!—why so?"
"Was in with a drove myself last fall—got only three and a half and four—most year there—saw one man with a pig tied to a pole holding it up to a black-jack acorn!—abundance of meat among 'em now."—*Greensborough Patriot.*

Destructive Fire at Cheraw.—More than half the Stores in Cheraw were destroyed by fire on Wednesday the 9th ult. The fire broke out about 12 o'clock, M., in the drug store of Westervelt, and destroyed that and the stores of J. G. McKenzie, G. H. Dunlap, A. & R. McKenzie, D. & J. Malloy, McKenzie & Adams, John Taylor & Co. J. C. Wadsworth, A. Blue & Co., R. Shaw, D. McNair, D. Johnston, John E. Vans & Co., J. G. McLennan, D. S. Harlee, Clark & Smith, Alexander McKenzie, M. & R. Hailey, M. Buchanan, D. B. McArn, and Jas. Wright. About 300 bales of cotton were burnt. The loss has been estimated at from 2 to 300,000 dollars, and it is said that not more than one-fourth was insured.

Nomination of Judge White.—We would direct the readers' attention to the proceedings of the meeting at Raleigh, at which steps were taken to organize the opposition to Van Buren and Johnson in this State, and to form an Electoral Ticket in favor of Judge White. We need not say how earnestly we enter into the views of those who composed that meeting, and how zealous we shall support the Ticket at the head of which stands the name of a native son of North Carolina, the honest politician, the patriot, and the statesman.

Fayetteville Observer.

"Circumstances alter cases."—Two meetings were held in Raleigh immediately after the adjournment of the Legislature; one by the Van Buren members, and the other by the Whig members, both having the same object in view, viz: to provide for the formation of an Electoral Ticket, both conducted in the same manner, and both taking nearly the same steps to accomplish their respective objects. The Standard denominates the Van Buren meeting, simply "a meeting," whilst the Whig meeting is "A CAUCUS," in flaming Capitals; whereupon the Standard inquires, with solemn phiz, "whose, now, is the Caucus Candidate?" The Standard well knows that such meetings have always been held on the eve of a Presidential election, in almost all the States. It applies this epithet for the sake of gulling the ignorant.—*Id.*

A countryman came to one of our hotels and wrote after his name, P. O. P. S. F. C. Here was a title. "Pray my dear Sir," asked a bystander, "what do these letters stand for?" "Stand for! why that's my title!" "Yes Sir, but what is your title?" "why, Professor of Psalmody and Schoolmaster from Connecticut."—*Boston Transcript*

The Rev. BAZIL MANLY, has declined the Professorship of Sacred Literature, and Evidences of Christianity, in the South Carolina College, which had been tendered him, and the Rev. STEPHEN ELLIOTT has been elected to fill the vacancy.

The South Carolina Legislature adjourned on Saturday, 19th ult. after passing 27 acts. The Court of Appeals was abolished; and Judges William Harper and David Johnston, elected Chancellors; Judge John B. O'Neale, is now a circuit Judge. A. P. Butler, and R. J. Earle, two of the circuit Judges, resigned, and were re-elected under the new judiciary act—as, by this process, they will now receive \$8,000 each per annum. Joseph N. Whitner was elected Solicitor, in place of Waddy Thompson elected to Congress; and Jas. G. Caldwell, Solicitor for the new circuit. T. J. Nixon re-elected superintendent of public works; and Wm. R. Hill, State reporter.

A LARGE LOT OF SALT,
JUST received and for sale, at \$1 per Bushel, or \$2 per Sack.
W. A. WILLIAMS & CO.

CONGRESS. SENATE.

Tuesday, Dec. 29.

Mr. CLAY rose, and addressed the Chair. Although (said he) I find myself borne down by the severest affliction with which Providence has ever pleased to visit me, I have thought that my private griefs ought not longer to prevent me from attempting, ill as I feel qualified, to discharge my public duties. And I now rise, in pursuance of the notice which has been given, to ask leave to introduce a bill to appropriate, for a limited time, the proceeds of the sales of the public lands of the United States, and for granting land to certain States.

I feel it incumbent on me to make a brief explanation of the highly important measure which I have now the honor to propose. The bill, which I desire to introduce, provides for the distribution of the proceeds of the public lands in the years 1833, 34, 35, 36, and 37, among the twenty-four States of the Union, and conforms substantially to that which passed in 1835. It is therefore of a temporary character; but if it shall be found to have a salutary operation, it will be in the power of a future Congress to give it an indefinite continuance; and, if otherwise, it will expire by its own terms. In the event of War unfortunately breaking out with any foreign power, the bill is to cease, and the fund which it distributes is to be applied to the prosecution of the War. The bill directs that ten per cent. of the net proceeds of the public lands, sold within the limits of the seven new States, shall be first set apart for them, in addition to the five per cent. reserved by their several compacts with the United States; and that the residue of the proceeds, whether from sales made in the States or Territories, shall be divided among the twenty-four States, in proportion to their respective federal population. In this respect the bill conforms to that which was introduced in 1832. For one I should have been willing to have allowed the new States 12½ instead of ten per cent; but as that was objected to by the President in his Veto Message, and has been opposed in other quarters, I thought it best to restrict the allowance to the more moderate sum. The bill also contains large and liberal grants of land to several of the new States, to place them upon an equality with others to which the bounty of Congress has been heretofore extended, and provides that, when other new States shall be admitted into the Union, they shall receive their share of the common fund.

The nett amount of sales of the public lands in the year 1833 was the sum of \$3,967,682 55, in the year 1834 was \$4,857,500 69, and in the year 1835, according to actual receipts in the three first quarters and an estimate of the fourth, is \$15,222,121 15, making an aggregate for the three years of \$21,047,404 39. This aggregate is what the bill proposes to distribute and pay to the twenty-four States on the first day of May, 1836, upon the principles which I have stated.—The difference between the estimate made by the Secretary of the Treasury and that which I have offered of the product of the last quarter of this year, arises from my having taken, as the possible sum, one-third of the total amount of the three first quarters, and he some other conjectural sum. Deducting from the \$21,047,404 39 the fifteen per cent. to which the seven new States, according to the bill, will be first entitled, amounting to \$2,612,350 18, there will remain for distribution among the twenty-four States of the Union, the sum of \$18,435,054 21. Of this sum the proportion of Kentucky will be \$960,947 51, of Virginia the sum of 1,581,669 39, of North Carolina 988,632 42, and of Pennsylvania 2,088,233 32. The proportion of Indiana, including the fifteen per cent. will be \$855,588 28, of Ohio 1,677,110 84, and of Mississippi 958,945 42.—And the proportions of all the twenty-four States are indicated in a table which I hold in my hand, prepared at my instance in the office of the Secretary of the Senate, and to which any Senator may have access.* The grounds on which the extra allowance is made to the new States are, first, their complaint that all lands sold by the Federal Government are five years exempted from State taxation, secondly, that it is to be applied in such manner as will augment the value of the unsold public lands within them, and lastly, their recent settlement.

It may be recollected that a bill passed both Houses of Congress, in the session which terminated on the 3d March 1833, for the distribution of the amount received from the public lands, upon the principles of that now offered. The President in his message at the commencement of the previous session, had specially invited the attention of Congress to the subject of the public lands, had adverted to their liberation from the pledge for the payment of the public debt; and had intimated his readiness to concur in any disposal of them which might appear to Congress most conducive to the quiet, harmony, and general interest of the American people.

After such a message, the President's disapprobation of the bill could not have been anticipated. It was presented to him on the 2d of March, 1833. It was not returned as the Constitution requires, but was retained by him after the expiration of his official term, and until the next session of Congress, which had no power to act upon it. It was understood and believed that, in anticipation of the passage of the bill, the President had prepared objections to it, which he had intended to return with his negative; but he did not. If the bill had been returned, there is reason to believe that it would have passed, notwithstanding those objections. In the House, it had been carried by a majority of more than two-thirds. And, in the Senate, although there was not that majority on its passage, it was supposed that, in consequence of the passage of the Compromise Bill, some of the Senators who had voted against the Land Bill had changed their views, and would have voted for it upon its return, and others had left the Senate.

There are those who believe that the bill was unconstitutionally retained by the President, and now is the law of the land. But whether it be so or not, the General Government holds the public domain in trust for the common benefit of all the States; and it is, therefore, competent to provide by law that the trustee shall make distribution of the proceeds of the three past years, as well as future years among those entitled to the beneficial interest. The bill makes such a provision. And it is a very remarkable one, that the sum which it proposes to distribute is about the gross surplus, or balance estimated in the Treasury on the 1st of January 1836. When the returns of the last quarter of the year come in, it will probably be found that the surplus is larger than the sum which the bill distributes. But if it should not be, there will remain the seven millions held in the Bank of the United States, applicable, as far as it may be received, to the service of the ensuing year.

It would be premature now to enter into a consideration of the probable revenue of future years; but at the proper time, I think it will not be difficult to show that, exclusive of what may be received from the public lands, it will be abundantly sufficient for all the economical purposes of Government, in a time of peace. And the bill, as I have already stated, provides for seasons of war. I wish to guard against all misconception by repeating, what I have heretofore several times said, that this bill is not founded upon any notion of a power in Congress to lay and collect taxes and distribute the amount among the several States. I think Congress possesses no such power, and has no right to exercise it until some such amendment as that proposed by the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. Calhoun) shall be adopted.—But the bill rests on the basis of a clear and comprehensive grant of power to Congress over the Territories and property of the United States in the Constitution, and upon express stipulations in the deeds of cession.

Mr. President I have ever regarded, with feelings of the profoundest regret the decision which the President of the United States felt himself induced to make on the bill of 1833. If it had been his pleasure to approve it, the Heads of Departments would not now be taxing their ingenuity to find out useless objects of expenditure, or objects which may be well postponed to a more distant day.—If the bill had passed, about twenty millions of dollars would have been, during the last three years, in the hands of the several States, applicable by them to the beneficial purposes of Internal Improvement, Education, or Colonization. What

* The following is the table referred to by Mr. CLAY:

Statement showing the dividend of each State (according to its federal population) of the proceeds of the public lands, during the years 1833-4 & 5, after deducting from the amount 15 per cent. previously allowed to the seven new States.

States.	Federal population.	Share for each State.	15 pr. ct. to New States.	Total New States.
Maine	399437	\$617269		
N. Hampshire	269326	416202		
Massachusetts	610408	943293		
Rhode Island	97194	150198		
Connecticut	297665	459966		
Vermont	280657	433713		
New York	1918558	2946834		
New Jersey	319922	494391		
Pennsylvania	1348073	2083233		
Delaware	75442	116568		
Maryland	405843	627169		
Virginia	1028603	1581669		
N. Carolina	639747	988632		
S. Carolina	455026	701495		
Georgia	429811	664208		
Kentucky	621832	960947		
Tennessee	625263	966249		
Ohio	935884	1442626	230844	1677110
Louisiana	171694	265327	67561	332888
Indiana	343031	530102	325485	855588
Illinois	157147	242846	483760	726606
Missouri	130419	201542	174354	375897
Mississippi	110358	170541	788408	958945
Alabama	262508	405666	614940	947607

[Fractions of dollars are omitted in the above sums.]

immense benefits might not have been opened? What industry stimulated, what labor rewarded? How many youthful minds might have received the blessings of education and knowledge, and been rescued from ignorance, vice, and ruin? How many descendants of Africa might have been transported from a country where they never can enjoy political or social equality, to the native land of their fathers, where no impediment exists to their attainment of the highest degree of elevation, intellectual, social, and political! Where they might have been successful intruments, in the hands of God, to spread the religion of his Son and to lay the foundations of civil liberty!

And, Sir, when we institute a comparison between what might have been effected and what has been in fact done, with that large amount of national treasure, our sensations of regret, on the fate of the bill of 1833, are still keener. Instead of its being dedicated to the beneficial uses of the whole people, and our entire country, it has been an object of scrambling amongst local corporations, and locked up in the vaults, or loaned out by the directors of a few of them, who are not under the slightest responsibility to the Government of the people of the United States. Instead of liberal, enlightened, and national purposes, it has been partially applied to local, limited, and selfish uses. Applied to increase the semi-annual dividends of favorite stock holders in favorite banks! Twenty millions of the national treasure are scattered in parcels among petty corporations; and whilst they are growing over the fragments and greedy for squandering the whole.

But, although we have lost three precious years, the Secretary of the Treasury tells us that the principal is yet safe, and much good may be still achieved with it. The General Government, by an extraordinary exercise of Executive power, no longer affords aid to any new works of internal improvement. Although it sprung from the Union, it no longer engages in any public improvement to perpetuate the existence of the Union.—It is but justice to it to acknowledge that, with the co-operation of the public-spirited State of Maryland, it effected one national road having that tendency. But the spirit of improvement pervades the land, in every variety of form, active vigorous, and enterprising, wanting pecuniary aid as well as intelligent direction.

The States have undertaken what the General Government is prevented from accomplishing. They are strengthening the Union by various lines of communication thrown across and through the mountains. New York has completed one great chain. Pennsylvania another, bolder in conception and far more arduous in the execution. Virginia has a similar work in progress, worthy of all her enterprise and energy. A fourth, farther South where the parts of the Union are too loosely connected, has been projected, and it can certainly be executed with the supplies which this bill affords, and perhaps not without them.

This bill passed, and these other similar undertakings completed, we may indulge the patriotic hope that our Union will be bound by ties and interests that render it indissoluble. As the General Government withholds all direct agency from these truly national works, and from all new objects of internal improvement, ought it not to yield to the States, what is their own, the amount received from the public lands? It would thus but execute faithfully a trust expressly created by the original deeds of cession, or resulting from the treaties of acquisition.—With this ample resource, every desirable object of improvement, in every part of our extensive country may, in due time, be accomplished. Placing this exhausted fund in the hands of the several members of the Confederacy, their common Federal head may address them in the glowing language of the British bard, and bid

Bid harbors open, public ways extend,
Bid temples worthier of the God ascend.
Bid the broad arch the dangerous flood contain,

The mole projecting break the roaring main,
Back to his bounds their subject sea command,
And roll obedient rivers through the land."

The affair of the public lands was forced upon me. In the session of 1831-2 a motion from a quarter politically unfriendly to me was made to refer it to the Committee of Manufactures, of which I was a member. I strenuously opposed the reference. I remonstrated, I protested, I entreated, I implored. It was in vain that I insisted that the Committee on the public Lands was the regular standing Committee to which the reference should be made. It was in vain that I contended that the public Lands and Domestic Manufactures were subjects absolutely incongruous. The unnatural alliance was ordered by the vote of a majority of the Senate. I felt that a personal embarrassment was intended me, I felt that the design was to place in my hands many-edged instrument, which I could not touch without being wounded. Nevertheless, I subdued all my repugnance, and I engaged assiduously in the task

which had been so unkindly assigned me. This, or a similar bill, was the offspring of my deliberations. When reported, the Report accompanying it was referred by the same majority of the Senate to the very Committee on the Public Lands to which I had unsuccessfully sought to have the subject originally assigned, for the avowed purpose of obtaining a counteracting Report. But in spite of all opposition, it passed the Senate at that session. At the next, both Houses of Congress.

I confess I feel anxious for the fate of this measure, less on account of any agency I have had in proposing it, as I hope and believe, than from a firm, sincere, and thorough conviction, that no one measure ever presented to the councils of the nation, was fraught with so much unmitigated good, and could exert such powerful and enduring influence in the preservation of the Union itself, and upon some of its higher interests. If I can be instrumental, in any degree, in the adoption of it, I shall enjoy, in that retirement into which I hope shortly to enter, a heart-felt satisfaction and a lasting consolation. I shall carry there no regrets, no complaints, no reproaches on my own account. When I look back upon my humble origin, left an orphan too young to have been conscious of a father's smiles and caresses, with a widowed mother, surrounded by a numerous offspring, in the midst of pecuniary embarrassments, without a regular education, without fortune, without friends, without patrons, I ought to be thankful for the high places and honors to which I have been called by the favor and partiality of my countrymen, and I am thankful and grateful.—And I shall take with me the pleasing consciousness that, in whatever station I have been placed, I have earnestly and honestly labored to justify their confidence by a faithful, fearless, and zealous discharge of my public duties. Pardon these personal allusions. I make the motion of which notice has been given.

Leave was then granted, and the bill was introduced, read twice, referred to the Committee on the Public Lands, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Calhoun, pursuant to notice, asked and obtained leave to introduce the following bills:

A bill to repeal the first and second sections of the act limiting the terms of service of certain officers therein named, &c.
A bill to regulate the Public Deposites.

Also, a joint resolution to amend the Constitution, so as to provide for a distribution of the surplus revenue.
Mr. Calhoun offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, of the 15th inst. relative to the duties that may be reduced or repealed, be referred to the Committee on Manufactures, with instructions to report a bill providing for the reduction or repeal of all duties which, in their opinion, may be reduced or repealed consistently with a due regard to the manufacturing interest.

Mr. Calhoun, on offering this resolution, adverted to the immense surplus which was daily accruing in the public Treasury, to which we must look for an immense increase of power in the hands of the Executive Government, and the over-spreading of the country, with corruption and subserviency. This was not a proper occasion to discuss the actual condition of the Treasury; but if it were, it would not be difficult to show that the actual surplus in the Treasury was now from 21 to 22 millions, and that in the coming year it would be scarcely short of 30 millions. With this immense revenue at the disposal of the President, in banks under his control, and subject to be withdrawn at his discretion, it would be in vain, all our efforts would be impotent, to oppose the Executive will. On this point therefore the battle would have to be fought between power and liberty. All other measures, which could be desired, would fall short of correcting the danger to be apprehended from the march of power. But if all those who were opposed to the usurpations of the Government could be brought zealously to unite in arresting the funds arising out of the revenue, as far as they could, in their passage to the public Treasury, and would snatch from the grasp of the Executive the funds which have already accumulated in his hands, there would be still ground for the hope that the course of power would be stayed. Every dollar we can prevent from coming into the Treasury, or every dollar thrown back into the hands of the people, will tend to strengthen the cause of liberty, and to nerve the arm of power. He hoped that the Committee on Manufactures would take up the report with an earnest desire to repeal and reduce all those duties that can be reduced or repealed without injury to the manufacturing interest. In doing this they will then feel that they are not only aiding in the cause of reform as far as it can be assisted by these means, but that they are also contributing to the prosperity of that particular interest of which they are the special guardians; since every reduction of duty, and every tax removed, while it cheapens the cost of production at home, thus benefits our manufacturers, will open the prospects of securing the foreign market.