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CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Tuesday, March 12.

After the presentation and refer-

ence of various petitions; amongst

which was one by Mr. Clopton from

the inhabitants of the city of

Baltimore, praying the establishing

of a National Bank, and a branch

thereof in that city.

Mr. Lowndes from the committee

on Ways and Means, made an un-

favorable report on the petition of

David Lamb; which was concurred

in.

THE TARIFF.

Mr. Lowndes, from the same

committee, reported a bill to regu-

late the duties on imports and ton-

nage, which was twice read and

passed.

Mr. Robertson, from the commit-

tee on the public lands, made un-

favorable reports on the petitions of

Philip Vass, Amariah Watson, Geo-

rges and others, and James

Templeton; which were severally

concurred in.

Mr. Roberts, from the same com-

mittee, reported the bill from the

Senate, relating to settlers on the

public lands, without amendment.

On motion of Mr. Taylor of N. Y.

Resolved, That the committee on

Ways and Means be instructed to

enquire into the expediency of ma-

king provision by law for the re-

deem of defaced Treasury notes.

On motion of Mr. Comstock,

Resolved, That the committee on

Pensions and Revolutionary Claims

be instructed to enquire into the

expediency of increasing the pen-

sions of all those private soldiers who

have suffered the amputation of ei-

ther of their arms or legs, by reason

of wounds received in service dur-

ing the late war.

The Speaker laid before house a

report from the Secretary of War,

made in pursuance of a resolution

of this house, comprising a detailed

statement respecting the settlement

of claims of the several states to re-

imbursement of monies paid for mi-

litary services during the late war;

which was read and ordered to lie

on the table.

NATIONAL BANK.

The House proceeded to the or-

der of the day—being the report of

the committee of the whole house,

on the National Bank Bill—the mo-

tion to strike out that part of an

amendment reported by the com-

mittee, which makes the charter

indefeasible for non-payment of its

notes in specie, being still under

consideration.

Mr. Calhoun supported the moti-

on to amend the amendment. It

was with much reluctance Mr. C.

said, that he opposed any provision

which the house had deemed neces-

sary to perfect the bill; but in the

present instance he was compelled

to make an objection. The funda-

mental character of this bank was,

that it should pay its notes in gold or

silver coin; and a sufficient penalty

was provided to effect that end. It

was a good rule in law, said Mr. C.

that where you attach a separate

penalty to a particular violation of

a law, you weaken the general pen-

alty; and as he thought the general

penalty would attach in the case

without this special provision, which

would, therefore, weaken the gene-

ral sanction of the bill, he hoped it

would be stricken out.

The motion to amend the amend-

ment was agreed to without a divi-

sion.

Mr. Randolph then moved to a-

mend the amendment of the com-

mittee, by making the interest de-

mandable on the notes of the bank,

in case of refusal to pay specie,

twenty per cent. instead of ten.

Mr. Calhoun repeated the reluc-

tance with which he objected to a

motion which, in the opinion of

the gentleman who made it, would

improve the bill; but he had thought

that even the propriety of ten per

cent, contemplated by the bill, was

very questionable, as he doubted whether that provision might not produce a combination against the bank, which were so anxious guarded against.—Every man acquainted with the subject knows, that no bank can at all times possess the means of meeting a general run upon it; and he submitted it to the house, whether such a provision as was now proposed, would not be dangerous to the institution, by inviting a run on it, and thereby producing a suspension of payment. He admitted that it was all important to the benefit anticipated from the bank, that it should pay its notes, at all times, in specie; and he thought that end already secured by other sanctions sufficiently guard- ed. This bank, said Mr. C. is no more than a part of the commercial community in which it is establish- ed, and any embarrassment of the bank must press also upon the whole commercial community; that community would be the first to give way in such a case, and this would produce a run on the bank, and com- pel the stoppage of payment. If the amendment would produce a greater certainty of specie pay- ments, it might be proper; but be- lieving that it might defeat its own object, and produce that which it was intended to guard against, he thought it dangerous. Mr. Ward of Mass. was in favour of the amendment. He thought Mr. Calhoun had over rated the mischief which might possibly en- sue from its adoption. Mr. W. be- lieved that no person would resort to the penalty, unless where the bank might exceed a temporary refu- sal to pay its notes. If the bank declined payment for a short time only, there was no person who would peremptorily go to law for the penalty, and there was no dan- ger of the combination predicted. It was his opinion, that the provi- sion would be beneficial to the bank, by the character it would give it as a specie bank, the superior confi- dence which it would of course pos- sess throughout the country, & the great business it would consequen- tly be enabled to do, &c.

Mr. Randolph said the argument of the gentleman from South Caro- lina (Mr. Calhoun) was a very pow- erful objection to the principle of the bill, but none against the amendment—it was an argument which he had been keeping in re- serve by himself for another stage of the bill. He had no objection to take fifteen per cent as the penalty, but he preferred twenty for another reason.—The flagitious conduct of the banks for some time back had proven that they could make 10 per cent more than their fair profits; & his object was to make the damages surpass any profits the bank could make by refusing to pay specie. We ought, he said, to remember certain surplusses which the banks on par- ticular occasions distributed, in ad- dition to the declared dividends, & it was proper in this case to guard against speculation of this kind. All Banking institutions were alike in their desire to swell their profits to the greatest extent, however cor- rect and virtuous the Directors might be in their private characters; and he would guard against every public robber of every grade, whether he be a Governor General of India or a Bagshot highwayman. He would put it out of the power of this bank to commit frauds on the community without ruin to itself. Let the penalty be ample, said Mr. R.—make the bank a good one, and there is no danger of their being unable always to pay specie.

The question on making the pen- alty 20 instead of 10 per cent was then taken and negatived—yes 52, noes 70.

The house then proceeded with the remaining amendments of the committee of the whole, the consid- eration and decision on which hav- ing been completed.

Mr. Calhoun moved to amend the bill, by fixing the amount of the second cash payment at \$10 instead of 5, as it stood in the Bill. This being agreed to, and some other minor motions being disposed of—

Mr. Webster moved to amend the clause which declares that the bank may sue and be sued "in all courts whatsoever," by designating the state courts.

Mr. Hall asked, if it would not be better before this motion was acted on, to enquire a little whether Congress have the power to grant jurisdiction to the state courts which in some cases they had refused to exercise, he thought prop- erly, and the constitutionality of which was very doubtful.

Mr. Webster said the question was an important one; but this was not the first time congress had legis- lated on it, tho' the courts of Vir- ginia had resisted their jurisdiction. Without however discussing the question at present, Mr. W. said the bill was just as objectionable as it stood, because it gave the bank the power to appear in "all courts whatsoever."

After some further discussions between Messrs. Calhoun, Wright, Wilde, and Grosvenor on the prop- erty of granting jurisdiction to the state courts specifically.

The question was taken, and the amendment adopted.

Mr. Ross renewed the motion he had introduced in the commit- tee of the whole, to reduce the rate at which six per cent stock is to be received in subscriptions to the bank, from par to ninety per cent.—Mr. R. repeated briefly his reasons for the motion, already stat- ed, and Mr. Calhoun his objections to it; when, after some remarks in support of it by Mr. Ross.

The question was taken and de- cided in the negative, Yeas 34—Noes 106.

Mr. Hall then moved a new sec- tion to the bill, the object of which was to apply the bonus arising to the government from the incorpora- tion of the bank, to the internal improvement of the country; and to avoid any contention about the part of the country at which to commence the work. M. H. said, he would leave that to the decision of a future Congress. The bonus, he thought, would afford from year to year as much as could be easily em- ployed, and by the end of twenty years, when the charter would ex- pire, the proceeds would have ac- complished every object of improve- ment which would be proper for the general government to attempt.

Mr. Calhoun declared his appro- bation of the object, but feared the adoption of the amendment might drive off some who would otherwise support the bill. Unfortunately for us, he said, there was not a unani- mous feeling in favour of internal improvement, some believing this not the proper time to commence that work; and such a provision might deprive the bill of some friends, which at present was the main object of his solicitude.

Mr. Hall thought this the most proper moment for commencing the great work of internal improvement; but if he thought his amendment would draw off any support from the bill, he would not urge it. He believed, however, it would produce a different effect, and would gain friends for the bill, who otherwise would not vote for it. His princi- pal reason for wishing to provide for this object in this bill, was that it would then be sanctioned by a charter, and not revocable, &c.

Mr. Grosvenor had no objection to the application of the bonus in the way proposed, but he disapproved of providing for the object in this bill. Government might here- after wish, for various reasons, to get rid of its stock in the bank, but it would be precluded from doing so, if this amendment was adopted. There was no good reason for at- taching it to this bill, because if a majority of the House were, as he hoped they were, friendly to inter- nal improvements, they could act on the subject separately.

Mr. Wright and Mr. Wilde, suc- cessively offered some remarks in favour of the motion.

The amendment was rejected by a considerable majority.

Mr. Condict proposed to amend the bill, by substituting "New- York" for "Philadelphia," in the clause which fixed the location of the bank.

Mr. Calhoun observed, that this was a question on which, he pre- sumed, all had made up their minds;

and it would be superfluous to say any thing on it. He hoped, how- ever, the motion would not prevail. The old bank of the United States was established at Philadelphia, and he would prefer that city for the present institution.

Mr. Robertson said that Mr. Cal- houn's reason for preferring Phila- delphia, if it had any weight at all, operated against himself; for the old bank having been fixed in Phila- delphia was an argument for plac- ing this bank in some other city, that the benefits might not be given to one place alone; besides, if the bank was taken from the seat of government, to place it in a more commercial situation, it ought to be fixed in that city which was most commercial. But he had another objection in this case to Philadel- phia, and with him the strongest one; this was the hostility of the representatives of that city to the bank itself. He would not consent to impose upon a place an institu- tion which was so odious to them.

Mr. Wright also spoke in favour of the motion, and incidentally urged the high claims of Baltimore and Washington city.

Mr. Comstock argued in favour of New-York. The motion to strike out Philadelphia, and insert New- York, was then decided in the affir- mative:

For the motion, 70
Against it, 64

Mr. Atherton, with a view to re- strain attempts to speculate in the stock of the bank, by persons sub- scribing for more than they could pay for, and selling it afterwards at an advanced price, and to make all the subscriptions bona fide ones, moved substantially to amend the bill by providing that in apportion- ing the shares, no subscription should be reduced as long as there was on the list a larger subscrip- tion.

After a few words from Mr. Smith of Md. who thought the provision would be ineffectual and was unne- cessary.—The amendment was ad- opted, yeas 67, noes 43.

Mr. Mayran offered a new sec- tion to the bill, the object of which was to allow the five Directors ap- pointed by the government each a salary of — dollars, and to pre- vent their obtaining any loan or ac- commodation from the Bank.

In support of this proposition, Mr. M. adverted to the immense funds of the government which would pass through this bank, amounting annu- ally to the sum of twenty-five mil- lions; exclusive of the stock owned therein by the government. We were entering into partnership he said, with persons unknown to us, and about to place in their hands the immense revenues of the coun- try. It was indispensable therefore that the government should not only have a strong influence in the Bank, but its Directors ought to be made independent, and as far as possible, placed beyond the tempta- tion of betraying their trusts, he would make them indeed as inde- pendent as the Judges. Mr. M. quoted examples from many coun- tries in Europe to prove the neces- sity of giving the government great- er influence in the bank, which in none of the instances he cited had ever been injurious to the prosper- ity of those institutions.

Wednesday, March 13.
NATIONAL BANK.
After disposing of some other business,

The house took up the National Bank bill, Mr. Atherton's motion to make the rate of subscribing the 3 per cent. stock fifty instead of sixty-five per cent. being still under consideration.

This motion was negatived; and Mr. Atherton subsequently moved to receive the 3 per cent. at 60 in- stead of 65 per cent. which was also negatived, yeas 58, noes 55.

Mr. Clendenin moved to recon- sider the vote of yesterday, which fixed the principal bank at the city of New-York.

This motion produced a debate of some length, and considerable animation—Messrs. Smith, of Md. and Wright, spoke in favour of the reconsideration, and incidentally urged the claims of Baltimore to

the possession of the mother bank. Messrs. Hopkinson, Sergeant, Cal- houn, Pickering, Ross and Ingham, likewise advocated the reconsid- eration, and the claims of Philadelphia. Those who spoke against the re- consideration, and of course in fa- vour of New-York, were Messrs. Condict, Southard, Root, Taylor, of New-York, Robertson, Grosvenor, Gold and Hulbert.

The question was finally decided in the affirmative, as follows:
For reconsideration 81
Against it 66

State of Maryland, Anne Arundel County, Orphans Court, February 27, 1816.
On application by petition of Sarah Ann Hatherly and William Brown Administrators of John Hatherly, late of Anne Arundel county, deceased, it is ordered, that they give the notice required by law for creditors to exhibit their claims against the said deceased, and that the same be published once in each week for the space of six successive weeks in the Maryland Gazette and Political Intelligencer.

THIS IS TO GIVE NOTICE, That the subscribers of Anne Arundel county, hath obtained from thephans court of Anne Arundel county in Maryland, letters of administration of the personal estate of John Hatherly, late of Anne Arundel county, deceased. All persons having claims against the said deceased, are hereby warned to exhibit the same, with vouchers thereof, at the subscribers office, on or before the 6th day of September next, may otherwise by law be excluded from all benefit of the said estate. Given under our hands this 27th day of February, 1816.

George & John Barber Have just received, and offer for sale, Fresh Clover Seed, AND Ground Plaster, By the Barrel. Which will be disposed of on accommodating terms. They also have on hand, as usual, complete assortment of Groceries. Feb. 29, 1816.

100 Dollars Reward. Ranaway on or about the 23th January last, a negro man named London calls himself London Turner, late the property of George W. Higgins of Anne Arundel county. London is 30 or 40 years of age, five feet ten or eleven inches high, grey eyes, yellow complexion. Had on when he absconded a new black furr hat, a blue cloth great coat with a large cape; he had other clothing with him. London is a complete carpenter and joiner. The fellow was purchased by the subscri- ber at the sale of Geo. W. Higgins property. A reward of Fifty Dollars will be given if he is taken in the State, and the above reward if taken out of the state, and secured in a gaol so that I get him again. David Ridgeley, Feb. 29, 1816.

For Sale, An able young NEGRO MAN, who is a good power, six-man, plough and carter, and his in fact been ac- customed to every description of li- brary services during the late war; on a farm Apply at this office. Feb. 29, 1816.

Forty Dollars Reward, Ranaway from the farm of the subscri- ber, on South river, in Anne Arundel county, about the 21st of April last, a negro woman named Milly, of dark complexion, about five feet six or seven inches high, stout and strong her make, has large and thick lips in speech, and mild and placid in manner of conversing. She is 36 or 39 years of age. She has a brother by the name of Josh, formerly the prop- erty of Judge Chase, and at present an informed in the possession of Mr. Philip Thomas, living on Thomas point near Annapolis, by whom I have reasons to believe she is either harbored, or has been furnished with a pass, and has written that Josh can read and write. She has also near relatives belonging to the estate of the late Daniel Clarke, of Prince Georges county, I will give the above reward if the woman be apprehended in Anne Arundel or Prince Georges county, or \$50 if elsewhere, so that I get her again. Joseph Howard, Jan. 18, 1816.

50 Dollars Reward, Ranaway from the subscriber, living in Anne Arundel County, Maryland, near Queen Anne, on the 10th inst. a likely, light mulatto lad, called Charles Jackson, about 5 feet, 8 or 9 inches high; had on when he absconded, a dark blue round jacket, trimmed with dark blue pantaloons, very much worn, white domestic cotton shirt, a new hat, and boots, he has also a variety of other clothing with him, which is unknown.—He is an artful fellow, as he reads and writes very well, and doubt will forge a pass to answer his purpose. The above reward, with given, for securing him in any Gaol, so that I get him again, or 50 Dollars if brought to me. William G. Sanders, Dec. 21.

N. B. All masters of vessels and there, are forwarded, at their own carrying off said fellow, at their own