

REPORT ON THE FINANCES.—On the 15th December the Secretary of the Treasury submitted to Congress the following report, which, until now, we have not been able to republish.

OF THE PUBLIC REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES.

The receipts into the Treasury, from all sources during the year 1828, were 24,763,629 23

The expenditures for the same year, including payments on account of the public debt, and including \$790,069 40, for awards under the 1st article of the treaty of Ghent, were 25,459,479 52

The balance in the Treasury on the 1st of January 1829, was 5,072,435 81

The receipts from all sources, during the year 1829, were 24,897,027 38

CUSTOMS 22,681,965 91

Lands 1,517,175 13

Dividends on Bank Stock 490,000 00

Incidental receipts 138,486 34

Making with the balance, an aggregate of 30,800,063 19

The expenditures for the same year, were 25,044,358 40

Civil list, foreign intercourse, and miscellaneous, including \$9,033 33 for awards under the 1st article of the treaty of Ghent 3,101,514 87

Military service, including fortifications, ordnance, Indian affairs, pensions, arming the militia, and internal improvements 6,250,230 28

Naval service, including the gradual improvement of the Navy 3,308,745 47

Public debt 12,383,807 77

Leaving a balance in the Treasury on the 1st of January, 1830, of 5,755,704 79

The receipts into the Treasury during the first three quarters of the present year are estimated at 19,136,018 79

CUSTOMS 17,308,122 74

Lands 1,293,719 27

Bank dividends 490,000 00

Miscellaneous 84,176 78

The receipts for the fourth quarter are estimated at 5,025,000 00

Making the total estimated receipts of the year 24,161,018 79

And with the balance on the 1st of January, 1830, forming an aggregate of 29,916,723 58

The expenditures for the first three quarters of the present year are estimated at 20,780,936 84

Civil list, foreign intercourse, and miscellaneous 2,460,372 48

Military service, including fortifications, ordnance, Indian affairs, arming the militia, and internal improvements 5,728,697 52

Naval establishment, including the gradual improvement of the Navy 2,651,457 75

Public debt 9,939,630 09

The expenditures for the fourth quarter, including \$1,415,000, on account of the public debt, are estimated, on data furnished by the respective departments, at 4,316,004 98

Making the total estimated expenditure of the year, 25,096,941 82

And leaving in the Treasury on the 1st of January 1831, an estimated balance of 4,819,781 76

Which, however, includes the funds estimated at \$1,400,000, heretofore reported by this department as not effective.

The appropriations remaining unsatisfied at the close of the year, are estimated at \$5,256,566 32. But of this amount, it is estimated by the proper department:

1. That the sum of \$3,740,552 96 only, will be required for the objects for which they were appropriated;

2. That the sum of \$1,375,154 77 will not be required, and may therefore be considered as an excess in appropriation, and is intended to be applied without being re-appropriated, in aid of the service of the year 1831; as will more fully appear when the estimates of the appropriations for that year are presented;

3. That the sum of \$140,858 50 will be carried to the Surplus Fund at the close of the year—either because the objects for which it was appropriated are completed, or because these moneys will not be required for, or will be no longer applicable to them.

OF THE PUBLIC DEBT.

The total amount of the public debt of the United States on the 1st of January, 1830, was 48,565,406 30

Viz: 1. Funded debt 48,523,809 93

Consisting of six per cent. stock 6,440,556 17

Five per cent. stocks, including the \$7,000,000 subscribed to the Bank of the United States 12,792,000 20

Four and a half per cent. stocks 15,904,064 11

Three per cent. stocks 13,296,249 45

2. Unfunded debt 42,596 57

Consisting of registered debt, being claims registered prior to the year 1793, for services and supplies during the revolutionary war 28,921 48

Treasury notes outstanding 8,010 00

Mississippi stock outstanding 5,665 09

The payments made, and to be made on account of the public debt, for the year 1830, are estimated at 11,354,630 09

Of this sum there will have been paid for interest 1,912,415 27

Making the reduction in the principal 9,442,214 82

Viz: Six per cents. 6,440,556 17

Five per cents, subscribed to the Bank of the United States 12,792,000 20

Registered debt 225 64

Treasury notes 833 00

Mississippi stock 6 00

And leaving the total debt on the 1st of January, 1831 39,123,191 68

Viz: Funded debt 39,082,461 88

Unfunded debt 40,729 80

Of the sum applied to the public debt in the year 1830, \$10,000,000 were the amount of the appropriation for the year, under the 2d section of the Sinking Fund act of 1817; and the remaining \$1,354,630 09 taken from surplus moneys in the Treasury, were, with the appropriation of the President, placed at the disposal of the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund, and applied under the 1st section of the act of the 24th May last.

The five per cent. stock subscribed to the Bank, being at all times subject to redemption, and the high market price of other stocks not offering any inducement to purchase, the discretionary authority given to the commissioners of the Sinking Fund, by the 2d section of the act last referred to, has not been exercised; and, from the large amount of debt that is redeemable in the year 1831, and within the first two days of 1832, it is not probable that it will be necessary to resort to it in the year 1831.

The debt which will remain unpaid on the 1st of January 1831, will be redeemable as follows:

At the pleasure of the Government, \$13,296,397 57 of three per cents, and 4,000,000 of five per cents; subscription to Bank of the United States, after six months notice, 1,539,336 16 of four and a half per cents; after the 31st of December 1831, 5,000,000 of four and a half per cents; after the 1st of January 1832, 5,000,000 of four and a half per cents, and 999,999 13 of five per cents; after the 31st of December 1832, 5,670,777 of five per cents, and 2,327,383 97 of four and a half per cents; after the 31st of December 1833, 2,327,383 97 of four and a half per cents; after the 31st of December 1835, 4,735,296 30 of five per cents.

As the means for the redemption of those portions of the public debt which are redeemable at the command of the Treasury at that time, such stocks may be considered, for the purposes of this report, as redeemable in the previous year.

SILK.—In Congress (House of Representatives) on the 21st ultimo, Mr. SPENCER, of New-York, from the Committee on Agriculture, to which was referred a letter of PETER S. DU PONCEAU, Esq. presenting to the House a flag of American silk and manufacture, made the following report:

The Committee on Agriculture, to which was referred the letter of Peter S. Du Ponceau to the Speaker of the House, announcing his presentation to the House of a flag, bearing the colors of the United States, made of American silk, reared from cocoons, and prepared and woven by John D. Homergue, silk manufacturer, the entire process in the manufacture of the same having been performed in the city of Philadelphia, report:

That they considered this specimen of American industry, applied for the first time to the production of a fabric in such general use in the United States, in the purchase of which, in foreign countries, several millions of dollars are annually drawn from this country, as highly auspicious to the agriculture and arts of the United States; and that Mr. Du Ponceau, or his patriotic exertions in promoting the culture of silk, and in his efforts to excite the attention of the people of the United States to that important branch of industry, deserves the commendation of his country. The committee have received a communication from Mr. Du Ponceau, detailing various important facts and remarks in reference to the bill entitled "An act for promoting the growth and manufacture of silk," which they have appended to this report for the information of the House; and the committee report a resolution, and recommend its adoption by the House.

Resolved. That the flag bearing the colors of the United States, presented to this House by Peter S. Du Ponceau, of Philadelphia, made of American silk, and prepared and woven by John D. Homergue, silk manufacturer, in the city of Philadelphia, be accepted by this House, and that it be displayed, under the direction of the Speaker, in some conspicuous part of the hall of sittings of this House.

Philadelphia, 7th Dec. 1830.

SIR: You will receive with this letter a flag bearing the colors of the United States. This flag is made entirely of American silk, reared from the cocoons, prepared and woven by Mr. J. D. Homergue, silk manufacturer. The coloring has been done by the best artist, he could procure in the city of Philadelphia, he himself not professing to be a dyer.

"The staff of this flag, with the angle, measures about fifteen feet; the flag itself is twelve feet and a half long, and six feet wide. It is woven all in one piece, without a seam."

I beg, Sir, you will be so good as to present this flag most respectfully, in my name, to the honorable House over which you preside, as a sample of American industry, thus applied for the first time to the most valuable of American productions, and as a result of the efforts they have made during the last five

years for the promotion of the important branch of agriculture to which we owe the rich material of which this flag is composed. I have the honor to be, with the highest respect, Sir, your most obedient, and most humble servant.

PETER S. DU PONCEAU.
Hos. ANDREW STEVENSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Philadelphia, Dec. 13, 1830.

SIR: The bill for promoting the growth and manufacture of silk, which was reported by you, in the name of the Committee on Agriculture, to the House of Representatives of the United States, at their last session, having been unavoidably postponed, in consequence of the pressure of other business, I have availed myself of the opportunity of the recess to cause experiments to be made, and collect as many facts as has been in my power, in order to throw as much additional light as possible on a subject which may be considered, in a great degree, as new in this country, and on which, at least, very little practical experience has been yet obtained.

I thought it my duty so to do, in order to justify the confidence with which the committee were pleased to honor me, by giving implicit credit to the statement of facts which I laid before them, and by adopting and recommending to Congress the plan which, at their request, I submitted as the best calculated to promote the important object which they had in view.

In many respects I rejoiced that that opportunity was given me by the postponement of the bill. I have proceeded at my own risk, as if the bill had been actually passed, and one year has been gained for the three years which its enactments required.

I began with causing to be printed in a pamphlet form two hundred copies (one hundred in the English, and as many in the French language) of the report, in part of the Committee on Agriculture of the 12th of March last, with my letter to you annexed, which I transmitted to my correspondents in different parts of Europe, in order to elicit opinions and obtain every possible information. They made their way as far as Vienna, in Austria, whence I have lately received a valuable treatise on the culture and manufacture of silk. What effects they produced elsewhere will be mentioned in the course of this letter.

I then went with M. D'Homergue to the State of Connecticut, where the culture of silk has been pursued for the last seventy years. We remained five days in the town of Mansfield, where the greatest quantity of cocoons are raised; which they make into sewing silk. There we were much surprised to find the country poor in the midst of riches. It abounds in mulberry trees of the best species, which might feed, according to M. D'Homergue, a much greater quantity of silk worms than are raised there. The soil is excellent for the production of that tree, and silk worms prosper there; though they are raised without any extraordinary degree of care. The cocoons are very fine, and their silk excellent; yet

the people of that district are far from being rich, and money is very scarce among them. The chief advantage that they appear to derive from their sewing silk, is, that it serves them as a kind of circulating medium—pieces of silk of a size regulated by their acts of Assembly supplying the place of coin and bank notes, through a pretty large extent of country. If they knew how to prepare their silk for exportation, or for the manufacture of those light stuffs that are so much in use through the United States, their condition, I think, would be much improved by more profitable sources of gain and a greater influx of money. I found in that State a disposition to extend the culture of silk; and large orders have even been sent from thence to this city for the purchase of mulberry plants.

On my return home, I caused ten reels to be made, on an improved plan of M. D'Homergue's, much simplified from that of Piedmont, and which were found to work extremely well. I also caused a convenient shed to be erected for the filature, under which the reels were placed, with their furnaces and other necessary apparatus.

On my leaving Connecticut, I had left orders to an agent to purchase a large quantity of cocoons from some misanthropic farmer, who had that order was not executed in time, so that I obtained from thence a much lesser quantity than I expected. By means of advertisements in the newspapers, inserted, however, too late in the season, and not extensively enough, I obtained cocoons, in various quantities, from the States of New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Virginia, and North-Carolina; a few were even sent to me from the States of Mississippi and Louisiana; from the last of those States, and from South-Carolina, I have received some considerable quantities; if the rivers had been navigable in the interior. On the whole, I could only collect, during the last season, about 420 pounds of various qualities; but I have no doubt that next year, by taking proper measures in due time, a sufficient quantity may be obtained for any reasonable purpose, and that quantity will be increasing every year; although the reeling season is over. I am still receiving some from different parts of the Union. The last I have purchased came from the vicinity of Richmond, in Virginia, and I expect every day six bushels from South-Carolina. I found no difficulty in procuring women to work at my experimental filature; they offered themselves in abundance, and those whom I employed were well pleased with the business; they like it much better than working in the cotton factories, because the labor is lighter, and they have the advantage of the open air; for silk cannot be reeled to advantage in a close room. That work must be done under a shed into which the air has full and free access on all sides, except where the sun shines with too much power; and that is provided against by curtains or slides.

I employed, at first six and gradually afterwards as many as twenty women at the reels, who have acquired more or less skill in the art of winding silk from the cocoons, and in general did very well under direction. M. D'Homergue praises very highly the address and intelligence of the females of this country, and has no doubt but that they will in time make excellent reelers.

With the aid of those women, M. D'Homergue made, in the course of the season, about fifty pounds of fine raw silk. When we consider the small quantity of cocoons out of which this was made, that a large portion of them were bad ones, and the considerable waste that must have resulted from the want of skill of women just initiated in the art, it will be seen that the superiority ascribed to American silk is not imaginary, but has a real and solid foundation.

While these operations were going on, every decent person who wished it was admitted to see the filature, and the manner in which the women were proceeding in their work. Nothing was done in secret; it was, on the contrary, the wish of M. D'Homergue, and my own, that every thing should be open to the public eye. Nor were our women bound by any kind of engagement to make a secret of the knowledge they acquired, or not to hire themselves to others if they thought proper. They were left perfectly free, and are so still, now that the season is at an end, and that they are no longer in our employ. At the same time, Sir, it is but fair to say, that they have not yet reached that proficiency in the art which would enable them to profit by their labor without being under the direction of a person well versed in the business. The time will come when they will be able to set up for themselves small domestic filatures; larger ones must always be carried on under the inspection of men; otherwise, they will ruin those who undertake them. It is in large filatures that women are to be instructed, so as to spread the art in the required degree of perfection through the land.

It had been my wish to have made at least one hundred and fifty pounds of raw silk, in order to make a fair trial of the respective markets of England, France, and Mexico; but I soon discovered that it would be impossible in the first season, and therefore I contented myself with the silk to another test. It was evident that, if it could be manufactured here into fine stuffs, to an equal or nearly equal degree of perfection with those imported from Europe, it might be also manufactured elsewhere, and therefore there could be no defect in the mode of reeling it. I therefore engaged M. D'Homergue to weave several tissues out of part of the silk that he had reeled, and the result was perfectly satisfactory. As a sample of that result, I have had the honor of presenting the flag of the United States to the honorable House of Representatives; as it will be no doubt accessible to the public eye, and will belong to the past judgment upon its workmanship. Part of the machinery with which it was woven was made on a model imported by me from Europe for the purpose.

Thus, Sir, while I only meant to show to the nation the importance of the art of reeling, and the ability of M. D'Homergue in that branch of the silk business, circumstances, which I had not foreseen, have led me to demonstrate also the possibility, nay, the facility, of introducing among us the manufacture of those fine stuffs for which we pay so large a tribute to the East Indies; so that every one will have the choice of exporting manufacturing their raw silk, as experience shall show to them the advantage of either.

Nothing proves better the excellence of American silk, than that the various weaves which M. D'Homergue has woven out of it have not undergone the operation which is called *throwing* or *throwing*, and yet that their texture possesses the necessary evenness and strength. To understand this fully, some explanation is necessary; and I beg to be excused for briefly stating the different processes which silk undergoes in Europe, from the cocoon to the web. The first and most essential operation is that of reeling. It is performed by the hands of the reeler, who is assisted by the filature, which is a small machine, by which the threads of the cocoon are drawn out, and are then twisted together into threads. The men never reel, but merely superintend the work of the women, to make them produce in their highest perfection the various qualities of raw silk required for the different manufactures.

2. From the filature the silk goes to the silk *thrower*, to be thrown, as it is called. The thrower, partly by the aid of women, and partly of men or boys, winds, doubles, or triples the threads into two threads together into one. These operations are performed by means of a complicated machinery called a *throwing mill*, to which are added, as parts of its necessary apparatus, winding, cleaning, and doubling or tripling engines. Silk thus prepared is called *throwing silk*. If the silk has been badly reeled, the greatest part of it goes to waste in the operation of throwing; for the twisting machine operating with the same degree of force through the whole length of the threads, if they are unequal (which is the common defect of silk unduly reeled) the same force which only twists the stronger parts breaks the weak ones, and thus the silk is wasted, and great loss follows. By these operations the silk acquires consistency and strength, and becomes fit for weaving after being dyed.

3. From the thrower the silk goes to the dyer, to receive the impression of colors. The dyer begins with boiling the thrown silk, in order to free it from a quantity of gum which still adheres to it; that done, he plunges it into his vats or kettles to give it color. From the dyer the silk is sent to the weaver, who manufactures it into different stuffs.

No silk in Europe, as I am informed, is boiled or dyed, without being first thrown; otherwise, it is said, it would become fuzzy, and unfit for weaving.

The silk manufactured by M. D'Homergue has been boiled, dyed, and woven, without being thrown; and it does not appear at all deficient in evenness or regularity of the threads. I do not mean to say, however, that American silk will not be improved by passing through the hands of the thrower; still

it is a remarkable quality that it possesses, that it can without it produce such stuffs as M. D'Homergue has exhibited. It proceeds from the strength and nerve of the material, which are the great characteristics of the silk of this country.

For all the operations above mentioned, except that of reeling, there is no danger of competent workmen being at any time wanting in the United States. A number of silk manufacturers, such as throwers, dyers, weavers, and even machine makers, have arrived in our various ports, in the course of the present year, from several parts of Europe, but only one, coming from England, expecting to find here encouragement for their business. Several have inquired of me where they could get employment; and finding none for want of raw silk, most of them have betaken themselves to the cotton manufactures. There is no doubt that many more will come in consequence of the general excitement which the culture of silk has produced in this country, and also because it is well understood that the silk manufactures are in a declining state in England as well as in France, whereby many workmen are thrown out of employ. This view is seconded by the former country, by the English manufacturers who arrived here in the course of the last season.

As to France, I need only refer you, Sir, to the memorial from the merchants of Lyons to the Government, which I had the honor of communicating to the committee during the last session of Congress, where the fact is clearly and distinctly stated, and you will recollect that this decline is chiefly attributed to a great deal of silk badly reeled being brought to the market. Another very remarkable fact will corroborate this assertion. I am informed by the French correspondents, that, as soon as the report of the committee of the 12th March last, with my letter to you annexed, reached Nismes, (a considerable silk manufacturing town in the south of France, in which there are several extensive filatures), the Chamber of Commerce of that city called a meeting of the merchants of the department of Gard, in which it is situated, to consider the expediency of petitioning the French Government to adopt the plan of the English letter, suggesting, to wit, the establishment of a school for the instruction of young men, to enable them to become directors of filatures. The meeting was appointed for the 1st of August last. The revolution which took place at Paris at the latter end of July, and which was attended at Nismes with considerable disturbance and bloodshed, by compelling the peaceable inhabitants to fly the city, prevented that assembly from taking place; but I am informed that it is not lost sight of, and the plan will be resumed as soon as possible.

In the mean time, my letter has been sent to an eminent lawyer who has been employed to draft the intended petition, and the cities of Lyons and Avignon have been invited to join in the measure.

Such is the importance that is attached in France to the art of reeling silk; and I ought to mention here, that notwithstanding the great influx into this country of silk manufacturers of every description, not one reeler has appeared, either male or female; and this comes in support of what I have stated in my former letter respecting the difficulty of obtaining such persons.

Fifteen months have elapsed since M. D'Homergue arrived in this country, at the instance of a society who well understood the importance of the art of reeling. Almost immediately on his arrival, he published his essays, in which he threw all possible light upon the subject; those essays have circulated in America and Europe. The Legislature of the Union have thought them worthy of their particular attention; and yet no reeler, except M. D'Homergue, has appeared in the United States, while silk manufacturers of other descriptions have come here in numbers from various parts of Europe.

Thus, Sir, with the exception of reeling, the United States have all the arts that are necessary for carrying on silk manufactures, for which they only want the raw material properly prepared. I should add that the men who profess those various arts, are all in search of labor, and that there is danger of their taking to manufacturing foreign silks, to the great detriment of that of our country. The Republic of Mexico offers a striking example of what may happen here. In that country they manufacture a very great quantity of sewing silk, besides shawls, and some other articles. They have imported foreign manufacturers who taught them their arts; but they neglected the planting of Mulberry trees, and raising of silk worms, although their soil and climate are admirably calculated for these purposes. The silk they manufacture is imported from abroad, chiefly from China, and a great deal of it passes through this country on its way to them. This sufficiently explains the large importations of raw silk which annually take place in the United States. It appears from the Treasury Reports, that in the year which ended on the 30th of September, 1828, raw silk was imported into this country to the amount of \$908,700, which amount, converted into silk stuffs, could produce several millions, but would at the same time destroy the hopes of our agriculturalists. By manufacturing foreign silks, the Mexicans encourage their manufactures and commerce at the expense of agriculture. I am told, however, that they are beginning to plant Mulberry trees in the neighborhood of Acapulco, on the Pacific; but it is probable they will not succeed, for want of good reelers, and because I think there is danger of some thing taking place in this country. Some coarse articles have already been made in New-York out of foreign silks, and offered for sale there and in this city.

The English, it is true, have enriched themselves by the manufacture of silk, although their country does not produce the raw material, which they are obliged to import from abroad; but there is no doubt that they would be much richer if they raised it at home. Of this they are very sensible, and it is evident from the efforts they made to introduce the culture of silk into the United States, while the States of New-York, Pennsylvania, and Ohio, are endeavoring to raise it in their own possessions. They raise a great deal of it in their possessions in Bengal, which is said to be the finest in the world, but it comes to Europe badly reeled, and otherwise ill prepared, and therefore is considered inferior to all others. (See the Manual published under the authority of the House of Representatives, in 1828, page 172.) In addition to this, and in support of the importance of good reeling, I beg leave to insert here the statement of an English silk broker, who is quoted in a letter from the respectable house of Rathbone, Brothers & Co., of Liverpool, to a gentleman of South-Carolina, who published it in the Sumpter Gazette of first May last: "Although," says the writer, "our importations from the East Indies are great, and this trade is of vital importance to our successful competition with the continent, it is to be regretted that neither the East India Company nor the private merchants have hitherto employed any competent person to superintend the reeling of the silk; if that was done, I have not the slightest doubt that silks of the eastern production would render us altogether independent of the East Indies for it is an established fact, that silk of the best quality can be produced in the East Indies, at a lower rate than in Europe."

It is an established fact, that America produces silk of the best quality; and experiments have shown, that M. D'Homergue possesses the necessary qualifications for directing a filature, and for giving instruction in the art of reeling. In addition to the evidence which results from these experiments, I beg leave to state, that, in the course of last summer, some small samples of Pennsylvania raw silk, reeled by M. D'Homergue, were sent to Lyons and Nismes, in both of which places it was much admired. At Lyons, the Chamber of Commerce caused the samples to be submitted to the proper tests by a sworn assayer, who pronounced it well reeled; and in the account of these proceedings, which was inserted in a Lyons newspaper, called the *Prescurer*, it was said to be worth three hundred francs (five hundred dollars) a pound. At Nismes, it was estimated at thirty francs. I have no doubt that it will produce at least those prices in our sea ports, to which it is understood that orders will be sent from France, as soon as it is known that it may be obtained in sufficient quantities. In England the prices of silk follow pretty nearly those of France. In Mexico, our raw silk of the second and third quality are most in demand, and will produce good prices. It is a remarkable fact, that they lay heavy duties there, on the importation of raw silk, which they manufacture and do not produce. With this system, they are not likely soon to rival us, if we would adopt the capable of bringing our native resources into full activity.

The only system, in my opinion, that will produce that effect, is the introduction of a good method of reeling silk, and its equal dissemination through the United States. This done, every thing else will follow. The agriculturist will raise cocoons, because he will find purchasers; and the raw silk will be purchased by the foreign agents, or employed by the

manufacturer at home. I have received several letters from North and South-Carolina, informing me that a great many cocoons are raised there, but that, for want of a market, they are devoured by mice and insects. A lady writes to me that she has lost this year, in that way, near one hundred bushels. A general desire is expressed, from one end of the United States to the other, to see this rich production turned to a profitable account. I have received numerous letters to that effect from almost every State in the Union. The excitement in favor of the silk culture appears to me to be general, and numbers are preparing to apply themselves to it.

It remains now with Congress to take such measures as they shall think most proper for the attainment of that object. In making experiments, and collecting facts, in order to throw some more light upon the subject, I have done my duty as a citizen, anxious for the welfare of my country. The committee will be pleased to recollect, that I have not obtruded upon them my opinions or my advice, and that, in addressing them at the last session I only yielded to their most flattering invitation. At present, it is a duty that I owe to them, as well as to myself, to support, by facts, the theory that I have advanced, and which they have sanctioned by their approbation.

I have only to add, that M. D'Homergue persists in the offer he made of his services, and I in that of my gratuitous assistance. Should the bill proposed by the committee, be brought again to the consideration of Congress, it is to be observed that three years are no longer required, and that M. D'Homergue will be ready to begin the instruction of the sixty young men on the first day of July next. This will require a contribution in the terms of payment of the forty thousand and fifty francs, or four half-yearly instalments, the first to be immediately after the passing of the act.

It is with pleasure that I mention, that M. D'Homergue, having inspected several of our manufacturing establishments, has been astonished at the proficiency that this country has made in mechanics and the mechanical arts, which will, in a great degree, supersede the necessity of importing the machinery from abroad, when the same effects can be obtained here from the ingenuity of our workmen. I have the honor to be, with the highest consideration and respect, Sir, your most obedient and very humble servant.

PETER S. DU PONCEAU.
Hon. AMBROSE SPENCER,
Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture
of the House of Representatives of the U. States.

Ex-President Monroe.—We are glad to observe that the claims of this venerable patriot have been revived. A committee addressed by fifteen respectable citizens of the Alabama county, Va., their Representative in Congress, Mr. Gordon, requesting his "zealous exertions, and co-operation with the other friends of Mr. Monroe, to bring this matter to a favorable issue," has been laid before the House, and referred to the appropriate committee. It will no doubt receive the most respectful consideration. We have before us the two Reports of 1829, and the Report of 1830, on the same subject, all of which are strongly in favor of the claims, as was also a Report submitted to the Nineteenth Congress. The first Report of 1829 recommended an allowance of \$37,835 04, on account of various items connected with his missions to foreign countries. The second Report of the same year, being merely supplementary to the first, recommended a further allowance of \$85,000, in consideration of his agency in procuring loans to the amount of \$8,000,000, during the most pressing and critical conjuncture of the late war, frequently on his own responsibility, for the use of the government. Total amount recommended to be allowed, \$122,835 04. The Report of 1830 embodies the two Reports of 1829, retrenching an item in the first mentioned allowance of \$37,835 04, and instead of \$85,000, as embraced in the supplementary Report, recommending an allowance of 2-1-2 per cent. (\$37,027) on the amount of loans which he obtained in the District of Columbia (\$1,481,151 37), and which were disbursed chiefly, if not solely, by his own agency. The result would be somewhat more favorable to the claimant than the allowances proposed by the Reports of 1829.

We are persuaded there is no one good citizen in the United States, who would object, nay, who would not cordially consent, to such appropriations from the national treasury, as would relieve this venerable Ex-President from his present embarrassments. If the claims which he advances are founded in justice, they ought to be promptly allowed; and if not, the same end could be attained by appropriating a suitable sum for his relief, as an expression of the nation's gratitude for his eminent services.—At any rate, relief should be rendered, and rendered speedily. A few years will place the opportunity beyond our reach. We reprobate the kingdoms of Europe, and with great justice, for the millions which they lavish upon their monarchs, who, in consequence of their subjects' borne down by poverty and taxation. Let us take care that they do not reproach us for permitting a man whom but lately we honored with the highest office in our gift, to spend the remnant of a life which he has devoted to the welfare of his country, in unrelieved pecuniary distress. We need not fear the precedent. We shall never have many Ex-Presidents to relieve, and shall deserve to have none, if we turn them aside like a cast-off garment, for which we have no further use, because it has been worn out in our service.—N. Y. Jour. Com.

JUDGE CLAYTON'S REVIEW.
Of the Report of the Committee of Ways and Means, to whom was referred much of the Message of the President, as related to the currency, and the report of the Committee on the House of Representatives of the United States, read and laid on the table, April 13, 1830.

NO. V.
The above reasoning will equally apply to the two next clauses, 2d and 3d. But we have a little more to say on the 5th, to wit, the power "to coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the standard of weights and measures." And here we are almost constrained to smile, when we see the shifts to which false reasoning will resort in support of a favorite measure. Who would have supposed that any extremity in the progress of a fair and honest argument, could have driven the debater to the farcical idea, that Bank bills, say, the promissory notes of an individual, (for bank bills are nothing else), can, by dubbing them with the title of "currency," be made synonymous with "coining of money and fixing the value thereof?" This position is absolutely taken in the Report, and lest we may distrust the faith of our readers, or subject our own truth to suspicion, we beg to submit the exact words of the committee.

"The power to coin money and fix the value thereof," is expressly and exclusively vested in Congress. This grant was evidently intended to invest Congress with the power of regulating the circulating medium. 'Coin' was regarded, at the period of framing the Constitution, as synonymous with currency," as it was generally believed that bank notes could only be maintained in circulation by being the true representative of the precious metals. The word "Coin," therefore, must be regarded as a particular term, standing as the representative of a general idea.—No principal of sound construction will justify a rigid adherence to the letter, in opposition to the plain intention of the clause. If, for example, the gold bars of Ricardo should be substituted for our present coins, by the general consent of the commercial world, could it be maintained that Congress would not have the power to make such money and fix its value, because it is not "coined?" This would be sacrificing sense to sound, and substance to mere form. This clause of the Constitution is analogous to that which gives Congress the power "to establish post roads." Giving to the word "establish," its restricted interpretation, as being equivalent to "fix" or "prescribe," can it be doubted that Congress has the power to establish a canal, or a river, as a post route as well as a road? Roads were the ordinary channels of conveyance, and the term was, therefore, used as synonymous with "routes," whatever might be the channel of transportation, and, in like manner, "coin," being the ordinary and most common form of a circulating

medium, that term was used as synonymous with "currency."

Particular attention is invited to this protracted extract. We were compelled to give the whole of it, for from first to last it is a wire drawn argument, in many places not very intelligible, each part, however feebly depending upon its immediate forerunner, to carry out the much distressed and worried idea that Congress, with the power to 'coin money,' may denominate any thing money, from "Ricardo bars," to rank bank bills, provided a credulous community will only imagine them "synonymous with currency."

It is a little remarkable that a constitutional question settled in '91 by Congress, by President Washington, by a special charter, by the Federal Court, and what is better than all, and very conclusive, by the change of certain great men's opinions, should at this day, want such a defence, and that it is reserved for the sapience of the present generation to make such a discovery, for the discussion of a great question, that never once occurred to those who long since determined the point, and made it so clear that "it is forever settled and at rest." It would seem that this argument comes too late. They must stand on the ground upon which the question was originally settled, or admit that such ground was unstable, and wanted prepping. If the matter was so plain before, wherefore the necessity of this new argument? Can any thing stronger than that which is as strong as it can be? What higher authorities are wanting than those just mentioned? What are we to infer from this overwrought effort to brace that which is said to be so well planted. No, the truth is, there is yet doubt. With all their weighty authorities, the point is still tremulous, and wants repose. And whenever we see a reasoner risk, by a dangerous, because weak argument, a case which he affirms is "steadfast and immovable," we have a right to draw one of two conclusions, either that he is not sincere, and doubts his case, or that he believes his adversary is too shallow to detect