

SPEECH OF MR. CLAY,
OF KENTUCKY.

In the Senate of the U. States, Tuesday July 27th
Mr. CLAY, of Kentucky, said that the defect of hearing still continuing, to which he alluded yesterday, depriving him of the satisfaction of hearing other Senators, and preventing him from so regulating or moderating his voice as to be favorably heard by them, he had occasion for all the kind indulgence of the Senate in the few observations which he now meant to address to it. During the progress of this bill, Mr. President, it has been clearly manifested that there is a decided majority of the Senate in favor of the establishment of a National Bank. For himself he believed that it stood out prominently as the first among those measures of relief which he fervently hoped would be sent out by Congress, from its present session, to re-establish the business and the prosperity of the country. Other measures would undoubtedly extend much relief, but it would be limited and not general; whilst every section, every interest, every person, rich and poor, would be benefited by the blessing of a sound currency. If we pass all other contemplated measures, and fail to pass this, we shall fall far short of the just expectations of a suffering people. But the passage of this only, without any other measure, would have fully justified the convocation of Congress.

But notwithstanding the urgent necessity of a National Bank, it is well known, on all sides of the Senate, that the bill as it at present stands, in respect to the branching power of the bank, cannot pass this body; but will be rejected by a majority of 25 to 25, if all the members be present. Under these painful circumstances, what ought to be done? Shall we return home without fulfilling the hopes of those who sent us here, in respect to a National Bank? We have thought it due to the country, and to our own obligations, to leave no honorable means unemployed to bring about a concurrence of opinion, if possible, among those members of the Senate who agree as to the necessity of a National Bank. We have accordingly conferred and consulted together, and interchanged opinions and views, in that spirit of conciliation and concession which should ever animate those who are united in opinion as to the object accomplished, but are unfortunately divided on subordinate points. We have not looked beyond the Senate. He (Mr. C.) does not know, does not wish, and has not sought to know, the opinion of the chief of a coordinate branch of the Government, in respect to the proposition which he was about to submit. Not that he was wanting in high respect, personal and official, for the exalted to whom he alluded, but because it was, in his (Mr. C.'s) judgment, against the spirit and genius of free institutions, that the deliberations of the Legislative branch of the Government, during the progress of a great measure under its consideration, should be effected or regulated by opinions, real or imaginary, of the Executive head.

The result of the consultation to which he has referred, has been an amendment of the 16th fundamental rule, which he was about to propose. The amendment proposes a modification of the branching power of the bank as reported by the committee. He adheres (and he believes all the nineteen political-friends who voted with him in rejecting the amendment proposed by the Senator from Virginia, Mr. Rives, adhere) to the unshakable conviction that the best form to confer that power on the Bank is that which was proposed by the committee. Their preference remains entirely unchanged. But seeing that it was impracticable to carry through the Senate a bill with that modification of the power, they and their differing brethren have anxiously sought a substitute which might be satisfactory to all. This he hoped was found in the amendment which he now reads.

And the said directors may also establish one or more competent offices of discount and deposit in any territory or district of the United States, and in any State; and when established, the said office or offices shall not be removed or withdrawn by the said directors prior to the expiration of the charter, without the previous assent of Congress: Provided, in respect to any State which shall not, at the first session of the Legislature thereof held after the passage of this act, by resolution or other usual legislative proceeding, unconditionally assent or dissent to the establishment of such office or offices within it, the assent of the said State shall thereafter be presumed; and provided, nevertheless, that when it shall become necessary and proper for carrying into effect any of the powers granted in the Constitution, to establish an office of offices in any of the States, and the establishment thereof shall be directed by law, it shall be the duty of the said directors to establish such office or offices accordingly.

Two opposite opinions prevail as to the branching power. According to one, the previous assent of the States is necessary; according to the other, it is not. The difficulty has been to reconcile these conflicting opinions. That is the object of this amendment. We, who think the power exists in Congress cannot consent to surrender or renounce it. We can consent to no bill which might be construed to imply such surrender or renunciation. But we think that, in creating this corporation, it will possess no more nor less power than is conferred upon it by Congress in the charter which brings it into existence. It is not, in our view, indispensable that it should possess the branching power unrestricted. We are satisfied that unrestricted power should remain, where we respectfully think the Constitution has placed it, in Congress, and that Congress should forbear to invest the Bank with the right to exercise it.

To the opposite opinion, held by our friends, we are disposed so far to concede as to admit that the bank shall not be allowed, in the first instance, to establish an office of discount and deposits in any State, without the previous assent of its Legislature. But, then, we think it but right and reasonable to require that the State should signify its pleasure in some specified time, and in some practicable mode. According-

ly, the amendment, which recognizes the right of the State to prevent the introduction of a branch within it, asks that this right should be exercised at some time during the period of the first session of the Legislature after the passage of this act; and requires that its dissent, if it be opposed to the introduction of the branch, should be announced in unequivocal and unconditional terms. Is it unjust or improper, when conceding to the States such a power, the amendment requires that it should be exercised within a reasonable time? Without such a limitation, the question of the establishment of branches within the States might be an agitating question during the whole period of the twenty years of the existence of the charter. With it the question must be definitely settled in less than a year from this time. Is it not a great and sufficient concession from those who do not think that any assent of the States is necessary, to admit that every one of the twenty-six States may prevent the introduction of a branch within it upon two conditions: 1st. That they dissent, and, 2dly, dissent during the period of the first session of their respective Legislatures? Will any one say that the question should remain an open and disturbing question for the long space of twenty years? Is it at all unreasonable to require that it should be settled within the period which varies from two to six months—the first session of the Legislature? It may be objected that the amendment presumes assent if the Legislature remain silent, or does not assent unconditionally or dissent. But is it unusual to infer assent from silence? Is it unreasonable to suppose that, if a State cannot bring itself to dissent to the introduction of a branch, the introduction of a branch within its limits cannot be any very calamitous event?

According to the amendment, there are four cases in which offices of discount and deposit may be established. 1st. Where a Legislature, whose citizens have subscribed \$200,000 shares, requests one. 2d. Where any State assents. 3d. Where the first session of the Legislature after the passage of this act shall have expired without its declaring unconditionally its assent or its dissent. And, 4th. In any State whatever, whether it has assented or not, within whose limits it may be necessary and proper to establish a branch, to carry into effect any of the powers granted by the Constitution, and Congress shall require it to be established. It may be said that this fourth case asserts the power, and recognizes the right in Congress to establish branches whenever it thinks proper to accomplish the purposes of any of the granted powers of the Constitution, and so it does; but it asserts the power in the language of the Constitution. If the Constitution has granted the power, it asserts the power; if it has denied the power, it does not assert the power. We think it has granted the power; and, in using its language, we mean distinctly to assert the power. But those who do not think it grants the power, may, nevertheless, well consent to the use of the language employed. It proposes no immediate exercise of the power to establish branches. That is not now necessary. It provides for it contingently; and, when the question of establishing offices actually arises in Congress, every one may interpret the clause in the amendment according to his conscientious convictions. Without the insertion of the provision in the charter recognizing the power of Congress to establish branches, if a State dissented, Congress could not enforce on the bank the establishment of a branch within the limits of the dissenting State, however urgent the necessity, without an express reservation of such right, since, after granting a charter, Congress could not add new and onerous conditions to it.

What will be the practical operation of the amendment? The bank cannot be organized, so as to commence business, before the 1st of January next. After it is organized, it will require some two or three months to make the necessary preliminary preparations, to put the branches into operation. Many, if not most, of the State Legislatures begin their next sessions on the first Monday in December next. The sessions of the greater number of these will have terminated before the bank is ready to locate its branches. Most of the State Legislatures will probably readily and unconditionally assent to the establishment of branches within their respective limits. Few, if any, of those who do not expressly assent, will dissent; so that, by the time that the bank is prepared to plant its branches, most of the States will either have expressly assented to their establishment, or by their silence have authorized an implied assent. If there should be some half a dozen States that expressly dissent, that fact will not at all impair the utility of this national institution. For if in the large commercial capitals of the Atlantic States, and if at Cincinnati and Louisville, or Lexington, in the interior, branches be established, all the national purposes of the institution may be fully accomplished.

Thus, Mr. President, may this indispensable national agent be put into complete operation by March or April, at the furthest. Whereas, if it be not established at this session, and can be at the next, it would probably be next fall twelve months before the nation can realize the benefits anticipated from a bank of the United States.

These are the views, sir, (said Mr. C.) which he had taken of this deeply interesting question. He believed he shared them with those friends who have hitherto acted with him. We consider that we have made a great sacrifice of our own wishes and preferences in consenting to the proposed modification of the branching power. But it has been made for our country and our friends. And he ardently hoped that there would be a just appreciation of the concession, and the spirit of the concession, now proposed; that it would be here and elsewhere by a corresponding friendly spirit; and that the whole nation might rejoice in having once more restored to it the inestimable benefits of a sound currency,

regulated exchanges, revived business, and restored prosperity.

Twenty-seventh Congress,
FIRST SESSION.

Correspondence of the Baltimore American.
WASHINGTON, August 5, 1841.
UNITED STATES SENATE.

SECRET SESSION.
Mr. Allen's resolution to confirm nominations with open doors was called up.
Mr. Allen defended his resolution, considering it due to the body as it was intended as a change of long established rule.
He would not go into the original motive for adopting the Rule, nor would he propose to include vetoes, for it was manifest, that they should not be made in public. In regard to nominations they should be made public because others were made public, and nominations were intended for the public by their Representatives. The people had a right to know not only who were their servants, but what were their reasons for their nomination. Mr. Allen spoke also of the opinions of the dominant party upon the subject of office-holders, and referred to the invitation in the President's Message to scrutinize the nominations which he should make for their confirmation.

Secret sessions, Mr. Allen contended in conclusion, were Anti-American. Mr. Allen having finished his speech.
Mr. Clay, of Ky., said the proposition of the Senator from Ohio was not to be tolerated for a moment. The long established rules of the Senate could not be repealed. They had been established in the wisdom of the Senate and were impregnably in their character. He should now move the yeas and nays which were ordered. The vote stood yeas 26, nays 20.

PORTIFICATION BILL.
The Fortification Bill was then called up as the unfinished business of the day.
Mr. Woodbridge defended the amendment proposing the fifty thousand dollars for Detroit, and Buffalo. Mr. W. gave a picture of the sufferings on the frontier during the last war. If war should come again, Detroit would be burnt to ashes and the city sacked. Upon the Lake already on which the city is built might be seen a long, low, black, armed steamer. Another was building, and if danger was to come the frightful ravages of the last war would be repeated.

Mr. Sevier expressed his gratification that the amendments to the Lakes had been passed by the Senator from Michigan. He favored the course recommended by the late Secretary of War. So in regard to Fortifications on his own border. They were recommended by the Secretary of War but neglected by Congress. Mr. Sevier made a warm appeal to the Western Senators, and hoped they would unite and resist the bill altogether, if they could not get appropriations for the defence of the West.

Mr. Preston, of S. C., hoped no such coalition would be formed. In a matter of this kind it was evident there must be a compromise. One set of works must be attended to before another. Sometimes one had preference to another. The appropriations for the North and West would succeed those for the Atlantic States. Mr. Preston made an appeal to Senators to make no such combination as the Senator from Arkansas had invited. No good would come of it whatever. Mr. Preston, of S. C., showed, too, that Forts were not necessary for Indian defence. Mounted men were better, and they would be given to the country whenever it became necessary.

Mr. Porter of Michigan persisted in his amendment, and thought he found a recommendation for it in the present year in the Report of the War Department, dated June, 1841.
Mr. Huntington said the appropriations proposed were comparatively more important than those now under consideration. What had been recommended, if granted, would be completed. What was proposed by Senators could not be complete. He objected to the time and manner, and to the work, if included in the bill. He would vote for the appropriation at the regular session or in the form of a new Bill.

Mr. Linn said he should move an amendment to the bill in behalf of his constituents, and he promised that his friend, Mr. Sevier, would do the same.
Mr. White of Ind. complained again that no appropriation had been made for the Western States.

Mr. Allen proposed an amendment to that offered by Mr. Woodbridge, which was, that a floating defence should be placed upon all the Western waters. It proposed also that \$100,000 should be expended for placing an armed steamer upon Lake Erie.
The vote was then taken upon Mr. Allen's amendment to Mr. Woodbridge's amendment, and it was rejected without a division.
The question returned upon the amendment of the Senator from Michigan.

Mr. Calhoun said he should vote against it, because he intended to vote against the Bill. He considered the system of fortifications as a bad system. To the Naval Defence he looked as the more important defence and not to fortifications.
Mr. Clay of Ky., said he could not vote for the amendment proposed, and that solely upon financial reasons. The treasury would not admit of such expenditures. I have, said Mr. C., some fixed opinions upon the subject of fortifications. I believe there are too many of them. I believe that the bill should be the proper theatre of action. I believe that our Navy should be strong enough to prevent the approach of a foe.

Mr. Buchanan said he intended to vote for the Bill, but that there was no provision in it he would as soon vote for as the amendment for an appropriation at Detroit.
The debate was continued by Mr. Sevier and Mr. Tappan. Mr. Tappan was opposed to fortifications and in favor of protecting the harbors. The population would protect the country at home, and the Navy should protect it abroad. He concurred with the sentiments of the Senator from Kentucky.

The yeas and nays were ordered and the question was here taken upon the appropriation for Detroit. It was rejected, 24 to 21.
Mr. Linn then proposed an appropriation of \$50,000 for Fort Leavenworth and Fort Gibson. This, too, was defended by the Senator from Mo., and then after a word from Mr. Preston, it was rejected without a division.
Mr. Sevier of Arkansas then proposed an amendment of \$50,000 for the defence of the frontier of Arkansas. The yeas and nays were called and the vote stood yeas 19, nays 17.
Mr. Berrien moved an additional section to the bill making provision for the payment of the militia claims of Georgia and Missoi.

The debate ended in the rejection of the Georgia claim, 29 to 11.
The other amendments for State Claims were rejected.
The Bill was then reported to the Senate. The two amendments for surveys (\$30,000) and arsenals (\$40,000) were concurred in.
Mr. Clay, for financial reasons, moved a non-concurrence in the amendment for a Western Hospital. A debate arose, pending which the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Hubbard submitted a resolution of inquiry directing the Post Master General to investigate the cause of the delay of the great Southern Mail in Baltimore—adopted.
petition for defending the Chesapeake Bay by steam vessels and another for a fortification at Havre de Grace were presented by Messrs. Kennedy and Mason.
Mr. Oliver of N. Y., moved the consideration of the Resolution which he gave notice of yesterday as follows:
Resolved, That the Rules of the House be so amended, that all amendments offered in committee of the Whole, whether adopted in committee or not, upon the bill for the establishment of a fiscal bank, shall be voted on in the House, by yeas and nays, one fifth of the members present requiring the same.
Mr. Oliver said this was important resolution, and he trusted that the House would not assent to its adoption. He hoped this, especially, would be granted.

Mr. Fillmore, of N. Y., rose to a question of order. He wished to know if the resolution of his colleague (Mr. O.) was in order. The speaker replied in the affirmative.
Mr. Barker moved to lay the Resolution on the table. Finally, the resolution was rejected, yeas 107—nays 84.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
Before 11 o'clock, a motion was made that the House resolve itself into Committee of the Whole for the purpose of further considering the Bill to incorporate a Fiscal Bank of the United States—Mr. Clark of New York, resumed the Chair.
Mr. John T. Mason, of Md., addressed the House in opposition to the Bill, saying much less of the bill under consideration than the party policies of the country and of Maryland. Mr. Mason contended that the Representatives from the City of Baltimore and from two other election districts misrepresented their constituents upon the subject of a Bank. He would not admit that more than two of the Maryland Districts were in favor of the Bank, and argued that the other five districts were in opposition to the Bill.

Mr. Brown, of Philadelphia, addressed the Committee against the Bank, entering at length and in detail into the legislative enactment of the State of Pennsylvania which led to the charter of the U. S. Bank of Pennsylvania.
Mr. Washington of North Carolina, spoke in behalf of the bill in a very able speech.
Mr. Fernando Wood of New York spoke in opposition to the bill.
The Speaker here resumed the Chair, and the Private Secretary of the President announced to President's signature to the House Squadron Bill.

The debate was then resumed upon the Bank Bill.
Mr. Payne of Ala. addressed the House in opposition to the Bill.
The debate was continued by Mr. Payne until 4 o'clock.
The floor was then given to Mr. Botts. The Committee rose and the House adjourned.
[It is contemplated, I believe, to take the Bill from the Committee on Friday, and in the meantime to give the debate up pretty much to the opposition members.]

SENATE.
WASHINGTON, August 4.
REMOVALS FROM OFFICE.
Mr. Clay of Alabama, offered a resolution asking the Commissioner of the General Land office whether any and if any, how many officers have been added since the present Commissioner came into office. At the suggestion of Mr. Smith of Ind., the inquiry was made to the Secretary of the Treasury instead of the Commissioner of the Land office. The resolution lies over for one day.

AMERICAN WATER ROTTED HEMP.
Mr. Benton offered his Resolution in relation to American Water Rotted Hemp, calling upon the Secretary of the Navy for the purchase, &c. The Resolution being a joint one, was read twice and referred to one of the Standing Committees.

STATE STOCKS.
Mr. Sevier of Ark. offered his resolution calling upon the Secretary of the Treasury to inform the Senate how much of the public money is invested in legacies, State stocks and trust funds. The resolution was adopted, the Senator from Arkansas remarking that he wished the information in season for the Land Bill where the public stocks were alluded to.

PORTIFICATION BILL.
The Fortification Bill was called up as the special order of the day.
Mr. Benton proceeded to defend his amendment in behalf of an appropriation of \$75,000 for the purchase of a site for an Army on the West, North West or South West. Mr. B. spoke at length in defence of the resolution.
Mr. Clay of Ky., said he wished to see a vote of two yeas only—neither windy, hail nor rain—but very gently. The proposition proposed an Army in the North West, South West or West—from Michigan to the Balize, and from Virginia to the Lakes, in any State in three quarters of the Union. It was not a great matter, and yet the locality was every thing.—Where was the necessity of the act. We had an Army at Springfield and at Harper's Ferry, and manufactured 10,000 arms a year. We had now 240,000—enough to serve us in any immediate prospect of war. Mr. Clay said it would take five years to put an Army in operation, and the facilities of the two Armories would place arms in any point of the Union.—One strong reason of opposition to the appropriation at this time was the fact that the finances of the country were not in any condition to meet the expense.

Mr. Preston said he should vote for the appropriation. It had been sustained by the Government.
Mr. King was not sure the Army was necessary. His individual opinion was in favor of it. If the Bill passed, the Army could be erected at Pittsburg.
Mr. White was not altogether convinced of its propriety, but would vote for it. He thought Pittsburg the point where the Army should be placed. He was sure it should not be upon the waters of the East.
After a protracted debate, conversational in its character, in reference to the locality of the Western Army, the vote was taken and the amendment concurred in, 23 to 11.
Mr. Sevier then produced a letter from the Secretary of War, which contained information which led to the withdrawal of the amendment. Mr. S. took occasion to do justice to the Administration in regard to the West. He believed that the country would not be neglected by the Administration.

The amendment for Arkansas not being concurred in, Mr. Allen proposed a second time an appropriation for a floating force upon Lake Erie. Mr. Allen defended his amendment for the reason of British movements upon the Lake and elsewhere. He would never trust to the pacific relations of Great Britain after what he had seen in relation to MeLeod.
The yeas and nays were ordered and the amendment must concurred in by a vote of 23 to 18.
Mr. Porter proposed an amendment for the purchase of a site for a fortification at Detroit.
Mr. Phelps offered an amendment to the amendment, proposing an appropriation for Lake Champlain. He conceived this the most exposed station of the Lakes, and that if amendments were to be offered, Lake Champlain possessed a peculiar claim.

Mr. Mangum begged his friends, if they would not defeat the Bill, not to pile more amendments upon it. If the Senators did, they would defeat important measures, and he should feel reluctantly called upon to postpone the measure to the next session of Congress.
The amendment for Lake Champlain was then rejected, 24 to 16.
The amendment appropriating \$50,000 for the purchase of a site at Detroit was then carried by a vote of 22 to 17.
Mr. Tallmadge then proposed \$50,000 for the purchase of a site for a fortification at Buffalo, which was lost, 21 to 18.
Mr. Henderson then proposed an additional appropriation for the public works at New Orleans, which was rejected, yeas 4, nays 53.

Mr. Woodbridge said, for the reason that the two appropriations for Lake Erie or Detroit would jeopard the Bill, he would move a reconsideration of the vote for the Naval Armament.
Mr. Allen expressed great astonishment at this motion and hoped it would not prevail.
Mr. Wright expressed the same hope. He considered the amendment the best in the Bill. If there was to be danger it would come to us on Lake Ontario.
The yeas and nays were then ordered and the vote was not reconsidered—yeas 22, nays 23.

Mr. Pierce moved to strike out all the amendments which had been adopted in the Senate, and others belonging to the original Bill. The amendment was not in order, and was therefore withdrawn.
The Bill was then ordered to be engrossed as amended.
Mr. Merrick, who has been absent since Saturday, moved to take up the District Bank Bill, sending which, the Senate adjourned.

[In consequence of an omission of our Reporter, it would appear from the proceedings of Tuesday that Mr. Allen's resolution to hold Executive sessions with open doors had passed the Senate. The vote mentioned by our Reporter was on a motion of Mr. Clay to lay the resolution on the table, which was carried.]

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
The resolution submitted on Tuesday proposing that all debate should cease on the Fiscal Bank Bill on Friday next, came up for consideration.
Mr. Morgan of New York, offered to modify by extending the time to Tuesday next.
The resolution was rejected by a vote of more than two to one—136 to 55.
Mr. Gilmer of Va. moved to lay the Resolution on the table.
Upon this question the vote was, yeas 97—nays 104. The resolution was then passed, limiting the debate in committee to Friday next at 12 o'clock.

A message was received from the President of the United States relative to Greenough's Equestrian Statue of Washington, now in the city and designed to be placed in the Rotundo of the Capitol. The various appropriations for the execution of the work were recapitulated, and the contract for carrying the work to Washington in the ship Sea, now at the Navy Yard. Further appropriations are declared necessary.
It is a matter of regret that it will be necessary to effect a temporary removal of one of the columns that now adorn the East Portico to admit the work into the Rotundo. The communication was referred together with another from the Postmaster General.

FISCAL BANK.
The House then took up, in Committee of the Whole the Bill from the Senate to establish a Fiscal Bank of the United States. The question before the Committee was a motion to strike out the enacting clause.
Mr. Botts of Va. began to debate by declaring the constitutionality of a National Bank, on the grounds of constitutional authority; the sanction of Washington and Madison were spoken of briefly, and to those were added the decision of the Supreme Court. The hour rolled closed Mr. B.'s remarks, to the regret of his attentive auditors.

Mr. Aaron V. Brown of Tenn. followed and against the Bill.
Mr. Proffitt delivered an animated speech in favor of the Bill, independent, as he declares, of any party bias. He was for a Bank and would vote for a Bank with the best provisions he could get for his constituents. He had promised to do so, and to accomplish such a result he was in favor of a spirit of concession and compromise amongst the Whigs. He knew there existed differences—honest differences—and he called on his political friends to rally like a band of brothers under the banner of the country.

Mr. P. said he knew there were prejudices abroad which led parties to decide on measures in advance. Men should not mortgage their opinion but should give the proposed Whig measure a fair trial. He would not pronounce the establishment of a Bank as a settled question, and instanced General Harrison's letter to S. Williams to sustain the assertion. He preferred Mr. Clay's financial bill, he said, to the one as it stood in Committee, loaded with an heretofore amendment, an indescribable compound of tails and heads. Mr. P. closed with an eloquent and earnest appeal that the friends of the Administration would give the bill a hearty support.

Mr. Milton Brown of Tenn. advocated the bill in a short and good speech. He is a new member and made a good impression.
Mr. Gamble, of Ga., said that though the Bank was not a real question during the late contest in Georgia, the state of the currency, as it was, was condemned on all hands. The Sub-Treasury system was no favorite—the great question now was, had Congress the authority to establish a bank? If it was, is a bank the best plan? He thought it was, and coincided with Mr. Botts, who preceded him in the debate. Indeed he thought it was a closed question. He had no fears that the power was not with Congress to legislate on the subject, as necessary to carry into effect certain defined powers.

Mr. Marshall of Ky. next obtained the floor.
Mr. Stanley of N. C. moved that the Committee rise, but withdrew his motion as there were objections.
The motion, however, was renewed.
Mr. Adams said he would not consent to doing business when less than a quorum of members were present. He would willingly sit here until midnight if the majority were disposed to stay with him. But when less than a quorum were present he was opposed to any legislative action.

The Chairman announced to the House that a quorum was present in the Hall.
The Speaker resumed the Chair, and a motion was made to adjourn and lost, yeas 17, nays 70. Tellers were then ordered upon a motion for a call of the House, and the call proceeded until a quorum was formed at 5 o'clock.
The committee was then again formed and the debate continued when the cars left.

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WATCHMAN.
SALISBURY:
Saturday, August 14, 1841.

Persons indebted to the Editors of this paper, will confer a favor by making immediate payment.

The third Quarterly Meeting for the Rowan Circuit, will be held in this place, on Saturday and Sunday the 21st and 22d inst.

Mr. Clay and the Fiscal Bank.—We invite the readers attention to the speech of Mr. Clay, published in this paper, on the subject of the Fiscal Bank, and the compromise of the conflicting views of the Senate on the power of Congress to establish branches in the States. All candid men must give Mr. Clay great credit for this effort, which resulted in the adoption of an amendment, acceptable to almost the entire Whig Party in the Senate. Henry Clay is entitled to the thanks and admiration of the whole country for the part he has acted towards the establishment of a National Bank. No other man could have accomplished what he has in this matter.

MR. JOHN H. WHEELER, late Superintendent of the Branch Mint, at Charlotte, has published a Card in the "Mecklenburg Jeffersonian," in which he figures very much like a man whose dreaded day of execution had at last arrived. He is ready to go, however, it seems; but it is a hard, a very hard lot to be forced to leave the splendid mansion, in which he has so long lived, and to abandon the magnificent and splendid gardens and grounds, which he has fitted up at immense cost to the Government. To be compelled to give up these things just as they begin to yield their rich fruits, in his opinion, "mal-treatment," such as the poor bees are made to suffer when robbed of the fruits of their hard toil and industry, by some relentless hand to sweeten the cup of power. Poor Mr. Wheeler!—John Tyler, what makes you do so?

But Mr. Wheeler says he is ready to surrender his office, "having been faithful" and "having paid over every cent of the public money." This for him is well, and we think he may take credit to himself, that he is one of the few office-holders under the late Administration that can say as much. We hope no one is able to dispute it. But even if it is true, is that sufficient reason that Mr. Wheeler should always hold a lucrative place under the General Government, when there are so many others as capable of discharging the duties of Superintendent as he is, and every other way as worthy? It certainly is not: Nor do we think it in accordance with the spirit of our Institutions, that one set of men should be continued in office for a great number of years in succession. Let Mr. Wheeler retire then, to the shades of private life; and if he can carry with him a clear and easy conscience, so much the better for him. But in the mean while, we do not like the spirit and object of the gentleman's Card, which is evidently denunciatory of the Administration for exercising its conscientious wisdom in relation to removals. Mr. Wheeler ought to recollect too, that the late decision of the People between Republican Whiggery, and Locofocoism, extends to his case; and that John Tyler would disappoint the wishes and expectations of those who have laid on him the robes of office, if he were to fail in carrying out their principles and wishes.

IMPORTS FREE OF DUTY.

If the following articles are imported into the Country as abundantly after the levy of a Tariff of 20 per cent. as when admitted duty free, which levy is now proposed to be made, they will bring into the Treasury of the Country annually, something like \$9,000,000. The articles are—

Teas, Coffee, Cocoa, Almonds, Currants, Prunes, Figs, Raisins, Macs, Nutmegs, Cloves, Peppers, Pimento, Cassia, Gloger, Camphor.
Silks, lace, veils, shades, and other articles of silk and worsted manufacture; Camlets of goats hair as Cashmeres; Waxed stuff goods; Lintens, Mashed and unbleached; Tickenburgs, on-caburgs, and burials; Sheetings, brown and white; Bolting cloths; Wool, not exceeding 8 cents per lb.; Animals, not for breed; and many other articles, all of which have been heretofore imported into the Country duty free.
The value of the above named articles imported into the Country during the year 1840, is ascertained to have been forty millions, seventy-eight thousand four hundred and twenty-nine dollars; which if they had been subject to a Tariff of 20 per cent. would have brought into the Treasury the handsome sum of \$8,015,685.80, more than half enough to pay the expenses of Government for one year. Leaving out the ar-