Mo Latrub jr


# EASTERN-SHORE WHIG AND PEOPLE'S ADVOCATE.

"THE PRICE OF LIBERTY IS PERPETUAL VIGILANCE."

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## POETRY.

[From the Philadelphia Public Ledger.]

FOUR ACROSTICS.

Curst be the hand that crush'd thee to the earth,
Ill fated victim of a murderous crew!
Lives there a man who honors not thy worth?
Lives there a soul in freedom's cause more true?
E'en that mad gang, who feared thy cause and thee.
Yet heap quick honors* o'er thy memory.

Wily assassin! who with purpose fell,
In thirst for blood could prate of "CHIVALRY."
Scorn shall pursue thy name; and lowest hell
Eternal prove thy" lower fire" to thee!

Go! guilt-stained votary of a Draco code—
Revel upon the ruin thou hast wrought:
Anguish shall haunt thy steps—thy sleep corrode,—
Visions of blood shall stain thy waking thought.
Envenomed *tool!*—Hate, like a loathsome pest
Shall scourge thee to thy tomb—*that shall not give thee rest!*

Wretch!—hated wretch!—now writhing in the slime
Engender'd by thy festering infamy—
*Be as thou art*:—thy name, throughout all time,
Branded like *Cain's*, shall never, never die.
Z. E. B.

*The house voted to wear crape for thirty days, *unanimously*.

### THE QUESTION.

A lovely young wife said one day, in her bower,
As her bride-maiden sat at her side,
'I'll tell thee what passed in that halcyon hour,
When he ask'd, would I be his bride'

It was in this bower to behold the sun set,
In his golden bed, glorious and bright;
We silently stood but our eyes often met,
And each glance was a gleam of delight.

'He tenderly press'd both my waist and my hand,
Yet nothing still nothing said he,
Or little that I could at first understand,
For he spoke in a flattering key.

His tongue, it woul' seem, had forgotten its duty,
He trembled, it was not with fear,
I blush'd like the rose, and it heightened my beauty,
At last, so he told me, my dear.

'I felt but I cannot describe as I would,
My feelings of timid delight;
But felt like a poor silly thing as I stood,
And confused, played the baby outright.

To hide my confusion still closer he press'd,
My head on his shoulder reclined,
And gasping with pleasure I then was address'd
With words that delight womankind

'O sweet were the sounds, as they fell on my ear,
When thus, in a whisper, said he,
Than life more I love thee, then tell me my dear,
O wilt thou be married to me?

'What my heart would have answered he very soon guessed,
Though my timid tongue would not say yes;
For then when his lips were on mine fondly pressed,
I gave him a modest first kiss!'

*A learned Inscription.*—The following inscription may be seen on a sign in Main st, Brooklyn:

WASHIN MENDIN, AND SKULE TEACHIN, *doon up stares.*

*Woman's Love.*—What is so unearthly, so beautiful, as the first birth of a woman's love? The air of heaven is not purer in its wanderings—its sunshine not more holy in its warmth. O, why should it deteriorate in its nature; even while it increases in its degrees? Why should the step which prints, sully its snow?—*Bulwer*

An Irish tailor made a gentleman's coat and waistcoat too small, had orders to take them home and let them out. Some days after, the gentleman enquiring for his garments, was told by this ninth part of an Irishman, that the coat and waistcoat happening to fit a countryman of his, he had let them out at eighteen pence a week.

*Female Influence.*—It was a pertinent and forcible saying of the Emperor Napoleon, that "a handsome woman pleases the eye, but a good woman pleases the heart; the one is a jewel, the other a treasure."

A farmer having hired a man to reap two or three acres of barley, went out into the field and found him reclining under the shade of a tree. "What is the matter," inquired he. "Oh," said the man, "I feel amazing *drop-sickle!*"—*Boston Trans.*

A smoky house, an unfaithful servant, a stumbling horse, a scolding wife, an empty purse, an undutiful child, an aching tooth, an incessant talker, boys that break through an enclosure, a dull razor, a pimpled face, a butting ram, and a fop, are thirteen of the greatest plagues of the present day.

A TAVERN INCIDENT.—"What are you about? you black rascal! Twice have you roused me from my sound sleep to tell me that breakfast is ready, and now you've awoke me by attempting to pull off the bed clothes! What the deuce do you mean?" "Why, massa; if you isn't goin to git up, I mus hab de sheet any how, 'cause dey'r waitin for de table-clot!"

'Tom, who are you laughing at?' said a mother to her son, who was rising greatness itself, as he sat shaking his sides. 'Nothin,' roared Tom. 'Nothing!' exclaimed she, 'Thomas, my son I did not think you were so foolish as to laugh at nothing.' 'Why, mother, I could't think of any thing to laugh at, and so I laughed 'cause I couldn't.

DAVY CROCKETT'S LAST.—The colonel was present at a splendid route once given by General Green, at Washington, and was induced to dance, or rather attempt to dance, in a quadrille. The figure was intricate, and the colonel got off of the trail. Turning to his partner—a laughing, funloving girl—he apologised for his error, and remarked, with characteristic drollery of expression, 'that he wasn't much educated in dancing, although he could stand up to the plain work mightily perpendicular; but,' continued he, 'when you come to put in the scientific licks, I squat.

A NEW MODE FOR PARSING GRAMMAR.—Mr. Hurd the celebrated teacher of Grammar, once on a time (at Hopkinton, Ms.) set his class, to parsing the following lines of Pope:

'Heaven from all creatures hides the book of fate—
All but the page prescribed,' &c.

The word all, in the second line had been parsed—when coming to the word but, and directing his eye to the next pupil, the master said, 'But! the next.' No sooner was the word out, than—plump went the head of the pupil into the bread basket of his next neighbor.

'Boo! boo! boo!' roared the latter most lustily.

'What are you about there,' said the master to the former.

'I am butting the the next sir, as you told me to,' replied the lad.—(N. Y. Transcript.

*Cato.*—In a dutch translation of Cato, the version of the soliloquy is curious;—thus does it commence.—"Just so.—you are very right, Mynheer Plato."

*Phrases.*—Byron says, beautifully and very poetically 'Ye stars, which are the poetry of Heaven!' and somebody before or after him, happily celebrated dancing as 'the poetry of motion;' but the best thing of the kind that has met my eye, is by rare old Ben Johnson. He calls bell-ringing '*The poetry of steeples!*' To say anything in praise of that, would be 'gild refined gold.'—*Western Literary Jor.*

*The Best of Women*—She who makes her husband and her children happy, who reclaims the one from vice, and trains up the other to virtue, is a much greater character than ladies described in romances, whose whole occupation is to murder mankind, with shafts from their quiver or their eyes.—*Goldsmith.*

ADVICE.—Always proclaim the faults of others. There should be no secrets in a republican government.

Never give up your opinion though you know you are wrong, it shows that you have no independence.

Whenever you attack your neighbor's character, do it behind his back, so as to not to wound his feelings.

Make it a practice to keep company with rogues and rascals; and then if you should be prosecuted for an offence you have committed, and your comrades should be called as witnesses against you, nobody will believe them, and so you will get clear.

Never forgive an injury. The power of pardoning belongs to the governor and council.

When you have done an act of charity publish it to others; so that they may do so too. Besides every man can preach best from his own notes.

Never pay your debts, it is unconstitutional; for payment impairs the obligation of a contract, and even the legislature has no power to do that.

Temperance is a great virtue; therefore always be moderate in the use of ardent. Six glasses of sling before breakfast is as good as a thousand.

When you are at church, go to sleep, Sunday is a day of rest.

If a secret has been committed to you to keep, take care to keep it safely; and it may be well for caution's sake, to get one or two to help you. And as woman is called the 'weaker vessel,' she should have half a dozen to help her. 'Fast bind, fast find.'

Never sweep your parlor; it makes a confounded dust.

Never brush down a cobweb, it is a part of a spider's dwelling house, and of course his *castle*, and therefore is sacred.

Life is short, and as things are now managed, a woman's work is never done; she must therefore work double tides, that is, she should talk and laugh at the same time. Years of life may be saved in this way.

MORE GOOD ADVICE TO SUNDRY PERSONS.

A young blood should never drive a horse and sleigh through our city short of fifteen miles an hour; and then he will not annoy any one more than a second at most.

He should always remember the old proverb, 'a middle course is the safest.' Therefore he should drive in the middle of the street, and let all males and females take care of themselves; snow-banks notwithstanding.

Gentlemen exquisites and school boys should smoke two cigars at once, and so puff the smoke to the right and left in every body's face; this will keep folks warm, and be dealing 'equal and exact justice' to all.

A young beau or an old one, when walking on a brick pavement with a Lady, should keep the inner side for his own comfort, and oblige her to walk next to the curbstone and keep the cows off herself.

When a young couple are parading any of our side walks which are narrow, and meet an old man or woman, crowd such persons into the street. In our country the majority must govern.

People in going to church in opposite directions, should go right hand and left, and in this way they will run against each other more easily, and by this collision, become better acquainted and more united in their opinions.

As man was formed for society, all should cherish the social principle; and how can this be done more properly than in squads of young idlers at the corners of our streets on Sunday morning and afternoon, as other people are squeezing by them on their way to church.'

The 'human form divine,' is a delightful object; especially when this form belongs to a young lady. Hence we see the sense of propriety as well as the reason which induces a group of youngsters to face to the right about, after they have left the church, to examine the form aforesaid of those who are descending the steps to the street.

When a Dandy (a being which a Quaker very properly calls a 'small article,') meets a young lady in the street, he cannot do a more civil thing to stop and stare her full in the face. A handsome face was made to be stared at, and eyes were made to stare with.

Once more and to conclude. If we should ever have any more parties in our city, and a lady should be solicited to sing a song, accompanied by the soft strains of her piano, as soon as she begins to sing, all tongues should begin to run a race, and all talk as loud as they can. This shows how music excites them. In fact, it is an off hand way of 'setting words to music.'—(Portland Transcript.

## THE MANIAC'S PARTNER AT THE BALL.—A CUBAN INCIDENT.

Exquisite Pepita! with what kindness and grace, and ease, and elegance didst thou lead thy pupil—a stranger to thee and to thy country—through the many involutions of the glorious *contra danza*. Now twining mine arm; light as the elder [illegible] placing on my shoulder the jewelled hand, [illegible]

"So white, so soft, so d[illegible]
As thou had'st worn a[illegible]

though, at that mom[illegible] bright Parisian [illegible] dimpled elbow, [illegible] pressing on my [illegible] ly and tren[illegible] waist—thy [illegible] from my [illegible] while [illegible] gaze—[illegible] separating [illegible] gain together [illegible] the [illegible] the inspiring movements of thy native music! Ah! how often, even now, does thy slight yet faultless figure glide by me in some daily musings and nightly dreams; and the countenance, [illegible] beaming all intelligence and goodness; and [illegible] on that happy eve—[illegible] followed me, then [illegible] to sit beside thee, and talk to thee of distant lands, and question thee of thine own bright isle, and lead thee round the circle of the giddy waltz! It was on the first night of my arrival at Matanzas from the Havana, in the island of Cuba. I had not delivered my letters of introduction—but hearing there was a grand public ball in the town, I had proceeded thither and had waltzed with some of the highest and most beautiful girls in the island—such is the difference in the manners and customs of people. The public balls here, as in the Havana, are open to all. Persons, even of the highest distinction, let their public rooms, for the night to some speculators who light them up for the occasion, the grand saloon being appropriated for dancing, and some of the small rooms for gaming—the expenses for music, lights and attendance being defrayed by a small sum for admission, generally about half a dollar. The music at these places is exceedingly fine, there being a great variety of wind instruments, which give peculiar effect to the beautiful Spanish airs. Not only do the highest and wealthiest abandon their houses for the night for these purposes, but the elite of the city and neighborhood attend with their families, and the proudest grandees might be seen mingling in good humor and affability with their trades people and others, few persons being refused admission who are well dressed and of 'good behaviour.' I had waltzed several times during the evening not having found the slightest difficulty in procuring partners, the Spanish women being passionately fond of the waltz, although chary in getting up with a stranger—whom they are not assured is practical in it. The *contra danzo* however, I had as yet never attempted—it not being so well known in England twenty years ago as it has since become; and having expressed my desire to make a beginning to a 'charming creature' with whom I had waltzed more than once, she good-naturedly offered me her hand, and in another moment I found myself much more *au fait* to it than I had imagined. It was the beauteous and accomplished Pepita de Peralto, or La Marquisita, as she was designated by her friends.

Some time later in the evening, I was sitting beside Pepita, her father being on the other side of her, and her mother, the Marquess, on my right, conversing with them about some relatives of theirs, with whom it happened I was well acquainted, when suddenly all eyes became riveted to the grand entrance of the *salon* in which we were, within which stood a figure whose appearance was strngely at variance with the surrounding scene. '*El loco! el loco!* the lunatic! the lunatic!' was whispered from one to another; but while every one appeared surprised, no one seemed alarmed at the apparition It was a young man about thirty-three or thirty-five years of age—of a tall slender figure—straight as an Indian—with long flaxen hair curling down each side of a pale handsome face, which looked as if carved in marble. His eyes were exceedingly large, and of a light blue color, usually dimmed, I was informed, from want of 'speculation,' but on this occasion lit up with a peculiar brilliancy, and in a 'fine frenzy rolling.' He was habited in a blue check shirt and trowsers, the latter unaccompanied by any fastening except a pink checked handkerchief round the waist. He was without coat, waistcoat, stockings, or shoes.—In his left hand was a broad brimmed straw hat. He had been a Colonel in the Austrian service—I was informed by Pepita and her parents—and had distinguished himself signally in various engagements. The tale of his sorrows was a melancholy one. He had hastened home after the abdication of Napoleon, and found his paternal mansion burnt to the ground, and his wife and children sometime in their graves.—He scarcely ever spoke after. Collecting together the small remnant of his shattered fortune, he left his native country, and was on his way to one of the West India islands, when the vessel in which he had embarked was captured by pirates, and after being severely maltreated, and robbed of every thing he possessed in the world, he was put on shore on the coast of Cuba, in a state of utter destitution. Finding his way to Matanzas, he engaged as a laborer in a tan yard, the proprietor of which had ever since treated him with the greatest kindness. A short time afterwards he exhibited signs of insanity, but being generally perfectly inoffensive, was allowed his liberty, except at times when he became rather outrageous, when he was sent to the mad house. When the paroxysms ceased, he was discharged, when he would invariably return to the tan yard, where he was charitably provided for.

He might be often seen stalking about the streets and country, erect as an arrow, in foul weather and fair, but was never known to have committed the slightest injury of offence He would walk into any house, and ask for food or drink, and stop any one in the streets or on the road and ask for a cigar, or a light for one, but nothing could ever induce him to accept money, or indeed any thing beyond the supply of his immediate wants. His speech, too, was altogether confined to such requests. From his well known misfortunes, his gentleness and perfect inoffensiveness, the elegance of his manners, the beauty of his features, and his independent spirit, he was a universal favorite.—While these particulars were being hurriedly related to me, the unhappy object of them was leaning against the door post, [illegible] all around with a degree of excite-[illegible] seemed on the eve of breaking every [illegible] some wild paroxysm; but to the [illegible] of all, on the band striking up a [illegible] waltz, the excited lunatic, [illegible] and taking a rapid survey [illegible] stepped across to where we [illegible] bowing gracefully to Pepita, offered [illegible] hand! For a moment the startled [illegible] back in her seat; but finding [illegible] laboring under some irresista-[illegible] really anxious to dance, pity-[illegible] and regardless of all con-[illegible] even consult-[illegible] accepted his hand, soiled [illegible] rising from her [illegible] to lead her off at once round [illegible] circle. The effect was electric! All eyes [illegible] upon them, and those who had [illegible] waltz stept without or within the circle, and became spectators, while the doors and windows were crowded with persons anxious to get a sight of a scene so extraordinary *pas*, before twirling, [illegible] with ease, grace and precision, [illegible] quickening their steps with the music, until they seemed to fly around the room, [illegible] the midst of the extremest velocity, [illegible] suddenly, but gracefully, opposite Pepita's chair, and twirling her round two or three times to lessen and break the speed, dropped her gently into her seat, and bowing his head until his lips slightly touched the hand he still held, turned and darted out of the *salon* like lightning, amid the clapping and cheering of the wondering company—above which, however, I could distinctly hear the shrieking of the maniac as he fled wildly up the street—Angelic Pepita! who but thyself, in such a dilemma, would have done as thou didst? Did I not tell thee truly that, for the kindness to the poor madman, some fairy would recompense thee by a more costly dress for the one so soiled? And didst thou not archly bid me convey to the suspected fairy the acknowledgments for certain Parisian finery and the jewels sent to thee soon after, in some of which I have since seen thee so becomingly decked in thine own gay halls? The identical gloves I half robbed thee of are now before me on the table, while I trace this little narrative of the wild and whimsical incident.

ANECDOTE OF THE LATE WAR.

The following is copied from the Standard, a paper printed at Portland, Me. over the signature of 'The Gunner.'

"It will be borne in mind that the first powder burnt in the late war with England was burnt on board the President frigate, Com. Rogers.

At the commencement of the action on board the President frigate, a ball (an eighteen lb. shot,) from the Belvidere came over the waist cloths of the President, and such was the force of the ball that it actually cut off, without throwing them down, the muzzles of several of the muskets (left there by the marines,) from 6 to 8 inches in length; killed one marine; took off the wrist of one midshipman, Mr. Montgomery; killed another, Mr. Buck, together with the quarter gunner, and finally lodged on the deck, and was taken below by the narrator of this, and shown to the 3 Lieutenant, Mr. Dallas, who took it in his hand and wrote on it with chalk: Cousin, I have received your present and will return it again;' clapt it in the gun himself, and fired the piece; and it is a remarkable fact, that it actually killed several of the officers and men on board the Belvidere, and finally lodged in the cabin of that vessel; and was afterwards hung up in the Belvidere's cabin as a globe during the war. A fact worth recording, as it shows the coolness of American tars in battle. At the time the shot cut off the muskets, a sailor at the wheel of the President exclaimed, 'they are firing bright barrelled pistols at us'—in reference to the pieces of the muskets flying in every direction over the deck."

PIOUS CUSTOM OF THE SWISS.

It is the custom in the valleys of the canton of Berne, whenever the father of a family builds a house, and the walls are raised to their full height to request the minister of the parish to pray to God inside. The workmen, and such as are to assist in finishing the house, meet together, and unite in thanking the Lord for his care hitherto, and entreat a continuance of it, through the more dangerous part that remains. "This prayer," observes M. Paulet, the pastor of Coutelary, "when made in faith, redoubles one's strength and removes all fear of danger." "If God be for us, who can be against us," observed an old carpenter to the same minister, when he advised him not to expose himself too incautiously. A blessing terminates this pious ceremony; the workmen return to their labors, and the noise of hammers begins to be heard again. How pleasing it is to see a practical acknowledgement of the truth "Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it."

The following custom is also general among the inhabitants of the Alps. The shepherd's horn in the Alpine regions is the signal for a solemn and religious duty, and is used for a much more noble purpose than the mere return of the cattle from their pasturage. When the sun has quitted the valley, and his lingering beams still cast a glow of fading light on the snowy summits of the mountains, the shepherd, whose hut is placed on the highest Alp, grasps his horn, and pronounces, through his speaking trumpet, the solemn injunction to the world below, "Praise ye the Lord." Every shepherd in the neighborhood who catches this sound in succession, repeats the same sentence at the door of his cabin. Thus, perhaps, for a quarter of an hour, the cliffs and rocky precipices fling to each other, oft-repeated echoes of the sublime "Praise ye the Lord!" A solemn stillness succeeds the last reverberation; and all kneel bare-headed, and in silent devotion, till darkness rests upon the earth, and veils the towering mountains. Again the horn sounds, and the peaceful, social 'good night!' once more awakens the echoes. Hills, vales and rocky cliffs and all, sink to rest.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE CURRENCY TO THE LEGISLATURE OF MARYLAND.

The special committee appointed by an order of the House of Delegates of the 27th December last, and denominated the "Committee on the Currency," to whom was submitted the duty of inquiring diligently and carefully "into the state and condition of the circulating medium in use in this State, the situation, practices and condition of each and every banking institution thereof"—as also several other orders subsequently adopted, and "to propose such remedies as will tend to correct the existing evils, and effectually guard against any further suspension," respectfully report—That,

Early upon entering on the duties with which your committee were charged, they were impressed with the necessity of a personal and minute examination into the several banks of the State. This mode of examination was deemed not only due to the very delicate and highly responsible nature of the duties assigned us, but would, we believed, be more effectual in dissipating the doubts that clouded the public mind in relation to the solvency of these institutions, than if we had rested our conclusion, alone upon the sworn answers of the officers to whom our interrogatories were addressed. To aid the committee in the discharge of the objects of their appointment, general interrogatories were forwarded to all the banks, involving inquiries, as to adherence to the requirements of their charters, their condition at several stated periods, prior and subsequent to the suspension of specie payments in May last, their debtor and creditor relations with each other, and with the banks of New York and Philadelphia at the dates then specified—the mode of their internal administration, the object of a continued suspension of specie payments, and the period at which a resumption could probably be effected without mutual injury to the banks and the public. Special and particular interrogatories were also addressed to the banks and Savings Institutions, the answers to which added very much to the data of information on which the conclusions of your committee are based. The answers which those interrogatories elicited constitute the tabular statement and testimony furnished the House, and by which the views entertained by your committee can be tested. Your committee, anxious to give to the result of their labors all the influence of opinions founded on actual observation—visited every bank and Savings Institution in the State (saving that at Liberty) and by personal examination convinced themselves of the perfect accuracy of the statements previously furnished them, in the answers to their interrogatories.

Before proceeding to comment on the several divisions of labor assigned them by the orders of the House, your committee beg leave to observe that, although the metals have disappeared from circulation and their places are occupied by bank notes of different denominations, from one dollar upwards—and by certificates of deposite and various descriptions of small notes for change, yet that the banks of Maryland are in a sound and healthful condition. That the ultimate redemption of their issues when required is certain. That in continuing the suspension they are governed not by motives of a sordid or mercenary nature, but by a discreet and intelligent regard for the public advantage. That the continued suspension so far from being a source of profit to those institutions, has directly and palpably a contrary operation. And that needing no prompting from legal penalties, to a return to specie payments, their own interest imperatively demands it, at the earliest practical period. To establish the truth of these conclusions, your committee believe, not very difficult, and if they are established, by the evidence gathered in the course of a protracted and scrutinizing investigation, they venture confidently to hope that the influence of every member of this House will be exercised, in dispelling the prejudices against those institutions, which find, as we believe, their origin in a mistake of the motives by which they were actuated to the steps, which have induced this investigation. To prove beyond the possibility of unprejudiced doubt, the truth of the first declaration, that the banks of Maryland are in a healthful condition, we need only refer to the statements which have been submitted already to the House —These statements will show that the aggregate liabilities of the banks amount to, on their circulation, $3,002,085 00
Deposites, 3,291,924 62

Making together, 6,294,009 62
The means available to meet these liabilities are
Specie, $1,259,908 48
Bills and notes discounted, 15,813,006 15

Making together the sum of 17,072,914 63
Besides real estate, stocks, &c

From this data two conclusions are evident. That the assets of the Banks available to the discharge of their obligations, considerably exceed those obligations, and that the ratio of circulation to specie is less than the acknowledged, healthy and authorized proportion of three to one. This result so satisfactory as to the general condition of the whole, is equally applicable to the division of its parts, and the same assertion of solvency may as well be predicated of each individual bank as of their united strength. In making this statement the committee have no reference to the Susquehanna Bank, as the determination of its condition belongs appropriately to another committee in whose charge has been placed the results of our examination. Your committee refer the House with confidence to the tabular evidence, annexed for a full and perfect sustainment of the positions they have assumed. This being established the second allegation of the ultimate redemption of all bank issues becomes palpably correct to every mind, save to such, as from innate hostility to these institutions or determined prejudice, assumed that the corporations are essentially corrupt and their officers human vampires, obtaining subsistence from the ill-reposed confidence of an abused people. Much of the excitement in the public mind against the Banks, from the continued suspensions, arises from the error too prevalent (and which your committee deem it important to correct) that the profits of the Banks have been inordinately increased by the suspension. However plausible such a conception may appear at first, however forcible the argument may seem that this increasement of profits, must necessarily result from the removal of the restraint of liability to specie payment, the facts collected incontestibly proved that no such effect has been produced; and let it be remembered that in these days, when the general denunciation against monied institutions, characterizes them as grasping, avaricious, soulless monopolies, who, erecting an altar to mammon, sacrifice to their idol's demand, the hopes and fortunes of a deceived and confiding people. That the Banks of Maryland stand proudly exempt from the charge that the removal of a restraint upon their issues has only taught them the necessity of caution, and that their discounts [illegible] from which their principal profits arise, has not been extended beyond the positive and necessary facilities for the ordinary commercial operations of the State, nor beyond what their condition justified. That no unholy speculations upon the necessities of the public have been practised, that their course has rather subjected them to the censure of a too prudent policy, than of deriving an individual profit from a general distress. That in the purchase of specie with a view to an early resumption, they have sacrificed large portions of the profits, that more prosperous times had enabled them to accumulate. To prove this—The aggregate discounts were
In Jan. 1837, $15,322,940 49
In May, 1837, 15,254,720 93
In Jan. 1838, 15,813,006 18
Showing only an increase of discounts between the first and last periods of $490,065 69
The amount of circulation
In January, 1837, was $3,345,795 16
In May, 1837, 2,965,711 15
And in January, 1838 3,002,085 00
Showing a decrease between the first and last periods of $343,710 16

While the increase of specie procured by purchase at large premiums and otherwise since the suspension equals $430,861 04. Although these periods are certainly assumed, a full investigation will show that the conduct adopted by the Banks as indicated at those periods was, and continues to be adhered to, with only such deviations as the fluctuations of business positively demanded. It is thus manifest that protracted suspension cannot be an object with the Banks, and that their own interests must teach them that their true policy consists in as early a resumption as practicable. To the operations of this all-powerful motive, your Committee would confidently leave the question of the period at which such resumption should take place; but a proper regard to the known anxiety of the public upon the subject, has induced them to name a definite time at which under penalties prescribed in the bill annexed to this report, the banks of the State, are required to resume. In selecting this period, the Committee feel it due to themselves to explain to the House the reasons that determine their choice. Waiving a more particular examination of the causes which led to the suspension of specie payments, the Committee merely advert to the fact that it commenced in the Eastern and Northern cities, was necessarily adopted by the Banks of this State as a matter of sheer self preservation, and that the suspension is general, extending over the whole Union, without as they believe a solitary exception. Prior to the suspension the Banks of Maryland as such had established a system of interchanges which made them bear the debtor and creditor relation to each other and to the Banks of several States of the Union. In consequence of the several successive failures of one of our chief agricultural States, and by acting as agents for the collection of debts due by her merchants, in the Northern and Eastern cities, the Baltimore banks had become debtors to other cities—whilst those of the South bear a correspondent debtor relation to Baltimore. The inland Banks of the State are all more or less connected with the Banks of Baltimore, and must necessarily be affected by the adoption of any measure towards them. To require then of the Banks of Baltimore to resume specie payments whilst those of other States of the Union continue to suspend, would be to legislate a uniform and certain bankruptcy within the limits of your own State.

For while they would receive from the debtors banks nothing but depreciated paper, their creditors would instantly drain the vaults of nearly the whole of the legal basis of their issues. Nor would a partial resumption by the Banks to the East at all promote the ability of ours to follow their example: because as before stated, they are *debtors* to the Eastern Banks, and would necessarily derive no advantage from such resumption, while they would be *equally* subject to a draw from their vaults to discharge their obligations, without receiving any substantial aid from their debtors. The operations of such a system are too evident to require elucidation. But it is believed by your Committee, that the fixing of the period assigned in the bill, will not dangerously affect the stability of the Banks, and will be materially beneficial to the interests of the farmer. The Banks will know the requisition, and feel the necessity of obeying it. They can so curtail their discounts, and withdraw gradually, their circulation, as will enable them promptly to meet the anticipated press; and the avails of the approaching crop would enable the farmer to discharge his debts to the Banks, and the latter without inconve-

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