

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 23, 1840.

DEAR SIR:—You have doubtless seen the card which appeared recently in the U. S. Gazette, signed R. M. Whitney,

Mr. Whitney's card states that he never had a transaction in stocks with Henry Toland or Charles Macalester, in his life, either directly or indirectly; let him have the full benefit of it if such should be so I am not so uncharitable as to disbelieve him—he should have also added, nor have I given either of these gentlemen, at any time, important information, while resident agent at Washington city for the Deposit Banks, by which either of them may have made operations in stocks that benefitted me without being directly or indirectly concerned with them; he ought in strict justice to have made that addition to his declaration, for it only amounts to his own declaration at last. Is it possible that Reuben M. Whitney has forgotten his examination before a committee of Congress some years since, relative to the affairs of the U. States Bank, when it was a national institution? I cannot give you all the names of the gentlemen who composed that investigating committee; but I recollect there was John Quincy Adams, Judge Clayton, of Geo., and, I think, Col. R. M. Johnson, and some others, whose names have escaped my recollection. He forgets, on that occasion, when on oath, he made some singular mistakes as to dates about transactions which took place in that Bank; although he produced memorandums, which he said was made by him at the time those transactions were alleged to have taken place. I do not wish to be understood as charging him with perjury on that occasion; but really, when a person makes mistakes on oath, he is as liable to make as great mistakes on mere assertion or declaration. That R. M. Whitney has been an injured man, I am also willing to believe. And also that many imagine him to be a disgraced individual, cannot admit of doubt. Mr. Whitney was at one time an eminent importing merchant in Philadelphia, under the firm of Wiggin & Whitney, their place of business was at 19 South Front street, and that he continued as such for many years—he was also a Director of the U. S. Bank, in 1822, 1823 and 1824—he at that period was esteemed an honorable and upright man, and enjoyed the confidence of Mr. Biddle, the President. Mr. Biddle was elected President Jan. 1823, Mr. Whitney was elected first to the board in 1822, being the last year of Mr. Cheves' administration. It is also said that Mr. Cheves never liked him; he thought there was a hidden cunning about him. Strange as it may seem Mr. Whitney has a countenance that no one fancies; that he is a person of great capability, no one will gainsay—but he never has recovered from the testimony he gave before the committee of Congress—all and every one is ready to believe that he made that statement from the most infamous motives, although there can hardly exist a doubt that he was drawn into unintentional errors—at least in all charity let it be believed he was. I never yet doubted any one on their solemn oath, but what they intended to speak the truth—and such I believe was the intention of Mr. Whitney, unfortunate to himself as these mistakes he made have proved to be. Mr. Whitney's appointment as President of the Vicksburg Bank, has not yet appeared in any of the public prints. Will he also deny that either of these gentlemen had no agency in endeavoring to obtain that situation for him. If he does, the great mass of the public will exclaim,—Oh! shame, where is thy blush? Will Mr. W. explain what semi-biography means? Does it mean half-biography; or, what means he by using the word? Perhaps the meaning is to convey the word half rascal. If so, he may take it to himself, and not blush at all in wearing the sobriquet.