The Spirit Of The Age.

Freedom of Inquiry, and the Power of the People.

BY C. G. EASTMAN. WOODSTOCK, VERMONT, FRIDAY MORNING, AUGUST 7, 1840. VOL. I. NO. 14.

e Spirit Of The Age.

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Job Work,

ATLY EXECUTED AT THIS OFFICE.

e Spirit Of The Age.

MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 1840.

THE FEDERAL CANDIDATE WILL NOT SPEAK HIMSELF, LET THE RECORDS SPEAK FOR HIM.

N. HARRISON, while Governor of Indiana Territo- roved a law passed by the Legislature, to SELL FOR FINE or COST. The same law decreed the ment of THIRTY-NINE STRIPES, to be inflicted person thus sold, *who should abscond from his* HASER! Reader—how do you like this specimen risonism, in addition to the Ohio case, and even than that; for the law specifically includes WOMEN l as *men* to be WHIPPED to full THIRTY-NINE PES."

RRISON AND THE TIVE FRANCHISE.

is therefore enacted, very free male inhab- of the age of 21 years t in the Territory, and th been a citizen of any n the Union or who en two years resident Territory, and holds hold in fifty acres of thin any county of the r any less quantity in nty in which he shall which with the im- nents made thereon, e of the value of one d dollars, or has paid l in virtue of a deed of vance for further as- es from a person vest- h the fee, is in actual sion of five acres of ubject to taxation in nty in which he shall sident, shall be, and reby declared to be ualified electors of rep- atives for the counties ch they are respective- dent.

* * *

JESSE B. THOMAS, aker of the House of sentatives.

B. CHAMBERS, sident of the Council. oved—September 17th,

L. HENRY HARRISON.

HARRISON'S DEMOCRACY.

[See Territorial laws, revised code' of 1807, pages 29 and 30—sections 30 and 31.]

"SEC. 30. When *any person*, or persons shall on conviction of any crime or breach of penal law, be enteneed to pay a fine, with or without the cost of prosecution, it shall and may be lawful for the court, before whom such conviction shall be had, *to order the Sheriff to sell or hire the person or persons so convicted, to service, to any person, or persons who will pay the said fine and costs* for such term of time as the court will think reasonable.

And if such persons, so sentenenced and hired or sold, shall abscond from the service of his or her master or mistress, before the term of such service shall be expired, he or she so absconding, shall on conviction before a justice of the peace, be WHIPPED WITH THIRTY-NINE STRIPES; and shall moreover serve two days for every one so lost.

"SEC. 31. The judges of the several courts of record in this Territory shall give this act in charge to the grand jury at each and every court, in which a grand jury shall be sworn.

JESSE B. THOMAS, Speaker of the House of Representatives.

B. CHAMBERS, President of the Council.

Approved—Sept. 17, 1807.

WILLIAM HENRY HARRISON

JOHN TYLER'S DEMOCRACY.

John Tyler,—The federal candidate for the Vice dency—when a member of the Virginia Convention, against the extension of the right of suffrage, con- g that the only true and legitimate qualification d be a freehold, thus virtually placing all power in nds of the few, that they should control the many.

Extract from Gen. Har- s letter, dated CINNATI Sept. 17, 1822. In your last letter recommended to the dates at the ensuing e- n, to publish their po- l creeds, that the elec- may have a fair oppor- y of choosing those e sentiments best ac- with their own. *I have believed that every e- r has a right to make call upon those who of- their services to the peo-* AND THAT THE CAN- ATES ARE BOUND ANSWER IT.

Extract from the letter of Gen. Harrison's confidential Committee dated Cincinnati Feb. 29, 1840

The policy is that the General make no further declaration of his principles for the public eye whilst occupying his present position.

READ THIS!

THE SOVEREIGN PEOPLE ALWAYS HAVE A HT TO INTERROGATE THOSE WHO ARE CAN- ATES FOR THEIR SUFFRAGES."

Martin Van Buren.

AND THEN THIS.

He (Major Gwynne) was authorized, IN CASES ERE FURTHER OPINIONS WERE ASKED FOR, tate my determination TO GIVE NO OTHER EDGES OF WHAT I WOULD OR WOULD NOT IF I SHOULD BE ELECTED TO THE PRESI- NCY."

Gen. Harrison's letter to Joseph L. Williams.

METHING ABOUT JOHN HENRY: HORACE EVERETT'S FRIEND AND CO-LABORER.

Ve have before spoken of John Henry, as be- a bosom friend and co-laborer of HORACE ERETT. It may not be improper to show what t of a man this Henry was, and what were the igns of the old Washingtonians of this County l State, of whom Mr. Everett was a conspicuous der, and the organ of which, he was one of the tors, and chief supporters. We give a few ex- cts from the correspondence of Henry and Sir nes Craig:

Sir James H. Craig, governor general of the itish provinces in North America, employed a tain John Henry on a mission to the Eastern tes, to ascertain the views of the malcontents, l how far, if they obtained "*a decided influ- ce,*" they would "*exert that influence to bring out a general separation from the general un- n.*" Also "*how far, in such an event, they ul l look to England for assistance, or be dis- se t to enter into a connexion with us*" [the peo- e of Canada.]

EXTRACT FROM LETTER No III.

eneral Instructions from sir J. H. Craig to Mr Henry, respecting his secret mission.

[Most secret and confidential.]

Quebec 6th February, 1809.

'The principal object that I recommend to your ttention, is the endeavor to obtain the most accu- te information of the true state of affairs in that rt of the union, which from its wealth, the num- er of its inhabitants, and the known intelligence nd ability of several of its leading men, must natu- lly possess a very considerable influence over, nd will indeed probably lead, the other eastern tates of America in the part they may take at this portant crisis.'

I shall not pretend to point out to you the mode y which you will be most likely to obtain this im- ortant information. Your own judgement, and he connections which you may have in the town, nust be your gide.

I think it however necessary to put you on your uard against the sanguineness of an aspiring par- y. The federalists as I understand, have at all mes discovered a leaning to this disposition: and heir being under this particular influence at this oment, is the more to be expected from their aving no ill founded ground for their hopes of being nearer the attainment of their object than they have been for some years past.

It has been supposed that if the federalists of the eastern states should be successful in obtaining that decided influence, which may enable them to direct the public opinion, it is not improbable, that rather than submit to a continuance of the difficulties and distress to which they are now subject, they will exert that influence to bring about separation from the general union. The earliest information on this subject may be of great consequence to our government; as it may also be, that it should be informed how far in such an event they would look to England for assistance, or be disposed to enter into a connection with us.

In passing through the state of Vermont, you will of course exert your endeavors to procure all the information that the short stay you will probably make there will admit of. J. H. CRAIG.

JOHN HENRY, Esq.

EXTRACT FROM LETTER No. V.

To his excellency the Governor General, &c. in answer to his letter of instructions.

Montreal Feb. 10, 1809.

As the present moment seems favorable to the interference of his majesty's government in the measures pursued by the federal party in the northern states and more especially as the assembly of Massachusetts is now in session, I think it better to set forward immediately, than wait for any further explanation of the means of carrying on a secret correspondence; which the frequency of safe private conveyances to Canada will render it almost wholly unnecessary

I will be careful not to address your excellency in the body of the letter, nor sign my name to any of them—They will be mearly disignated by the initials A. B. J. H'y.

EXTRACT FROM LETTER No. VI.

Burlington Vermont, Feb, 14, 1809

Sir—I have remained here two days in order fully to ascertain the progress of the arrangements heretofore made for organising an efficient opposition to the general government, as well as to become acquainted with the opinions of the leading people, relative to the measures of that party which has the ascendency in the national councils.

On the subject of the embargo laws there seems but one opinion; namely, that they are unnecessary, oppressive and unconstitutional. It must also be observed that the execution of them is so invidious as to attract towards the officers of government the enmity of the people, which is of course transferable to the government itself; so that in case the state of Massachusetts should take any bold step towards resisting the execution of these laws, it is highly probable that it may calculate upon the hearty co-operation of the people of Vermont.'

'I learn that the governor of this state is now visiting the towns in the northern section of it; and ☞ makes no secret of his determination, as commander in chief of the militia, to refuse obedience to any command from the general government which can tend interrupt the good understanding that prevails between the citizens of Vermont and his majesty's subjects in Canada. ☞ It is further intimated, that in case of war, he will use his influence to preserve the state neutral; and resist with all the force he can command, any attempt to make it a party. I need not add, that if these resolutions are carried into effect, ☞ the state of Vermont may be considered as an ally of Great Britain.'

There is every reason to hope, that ☞ the northern states in their distinct capacity will unite and resist by force a war with Great Britain.—In what mode this resistance will first show itself, is probably not yet determined upon; and may in some measure depend upon the reliance that the leading men may place upon assurances of support from his majesty's representatives in Canada; and as I shall be on the spot to tender this whenever the moment arrives that can be done with effect—there is no doubt that ☞ all their measures may be made subordinate to the intentions of his majesty's government. ☞ Great pains are taken by the men of talents and intelligence to ☞ confirm the fears of the common people, as to the concurrency of the southern democrats in the projects of France; and every thing tends to encourage the belief, that the DISSOLUTION OF THE CONFEDERACY will be accelerated by that spirit which now actuates both political parties.' I am &c. B. A.

EXTRACT FROM LETTER No. VII

Windsor, Vermont, Feb. 10, 1809.

Sir—My last was written at Burlington, the principal town in the northern part of the state of Vermont. I am now at the principal town in the eastern section.'

'The federal party declare that in the event of a war, ☞ the state of Vermont will treat separately for itself with Great Britain; and support, to the utmost, the stipulations into which it may enter, without any regard to the policy of the general government. Should the state of Vermont continue to be represented as it is at present, it would in all probability unite with the neighboring states, in any serious plan of resistance to a war, which it might be expedient to adopt.—This I think is the safer opinion for you to rely on; if indeed reliance ought to be placed on any measure depending upon the will of the rabble, wich is ever changing, and must ever be marked with ignorance, caprice, and inconstancy." I am, &c. A. B.

EXTRACT FROM LETTER No. X.

*Boston March*6, 1809.

'Sir.—I have now ascertained with much accuracy as possible, the course intended to be pursued by the measures and politics of the administration of the general government.'

'I have already given a decided opinion that a declaration of war is not to be expected: but contrary to all reasonable calculation, should congress possess spirit and independence enough to place their popularity in jeopardy by so strong a measure, THE LEGISLATURE OF MASSACHUSETTS WILL GIVE THE TONE TO THE NEIGHBORING STATES: WILL DECLARE ITSELF PERMANENT UNTIL A NEW ELECTION OF MEMBERS; INVITE A CONGRESS TO BE COMPOSED OF DELEGATES FROM THE FEDERAL STATES, AND ERECT A SEPARATE GOVERNMENT FOR THEIR COMMON INTEREST.' A. B.

EXTRACT FROM No. XIII

Boston, March 20 1809.

I am fully persuaded that the farce which has been acting at Washington will terminate in full proof of the imbecility and spiritless temper of the actors. A war attempted without the concurrence of both parties, and the general consent of the northern states, which constitute the bone and muscle of the country, must commence without hope, and end in disgrace. IT SHOULD, THEREFORE, BE THE PECULIAR CARE OF GREAT BRITAIN TO FOSTER DIVISIONS BETWEEN THE NORTH AND SOUTH; and by succeeding in this, she may carry into effect her own projects in Europe, with a total disregard to the resentment of the democrats of this country.

I am &c. A. B.

EXTRACT FROM No. XIV.

Boston April 13, 1809.

'Sir—I send to Mr. R. a pamphlet entitled 'Suppressed Documents.' The notes and comments were written by the gentlemen who has written the 'analysis' which I sent by a former conveyance.—These works have greatly contributed to excite the fears of the men of talents and property? who now PREFER THE CHANCE OF MAINTAINING THEIR PARTY BY OPEN RESISTANCE AND FINAL SEPERATION, to an alliance with France, and war with England. So that should the government unexpectdly and contrary to all reasonable calculation, attempt to involve the country in a measure of that nature, I am convinced (now that the elections have all terminated favorably) that none of the New England states would be a party in it. I am &c. A. B,

EXTRACT FROM No. XVIII.

'It would now be superfluous to trouble your excellency with an account of the nature and extent of the arrangements made by the federal party to resist any attempt of the government unfavorable to Great Britain

I have the honor to be, &c. JOHN HENRY.

EXTRACT FROM No. XXI

Mr Henry's Memorial to Lord Liverpool, enclosed in a letter to Mr Peel, of the 13th of June, 1811, *with a copy of that letter.*

'The undesigned most respectfully submits the following satements and memorial to the Earl of Liverpool.

Long before and during the administration of your lordship's predecessor, the undesigned bestowed much personal attention to the state of parties and to the political measures of the United States of America.

[Here is an erasure of about four lines.]

Soon after the affair of the Chesapeake frigate, when his majesty's governor-general of British America had reason to believe that the two countries would be involved in a war, and *had submitted to his majesty's ministers the arguments of the English party in the United States for an efficient resistance to the general government, which would probably terminate in a separation of the northern states from the general confederacy, he applied to the undersigned to undertake a mission to Boston, where the noble concerns of the opposition were managed. The object of the mission was to promote and encourage the federal party to resist the measures of the general government; to offer assurances of aid and support from his mejesty's government of Canada;* and to open communication between the leading men engaged in that opposition and the governor-general upon such a footing as circumstances might suggest; and finally to render the plans then in contemplation subservient to the views of his majesty's government. *

* Vide the despatches of Sir James Craig in June 1808.

Such, freemen of the 3d district, was the man, such the designs of the man, who, while in Vermont, was protected and fed by Horace Everett, and the other leaders of the Washingtonian party. From Horace Everett, Josiah Dunham, John M. Pomroy, and that band of treasonable conspirators, who lived in Burlington and Windsor, in those days, John Henry learned, how far the "malcontents, if they should obtain a decided advantage, would exert their influence to bring about a separation from the General government, and how far in such an event they would look to England for assistance." With these men he consulted, and was advised what information to give to his employer, Sir James Craig. From these men he learned the plans, the hopes and the determinations of the Washingtonians in this State. By these men he was told to communicate to his master "that, in the event of a war "THE STATE OF VERMONT WOULD TREAT SEPERATELY FOR ITSELF WITH GRRAT BRITAIN"!! By these men he was told that—God of our fathers! we can hardly force our pen through this sentence—

"THE STATE OF VERMONT MAY BE CONSIDERED AN ALLY OF GREAT BRITAIN"!

By them he was told to inform his master—"every thing tends to encourage the belief, that the DISSOLUTION OF THE CONFEDERACY will be accelerated by that spirit which now actuates both political parties." In treasonable meetings with these men, he chuckled and gloated over the hope of such an event. And these men, now, claim to be Jeffersonian, Madisonian, war Democrats, and declare that those who supported Mr. Madison and the war then, and support Mr. Van Buren now, are federalists!

For twelve years the old Madisonian democrats have been deceived into the support of Horace Everett, a man who, as identified with federal principles, not as a *man*, they condemned and abhorred. Have they yet forgotten their hatred of the bitter and anti-republican faction of which he was the head? Have they forgotten with what just anger they saw the leaders of that faction, now their leaders and the exclusive democracy of the district, cheer and rejoice at the defeat of our arms? Have they forgotten the blue ribbons they wore in their button-holes to celebrate our disasters? Have they forgotten their treasonable meetings—their abuse of Mr. Madison—their insults to McDonough and our soldiery?—Have they forgotten all these things? How many of their votes could Horace Everett have obtained in those days, when he was reviling them and their principles? Why do you, old Republicans, support him now, without his having changed? His principles are the same. He has not changed. He is as much opposed to the principles of Jefferson and Madison now as he was then, if the real truth could be elicited from him. His friends, the body of his leading friends, are the same, in all but the name, and that name they once applied to you as a term of reproach. They have assumed it only to deceive you—to play the Ass in the Lion's skin, with you. Do n't you believe this? It is the same game they always have played with you. It is the same game they always will play with you so long as you trust them.

☞ *An* OLD REPUBLICAN *voting for an* OLD FEDERALIST!! Tell it not! tell it not! How are the mighty fallen—fallen—fallen.

For the Spirit of the Age.

The whig conventions have terminated for the present. Their nominations are all made. The wheels of the log cabins, under which, like the temples of Juggernaut, they have attempted to crush, body and soul, the honest yeomanry of the country, have ceased to grate upon our ears with their harsh cresking. The fumes of the hard cider, with which they made their libations to their mock hero, are fast evaporating. Reason is resuming her empire, and many who have been allured by the parades and processions and mottos and banners and music which have streamed before their eyes and rattled in their ears from the period of the Baltimore Convention until the recent fourth of July celebrations, begin to turn their thoughts inward, and to ask themselves, why have we been led away by this ridiculous mummery and childish pageantry. As some, perhaps, cannot answer this question, we will attempt the answer ourselves.—Man is naturally a gregarious animal; fond of herding and uniting with his fellow men; easily acted upon by external influences for the time being, and most easily affected when in a crowd. Numerous instances, ancient and modern, can be adduced to prove the truth of this, from the shout of the masses assembled to listen to the exhortations of Peter the Hermit, "It is the will of God," to the present war cry of the whigs, "Huzza for old Tip." The leaders of the whig party understand this principle of human nature, and have not been backward in taking every advantage of it. Instead of temperate and manly discussions of principles, their conventions and meetings have been characterized by shoutings and feastings and revelry, whilst the air has reverberated with their horrid yells, "making night hideous." The leading whigs themselves, do not hesitate to declare that this is a part of their plan to run in their candidate. They say that the great majority of the people require these parades and shows, in order to create an interest and enthusiasm in the cause of their 'hero.' And they justify themselves, by ascribing similar measures to the friends of Gen. Jackson during his canvass for the Presidency. Let us now compare the two cases and see how they agree. Gen. Jackson was taken up by the *people*, and in both terms elected by them by a triumphant majority, against the combined forces of federalism, and all other *isms*. He was a democrat from his youth, and endeared to the democracy by his long and faithful services, civil and military, and by the shameful and infamous abuse he received from his political enemies. Gen Harrison, on the contrary, is supported by the very party that so bitterly opposed Gen. Jackson. He is now and ever was a federalist and an enemy of the people. His services, such as they are, have been more than paid by 160,000 dollars of the people's money which he has received or owes the government. We do not wish to say any thing derogatory to his military services, but we humbly conceive, that if the country owed him a debt for them, over and above what he has received in his pay proper, he has been munficently rewarded and paid in his present office of Clerk of a Court, which yields him a salary of from six to ten thousand dollars.

The difference between the hurrah for Jackson, and the hurrah for Harrison, is, simply this:—The former was raised by the *people* to destroy the political power of the federalists, which was fast crushing them under the worst of servitude, the servitude of mammon; whilst the latter is raised by the federalists, the *enemies of the people*, to crush them with their own assistance, and reduce them once more to the galling fetters of the Banks. In getting up this hurrah, and imagining for a moment that it will have any permanent effect upon an intelligent and enlightened yeomanry, the whigs have committed an insult upon their understandings, which they will not be slow to perceive and resist in a proper manner at the approaching election. The honest and independent freemen will perceive ere that time arrives, that the present contest is not a mere personal contest between two individuals, to be decided by their relative moral, political or social characters, but a contest of *principle*—a contest which will determine for the next four years, perhaps forever, the political complexion of the United States. It is to determine whether the people are to keep the government in their own hands, or are to surrender it to an unprincipled, profligate, moneyed aristocracy, to be administered for their own profit and aggrandizement,—whether the people's money is to be in their own control, or to be delivered up to a Bank to be used in speculation, bribery and corruption,—whether we are to have a splendid government, supported by a large standing army, to provide places for "younger sons," or to leave the protection of the country to its only constitutional defence, the militia,—whether the magnificent plans of J. Q. Adams on the subject of internal improvements are to be followed out, and a National debt contracted in order to complete them, or whether internal improvements are to be left with the States, where the constitution places them,—whether the enormous amount of State debts contracted in Europe are to be assumed by the general government and funded, thereby creating a National debt, on the old federal ground thet "a national debt is a national blessing," or whether the States are to be left to pay their own debts as best they may.

These are some of the important principles which the intelligent freemen will discover, divide the two individuals now in the political arena as candidates for the highest office in the world. The one, Mr. Van Buren, is not only *pledged* to go with the *people* in this contest, but he has given earnest of it by the highminded and upright course he has pursued during his administration. The other, Gen. Harrison, refuses to give any pledges, or even to explain his views on those points of national policy, and demands that the people shall support him with a "generous confidence" in his friendship for them. What has he ever done to entitle him to this generous confidence? Was it his approval of that infamous act of Indiana Legislature condemning the people to be sold as slaves for fines and costs, and to thirty-nine stripes for escaping from their masters? or was it his more recent and equally infamous vote in the Senate of Ohio of a similar character? Let the people beware of such friendship. It is the friendship of the wolf for the lamb. It would be as judicious to trust the virtue of a wife or daughter in the hands of a professed libertine, as to trust the liberties of the people in the hands of an old black cockade federalist. But it may be asked, since Gen. Harrison has made no disclosures of the principles upon which he means to administer the government if elected, how do we know that he will not administer them according to the feelings and interests of the democratic party. We answer, we know his sentiments from those of his friends and supporters. Look at them in this State, this district, and throughout the whole country. You see a motly array of old tories and federalists; bank men, antimasons, conservatives, abolitionists, pro-slavery men, Brokers and speculators, of the seven principles which Harrison ascribes to John Randolph, five loaves and two fishes; a heterogeneous mass, bound together by no common tie but hatred to the democracy, the people of the country. In our large commercial cities he is recommended by his friends as in favor of a U. S. Bank; at the South he is represented as inimical to such an institution. Amongst abolitionists he is represented as in favor of the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia and territories; at the South he is declared to be averse to meddling with it. In the West he is in favar Internal improvements; in the East, opposed to it. Like the Chameleon, his hues are constantly changing.

We do not address this to the vile leaders of the combinations of factions who are handed together in the traitorous design of wresting from the people their liberties, but we address it to the *people* themselves; the farmers, mechanics, and laborers, the physical and moral power of the country. We ask them to examine the picture we have presented to them of the consequences of the election of Gen. Harrison. It is no fancy sketch, but a sober living reality. We ask them if they are prepared to deliver themselves, bound hand and foot, to the Bank aristocracy; to sell themselves and their children like Esau for a mess of pottage, and to follow the car of Federalism to the shouts of log cabins and hard cider? We trust not. We have too much respect for their understandings to believe it. Their "sober second thought" will enable them to see and avoid the trap that is set for them, and to spurn their seducers with scorn and contempt. But, should they yield themselves a willing prey to the insidious arts of their enemies, and throw their votes in favor of the federal candidate, it will do more to convince monarchists of the truth of their favorite doctrine, that the people are incapable of self-government, than any thing that has occurred since the revolution. To the rescue then, freemen. Democrats, gird on the armor of truth and principle, and instead of hard cider and log cabins, let your rallying cry be, "The sword of the Lord and of Gideon"—"Liberty and equality, now and forever." GALUSHA.

READ!

A FARMER'S VIEWS OF THE INDEPENDENT TREASURY.

Speech of Mr. John Davis,

OF PENNSYLVANIA,

In the House of Representatives, June 27th, 1840,

On the Independent Treasury Bill.

Mr. DAVIS said—Mr. Chairman, before I proceed to the consideration of the great and important national question now before the committee, I will read an extract from the Boston Courier, a modern whig paper. It is as follows:

"As well might a blacksmith attempt to mend a watch, as a farmer to legislate. What mischiefs are sure to be enacted, when a man born to nothing but the plough tail, undertakes to legislate."

Mr. Chairman, I am the kind of person herein described. I was born to no inheritance but the plough tail; and I have ploughed all day, from sun up until dark, since I have been elected to a seat on this floor. I know very well, sir, that this is not an uncommon opinion in a certain quarter. It is as old as the constitution under which we live. Whether I am qualified for this station or not, is a question alone for my constituents, who have sent me here.

As I have not heretofore consumed any of the time of the House, I now ask the indulgence of the committee, while I present some of the reasons that will influence my vote on this important question.

The gentleman from Massachusetts, [Mr. Reed] who has just taken his seat, the gentlemen from Pennsylvania, [Messrs. Sergeant and Cooper,] and the gentlemen from Kentucky, [Messrs. Pope, White and Andrews,] as well as most other gentlemen who have spoken in opposition to this bill, have charged the present administration with being the cause of the suspension of specie payments in 1837 and 1839, and all the consequences attending them; such as the derangement of the currency, the issuing of shinplasters, the reduction of the price of produce, and turning the poor laboring man of employment to starve; for the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. Sergeant] informed us that they were in a state of starvation. All these evils they say have come upon the country by Mr. Van Buren's tampering with the banks; for which he has been called a currency tinker, and other odd names. Now if this be true, as charged over and over again on this floor, and in the opposition papers, it is the strongest reason that has been offered why a separation of the government from the banks should take place. Nothing that the friends of the bill have said in its favor can be more striking to the public mind than that—if the President has the power to do so much mischief, it should be taken from him. Had I been opposed to this bill when I came here, (which I was not,) I have heard enough from its enemies to convince me that it should pass.

I am pleased that my honorable colleague from Philadelphia [Mr. Sergeant] has at length made known to us the principal cause of the opposition to this bill. He, of all other gentlemen on this floor, has had the best opportunity to be informed on that particular subject. He represents the bank interest of Pennsylvania, and of all other men is acquainted with their views, wishes, feelings and interests. In examining this bill, the gentleman said that the amount of money appropriated in it was $21,000. This appeared on the face of it: but there was something, he said, that was covered up in it, which was hid from the public view, but which would be perfectly apparent when he mentioned it. The secretary of the treasury, and the friends of the bill, he said, had admitted that it would require five millions of dollars to be all the time in the treasury. Here, said Mr. D., I think the gentleman has misunderstood the secretary.—He said that there would not be likely to be more than that amount in the treasury at any one time, and not that that amount would be all the time in the treasury. The interest on that sum, said the gentleman, at 7 per cent, will be $350,000, to which add the $21,000, makes $371,000; but you may double this sum, said he, for it will take ten millions of dollars instead of five, and that will be $742,000 per annum drawn from the tax payers unnecessarily by this bill. This, then, said Mr. D., may be said to be the reason given by the bank interest for their opposition to it.

I have taken some trouble to look into this interest account, by examining the monthly returns of the Bank of the United States for the sixteen years that she was the fiscal agent of the government; and then taking the annual returns of the deposite banks, from the removal of the deposites to the suspension in 1837, and the following has been the result of that examination:

Amount of deposites in the United States Bank according to the monthly returns:

1818	$7,609,501 90	1826	$6,993,350 45
1819	2,960,718 68	1827	7,623,228 18
1820	2,965,018 58	1828	8,032,255 80
1821	2,337,071 46	1829	8,168,025 59
1822	3,485,118 30	1830	7,899,904 29
1823	6,874,418 31	1831	8,186,241 21
1824	8,081,076 98	1832	11,337,722 21
1825	6,393,766 74	1833	8,529,040 61

The average annual amount in the treasury during the above period was $6,717,191 17. Upon this I had calculated an interest of 6 per cent, but as the gentleman, who understands interest better than I do, has charged 7 per cent, he will not complain, I trust, if I should adopt the same rule for his friends, which will make $7,523,254 11, whole amount of interest received on the deposites. But this is not all. I am informed that the rule of banking is to issue two dollars in paper for every dollar of deposites, and loan that out also. If this is the fact, then the interest account of the United States Bank alone is D22,569,662 33.

In the deposite banks, I have taken the amount reported to be on hand at the end of each year. I now show the balance in the treasury, as presented to congress by the secretary of the treasury:

1834	$11,702,905 31	Interest	$702,774 31
1835	8,892,858 42	"	533,571 50
1836	26,749,803 96	"	1,694,988 23
1837	45,968,523 86	"	2,758,111 43
			$5,599,445 47

If this amount was all the time in the banks, the interest accruing on it at 6 per cent would be D5,599,445 47; but at 7 per cent it will be D6,524,986 40. Apply the same rule to this that we did to the other, viz. that they issue two dollars in notes for each dollar of deposite, and loan that out also, and you have the sum of D19,574,858 21. Add this to the profits of the United States Bank, and you have the round sum of D41,144,420 44 realized by less than one hundred banks, by their having the custody and use of the public money. This explains the reason to a great extent, of the opposition to the bill now under consideration.—Those gentlemen who live by their wits, and not by their labor, understand all these things.

Here it will be proper to remark that a portion of the money in the United States Bank belonged to the sinking fund, under the act of of March 5, 1817, setting apart ten millions of dollars to pay the interest and also to reduce the principal of the debt of the revolution and late war. On the 12th of February, 1816, the whole debt amounted to D123,630,692 95. On the 30th September following it was reduced to D168,745,818. The whole average annual amount in the bank for 16 years was D6,717,191 17. Of this sum I think it is fair to charge D2,000,000 to the sinking fund, leaving D4,717,191 17 as the amount applicable to ordinary expenses all the time in the treasury for 16 years. From this it would appear that the sum of D5,000,000, as estimated by the secretary of the treasury, is not much out of the way, and not D10,000,000, as the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. Sergeant] supposed.

The worst times, said the gentleman, that the country has ever seen, has been under the subtreasury system. Now I am certain, said Mr. D., that my honorable colleague does not intend to mislead the committee or the public in this matter, but he has surely forgotten the distress in the country about twelve years ago. I will here relate my own personal experience at that period; and experience, we all know, is the best of teachers. It is not necessary, therefore, for me to go to the statistics of the country, when my own experience is a component part of them.

In 1816, wheat brought, in Philadelphia market, where the gentleman resides, three dollars per bushel; corn D1,75 to D2; oats 75 to 80 cents.

In 1821, prices sunk down so low that wheat brought only 62 1-2 cents, corn 31 cents, and oats only 18 3-4 cents per bushel. I ploughed the ground, and sowed the seed, cut it, threshed it, and hauled it to market, at both those periods. The land on which this grain grew cost, in 1815, D125 per acre, and at that time it would not bring more fifty dollars. Mechanics, who had received D1,25 cent per day, and were found, were reduced down to 62 1-2 cents, and many were out of employment altogether, and other laboring men received wages in the same proportion. Land fell from D125 to D50, and in some cases lower. Hundreds and thousands of honest farmers who had passed the meridian of life, and, by a long course of industry, had accumulated a little property to make comfortable in old age, if they were one-fourth in debt for their land, and were pushed for it, the whole was swept from them. Or if a man had one farm clear, and a second one for which he owed one-half the purchase money, it took them both to pay the debt. As gentlemen of the bar generally fatten on the miseries of the people, I presume the gentlemen did not experience any embarrassment at that time.

What will the farmer say at this time? Why, his produce won't sell for as much as he formerly got for it.

Here again I will you my own practical experience. My last year's crop brought me more money than any one crop of the last three years. The increased quantity more than made up for the diminution of price. This is the case also with many of my neighbors. I recently received a letter from a farmer in my neighborhood, who informed me that he had sold from his last year's crop 437 dollars worth of hay, and that he had yet four or five tons to spare, which would make it up to D500. He had besides this, his wheat, corn, and oats to sell, and he owns and works only about 90 acres of land. We farmers know that when we have an abundant crop (all other things being equal) the price will be lower than when the crop is short. It is therefore not always the best times for farmers when prices are very high, because it is generally owing to a short crop. It requires a certain quantity of grain for the use of his family and stock, and if he consumes it all, the high price is of no advantage to him. We had better have two hundred bushels of wheat at one dollar, than one hundred at two dollars per bushel. For example—say that it takes 50 bushels for bread and seed. In that case we would have 50 bushels left, at two dollars, making one hundred dollars, and in the other case, we would have 150 bushels left at one dollar, making one hundred and fifty dollars. But, sir, we are like other men—we like big crops