

Mr. Stevens' Remarks,
On the Bill to prevent the further issue of Relief Notes by the Banks.

Mr. STEVENS said—I do not know that the Gentleman from Crawford (Mr. Lowry) designs to misrepresent me; I am bound, however, in charity, to suppose that he does not, though were I to look at the facts, I could hardly come to any other conclusion. The Gentleman has held out the pretence before the House that no new issues have been made by the Erie Bank since the last session of the Legislature. Sir, I appeal to you, (Mr. Dunlap in the Chair) for I recollect that you stated on this floor at the last session, that the Erie Bank had then issued less than \$100,000 of the relief notes, and I have it on good information, which I do not doubt, that it has issued \$350,000 now, and that more than \$250,000 have been issued since both branches of the Legislature, by decisive majorities, passed a prohibition of such issues. The Gentleman may attempt to mislead the House and the people by saying that no new arrangement was made, and that credit was entered upon the books of the Bank to the use of the State, before the last session. Sir, I do not mean to say he speaks false; but, in the language of an old writer, he "speaks the thing that is not." I saw the correspondence between that Bank and the Executive authorities, and it did not contemplate passing to the credit of the Commonwealth a dollar that was on the books of the Bank. But, on the contrary, it proposed in distinct and huxtering terms, that if it were allowed to select its creditors—the contractors to whom it was to issue the notes—it would go on an issue of \$350,000. And, as the Gentleman told you last winter, that in consequence of that swindling proposition (and I do not include the Executive in this transaction, and the Gentleman has misunderstood me in supposing so, for I leave the inference to be drawn according to the truth) the Bank had shamed the contractors out of ten per cent.; and there was a clause inserted (at his suggestion) in a bill which was passed, that the Bank should refund the ten per cent., out of which it had robbed them. And yet he tells us that prior to that time there was a credit entered to the credit of the Commonwealth, and that they were shaving as the brokers of the Commonwealth, and buying up the contractors' estimates at ten per cent. discount! Sir, is not this within the memory of every Gentleman within the sound of my voice? Yet he would deceive, mislead, and falsify the facts by telling us here, in the broad open day, that not a dollar has been issued by that Bank since the adjournment at the last session, and that the whole of the Bank money of the Commonwealth passed to the credit of the Commonwealth anterior to that time. Sir, that Gentleman knows little of the law of 1841, as his whole conduct has shown—issuing a single dollar to be placed to the credit of the Treasury of the Commonwealth, in any Bank in the State. If that law be executed, the moneys, commonly called "relief notes," are to be sent to the Treasury here, counted, marked and paid out to contractors; and if any other arrangement is made, it is contrary to law, and was never made with the Erie Bank.

Now, Sir, I call upon you and every Gentleman present to say whether I misrepresent facts with a view of casting odium on the Governor. I said not a word about the Governor. But I said that the Erie Bank has, for her own selfish gain, flooded the Commonwealth with notes to the amount of four times its capital—that it has issued all this irredeemable trash, and deserves to be censured by every honest man in the Commonwealth. If my vote can do it, the honest man who took the small notes, shall be protected by making that Institution—I mean the President and Directors of it—personally liable, and they shall redeem what they issued so dishonestly, in coin. And even the law of non-imprisonment for debt shall not save them from the walls of a jail, unless they redeem in the coin of the country, the money they have sold at ten per cent. advance. The Gentleman says that an effort has been made to cry it down. Now, what better is it, I should like to know, than that abominable trash issued by the Towanda Bank, and signed "Dyer and Boyd?" It is no better—the one is just as spurious as the other—issued to impose upon the honest laborer, from a little two-penny shop, conducted by a few avaricious nabobs for the purpose of making money off the necessities of the people and the State. That, Sir, is the estimation in which I hold such acts. These transactions are not only calculated to rob the laborer of his hire—to make worthless the traffic of the country, but to corrupt and degrade the circulation, and to bind us faster in the fetters of these institutions. If they are to be sanctioned, they will paralyze all the business of the community, and by prostrating business, and loading the State with obligations, crush all that come within their grasp.

Sir, the Gentleman says I have spoken against the Domestic Creditors. I have done no such thing. I have said, go on and pay them money that is worth something. But the Gentleman must not expect me to put on the same footing—to put on a par with those that have faithfully fulfilled their contracts, authorized by law, up to the 4th of May, 1841, those men who went on with their work—who thought that they would make fortunes from the Commonwealth, by going on after that time, without authority of law, plunged the State in debt against her will, and running the risk of getting over-

timates to make it profitable and make up for the danger and risk of getting nothing. Sir, they are a very different class of men; and while I would pay one, to the very last dollar of coin in the country, I would say to the other, you shall not now have it unless you can satisfy us it is a legal contract. And if you are to be paid at all, it is not to be at a time when we are grinding the farmer, the mechanic and laborer with taxes, for the purpose of heaping upon you, princely fortunes, of which you have robbed the State by going on recklessly in violation of your contracts. The wealthy speculator, who thus adventures, is not entitled to the same treatment, the same sympathy as the honest contractor who obeyed the law and stopped when his contract demanded, and the authorities of the State notified him. And yet these are the men for whom the Gentleman's bowels are so powerfully, and to us who are near him, so disagreeably moved, for the mere laborers are all paid, long ago. Those who have been working on the Erie Canal since the 4th of May, 1841, have worked without authority, and now bring a claim against the State, for more than \$500,000 for it. We passed two or three bills last winter to stop them. I do not know what become of them—I suppose, though, they are hid away among the waste paper, or are in the Governor's breeches pocket. And in the meanwhile, no doubt, these men have been going on with the work—man, horse, jackass and oxen. I suppose they are to be put on the same footing with honest men who did work, according to law. The Gentleman (Mr. Lowry) says—for he seems to be, I think rather, personal—that I have not made many friends by my course here, with regard to these creditors. Friends! and does the Gentleman expect me to make friends by sacrificing my opinion, and my sense of duty? To make friends of the hungry claimants, by forfeiting, what I believed to be my duty to the Commonwealth—duty to my conscience, and to the observance of the oath I have taken to support the Constitution and laws of the State? And yet the Gentleman admonishes me that I can make more friends by pursuing a different course. Sir, I have no doubt of it; but I have always had the unfortunate fashion of saying what I thought, regardless of whom I pleased or whom I offended. As long as I have the liberty of speech and of thought, I shall continue to do so, influenced by no fear of making enemies, and no hope of making friends. And nothing on earth will ever induce me to depart from that course. I beg the Gentleman not to hope to intimidate me with the threat of the loss of that popularity, which is not worthy a decent man's aspiration, and which none but a blackguard would court.

Stay Lane—Public Meeting.
A large number of the citizens of Hollidaysburg and vicinity, convened at the Town Hall, on Saturday evening, 11th June, for the purpose of expressing their views in regard to the present "hard times," and taking some measures of relief. On motion the meeting was organized by calling JAMES COFFEY, Esq. to act as President, and Col. James R. Johnston and Charles Hughes as Vice Presidents, and John Dougherty and John Brotherline, as Secretaries.

On motion, James Ross, Esq., was called upon to express the object of the meeting, and give his views in relation to the subject. He complied with the call in a very able and satisfactory manner. After speeches from other gentlemen, it was, on motion,
Resolved, That the chair appoint a committee of five to prepare and report to an adjourned meeting, a memorial to the Legislature, setting forth the evils complained of and praying for relief.
The Chair appointed John Dougherty, John Barr, J. C. McLanahan, Thomas Johnson James Ross, Esquires, said committee.

Resolved, That when this meeting adjourns, it will adjourn to meet again on Tuesday evening, the 14th inst. at the same place. Adjourned.
Tuesday evening, 14th June.
The meeting assembled.—In the absence of the President, Mr. Jos. Reed, was appointed in his stead.
The committee previously appointed, reported the following memorial, which was unanimously adopted and signed by the members of the meeting, viz:
To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in general Assembly met.

Your memorialists, citizens of Pennsylvania, respectfully and earnestly beg your aid, in arresting the ruinous sacrifices of property, real and personal, subject to sale, under executions, thereby depriving many of the means of enduring money to pay their debts and involving thousands into irretrievable ruin. We, therefore, pray your honorable body, for the passage of a law, suspending sales on Executions in the hands of Sheriff's Constables, and other officers; as also the issuing of Executions, for one year, from and after the passage of such a law, or the re-enactment of the appraisal or stay-law of 1820 '21, or such other measures of relief as in your wisdom may seem best, and which is imperatively required by reason of the present scarcity of a circulating medium, by which debtors are compelled to pay two prices for their Lands, Merchandise &c., compared with the relative value of such articles at the present period of time.

Your petitioners would suggest, that the passage of some such law, would be the means of arresting the evils complained of, throughout the length and breadth of this once happy land; and which have arisen, not from want of enterprise or industry on the part of the people, but by reason of former unwise legislation, in expanding the measure of value and thereby creating millions of indebtedness, payable in gold and silver. An amount greater than the present supply, which can only be paid by a course of forbearance, economy and industry.

We are of opinion that government was instituted for the preservation of the happiness and the protection of the property, of the citizens generally. And that it is an error to suppose that patriotism, generosity and charity, justify a preference of the wishes of a few, to the interests and happiness of a large majority of your fellow-citizens, whom it is believed are now victims to the evils complained of. We, therefore, pray you to grant the desired relief and your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.
On motion, Peter Hewit, John Barr and Abm. Vantries, Esqrs. were appointed a committee to procure the printing of, and signers to the memorial, and forward the same to the Legislature.

Resolved, That Wm. M. Pennington, T. Johnston and John Brotherline, be a committee on finance.
On motion of Wm. Groves, Resolved, That the thanks of the meeting are hereby tendered to the committee for their able report.

On motion of J. Snyder, Resolved, That the different editors in Huntingdon county be, and are, hereby respectfully requested to publish the proceedings of this meeting.

JOSEPH REED, Pres't.
JAS. R. JOHNSTON, } V. Pres'ts.
CHAR. HUGHES, }
John Dougherty, } Secretaries.
John Brotherline, }

Court of Errors.

Our readers, we believe, understand that a portion of the Loco-foco members of the Common Council of New York, of the last year, affect to hold over from last year, in consequence, as they assert, of the irregularity in the returns of certain wards. An appeal was made to the Supreme Court of the State, and an opinion obtained against those over-holders. Consequently the duly elected Whigs came in, took their seats, and made considerable alterations in the city appointments. An appeal, however, was made from the Supreme Court to the Court of Errors.—This last named body is the Senate of the State, and something of the character of a part of its members may be inferred from an affidavit published in one of the morning papers, declaring that a Loco-foco of the said bad party received thousands dollars, that the decision of the Supreme Court would be reversed. The following is a part of the affidavit:

"That said Cornell then offered publicly to find twenty thousand dollars to bet to the same effect if any body would cover the money. That after the bets above mentioned were made, excepting the bet of one thousand dollars, Cornell then stated that the Democratic members of the Court of Errors had a majority, and had held a caucus, and agreed, or pledged themselves to decide, in favor of the Democratic Corporation; and that said Underhill was present, and backed and countenanced said Cornell in all the last mentioned statements relative to the Court of Errors, and that the parties above mentioned called upon deponent, and requested him to take down in writing, and witness the said bets, which he did; and statements which were made and which are above set forth, in relation to the Court of Errors. JOHN L. MOFFAT.
Sworn before me, this eighteenth day of June, 1842. N. C. EVERETT,
Justice of the Peace.

Here, then, a party, composing a majority of a Court, meet in caucus, and before hearing testimony, agree upon the verdict! Beautiful illustration, this, of the purity of the New York politicians of the Van Buren party.—U. S. Gazette.

AN IMPROVER.—The Rev. G. C. Light, of the Kentucky conference, cautions the religious public, through the Cincinnati Christian Advocate, against a man of the worst character, who, at Louisville, went by the name of A. Bernard, and professed to be a dentist. He imposed himself on the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has a license to exhort in his possession. It is supposed that he has gone to the north or to Canada. It is believed that Bernard is not his real name, and that he will change his name when circumstances call for it. He is about 5 feet 6 inches high, somewhat heavily built, has a full face, dark eyes, dark hair, fair skin, high forehead, inclined to baldness, handsome features, and assumes a modest air in company. It is affirmed that said Bernard, not long since, suffered all the penalties of the laws of South Carolina for the crime of bigamy, and that he has now seduced away the wife of a very respectable gentleman of Louisville, Ky.

THE WHEAT CROP.—The Cincinnati Chronicle of the 31st ult. says that the present wheat crop of Ohio will not fall short of twenty-five millions of bushels.

Ten or twelve persons have been murdered in Florida, since the last announcement of the termination of the war.



THE HUNTINGDON JOURNAL.

"One country, one constitution, one destiny."

Huntingdon, June 29, 1842.

V. B. PALMER, Esq. (No. 104 S. 3rd St. Philadelphia,) is authorized to act as Agent for this paper, to procure subscriptions and advertisements.

Pennsylvania Legislature.

EXTRA SESSION.

Correspondence of the Huntingdon Journal.

HARRISBURG, June 18, 1842.

MR. CREMER:

The Select Committee of Investigation is engaged in its duties, ferreting out the "lumber" transactions of 1840. Several witnesses have been examined, among whom is Judge Barton. I do not know of any thing of importance that has been brought out of the witnesses.—Daniel M. Brodhead is still non comatibus in Winnebago swamp—poor fellow! he ran off with the span of horses that Kickapoo presented him with, because the Committee wished him to testify, and he knows nothing about the "lumber" business.

In the Senate, yesterday, the bill relating to the relief notes and the sale of stocks belonging to the State, which had been returned from the House with information that it had been passed in that branch with amendments, was taken up.—It was then postponed till to-day, and ordered to be printed.

A bill providing for the extension of the charter of the Farmers' Bank of Reading for ten years was then taken up and discussed till the hour of adjournment.

After disposing of preliminary business in the House, the bill relative to the pay of domestic creditors was taken up, and after considerable discussion, it was referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

The bill to abolish imprisonment for debt passed, and was sent to the Senate.

The bill authorizing the purchase of trucks for the transportation of section boats, was then taken up, and after some discussion, was postponed.

In the Senate, to-day, a bill was reported to extend the charter of the Bucks County Bank.

The proceedings of the Convention of Domestic Creditors, which had just adjourned, were presented by Mr. Bigler.

The bill providing for the redemption of the relief notes &c. then came up, when the Senate refused to concur in the most important amendment made to it by the House.

The bill staying executions in all cases where property does not bring two thirds of its appraised value, came up and was discussed some time, when the vote was taken on the first section, which stood yeas 12, nays 14, so that it was negatived. The further consideration of the bill was then postponed.

In the House Mr. Leet offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Ways and Means, be requested to inquire into the expediency of bringing in a bill assessing a tax of three per cent. on the dollar for the payment of the State debt; said Tax shall be paid in three annual instalments or at the option of the payer of the tax, on the first instalment. And the Treasurers of the several cities and counties of this Commonwealth be authorized, on the payment of said tax, to give a receipt in full of the claims of this Commonwealth against the holder of said receipt, or his property; and the said tax shall or may be paid in state stocks, in the legal authorized issues of May 4, 1841, or in current funds. And the said tax shall be called the "State Tax for the payment of the State Debt," and shall be specifically appropriated to the payment of the State debt and to no other purpose.

A debate ensued on this resolution between Messrs. Deford, Roomfort, Leet, Hawn and Wright, after which Mr. Scott offered to amend the resolution by striking out all after the words "annual instalments," and inserting the following:

"— the first instalment at the rate of three per cent. the first year; the second instalment at three per cent. the second year; and the third instalment at four per cent. the third year."

The amendment was adopted and the resolution carried by a vote of 49 to 37.

Yours &c.

Correspondence of the Huntingdon Journal.

HARRISBURG, June 21, 1842.

MR. CREMER:

Yesterday and to-day there was but little of importance done in either branch of the Legislature. In the Senate on motion of Mr. Maclay, a resolution was adopted, to appoint a Committee of eleven Senators to divide the State into Congressional Districts, agreeably to the new Apportionment Bill. The Speaker has not yet announced the Committee.

The bill to extend the charter of the Farmers' Bank of Reading was negatived by a vote of 14 yeas to 15 nays.

The House, after having disposed of preliminaries, took up a vetoed bill entitled "an act to prevent persons from travelling free of toll on the Public Works, and for other purposes," upon which a discussion took place between Messrs. McManus, Deford, Heckman, Stevens and others. The bill was lost—yeas 42, nays 47.

In the Senate, to-day, Mr. Gibbons moved to reconsider the vote given yesterday, negating the bill to extend the charter of the Farmers' Bank of Reading, which motion being agreed to, the further consideration thereof was postponed.

Local bills were considered, without any final action being taken upon them.

In the House the amendments to the bill from the Senate, relating to the redemption of relief notes &c., which the Senate had refused to concur in, were taken up and considered. The House determined to adhere to its amendments, and the bill was returned to the Senate.

The bill providing for the pay of domestic creditors then came up on final reading, when a long and animated discussion ensued, after which the bill passed by a vote of 60 to 36 and was sent to the Senate.

Yours &c.

H. H.

Correspondence of the Huntingdon Journal.

HARRISBURG, June 23, 1842.

MR. CREMER:

For the last few days the doings of the Legislature have not amounted to much, and are, therefore, easily told.

Yesterday the Senate passed a resolution requesting the Auditor General to furnish that body with a statement of the income and the expenses of the Militia of this State, and various other matters, investing the Committee on Finance to inquire into the expediency of setting apart the money now appropriated to Colleges and Academies, to pay the Domestic Creditors.

The bill providing for the payment of Domestic Creditors, which passed the House on the 20th, was made the order of the day for to-day.

In the House, Mr. Stevens from the Select Committee to whom the subject has been referred, reported a bill for the sale of the Public Improvements.

The House then proceeded to the consideration of the Tariff Resolutions, offered at the regular session. The question being on an amendment declaring that Pennsylvania refuses to accept her share of the proceeds of the Public Domain under the distribution law of Congress, a motion was made to postpone the further consideration of the subject for the present, which was lost. The House then adjourned.

To-day the Election District Bill was under discussion in the Senate for some time. Sundry amendments were added, after which the bill was returned to the House.

The bill making provision for the pay of Domestic Creditors was taken up in the Senate. The discussion of amendments occupied the Senate till the hour of adjournment.

In the House petitions were presented, and bills reported.

The bill providing for the redemption of relief notes, and to prohibit the further issuing thereof by the Banks passed finally, and only wants the signature of the Executive to make it a law. The House receded from its amendments, which the Senate had refused to concur in.

A bill was reported to abolish militia training in time of peace, and to curtail the expenses of the militia system. That is the sort of law we ought to have.

The Investigating Committee are still investigating, but to what purpose "this deponent saith not."

Yours &c.

H. H.

We learn by the Bedford Inquirer, that Gov. Porter has respited the execution of James Rice, the murderer of James McBirney, until the 2nd of September next. He was to have been executed in Bedford, on Friday the 17th inst.

The Case of our Sheriff—encl more.

The Supreme Court have at length decided this case in favor of John Shaver. The opinion of the Court was delivered by Judge Kennedy, and is said to be long and very conclusive. We do not know upon what grounds they have rested their decision, but presume it was that the penalties of the law had been suffered, and the offence was not an infamous one as the *Supercedas* necessarily implied. Thus has Gov. Porter been frustrated in his high-handed attempt to usurp power and authority which is not given to him by the constitution and laws, and which none but tyrants would long after. And thus too, has the long protracted, savage persecution of an honest, unassuming, but deceived man, at length terminated, greatly to the satisfaction of all except a few vindictive knaves who sought to rob him of character, of office, and of every thing that is dear to a freeman.

Sheriff Shaver was, through the circumvention of designing politicians, induced to enter into an agreement prior to the late general election, which was prohibited by the laws of the state; but like most of the honest and retired men of the country, Mr. Shaver knew nothing of the existence of the law which he and others violated. The offence was in substance this—another candidate for the office of Sheriff made an agreement with John Shaver, in which it was stipulated that the former should withdraw from the political arena, and use his influence to elect the latter, and if successful, should become his sole deputy and jailor. Others were equally if not more guilty, for they procured the agreement to be made, and three signed it as witnesses. It is thought that the others have pardons in their possession, and that they will produce them before the Court of Quarter Sessions on the second week in August. We do not know how much truth there is in this supposition, but we do know that pardons before trials have become quite common in these days of Porter democracy.

But to return again to the subject. For this violation of the law John Shaver was afterwards singled out from among the rest, and was indicted, tried, convicted and sentenced as the law directed. It was evident to every one that the prosecution, though it may have been instituted through honest and proper motives, yet when it was once commenced, the whole clique who had been disappointed in their hopes, entered into it with a bitter vindictiveness that would raise a blush of shame even on the cheek of a Cannibal. The persecution was cruel, fierce and vindictive. His pursuers, as if determined to out-Shylock old Shylock himself, were not satisfied with the "pound of flesh"—for when he had fully suffered the penalties of the violated law, they pursued him still further with increased savageness, and sought his utter destruction. We have necessarily used harsh terms in this article, but we have only called things by their right names. They raised their savage death-song, and were joined by the Chief of the Kickapoo tribe, who led them on, bearing in his hand a bloody scalping knife, stamped—*SUPERCEDAS*. But fortunately for the Sheriff, in flying from his pursuers, he got among civilized men, where the strong arm of the law in the last resort interposed—the "Ingins" were captured—and the "scalping knife" and all their other instruments of death and torture taken from them. And now we hope that the Sheriff will in future keep out of bad company, and avoid similar dangers.

Sixth Census.

Through the politeness of ROBERT P. MACLAY, Esq., of the Senate, we have been favored with a copy of the late census of this State. The number of inhabitants of the respective counties composing this Congressional district are as follows: Huntingdon, 35,484; Centre, 20,492; Clinton, 8,323; and Mifflin, 13,092,—making 77,391. The ratio of representation under the new Apportionment Bill is 70,680, being 6,711 less than the number of inhabitants in the District at present. By throwing off Clinton we would have 1612 less than the new ratio of representation. Under the new Apportionment Bill counties may be divided.

Messrs. MACLAY and MATHERS of the Senate, and Mr. JESSE MOORE of the House of Representatives, have our thanks for their attention to us.

The Democratic blood spillers are to hold a State Convention at Harrisburg on the 8th day of January 1843, to help Ten-Cent-Jimmy Buchanan to the Presidential chair.