

THE BANK REFUSES TO PERMIT AN INVESTIGATION INTO ITS PROCEEDINGS BY THE COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS!

The National (Bank) Gazette says—

“We learn that the President and Directors of the Bank of the United States were summoned to appear this day before the Committee of Investigation, “at the North American Hotel, in the city of Philadelphia, and “to bring with them the *credit books of said Bank, showing the indebtedness of individuals to said Bank.*”

Accordingly, the President of the Bank and all the Directors repaired in person to the Hotel; appeared before the Committee, and declined producing the Books at the Hotel. And so the matter stands for the present.”

The Bank official, of course, puts the best face upon the refusal of Mr. Biddle and his board to allow the proceedings of the corporation to be investigated. From a correspondent, entitled to the most implicit confidence, we learn, that *the committee have tried, in every possible form, to obtain access to the books and papers of the Bank—that a correspondence had been carried on for two weeks to effect the objects of the House of Representatives, in some mode which might be mutually agreed upon—that, at last, the committee issued a subpoena, directed to the Marshal of the District, summoning the President and Directors to attend the Committee, with the books and papers required, to give testimony—that the President and Directors were asked to exhibit the books in conformity to the subpoena duces tecum, and a direct and positive refusal was given—and that they refused to answer any questions that might be put to them, or, to use the language of Mr. Sergeant, (the Chairman on the part of the Bank,) refused to “TESTIFY” under the call.*

The Committee of Congress, we learn, have borne with great patience, the systematic course adopted by the managers of the Bank to frustrate the investigation instituted by Congress. After a patient endurance of the contumely, the Committee at last made

the issue in such way as not to be evaded, and the Bank's agents put an end to all further effort at inquiry by denying the power of Congress to subject their books to inspection, and setting at defiance the authority of the Committee of the House. We understand the Committee have adjourned, to meet in Washington on Thursday.—*Washington Globe, 13th inst.*
