

According to Parliamentary and Congressional rule, a report, agreed to by the majority of a Committee charged with the consideration of any subject whatever, used to be received and treated as the report of the *Committee*, not as that only of the gentlemen, who concurred in approving it. In our House of Representatives at Washington—not at Harrisburg—an opposite practice now prevails. The minority, if they agree among themselves, join in what is called a *counter-report*; or, if a sub-division exists, each presents, in the form and with the name of a *report*, what ought to have been delivered as a *speech*. If there is one independent man in our House of Representatives, he should set himself against the innovation. The *reporter* can have no advantage over the *speaker*, except in having his effusions printed, in pamphlet form, at the expense of the public treasury.

We have frequently felt a strong inclination to allude to this subject; but have always been deterred by the wish to avoid suspicion of disguised hostility to measures advocated by minority reporters, in cases where we did not choose to resist them openly. We have now, however, a fair opportunity; for as, in this city and state, we favour unanimously the rechartering of the Bank, we may speak freely of its advocates, especially when they happen to be men so distinguished as Mr. Adams and Mr. McDuffie. Each of these gentlemen has presented his own report, though the first had approved and signed that drawn up by the other. The first—which we gave our readers yesterday—has been, or will be, reprinted in all the newspapers in the country, except a few of those most hostile to the Bank. The second would be as widely spread, except that it is immensely long, and, in many points, repeats without strengthening, the arguments and statements of the other.

Strict attention to Parliamentary rules, as improvement by our House of Representatives, is of incalculable importance to the respectability of the representative body, as well as to the despatch of business; and it never, in this country, was more necessary than at the present moment. We regret, therefore, to see an irregularity sanctioned by two men acknowledged, by all parties, to be among the first of those now prominent; especially in aiding a measure to which probably more than nine-tenths of our readers heartily wish full success.