

It is objected by some that had we a domestic currency we could not obtain things from abroad. How do we now obtain goods and *gold* from foreign countries? Only by giving something in return. When the present banking system inflates the currency and causes expenditure and extravagance, we exchange our products and gold for commodities; when it contracts, when expenditure receives a great check, we exchange our products for gold only; and thus do we periodically make and lose our capital. A Domestic currency would keep our capital in the country and merchants in the rate of exchange would have a tell-tale by which to regulate their imports and exports.

Besides we have the example of Buenos Ayres and also of Hayti, where a paper currency exists, and though issued in conformity with no established plan, yet these currencies do not prevent their carrying on commerce. In the interior of Hayti people will not take gold when offered them, for they say, it fluctuates in value, which it certainly does, like any other commodity, according to the demand and supply of it for exportation.

A domestic currency established, there will be no bank or banks of issue. The borrowing and lending of money may be left perfectly free to all; but when the money itself does not pass between the parties, but a credit or certificate is given in its stead, the money represented by that credit or certificate, must be set apart, until the presentation of the check or return of the certificate. Whoever practices what McLeod considers "The whole Art and Genius of Banking, which consists in forming a sound judgment as to *how many different parties* he may *pledge the same identical capital*." Whoever does this! Let him be treated like any other perpetrator of fraud, and be consigned at once to the safe custody of the District Jailor.

The tendencies of the present banking system are eminently demoralizing. By its alternate and ever-recurring expansions and contractions, the measure of value is constantly vibrating. This unsettles business as well as prices;