

the honor of the republic—for eloquence is the offspring of virtue, of patriotism, of a refined feeling, an acute perception; it never flourishes when the heart is cold, or the principles are vitiated. When nourished by a warm imagination—when matured by a correct taste; it nerves the arm of the hero; it fires the bosom of the patriot; it directs the course of the statesman; it points the arrow of truth; it pierces the garb of error; it rends asunder the veil of superstition. Under its influence the light of science, and of truth, and of philosophy, burst upon an admiring world in all their majesty, like the bright luminary of Heaven, it warms, vivifies and enlightens the whole intellectual system.

It was this divine eloquence which glowed in the bosom of Demosthenes—at one time flowing from his lips like "the music of the Sphæres" at another time, bursting upon his astonished audience like the artillery of Heaven. At its sound treachery stood appalled at its touch—timidity was inspired with heroism—tyranny trembled on its throne. Through its influence the liberties of Greece were preserved from the grasp of Philip, king of Macedon, who exerted every power both open and secret; who exhausted the treasures of his nation, vainly hoping (and, sir, how vain was the hope) to enslave a people inured to the use of arms, and inspired with the eloquence of a Demosthenes. If, sir, I might be permitted for a moment, to loose sight of the measure I am advocating—I would say it was this divine eloquence flowing from the lips of Paul the Apostle, which for a time induced Agrippa to forget his tabernacle and his faith; the rites, the symbols, the laws of the Jewish dispensation vanished from his sight, and the glorious certainty of Christ and his crucifixion, for the salvation of a world burst upon him in all the splendor of a mid-day sun; and he involuntarily exclaimed "Paul thou almost persuadedst me to become a Christian."

But, sir, to return from this deviation. Under the reign and military genius of Charles V Spain occupied the proudest eminence amongst the nations of the earth, the use of arms was encouraged—a military spirit pervaded the empire; but so soon as he resigned his sceptre to his son, military science began to decline, the use of arms became neglected, the martial spirit of the kingdom fled with Charles to his cell—Spain sunk into that insignificance and obscurity, from which she has never since been able to emerge.

Let us, sir, recur to a recent instance of national humiliation. France but yesterday, ruled the destinies of Europe; she has now fallen! The man whose genius, whose foresight, and whose courage conducted her to the highest point of national elevation, has become the victim to his own ambition, combined with the treachery of those whom he honored, and the powerful exertions of those monsters who impudently pretend to have received a charter from divinity to enslave & oppress the whole human family. European legitimacy has left France almost destitute of arms—her martial spirit will pass away—and it requires no inspired prophet to predict that if the present state of things should continue, the Frenchman of the twentieth century will bear the same likeness to the Frenchman of the present century, that the fawning, servile, hypocritical, grovelling Italian, now bears to the bold, virtuous, independent ancient Roman citizen. Sir, read our history, the experience of past ages, unite in demonstrating the necessity of furnishing a brave, a free and independent people with the means of maintaining inviolate that freedom and independence. Sir, much of the time of this house has been employed in attempting to legislate frail and imperfect men into a class of beings that never did exist, nor never will exist in our subliminary world, except in the imaginations of such visionaries, as a Rousseau, a Godwin, or a Wollstonecraft. Let us endeavor to employ the balance of the session more usefully—let us improve our roads—erect institutions for the education of the poor—remove the existing obstructions to our navigation; arm our militia. These are subjects worthy of the collective wisdom of an intelligent people.

I do not wish the blank in that bill now on the table filled with an extravagant sum, for the purchase of arms. I only wish to give existence to this important measure; for I have full confidence that it will be matured and perfected by the fostering hand of future legislation.

I should be equally mortified at an extravagant or a niggardly appropriation of money to effectuate the object intended by that bill. Dear bought experience has taught me the necessity of individual economy; the history of all nations have afforded me instructive lessons upon the subject of national economy. When we disburse the treasures of a nation, we ought to take a stand equally distant from profusion on the one hand, and parsimony on the other. I have seen a kind of money saving policy prevail in public bodies, which has never met my approbation. I dislike that economy which places the most sacred rights and privileges

in the hands of an ignorant stupid judiciary. I dislike that saving which renders our public roads the mock, the scorn, the ridicule, of every stranger that passes through our country; the perfect sink holes of our internal commerce, at every rivulet instead of a bridge or a causeway, you encounter a horse trap; at every two or three hundred yards is presented to your view a gully, yawning with out-stretched jaws for its accustomed portion of brush and earth, which it gets just before the sitting of the Circuit Court in the section of country which it is situated, and which the next rain washes off. Sir, I detest that economy which would refuse the means of defence to a brave & generous people.

If after these observations, gentlemen will say it is not good policy to arm the militia, then I pray you, sir, do not any longer oppress and harass them with mock musters; instead of firing men who muster without arms, let us disarm those who are partially equipped.

As, sir, this is a period of political change in our state, let us take a hand in it—let us legislate away that high military character we have attained—let us quakerize the state, it is the shortest road to arrive at the "steady habits" and Castilian courage of our eastern brethren. As soon as we inherit those rare virtues, we shall then have the "means of correcting both religious and political error," then sir, we will have arrived at that political Millennium which, by some is anticipated with great joy; and then, sir, may the man who has had proud and elevated views for the welfare and benefit of his country, sit down "in sullen silence" and mourn over the ruin of her military and political reputation.

Mr. ROWAN said he was charmed with the vivid, eloquent and energetic manner in which the gentleman had set forth the merits of this measure, particularly in his allusions to history. He would add one more reason—Arms ought to be in the hands of every people who are so unhappy as to have mingled with them a slave population. They are necessary to protect from probable calamities all that is dear to the heart of man. If we had nothing to apprehend from without, we have an enemy in our very bosoms, a race strong, energetic and increasing, whose nerves are strong by labor, and whose courage may be roused by despair. That event may Heaven avert, but the history of nations shews us that it is probable. This is a reason which is most cogent, and must come home to the feelings of all. We have hence more danger than from any foreign enemy. But the true reason why arms should be in the hands of our citizens, is that they are free, and it was never yet found that a people lost their liberties till they had lost their arms.

Mr. BLACKBURN wished to amend by striking out that part of the bill which appropriates some part of the bank dividends which is not otherwise appropriated by law; for he said it was a fact that the whole dividends were already appropriated.

Mr. SOUTH hoped it would not be amended. If we vote away all the funds of government for such purposes, how shall we get money to pay our judiciary and other officers of government? He presumed gentlemen intended they should be paid. We have passed a jury bill which will cost an immense sum, and if we go on we shall have to lay additional taxes upon the people for the support of government.

Mr. MILLAN was in favor of the amendment. He thought this measure so important that he would vote any money in the treasury. He would exchange dollars for arms, and even lay a tax upon the people. He considered it a thing of the highest consequence, and would go almost any lengths to accomplish it. As for the jury bill, we are not yet sure that it will please the senate.

Mr. BLACKBURN. The gentleman from Madison thinks we shall legislate away the whole bank dividends. It is not good policy to appropriate a cent of them to the support of government. Those expenses should be paid by a tax on the people, and the dividends appropriated to education, the improvements of our roads and navigable streams. When the people ask for a measure, they ought to be willing to pay for it. If they will have courts, they must pay for those courts—if select jurors, they must pay them. He need not repeat, after so much experience, that it is necessary our militia should be armed. The question is now to strike out, and leave the sum doubtful; but the gentleman from Madison would have it stand as it is, when not a single cent is appropriated, and we should hold out to the world false colors, should pass a law authorizing a purchase without allowing a cent to make it with.

Mr. B. subsequently moved that the bill be referred to a select committee. His motive was to provide for the establishment of a public armory; for he thought the money which would be expended for the purchase of arms might be more usefully be paid to many factories within the state than sent out of it. It would increase both our wealth and population.

Mr. MILLAN was opposed to committing the bill for this purpose.

The expense would be much greater than to buy the arms already manufactured. It would be a long time before the Armory could be in operation, and then the arms manufactured at first would be of an inferior quality. He had seen arms manufactured at different places, but none equal to those from Harper's Ferry. That was an old establishment, the workmen were perfect in their business, and it was carried on upon a scale which would nearly supply the union. He had much rather have those arms than any which could be manufactured here.

Mr. SOUTH wished the bill committed, but for another purpose. He wished the Penitentiary establishment turned into an Armory. Estimates had been formerly made how much a musket would cost if made there, and it was found to amount to only about 30 shillings. He believed the convicts could not be more profitably employed than in manufacturing arms.

MR. BOOKER'S SPEECH ON THE GREEN RIVER BILL.

Mr. BOOKER said, that when he reflected on the many legislative precedents by which indulgences had been extended to the settlers south of Green river, it was with diffidence he rose to oppose the passage of this bill; but it was a duty he owed the people he represented, to lend his aid feeble as it might be, to place the principles of the bill in a proper point of view. To do this it would be necessary for him to state to this house the different acts under which the lands south of Green river have been appropriated, and the subsequent laws extending indulgences to the proprietors of them. The acts of appropriation are few, viz. the act of 1795, '97 and '98, and the act of 1800—by the act of 1795 the actual settler was entitled to not less than one nor more than two hundred acres of land, for which he was to pay the state thirty dollars per hundred, with an indulgence of twelve months. This was not only a very trifling consideration, but an indulgence never granted to the citizens who settled north of Green river. By the acts of 1797 & '98 the unappropriated lands in that section of the state were increased in price, the first quality to \$60 and the second to \$40 per hundred acres, payable in twelve months; and by the act of 1797 the delinquent settlers under the act of 1795 were indulged until the first day of November 1797 to make their payments; and by the act of February 1798 the further indulgence of nine months was given them. At the November session 1798 the debts due on their lands taken up under the acts of 1797 and '98 were divided into four equal annual payments, making the instalments to the proprietors of two hundred acres of first rate land \$30, and those of second rate only \$20; and by the same act a further indulgence of six months was given to the settler under the act of 1795, and in 1799 this indulgence was extended for ten months longer, with an indulgence for the same period to those who had failed to pay the first instalment on the lands appropriated under the act of 1798. But not satisfied with the indulgences already received, in 1800 a law was passed dividing the debt which these people owed for their lands into nine annual instalments, making each instalment (to the settler under the acts of '97 and '98, on the supposition that they had not paid a cent up to 1800, and on the presumption that each settler had appropriated two hundred acres of first rate land) nine dollars and thirty-three and a third cents, and if second rate, eight dollars and five shillings, and in the same year the vacant lands were reduced to \$20 per hundred acres and made payable in twelve months. In the year 1803 the debt was extended by instalments making the last payment on or before the first day of November, 1810. Here it could have been hoped that the curtain of indulgences would have fallen, and that the modesty of those people would have prevented a request, that it should ever again be raised. But as well founded as such a hope must have been, it was sadly delusive. Much of the debt due for lands appropriated under the acts of '95, '97, '98, and 1800 was in 1806 unpaid, and in that year we again see them in the humble attitude of supplicants. Eleven years not having been sufficient to enable them to pay the debt due by them to the commonwealth, in this year they had the modesty to ask, and did receive from the legislature an indulgence dividing the debts due by them into twelve annual payments; making the sum due per year from settlers under the twenty dollar act, only three dollars and thirty-three and a third cents! Not satisfied with this, they are asking by this bill a remission of interest; and to procure this indulgence, it is said these people have paid into the treasury near half a million. Admit, it from reference to the Auditor's books it will appear they have paid between five and six hundred thousand dollars; but if they had kept good faith, they ought, and would have paid near a million. What has been done since 1806? We have year after year remitted the interest and thereby removed every inducement to pay. But it is said they are poor. It is a poor man indeed who cannot pay twenty shillings per year. & would

not extend the fostering and protecting hand of government to him—he deserves to be spurned and whipped by the laws to industry and enterprise.

But this bill extends exclusive privileges. Compare the south with the north, and see that you do not wrong the one, in indulging the other. Forty years ago this was a wilderness, the haunt of the savage red man. The settler of the north had to buy and pay for his land before he left the bosom of his family in Virginia. The hardy son of the east and north met danger, and had to encounter hardship at every step as he advanced into the country—he had to drive before him an artful and ferocious foe, who spared neither age nor sex, whose known mode of warfare was extermination, and whose joy increased with the excruciating pain of his unfortunate victim. When the settler sunk, wearied into the arms of sleep, he knew not that the coming morn would see him alive; or when he left his little hut the abode of his wife and children, that they were secure from the savage tomahawk. The settlers of the south had none of these difficulties to encounter. The enemy had been driven far from the country and they experienced no inconveniences, but those incident to the peopling of a new country. Will it be said that these people deserve more than those of the north? I presume not. This measure is at war with the northern interest. There is \$400,000 of the state bank stock set apart to be subscribed by the state. The state dividend for the last year was forty seven thousand dollars; the more she owns of this stock the greater will be her dividends, and in the same ratio, that the revenue increases from this source, in the same ratio must the taxes diminish. Therefore let these people pay their debt, let the commonwealth vest the proceeds in bank stock; our dividends will increase and our taxes diminish. It is not therefore the interest of the northern people to grant this indulgence, nor is it just they should; for by doing so they have to pay the greater tax every year. But if these people will pay the interest I am willing to indulge them; though we have granted 21 years indulgence, but should we remit the interest, we take away all inducement for them to pay, and make it their interest to withhold payment and encourage speculation on the public money. What is the mighty sum they have to pay? only 30 shillings per year. Any farmer who has cleared a field and got his stock around him, surely is able to pay that sum. How many in this part of the state rent farms and pay ten times that amount in rent? If he cannot pay the paly sum of twenty shillings, he must be lazy and idle, he is not worth retaining as a citizen—let him go and make way for more industrious men—men who will increase your revenue, defend and protect your country.

The yeas and nays being required by Messrs. Cunningham and Green, were as follows, to-wit:

YEAS—Mr. Speaker, Messrs. Barbour, Barrett, Birney, Blackburn, Bowman, Breckenridge, Carson, Coburn, Cooke, Cotton, Cox, Cummins, Dallam, Davidson, Davis, Dollerhide, Duncan, (of Daviess) Duncan, (of Lincoln) Ewing, Fleming, Gaither, Garrison, Gillmore, Given, Goode, Green, Hawkins, Helm, Hopson, Holman, Hunter, J. Jones, H. Jones, Lackey, Logan, Love, Marshall, Mercer, Metcalfe, Monroe, M'Coun, M'Millan, Parker, Reeves, Robertson, Rowan, Rudd, Shepard, Slaughter, S. Stevenson, Stapp, Turner, Underwood, Wall, Ward, P. White, Wickliffe and Yantis—59.

NAYS—Messrs. Armatrong, Booker, Caldwell, Cunningham, Davinport, Eggleston, Ford, Grundy, Harrison, Hart, Hickman, Jamison, Irvine, M' Hatton, Rice, South, Spillman, Todd, True, D. White, and Woods—21.

ADDRESS TO JAMES MADISON.

Resolved by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, That his excellency the Lieutenant Governor be, and he is hereby respectfully solicited to transmit to his excellency James Madison, President of the United States, the following address, expressive of the sense of this body with regard to that distinguished citizen.

SIR—The Legislature of Kentucky present you with an expression of their feelings and sentiments on the close of your administration. We know that the approbation of republican citizens is the noblest reward that can be conferred on their chief magistrate, and your approaching retirement will soon exhibit you on a level with other private citizens, distinguished for your virtues and past services—a situation, where no congratulatory address can be supposed to elicit in return the favors of executive patronage. Your services in advocating the constitution of your country; in filling with fidelity many important offices under that government, and thereby promoting its welfare—in approaching the Presidential chair—in conducting that arduous and important office with correct policy—in managing the helm of state through a just and necessary but a tempestuous and boisterous war, difficult on account of the power of the

enemy, but rendered more dangerous by faction at home—recommended by your patriotism, prosecuted under your auspices, and terminated gloriously by your undeviating perseverance presenting a crisis unknown to any other chief magistrate since the adoption of our constitution—all demand of us an unequivocal declaration of your title to the lasting gratitude of the people of Kentucky; and while we contemplate with delight the elevated attitude of this nation among the civilized governments of the age, we will cherish with pleasure the memory of the man, whose talents and services have so eminently contributed to his country's character and unsullied honor.

Mr. Rowan offered an amendment excepting from the approbation of the legislature so much of the President's conduct as related to his approbation and signature of the Compensation Law, and the affair at Bladensburg. The question being taken on so much of the amendment as related to the Compensation Law, it passed in the negative—Yeas 9—Noes 66. Then on the affair at Bladensburg, and negatively—Yeas 5—Noes 70.

They were immediately reported to the senate and concurred in. The yeas and nays were called for, but withdrawn and the vote entered unanimous.

The joint committee from the Senate and House of Representatives, appointed to examine the Bank of Kentucky and its branches, have performed that duty.

Your committee are of opinion, the institution has been safely managed by its directors, in relation to the quantity of paper kept in circulation, no doubt with a view to the resumption of specie payments, when the simultaneous acts of other banks in that respect would justify that policy, while at the same time, it has been made to produce a profitable dividend to the state.

Your committee believing that a further diminution of its paper, which constitutes the principal circulating medium of the country at this time, would be unnecessary, as it appears to your committee, the bank has ample means within its power without hazarding by any means the true interest of the institution, as will appear from a statement of the bank and its branches, furnished your committee, and here referred to as a part of the report.

The stock allowed for individuals, with the exception of a few shares, has been subscribed; of the state's stock, there remains unsubscribed near ten thousand four hundred and twenty-two shares, which might be disposed of, should it be deemed expedient to increase the active capital of the bank.

OF THE SENATE.
SAMUEL CHURCHILL,
JAMES CHAMBERS,
JAMES GARRARD, Jr.,
F. C. SHARP,
JAMES HILLYAR.
OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.
JOHN PARKER,
J. ARMSTRONG,
J. G. BIRNEY,
J. C. BRECKENRIDGE,
ROBERT BARRETT,
JAMES ROBINSON,
D. WHITE, jr.,
M. HOPSON,
T. D. OWINGS,
S. T. DAVINPORT, jr.

Statements of the situation of the Bank of Kentucky and its Branches.

Of the Bank of Kentucky, 31st Dec. 1816.	
Stock,	\$441,775 10
Debts due to the Bank,	997,593 21
Monies deposited in do.	417,450 12
Notes of the Bank in circulation,	431,249 16
Cash on hand,	320,224 99
Of the Washington Branch Bank, 15th Dec. 1816.	
Stock,	200,000 00
Debts due to the Branch,	390,923 84
Monies deposited in do.	59,919 73
Notes of the Branch in circulation,	197,384 59
Cash on hand,	70,688 11
Of the Paris Branch Bank, 15th Dec. 1816.	
Stock,	110,000 00
Debts due to the Branch,	209,749 53
Monies deposited in do.	83,933 37
Notes of the Branch in circulation,	98,266 60
Cash on hand,	89,870 60
Of the Lexington Branch Bank, 15th Dec. 1816.	
Stock,	250,000 00
Debts due to the Branch,	554,456 6
Monies deposited in the Branch,	432,249 00
Notes of the Branch in circulation,	156,798 00
Cash on hand,	187,652 43
Of the Winchester Branch Bank, Dec. 15, 1816.	
Stock,	100,000 00
Debts due to the Branch,	200,329 00
Monies deposited in do.	12,010 00
Notes of the Branch in circulation,	121,630 00
Cash on hand,	58,084 73
Of the Richmond Branch Bank, 15th Dec. 1816.	
Stock,	100,000 00
Debts due to the Branch,	185,231 73
Monies deposited in do.	17,136 53
Notes in circulation,	93,860 00
Cash on hand,	29,885 11
Of the Danville Branch Bank, 15th Dec. 1816.	
Stock,	110,000 00
Debts due to the Branch,	203,542 19
Monies deposited in do.	40,360 30
Notes of the Branch in circulation,	93,090 00
Cash on hand,	62,095 70
Of the Barstow Branch Bank, 15th Dec. 1816.	
Stock,	110,000 00
Debts due to the Branch,	256,062 00
Monies deposited in do.	100,300 00
Notes of the Branch in circulation,	109,945 40
Cash on hand,	64,243 00
Of the Shelbyville Branch Bank, Dec. 15, 1816.	
Stock,	100,000 00
Debts due to the Branch,	189,342 00
Monies deposited in do.	53,068 00
Notes of the Branch in circulation,	56,913 00
Cash on hand,	35,758 11
Of the Louisville Branch Bank, 15th Dec. 1816.	
Stock,	200,000 00
Debts due to the Branch,	420,600 00
Monies deposited in do.	193,766 00
Notes of the Branch in circulation,	248,613 00
Cash on hand,	234,717 00