Mr. Latrobe is

EASTERN-SHORE WHIG AND PEOPLE'S ADVOCATE.

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BY AUTHORITY.

LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES PASSED AT THE SECOND SESSION OF THE TWENTY FIFTH CONGRESS.

[PUBLIC.—No. 32.]

AN ACT to grant a quantity of land to the Territory of Wisconsin, for the purpose of aiding in opening a canal to connect the waters of Lake Michigan with those of Rock river.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That there be, and hereby is, granted to the Territory of Wisconsin, for the purpose of aiding in opening a canal to unite the waters of Lake Michigan, at Milwaukee, with those of Rock river, between the point of intersection with said river of the line dividing townships seven and eight, and the Lake Koshkonong, all the land heretofore not otherwise appropriated or disposed of in those sections and fractional sections which are numbered with odd numbers on the plats of the public surveys, within the breadth of five full sections, taken in the north and south, or east and west tiers, on each side of the main route of said canal, from one end thereof to the other, and reserving the even numbered sections and fractional sections, taken as above, to the United States; and the said land, so granted to aid in the construction of said canal, shall be subject to the disposal of the Legislature of the said Territory for the purposes aforesaid, and for other purposes: *Provided*, That the said canal, when completed, and the branches thereof, shall be, and forever remain, a public highway, for the use of the Government of the United States, free from any toll or other charge whatever, for any property of the United States, or persons in their service, passing through the same. *Provided*, That said main canal shall be commenced within three years and completed in ten years, or the United States shall be entitled to receive the amount for which any of said land and may have been previously sold, and that the title to purchasers under the Territory shall be valid.

Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That so soon as the route of the said main canal shall be definitively located and established, agreeably to an act of the Legislature of the said Territory, incorporating the Milwaukee and Rock river Canal Company, approved January fifth, it shall be the duty of the Governor thereof to transmit a plat of the same, showing its terminations, and its connections, with the section corners of the public surveys, to the Commissioner of the General Land Office, whose duty it shall be to ascertain, under the direction of the President of the United States, the particular lands herein granted to said Territory; and shall cause duplicate lists of the same to be prepared from the plats on file in his office, one of which he shall transmit to the Governor of said Territory, who, or such other persons as shall be appointed for the purpose, under the authority of the Legislature of the said Territory, or of the State which may be erected out of the same, after the admission of such State, shall have power to sell or convey the whole, or any part of said land, at a price not less than two dollars and fifty cents per acre, and to give a title in fee simple therefor, to whomsoever shall purchase the whole or any part thereof.

Sec. 3. And be it further enacted, That the alternate sections and fractional sections which shall remain to the United States, agreeably to the first section of this act, shall not be sold for a less sum than two dollars and fifty cents per acre, nor be subject to pre-emption.

Sec. 4. And be it further enacted, That in reference to the provisions of the first section of this act where a section shall be divided by the route of the main canal, such section shall be counted (in fixing the lateral limits of said grant) as being on or towards that side of the line next the larger portion of said section, ascertained by reference to the mile lines and corners of the sections, and the land and water thereby included

Sec. 5. And be it further enacted, That whenever the Territory of Wisconsin shall be admitted into the Union as a State, the lands hereby granted for the construction of the said canal, or such part thereof as may not have been already sold and applied to that object, under the direction of the Territorial Government, shall vest in the State of Wisconsin, to be disposed of under such regulations as the legislature thereof may provide, the proceeds of sale to be applied to the construction of the said canal, or of such part thereof as may not have been completed; and the State of Wisconsin shall be entitled to hold, in virtue of the grant hereby made, as many shares of the stock of the said canal as shall be equivalent to the aggregate of all the sums of money arising from the nett proceeds of the sales of said lands, and applied to the construction of the canal, any thing in the charter of the Milwaukee and Rock river Canal Company to the contrary notwithstanding, and shall be entitled to the same dividends on said stock as any other stockholder; and in the event that the said State shall make no other adequate provision for purchasing out the residue of the said canal, the dividends of the State stock hereby acquired, and all other proceeds of the sales of the lands hereby granted, shall constitute a fund, and be applied to the extinguishment of the claims of all other stockholders, until the entire stock vested in the canal shall have been acquired by the State: after which, and after the said State shall have been reimbursed for all expenses incurred out of her own proper funds in the construction and repairs of said canal, no other tolls or charge whatever, for the use or navigation of the said canal shall be levied, except to such amount as may be required to keep the said canal & the works appurtenant thereto in good repair, and provide for the collection of the tolls and the superintendance of said canal: *Provided, moreover*, That no part of the said lands shall be sold for less than two dollars and a half per acre, nor any sale made until after three months' public notice thereof, and to the highest bidder, but in case such price cannot be obtained therefor, within five years from the first sale attempted to be made, it shall and may be lawful for the Territorial or State Legislature of Wisconsin to reduce the minmum price of the said lands.

Sec 6. And be it further enacted, That the said State of Wisconsin shall be held responsible to the United States, and for the payment into the Treasury thereof, of the amount of all moneys received upon the sales of the whole or any part of said land, at the price at which the same shall be sold, not less than two dollars and fifty cents per acre, if the said main canal shall not be commenced within three years, and completed within ten years, pursuant to the provisions of the act creating said canal corporation.

Sec 7. And be it further enacted, That, in order to render effectual the provisions of this act, the Legislature of the State to be erected or admitted out of the territory now comprised in Wisconsin Territory, east of the Mississippi, shall give their assent to the same by act to be duly passed.

Sec. 8. And be it further enacted, That, for the purpose of securing a better price for the lands hereby granted, and expediting the construction of the said canal, the Territorial Legislature of Wisconsin may borrow, upon a pledge of the said lands, such sum or sums of money as they may think expedient, and defer the sale of said lands, or any part thereof, until such times, not exceeding two years beyond the period of completion of said canal, as they may deem expedient; and for such sum or sums as may be so borrowed, and applied to the construction of said canal, the State of Wisconsin shall be entitled to such interest in the stock of said canal as shall be equivalent thereto in amount, and the interest so acquired shall be subject to all the obligations and restrictions provided in the last section of this act.

Sec. 9. And be it further enacted, That the assent of Congress is hereby given to the act of the Territorial Legislature of Wisconsin, entitled an act to incorporate the Milwaukee and Rock river Canal Company, subject to the preceding modifications and to the following provision: that, in estimating the principal sum and interest to be paid by the said Territory, or the future State of Wisconsin, to the stockholders of the said canal, a credit shall be given to the Territory or State for all dividends received by the said stockholders prior to the extinguishment of their interest in the said canal, in the mode provided by the twenty-third section of the said act of incorporation.

Sec. 10. And be it further enacted, That Congress may, at any time until said Territory shall be admitted as a State precribe and regulate the tolls to be received by said company; and after said Territory shall be admitted as a State, the Legislature thereof shall possess the like power: and said act of incorporation is hereby approved, subject to the modifications and conditions aforesaid,

Sec. 11. And be it further enacted, That the Secretary of the Treasury shall receive from sale the lands probably falling within the limits of said grant, and the lands which, by the first section, were reserved to the United States, until the said canal can be located and the lands selected as contemplated by this act, and no pre-emption right shall attach thereto.

RH. M. JOHNSON,
Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate
JAMES K POLK,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.
APPROVED, June 12th 1838.
M. VAN BUREN.

POETRY.

THE SERENADE, AT MIDNIGHT.

How soft and still the serenade
Comes o'er the midnight hours,
How sweet the distant music steals
Upon the ear, in shaded bowers.

The tuneful strains of lovers' vows,
That echo from the neighboring trees,
Now charm alone the listening ear,
As swift they catch the whispering breeze.

The distant notes, that warble through
The stillness of surrounding night,
Convey the charms of fancy scenes
To all that dwells in chastened light.

The wakings of the tuneful lyre,
Bring thoughts of pure and holy love
To hearts that dream of future bliss,
And feel the hallowed passion move.

These are the scenes, and this the hour
To seek the silent lonely shade;
The purest sweets that scent the air
Come echoing from the SERENADE.

TO AN EYE.

FROM THE COMMON-PLACE BOOK OF A LOVER.

There's something in that mild but bright blue eye,
Sweet as the calm and lovely look of heaven
When the last sunbeam trembles o'er the sky,
And sparkling lonely, glows the stars of even,
Oh! it distills the ambrosials dews of love—
Its glance reveals a seraph there abiding.
When falls the lash 'tis liquid lustre hiding,
As cower the quivering wings of timid dove,
Lapped into Languor, dearly, tenderly—
The heart does homage, wondering at the spell
That thus so silently, and yet so well,
Has bound it in a trance of ecstasy;
Oh! he on whom that eye in kindness bends,
May laugh at faithless men—he has a world of friends!

MISCELLANEOUS

Simplicity of Dress.—I like, I must confess, to see a young wife neatly dressed. There is a deacty in neatness, & a dress may be gracefully compatible without being ridiculous. I like a neat simplicity, because, somehow or other there appears to be a requent connexion between the outside and inside. The exterior is to some extent, key to the interior. If I see a person dressed like a thorough going fop, I cannot, if I would respect the mind of the person. Even where a future close acquaintance discloses to me my error, it is hard to overcome first impressions.

OIL CAKE.—The N. York Express states that Captain Morgan, of the packet ship Philadelphia for Liverpool, takes out one hundred and ten tons of oil cake which "is used in England for the purpose of fattening cattle.—This is very bad policy, of sending out nourishment for cattle. The English farmers understand this business better than we do."

A traveller through the Western states in a letter to the Boston "Post" says,—"the wheat crops, for the whole line of my travel through New York, for one hundred miles along Ohio, fifty miles from the lake coast, in the Maumee Valley, and Michigan, have the most thriving appearance. Owing to the very wet season there will be little corn about the lakes, but on the whole, the prospect of the farmers never was fairer."

The French man of war "Hercule" recently at Newport, was a three decker, mounting 110 guns, and a crew of 900 men. A great portion of the men were permitted to go on shore in companies of 200 at a time. When on shore, they were particularly noticed for the correctness of their deportment. The remark was repeatedly made, that an instance of intoxication had not been witnessed among them.

THE LADY AND THE FISH.

The N. York Commercial relates an amusing incident which occurred on Friday on board the steamboat Swan, during her passage up Prince's Bay.—A group of ladies were assembled before the looking glass preparing for dinner, while one more indolent than the rest, was taking her siesta on a sofa, reclining at her ease in the full enjoyment of all the pleasant visions that a blooming beauty of eighteen summers is supposed to possess; when an enormous rock fish or striped bass, suddenly jumped through the porthole, and fell in her lap. Whether the lady or the poor fish was the most frightened, the deponent saith not; the lady however possessing that mestimable gift of Nature the power of making her tongue do the work of twenty others, succeeded in so effectually frightening and driving the other ladies in the greatest consternation among the gentlemen, sans hats, sans ceremony. Meantime the commander of the boat made his appearance in the cabin, and found to his dismay a lady apparently lifeless, and a large fish bouncing about the cabin among his furniture. He, however in a few minutes succeeded with the aid of a few whose better feelings overcame their fears, in restoring life to the inanimate fair one, and destroying that of the rude intruder.

The Coronation of Victoria.—The preparations are exceedingly active. The Court of Claims are sitting on the pretensions of applicants to certain heriditary ceremonies, as carrying the sword, &c. The Baronets have claimed a place in the Abbey and been refused. The special embassadors are giving $6000 to $10,000 for hire of a residence for a few weeks. Marshal Soult's retinue is to have a number of young nobles, and Wellington is preparing to welcome him. The Sultan has sent Almed Ferid as his representative. The Duke de Nemour's is to lodge at Grillon's. Prince Schwartzenberg, and his beautiful wife the handsomest woman of Austria, represent that country, and many Hungarian nobles with them. Count Strogonoff is for Russia, and with him young Count Demidoff, who devotes much of the gold and platina of his mines in the Oural mountains to literature. Also several Asiatic native princes subject to Russia—[Victoria should have hers from Hisdostan to match.] Prince Putbus for Prussia. Denmark has the handsome young Duke Gottrop, rephew of the King, and a supposed *suitor*.

HENRY ST. CLAIR.

BY J. G. WHITTIER.

Henry St. Clair! How at the mention of that name a thousand dreams of friendship and youth—and of the early and beautiful associations which linger like invisible spirits around us, to be called into view only by the magical influence of memory—are awakened! How does the glance of retrospection go back to the dim image of the past—from the banquet hall and the pleasant festival down to the silent and unbroken solitude of the tomb.

We were as brothers in childhood—St. Clair and myself,—brothers, too, in dawning of manhood; and a more ingenious and high-minded friend I never knew. Yet he was strangely proud—not of the world's gifts—wealth, family and learning—but his intellectual power—of the great gift of mind which he possessed—the ardent and lofty spirit which shone out in his every action. And he might well be proud of such gifts; I never knew a finer mind. It was as the embodied spirit of poetry itself, the beautiful home of high and glorious aspirations.

Henry St. Clair was never at heart a christian. He never enjoyed the visitations of that pure and blessed influence, which comes into the silence and loneliness of the human bosom, to build up anew the broken altars of its faith, and revive the drooping flowers of its isolated affections. He loved the works of the great God with the love of an enthusiast. But beyond the visible and outward forms—the passing magnificence of the earth, and the immitable world of waters, his vision never extended His spirit never overlooked the clouds which surrounded it, to catch a glimpse of the better and more beautiful land.

I need not tell the story of his young years. It has nothing to distinguish it from a thousand others. It is the brief and sunny biography of one upon whose pathway the sunshine of happiness rested, unshadowed by a passing cloud. We were happy in our friendship,—we met not the time of manhood came, and we were parted by our different interests, and by the opposite tendency of circumstances peculiar to each other.

It was a night in autumn—a cold and starlit evening—I remember it with painful distinctness, although year after year has minglED with eternity,—that I had occasion to be on my way homeward, through one of the darkest and loneliest alleys of my native city.

Anxious to reach my dwelling, I felt myself suddenly seized by the arm, and a voice close in my ear whispered very hoarse "Stop, or you are a dead man."

I turned suddenly. I heard the cocking of a pistol, and saw by a faint gleam from a neighboring window, the tall figure of a man with one hand grasping my left arm, and the other holding a weapon at my breast.

I know not what prompted me to resistance;—I was totally unarmed, and altogether unacquainted with the struggle of mortal jeopardy. But I did resist—and, one instant, I felt my assailant in the posture I have described,—the next, he was disarmed and writhing beneath me. It seemed as if an infant's hand could have subdued him.

"Wretch!" I exclaimed, as I held his own pistol to his bosom, "what is your object?—Are you a common midnight robber—or bear you aught of private malice towards Roger Allston?"

"Allston!—Roger Allston!" repeated the wretch beneath me, in a voice which sounded like a shriek, as he struggled half upright even upon the threatening pistol. "Great God! Is it come to this? Hell has no pang like this meeting! Shoot!"—he exclaimed, and there was a dreadful earnestness in his manner, which sent the hot blood of indignation cold and ice-like upon my heart. "Shoot!—If you were once my friend, in mercy kill me!"

A horrible suspicion flashed over my heart, and the pistol fell from my hand.

"Whoever you may be," I said, "and whatever may have been your motive in attacking me, I would not stain my hands with your blood. Go, and repent of your crimes."

"You do not know me," said the robber, rising with some difficulty he regained his feet; "even *you* have forgotten me. Even *you* refuse the only mercy man can now render me—the mercy of death—of utter annihilation!"

Actuated by a sudden and half defined impulse, I caught hold of the stranger's arm, and hurried him towards the light of a street lamp. It fell full upon his ghostly and death-like features, and on his attenuated form, and his ragged apparel. Breathless, eagerly I gazed upon him, until he trembled beneath the scrutiny. I pressed my hand against my brow, for I felt my brain whirl like the coming on of delirium. I could not be mistaken. The guilty wretch before me was the friend of my youth—one whose memory I had cherished as the holiest legacy of the past It was Henry St. Clair. Yes, it was St. Clair!—But how changed since last we held communion with each other! Where was the look of intelligence, and the noble seat of intellect—the beauty of person and mind Gone—and gone forever—to give place to the loathsomeness of a depraved and brutal appetite—to the vile tokens of a disgusting sensuality, and the deformity of disease.

"Well may you shudder," said St. Clair, "I am fit only for the companionship of demons; but you cannot long be cursed by my presence. I have not tasted food for many days; hunger drove me to attempt your robbery—but, I feel that I am a dying man. No human power can save me, and if there be a God, even he cannot save me from myself—from the undying horrors of remorse."

Shocked by his words, and still more by the increased ghastliness of his countenance, I led the wretched man to my dwelling, and, after conveying him to bed, and administering a cordial to his fevered lips, I ordered a physician to be called. But it was too late:—the hand of death was upon him. He motioned me to his bedside after the physician had departed; he strove to speak, but the words died upon his lips. He then drew from his bosom a sealed letter addressed to myself. It was his last effort. He started half upright in his bed—uttered one groan of horror and mortal suffering, and sunk back, still and ghastly upon his pillow. He was dead.

I followed the remains of my unhappy friend to the narrow place appointed for all the living—the damp and cold church-yard. I breathed to no one the secret of his name and guilt. I left it to slumber with him.

I now referred to the paper which had been handed me by the dying man. With a trembling hand I broke the seal of the enveloped and read the following, addressed to myself:

"If this letter ever reaches you, do not seek to find its unhappy writer. He is beyond the reach of your noble generosity—a guilty and a dying man. I do not seek for life.—There is no hope for my future existence—and death—dark, and terrible, and mysterious as it may seem, is less to be dreaded than the awful realities with which I am surrounded.

"I have little strength to tell you the story of my all. Let me be brief You know how we parted from each other. You know the lofty hopes and the towering feeling of ambition, which urged me from your society—from the enjoyment of that friendship, the memory of which has ever since lingered like an upbraiding spirit at my side. I arrived at my place of destination. and aided by the introductory epistles of my family, I was at once received into the first and most fashionable circles of the city.

"I never possessed those principles of virtue and moral dignity, the effect of which has been so conspicuous in your own character. Amidst the flatteries and attentions of those around me, and in the exciting pursuit of pleasure, the kindly voice of administration was unheard; and I became the gayest of the gay; a leader in every scene of fashionable dissipation. The principles of my new companions were those of infidelity, and I embraced them with my whole soul.—You know my former disposition to doubt was now changed into a settled unbelief, and a bitter hatred towards all which I had once been taught to believe sacred and holy.

"Hitherto pride rather than principle had kept me above the lowest degradation of sensual indulgence. But for one fatal error, I might have been united to the lovely being of my affections, and oh! if sinless purity and persuasive love could have had power over a mind darkened and perverted as my own, I might have been reclaimed from the path way of ruin—I might have been happy.

"But that fatal error came too, in the abhorrent shape of loathsome drunkenness. I shall never in time or eternity, forget that scene: it is engraved on my memory in letters of fire. It comes up before me like a terrible dream of reality. It dashed from my lips the cup of happiness, and fixed forever the dark aspect of destiny.

"I had been very gay for there were happy spirits around me; and I drank freely and fearlessly for the first time. There is something horrible in the first sensations of drunkenness. For relief I drank still deeper—and was a drunkard! I was delirious; was happy. I left the inebriated assembly and directed my steps, not to my lodgings, but, to the home of her whom I loved—nay, adored above all others. Judge of her surprise and consternation, when I entered with a flushed countenance and unsteady tread! She was reading to her aged parents when, with an idiot's grimace I approached her. She started from her seat—one glance told her the fatal truth; and she shrunk from me—nay, from me to whom her vows were pledged and her vows were plighted, and her young affections given—with tears, with loathsome and undisguised abhorence. Irritated at her conduct, I approached her rudely, and snatched from her hand the book which she had been reading. I cast it into the flames, which rose brightly from the hearth. It was the volume which you call sacred.—I saw the smoke of it consuming go upwards like sacrifice to the demon of Intemperance, and there, even there, by that Christian fireside, I cursed the book and its author.

"The scene which follows beggars description. The shriek of my betrothed—her sinking down in a state of insensibility—the tears of maternal anguish—the horrors depicted on the countenance of the old man—these throng even now confusedly on my memory. I staggered to the door. The reception I had met with, and the excitement thereby produced, had obviated in some measure the effect of intoxication, and reason began to resume its empire. The full round moon was up in the heavens—and the stars—how fair, how passing beautiful they shone down at that hour! I had loved to look upon the stars—those bright and blessed evidences of a holy and all pervading intelligence—but that night their exceeding purity came like a curse to my weary vision. I could have seen those beautiful lights extinguished, and the dark night cloud sweeping over the fair face of the sky, and have smiled with grim satisfaction, for the change would have been in unison with my feelings.

"Allston! I have visited, in that tearless agony which mocks at consolation, the grave of my betrothed. She died of a broken heart. From that moment, all is dark, hateful, and loathsome, in my history. I am reduced to poverty—I am bowing to disease—I am without a friend. I have no longer the means of subsistence, and starvation may yet anticipate the fatal termination of the disease which is preying upon me."

Such is the tale of the once gifted and noble St Clair. Let the awful lession it teaches sink deep in the hearts of the young and ardent of spirit.

REPEAL OF THE DEPOSITE ACT OF 1836.

We give the Senate proceedings on this important movement, and annex an article from the "Globe," detailing the grounds upon which the repeal is to be justified. The whole matter will be read with interest. It will be seen that Mr. Calhoun voted against the final passage of the bill He had his reason, no doubt, for his course.

Saturday June 30.—Mr. WRIGHT asked leave, agreeably to notice, to introduce a bill to modify the last clause of the fifth section of the deposite act of 1836. which prohibits the reception, by the Government, of the notes of such banks as may have issued notes of a less denomination than $5.

On this subject Mr. WEBSTER addressed the Senate at some length, and was replied to by Mr. WRIGHT, after which the bill was introduced.

Mr. WEBSTER then moved to amend the bill, by inserting the following clause as a second section.

"That it shall be lawful for the Secretary of the Treasury hereafter to select and employ, as depositories of the public money, according to the provisions of said act, any bank which shall redeem its notes and bills on demand in specie, notwithstanding it may have, since the fourth of July, 1836 issued or paid out notes or bills of a less denomination than five dollars: *provided*, however, that this provision shall not extend to any bank which shall issue or pay out any note or bill of less denomination than five dollars, after the time mentioned in the last clause of the preceding section of this act."

Mr. STRANGE spoke at length in opposition to the amendment, and Messrs.—RIVES, TALLMADGE, and CLAY of Kentucky, in favor of it; when

Mr. WRIGHT moved to amend the amendment by inserting the following:

"Sec. 2. And be it further enacted, That, the first twelve sections of the act to regulate the deposites of the public money, approved on the 23d day of June, 1836, be, and the same are hereby, repealed, except so far as is provided, and to enable the Treasury Department to collect any debts which may be due or owing from the late deposite banks."

On this question a long and animated debate ensued, the amendment being sustained by Messrs. WRIGHT, NILES, STRANGE, and others, and warmly opposed by Messrs. CLAY, of Ky, RIVES, TALLMADGE, and others.

The question was then taken on the amendment of Mr. WRIGHT by yeas and nays, and decided in the affirmative—yeas 26, nays 21, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Allen, Benton, Brown, Buchanan, Clay, of Ala., Cuthbert, Fulton, Hubbard, King, Linn, Lumpkin, Lyon, Mouton, Nicholas, Niles, Norvell, Pierce, Roane, Robinson, Smith of Conn., Strange, Trotter, Wall, Williams, Wright, and Young—26.

NAYS—Messrs. Bayard, Clay, of Ky., Clayton, Crittenden, Davis, Knight, McKean, Merrick, Morris, Prentiss, Preston, Rives, Robbins, Ruggles, Sevier, Smith of Ia. Southard, Spence, Swift, Tallmadge, Webster, and White—21.

The bill was then ordered to be engrossed, and read a third time.

Monday July 2.—The bill was read a third time and upon the question of its final passage, after some remarks by Mr. Webster, Mr. Preston and others, was passed by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Allen, Benton, Brown, Buchanan, Clay of Ala., Cuthbert, Fulton, Grundy, Hubbard, King, Linn, Lumpkin, Lyon, Mouton, Nicholas, Niles, Norvell, Pierce, Roane, Robinson, Smith of Conn., Strange, Trotter, Wall, Williams, Wright, Young—27.

NAYS—Messrs. Bayard, Calhoun, Clay of Ky., Clayton, Crittenden, Davis, Knight, McKean, Merrick, Prentiss, Preston, Rives, Robbins, Ruggles, Smith of Ind., Southard, Spence, Swift, Tallmadge, Tipton, Webster, White—22.

Upon the above proceedings, the "Globe" remarks:—

The bill for the repeal of this act has passed the Senate, and passed by a majority which shows the decided opinion of that body.

The propriety of the repeal rests upon several strong grounds, which were relied upon in the debate:

1. The provisions of the act defeated its whole beneficial operation toward the banks, after the general suspension of specie payments in May, 1837. It was passed when there was a large surplus in the Treasury, and had particular reference to the safety of that surplus; but the suspension destroyed its character as a deposite law, by destroying the power to make deposites in bank, or to continue the keeping of the public money with those institutions.

2. This suspension of specie payments by the banks, threw the public money back upon the hands of the Executive, by an express provision of the 8th section of the deposite law, there being no banks in the country which could be selected as public depositories.

3. In that state of things Congress was especially convened in September last; and the Senate passed a bill to regulate the keeping of the money by the officers of the Government, there being then, comparatively speaking, no specie-paying banks in the country. That bill was laid upon the table by the House of Representatives. without any effort to consider or amend it, or to establish any other system for keeping the public money by regulation of law. This closed the extra session of Congress of September and October, 1837.

4. At the commencement of the present session of Congress, the PRESIDENT again recommended the Independent Treasury system, and the Senate passed and sent to the House a bill to establish it. That bill went to the House before any portion of the banks of the country had resumed specie payments, and was again laid upon the table in that body, without an effort to amend or modify it, or to establish any other system for the legal custody of the public money.

5. The Senate remained inactive from this period, and the House pursued its ordinary business, until about two weeks since, when the latter body took up its own Independent Treasury bill; and after a few days of deliberation and debate, defeated it by a direct vote.

6. The Senate then again moved in the matter by the bill of Mr. WEBSTER, and the substitute offered by Mr. BUCHANAN, proposing a safe and rigid system of special deposites. The substitute obtained a preference over Mr. WEBSTER's bill, which was intended to revive the exploded bank deposites, but in the end, both failed by a decided vote of the body.

7. When these attempts on the part of the friends of the Administration to regulate by law the safe-keeping of the public money had wholly failed, the Committee on Finance of the Senate, in conformity to an opinion pronounced by them in a report previously made the Senate, offered a bill, the object of which was to modify the deposite law of 1836, so far as to permit the receipt in payment of dues to the Government the notes of banks which, since the 4th of July, 1836, had issued notes of a less denomination than five dollars. This bill was introduced on Saturday morning last.

8. This occasion was seized upon by Mr. WEBSTER to offer amendments similar to the provisions contained in his bill, which was over-rode by Mr. BUCHANAN's substitute, and which were calculated and intended to revive the deposite act of 1836. To show the necessity of his amendments, he urged the unequal operation which that law would have, if permitted to remain in force without amendment; and contended that his modifications ought to be adopted, or the whole law repealed.

9. In that state of things, the chairman of the Committee on Finance offered an amendment to his own bill, which was to strike out the whole of the amendment proposed by Mr. WEBSTER, and to insert a clause repealing all those portions of the deposite law of 1836, relating to the keeping of the public money in banks, which his original proposition did not cover and provide for.

Thus the question and the debate arose.—We have it not in our power to report the procedings at present, but we hope to do so at a future day. As a matter of course, the Opposition attacked the proposition, on Saturday and again to day, upon the ground of the patronage and power to be conferred upon the Executive.

After the repeated attempts above recounted, on the part of the friends of the Administration, to regulate by law the keeping of the public money, this issue is finally reached. The money must be given to the banks for *keeping* and *use*, or the Opposition will do nothing. The friends of the Independent Treasury prefer to put an end to the keeping and use by the banks, to leave the money in the care of the regularly appointed fiscal officers of the Government and to await the decision of the people upon the issue rather than to surrender it either to Mr. BIDDLE to induce him to resume specie payment, or to yield it again to those state Banks which have failed as public depositories, and charged that failure to the action of Congress and the Executive.

"HAIL COLUMBIA."

From Waldie's Journal of Belles Letters.

Judge Hopkinson—We present our readers with an American anecdote, from, the pen of a valued correspondent, respecting the composition of "Hail Columbia," by Judge Hopkinson, which will be new to most of our subscribers.

Mr. Editor—Though you are aware that the Hon. Judge Hopkinson is the author of Hail Columbia, you may not know the circumstances under which it was written. I have heard the history of the song more than once,

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