

rumors reached me that some attempts were making at Nashville to injure me, but I treated them with silent neglect, relying confidently for protection on the friendly relation which had so long existed between General Jackson and myself, and the uniform and decided course which I had taken in his favor, in the political struggle then pending. My support of him rested on a principle that I believe to be fundamental in our political system, and the hope that his deep rooted popularity would afford the most effectual means of arresting the course of events, which I could not but foresee, if not arrested, would bring the great interests of the country into a deep and dangerous conflict.

JOHN C. CALHOUN.

The Bank of the United States is now regularly in the field. The question of renewing its charter is beginning to excite universal attention, and an interest is felt in the subject proportioned to its vast importance to the welfare of the country. An elaborate defence of the Bank has been written by Mr. Gallatin, and a number of papers have already broken ground upon the subject. Mr. Walsh, of the National Gazette particularly has pledged his exertions to sustain it. The ablest document, however, which has yet appeared in its favour is the masterly and comprehensive Report submitted by Mr. McDuffie during the last session of Congress. If that Report cannot sustain it, (and we do not think it can) its days are numbered, and fast drawing to an end. Able and enlightened are its advocates, they are encountered with unanswerable argument and untiring zeal by the opponents of the institution. At the head of these stands our venerable Chief Magistrate who has emphatically pronounced the Bank *unconstitutional*, and utterly subversive of the rights of the States and the liberties of the people. Judge Clayton of Georgia, has also attacked it in a series of essays, in which he has conclusively established its *unconstitutionality*, and in which he depicts, in a very powerful manner, its tremendous influence as a political machine, and its unlimited and degrading control over the local institutions of the States. Of all the expositions, however, which have yet been made of the dangerous character and operations of the Bank, Mr. Benton's late speech in the Senate is most calculated to alarm and arouse the people. We conceive it a duty to the public to lay some of his most important views before them, and we shall, therefore, do so as early and as frequently as circumstances will permit. The advocates of the Bank contend that the discussion of the question is premature, as the present charter of the Bank has yet five or six years to run. So the supporters of John Quincy Adams maintained that the opposition to his re-election was begun too early, and that it ought to have been postponed until his administration approached its close. But the friends of the Constitution thought then, as they think now, that delays are dangerous and that the people cannot too quickly be awakened to the dangerous precipice on which they stand, and to the devouring gulph which yawns beneath. That the Bank has its advantages will not be denied. It may and no doubt does afford facilities to government, as well as individuals in the transaction of their business. But it is doubted by many, and amongst them by some of our most enlightened men, whether the evils attending it do not far outweigh the benefits. They, however, are all questions of *expediency* merely. They do not touch the great fundamental principle of the *unconstitutionality* of the Bank. Let its advocates first prove that Congress has a right to *establish a private Corporation*, and to invest that private corporation with the powers of the government, and then it will be time enough to enquire whether such an institution is or is not really necessary to the welfare of the country? in that event, however, it will not be difficult to show that an institution of this kind is far from being necessary to the operations of the government, and

that the degrading influence it exercises over the government itself, is a sufficient reason to destroy it. Still less difficult will it be to show that it has not fulfilled its promises, that it speculates upon the people, that the government would go on as well without as with it, and above all, that it is radically subversive of the sovereignty of the States, and the political independence of the people. What State indeed can be considered free, in which an institution, foreign to its government, unknown to its laws, and above its control, is forced upon it against its own consent and the wishes of its people? Or what State can be considered free, in which an institution, neither derived from it nor having any interest or feeling in common with the State, but which influences its politics, interferes with its elections, checks and regulates its local Banks, and boast that it can destroy them, is suffered to exist? Upon a subject so vitally important to the States and to the people, we invite attention to the matter we shall furnish, and particularly to the remarks of Mr. Benton. His positions are, that it is an institution of immense power, and tends to bring the people under its dominion—that it is injurious to the United States, holding their deposits without paying interest, and charging interest on their advances of the people's own money—that it is a monopoly—that it has exclusive privileges over all other Banks—and that it is dangerous to the liberties of the people. We shall give portions of his Speech, occasionally, illustrating these positions. Let the people be but true to themselves, and this link of the chain of consolidation, if no other, will assuredly be broken.

Mercury.

A Sleigh load of persons in full glee, stopped yesterday, at a tavern, on the Lancaster road, on their way to town, to see the eclipse.

[Philadelphia Chron.

We think this very likely: some of our citizens invited their country friends to town to see the sight—and some countrymen came uninvited. A man "touched in the wits" "not in his perfect mind" has been preaching in the streets, as we understand, that the eclipse was a visitation of divine wrath, for the wickedness of Gotham; and moreover he prophesied, that the whole city, south of canal st. would sink on Saturday. This was believed by some, who actually decamped to Bloomingdale and the *far* Harlaem, for security's sake. The sure and firm set earth, still holds its place—so that those who took the flight—have had their *labor* for their *love*. By-the-by, we may as well mention that smoked glass was in great demand, and many travelling merchants made quite a profitable day's work of it: On Saturday more eyes were upturned to heaven, than had been for a whole year past. Some thought the eclipse a very pretty sight—some thought it a *failure*. "It is not half dark enough" said one. "My hens did not go to roost" said another—"our eclipses" said the Irishman "are better than your Yankee ones—ours are as dark as night." "I don't like the moon" said a true Jacksonian "it is not a whole hog man." "The man in the Moon has more sense than I thought he had" said a Coalition croaker—"if he had a vote, I think he would give it for Clay or Webster." "He is not such a *lunatic* as all that comes to"—retorted the Jackson man.

[N. Y. Mercantile.

EXCERPTS.

The difference between rising at five and seven o'clock in the morning for the space of forty years, supposing a man to go to bed at the same hour at night, is nearly equivalent to the addition of ten years to a man's life—*Doddridge*.

Good manners is the art of making easy those people with whom we converse—whoever makes the fewest persons uneasy, is the best bred in the company.—*Swift*.

There is not so variable a thing in nature as a lady's head dress. With in my own memory, I have known it