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BY GEORGE HOWARD,

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## DOMESTIC.

HON. J. SPEIGHT.

Letter from the Hon. J. Speight to the Editor of the Newbern Sentinel.

Washington, Dec. 22d, 1832.

Sir:—The Proclamation of the President of the United States has ere this reached you, and has doubtless undergone that rigid scrutiny which its importance is calculated to elicit. I have heard as yet very little of public sentiment as to its merits. I see when it reached Raleigh, a distinguished gentleman moved to have it printed, which produced a little kicking from a certain quarter. I also see that some of the politicians of the Old Dominion are seemingly sensitive on it. Pray, have you seen the Report of their Committee on Federal Relations?—a rather curious move now-a-days. It is strange indeed to witness what an admirable tact the Virginia politicians have of steering between Scylla and Charybdis—as for instance, their 3d Resolution re-affirms the Virginia doctrines of '98 and '99, and the 7th, I think it is, deplores the doctrine of nullification and the mad career of South Carolina;—and to cap the climax, the 3th condemns the doctrines of the Proclamation. Now can any thing be more absurd? The Virginia doctrine of '93 and '99, is nullification in embryo—there the doctrine was first maintained. All the difference between the Virginia doctrine and that of South Carolina, is, that the former is nullification in theory, the latter in practice. Yet Virginia condemns S. Carolina nullification!

For myself, I have attentively read this inestimable State Paper, and I look upon it in the same light as I do upon the man who is the author of it. Next to the Farewell Address of the immortal father of his country, for pure and undefiled patriotism it stands unrivalled in the annals of history. Its production has caused me to reflect much on the nature of our institutions. The imminent danger to which they are exposed by the damnable heresies which are now prevalent, is produced by the ambitious demagogues who have been disappointed in their expectations of political preferment; and I hesitate not to say, (regardless of any thing which may attach to the assertion) that the doctrines which Andrew Jackson has set forth in the Proclamation, are the only ones which can sustain the Union. Yes, Sir, I have nothing to fear from avowing the "federal doctrines," as they are called here, contained in that paper. I am willing that those opposed to them shall call them what they please. I am a plain man and have nothing to fear from my opinions being known. The moment the Proclamation made its appearance, letters were wrote from here to certain sections of the Union, priming the public mind beforehand against the President for doing what no other man in the United States has the moral courage to do. I rejoice that Gen. Jackson has bearded the lion in his den. What, I ask, was he as President to do? Stand still and see the laws trampled under foot, and the Constitution violated in the most flagrant manner? No, Sir, Gen. Jackson has done what his duty required him to do. He has shown that in this as in all other emergencies, he is equal to the crisis; and politicians may quibble a-

bout abstract notions of the Constitution, but the people will stand by Andrew Jackson in saving the Union. I hope the people I represent will rally around the old veteran. He has once saved the country from the rapacity of a British soldiery,—and he will now defend it from disunion.

At the last session of Congress we reduced the Tariff at least \$5,000,000; and if a further and satisfactory reduction should not be made now, it will assuredly be effected during the next Congress. What more can any reasonable man desire. Is this government—the only free one on earth, to be destroyed because the evil cannot be removed in a moment? God forbid.

But if the Union is to be dissolved—if indeed it has become necessary to separate, let us have a Convention and part in peace. Heaven avert from us the horrors of civil war. But the time has not come when such a course is even to be thought of. Let the South still cling to Jackson. He will repeal the Tariff and save the country. All will come right after a little while. South Carolina may bluster and rave, but the Union will be preserved. Respectfully,

J. SPEIGHT.

Nullification.—We find the following paragraphs in a review of the President's Proclamation, recently published in the Telegraph, by a Member of the Convention of South Carolina, supposed to be written by Mr. McPuffie:—

"I feel called upon, by the respect I entertain for the opinions of the other States of the Confederacy, to remove all misapprehension as to the attitude of South Carolina in a few prominent aspects of her controversy with the Federal Government. And in the first place, I utterly deny and disclaim, on the part of the State of South Carolina, any design to resist the laws of the United States by force. The Ordinance of nullification upon its very face, and the explanatory documents which accompanied it, explicitly declares that the State intends to act exclusively through the political and civil organs of her sovereign power, as a State. She does not intend, and never has intended, to carry the interposition of her sovereign power to the extent that a neighboring State, with the countenance and approbation of the President, as it is generally understood, has carried the like interposition, by the almost unanimous concurrence of all the departments of her Government.

"The State of Georgia has solemnly nullified the laws and treaties of the United States, disobeyed the decision of the Supreme Court affirming these laws and treaties, and threatened by her constituted authorities to resist the enforcement of that decision by actual force. South Carolina, on the contrary, explicitly disclaims any purpose of resisting the officers of the Federal Government, in enforcing the judgments of the Federal tribunals. If the Government can obtain judgments in the Federal Courts, the Marshal will be permitted to enforce them peaceably. All that South Carolina claims in this respect, in virtue of her sovereignty, is the right to enforce the judgments of her Courts in the like peaceable manner; and it is absolutely impossible that any conflict of force can take place between the State of South Carolina and the Federal Government, unless the process of the Courts of South Carolina, shall be resisted by the military force of that Government."

Military Garrisons.—The Charleston (S. C.) Evening Post of the 31st ult. says: A public meeting was called to be held in Columbia, the 1st January, for the purpose of remonstrating against the folly of keeping within the State, more of the United States troops than are usually held as a peace establishment in Charleston, and request the immediate with-

drawal of all the supernumerary forces lately sent to this station.

The Army and Navy.—From the public documents accompanying the Reports of the Secretaries of War, the Navy, and the Treasury, it appears that the Army of the United States consists of 594 commissioned officers, and 6540 non-commissioned officers and privates—total, 7134 men. This number is somewhat larger than usual, which is owing to the addition of six companies of Rangers, comprising 685 men, as directed by an Act of Congress, passed at the last session.

The Navy consists of 12 ships of the line, mounting 74 guns; 14 frigates of the first class, 44 guns; 3 frigates of the second class, 36 guns; 2 sloops of 24 guns; 13 sloops of 18 guns; and 7 schooners of 12 guns—total, 51 vessels, mounting 1978 guns.

In addition to the above, the frames and promiscuous live oak timber for 4 ships of the line, 7 frigates, 4 sloops of war, and 3 steam vessels, are on hand.

The estimated expenses of the Navy during the year 1833, are \$3,176,766 37. In this calculation, provision is made for holding in commission 1 ship of the line, 3 frigates of the first class, 11 sloops, and 7 schooners, with an aggregate of 5025 officers and men.

The ships in ordinary are in various states of preservation, but most of them would require extensive repairs, before being ready for sea.

Mr. Ball Hughes has just completed a statue of Bishop Hobart, for Trinity church, New York, which is commended in New York papers as admirable for its beauty of design and execution, and its likeness to the original. The New York American closes its notice with the remark, that it "establishes the claim of Mr. Hughes to the highest rank in his art." Such praise from such a source, inspires us with some hope that Mr. Hughes is not the impostor that he has been represented in this State to be, and that he may yet return to redeem his character upon our Statue of Washington.—Fay. Obs.

The Rail Road.—The Petersburg Times says: It gives us great pleasure to inform our readers that the Rail Road is now finished and in complete order, from the Depot at North Spring to Belfield, a distance of forty miles. A party of our citizens, accompanied by several members of the Legislature, made the first trip between the two places on Tuesday last; and we understand that there was an universal expression of admiration, elicited as well by the beauty and substantial construction of the work, as by the conviction of the superior ease, facility and safety which this mode of transportation possesses over all others. The return trip from Belfield to North Spring was performed in about two hours, deducting the time lost in the several stoppages. To those who have not yet had an opportunity of personally observing the facilities of this method of travelling it may not be amiss to say, that the party above mentioned breakfasted in Petersburg, dined and spent part of the day at Belfield and returned to town before dark, thus traversing a distance of 85 miles without the least fatigue.

It is expected, that the section of the road between the town depot and that at North Spring, will be completed by the 1st of February next.

Macon Bank.—A joint committee of the Georgia Legislature has made a Report relative to the affairs of the Macon Bank, which failed some time ago. The report is of great length and alleges numerous violations of the charter, fraudulent reports to the Legislature, and a gross mismanagement of its affairs by every administration. The minority of

the committee, also, made a report, which condemns every one who has had any connexion with the Bank, since its commencement to its failure; and states, if any exception to this denunciation is to be made, it is in the case of Robt. W. Fort, late President of the Bank. The Report concludes by recommending to the Legislature the passage of an act to repeal the act incorporating the Bank of Macon.

Mechanics' Bank of Alexandria.—We desire to present and preserve, at full length, the statement of the affairs of this Bank, as reported by the Committee. It is a real curiosity—and may be useful as a "copy" in the new state of things which many believe is about to ensue! Instance, among the demands against the Bank, there is an item of \$110,460 for notes in circulation—but "if the Cashier has burned the \$20,000 stated by him, only \$90,460." On the credit side, the real estate, put down in the schedule at \$84,725, is valued at \$49,400—the Cashier's debt, \$41,300, is secured so that it may produce \$30,000; the amount of "dormant notes protested," is \$93,217; of stock notes, "laying over unpaid," \$17,202; and of "dormant balances, over draughts, and defalcation," \$62,057; from all which three last "nothing is expected."—Niles Register.

[We wish this was the worst of the affair.—Nat. Int.]

We are gratified to learn, thro' the National Gazette, that Judge Baldwin's health is much restored, and that the rumors of his confinement are untrue.

Children in Factories.—The Philadelphia Times says: It is impossible that an intelligent community can learn, without disgust and indignation, that our numerous and extensive factories are worked almost wholly by children, who are entitled to an exemption from labor and care, and whose proper place would be their native hills, as free and joyous as the winds which played around them. Thousands on thousands of these little slaves are driven by sun rise with pale and saddened faces, and feeble and reluctant limbs, to their toil—from which, with a slight interval at noon, night alone releases them. Day succeeds day, with the same heavy task, and the same heavy heart to perform it. Wearied, heart-sick, spiritless—without a joy to enliven the present, or a hope to brighten the future—destitute, friendless, forsaken—sinking beneath the unequal burden of toil, poverty and oppression—they realize all the ills of age, without the firmness by which age is enabled to endure them. The children of freemen, they are made slaves at an age when the children of slaves are free.

Intemperance.—A man by the name of Parkinson Claig, living at Woodstock, Va. was, a few days ago, committed to prison for murdering his brother! The parties it seems were engaged in a Christmas frolic, when a dispute arose between the deceased and his brother, which terminated by a blow from the latter, with a horse yoke, in the murder of the deceased.—Pit. Chron.

Mr. Isaac Orr, in a communication for the U. S. Telegraph, says: I have in my sleeping room a watch alarm, of which I will contract to make fifty thousand for ten cents a piece, by which the hand of a common watch, or even of one of the smallest size, will, as sure as the watch is wound up, wake me at any time of night I shall please; and if I please, it will wake up the whole house, or the whole neighborhood. My own never fails to arouse me at 5 o'clock. All wooden clock and mouse trap makers are challenged to go beyond this if they are able.