

The question of a national bank is at rest; were I President I should not urge its re-agitation upon Congress; but should Congress see fit to pass an act to establish such an institution, I should not arrest it by the veto, unless I should consider it subject to "some Constitutional objection, from which I believe the two former banks to have been free-

It appears to me that the national debt created by the war, renders a modification of the existing tariff indispensable; and when it shall be modified, I should be pleased to see it adjusted with a due reference to the protection of our home industry. The particulars, it appears to me, must and should be left to the untrammelled discretion of Congress.

As to the Mexican war, I still, ^{think} the offensive line policy the best to terminate it. In a final treaty of peace, we shall probably be under a sort of necessity of taking some territory, but it is my desire that we shall not acquire any extending so far South

as to enlarge and aggravate the distracting question of
slavery - Should I come into the presidency before these
questions shall be settled, I should act in relation
to them in accordance with the views here expressed -

Finally, were I president, I should desire the legisla-
tion of the country to rest with Congress, uninflected by
the executive in its origin a progress, and undisturbed
by the veto unless in very special and clear cases -

The foregoing paper was written — by Lincoln in 1848
being what his daughter Gen^t Taylor ought to
say —