

FROM THE AUGUSTA CONSTITUTIONALIST, AUG. 23.

Mr. CALHOUN visited Athens during the commencement of Franklin College. He was invited to a public dinner; he declined the invitation. In his letter to the committee, composed of Messrs. A. S. Clayton, C. Dougherty, S. J. Mays, G. H. Young, Asbury Hull, G. R. Clayton, and Hines Holt, he expresses himself as follows, in relation to internal improvement and railroads in the South:

"As to the act regulating the public deposits, I consider it by far the most fortunate measure of the session. And here let me say, which is due to truth and justice, that, for the success of this great and beneficent measure, the country is greatly indebted to the steady and firm co-operation of a majority of the friends of the Administration in both Houses, who proved, by their acts, that they preferred their country and its institutions to party attachment.

"If I mistake not, the passage of the measure is the commencement of a new political era. It will be regarded in history as marking the termination of that long vibration of our system towards consolidation, which lately threatened the overthrow of our institutions, and the loss of our liberty, and the commencement of its return to its true confederated character, as it came from the hands of its framers.

"There is one view of this important subject highly interesting to the Southern Atlantic States, and especially to this, which deserves notice. It will afford the means, if properly applied, of opening our connexion with the vast and fertile regions of the West, to the incalculable advantages of both them and us. We are in the rear of other sections in reference to internal improvement. Nature seemed to place an inseparable barrier between the Southern Atlantic ports and the West; but a better knowledge of the geography of the country, and the great advance of the means of communication between distant parts, by railroads, have, in the last year or two, opened new views of prosperity for our section. Instead of being cut off from the vast commerce of the West, as had been supposed, we find, to our surprise, that it is in our power, with proper exertions, to turn its copious stream to our own ports. Just at this important moment, when this new and brilliant prospect is unfolding to our view, the deposit bill is about to place under the control of the States interested, ample means of accomplishing, on the most extended and durable scale, a system of railroad communication, that, if effected, must change the social, political, and commercial relations of the whole country, vastly to our benefit, but without injuring other sections. No State has a deeper interest in seeing the system executed than Georgia. Her position gives her great and commanding advantages in reference to railroads; more so, in my opinion, than any other State in the Union: and all that she wants to raise her prosperity to the highest point, and place it upon the most durable foundation, is a wise and judicious application of her means. Though possessed of less advantages, I feel confident I speak the sentiments of Carolina in saying that she feels no envy at the superior advantages of Georgia, and that she will rejoice to see them developed in the fullest extent. That there may be a generous rivalry, and a hearty disposition between them to co-operate to the fullest extent, where their joint efforts may be of mutual advantage, is my ardent desire; let us both bear in mind that, though each still may have its separate interest to a certain extent, yet, as it regards other sections, they both have a common interest, and that interest is to unite the Southern Atlantic by the nearest, cheapest, and best routes, with the great bosom of the Mississippi and its vast tributaries."