

BANK OF THE UNITED STATES.

The following synopsis has been prepared from the returns made to Congress, especially those recently called for by the Senate.

Comparative view of its condition in May, 1837, immediately preceding the suspension of specie payments, and in April, 1838, after specie payments had been suspended between ten and eleven months.

Table with 2 columns: Date (May 1, 1837, April 2, 1838) and various financial categories like Loans and discounts, Foreign bills of exchange, Stock account, etc.

An explanation of some of these items may be given.

The "stock account" made its first appearance in the return dated July 1, 1837. It was then \$13,044,853, and has gradually swelled to its present amount.

The commissioners appointed to settle the claims of the United States against the Bank of the United States, wished a statement of the items which constituted the balance due to the United States Bank and branches on the 3d of March, 1836, and which then amounted to \$1,548,969.

As the bank has, since the suspension of specie payments, changed the mode of keeping its accounts, it may not be easy to give a comparative view of its investments yielding income, which may be perfectly satisfactory.

If the foreign bills of exchange, or any part of them, are returned, dishonored bills, there has been a further reduction in the active business of the bank; and if any part of the balance due from "agencies" is not employed in the way intimated above, there should be a further reduction from the amount of investments supposed to yield income.

The other items in the account stand less in need of explanation. It appears from them, that between May 1, 1837, and April 2, 1838, the bank increased its specie in the amount of nearly two millions and a half.

In the same period it has diminished the aggregate of its debts on time, in the amount of two millions.

The operations of the United States Bank since the suspension of specie payments, afford a striking contrast with those of the New York banks. We have, in addition to the returns made to the Safety

Funds Commissioners, those from the Manhattan Company, in all from ninety-four banks and two branches.

Their immediate liabilities, on the 1st of June, 1837, were \$50,881,535; on the 1st of April, 1838, \$41,405,560.

Their immediate means have, in the same period, been increased from \$23,618,894 to \$26,691,114.

And their debts, due on time, have been reduced from \$9,489,362 to \$6,501,787.

The investments of the United States Bank supposed to yield income, exceed its nominal capital in the amount of thirty-eight millions; those of the New York banks only twenty-nine millions.

The New York banks have, since the suspension of specie payments, reduced their immediate liabilities ten millions. The United States Bank has increased its immediate liabilities nearly five millions.

The United States Bank has made at least an apparent increase, but perhaps a real decrease, of nearly three millions in the amount of its investments supposed to yield income.

The debts due on time by the New York banks, are only six millions and a half. Those of the United States Bank are upwards of twenty millions.

The different New York banks have to their credit in notes of other banks on hand, & in sum due from other banks, an aggregate of \$20,979,055; & owe to other banks \$3,633,890, thus showing a net balance in their favor of upwards of seven millions.

The Bank of the United States has in notes of other banks nearly one million and a half, and there is due to it by other banks upwards of two millions, making an aggregate of \$3,784,831; and it owes to other banks \$3,853,849, thus showing a net balance against it of upwards of three millions in account with the other banks.

A week or two since it was currently reported in Philadelphia, that the United States Bank was in debt to the Philadelphia banks about two millions and a half. If the residue of its bank debt is owing to banks to the eastward of that city, and if what is owing to it in account current, is by banks to the North and West, what is owing to it by banks, will not afford it the immediate means of discharging one-half of the claim its creditor banks have against it.

CONGRESS.

SENATE.

Friday, April 20.—The Chair communicated a report from the Secretary of War, enclosing a report from the Topographical Bureau, together with a map, in answer to the resolution of the Senate of the 13th February last, calling for information relative to the Oregon Territory; and

On motion of Mr. Linn, it was referred to the select committee appointed on the bill for the occupation of the Oregon Territory.

On motion of Mr. Preston, the resolution submitted by him, providing for the re-annexation of Texas to the United States, was taken up, and made the order of the day for Monday next.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill to prevent the re-issue and circulation of the bills, notes and other securities of corporations created by Congress which have expired, and after a debate, in which it was supported by Messrs. Wall, Clay of Alabama, Grundy, Rives, Buchanan, Calhoun and Brown, and opposed by Messrs. Preston, White and Prentiss, it was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading—ayes 27, noes 14 as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Allen, Benton, Brown, Buchanan, Calhoun, Clay of Alabama, Cuthbert, Fulton, Grundy, Hubbard, Linn, Lumpkin, Lyon, Niles, Norvell, Pierce, Rives, Roane, Robinson, Ruggles, Smith of Connecticut, Tipton, Trotter, Wall, Williams, Wright, and Young—27.

NAVS—Messrs. Clay of Kentucky, Clayton, Crittenden, Davis, King, Merrick, Nicholas, Prentiss, Preston, Robbins, Smith of Indiana, Southard, Swift, and White—14.

The Senate adjourned over to Monday.

Monday, April 23.—The Special order of the day, Mr. Preston's Resolution, proposing the annexation of Texas—was postponed to take up the United States Bank Bill, upon its final passage.

Mr. Buchanan addressed the Senate at length, in favor of the constitutionality and expediency of the bill.

Mr. Clay replied. On the question of the passage of the bill the votes were as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Allen, Benton, Brown, Buchanan, Calhoun, Clay of Alabama, Cuthbert, Fulton, Grundy, Hubbard, Linn, Lumpkin, Lyon, Morris, Niles, Norvell, Pierce, Rives, Roane, Robinson, Ruggles, Smith of Connecticut, Tipton, Trotter, Wall, Williams, Wright, and Young—27.

NAVS—Messrs. Clay of Kentucky, Clayton, Crittenden, Davis, King, Merrick, Nicholas, Prentiss, Preston, Smith of Indiana, Spence, Swift, and White—13.

Tuesday, April 24.—On motion of Mr. Trotter, the Senate took up the bill supplementary to the act entitled "an act to amend an act for the appointment of commissioners to adjust claims to land under the 14th article of the treaty of 1830 with the Choctaw Indians." The amendments were agreed to, and the bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The resolution submitted by Mr. Preston, for the re-annexation of Texas to the United States, was taken up as the order of the day.

Mr. Preston addressed the Senate until past 3 o'clock on the subject of his resolution.

The Senate went into the consideration of Executive business; and when the doors were opened, Adjourned.

Wednesday, April 25.—The Senate was occupied to-day, says the Globe, with the discussion of the bill for the appointment of commissioners to bear private claims. The Senate adjourned without coming to any decision.

Thursday, April 26.—The Senate was occupied almost exclusively to-day, with the discussion of the bill for the appointment of commissioners to adjust private claims. The bill, after the adoption of several amendments, was ordered to be engrossed by a vote of twenty-five to eighteen.

Friday, April 27.—The Senate to-day, took up the bill to establish a board of commissioners to adjust claims against the United States, which was read a third time and passed, also, the bill to provide for the security of the emigrating and other Indians west of the Mississippi. A long discussion ensued, and several amendments were adopted. The Senate adjourned until Monday next.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Saturday, April 21.—Several Committees made reports. The House then proceeded to the unfinished business of the morning hour, which was Mr. Hopkin's resolution for separating the Government from all connexion with the public press, which was under discussion, when the morning hour expired, and the subject lies over.

Mr. Graham, of N. C., moved, that the bill appointing Commissioners of Private Claims, be made the special order of the day for Friday next, but it was not agreed to.

Mr. Toucey, from the Select Committee on the late duet, by leave, made a report, the consideration of which he moved should be postponed to two weeks from Monday next, and that it be printed. He said this motion was made by the unanimous order of the committee.

Mr. Grennell, in behalf of himself and Mr. Rariden, members of the committee, presented a written statement of their views, which he asked might be printed with their report.

Mr. Elmore, not being able to agree either in the report of the majority or minority, ask leave to present in writing his own views, and that this paper might be printed with the rest.

Mr. Robertson said that having understood that this report would probably be brought into the House to-day, he had examined the parliamentary law relating to the subject. The subject was of importance, not merely as it related to the parties implicated, but as it bore upon the privileges of the House. The result of his examination was a conviction that it was the duty of the House to re-commit these reports to the select committee from which they came, with instructions, that if any member or members of the House should be implicated, the committee should forthwith report that fact to the House, and await its further order on the premises. He quoted Jefferson's Manual, to show that such was the law of Parliament as laid down in that book, viz. That the committee could not proceed a step on its own authority when the character of a member of the House was involved; because it was the privilege of the House itself to take cognizance of the conduct of its members; and of every member to have such cognizance exerted by the House alone. He was utterly ignorant of what might be the contents of the voluminous report made by the committee, but whatever they might be, he hoped they would not be sent to the world till this question should be duly considered. He therefore moved that the report and all the other papers be laid for the present upon the table.

Mr. Fillmore called for the reading of the resolution, if any, which the majority of the committee had reported to the House.

Mr. Boon moved that the House adjourn; which motion prevailing, ayes 86.

The House thereupon adjourned.

Monday, April 23.—The House was occupied in debating nearly the whole day, the motion to print the several reports of the Duelling Committee, without coming to any conclusion.

A message was received from the President, transmitting documents in relation to the attack on the steamboat Columbia, by a Mexican armed vessel, in the gulf of Mexico.

On motion of Mr. Adams, referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Tuesday, April 24.—The House resumed the consideration of the motion of Mr. Toucey, made under the unanimous direction of the committee appointed to investigate the causes which led to the death of the late Mr. Cilley, to print the report of that committee, and postpone it till next Monday week.

The motion was under discussion, when Mr. Calhoun of Kentucky moved an adjournment, and called for tellers, which were ordered.

Mr. Lincoln asked for the yeas and nays, but they were refused, and the question being taken by tellers, was decided in the affirmative—yeas 90, noes 58.

The House adjourned.

Wednesday, April 25.—The House, after reading the journal, took up the report of the duelling committee, and discussed it, until the House adjourned.

Thursday, April 26.—The Speaker, on leave, laid before the House sundry communications, viz:

1. From the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting a report of the amount received from the sales of public lands in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri, in reference to the Cumberland Road, together with a statement of the amount of money appropriated for the Cumberland Road, &c.

On motion of Mr. Briggs, laid on the table.

2. A communication from the Secretary of the Navy, correcting an error in a former report in relation to the date of appointment of the scientific corps of the Exploring Expedition.

On motion of Mr. Ingham, referred to the Committee on Naval Affairs.

3. From the Postmaster General, in relation to the number of failures of the New York express mail, to the first of January last.

On motion of Mr. Cushman, laid on the table.

4. From the Postmaster General, transmitting a report of the irregularities and failures of the great western mail, between Washington City and Wheeling, within the last three months, together with the causes thereof, so far as they are known to that Department.

On motion of Mr. Montgomery, laid on the table.

The unfinished business being the report of the select committee appointed to investigate the causes which led to the death of the late Hon. Jonathan Cilley, was then resumed.

The question still pending was on the motion of Mr. Toucey, under the unanimous direction of the committee, to print and postpone the same till Monday week.

Mr. Toucey was entitled to the floor, but before he proceeded, Mr. Wise called for the reading of the remainder of the reports, being the testimony taken in the investigation.

The Clerk proceeded till about a quarter past 3 o'clock, when the Chair announced that a message was in attendance from the President of the United States, and said that with the unanimous consent of the House it would be received.

The House unanimously gave their consent, and the message was received, by the hands of Abraham Van Buren, Esq. the President's private secretary.

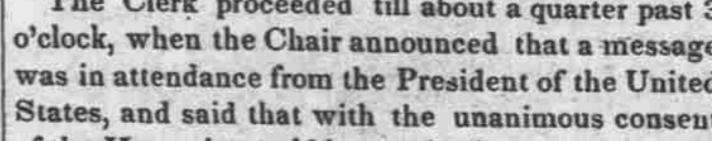
Mr. Howard gave notice that, before the House adjourned to-day, he should ask leave to have the message read and referred.

The reading of the testimony in the duet investigation was then resumed, and proceeded in full shortly after 4 o'clock, when, on motion of Mr. Williams of North Carolina,

The House adjourned.

FROM THE WESTERN CAROLINIAN.

Mr. Editor:—As a friend to the late and present administration of the Federal Government, I have often been surprised and amused to see Editors, and yourself among the number, who are opposed to me in politics, disenting upon the influence exercised by the forty thousand office holders. The administration giving all the offices to its partisans. And the premises are as incorrect as the conclusions drawn therefrom are false. I challenge you or any of your opposition brethren to the test, that in the Western Counties of North Carolina, three fourths of the offices in the gift of the Federal Government and its departments, are held by opponents of the administration. I am not going to preach you a sermon on this subject; but merely call the attention of your readers and yourself to the injustice of the whole clamor about the influence of the office-holders. It may be that the subordinates of the Federal Government do exercise an undue influence in the Elections of the country, but not in favor of the administration.



THE STANDARD.

RALEIGH, N. C. Wednesday, May 2, 1838.

THE PEOPLE against THE BANK.

The Editor of the Standard is now absent. All communications requiring his personal attention, will be promptly noticed at his return—which will be in two or three weeks.

MR. STRANGE AND MR. BIDDLE.

We invite the attention of our readers to the Letter of the Hon. Robert Strange, in answer to Mr. Biddle. The great length of Mr. Biddle's letter prevents our giving them together. But Mr. S. has done Mr. B. no injustice in the quotations he has made. Our readers will fully understand the merits of the controversy, from a perusal of the documents we lay before them on our first page. The position of parties is daily becoming more distinctly visible; Mr. Biddle avows his determination to continue his hostility 'till the Government yields to his dictation. If it is now obliged to submit, its entire prostration cannot be far distant. The money autocrat will strive against the prosperity of the country, and exert his vast power in deranging the currency, in the hope, of operating upon the fall elections; vainly flattering himself that his business will be so far concealed, as to baffle the discernment and avert the indignation of the people, 'till it will be too late—'till the arm of patriotism shall be unnerved by the paralysis of bank influence, and the voice of freedom hushed by the mandate of the Bank Aristocracy.

WHIG CALUMNY CONFUTED.

To show with what avidity the "Whig" party press every thing into their service, however preposterous, we subjoin the following letter from the Baltimore "Chronicle":

"WILMINGTON, Del., April 23, 1838. To the Editor of the Chronicle. Sir—I deem it proper to inform you that on my passage from Philadelphia to this place this morning, by the steam boat Telegraph, I ascertained that there was a Van Buren agent on board, who was taking numerous persons to Baltimore to vote at your election this week. Their passages through were paid by this agent. I have no doubt that these persons are a squad of the itinerant voters of the loco foco party, who have voted in New York, and that job being performed, are now going on to Baltimore for the same purpose. They left here in the cars this morning for your place. Look out for them—you have no registry law to protect the honest voter from the rogue, and you must defend yourselves."

The fact of the case is this, the Commissioners for re-building our State Capitol, authorized David PATON, Esq., the Architect, to write to Jno. STRUTTERS, Esq., of Philadelphia, to employ thirteen hands to come and work on the Capitol—he did so, and according to agreement paid their passage. On Wednesday the 25th ult., the day on which the Baltimore election was held, so that it was impossible for them to have voted at the election. But in order to disprove the vile slander of the "Chronicle's" correspondent, they have signed and sworn, before the proper authority, to the following

CERTIFICATE: The undersigned, believing that they are the thirteen persons alluded to in the Baltimore "Chronicle" of the 25th April, in reference to their passage being paid by an Administration agent, in the steam boat Telegraph, from Philadelphia via Wilmington, Del., for the purpose of voting at the late election in Baltimore—and knowing that, if they are the persons alluded to, and the allusion is false and iniquitous—do for the purpose of repelling the same, make the following statement, viz: That on Saturday, the 21st April, at about 11 o'clock, an agreement was entered into by us with JONAS STRUTTERS, Esq., of Philadelphia, to come and work on the State Capitol, at Raleigh, N. Carolina—that we left Philadelphia, at a quarter before 7 o'clock, A. M., on Monday, the 23rd April, in the steam boat Telegraph for our destination, and arrived at Baltimore, at 1 P. M., on the same day, and left Baltimore, in the steam boat Alabama, for Norfolk, at 4 P. M., the same evening.

John McLellan; Thomas Sunderland; Anthony Stewart; Philip Hirsenson; William Gray; Robt' Boyd, Jr.; J. T. Boyd; George Zell; Charles Leighton; John M. Owen; Joseph McLellan; William Hurlock, Jr.; Alexander Johnston;

The foregoing statement, was sworn to and subscribed before the undersigned, an acting Justice of the Peace in and for the county of Wake, in North Carolina, at the City of Raleigh, this 30th day of April, A. D. 1838.

M. COOK, J. P.

A cause which requires such miserable props as the foregoing letter, to support it, is unworthy of the support of a free and intelligent people. It is all in character with Clay-Webb Whiggery.

We are indebted to the politeness of the Hon. Robt. Strange and the Hon. Bedford Brown of the U. S. Senate, and to the Hon. Henry W. Conner and the Hon. Wm. Montgomery of the House of Representatives, for several valuable Speeches and Congressional Documents.

A very skillful cause might allege, and perhaps successfully maintain, that a man might be excused or justified in refusing to perform a duty, where some greater and more obvious good would grow out of the refusal than out of the performance. This, by the way, is precisely the ground upon which Satan tempted our common mother; and all must admit that it is a narrow bridge, over a yawning chasm, which none but a very steady brain may expect to pass without reeling, and the danger of falling. Yet this, if I am able to understand him, is the position in which the president places his bank. Now what is the good to be accomplished by a refusal on the part of the banks to exercise their power of resumption? In the first place, it is stated that "they have no funds not already lent out to the people, of whose industry and property they are the representatives. They are only other names for the farms, the commerce, the factories and the internal improvements of the country; and the inquiry whether the banks are ready to resume, is only another mode of asking whether the people are ready to pay their debts to the banks." And is it indeed so, that all the farms, the commerce, the factories and the internal improvements of the country are virtually in pawn for the redemption of the bank paper, and that their proprietors only wait the fiat of the banks for their surrender? It is not so. It is one of the delusions praisured upon popular credulity. The proportion of men indebted to the banks is much smaller than is generally supposed, and is found mainly among the mercantile and speculative classes. But allowing, for the argument, that it is true, why, I would ask, did the banks place themselves in that situation? why did they lend out their means while they knew that, by so doing, they would be forced to break through all their sacred engagements? or, if disdaining every thing but political considerations, (as seems to be the wont of some of them, at least,) why did they, by so doing, fill the country with a circulation which the writer of the letter says it has been his effort to banish—"an irredeemable paper currency?" Nothing he declares is either safe or tolerable as a currency "but the precious metals & notes always convertible into them." The truth is, this convertible paper currency is the phrase of "glamour" which has conjured into existence the whole paper system. It is what nobody would object to, if the thing existed. But profit in the issue, and real convertibility, cannot exist in sufficient unity to allow that "word of promise to the ear" to remain unbroken "to the hope." The phrase "convertible paper," has been used upon the public ear like the nursery song to the sick infant—it lulls to repose, and prevents those cries which would warn friends of danger, & the disease progresses until it triumphs over the constitution. But is it true that the banks have no other funds than those referred to? If so, what becomes of the declaration of the president, so far as his bank is concerned, that "our preparations would justify its resumption?" But once more: admitting it to be true against the above cited declaration, let us try the position by the standard of morals, and what right, I would ask, has a man to forbear doing his duty because it may be inconvenient to others to do theirs? Upon the position assumed, if any thing like ruinous distress upon the people would be the consequence of resumption, forbearance might be justified. But this cannot be pretended. Some temporary and partial inconvenience might be felt, but nothing more.

I have thus placed first the best argument of the president upon the score of expediency.—But it is evidently not the one most relied upon by him, for it only finds a place in the recitative part of his letter, and is not among the regular deductions from his premises. These, or rather this, is found in the following paragraph, preceded by a formal "accordingly," which paragraph cannot be too fully brought to the consideration of the American people, and I accordingly copy a portion of it: "II. The credit system of the United States and the exclusively metallic system, are now fairly in the field, face to face with each other.—One or the other must fall. There can be no other issue. It is not a question of correcting errors or reforming abuses, but of absolute destruction; not which shall conquer, but which shall survive. The present struggle, too, must be final. If the banks resume, and are able, by sacrificing the community, to continue for a few months, it will be conclusively employed at the next elections to show that the schemes of the Executive are not as destructive as they will prove hereafter. But if they resume and again are compelled to suspend, the Executive will rejoice at this new triumph, and they will fall in the midst of a universal outcry against their weakness. This is perfectly understood, and accordingly all the influence of the Executive is directed to drive the banks, by popular outrage and clamor, into a premature resumption—not a business resumption, general and permanent, but a political and forced resumption, which may place them at the mercy of those in power.—They who have special charge of these interests must then beware of being deceived from their present position. They are now safe and strong, and they should not venture beyond their entrenchment while the enemy is in the plain before them."

I must remark, in passing, that the bank president here makes the false issue which is always tendered by his partisans. "The credit system of the United States," he remarks, "and the exclusively metallic system, are now fairly in the field face to face with each other." Who, I would ask, has placed them there? If the writer of the letter claims for himself & his friends the merit of this arrangement, I will not dispute their claim; but if he imputes it to the party in favor of an Independent Treasury, I utterly deny the charge. That party asks nothing in relation to the banks but that they should surrender that portion of the public treasure which they already possess, and that they should not be allowed to receive any more. We make no attack except such as we find necessary to resist their insolent claim to be the only proper agents of the public; and if, in showing their unfitness for this trust, we have been compelled to expose their defects, the fault, if any, does not lie at our door. As guardians of the public purse, we had a duty to perform; and in its performance, they have thought proper to come forward, and submit themselves to our judgment. We have pronounced that judgment, and it is not for them to complain. But, even if our enemy to banks were conceded, does it follow that we are therefore opposed to credit? Banks are one mode of extending credit; but they are not the only mode, and it is certainly a fair subject for discussion whether they are the best. The chief difference among men is relative to its abuses, real or supposed; to the best mode of preserving it pure and uncontaminated by fraud. But the charge of emity, and a disposition to ruin them, comes with an ill grace from the banks and their devoted friends towards an Administration which has given to them the most liberal indulgence, bar-

rowing money for its own use, while it extends credit to them for its revenue, which they hold. And the ingratitude is aggravated, in a great many, by reproaches to the Administration for its poverty, and the emptiness of its Treasury. For this unhappily fact some manifest a savage joy, and overlay their patriotism and pride of country beneath party rancor and the lust of emolument and power. But there are two other sentences, short in themselves, which should be taken in connection with what has been before cited, fully to comprehend its force. The one is as follows: "Now, under such circumstances, is it wise for the banks to disarm themselves in the presence of their enemy?" The other is about the close of the letter, and sounds very much like such an encouraging sentence as might conclude the bulletin of a general to his army on the eve of a battle: "The American banks should do, in short, what the American army did at New Orleans, stand fast behind their cotton bales until the enemy has left the country." It is, then, to drive an enemy from the field, or to bring him to terms, that this violation of faith, this independence of morality, this contempt for the law, is to be shown. And who is this thrice mentioned enemy who is to leave not only the field, but the country? Will it be believed by the American people, although the president of the bank himself has declared it, that enemy is no other than the Government of the United States? We surely must have all "eaten of the insure root," or the "moon must have come nearer to the earth than she is wont, and made men mad," that such language should be used by an American citizen, applauded by thousands of others, & silently listened to and brooded over by the residue. What is treason? Is changing by force the established Government of a country, or rebellion against that which exists, among its definitions? or does the crime depend upon the nature of the weapons used? or have we any notions of such a thing as moral treason? or may a man disclose treasonable purposes, and hang out its banner, who has too much prudence to commit the overt act and be found with its usual weapons in his hand? These are all questions which every man must answer for himself.

But what is the concession demanded of this cruel and barbarous enemy? Let the writer of the letter answer: "III. The disorders of the currency lie too deep for superficial remedies, and these palliatives irritate without curing. Congress, and Congress alone, can apply adequate relief. What Mr. Madison said to Congress in 1816, is even more true in 1838. 'For the interests of the community at large,' said he, 'as well as for the purposes of the Treasury, it is essential that the nation should possess a currency of equal value, credit and use wherever it may circulate. The Constitution has entrusted Congress exclusively with the power of creating and regulating a currency of that description.' The only reform in the currency which that body has yet made, is the issue of ten millions of irredeemable paper money, and a proposal for ten millions more. Is it worth while, then, so long as Congress fails to exercise its legitimate powers, to waste the strength of the country in efforts to accomplish what we all know to be impracticable? To resume now, without some clear understanding with the Government, seems to be throwing away the benefits of experience, and the lessons of misfortune. We have gone through all the mortification and all the inconvenience of suspension. Let us endeavor to profit by them; to fix the future on some solid basis; have some guarantee of the stability of the currency, and not set every thing afloat again, without knowing where we may be drifted."

And again: "In short, what reliance have the banks now, with the Executive hostile to them? What protection like that of the late Bank of the United States have they to sustain them? None whatever."

The concession, then, is the charter of a bank similar to the late Bank of the United States; and with it is to be violated, justice disregarded, law trampled under foot, and open rebellion proclaimed, that the Government may be forced to charter a Bank of the United States. *Oh tempora! Oh mores!* What a spectacle is here presented to an admiring world! This great nation, whose flag has floated for near half a century, through sunshine and tempest, over every sea; who has twice retired victorious from conflict with the greatest nation upon earth; whose strength and prowess have caused every other to shrink from before her, is openly defied, insulted, and denounced, and terms of compromise demanded of her, by a handful of her own citizens, strengthened into preternatural and insolent power by the magic of incorporation; penalties threatened against her disobedience, and eternal contumacy declared unless a law is passed according to their dictation. And what a law! One which places the rebels beyond the reach of all farther responsibility, and arms them with a power as resistless as that of the sweeping tornado. How very soon are verified the declarations made by us in the Senate but a few days ago, in what we then ourselves supposed to be but the language of distant prophecy; that the paper system, which we had no means of checking, unless disconnected from it, must overthrow the Government. It is for the people to choose whether they will be their own masters, or yield to a dictator, who has already spoken. Now is the time to choose. Ere long it will be too late. "In vain," it is said, "is the net spread in the sight of any bird." But if, after the impudent avowals contained in the letter upon which I have been commenting, any large portion of the people are still deluded, the real lovers of rational liberty may take up the exclamation of the Hebrew prophet: "Ephraim is joined to his idols, let him alone." The horizontal cut will have been made in society, and a proud aristocracy will ride upon the necks of a prostrate and degraded people.

Many things yet remain in this extraordinary letter which I would have gladly noticed, and would fain have been more full on the topics treated; but feel that I have extended this communication to an inconvenient length, and must reluctantly close.

I am, very respectfully yours,  
R. STRANGE.

Absence of mind.—A hen, instead of setting on her eggs, got upon a heap of pig-iron, and did not discover her mistake until she hatched a large number of spikes.

Why is a lawyer like a woman? D'ye give it up? Because he's a fee-male.

There is a man in Vermont who sneezes so hard, that every time he commences he pitches a Somerset.