

**Andrew Jackson to Cabinet members, March 19, 1833,
from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by
John Spencer Bassett.**

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CABINET.

March 19, 1833.

The relation in which the Government stands towards the Bank of the United States renders it desireable, if not indispensably necessary, that a decision should be now made covering the whole ground, and which will establish rules for our Government during my administration.

With this view I invite the attention of my cabinet to a full consideration of the following points, viz.

1 Whether any thing has occurred to lessen the expression at the commencement of the late session of congress, as to the safety of the Bank of the united states, so far as regards the public deposits.

2 Whether the management of the institution is such that the government can rely upon it as an agent in carrying into effect the fiscal arrangements of the Treasury, as well as whether it has been heretofore a faithful agent in that respect.

3 The propriety of acquiescing in the renewal of the charter of the present Bank, under any circumstances or with any modifications?and if with any modifications, what ought they to be?

Library of Congress

4. The propriety of assenting to the establishment of a new Bank, and if a new Bank, when and in what manner ought the suggestion to be made of my views on the subject. And upon what principles, and under what limitations and with what privileges ought a new institution to be formed?

5. What system ought to be established for the future disposition of the public moneys; so far as relates to the places for their deposit, and the manner of their distribution? And if the deposits are withdrawn from the Bank of the U S would it be necessary to receive the public dues in the notes of all the Banks, or to limit the payments to the notes of those Banks that may be selected as the places of deposit and the agents of the fiscal concerns of the Government?

The results of my own reflection are

1. That the charter of the present Bank ought under no circumstances and upon no conditions whatever to be renewed.

2. That the ground gained by the veto ought to be firmly maintained, and that my assent ought to be withheld from any bill authorising the establishment of a Bank out of the District of Columbia.

3. That if my assent is given to the establishment of a new Bank it ought to be to one located in the District of Columbia, having the right to establish Branches in the different states and in such places thereof only with the permission of the different states upon the application of the Bank for that purpose, and under such restrictions as the several states may think proper to impose: And even with these restrictions that the Government shall have the right to appoint the President and as many directors of the Principal Bank and the Branches thereof as will secure fidelity, and a thorough knowledge by the proper officers of the Government of its transactions: And also that Congress should retain the right to repeal or modify the charter from time to time as it may deem proper, as a security against

Library of Congress

the corruptions and evils which are now experienced from the uncontrollable authority of the present Bank.

4. That such an institution ought not to be recommended until a full and fair experiment has been made to carry on the fiscal affairs of the Govt. without a national Bank of any description.

5. If this last view of the subject be adopted it will be necessary now to devise and settle a system for the deposit and distribution of the public funds thro' the agency of the State Banks, to go into operation at such a time as shall upon a careful consideration of the subject be thought most adviseable.

These suggestions are submitted to the consideration and free discussion of the members of the cabinet, giving, each, their opinions in writing.

[*Indorsement* :] Questions as to a Bank of the United States. Submitted to the Cabinet March 19th 1833.