

society. Of the importance of that highly useful and indispensable portion of the community to the character and enterprize of any country, no one can be more sensibly alive than the committee. They are willing to co-operate in all proper measures calculated to nourish and sustain them. Their patriotism and worth are proverbial, and need no commendation, at least from the committee. It would be useless to pronounce an eulogy upon their importance, and therefore, it is forborne.

But whilst the committee say this, they are not prepared to give their consent to any measure calculated in the *slightest* degree, to impair the interests of the *more* important branches of the community. To whom the committee allude it is not difficult to imagine—the laboring, mechanical and agricultural members of society, from whose exertions spring not only the wealth, but the happiness of the whole. The interest of the latter calls loudly upon all to stand as a shield to the laws which have in this country been so frequently outraged by corporations—the creatures of the people's liberality.

These States were planted by men who could not complacently bear the galling yoke of servitude, or openly or tacitly acknowledge that any law or laws favouring the few, could be conducive to the general welfare; and wide indeed would be the departure of their descendants from the path they pursued, if they would acknowledge that the interest of the *mass* should be sacrificed to what might be considered the ill-judged notions of the few. The government under which we exist, professes to have been and was in truth, instituted for the good of the whole, and not for the few. In vain would be the recognition of this truth, if the trustees of the people did not conform in practice to the theory, upon which is not only based our form of government, but the happiness and rights of man. Such is the feeling of every American, that he will unflinchingly contend for his rights as a freeman, and all hopes of the favoured few to subvert *practically*, by special legislation, the rights of the many, will in the END be disappointed. This feeling is not only the prominent characteristic of that people, but the moving principle of all their actions. Different views may be and are entertained, as to the proper mode of its efficient elucidation. This difference is not properly the subject of opposition; it is indeed worthy of commendation, for it shows conclusively, that freemen will think and will act for themselves. Instead of repressing it, your committee would by their feeble approbation, promote it, for in a comparison of a difference of views exist a happy medium, which is generally conducive to wholesome results. Your committee say this much, not in the tone of a cringing suppliant for favours, but from a thorough conviction of what is best calculated to advance the welfare of the whole.

Why, it may be emphatically asked, is the individual who may have been the pampered favourite of a bank, to receive at the hands