

gentleman would be fatal to the interests of their people. He did not want any Legislature to regulate his business for him. Was it to be supposed that the men composing a Legislature knew more about his business than he did himself? Massachusetts thought she could teach the whole world what to do, and was now intent on educating the people of this country up to the advanced stage of Northern ideas. He did not know whether they would do it, but if they did, God help the country.

In regard to the public debt, no matter by what corruption it might have been created, he would regard it as the greatest calamity that could happen if the national credit should be dishonored. He did not take such a despondent view of affairs. If the true old democratic party was restored to power, he would look for the paying off of the debt within twenty years; they were capable of it, if they only had the Union and the constitution as it once was.

It might happen that in a time of great commercial revulsion it might be necessary to compromise with the national creditors, as England did. England called her creditors together and offered them three per cent. This might do, but never repudiation.

The debate was continued by Messrs. McKaig, Jones, Maulsby, Garey and Ritchie.

The question was then taken on the motion of Mr. Merrick to strike out the entire article, when it was carried by a vote of 50 to 43.

When Mr. Rennolds' name was called, he said that, voting entirely different from all his colleagues, a word of explanation might be necessary. If this was a legislative body, he should be in favor of voting for this article, with some slight modification, but he was opposed to placing it beyond legislative repeal.

Mr. Carter and Mr. Groome offered substitutes for the article stricken out, when

Mr. Nelson raised the point of order that the entire article having been stricken out by the action of the Convention, no report from the committee on usury was before the Convention, and therefore no substitutes were in order.