

productive use of the great principle in question, through the OPERATIONS OF A STATE BANK.

Or, that money might be derived from an increase of the duties on sales by public auction, to the extent of fifty cents on the hundred dollars, so as to equal the rates of Philadelphia and New York; but that alternative might affect, injuriously, the trade of Baltimore. The Committee, in confirmation of its first opinion, herein expressed, would adopt the principle of a State Bank, as a measure of revenue, in preference to direct taxation upon the property of the country, or a resort to other expedients, which might distract the public will, and prove fallacious in operation.

In explaining the construction of the bill, provision is made for the emission of facilities bearing a *progressive rate of appreciation*, as exchequer bills or treasury notes, with a view to the convenience and interests of remitters in enterprizes of foreign commerce, foreign capitalists desirous of investing money in this State, or of immigrating and settling in it, or of erecting valuable works among us; as well as for the successive augmentation of the effective means of the institution, and the furtherance of the common welfare; and the committee is justified, in the opinions of practical men, in believing that while those emissions would prove of inestimable advantage to the adventurous merchant, in avoiding the sacrifices which are incident to an excess of supply in a distant port; they would encourage the wealthy men of Mexico and South America, of the West Indies, of Ireland and Britain, of Switzerland, and the circles of Germany and Holland; also of France, and Spain, and Portugal, the States of Italy, and perhaps of Turkey, and some other countries, to invest their riches in Maryland, and operate to produce a favourable preponderance to this State. And it may be fairly assumed that such facilities would be preferred in the market of China to Spanish dollars, from the value they would acquire in the British markets of Europe and India, or their factory at Canton—as experience has proved that the securities of the United States are but little below their consolidated debt, commonly called the three per cent. *consols.* and the state's stock, in the British and Dutch markets.

The bill, as well, provides for funding the current notes at a reduced rate of interest, redeemable at the pleasure of the Legislature, upon the principal of the three per cents.