

UNITED STATES BANK.

House of Representatives, March 9.

Mr. CLAYTON's resolution respecting the Bank of the United States, was taken up.

Mr. Root, of New-York, addressed the House in reference to the proper constitution of a committee to investigate the affairs of the Bank, contending that a majority of the committee should consist of gentlemen in favor of the existence of a national bank of some sort, as it would be manifestly improper to confide the inquiry into the affairs of the present bank to those who were entirely opposed to a national bank in every form, and who could not therefore be satisfied with the results that might be elicited. As to the present bank, he did not profess himself either friendly or inimical to it, but argued to show that a national bank ought to exist. He lauded very highly the President's veto on the Maysville road bill, but strenuously denied that the same meed of praise would be accorded to the veto on the bill for re-chartering the Bank. He denied that the recent vote in the Legislature of New-York against the Bank was a fair expression of public opinion in that State. Those who understood the management which there prevailed would rather ascribe it to the influence of the Mechanics' and Farmers' Bank in Albany, and its friends. He commented with some severity on the Safety Fund System of New-York, and replied to the arguments which had been brought forward against the branch bank checks, and concluded with proposing to relieve the Speaker of the House from a very unwelcome task by having the committee of investigation appointed by ballot. He moved an amendment to that effect, but with-

the committee of investigation appointed by ballot. He moved an amendment to that effect, but withdrew it for the present, at the request of Mr. CRAWFORD, of Pennsylvania, who expressed his willingness that a committee of investigation should be appointed, insisting that the refusal of such a committee would subject the bank to great misrepresentation, and might have a result highly injurious to its credit, whereas, the fullest investigation, if impartially conducted, could only have an effect beneficial to that establishment by showing the integrity and prudence with which its affairs had been conducted and the beneficial results to the community.

Mr. BATES, of Maine, moved for the orders of the day, but the motion was promptly negatived.

Mr. EVANS, of Maine, then took the floor, and went into a very full examination of the various arguments brought forward by Mr. Clayton, in favor of a committee of investigation. Mr. E. was in doubt what course ought to be pursued. A number of the charges were of a general and abstract character, depending on the theory of banking at large, and could in no wise be decided by any investigation that could possibly take place. With respect to others, all the facts were already known, and the only question was, the inference to be drawn from them, while the residue were of such a nature, that no examination, however strict, of the books and accounts of the Bank, could shed the least light upon them. The investigation, therefore, would be wholly useless in that respect. Yet, upon the whole, as a matter of comity to other gentlemen, and of justice to the bank, he should vote for the inquiry. He was followed by

Mr. BEARDSLEY, of New-York, who replied to the speech of Mr. Root, insisting that

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... Mr. ... the ...
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... and though he ...
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... the ...

... Mr. ...
... the ...
... some time ...
... adjournment, and the ...
... adjourned.

Thursday, March 8.

The question before the ...
... Mr. ...
... a committee of ...
... to be chosen by ...

Mr. ...
... in ...

manor.

MR. BEARDSLEY resumed his speech in reply to Mr. ROOT, in the course of which he vindicated the course taken by the legislature of New York, and discussed some of the charges that had been urged against the Bank, and contended that the enquiry contemplated by the original resolution, was necessary and proper. When Mr. B. had concluded—

Mr. BELL rose and addressed the chair; but Mr. ROOT requested him to give way, in order that he might reply to some remarks of Mr. BEARDSLEY; to which Mr. BELL assented on condition that Mr. ROOT would withdraw his amendment—that the whole scope of the resolution might be open to debate.

Mr. ROOT then rejoined in vindication of his course upon the question.

Mr. BELL went fully into the principles upon which the contemplated enquiry was called for. He contended that the present congress had not been chosen with reference to a question which had been stated by the friends of the bank to be of paramount importance. In those parts of the country where he was acquainted, the question of renewing the charter of the bank had not been discussed among the people, with a view to the immediate action of congress upon it. As another congress would be chosen before the present charter of the bank would expire, those chosen to it would better understand the views of the people of the United States on the subject. If the bill before the house should now pass into a law, the next congress, coming from the people and more fully instructed in their wishes, might

Root, Russell, W. B. Stewart, Storrs, Taylor, P.
 Southard, Stanberry, Seward, Vance, Vinton, Wash-
 ington, Thompson, Tracy, Vanco, Vinton, Wash-
 ington, Wainwright, White, Wickliffe, Young—88
 Wadsworth, E. D. White, Alexander, Anderson,
 NAYS—Messrs. Auld, Alexander, Anderson,
 Angel, Barnwell, Benton, J. Bates, Beardsley,
 Bell, Bethune, James Blair, John Blair, Boone,
 Boutwell, Bouldin, John Brodhead, J. C. Brodhead,
 Cambridge, Carr, Carson, Chandler, Chitt, Chi-
 nese, Clay, Clayton, Coke, Collier, Connor, De-
 mott, W. B. Davis, Tappan, Dewar, Doubleday,
 Drayton, Duncan, Feider, Fitzgerald, Foster, Gar-
 nder, Gordon, Griffin, W. Hall, Harper, Hawes,
 Havens, Higgin, Holland, Horn, Hubbard, Jar-
 vis, Jewett, E. M. Johnson, C. Johnson, C. C.
 Johnston, Kearsagh, Kennon, A. King, J. King,
 Lamar, Lansing, Leavitt, Leromais, Lent, Lewis,
 Mann, Marks, Mason, McCarty, W. McCoy, Mc-
 Intire, McKee, T. B. Mitchell, Patton, Pearson,
 Pelt, E. C. Root, Rencher, Roane, A. H. Sheppard,
 Smith, Speight, Standier, Stephens, F. Thomas,
 W. Thompson, J. Thomson, Veplund, Ward,
 Wendell, Wigmore, Wheeler, C. P. White—92

Mr. WALKER then submitted an amendment, that
 a select committee be appointed to make sundry in-
 quires, in the recess of congress, touching the gen-
 eral management of the Bank of the United States,
 with instructions to report on or before the third
 Monday of December next. Mr. BRADLEY pro-
 posed to amend this amendment, but before the Speak-
 er had decided whether the latter proposition was
 in order, the house adjourned.