

Bold Charge of Corruption.

The New York Courier and Enquirer contains the following open charge of corruption against a number of Congressmen.

Corruption in Congress.—We yesterday published a letter from "The Spy in Washington" directly charging a member of Congress with corruption, and offering to prove the charge before a committee of either House, when called upon for that purpose.

THE SPY IN WASHINGTON.

Correspondence of Pennsylvania Enquirer.

Bribery and Corruption.

WASHINGTON CITY FEB. 12, 1838.

This morning, Mr. Wise, of Virginia, called the attention of the House to a letter which was originally published in the New York Courier and Enquirer of the 9th inst., and reprinted on the 10th, signed "The Spy in Washington" in which it was charged, that a member of Congress had offered to sell his representative influence to a government contractor.

These charges, Mr. Wise said, were very grave and important, and as they involved the character of the House, he hoped that a committee of investigation would be appointed.

The debate was further continued by Mr. Whittlesey, of Ohio; Mr. Pope, of Kentucky; Mr. Glascock, of Georgia; Mr. Dawson, Mr. Haynes, Mr. Cill, of Maine; Mr. Wise, Mr. Meran, Byrnum, Mr. Duncan, of Ohio, and others.

After the debate had proceeded for two hours and upwards, Mr. Jacob Fry of your State, moved that the whole subject do lie on the table.

All sides of the House appeared to be anxious for the investigation; all the difficulty was to decide in what way it should be done.

Mr. M. L. Davis, the Spy in Washington to the bar of the House, and others for placing him in the hands of a

committee in giving him that permission. He protested, solemnly, against the power of the House of Representatives to arraign him; partly as a criminal, and partly in the attitude of a witness, for the purpose of criminating himself; but, while he protested in this manner against this arbitrary and illegal action of the House, he would not have any gentleman within the sound of his voice imagine that he was shrinking from responsibility.

In the course of the discussion— Mr. Dromgoole moved to amend by striking out all after the word "resolved," and inserting— "That the subject matter of the charge contained in the foregoing publication be investigated at the bar of this House, and that the subpoena be issued requiring the attendance of— to be examined touching the same."

Mr. Loomis moved to amend Mr. Dromgoole's motion by striking out after the word "that," and inserting, as follows: That MATTHEW L. DAVIS be forthwith subpoenaed to the bar of the House, to testify and give evidence of what he may know respecting the name of the member implicated, and the authors of his information.

Mr. Rives moved to amend Mr. Loomis's amendment by inserting after the word "member," the words "if a member of this House."

The amendment of Mr. Loomis was accepted by Mr. Wise as a substitute for that part of his proposition proposed to be struck out.

Mr. Underwood gave notice that if this amendment were rejected, he should move the original proposition as it stood before the modification of the mover.

Before a vote was had the House adjourned.

The member charged is known to me, but in this state of the affair, I do not feel authorized to make use of his name. I pray him a safe deliverance, but his case looks very unpromising.

Mr. F. O. J. Smith, of Maine said he was led from inquiries to believe that the individual implicated, not being a member of this House, but of the Senate, so far from desiring, on that account, to evade the most rigid scrutiny, was, on the contrary, anxiously desirous that such scrutiny should take place.

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