



Our motto is the plan of fair, delightful Peace, Unwar'd by party rage, to live like Brothers

GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

BANK QUESTION. House of Commons—Friday Dec. 10. (Debate continued.)

Mr. PICKETT was sorry to be under the necessity of making any additional remarks; but as no other gentleman seemed inclined to notice the observations of the gentleman from Surry (Mr. Williams) he must be permitted to do so. Mr. P. said he had not said that the establishing of a Bank was granting a monopoly. The Legislature has a right to establish Banks provided they are calculated to produce public benefit; but if they are established not having a view to this end, they may produce all the evils which the Constitution intended to guard against when it prohibited the granting of exclusive privileges. It is true that any man, has a right to lend money as well as bankers. But are there not other privileges incident to these corporations? If there were not, you would not see so much interest excited within and without this house on this subject. Their charters permit these men to lend money to three times the amount of their capital. They have another peculiar privilege; they can be sued in their corporate capacity only. But when unincorporated companies conduct a business of this kind, their individual property is liable for their debts as well as that which is vested in the Banking concern.

It was on this account, that he considered that granting of Banking charters as militating against that part of the Constitution which prohibits the granting of exclusive privileges except for meritorious services. Are these privileges to be granted in consideration of services performed or to be performed? If the latter, and a Bank is found not to have been beneficial to the public it ought to be put down.

But it is said the Judiciary has jurisdiction over these corporations & if they act contrary to their duty they will call them to account. From whence does the Judiciary derive this power? It must be either from the constitution of the State or of the U. States. If the Judiciary has the right, the Legislature has the same right. He saw nothing in the constitution which could prevent the Legislature from correcting these institutions or from putting them down altogether.

These, Mr. P. said, were his opinions on this subject; and if the house should think with him, they will no doubt conclude that there is nothing to prevent the Legislature from extending the charters of the Banks of Newbern and Cape Fear. These Banks were in existence at the time the charter was granted to the State Bank; and suppose the creation of a new Bank to the creature, "I have made you and will make no other." This could have no relation to the Banks already in existence. The word establish could not mean to extend.

Mr. P. viewed the State Bank as a valuable establishment; but he feared, if it had no competitors, it would wield the demeracy of the country. So extensive a monied Institution, which reaches out its branches from Raleigh to Salisbury in the West, and to Edenton in the East, might sap the foundation of the Liberties of the State.

But we are told that one Legislature can pledge the public faith, and that a succeeding Legislature cannot alter or abrogate their act. Mr. P. said he would respect the faith of the State when legally pledged; but wherever a former Legislature assumes the power of granting charters which militate against the rights of the Sovereign People, a succeeding Legislature ought to interfere and set them aside. A contrary doctrine would destroy one of our most valuable privileges.

Many appeals, Mr. P. said, had been made to the house on the ruinous consequences which would flow

from a violation of the public faith. These appeals were not calculated to inform the judgment, but to influence the passions of gentlemen. He trusted no such appeal would ever prevent the Legislature from exercising its just rights. If you refuse to extend these charters you refuse to foster Institutions which had a prior existence to the State Bank, and which have afforded considerable aid to the revenues of our country; you will put it in the power of great capitalists to place their funds in the State Bank, and by doing so, excuse themselves from bearing any part of the public burthens.

Mr. P. concluded by saying that he had in as plain a manner as he was capable of doing, endeavoured to shew that the faith of the State would not be violated by granting the prayer of the petitioners; because this Legislature is not bound any further than a former Legislature could bind them. If, said he, I were to employ a man to manage my farm, and he were to proceed to sell the land, would the sale be binding on me? Certainly not. And in this case, the Legislature having exceeded their powers, the act is not binding on this Legislature, or the people of the State.

[Debate to be continued.]

LEGISLATURE OF N JERSEY. GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

The following extracts from the communication of Gov. Pennington, to the legislature of New Jersey, exhibit the language of a Patriot instead of the meretricious pretender to republicanism, the loyal defender of his country instead of the cavilling advocate of the enemy's pretensions. We recommend it to the particular attention of the friends of Gov. Strong, with whose speech it forms a striking contrast.

Gentlemen of the Council, and Gentlemen of the Assembly,

We are at a period of time in which our country has a deep interest—the same feelings of avarice, jealousy and lust of power, on the part of our enemy, which provoked the war, having acquired in its progress the further motives of revenge, still goad him on to an unrelenting hostility to our rights. Forgetting his pretensions to civilization, he appears as it were indignant at his own moderation, & not content with pillage, conflagrations and other outrageous atrocities, committed last summer on the shores of the Chesapeake, he now threatens more destructive depredations from the rules of civilized warfare. It behoves us to meet the extent of his malice. Although the constitution has placed in the general government, the power of calling forth the resources of the country, yet this ought to be aided by the spirit, zeal, and patriotism of the nation. The cordial co-operation of the state governments, constitute a weighty consideration in the scale of defence.—All well informed, considerate men, acknowledge the justice of the war; should any doubt its policy, it might lawfully influence them in the exercise of the right of suffrage, but it does not take from them the obligation of supporting the government and defending the country. There can be no principle more destructive of order and subversive of government, than that part of the members of the community should have a right at their discretion to abstract themselves from their country, and say we did not approve of the war, and therefore are no parties to it. The least reflection will show, that a dissolution of government will be the inevitable consequences of the admission of this doctrine, nor is its pernicious tendency ameliorated by the suggestion, that the nation with whom we are at war are descended from the same stock of ancestors with ourselves, that they speak the same language, and profess the same religion. The obligations of justice are strong upon them for this cause—as soon as they will do us justice, we will be their friends, nay more, their brethren; until this happens, we must view them as an hostile nation, despoiling us of our rights, and to use those means which God has graciously placed in our hands for our own protection and defence.

Every discerning man who will take the trouble to reflect of the present state of the world, will at once perceive that the crisis is pregnant with the events on which the future destiny of our country hangs. The glorious constitution of our general government, the honest boast of statesmen, and the fond hope of patriots, is passing an ordeal, that excites the solicitudes of its friends and encourages the hopes of its enemies. Times of peace and tranquility are not the times to test the stability of a government; it must be enabled to withstand the shock of war and national calamity. This is the first war in which our nation has been seriously engaged since the adoption of our federal constitution, and unfortunately for us, it is with a nation who is the enemy of our independence, of our freedom, of our government, and of our prosperity; and between whom and many of our citizens there are strong connections, and deep rooted attachments. The crisis loudly calls on every virtuous citizen to explode foreign attachments, to stifle domestic dissensions and party animosities, to rally round the standard of his country, and to give a firm support to the government. It is no time to indulge personal animosities and party feelings while our country is in danger—even if ambition should be the object of pursuit, the direct road to it is over our own selfish passions. That man will deserve most of his country, and finally receive its plaudits, who does most to promote its safety, prosperity and independence. In any measure tending to the public good, and general security, you may expect my cordial co operation.

It may be proper, gentlemen, to observe, that the foregoing observations were prepared to be laid before you, before the late communications, between the British government, and that of our own, on the subject of negotiation for a peace were made public—on a careful perusal of those papers, I cannot perceive in them a change in our political situation, sufficient to induce the least relaxation in our military preparations. If the British government is sincerely disposed to pacific measures, and a peace should ensue bottomed on public law and the reciprocal right of independent nations, it will afford a subject of sincere joy to every friend to his country; an honorable door, will in that event be opened to the revival of friendly relations between nations that ought not to be at war, & we shall not regret the exertions made in defence of our country. On the other hand, if nothing more is intended by the British minister than a decent mode of evading the Russian mediation, casting from themselves the odium of refusing to treat, and paralyzing the efforts of our country in prosecuting the war, by our firmness and perseverance we shall save ourselves much self reproach, and afford our country the means of safety and protection.

WM. S. PENNINGTON. New Jersey, Jan 14, 1814.

FROM THE ENQUIRER.

BLUE-LIGHTS.

If the War is continued, we ask whose fault it is? If the star of peace does not rise as soon as the People wish it, to whom will they ascribe the delay?—They will trace it in some degree to the enemy—but in the main, to the rancorous opposition in this country, who has fed the hopes and inflamed the passions of that enemy—but in a particular degree to the Eastern portion of this rancorous faction, whose words and whose measures cannot fail to buoy up the wishes of our enemy for a dissolution of the Union.

The men who lead this desperate faction are on the eve of their fate, if they dare to do, what they dare to say. Their words squint at resistance, re-

bellion and treason—let them but act upon these principles, and they will hang between heaven and earth as traitors and rebels. It is no longer a question between the Republican & Federal party; between this sect and that; but it is a question between government and rebellion; between the Union and the Traitor. No man can hesitate as to the side he will support.

Does the reader require proofs of these positions? What will he say to Harrison Gray Otis's late resolution about Martin Chittenden? The following extract from Gov. Strong's speech to the Legislature of Massachusetts may appear more moderate than one would have expected:

"The late act of the national government interdicting the trade coastwise, between different parts of the same state, as well as between the states respectively and with all foreign nations, contains provisions of such a character as makes it worthy of an inquiry, whether any measures can be properly adopted by this government, which would be likely to induce Congress to repeal them, or to amend them in such a manner as to render their constitutionality less questionable."

But the following paragraph from the Reply of the House of Representatives of Massachusetts breathes a more inflamed and rebellious language:

"With these impressions, we are under a solemn conviction that the time has arrived, in which it is incumbent on the people of this state, to decide whether these burdens are not too grievous to be borne—and to prepare themselves, for the great duty of protecting, by their own vigor, their unalienable rights, and of securing for themselves at least the poor privilege of mutual intercourse by water as well as by land."

"Too grievous to be borne! Then, they are ripe for resistance and civil war!"

That there is some concurrence between some of the heads of the Junto, will appear from the following extracts from the Resolutions of two of their town meetings; the first, of Amherst on the 3d January, and the last of Deerfield on the 10th:

"Resolved, That the representatives of this town in general court, are desired to use their influence to induce that honorable body to take the most vigorous and decisive measures, compatible with the constitution, to put an end to this hopeless war, and to restore to us the blessings of peace. What measures it will be proper to take, we pretend not to describe; but whatever measures they shall think it expedient to adopt, either separately or in conjunction with the neighboring states, they may rely upon our faithful support."

"That measures may be devised and pursued for the removal or prevention of the sufferings and evils before enumerated, is the fervent prayer of your memorialists, who pledge themselves to support the Legislature in such energetic measures as they may adopt for effecting the purposes aforesaid."

No proofs need be drawn from the Boston Junto prints—because they are as contemptible as they are acrimonious.

Yet in spite of these mutterings, we have no doubt but they will turn out to be Words! Words! Words!—it is a system of menace, not of action—to intimidate the general government, if they can, into a complete acquiescence of their demands.

Should these mutterings, however, once degenerate into Overt Acts;—should these bravos once transgress the limits of the law, the die is cast, and the energies of the Union must be vindicated. These blue lights must be put out; for we never shall enjoy peace at home or abroad until the government has proved itself strong enough to crush Treason in the bud. The Executive of the U. States must prepare for the blow—and as soon as the bud of treason appears, and ere it blooms and expands, thousands of swords must leap forth to avenge the constitution.

These men are not Federalists, unless he who was a Friend of Order and a friend of the Federal Government in '98, can be a Rebel and a Traitor in 1814.

Mr. Otis's motion, "resolved that it is the duty of the state of Massachusetts to aid the Governor of Vermont and the people of that State, or any other State, with their whole power, in enabling them to support their constitutional rights, whenever the same shall be in danger of infringement from any quarter, and that it will be the duty of the legislature, whenever requested by the legislature of Vermont, or other State, upon due evidence of such infringement, to make provision by law for their effectual support."

The Recruiting Service.

The most inviting motives address themselves to the man who turns his mind to arms. We offer you, (says the Recruiting officer) a generous pay, greater perhaps than you earn in the present dull pursuits of civil life. There are 50 dolls. on the drum head, 50 as soon as you are mustered, and 24 at the end of the service. We give you rations, clothes, blankets and lodging for nothing. You are at no expence whatever. And you moreover receive 96 dolls. a year for your pay. If you have a family, you can give a part to them.

"If you are wounded in the service of the country, you are put on a pension—if an honorable peace cuts you off, your family will receive a pension from a grateful country. In addition to this, recollect you will receive 160 acres of land, which will be worth at least 320 dollars.—So that if this war terminates in 9 months, which many wise and knowing men think will be the case, you will receive 516 dollars from the public. And what do we ask you to do? To fight in the most glorious cause, which the sun ever shone upon—not to please the ambition of a despot, but for the rights of your country—for which your fathers before you have triumphed or died."

One word to the Recruiting Officers before we part from this subject. "Where are ye? Why sleep ye? Why are not the recruiting drum and life continually heard in the streets of our cities? Arouse! and fill your ranks. Show by your success that the government has not been deceived in the merit which was ascribed to you by your friends."

ESCAPE OF BRITISH PRISONERS.

Nine British officers prisoners in close confinement in Worcester, (Mass.) in retaliation for American officers confined by the British, lately made their escape; five of them have been since apprehended. The Marshal for the district of Mass. has said that their escape was effected by the aid and exertions of some of our own and unworthy countrymen inhabitants of Worcester; of this there can be no doubt, as a writer in a Boston Federal paper, speaking of the marshal's accusation, openly avows his approbation of the treacherous procedure, and declares that he would do the same thing!—More blue light signals have been made to the enemy at New-London, and the wonderfully incredulous citizens of New-London and Norwich, are at length convinced of the fact.

Extract of a letter from a friend in Boston dated January 22d.

"The Republicans have unanimously agreed to support the Hon. SAMUEL DEXTER for governor at the approaching election. He has been apprized of the fact, and agrees to stand a candidate. He is in favor of a vigorous prosecution of the war, and acknowledges its justice; is satisfied the President is desirous of bringing it to a close, as soon as it can be done, in a manner honorable to the nation; heartily despises the present unprincipled opposition, and declares it to be the duty of every honorable, well principled man, to arrest its progress and prostrate the hopes of the factious leaders." Patriot.

Georgia Sugar—We have lately seen several samples of Sugar made in Georgia from Cane, the growth of that state, which was allowed by competent judges to be equal in quality with any made in Jamaica or Louisiana; & from the quantity of Cane raised the last year, nearly all of which was reserved for planting, there is little doubt but that in 2 or 3 years at farthest the greatest quantities will be made in that state, and some in the southern parts of this; and thus add another link to the chain of real independence.