



ARE NOT NATIONAL BANKS NATIONAL PAUPERS?

This is a brief but pointed question. The idea of a National Bank being a pauper may strike many as absurd, but it is nevertheless true. There is no doubt of it. A pauper is one who is dependent on the community for support. National Bank is supported by the government. The government gives to the National Bank over eighteen million of dollars a year. What does the government gain by this gift? Nothing absolutely nothing! And not only does the government do this, but special privileges are conferred—privileges which are invaluable to the Banks and in hostility to a republican form of government—privileges which give A, B, C, D and E the right to make out of the government at least 11 per cent. profit on their investment if they are National Bankers, and denies F, G and H this right. The reader may not understand us, but we will illustrate our idea.

Suppose we desire to start a National Bank with a capital of \$100,000. We must first raise \$100,000, and buy United States bonds. If these are 5-20's we receive semi-annually \$5,000 in gold, or \$5,000 a year. The government then gives us \$90,000 in National Bank notes, which we can readily loan away at 6 per cent. interest per annum, which would yield \$5,400 a year. Add this to the \$5,000 in gold, the interest received for our bonds, and we have the sum of \$10,400. But gold is worth 85 per cent. more in greenbacks, and \$9,000 in gold is equivalent to \$8,100 in greenbacks; so that for our investment of \$100,000 in greenbacks, by but simply loaning away the money, without any banking at all, we receive an interest of \$13,500 a year.

Does not this plain demonstration show the reader that National Banks are national paupers? Does not a National Bank with a capital of \$100,000 receive as a freight, annually, from the National Treasury, \$7,600, this being the amount in excess of legal interest? Now, what does the government receive in return for this large sum of money, we ask? Can any person point to any consideration? There is none. And who is the government? We answer, the honest men and women of this country—the masses who earn an honest livelihood by toil—and can it be that the hard earnings of the working masses should be given away to a few National bankers, whose only object is to enrich themselves at the expense of the American people? We say that National Banks are National paupers, and paupers of the worst kind—gentlemanly paupers; soft-handed paupers; well-dressed paupers; paupers who combine together to put up the price of the necessities of life; paupers whose object it is to crush out, if possible, individual enterprise; paupers who wish to loan money to favorites; paupers who refuse loans to prompt business men; paupers who seek to control society because they are fed on Government pay; paupers who engage in crying down a private banking house because, forsooth, its deposits exceed four times that of any one of these National curses; paupers who live by double-dealing, lying, and all manner of misdoings in the long category of crime.

Proclaim it that National Banks are National paupers. They should be put down. They are relics of Kingcraft, and in opposition to a government of the many against the few. We speak our sentiments boldly, for we have heard of the threats, intimidations, and appliances made use of by these leeches to crush out men's opinions. We hope for the prosperity of our growing city of Reading that the day for National Banks to control monetary, political and social relations has passed, because now we have a private Banking House which is conducted by men who are true to themselves, and false to no one who has dealings with them. Let our motto be justice before the law to all men; favors to none! This is Democracy, pure and unadulterated, and which we will do our utmost to have prevail. We call upon the people to assist us, and God will give us victory.

NATIONAL BANKS. Evening Dispatch.

Last evening the Dispatch entered the lists in defence of National Banks.

We have no personal feelings against the National Bankers of this city. We have the highest respect and regard for some of them. We oppose National Banks from principle. We believe that it would be better for the farmer, manufacturer, laboring man and working women if there were no National Banks. We are Democratic in politics, and think and believe that corporate privileges should not be granted except where the enterprise is beyond the reach of private capital, such as the building of railroads, etc. In every other instance we are inexorably and always opposed to corporations. They are monuments of kingcraft and aristocracy, and do not belong to Democratic government. We believe that no laws should be made that discriminate against the people and in favor of a few. Class legislation is wrong. We are its unflinching and open enemy, and trust that as long as life lasts we may strive to derive a half's breadth from this position. This being our platform our road is clear.

It is to do all that lies within our power to oppose class legislation, whether we hit friend or foe. Does any Democrat believe that banking cannot be done by private bankers? Has not private banking been carried on for years and has not proven profitable to the bankers and satisfactory to the people? This being the case, we say that it would be better for the merchant, manufacturer, artisan, jobber and laboring man to deal with private bankers. They receive for their deposits from private bankers three per cent. for their money on call, four per cent. when left on deposit for thirty days, and five per cent. for one year. The laboring man can deposit his one dollar or fifty cents with a private banker and receive his interest for it; whereas if he would loan the same to one of our National Banks he could not get one cent of interest. We say, therefore, that private bankers are of great advantage to the public at large. Who, then, we ask, is the friend of the laboring man, business man and poorer classes, the Dispatch, backed by the National Banks, or the Exaon, advocating the cause of the people against aristocracy, (codfish or gontine) labor against capital, and the right against wrong.

We say, in conclusion, that the wages of labor have been reduced in this city in the middle of winter. Who is the laboring man's friend, the National Banker and the Dispatch, who have put down wages in the middle of winter, or private bankers, like Messrs. Bushong, whom the Dispatch has personally dragged into this controversy, who, in the middle of winter, gave each one of their employees a New Year's present of one month's salary? Behold the contrast, and reflect! Are these National Banks martyrs to the public interests? Do they do business for the public benefit, and not for their own private gain? There is no use in the Dispatch and its backers attempting to make the people of this city and county believe that a paper dollar is as good as one of pure silver. It won't do, gentlemen, the people of this city and county know what is right and what is wrong, and they have a great deal of common sense in addition, even though they do "talk Dutch!"

BEN. BUTLER'S FINANCIAL BILL.

The following is the bill introduced into the House of Representatives on Wednesday by Mr. Butler. It is causing some excitement in financial circles.

A bill to authorize the issue of a national currency, to assure its stability and elasticity, to lessen the interest on the public debt, and to reduce the rate of interest.

Be it enacted, etc., That the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized and directed, after the 30th day of June next, to issue, on the faith and credit of the United States, \$800,000,000, and such further sum as may be required to carry into effect the provisions of this act, in the form of national bank notes, of the value of the United States, not bearing interest, and of such amounts as he may deem expedient, of not less than one dollar each, which shall be receivable in payment of all taxes, duties, excises, debts and demands of every kind due to the United States, and for all claims and demands against the United States of every kind whatever, except where the law creating such claim or demand requires that the same shall be paid in gold, and shall be lawful money and legal tender in payment of all public and private debts, except as aforesaid, within the United States, and shall be receivable in payment of all loans made to the United States. Said certificates of value shall be in the similitude of Treasury notes heretofore issued, except that they shall bear only their full value, the denomination of value for which they are money, together with appropriate signatures, checks and numbers as may be best to prevent an over issue, or forgeries, and on the back thereof shall be printed the provisions of the law under which they are passed.

Sec. 1. That after the 30th day of June next, the National Banks shall cease to be banks of issue, and all taxes on their circulation shall thereupon cease; and it shall be the duty of every collector or other officer having received in payment of a debt or tax due the United States, and all bills heretofore issued by any National Bank, to return the same on the first day of each succeeding month until the first day of January, 1870, when such bills shall be no longer receivable, but shall be returned to the Comptroller of the Currency to be cancelled and destroyed in his presence, and in the presence of the Treasurer of the United States and the Registrar of the Treasury, of which destruction a memorandum containing the amount of the bills, their numbers and the name of the bank issuing them, shall be made in a book kept for that purpose, and signed by the officers aforesaid. And such collector or other officer shall be credited in his account with the amount so returned, and the same shall be done with all other bank bills and legal tender notes now issued, or which shall be issued, when they are returned to the Treasury.

Sec. 2. That whenever the bills of any National bank received in payment of any debt or tax due to the United States shall be returned to the Comptroller of the Treasury, he shall charge on the amount thereof three hundred and sixty-five hundredths per cent. interest per annum, in coin, which shall be deducted from the amount of interest payable by the United States to said bank on the bonds lodged for security of said bills, until an equal amount of certificates of value, or of the three per cent. certificates issued in pursuance of the act of March 18th, 1867, and the act of July 3d, 1868, shall be paid into the Treasury of the United States by each bank, whereupon a pro rata amount of said bonds shall be returned to such bank.

Sec. 3. That after the thirty-first day of December next no National Bank bill shall be received by any officer of the United States in payment of any public debt or tax, but each of the National Banks may, at any time, return to the Comptroller of the Currency, an amount of certificates of value of convenient denomination for payment and circulation, or credit on his account, as he may select; and on the first of each month thereafter, every such officer shall make like return of all such legal-tender

notes as may come into his possession, and receive like payment or credit thereon. The United States shall not be liable for any interest or money save certificates of value, except as herein provided. Sec. 6. After the 30th day of January next, no person or association, whether banking or other, owing any bond of the United States, of one hundred dollars, or any multiple thereof, payable to bearer, bearing six per cent. in coin, with the coupon for interest interest attached, may present the same to the Treasurer, or any Assistant Treasurer, of the United States, or any other public officer, to be designated by the Secretary of the Treasury for that purpose, and who shall have lodged in the Treasury of the United States sufficient security, and shall receive therefor 90 per cent. of the par on its face in certificates of value, in such denominations as he may choose, paying on the amount at the rate of three hundred and sixty-five hundredths per cent. per annum, interest in coin for the said certificates, and shall be returned an equal amount of said certificates to the Secretary of the Treasury, and said bond or bonds shall remain in the Treasury as security for the certificates so delivered and the interest thereon, which shall be deducted from the interest to be paid by the United States on such bonds; and at any time after thirty days, the owner of any bond so pledged in the Treasury of the United States, may return certificates of value equal to the par value of the value thereof, and receive back his bond, and coupons, if so desired, as before provided, less the interest, and said certificates and the amount thereof paid to him; and the Treasurer or Assistant Treasurer where said bond is pledged, shall, during the time of its deposit, pay to the owner thereof the accrued interest thereon, beyond that which said certificates once in every six months.

Sec. 7. The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to cause to be coined and received by the public, and to be legal tender and lawful money for any sum less than one dollar, as fractional currency of the denomination of ten cents and upwards, in the similitude of silver coin, of silver so alloyed with copper or other metal as to be fifty per cent. less in value than the denomination thereof, and therewith to redeem the fractional paper currency of the United States, when presented to the Treasurer or any Assistant Treasurer of the United States in sums of five dollars and upwards, after the 30th day of June next, and on the 30th of December next, such fractional paper currency shall not be received by any officer of the United States except for redemption as before provided.

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY.

FRIDAY, Jan. 16.

The Virginia Conference Committee had interviews with General Grant, Secretary Schofield, and prominent Congressmen, yesterday. The committee to negotiate for the transfer of a portion of Florida to Alabama, called upon the Governor of Florida, and presented their credentials yesterday.

Lieutenant Governor Ounback, of Indiana, has been nominated for U. S. Senator, by the Republican caucus of the Legislature of that State.

Gen. Gillom was before the Reconstruction Committee, yesterday, and testified that the Reconstruction Constitution was rejected in Mississippi, by a fair vote.

Governor Fairchild's message was sent to the Wisconsin Legislature, yesterday. The State debt is \$2,262,057.

S. T. Couch's dry goods store, at Cold Spring, N. Y., was robbed on Wednesday morning, of several hundred dollars' worth of goods.

The President, yesterday, nominated to the Senate, Hon. Thomas B. Florence, as Internal Revenue Assessor, for the Second Pennsylvania District.

The delegates to the National Bricklayers' Union, in session at Washington, paid their respects to the President yesterday. Mr. Johnson, in acknowledging their visit, referred to his record as an illustration of his respect for labor.

The steamship Gulf City, from Galveston, for New York, has been totally wrecked off Cape Lookout. Of 25 persons on board, only three, who were picked up by the W. P. Clyde, are known to be saved.

James Laird, Deputy U. S. Marshal of Wyoming Territory, was shot dead by Chauncey Bailey, at Napaciville, Ill., on Tuesday night.

In Louisville, a few nights since, a man named Weathers, while intoxicated, asked his little son to spell a word. This the child could not do, whereupon he beat it savagely, and then held it over the fire until its body was all blistered. He has been arrested for the crime.

The "Ku Klux" carried off a colored horse thief from the jail at Matfieldboro, Tenn., on Wednesday night. What they have done with him is not known.

The Working People.—The gas and steam fitters of New York city report their daily wages at \$3.60 for nine hours' labor. The stone masons report their average wages at from \$18 to \$20 per week of sixty hours. The National Bricklayers' Convention, now in session at Washington, reports eighteen new unions as formed in 1898. The number of unions at present is 62, distributed as follows: New York, 23; New Jersey, 11; Pennsylvania, 9; Connecticut, 4; Kentucky, 2; Indiana, 2; and Virginia, 1.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

SALESWOMAN WANTED.—An experienced saleswoman wanted for a Millinery and Trimming Store. Apply to NEW YORK MILLINERY STORE, 324 Penn street, Jan 15-16.

ROOSTERS ON DIME! A HOG will be slaughtered at Bridgeport, formerly Kusling's Bridge, weighing between 400 and 700 pounds, on TUESDAY, JANUARY 19th, at 10 o'clock. One and all are invited to come, as a Box is open for GUESSING, at 25 cents a chance; also, one at 10 cents a chance. Jan 15-16 BEN. ARANCE.

KEYSTONE OPERA HOUSE! SIX NIGHTS ONLY! COMMENCING MONDAY, JANUARY 18TH, 1898. LOGRENIA.

The great conjurer, with his Tromper LEARNED HINDS, performing WHITE MAGIC and trained RUSSIAN CATS.

100 PRESENTS 100 will be given away every night. Matinee, Saturday, for the purpose of the organization of schools, on which occasion each child will receive a present.

Admission to all parts of the House, 25 cts. Family ticket, admitting six persons, \$1.00. Admission to Matinee, children, 10 cts. Doors open at 7 o'clock to commence at 8 o'clock. C. F. BERMAN, Manager, Geo. W. FRANKLIN, Agents. Jan 16-16

DRY GOODS! DRY GOODS! DRY GOODS! LOW PRICES.

UNUSUALLY LOW PRICES. AT KLINE, EPPHIMER & CO'S. 322 PENN STREET.

A GREAT DEMONSTRATION IN CALICOES, MARY OF THEM AS LOW AS 30 CENTS PER YARD. KLINE, EPPHIMER & CO'S. 322 PENN STREET.

A LARGE LOT OF WHITE COUNTERPANES, NOW OPEN AND SELLING CHEAP AT PANIC PRICES. AT KLINE, EPPHIMER & CO'S. 322 PENN STREET.

ALL KINDS OF WINTER DRESS GOODS, ARE NOW BEING OFFERED AT A GREAT SACRIFICE, TO CLOSE OUT AND MAKE ROOM FOR EARLY SPRING PURCHASES, AT KLINE, EPPHIMER & CO'S. 322 PENN STREET.

A FULL LINE OF WHITE BLANKETS, NOW CLOSING AT REDUCED RATES, AT KLINE, EPPHIMER & CO'S. 322 PENN STREET.

ALL KINDS PAISLY BLANKETS & BROCHE SHAWLS, GREATLY REDUCED, AT KLINE, EPPHIMER & CO'S. 322 PENN STREET.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

70 SHARES OF UNION BANK STOCK FOR SALE. Apply to BUSHONG & BRO. No. 19 North Sixth street. Jan 15-16

EXCERPTOR BOOT AND SHOE STORE. No. 308 Penn Street, Reading, Pa. (Next door to Lerch's Hardware Store.)

HARVICK & DRAKE, Beg to announce to the citizens of Reading and vicinity, that they have now in store, a very fine assortment of MEN'S AND BOYS' BOOTS AND SHOES.

LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S BOOTS AND SHOES of all sizes, and of very superior make, which they will sell at the lowest cash prices. They invite all to call and see their stock before purchasing elsewhere.

VALUABLE REAL ESTATE AT PUBLIC SALE. Will be sold at public sale on Saturday, Jan 16, at 1 o'clock in the afternoon, late the well-known property of George R. Kline, deceased, in North Fifth street, between Penn and Court streets, on the east side, and now occupied by James Deaver, restaurateur, described as follows:

A large three-story BRICK DWELLING HOUSE, 16 feet deep and 36 feet deep, bounded on the north by property of the Reading Insurance Co., and on the south by property of James Deaver, with a three-story brick building in the rear. The house is in excellent order, having been recently thoroughly renovated, and is divided into three tenements, and is commodious in all its apartments. It is well adapted to all kinds of business, and rents readily for \$100 per annum. This is an excellent opportunity for capitalists.

Possession will be given, if desired, on the first of April next. Conditions made known on the day of sale by CHARLES B. MILLEN, Auctioneer. W. Y. Lyman, Auctioneer. Jan 9-16

WILL REMOVE. I AM NOW CLOSING OUT MY ENTIRE STOCK OF MILLINERY AND DRY GOODS, in order to reopen an entire new and well-selected stock, at No. 317 Penn street, between Third and Fourth, where I will pay particular attention to keep all the latest styles of LADIES', MISSES' AND CHILDREN'S HATS, AND BONNETS, and a complete assortment of everything relating to the Millinery and Trimming line, and very respectfully solicit the continuance of the same. Satisfaction guaranteed. Jan 9-16 MRS. O. B. KELLEY.

NOTICE.—A meeting of the Stockholders of the Reading Library Company will be held at the Hall, corner of Fifth and Franklin streets, on Monday evening, Jan 17, at 7 o'clock. All others interested are invited to attend. W. MURRAY WEIDMAN, Secretary. Jan 10-16

ROSADALIS PURIFIES THE BLOOD. FOR SALE BY DRUGGISTS EVERYWHERE. (See 14-15)

IMPORTANT TO PRINTERS. FOUR PRESSES FOR SALE. A FINE CHANCE FOR MACHINISTS AND MANUFACTURERS.

TWO ENGINES AND TWO BOILERS TO BE SOLD CHEAP.

The following machinery is offered for sale at advantageous rates. ONE OSCILLATING ENGINE OF FOUR HORSE POWER. ONE HORIZONTAL ENGINE OF THREE HORSE POWER. ONE EIGHT-HORSE TUBULAR UPRIGHT BOILER. ONE FIVE-HORSE TUBULAR BOILER. TWO LARGE CYLINDER PRINTING PRESSES, ADLER AND GAZETTE SIZE. ONE SMALL WASHINGTON HAND PRESS. ONE STANDING PRESS. Apply at the Adler Office, or address BRYNER & CO., Reading, Pa. (See 14-15)