

GAZETTE.

VINCENNES.

SATURDAY, JAN. 18, 1834.

MR. EWING'S BANK PROJECT.

Under this head the Editor of the Indiana Democrat, has seen proper in the magnitude of his wisdom to make a malignant attack against the public character of our Representative in Congress—the Hon. John Ewing. The notable and magnanimous Editor has taken a suitable time to assail him with the filthy slime of invective while he is at the seat of Government exerting the brilliant powers with which nature has endowed him for the advancement of the interests and the honor of his constituents—of the State of Indiana—and of the people of these United States. The Lion has for a season left his old lair and near it is now heard the screams of the Jackall! And why these loud denunciations from the redoubtable Editor of the Democrat? Merely because Mr. Ewing has had sufficient talent and industry to prepare and lay before Congress at this early stage of the Session a "Bank project" which is alike honorable to himself—to his District and the State from which he "hails"—and which is as far superior to the "Bank Project" of Gen. Jackson, the very political God of this manly Editor's idolatry, as heaven is higher than the earth. But hear the Editor—he shall speak for himself:

"We suspect that Mr. Ewing, the 'sole representative' in Congress of the opposition to the administration in this state, has discovered ere this, that he has commenced business at Washington upon somewhat too large a scale for a new beginner; and that his high sounding proposition in regard to a national currency, instead of carrying with it the eclat which he anticipated, is rather more likely to render him unenviably conspicuous; and to fritter away the little influence, which by prudence he might perhaps have obtained. It would have been more wise, as Mr. Ewing will no doubt soon learn, if he has not already done so; for him as a new member, and one not very deeply tested, we should judge, in banking operations, to have kept a little in the back ground, for a while at any rate; and particularly upon a subject of such magnitude as that which he has so unadvisedly chosen for his debut. It is one we think, which he will probably find a little too heavy for him to handle; and he would have done well, to have followed, instead of attempting to lead, many gentlemen in the House of Representatives, who are probably somewhat more experienced in financial operations and in Congressional proceedings, than Mr. Ewing is."

"Now in the name of all the Gods at once," does it not seem from this tissue of ribaldry, that the aforesaid Editor thinks that it is "pitiful, wondrous pitiful," that Mr. Ewing should as a young member reflect honor upon the State of Indiana, and participate himself in the glory which the patriotic services of the statesman never fail to secure from a grateful people? "Sole representative in Congress of the opposition to the administration in this state," Pray which administration does the Editor mean? The state administration of Indiana, which the language of his fulminating Bull would seem to convey, or that of the General Government, which its spirit indicates? It is easy to perceive that perspicuity is not one of his excellencies, and we advise him to give Blair's Lectures a second perusal. "Commenced business at Washington upon somewhat too large a scale for a new beginner." He would persuade us to believe that it is too soon for our Representative to try to do good—to try to save the people of this country from the ruin flowing from a depreciated currency—a ruin which already begins to be felt in the large Atlantic cities, brought upon us too, by governmental opposition to a Bank which has long regulated our currency, and never yet had one of its notes dishonored—too soon to try and give a substitute for that U. S. Bank which General Jackson who now is "the government" has declared shall not exist—a substitute to preserve us from one of the worst of all evils, a vitiated currency. "Instead of carrying with it the eclat which he anticipated doubtless." It seems the Editor claims the gift of Omniscience, to fathom the heart, and the mind, the thoughts and motives, of Mr. Ewing. How does he know that he anticipated any such thing? It is easy to see that he knows not how to appreciate the manly independence and patriotic sacrifices of our Representative—that he estimates the standard of his soul by the littleness of his own. "He would have done well, to have followed, instead of attempting to lead, many gentlemen in the House of Representatives, who are probably somewhat more experienced in financial operations and in Congressional proceedings, than Mr. Ewing is"—that is, until some of the courtiers of King Andrew the 1st. had offered their "projects," and until "the powers behind the throne" had pulled the wires. For ourselves, we are proud, that a Representative from the Hoosier state has taken the "lead" in a subject of such momentous importance, as that of the National Currency; and whatever may be the fate of his "Bank project," we know it has received the approbation of a considerable portion of all parties in Congress. His "project" may not be as good as the Charter of the U. S. Bank, which General Jackson and his hirelings have pursued with a hate as unrelenting as the grave; but that is no reason why it should be cried down before its merits have been fully tested.

It has been the destiny of Mr. Ewing to have strong enemies as well as friends, and there are some who, envious of his well earned fame, rendered by an honest and patriotic people, will join with such as the Editor of the Democrat, in putting the worst construction on his actions howsoever praiseworthy they may be. But though absent, Mr. Ewing has (and the Editor of the Democrat will ere long discover the fact) friends that are as willing as they are able to defend his honest fame from the misrepresentation and insidious assaults of the calumniator, howsoever high may be his station, or in whatsoever department he may be found. Mr. Ewing's mind and soul are entirely of too lofty a character to be measured by the puny intellect of

this Editor, and he will, perhaps be astonished to find, before long, that our Representatives' "Bank Project" has received the approbation of distinguished individuals, who believe like the Editor, that General Jackson can do no wrong. For the present we have done with this Editor. We have devoted too much of our time already to a "critic," who would sew on the rear "suspenders' button" of the Hero of two wars, which Major Jack Downing stitched—if his breeches were resplendent with a gaseous blaze, not of glory—but of perfumes a posteriori.

The editor of the Vandalia Whig, a red hot Jacksonian, speaking of the different resolutions offered in Congress, says:

"That of the most interest was by Mr. Ewing of Indiana, proposing an enquiry into the expediency of authorizing a national currency of thirty-five millions founded on the faith of the U. S. to be distributed to the states according to their representative population, and also, an enquiry into the expediency of establishing a national bank, of which the states shall be the only stockholders."

Appointment by the Governor.—Solomon Rathbone, Esq. of Vincennes, has received the appointment of a Notary Public.

During last week we received a neatly printed sheet, entitled the Child's Newspaper, published semi-monthly by Cory & Fairbank, Main street, Cincinnati. The Child's Newspaper is edited by Rev. Thos. Brainerd, the editor also of the Cincinnati Journal, which is already notorious for the ability with which it is conducted. No other recommendation is necessary for the Child's newspaper.

The Eastern Mails due since last Thursday week, have just come to hand.

We have received the following communication in the shape of a petition, with a request that it should be published in the Gazette. We have complied with the writer's request, who is a plain, honest farmer, and to say the least, some of his opinions correspond with our own.

To the Honorable, the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States at their first session of the 23d Congress.

Your petitioners, inhabitants of the State of Indiana, land holders, and some of the early settlers of the State, humbly sheweth, that it is with regret that they have seen an attempt made by political characters, to induce the good people of this State to believe that the public land, known by the name of Congress lands, either belong to the State, or that the Government of the United States are in duty bound to cede those lands to the State, or to dispose of them to actual settlers for a trifling consideration. If this were purely a political question, and its determination were to affect its advocates in the same manner that it would its opponents, as most political questions do, we should look on in silence, without obtruding upon your honorable body our views on the subject. But such is not the case; for if the price of the public lands is reduced, a class of citizens of Indiana, of which the undersigners form a part, must suffer in the loss of property or in the value thereof, which, to them, is the same thing; for if lands are now sold for fifty cents per acre, which are equal in value to lands which were sold in 1820 for one dollar and sixty-two and a half cents per acre, the cash price at that time, those who purchased lands in 1820, will be robbed, cheated or defrauded out of \$1 12 1/2 for every acre of land they purchased at that time, besides the interest on the money for thirteen years, which at 6 per cent. amounts to 87 1/2 cents; consequently the first purchasers of the public lands in this state would be wronged out of two dollars for every acre of land they purchased of Government, and of that Government which is bound to protect them in their rights and property.

We acknowledge that when an article in market is in the hands of numerous holders, each individual has a perfect right to dispose of his part of the article at such a price as he thinks will best promote his own interest; but when the article is in the hands of one holder, that holder has not an equitable right to sell a part of his property at a high price, and then reduce the price to a trifle; for in that case he affects the interest of the first purchasers. Such will be the case with regard to the Government of the United States, if they now reduce the price of the public lands.

Your petitioners beg leave in behalf of themselves and other land holders of our State (as they will not be represented in the House of Representatives in the 23d Congress except by one of the members of this State,) to enumerate some of the grievances that they must suffer if the mad project of reducing the price of public lands is accomplished. In the first place, they, or most of them, came to this state at a time when the whole country was mostly a wilderness. Each family had to make their own roads, and suffer all the inconveniences which are incident to the emigrants of all new countries. If we raised a little more produce than was necessary for the use of our own families, we had no market for the surplus within our reach. If we stood in need of any article, (and we stood in need of many) not the production of our own yet unimproved country, we could obtain it only at the most exorbitant price; and in addition to this, in consequence of residing on a

loose untrodden soil, covered with annual plants and vegetables, the country was universally unhealthy. The bilious and intermittent fevers were our annual visitants, and they came with neither mildness nor mercy. Thousands fell victims to their fury, who left but little for their families but uncultivated lands purchased of the general government at two dollars per acre—lands but little if any better than those adjoining, yet unsold. These lands have been the hope and patrimony of the fatherless, and if the price of the unsold public land is reduced, their hope will be lost and their patrimony scattered to the winds. And we can state further, that we had no mills to grind our grain—no schools to educate our children, and many of us have been compelled to meet the savage foe in defence of our dear bought lands and homely cabins, and the bones of many of our sires are now mouldering in the battle-ground. But now the scene has changed—the wilderness is in part converted into fruitful fields; every county has its state and county roads, and some of them highly improved: school houses are multiplied and the school master is abroad amongst us—other improvements are made and being made, and the pestilence which raged amongst us in early times is now but little known; and places which were once notorious for sickness, are now proverbial for health. And now let us ask, what has produced this change? the answer is ready. It is the toil, labor, industry and frugality of those who have purchased lands—it is that class of citizens who have indirectly and directly poured their hard earned cash into your lap—they have filled your land offices and assisted to fill your custom houses with money. The United States' creditors, its civil and military officers, its soldiers and its heroes of the revolution, have partaken of their bounty. It is the cash of the land holder that constitutes the three per cent fund, with which our roads are improved, and travelling and transportation made easy. And if we look at our state and county treasuries, we shall find them mostly filled with the cash of the land holder. From these premises it is clear and plain that the unsold public lands are at this time worth more than were those lands that were purchased from congress at the time of their sale. If proof is wanted of this assertion, we can look to the western part of the state of New-York and the state of Ohio, and all new countries, that increase rapidly in population.

The price of land does not altogether depend on the quality of its soil, but in part, on its locality, on its proximity to a settlement, a water privilege, a highway, a large town on navigable waters, and many other circumstances. The barren and sterile lands on the shores and places adjacent to the Atlantic Ocean, will command a much higher price than the rich alluvial soil of the states west of the Alleghany mountains.

Your petitioners now beg leave to notice some of the arguments advanced by the advocates of a reduction of the price of the public lands. In the first place, it is said, that money was more plentiful, and less valuable in the early settlement of this state than at this time. It is true, that bills on the innumerable banks of Kentucky and Ohio, were more plentiful, than cash is at this time; but those bills did not pass in the land offices in the United States, and hard cash or its equivalent, U. S. Bank bills, were scarcer in the year 1820, than at this time, and also in the years preceding and succeeding that year. It is said, in the next place, that Great Britain, Spain, and other nations of Europe, give their lands to settlers. This may be the case, but they do not sell to one person at a double price, and give to another, and thereby rob or defraud one man to enrich another. England, it is true, gives her lands in Botany Bay to actual settlers, and transports them to it, but her transports are those who, according to her laws, are guilty of felony, and the baltier is exchanged for transportation. It may be the case that Great Britain bestows her Canadian lands to actual settlers. Canada is a cold, uninviting part of the British Dominions; it is separated from Great Britain by an Ocean three thousand miles wide; it has neither the soil nor climate of the Western or new states, and further, it is the policy of Great Britain to settle Canada by all possible means—that in case she should be engaged in a war with the United States, she might be able to defend herself against the arms of our government. In addition to this, Great Britain is overrun with paupers whom she is willing to part with on any terms. Most of the same observations will apply to Spain and her policy, as respects her wild lands.

Another view of the subject may be taken. The lands in Canada belong to the crown of Great Britain. The King can give, sell, or dispose of those lands as he pleases. Parliament has never assumed a control over their alienation. Those lands, called Congress lands, are held in a different manner. They do not belong to the President of the United States, or to Congress, but they belong to the people of the several States, and every citizen, whether born under the government, or naturalized, has a share, though undivided, in those lands, and Congress are only trustees to dispose of those lands; and it is their duty to dispose of them for a reasonable price, and make an equitable distribution of the proceeds amongst the owners, giving something extra to those who have most defended the soil, and increased their value. It is also said, that those lands were given by the State of Virginia to the several States to be disposed of, and their avails to be applied

to the extinguishment of the national debt, contracted during the war of the revolution; said debt being now extinguished, the lands should be sold for a sum only sufficient to defray the expense of surveys, &c. If the national debt had been paid by the proceeds of the sales of the public lands, it might then be said to have answered the purpose intended by the State of Virginia and Congress. Instead of possessing power as trustees, to sell those lands, at any price, would possess no power at all; and in that case, all lands not sold, would belong to Virginia.

But the above proposition made by the advocates for a reduction in the price of the public lands, is not virtually sustained by facts. The public debt has not been paid by the proceeds of the public lands, but on the contrary, those lands are debtor to the United States' Treasury; but the national debt has been paid mostly by the effect of the United States tariff laws, which is a duty laid on imported articles, that has been drawn on the purses of the American people for about half a century. It is this duty that has anticipated the avails of the public lands, and it is but just and reasonable that the price of public lands should remain as it is at present, until the avails shall have amounted to the full sum of the old national debt with the interest that might have accrued thereon. Those who advocate a reduction in the price of the public lands, contend that should the public lands, be reduced in price, they would be immediately settled by the poorer class of citizens, and by their industry, the price of farms in a few years would be high. This is a mistake. It is not a numerous population of poor people that enhances the price of land, but it is a population of able, enterprising and industrious settlers that causes lands to increase in price. It is in such places we find good roads, good schools, and good teachers, good mills, good mechanics, and many other advantages which are not found elsewhere. It also said, that should the price of public lands be reduced, we should be individually taxed a less sum for state and county purposes. Nothing in the opinion of the undersigners is further from the truth than this statement; for should our country become an asylum for all classes of poor people, from the Atlantic states and from Europe, have we not reason to fear that the Atlantic and European cities would vomit upon our state the scum and dregs of their population, most of them, habituated to habits of idleness, vice, and dissipation? If misfortune, or even the want of economy, was the only cause of poverty, the poor, in all cases, would be entitled to our sympathy, and what is of more value, our assistance. But it frequently happens that poverty is caused by idleness, dissipation, intemperance, and vicious and immoral habits. It is that class of poor that we do not wish to invite to reside among us. We who have purchased our lands at a high price are not willing to be classed with such characters, who would receive their lands as a gift. Such a population, instead of reducing our taxes, would augment them. Many would become paupers, and others candidates for the penitentiary. Our courts would be thronged—litigation would increase—we should find a great increase of state causes to be tried in our own courts at the expense of the industrious classes, and what is worse, the morals of the rising generation would be contaminated by evil example. It is said, that those public lands that have been in the market some ten or fifteen years and remain unsold, are refuse lands, and of little value for cultivation; that is far from the truth. When the first settlers enter upon a new country they select some place that pleases their fancy; others that come after them, generally locate themselves near those who first made their way into the wilderness; thus three or four families form a nucleus, around which, a settlement is made without much regard by any, except some of the first who settled in the place, to the quality of the soil or the ultimate advantages that will attend their location. Three or four such settlements constitute a county in its incipient state. If the lands unsold were compared with those that have been taken up by purchase, having regard only to the quality of the soil, it would be found that the lands that are sold are not more than ten or fifteen per cent. more valuable than the unsold lands, and that difference in value as to richness of soil, is many times over balanced by the superior advantages that are attached to the unsold lands, that did not belong to any wild lands until they were created by the industry of the present land holders.

When we compare the sold and unsold lands, and take into view the quality of the soil, the advantages and disadvantages that have and do belong to them, we find the unsold lands to be fifty per cent. more valuable than were the sold lands at the time they were purchased. Your petitioners would further state, that they highly approve of the provisions of a bill, commonly called Clay's land bill, which passed both houses of Congress at the last session, and which did not receive the approbation of the President—they therefore pray, that the provisions of said bill, may be re-enacted by the 23d Congress, at its first session. But should Congress in its wisdom, consider it inexpedient to re-enact said bill, and that the welfare and interest of the country, especially of the new States, would not be promoted thereby, and should Congress instead thereof, reduce the price of the unsold public lands—your petitioners pray, that former purchasers of public lands, may be authorised, without paying anything further into the land offices, to select a quantity of land, which, when added to

their former purchases, would reduce the price of the whole to the same price, to what the unsold lands shall have been reduced.

Your petitioners are aware that some difficulty would attend the arrangement of the details of a bill of that character, but those difficulties they consider not unsurmountable; and they think it might be enacted that additional entries of the public lands might be made in the name of the present owner or owners of former entries or purchases, and said new or additional entries be divided amongst its several owners, agreeably to the laws of the state on such subjects.

Your petitioners believe that if Congress are generous, they will not refuse to be just; and that they are not asking for a gift, but for an equitable claim, which claim they hope will not be rejected.—And your petitioners shall ever pray.

LEGISLATIVE.

From the Indiana Journal.

STATE BANK.

Both Houses of the General Assembly are now fairly engaged on the Bank question. A considerable battle has been fought in both Houses on the first section of the bill, in relation to the number of Branches. The proposition to reduce the number to five failed in both Houses—the vote standing in the Senate 12 for reducing the number and 16 against it, and in the House 33 for and 37 against it. Considerable debate took place yesterday in both branches on a motion to strike out the second section, which divides the state into Bank Districts. This motion also failed in both Houses. For the details of Monday's proceedings the reader is referred to our Proceedings. Our sketch of the debate in the House is necessarily much condensed. Supposing the public to be deeply interested in the subject, and being pressed for time and room, we just submit our notes in the rough state in which they were taken during the progress of the proceedings. The debate was continued yesterday in the House, on the proposition to reduce the number of Branches, by Messrs. KILGORE, BROWN, T. BRACKENRIDGE, PALMER, (Speaker,) CRUME, EVANS, and CLARK. The proceedings, thus far, have strengthened our belief that the bill will pass.

To the Editor of the Quebec Mercury—

Sir—The statement of the melancholy death of the youth (Paquet) at St. Ambrois, from hydrophobia, which appeared in your paper of Thursday, the 21st inst. induces me to forward you the following extract from Hardy's Travels in Mexico. London, 1829. There cannot be a more humiliating scourge inflicted upon the human race than this dreadful malady, for man becomes afflicted with all the symptoms equally with the brute, while laboring under the same disease; and should the simple remedy prescribed in the following note be tried in this country, may He who is the author of every good, bless the attempt with success, and thereby lay open a channel for removing this fearful complaint.

Yours, &c. D.

"From Don Victorio I learned a cure for the hydrophobia, which, in three cases, he had administered in the last paroxysms of that dreadful complaint. He told me that he had known several die who had not taken it, but of those to whom it was administered, not one. He is so honest a man, and has the general character of such strict veracity, that I entertain no doubt of his having witnessed what he related. One of the patients was tied up to a post with strong cords, and a priest was administering the last offices of religion. At the approach of a paroxysm, the unfortunate sufferer, with infuriated looks, desired the priest to get out of the way, for that he felt a desire to bite every body he could catch hold of. An old woman who was present, said she would undertake his cure; and although there were none who believed it possible that she could effect it, yet the hope that she might do so, and the certainty of the patient's death if nothing were attempted, bore down all opposition, and her services were accepted. She poured a powder into half a glass of water, mixed it well, and in the intervals between the paroxysms she forced the mixture down his throat. The effects were exactly such as she had predicted; namely, that he would almost instantly lose all power over his bodily and mental faculties, and that a death-like stupor would prevail, without any symptoms of animation, for either twenty-four or forty eight hours, according to the strength of his constitution; that at the end of this period the effects of the mixture would arouse the patient, and its violent operation, as emetic and cathartic, would last about ten or fifteen minutes, after which he would be able to get upon his legs, and would feel nothing but the debility which had been produced by the combined effects of the disease and the medicine. She mentioned also that the fluid to be discharged from the stomach would be as black as charcoal, and very offensive to the smell.

"All this literally took place at the end of about twenty-six hours; and the patient was liberated from one of the most horrible and affecting deaths to which mortality is subject. She had her own way of accounting for the effects of this disease. She termed it a local complaint attacking the mouth, which by degrees it irritates and inflames; this ripens the pus, which is conveyed to the brain by means of the nerves, and is received also into the stomach with the saliva. The poison thus matured in the mouth and at the root of the tongue, converts the whole of the