

TWENTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

EXTRA SESSION.

IN SENATE.

Tuesday, June 22, 1841.

Mr. Allen of Ohio presented the resolutions of a large body of the citizens of Cincinnati, protesting against the establishment of a National Bank as a violation of the Constitution, and declaring that in case a law should pass, chartering such institution, measures should be adopted to repeal it, by requesting that the representatives of the State and the district to co-operate in giving effect to the object of the meeting.

Mr. Allen, in presenting these resolutions gave notice that he would, to the utmost of his power, labor to accomplish the object of the people whose resolutions he had submitted to the Senate. He said that on the day that a National Bank charter should receive the signature of the President, he would introduce a bill for its repeal. He said, further, that he would make every effort to place on the Journal of the Senate a protest against such charter, as a violation of the Constitution. This call would be met with the greatest interest, and the result could only come from a defiance of the Government by the bank, in case the people should will the repeal of the charter.

Mr. Allen contended that the resolutions be laid on the table, and printed. Mr. Clay rose in high excitement—assumed that Mr. Allen incited rebellion and civil war, and moved the motion that he would not withdraw it. This precluded Mr. Allen from any reply, and although he protested, Mr. Clay refused to afford the opportunity of response. His object doubtless was to prevent Mr. Allen from throwing back the imputation of inciting civil war on the Government. The result could only come from a defiance of the Government by the bank, in case the people should will the repeal of the charter.

The bill to incorporate the District Bank was taken up, and after a protracted discussion, amendments were proposed, it was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading. The principal amendments adopted were to limit the charter to a term of ten years, and to prohibit the issuing or circulating of the notes of non-specific paying banks. A motion to allow them to issue one and two dollar bills was carried, but the subsequently reconsidered and negatived. The bill making appropriations to defray the expenses of the extra session of Congress was reported back by the Committee on Finance, and was passed.

The Senate then adjourned until ten o'clock to-morrow.

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Mr. Roberts followed up the discussion, and exhibited the great importance which the subject had attained in the public consideration of the country. He alluded to the remarkable inconsistency which distinguished the constitutional principle laid down by the President, before the election, and those now prated upon by him. He brought before the Senate the extraordinary edict put forth by Mr. Webster, in which the rights of political rights guaranteed by the Constitution was made a political crime, punishable by forfeiture of office, and in the late order of the Secretary of State, which the legislation of the country had never countenanced, but on the contrary, and absolutely repudiated.

Mr. Roberts exposed, with great force, the utter repugnance of this edict to the spirit and letter of the Constitution. He brought up the Alien and Sedition laws, and compared the principle in those despotic acts of legislation with that now promulgated and enforced by the President. He showed that the crimes declared in those laws alleged something of criminality to give the semblance of justice to the punishment of the accused with the Secretary varied punishment upon the mere exercise of the unquestionable legitimate rights appertaining to every citizen.

He contrasted the mode of proceeding under the sedition law, where there was a judge and jury, an indictment, on hearing the evidence, a plea, a confession, a recuser and witness; and the mode of giving effect to the late edict, where there was no trial, but the work accomplished by the Secretary, was to give by unseen inferiors a party tribunal, and the death warrant of the officer signed by the Secretary, was the first notice that the individual had to take of the order of the day.

This was the bill chartering a Fiscal Bank of the United States. Mr. Clay moved for the bill to be laid on the table, and he was supported by the majority of the House. Mr. Clay concluded his speech (as he called it) to his report, Mr. Calhoun moved for the bill to be laid on the table, and he was supported by the majority of the House.

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opinion, nor the free political action of any individual entitled to political rights in the country. Mr. Roberts showed that the new Administration claimed the support of the country. He then went on to declare that the resolutions were the edict of the Secretary of State, pronouncing, as the ground of forfeiture of office, that "persons employed under the Government should be true to the services of the Treasury, not be expected to take an active or officious part in attempts to influence the votes of others."

Mr. Roberts exhibited as the new political crime created by the edict in the circular, and he argued that it was directed against the rights of every citizen. He said that the Secretary of State had no authority to issue such an edict, and he moved for the bill to be laid on the table, and he was supported by the majority of the House.

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The bill giving Mr. Harrison twenty-five thousand dollars was further debated on the third reading. Brief speeches were made by several Senators on both sides of the chamber. The discussion was an exceedingly able one. The bill passed with sixteen or seventeen yeas, and was sent to the President.

The bill providing for the payment of the interest on the public debt was also discussed. It passed with a large majority, and was sent to the President.

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with such committees as may be appointed on the part of the Senate, for the attendance of the Senate and House of Representatives at the funeral of the late Major General Macomb.

The resolutions having been read, were adopted unanimously, and were sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Mr. DeWitt, having understood that some another office assigned him in the arrangements of the day, asked to be excused from the service on the committee to be appointed, under the resolution, to pass on this House.

Mr. DeWitt was accordingly excused. The Speaker then announced the following members as the committee on the part of the Senate.

Mr. John Miller, of Missouri. Mr. Wm. O. Butler, of Kentucky. Mr. Aaron Ward, of New York.

Mr. Livingston, of New York, moved a resolution of the vote by which the following resolution, offered by Mr. Briggs on Friday last, had been adopted:

Resolved, That the resolution of the 17th inst. fixing the time for the daily meeting and adjournment of the House as expires to-morrow, be continued in force for one week from the date of the present limitation.

The motion lies over one day. After the lapse of about fifteen minutes, a message was received from the Senate, which was read, and the House adjourned until 10 o'clock this morning.

The bill relating to the appointment of Justices of the Peace was discussed. It passed with a large majority, and was sent to the President.

London is equally assailable by the enemy for proposing it. The second time he took care, however, to prevent it. There were still a majority of dissenting voices. Mr. Wills now announced that he would renew the proposition to the next session of the House.

THE IDOT AND THE DEAF. From a review, in *Tait's Magazine*, Mr. Owen's paper on the subject of the deaf is an interesting and valuable article. It contains a number of facts and observations on the subject.

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