

On Wednesday last, Judge Clayton harangued, in the House of Representatives, for several hours, against the protective system and the manufacturers. We find the following brief synopsis of his speech in the National Intelligencer. He was answered by Dr. Sutherland, with signal ability and spirit.

“Mr. Clayton, of Georgia, warmly denounced the entire protecting policy: insisted on the great profits of the manufacturers from his personal experience, as he was the owner of the only cotton factory in Georgia, and had *doubled a capital of 30,000 dollars in two years*. He said he had operated as a sponge upon his neighbors, and had sucked up this amount from their hard earning. They had thought the factory a great benefit, and themselves much advantaged by it; but this he insisted, was all a delusion. It operated just as the factories did at the North, and, knowing its effect, he was opposed to the system as oppressive and ruinous to the planting interest. He went into a long constitutional argument, to prove that Congress had no right to pass laws for the protection of manufactures; and then proceeded to present what would be the effect of a perseverance in the system. On this part of the subject, Mr. C. went into a parallel between the state of things previous to the American revolution and that now existing in the United States: quoted the remonstrances and resolutions of various States and of the old Congress in reference to oppressive taxation by Great Britain, and expressed his firm conviction *and his hope* that language very similar would be heard from the South in less than five months. It was because he hoped this, he said, that he made the present speech; which though in the House, it was like water poured upon a rock, would be listened to elsewhere, and, as he hoped, practised upon also. He concluded a speech of very great animation by observing that the people of the South were still willing to adhere to the Union, if the system should be relaxed on any ground of just and reasonable compromise—if not, the majority might hug their American System as they pleased, and levy what taxes they liked, and they might choose out to themselves other gods and serve them: but as for him and his house, they would serve the God of Liberty, and all the people of the South should say amen.”

The Judge is generally thought to be crack-brained. Supposing this synopsis of the Intelligencer to be accurate, it serves to confirm that idea. He has represented himself as an extortioner—as having “sucked up” exorbitantly “the hard earnings” of his neighbors. It is such men that endeavor to destroy the National Bank, and would pull down every institution and policy dear and valuable to the northern and middle States. “The shallowest understanding, the rudest hand,” says Burke, “is more than equal to the task of pulling down and destroying. Folly and rage can dilapidate more in half an hour, than wisdom, deliberation and foresight can build up in many years.” With some of the anti-bank politicians, the idea that the institution strengthens the general government and the Union is the prevailing motive. We trust that all the aims and hopes of such men will be frustrated by President Jackson—that he will not co-operate in the work of reckless destruction, in order to shew intrepidity and independence, but prove that he possesses true moral courage, by falsifying arrogant and selfish predictions and counsels, and preferring the duty of salutary preservation.