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1909-1910

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No. 571

## NATIONAL MONETARY COMMISSION

# First and Second Banks of the United States

By

JOHN THOM HOLDSWORTH, Ph. D.

and

DAVIS R. DEWEY, Ph. D.



Washington: Government Printing Office: 1910

# \$62,742,813.29 in 2022 dollars

p. 321

APPENDIX F	(continued).	
MARCH	2, 1832.	
[H. R. 523, 23d Co	ng., 1st sess., p. 85.]	Cr.
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## Baring Bros. & Co.

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TODAY: ING; ABN Amro Bank; MassMutual; Northern Trust; Baring Vostock Partners, Russia; GP Investments, Hamilton, Bermuda, São Paulo, Brazil, New York City, United States, and Zurich, Switzerland.; Baring Private Equity Asia; Baring Private Equity Partners India

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Amsterdam, London financier of Dutch East India Company; richest men in Europe in 18<sup>th</sup> century related to Sir Thomas Hope, 1<sup>st</sup> Baronet

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## **Hottinguer & Co [Cie]**

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## THE FIRST BANK OF THE UNITED STATES.

The establishment of the Bank of the United States in 1791 was an essential and vital part of the general scheme for the support of public credit proposed by Alexander Hamilton, first Secretary of the Treasury. The institution of a national bank Hamilton regarded as "an indispensable engine in the administration of the finances." a

## HAMILTON'S PLAN OF 1779.

This conception of the utility of a bank was not a matter of impulse or sudden exigency. As early as 1779, Hamilton wrote to Robert Morris favoring a bank of issue based on landed security. b Later, in 1780, when the Revolutionary finances were at low ebb and the currency of the country was demoralized, Hamilton, then serving in the army, wrote to Morris discussing the financial situation thoroughly and proposing measures of relief. plan that can preserve the currency is one that will make it the immediate interest of the moneyed men to cooperate with the Government in its support." He proposed an American bank with a capital of \$200,000,000. project contemplated a foreign loan of \$10,000,000 "to be thrown into the bank as a part of its stock." Government was to guarantee one-twentieth of the subscription money to the stockholders, and was itself to share half the stock and profits of the bank.

a Hamilton's Report on Public Credit, December 13, 1790.

b Hamilton's Works (Hamilton), Vol. I, p. 116.

was an important factor. Exchange was at about five below par; recent extensive importations promised a rise, so a merchant having funds in England and who wanted money preferred to borrow from the banks at 6 per cent rather than to sell bills at the low rate. On the other hand, those who had remittances to make to England strained their credit at the bank to raise money to buy bills at the low rate. Hence both buyers and sellers of exchange, in unusual numbers, pressed the banks for additional loans.

In his letters to Doctor Seybert, Carey argued that, since the Government had sold to Sir Francis Baring \$1,287,600 worth of bank shares at a premium of 45 per cent it would disgrace American credit not to recharter the bank. He admitted that there was ground for complaint in the fact that the bank had not accepted the notes of its branches in payment from its customers. He tried to owed that accommodation to the public. turn the point of the criticism by stating that the Bank of Pennsylvania and the Bank of Philadelphia refused, in the same way, to receive the notes of their branches at Pittsburg and Washington until they were compelled to do so by an act of legislature. Carey's chief argument for renewal was the terrible calamity that would overtake the business community if the bank should be compelled to wind up.a

Dr. Eric Bollman was another ardent advocate of renewal. He estimated that the banks of the country had brought into use bank credits and bank notes amounting to \$70,000,000 and that they held not over \$15,000,000

a Letters to Dr. Adam Seybert, p. 64.

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## APPENDIX F.

## BALANCE SHEETS OF BANK: 1820, 1825, 1831, 1832.

## November, 1820.

Dr.	/[Finance	e, 3:570.]	Cr.
Funded debt of the United States, various.  Louisiana 54 per cent.  Bills discounted, viz: On personal security and funded debt. On personal security and funded debt. On personal security and bank stock, etc. 6, 865, 818. 62  Bills of exchange, viz: Foreign. 52, 659. 66 Domestic. 1, 083, 097. 86  Baring Bros. & Co. Hope & Co., Amsterdam Overdrafts. Debt of S. Smith and Buchanan, George Williams, and J. W. McCulloch. Due from offices of discount and deposit. Due from state banks. Interest and commission on loan from Baring & Co. and Hope & Co. Real estate, permanent expenses, and bonus Expenses. Deficiencies. Cash, viz: Notes of Bank of United States and branches. 5, 051, 499. 26  Specie. 6, 051, 499. 26	278,008.00  2-26,921,389.93  3-1,135,757.51  189,941.20  63,200.00 199,547.00  1,540,000.00 16,430,187.66 2,625,996.99  8,200.00 1,393,247.04 89,718.94	Capital stock	22, 079, 8c 645, 723, 92 2,668, 244, 3c 1 15,459,055, 82 (2,040,000,0c 26,048,55 37,355,55

## APPENDIX F (continued).

## JANUARY 31, 1825.

Dr.	[Finance	e, 5:324.]	Cr.
Domestic bills of exchange Foreign bills of exchange Real estate Mortgages, etc Due from Bank United States and offices 1,837,512,29  Debt of Smith and B. G. Williams and J. W. McCulloch Debt due by the United States Deficiencies Banking houses, bonus, and premium on loans Expenses Cash:  Notes of Bank United States and offices 0,336,763.06 Notes of state banks 1,178,353.64 Specie 6,616,049,98	28, 477, 789, 77 2, 467, 308, 10 24, 178, 00 1, 362, 266, 72 135, 091, 85 17, 946, 973, 82 1, 207, 332, 08 5, 267, 32 500, 931, 15	Capital stock Notes issued Dividends unclaimed Discount, exchange, and interest Profit and loss and contingent interest. Due to Bank United States and offices. \$16,368,760.3 Due to state banks I, 426,161.4  Seven per cent stock Six per cent stock exchanged. Baring Bros. & Co. Deposits on account of Treasurer United States  Deduct overdrafts 195,525.6  Deposits of public officers 1, 543, 618.6 Deposits of individuals 7, 533, 406.4  Special deposit of Treasury drafts Contingent fund	- 181,710.77 165,429.91 - 732.095.32 36 6 17.794.921.79 - 1053,840.82 - 353,934.34 - 2,574,646.03 6 4 - 2 3 6 - 11,706,935.91 - 296,300.09
8	86,608,639.65		86,608,639.65

## APPENDIX F (continued).

## MARCH 2, 1831.

Dr.	[H. R. 523, 23d	Cong., 1st sess., p. 13.]		Cr.
Funded debt, various Bills discounted on—	\$7,674,681.06	Capital stock Notes issued		\$34,696,269.6
Personal security \$33,502,614. Funded debt 6,800.		Discount, exchange, and interest Foreign-exchange account		616,931.60
Bank stock 711,034		Dividends unclaimed		169,869.4
34, 220, 448.	40	Profit and loss Contingent fund	\$5, 452, 040. 95	1,626,281.5
Domestic bills of exchange 12,943,653.	- 47, 164, 101. 49	Less losses chargeable to contingent fund	3, 389, 244. 98	2,062,795.9
Real estate		Due to—		
Baring Bros, & Co., Hope & Co., Hottinguer & Co.	The second second	Bank of the United States and offices. State banks		
Bank United States and offices 20,535,786. State banks 3,004,593	05	Redemption of public debt		23. 065. 416. 6
	- 22 EAO 270 02	Deposits, viz:		525, 921. 9
United States	5, 267. 32	On account of Treasurer United States		
DeficienciesBanking houses, bonus, and premium	1, 283, 384, 71	Less overdrafts and special deposits	239.544.99	
Expenses			7,003,728.60	
Cash, viz:		Of public officers	1, 190, 787.61	
Notes of the Bank of the United States 14, 833, 665. Notes of state banks 2,069, 754.	86	Of individuals	8, 475, 346. 03	16,669,862.2
Specie 12,012,232				10,009,002.2
Mortgages Navy agent, Norfolk	143,588.44			
Total	112,775,805.03	Total		112.775.805.0

## APPENDIX F (continued).

## MARCH 2, 1832.

DR. [H. R. 523, 23d Co	ong., 1st sess., p. 85.] CR.
Bills discounted on— Personal security	Capital stock
\$68,971,777.40	Contingent fund
offices	Of public officers 1, 719, 489, 32 Of individuals 8, 816, 759. 81  17,056,386.