

# SOUTHERN CITIZEN.

WHAT DO WE LIVE FOR, BUT TO IMPROVE OURSELVES AND BE USEFUL TO ONE ANOTHER?

VOLUME III.

ASHEBORO, (N. C.) FRIDAY, MARCH 29, 1839.

NUMBER 9.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY:

BY

BENJAMIN SWAIM.

TERMS.

Two Dollars per annum, in advance, or Three Dollars, if not paid within three months from the date of the first number received.

A subscription to be discontinued till all arrearages be paid; unless at the discretion of the Editor.

Failure to order a discontinuance before the expiration of the subscription year, is equivalent to a new engagement.

All Letters, Communications, &c. to come post paid.

Prices for Advertising.

Advertisements will be conspicuously and handsomely inserted at \$1 00 per square of 16 lines; and 25 cents for every subsequent insertion.—No advertisement, however short, will be charged less than for a square.

Court Orders and judicial advertisements will be charged 25 percent higher; (we sometimes have to wait so long for the pay.)

Those who advertise by the year will be entitled to a deduction of 33 per cent provided they pay in advance.

From the National Intelligencer.

## TAXATION OF OFFICE-HOLDERS.

Our attention has been directed to the following portion of the testimony taken before the Investigating Committee of the House of Representatives, at New York, which affords indisputable evidence of "the patronage of the Government," in that city, being habitually and systematically brought in conflict with the freedom of elections. Are not these abuses, and do they not require reform?

ABRAHAM B. VANDERPOEL SWORN AS A WITNESS.

Examined by Mr. Wise.

Question. While you were connected with the custom-house, do you know whether or not the officers of the customs were called upon to pay any part of their salaries, or any assessment of any kind, for party or political purposes? If yes, state whether you have ever, and when you have made any such payment, and state the motive upon which such payments were made.

Mr. Wagener objected to the propounding of this interrogatory, and called for the yeas and nays.

The committee decided that the interrogatory should be propounded. Yeas—Messrs. Curtis, Dawson, Harlan, Smith, Wise—5. Nays—Mr. Wagener.

The interrogatory was then propounded, and the witness gave the following answer: The Weighers were called on to pay \$15 each for the support of the election, and when I declined, Mr. Vanderpoel, the Deputy Surveyor, observed that I ought to consider whether my \$1,500 per annum was not worth paying \$15 for. Under the impression that it was the price for my situation I said it. The above occurred during the last spring election for charter officers. During my holding office, for about five years, I was occasionally called on, but always declined until within the last two years.

Question. Is the office of Weigher, which you held, regarded as one under the United States, and the salary of which was paid out of the Treasury of the United States?

Answer. Latterly paid out of the Treasury; formerly a commission was allowed on the amount of goods weighed. The office is one held from the United States.

Question. Do you know whether other subordinate officers besides yourself in the custom-house were called on and required to pay such tax or assessment upon their salaries, for the use of party and political purposes?

Answer. Only by hearsay, as it regards the other officers, but I saw many of the Weighers pay the tax of \$15.

Question. Was the money thus collected from you and others to be used for political purposes? If yes, for which of the then and present political parties?

Answer. It was intended to be used

to support the election of persons attached to the present Administration.

Question. Who collected the tax from the Weighers?

Answer. Mr. Vanderpoel.

Question. What office does Mr. Vanderpoel hold in the custom-house, and what his salary?

Answer. At that time he held the office of Deputy Surveyor. I do not recollect the amount of his salary. I believe he now holds the office of Appraiser.

Question. Had he a book of the names of the officers from whom he collected, or had he a list of them?

Answer. A list.

Examined by Mr. Harlan.

Question. Are you acquainted with William M. Price, late District Attorney of the United States? If yes, please to state whether he was regarded, before and after his appointment, as a man worthy to be entrusted with the collection of large sums of money.

Answer. I am acquainted with William M. Price late District Attorney, and answer the question in the negative.

Question. Was the last payment of \$15, referred to by you in your answer to the third question, paid before or since the present Collector (Mr. Hoyt) came into office.

Answer. Since the last Collector came into office.

Question. Were you removed from office by the present Collector? If yes, state when, and whether any reasons were assigned therefor, and what they were.

Answer. I was removed by Mr. Hoyt, (the present collector,) but have never condescended to ask the reasons, and must, therefore, be under the necessity of referring to the Collector, who is now present.

ABRAHAM B. VANDERPOEL SWORN AS A WITNESS.

Examined by Mr. Wise.

Question. What offices have you held in the custom-house; when did you commence to hold them; what the salaries of offices held by you?

Answer. I was appointed to the office of Inspector of the Customs in May, 1829, at \$1,000 per year, and held it until 1836, when I was appointed Deputy Surveyor, at \$1,200 per year, and March, 1838, appointed Appraiser, at \$2,000 per year.

Question. Do you know whether the officers of the custom-house have ever been called on to contribute sums of money to party and political objects?

Answer. I have frequently been called on to contribute to political objects while I was deputy Collector, as an officer of the custom-house. The amount was from twenty dollars to one hundred dollars. The tax was pro rata according to salary. I bore a proportion of from one to six per cent. I frequently paid a part of the amount; when it was too high, and more than I could afford, I urged them to reduce it; in one instance, where I was assessed twenty dollars, Mr. Swartwout told the collector of the tax that ten dollars was enough for me to pay. For a few years back I have not paid any thing to the General Committee, because I could not afford to pay the amount assessed, and because I could not conscientiously longer sustain the party. The collectors of the Tammany Hall Gen. Committee, one of whom was John Becker, called on me several times. William Tyack once or twice called on me to collect the amount with which I was assessed; he was not the regular collector but was one of the General Committee. I believe that nearly all the officers of the custom-house, in doors and out, and the clerks, were similarly taxed, and generally paid what they were assessed. It was assessed by the General Committee of Tammany Hall, and for the support of the party, denominated the Tammany Hall party. If the individual did not pay the amount he was taxed with the Collector would remark, You will be reported to the General Committee; and every body well understood that proscription would follow. The Collector of the General Committee has an alphabetical book, which contains the names of persons taxed, and the amount each individual is required to pay.

Question. Do you know whether the officers of the custom-house have ever been called on to contribute sums of money to party and political objects? If yes, state when, and whether any reasons were assigned therefor, and what they were?

Answer. I have frequently been called on to contribute to political objects while I was deputy Collector, as an officer of the custom-house. The amount was from twenty dollars to one hundred dollars. The tax was pro rata according to salary. I bore a proportion of from one to six per cent. I frequently paid a part of the amount; when it was too high, and more than I could afford, I urged them to reduce it; in one instance, where I was assessed twenty dollars, Mr. Swartwout told the collector of the tax that ten dollars was enough for me to pay. For a few years back I have not paid any thing to the General Committee, because I could not afford to pay the amount assessed, and because I could not conscientiously longer sustain the party. The collectors of the Tammany Hall Gen. Committee, one of whom was John Becker, called on me several times. William Tyack once or twice called on me to collect the amount with which I was assessed; he was not the regular collector but was one of the General Committee. I believe that nearly all the officers of the custom-house, in doors and out, and the clerks, were similarly taxed, and generally paid what they were assessed. It was assessed by the General Committee of Tammany Hall, and for the support of the party, denominated the Tammany Hall party. If the individual did not pay the amount he was taxed with the Collector would remark, You will be reported to the General Committee; and every body well understood that proscription would follow. The Collector of the General Committee has an alphabetical book, which contains the names of persons taxed, and the amount each individual is required to pay.

Question. Do you know whether the officers of the custom-house have ever been called on to contribute sums of money to party and political objects? If yes, state when, and whether any reasons were assigned therefor, and what they were?

Answer. I have frequently been called on to contribute to political objects while I was deputy Collector, as an officer of the custom-house. The amount was from twenty dollars to one hundred dollars. The tax was pro rata according to salary. I bore a proportion of from one to six per cent. I frequently paid a part of the amount; when it was too high, and more than I could afford, I urged them to reduce it; in one instance, where I was assessed twenty dollars, Mr. Swartwout told the collector of the tax that ten dollars was enough for me to pay. For a few years back I have not paid any thing to the General Committee, because I could not afford to pay the amount assessed, and because I could not conscientiously longer sustain the party. The collectors of the Tammany Hall Gen. Committee, one of whom was John Becker, called on me several times. William Tyack once or twice called on me to collect the amount with which I was assessed; he was not the regular collector but was one of the General Committee. I believe that nearly all the officers of the custom-house, in doors and out, and the clerks, were similarly taxed, and generally paid what they were assessed. It was assessed by the General Committee of Tammany Hall, and for the support of the party, denominated the Tammany Hall party. If the individual did not pay the amount he was taxed with the Collector would remark, You will be reported to the General Committee; and every body well understood that proscription would follow. The Collector of the General Committee has an alphabetical book, which contains the names of persons taxed, and the amount each individual is required to pay.

Question. Do you know whether the officers of the custom-house have ever been called on to contribute sums of money to party and political objects? If yes, state when, and whether any reasons were assigned therefor, and what they were?

Answer. I have frequently been called on to contribute to political objects while I was deputy Collector, as an officer of the custom-house. The amount was from twenty dollars to one hundred dollars. The tax was pro rata according to salary. I bore a proportion of from one to six per cent. I frequently paid a part of the amount; when it was too high, and more than I could afford, I urged them to reduce it; in one instance, where I was assessed twenty dollars, Mr. Swartwout told the collector of the tax that ten dollars was enough for me to pay. For a few years back I have not paid any thing to the General Committee, because I could not afford to pay the amount assessed, and because I could not conscientiously longer sustain the party. The collectors of the Tammany Hall Gen. Committee, one of whom was John Becker, called on me several times. William Tyack once or twice called on me to collect the amount with which I was assessed; he was not the regular collector but was one of the General Committee. I believe that nearly all the officers of the custom-house, in doors and out, and the clerks, were similarly taxed, and generally paid what they were assessed. It was assessed by the General Committee of Tammany Hall, and for the support of the party, denominated the Tammany Hall party. If the individual did not pay the amount he was taxed with the Collector would remark, You will be reported to the General Committee; and every body well understood that proscription would follow. The Collector of the General Committee has an alphabetical book, which contains the names of persons taxed, and the amount each individual is required to pay.

Question. Do you know whether the officers of the custom-house have ever been called on to contribute sums of money to party and political objects? If yes, state when, and whether any reasons were assigned therefor, and what they were?

Answer. I have frequently been called on to contribute to political objects while I was deputy Collector, as an officer of the custom-house. The amount was from twenty dollars to one hundred dollars. The tax was pro rata according to salary. I bore a proportion of from one to six per cent. I frequently paid a part of the amount; when it was too high, and more than I could afford, I urged them to reduce it; in one instance, where I was assessed twenty dollars, Mr. Swartwout told the collector of the tax that ten dollars was enough for me to pay. For a few years back I have not paid any thing to the General Committee, because I could not afford to pay the amount assessed, and because I could not conscientiously longer sustain the party. The collectors of the Tammany Hall Gen. Committee, one of whom was John Becker, called on me several times. William Tyack once or twice called on me to collect the amount with which I was assessed; he was not the regular collector but was one of the General Committee. I believe that nearly all the officers of the custom-house, in doors and out, and the clerks, were similarly taxed, and generally paid what they were assessed. It was assessed by the General Committee of Tammany Hall, and for the support of the party, denominated the Tammany Hall party. If the individual did not pay the amount he was taxed with the Collector would remark, You will be reported to the General Committee; and every body well understood that proscription would follow. The Collector of the General Committee has an alphabetical book, which contains the names of persons taxed, and the amount each individual is required to pay.

Question. Do you know whether the officers of the custom-house have ever been called on to contribute sums of money to party and political objects? If yes, state when, and whether any reasons were assigned therefor, and what they were?

Answer. I have frequently been called on to contribute to political objects while I was deputy Collector, as an officer of the custom-house. The amount was from twenty dollars to one hundred dollars. The tax was pro rata according to salary. I bore a proportion of from one to six per cent. I frequently paid a part of the amount; when it was too high, and more than I could afford, I urged them to reduce it; in one instance, where I was assessed twenty dollars, Mr. Swartwout told the collector of the tax that ten dollars was enough for me to pay. For a few years back I have not paid any thing to the General Committee, because I could not afford to pay the amount assessed, and because I could not conscientiously longer sustain the party. The collectors of the Tammany Hall Gen. Committee, one of whom was John Becker, called on me several times. William Tyack once or twice called on me to collect the amount with which I was assessed; he was not the regular collector but was one of the General Committee. I believe that nearly all the officers of the custom-house, in doors and out, and the clerks, were similarly taxed, and generally paid what they were assessed. It was assessed by the General Committee of Tammany Hall, and for the support of the party, denominated the Tammany Hall party. If the individual did not pay the amount he was taxed with the Collector would remark, You will be reported to the General Committee; and every body well understood that proscription would follow. The Collector of the General Committee has an alphabetical book, which contains the names of persons taxed, and the amount each individual is required to pay.

"I have known officers attached to the custom-house to have been called on for;—When Mr. Owens, member of the Committee, interposed, and informed the witness that he was not bound to answer any interrogatory relative to his private affairs; and thereupon, Mr. Foster, another member of the Committee, objected to propounding the interrogatory. The witness here commenced to tear off what he had written before objection was made to the interrogatory. Mr. Wise prevented him from doing so, by forbidding the act. Mr. Foster insisted that the witness had the right to tear off what he had written, and that it was not his answer until it was complete and handed in, and he asked the witness whether it was his answer, and he replied "It was not;" and the Committee having decided that the interrogatory should be propounded, the said question by Mr. Wise was again handed to the witness, and he returned the following: "I decline to answer the 2d question." The witness was then permitted to retire.

Mr. Curtis called for the yeas and nays on Mr. Wise's motion; and the resolution was adopted. Yeas—Messrs. Curtis, Dawson, Foster, Harlan, Owens, Smith, Wagener, Wise—8. Nays—None.

The examination of Mr. Lyon, continued by Mr. Wise.

Question. Whilst you were Deputy Collector at the port of New York, were you ever called on as an officer of the custom-house to contribute any sum of sums of money to party or political objects; if so, what amount? was such amount, from you, called for in consideration of your salary from the Government? what proportion did it bear to your salary? did you pay it? if not, why not? who called for such contributions? were other subordinates in the custom-house to your knowledge called on to contribute in like manner? for the support of what party were these contributions called for? was any menace, directly or indirectly, of removal held over these officers of yourself for failures to grant such contributions?

Mr. Owens objected to the interrogatory.

The question, Shall the interrogatory be propounded? was put, and decided in the affirmative, the yeas and nays having been called by Mr. Owens.—Yeas—Messrs. Curtis, Dawson, Harlan, Smith, Wise—5. Nays—Messrs. Owens, Wagener—2.

Answer. I have frequently been called on to contribute to political objects while I was deputy Collector, as an officer of the custom-house. The amount was from twenty dollars to one hundred dollars. The tax was pro rata according to salary. I bore a proportion of from one to six per cent. I frequently paid a part of the amount; when it was too high, and more than I could afford, I urged them to reduce it; in one instance, where I was assessed twenty dollars, Mr. Swartwout told the collector of the tax that ten dollars was enough for me to pay. For a few years back I have not paid any thing to the General Committee, because I could not afford to pay the amount assessed, and because I could not conscientiously longer sustain the party. The collectors of the Tammany Hall Gen. Committee, one of whom was John Becker, called on me several times. William Tyack once or twice called on me to collect the amount with which I was assessed; he was not the regular collector but was one of the General Committee. I believe that nearly all the officers of the custom-house, in doors and out, and the clerks, were similarly taxed, and generally paid what they were assessed. It was assessed by the General Committee of Tammany Hall, and for the support of the party, denominated the Tammany Hall party. If the individual did not pay the amount he was taxed with the Collector would remark, You will be reported to the General Committee; and every body well understood that proscription would follow. The Collector of the General Committee has an alphabetical book, which contains the names of persons taxed, and the amount each individual is required to pay.

Question. Do you know whether the officers of the custom-house have ever been called on to contribute sums of money to party and political objects? If yes, state when, and whether any reasons were assigned therefor, and what they were?

Answer. I have frequently been called on to contribute to political objects while I was deputy Collector, as an officer of the custom-house. The amount was from twenty dollars to one hundred dollars. The tax was pro rata according to salary. I bore a proportion of from one to six per cent. I frequently paid a part of the amount; when it was too high, and more than I could afford, I urged them to reduce it; in one instance, where I was assessed twenty dollars, Mr. Swartwout told the collector of the tax that ten dollars was enough for me to pay. For a few years back I have not paid any thing to the General Committee, because I could not afford to pay the amount assessed, and because I could not conscientiously longer sustain the party. The collectors of the Tammany Hall Gen. Committee, one of whom was John Becker, called on me several times. William Tyack once or twice called on me to collect the amount with which I was assessed; he was not the regular collector but was one of the General Committee. I believe that nearly all the officers of the custom-house, in doors and out, and the clerks, were similarly taxed, and generally paid what they were assessed. It was assessed by the General Committee of Tammany Hall, and for the support of the party, denominated the Tammany Hall party. If the individual did not pay the amount he was taxed with the Collector would remark, You will be reported to the General Committee; and every body well understood that proscription would follow. The Collector of the General Committee has an alphabetical book, which contains the names of persons taxed, and the amount each individual is required to pay.

Question. Do you know whether the officers of the custom-house have ever been called on to contribute sums of money to party and political objects? If yes, state when, and whether any reasons were assigned therefor, and what they were?

Answer. I have frequently been called on to contribute to political objects while I was deputy Collector, as an officer of the custom-house. The amount was from twenty dollars to one hundred dollars. The tax was pro rata according to salary. I bore a proportion of from one to six per cent. I frequently paid a part of the amount; when it was too high, and more than I could afford, I urged them to reduce it; in one instance, where I was assessed twenty dollars, Mr. Swartwout told the collector of the tax that ten dollars was enough for me to pay. For a few years back I have not paid any thing to the General Committee, because I could not afford to pay the amount assessed, and because I could not conscientiously longer sustain the party. The collectors of the Tammany Hall Gen. Committee, one of whom was John Becker, called on me several times. William Tyack once or twice called on me to collect the amount with which I was assessed; he was not the regular collector but was one of the General Committee. I believe that nearly all the officers of the custom-house, in doors and out, and the clerks, were similarly taxed, and generally paid what they were assessed. It was assessed by the General Committee of Tammany Hall, and for the support of the party, denominated the Tammany Hall party. If the individual did not pay the amount he was taxed with the Collector would remark, You will be reported to the General Committee; and every body well understood that proscription would follow. The Collector of the General Committee has an alphabetical book, which contains the names of persons taxed, and the amount each individual is required to pay.

Question. Do you know whether the officers of the custom-house have ever been called on to contribute sums of money to party and political objects? If yes, state when, and whether any reasons were assigned therefor, and what they were?

Answer. I have frequently been called on to contribute to political objects while I was deputy Collector, as an officer of the custom-house. The amount was from twenty dollars to one hundred dollars. The tax was pro rata according to salary. I bore a proportion of from one to six per cent. I frequently paid a part of the amount; when it was too high, and more than I could afford, I urged them to reduce it; in one instance, where I was assessed twenty dollars, Mr. Swartwout told the collector of the tax that ten dollars was enough for me to pay. For a few years back I have not paid any thing to the General Committee, because I could not afford to pay the amount assessed, and because I could not conscientiously longer sustain the party. The collectors of the Tammany Hall Gen. Committee, one of whom was John Becker, called on me several times. William Tyack once or twice called on me to collect the amount with which I was assessed; he was not the regular collector but was one of the General Committee. I believe that nearly all the officers of the custom-house, in doors and out, and the clerks, were similarly taxed, and generally paid what they were assessed. It was assessed by the General Committee of Tammany Hall, and for the support of the party, denominated the Tammany Hall party. If the individual did not pay the amount he was taxed with the Collector would remark, You will be reported to the General Committee; and every body well understood that proscription would follow. The Collector of the General Committee has an alphabetical book, which contains the names of persons taxed, and the amount each individual is required to pay.

Question. Do you know whether the officers of the custom-house have ever been called on to contribute sums of money to party and political objects? If yes, state when, and whether any reasons were assigned therefor, and what they were?

Answer. I have frequently been called on to contribute to political objects while I was deputy Collector, as an officer of the custom-house. The amount was from twenty dollars to one hundred dollars. The tax was pro rata according to salary. I bore a proportion of from one to six per cent. I frequently paid a part of the amount; when it was too high, and more than I could afford, I urged them to reduce it; in one instance, where I was assessed twenty dollars, Mr. Swartwout told the collector of the tax that ten dollars was enough for me to pay. For a few years back I have not paid any thing to the General Committee, because I could not afford to pay the amount assessed, and because I could not conscientiously longer sustain the party. The collectors of the Tammany Hall Gen. Committee, one of whom was John Becker, called on me several times. William Tyack once or twice called on me to collect the amount with which I was assessed; he was not the regular collector but was one of the General Committee. I believe that nearly all the officers of the custom-house, in doors and out, and the clerks, were similarly taxed, and generally paid what they were assessed. It was assessed by the General Committee of Tammany Hall, and for the support of the party, denominated the Tammany Hall party. If the individual did not pay the amount he was taxed with the Collector would remark, You will be reported to the General Committee; and every body well understood that proscription would follow. The Collector of the General Committee has an alphabetical book, which contains the names of persons taxed, and the amount each individual is required to pay.

Question. Do you know whether the officers of the custom-house have ever been called on to contribute sums of money to party and political objects? If yes, state when, and whether any reasons were assigned therefor, and what they were?

Answer. I have frequently been called on to contribute to political objects while I was deputy Collector, as an officer of the custom-house. The amount was from twenty dollars to one hundred dollars. The tax was pro rata according to salary. I bore a proportion of from one to six per cent. I frequently paid a part of the amount; when it was too high, and more than I could afford, I urged them to reduce it; in one instance, where I was assessed twenty dollars, Mr. Swartwout told the collector of the tax that ten dollars was enough for me to pay. For a few years back I have not paid any thing to the General Committee, because I could not afford to pay the amount assessed, and because I could not conscientiously longer sustain the party. The collectors of the Tammany Hall Gen. Committee, one of whom was John Becker, called on me several times. William Tyack once or twice called on me to collect the amount with which I was assessed; he was not the regular collector but was one of the General Committee. I believe that nearly all the officers of the custom-house, in doors and out, and the clerks, were similarly taxed, and generally paid what they were assessed. It was assessed by the General Committee of Tammany Hall, and for the support of the party, denominated the Tammany Hall party. If the individual did not pay the amount he was taxed with the Collector would remark, You will be reported to the General Committee; and every body well understood that proscription would follow. The Collector of the General Committee has an alphabetical book, which contains the names of persons taxed, and the amount each individual is required to pay.

Question. Do you know whether the officers of the custom-house have ever been called on to contribute sums of money to party and political objects? If yes, state when, and whether any reasons were assigned therefor, and what they were?

Answer. I have frequently been called on to contribute to political objects while I was deputy Collector, as an officer of the custom-house. The amount was from twenty dollars to one hundred dollars. The tax was pro rata according to salary. I bore a proportion of from one to six per cent. I frequently paid a part of the amount; when it was too high, and more than I could afford, I urged them to reduce it; in one instance, where I was assessed twenty dollars, Mr. Swartwout told the collector of the tax that ten dollars was enough for me to pay. For a few years back I have not paid any thing to the General Committee, because I could not afford to pay the amount assessed, and because I could not conscientiously longer sustain the party. The collectors of the Tammany Hall Gen. Committee, one of whom was John Becker, called on me several times. William Tyack once or twice called on me to collect the amount with which I was assessed; he was not the regular collector but was one of the General Committee. I believe that nearly all the officers of the custom-house, in doors and out, and the clerks, were similarly taxed, and generally paid what they were assessed. It was assessed by the General Committee of Tammany Hall, and for the support of the party, denominated the Tammany Hall party. If the individual did not pay the amount he was taxed with the Collector would remark, You will be reported to the General Committee; and every body well understood that proscription would follow. The Collector of the General Committee has an alphabetical book, which contains the names of persons taxed, and the amount each individual is required to pay.

Question. Do you know whether the officers of the custom-house have ever been called on to contribute sums of money to party and political objects? If yes, state when, and whether any reasons were assigned therefor, and what they were?

Answer. I have frequently been called on to contribute to political objects while I was deputy Collector, as an officer of the custom-house. The amount was from twenty dollars to one hundred dollars. The tax was pro rata according to salary. I bore a proportion of from one to six per cent. I frequently paid a part of the amount; when it was too high, and more than I could afford, I urged them to reduce it; in one instance, where I was assessed twenty dollars, Mr. Swartwout told the collector of the tax that ten dollars was enough for me to pay. For a few years back I have not paid any thing to the General Committee, because I could not afford to pay the amount assessed, and because I could not conscientiously longer sustain the party. The collectors of the Tammany Hall Gen. Committee, one of whom was John Becker, called on me several times. William Tyack once or twice called on me to collect the amount with which I was assessed; he was not the regular collector but was one of the General Committee. I believe that nearly all the officers of the custom-house, in doors and out, and the clerks, were similarly taxed, and generally paid what they were assessed. It was assessed by the General Committee of Tammany Hall, and for the support of the party, denominated the Tammany Hall party. If the individual did not pay the amount he was taxed with the Collector would remark, You will be reported to the General Committee; and every body well understood that proscription would follow. The Collector of the General Committee has an alphabetical book, which contains the names of persons taxed, and the amount each individual is required to pay.

Question. Do you know whether the officers of the custom-house have ever been called on to contribute sums of money to party and political objects? If yes, state when, and whether any reasons were assigned therefor, and what they were?

Answer. I have frequently been called on to contribute to political objects while I was deputy Collector, as an officer of the custom-house. The amount was from twenty dollars to one hundred dollars. The tax was pro rata according to salary. I bore a proportion of from one to six per cent. I frequently paid a part of the amount; when it was too high, and more than I could afford, I urged them to reduce it; in one instance, where I was assessed twenty dollars, Mr. Swartwout told the collector of the tax that ten dollars was enough for me to pay. For a few years back I have not paid any thing to the General Committee, because I could not afford to pay the amount assessed, and because I could not conscientiously longer sustain the party. The collectors of the Tammany Hall Gen. Committee, one of whom was John Becker, called on me several times. William Tyack once or twice called on me to collect the amount with which I was assessed; he was not the regular collector but was one of the General Committee. I believe that nearly all the officers of the custom-house, in doors and out, and the clerks, were similarly taxed, and generally paid what they were assessed. It was assessed by the General Committee of Tammany Hall, and for the support of the party, denominated the Tammany Hall party. If the individual did not pay the amount he was taxed with the Collector would remark, You will be reported to the General Committee; and every body well understood that proscription would follow. The Collector of the General Committee has an alphabetical book, which contains the names of persons taxed, and the amount each individual is required to pay.

Question. Do you know whether the officers of the custom-house have ever been called on to contribute sums of money to party and political objects? If yes, state when, and whether any reasons were assigned therefor, and what they were?

Answer. I have frequently been called on to contribute to political objects while I was deputy Collector, as an officer of the custom-house. The amount was from twenty dollars to one hundred dollars. The tax was pro rata according to salary. I bore a proportion of from one to six per cent. I frequently paid a part of the amount; when it was too high, and more than I could afford, I urged them to reduce it; in one instance, where I was assessed twenty dollars, Mr. Swartwout told the collector of the tax that ten dollars was enough for me to pay. For a few years back I have not paid any thing to the General Committee, because I could not afford to pay the amount assessed, and because I could not conscientiously longer sustain the party. The collectors of the Tammany Hall Gen. Committee, one of whom was John Becker, called on me several times. William Tyack once or twice called on me to collect the amount with which I was assessed; he was not the regular collector but was one of the General Committee. I believe that nearly all the officers of the custom-house, in doors and out, and the clerks, were similarly taxed, and generally paid what they were assessed. It was assessed by the General Committee of Tammany Hall, and for the support of the party, denominated the Tammany Hall party. If the individual did not pay the amount he was taxed with the Collector would remark, You will be reported to the General Committee; and every body well understood that proscription would follow. The Collector of the General Committee has an alphabetical book, which contains the names of persons taxed, and the amount each individual is required to pay.

Question. Do you know whether the officers of the custom-house have ever been called on to contribute sums of money to party and political objects? If yes, state when, and whether any reasons were assigned therefor, and what they were?

Answer. I have frequently been called on to contribute to political objects while I was deputy Collector, as an officer of the custom-house. The amount was from twenty dollars to one hundred dollars. The tax was pro rata according to salary. I bore a proportion of from one to six per cent. I frequently paid a part of the amount; when it was too high, and more than I could afford, I urged them to reduce it; in one instance, where I was assessed twenty dollars, Mr. Swartwout told the collector of the tax that ten dollars was enough for me to pay. For a few years back I have not paid any thing to the General Committee, because I could not afford to pay the amount assessed, and because I could not conscientiously longer sustain the party. The collectors of the Tammany Hall Gen. Committee, one of whom was John Becker, called on me several times. William Tyack once or twice called on me to collect the amount with which I was assessed; he was not the regular collector but was one of the General Committee. I believe that nearly all the officers of the custom-house, in doors and out, and the clerks, were similarly taxed, and generally paid what they were assessed. It was assessed by the General Committee of Tammany Hall, and for the support of the party, denominated the Tammany Hall party. If the individual did not pay the amount he was taxed with the Collector would remark, You will be reported to the General Committee; and every body well understood that proscription would follow. The Collector of the General Committee has an alphabetical book, which contains the names of persons taxed, and the amount each individual is required to pay.

his Southern friends. They are very unwilling to believe, that any of the Northern friends of Mr. Van Buren, are opposed to slavery; but the letter of Dr. Duncan, stares them in the face, with all its bitter denunciations of slavery, and neither he nor they can explain it away; although the Dr. like Mr. Van Buren, has been trying to unsay all he has before said on the subject. The speech of Mr. Stanly, of North Carolina, in which he literally flays the Dr. alive, ought to be read with equal interest, by both Whigs and Vanocrats, who have candor and independence enough, to wish to see a shuffling hypocrite or double feared politician exposed.

Indiana Monitor.

In the course of Mr. Robertson's Speech on the Public Lands, in the House of Representatives, the following dialogue took place:

I proceed to adduce other arguments, Mr. Speaker, in support of the proposed measure, drawn from the practical legislation of the country and the opinions of men in high authority. The authority of great names will have more influence, I know, than any argument of mine. General Jackson, in 1829—

Mr. Pickens. Do you quote General Jackson as authority?

Mr. Robertson. Not for myself, sir, but for the party of which he was the leader.

Mr. Pickens. You do not call him the leader?

Mr. Robertson. I do, sir; the acknowledged, the undoubted leader; and among his followers were some as subject and servile as those of the Eastern monarch, who were ready when his Majesty said it was night at noonday, to look up to the sun and swear they SAW THE MOON AND STARS.

An Ex-Postmaster in Georgia, who recently resigned his office, has made an amusing exposition. He says, that his receipts as postmaster were nothing at all, though he was expected to do the drudgery of the party, and that, when he had been officiating about a month, the department drew on him for \$50, which he charitably furnished.—Shortly afterwards, when there was not five dollars of the public money in his hands, the department drew on him for \$50 more, which he also furnished. Hearing subsequently, that a third requisition was about to be made, he backed out from his official dignity as precipitately as possible.

This was a hard case. The closest parallel to it, that we have ever seen, was that of a late stage traveller over a muddy road in New Jersey. Soon after starting, one of the stage-wheels dropped into a mud hole, and the passenger, at the solicitation of the driver, got a fence-rail and helped to pry it out. "I guess," said the driver, "after the job was finished, 'you mou't as well bring that ere rail along with you, there's another hole ahead.'" Accordingly the traveller, not in the very best humor, trudged along half a mile on foot under the burden of the ponderous rail, and again relieved the wheel. He was now about to take his seat in the vehicle, but the driver called out to him: "There's another hole yonder—I guess you'll have to take that ere rail along with you, and as the road is muddy, you'd better go a-foot." "Look ye, sir," thundered the traveller at last, provoked beyond all endurance—"go to the devil with your old stage! I've no objections at all to walking, but as for paying stage-fare for the privilege of walking the whole distance with a big rail on my shoulder—I'll see you d—d first."—Louisville Journal.

From the National Intelligencer.