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PLAN
OF
The Original Security Bank,
ESTABLISHED IN
NORFOLK STREET, STRAND:
London.

ADVERTISEMENT.

SHOULD the following Address seem too long to Men of business, whose time is precious, they are requested to have the goodness to recollect, that the subject is of great importance; and, as this is the first establishment of the kind that ever was undertaken, it is necessary to make an appeal to the great leading principles of Finance, that it may be known that the basis is solid, and the effect aimed at advantageous and certain.

The candour of the Public will no doubt cause it to be brought to mind, that nearly half a century elapsed, during which it was disputed whether the use of Bills of Exchange and Bank Notes should be admitted in England;—it is now however well known, that to the adoption of Bills of Exchange and Bank Notes, our extensive trade and commercial greatness are chiefly to be attributed.

There is no plan, however plain and simple, that does not at the beginning require to be explained; and therefore, when the question is nothing less than to extend the great system of paper credit beyond its present bounds, it would be unwise (we may even add unjust) not to explain at length the principles upon which it is to proceed; shewing, on the one hand, that they are sound, and, on the other, that under the present circumstances the plan is calculated to produce great advantage, without any possibility of risque to individuals or to the community at large.

IT is universally allowed, that for a considerable time past, men in trade have been reduced to great difficulties, on account of an evil generally known by the name of *scarcity of money*.

When scarcity of money arises from want of property, industry and length of time can alone remedy the evil ; but when property is not wanting, and the difficulty of procuring money great, a remedy is more easy to be obtained.

Commerce, which originally was carried on either by exchanging one sort of merchandise for another, or by gold and silver (which were then used as the only measure of value), has long been too extensive, and its operations too complicated, to be carried on without the aid of Bills of Exchange and Bank Notes, which are in many cases more convenient than METALLIC MONEY and which are equally valuable with it, when issued with a *proper attention to the means by which they are to be paid.*

Bank Notes, payable on demand, cannot with safety be issued beyond a certain amount, in proportion to the gold and silver in the Bank ; for which reason, the Notes of the Bank of England so deservedly in high estimation, cannot safely be extended beyond a certain quantity ; the unlimited credit which they have obtained would be lost for ever, were their number to be extended beyond that proportion which experience has shown to be safe and necessary. The quantity of paper circulating in a country, ought never to go beyond the property which is engaged for its payment ; but so long as it remains within that limit, there cannot possibly be any danger.

The credit of Government, it will readily be allowed, is from the nature of things of the first class ; from whence it follows, as a necessary consequence, that the OBLIGATIONS of

GOVERNMENT, issued in pursuance of a Grant of Parliament, are perfectly secure.

It so happens however, that *Government Obligations* possessed of solidity beyond dispute (which is the leading requisite for passing in place of money) want all the other requisites, particularly the form and the fixed value necessary. To render those obligations useful in business, they must be made CONVENIENT and FIT for *general circulation*, just as bars of gold require to be divided and struck into money, before they can be generally useful in payments from one man to another.

The utility and intention of the ORIGINAL SECURITY BANK is to render those *securities or obligations useful in, and applicable to the common course of payment*, by dividing them into convenient sums, and giving them the form that is most fit for the purpose of circulation from hand to hand.

This Bank is different from all those that have hitherto been established, and particularly in this essential point, that the bearer of each individual note knows the special pledge, or security which is deposited in order to assure its payment ; and in this also, that to issue one single note beyond the amount of the security mentioned would be to all intents and purposes the crime of forgery, and liable to immediate detection, as the certainty of the deposit may be ascertained at pleasure and with great facility, (which the regulations hereafter detailed will clearly show) a suspicion of that kind will therefore not enter into the mind of any reasonable man.

This Bank will issue Notes of 5l. Five Guineas, 10l.---15l.---20l. and 25l. in the following form :

It was at first intended to make the Notes payable *three* days after the original should become due; but, as the great object is the physical and undeniable security of the Public, it has been definitively settled, that *the originals shall absolutely remain in deposit till the bearers of the Notes issued upon them are entitled to receive their money,* which will be paid at the Banking House THAT SAME DAY beginning at nine o'clock in the morning, whatever may be the hour of the day in which the originals are paid in the different offices: ample funds being provided for that purpose.

The manner of transacting the business will be nearly as follows.

When any holder of a Navy, Victualling, Exchequer Bill, or other Government Security, wishes to have it exchanged for those Notes, that original bill must *be deposited by the proprietor in the hands of his own banker, in such a manner that it neither can be negotiated, sold, nor taken out of the deposit, untill the day of payment,* when it will be delivered up to this Bank, in order to enable it to receive the amount of the Bill, and to pay the Notes which are created on its credit. Previous to depositing the security, it will be written upon as follows.

Deliver

No. 

Original Security Bank, London,

No. 28, Norfolk-street, Strand, this

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£. 25 Portion of Exchequer Bill, No. 2,707,

THE SAME DAY on which the above Exchequer Bill shall be paid,

We Promise to pay to

or Bearer,

Twenty-five Pounds, (with Interest, at the rate of Two per Cent. per

Annun) being a Portion of the above Bill, No. 2,707,

value £1517 18 9 dated due

which is duly deposited as Security for the Payment

hereof, with Bankers

according to their Receipt in our hands.

Twenty-five.

HARTSINCK & Co.

NB. The Interest amounts to 10d. per Month, which ceases when the Original is paid.



Deliver to the ORIGINAL SECURITY BANK this ***** Bill,
Value £.1517 18s. 9d. on the day that it becomes due; till which
time it is to remain in deposit, as security for the payment of the fol-
lowing small Bills, namely

	£.	s.	d.
Fifteen Bills of 25 No. 1 to 15 incl. making	375	0	0
Fifteen ditto, 20 — 16 — 30 ditto,	300	0	0
Fifteen ditto, 15 — 31 — 45 ditto,	225	0	0
Thirty ditto, 10 — 46 — 75 ditto,	300	0	0
Thirty-one do. 5 5s — 76 — 106 ditto,	162	15	0
Thirty-one ditto 5 — 107 — 137 ditto,	155	0	0
	In Cash	0	3 9
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137 Bills	Making together	£.1517 18 9	

Of which I hereby acknowledge the receipt,
To Messrs. ***** [the name of
the Bankers who have the
Deposit.] Signed by the Proprietor
of the Original.

This endorsement will be enregistered in the books
of this Bank, as far as concerns the number and
description of the Notes issued, together with a
copy of the original bill, in such an accurate and
exact manner, that each individual Bill may at
all times be ascertained and distinguished sepa-
rately in the clearest and most convincing man-
ner. *After* the indorsement of the Original
Bill, and *before* the delivery of the small Notes,
the proprietor will produce to the Bank a suffi-
cient receipt of the banker where the deposit is
made.

When the Notes are brought for payment,
they will be DEFACED in presence of the person
bringing them; and therefore, as in their crea-
tion, it will be impossible to make one more than
taere ought to be, so likewise it will be impossible
that any should be circulated a second time.

The books will be kept open for the inspection
and examination of all persons who may wish
to peruse them, from ten to three o'clock every
day, Sundays excepted; and, as there will be
NO SECRETS in the business, but as every thing
will be FAIR and OPEN, those who may have any
doubts to state will have them cleared up in the
most ample and satisfactory manner, and with
the greatest pleasure and promptitude.

It would be encroaching too much on the time
of the Public, to enter on a detail of the innu-
merable advantages to be expected from this
establishment. As soon as the solidity of its
basis and the regularity of its operations are
sufficiently known to command the public con-
fidence, (which it undoubtedly will deserve), a
new source of credit and accommodation, of the
greatest *safety and utility*, will discover itself, not
only to the Commercial World, but in general
to all persons who have real securities to give.

In the mean time, it must be observed, that
the effects and advantages of this establishment
will be felt the stronger at this moment, as its
first operations will be founded upon a species
of security which has for some time past absorbed
a great portion of the circulating money, and
rendered extremely difficult all sorts of discounts
by coming in competition with private credit,
thereby taking away one of the principal re-
sources of trade, which enables the merchant
to carry on his business, and the manufacturer
to pay his workmen.

There is no doubt that the enemies of England
will employ all their malignity, in endeavouring
to counteract a plan which is calculated to bene-

fit both the individual and the country; but superior to their vain attempts, its salutary effects will very soon evince, that, while they lament that this new source of public credit has sprung up, all the friends and well-wishers to this country will lament equally on their part that it has not been discovered at an earlier period.

TO RECAPITULATE :

The claims on the public confidence are in the first place, that

The originals deposited are unexceptionably good in themselves.

Secondly, They are deposited with so much safety, and the Notes are issued with so many precautions, that there can remain no doubts respecting the certainty and regularity of their payment.

Thirdly, Publicity in every part of the administration of the business; readiness to explain, in the most satisfactory manner, whatever may be asked about it; good conduct, punctuality, and order, will undoubtedly, in a very short time, convince the Public at large of the solidity of the principles, and of the extensive and general utility of this new Establishment.

N.B. The Bills of the East India or other Public Companies will be considered as good securities; and notice will publicly be given as the plan extends itself to other real securities.

London, Dec. 28. 1796.