VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Monday, Feb. 7, 1848.

A communication was received from the Senate, noting the passage of certain bills:

The Speaker laid before the House, a communication from the Lieut. Governor, transmitting the last quarterly reports of the Banks of the Commonwealth.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Scott, from the committee of Courts of Justice, presented the following bills:

A bill to amend the act entitled an act to extend the jurisdiction of the commonwealth of Virginia over the county of Alexandria, passed March 14th, 1847.

Mr. Stephenson, from the committee of Roads and Internal Navigation, presented the following bill:

A bill authorizing an additional subscription for the State, to the Charleston and Point Pleasant Turnpike Company.

A bill incorporating the Junction Valley Turnpike Company.

A bill incorporating New Market and Buffalo Springs Turnpike Company.

A bill to revive the Martinsburg and Winchester Turnpike Company.

A bill regulating the State vote in Internal Improvement Companies.

On motion of Mr. Stephenson, the committee on Roads, &c. were discharged from the consideration of the resolution incorporating the Berkley Turnpike Company, and the same was laid on the table.

Mr. Conway, from the committee for the purpose, presented.

A bill providing for the payment of per diem compensation and mileage to John S. Duncan, which was read a first and second time, and ordered to be engrossed.

RESOLUTIONS.

Mr. Dorman, at the request of the Speaker, offered the following, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the committee of Roads and Internal Navigation enquire into the expediency of incorporating a joint stock company to construct a McAdamized road from Sperryville, in the county of Rappahannock to the head of Canal Navigation, on the Rappahannock river.

Mr. Haymond offered the following, which was laid on the table for the present.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed with instructions to report to this house a bill re apportioning and equalizing the representation in the House of Delegates and Senate of this Commonwealth, upon the basis of the white population and taxation as it now exist, taking the assessed taxable property as their rule by which to be governed in fixing such representation.

On motion of Mr. Dorman,

Resolved, That the committee on the Library enquire into the expediency of providing, out of the surplus revenue of the Literary fund or otherwise, suitable apparatus for the Chair of Physical Science in the Va. Military Institute.

On motion of Mr. Scott

Resolved, That the committee of Roads and Internal Navigation be instructed to enquire into the expediency of incorporating a company to construct a graded road from some point near [illegible] in Fauquier county, to some point on the Rappahannock river, near the head of navigation thereon.

On motion of Mr. Watson,

Resolved, That the committee for Courts of Justice be instructed to enquire into the expediency of providing by law for more effectually preventing trespasses on the premises of Colleges, &c.

A bill to provide for the construction of the Weston and Fairmont Turnpike company.

A bill concerning the correction of errors committed in the progress of chancery causes, and regulating appeals from final decrees pronounced therein.

The following, laid on the table some days since, were taken up and ordered to be engrossed:

A bill to create the 22d Judicial Circuit.

A bill changing the time of training of the officers and Regimental or Battalion Musters in the counties of Washington and Scott.

SENATE.

Tuesday, Feb. 8th, 1848.

Bills from the House were received, and on motion of Mr. Baptist, committed.

THE SMALL NOTE BILL.

This bill coming up as the order of the day, Mr. Kane proposed further to postpone it to the 18th inst., on the ground of the absence of members.

This motion was sustained by Messrs Kane, Garrett and Stringer, and opposed by Messrs Stanard and Gallaher—and was adopted—ayes 15, noes 13.

A bill to incorporate the Grave Creek Turnpike Company, and making a subscription, was passed.

On motion of Mr. Gallaher, the senate took up, and passed, the bill authorizing a subscription of two fifths ($14,000,) to the stock of the Turnpike from Smithfield to Winchester.

On motion of Mr. Gallaher, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Tuesday, Feb. 8, 1848.

REPORTS, &c.

Mr. Burwell, from the committee on Schools and Colleges, reported a bill concerning District Free Schools in the county of Jefferson.

Mr. Newton, from the committee on Militia Laws, reported a bill fixing the payment and prescribing the duties of the officers of the Public Guard.

Mr. Perrow, from the committee appointed for the purpose, reported a bill providing for the reorganization of the Board of Public Works.

On motion of Mr. Perrow, the committee on Agriculture, &c., were relieved from further consideration of the petition of citizens of Nelson in relation to the inspection of Tobacco, and that the said petition be referred to the select committee on the subject of the tobacco laws; and, on motion of Mr. Stovall, Mr. Perrow was added to said select committee.

REAPPORTIONMENT.

The House resumed the consideration of the following resolution, offered yesterday by Mr Haymond:

"Resolved, That a committee be appointed with instructions to report to this House a bill re apportioning and equalizing the representation in the House of Delegates and Senate of this Commonwealth, upon the basis of the White population and taxable property as their rule by which to be governed in fixing such representation."

A motion was made by Mr. Yerby to amend the same by inserting after the words "taxable property," the words "and taxes on licenses for 1847."

On these propositions a long discussion ensued, in which Messrs Price, Parks, Stewart, and Haymond advocated the white basis as the true rule of apportionment, and Messrs. Yerby and and Scott of Fauquier took the opposite ground.

On motion of Mr. Dorman, the said resolution and proposed amendment were ordered to be laid on the table; and on motion of Mr. Yerby, the ayes and nays were recorded as follows: Ayes, 69 noes, 47.

A motion was made by Mr. Scott of Fauquier, that the House adopt the following resolution:

"Resolved, That a select committee be appointed with instructions to bring in a bill increasing the number of Delegates to 142 and Senators to 34; and reapportioning representation throughout the State so as to assign one delegate to the county of Alexandria, one additional delegate to the City of Richmond, and six additional delegates and two additional Senators in the counties lying west of the Alleghany Mountains."

Before any action was had upon this proposition, after some remarks by Mr. Haymond—

On motion of Mr. Conway, the House adjourn.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Wednesday, Feb. 9th, 1848.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

Mr. Lanier, from the committee of Propositions and Grievances, presented a report upon the petition of citizens of the counties of Giles, Botetourt, Roanoke and Monroe, for a new county out of parts of said counties.

Mr Stephenson, from the committee of Roads and Internal Navigation, reported without amendment the following bill:

A bill to provide for the construction of the Weston and Fairmont Turnpike Company.

A bill to provide for the completion of the Sistersville and Salem Turnpike road.

On motion of Mr. Stephenson, the committee of Roads and internal Navigation was discharged from the consideration of the resolution for the construction of a bridge between Richmond and Manchester, by the State and individuals jointly; and the same was referred to the committee of Propositions and Grievances.

PETITIONS.

By Mr. Burwell—Memorial of 137 citizens of the county of Roanoke, 390 of whom are freeholders and voters, praying an alteration in the act of the present General Assembly extending the South western McAdamized Road from the town of Salem to Buchanan, so as to make the Big Lick a point in said road, or else to leave the selection of the route between Salem and Buchanan to the discretion of the Engineer heretofore employed by the Board of Public Works.

Also—of citizens of the county of Franklin, praying such amendment to the act of the present General Assembly, extending the South-western McAdamized road from Salem to Buchanan as will require the Big Lick, in the county of Roanoke, to be made a point in said road, according to the survey of the Engineer, recently made.

By Mr. Thompson of Botetourt—Of 305 citizens of Botetourt county, asking a change in the law as to the location of the South-western road, so that the same may be located through the town of Fincastle.

The following resolution, offered on yesterday by Mr. Scott, and discussed at some length, here came up as the unfinished business of yesterday:

Resolved, That a Select Committee be appointed with instructions to bring in a bill increasing the number of Delegates to 142, and of Senators to 34, and re-apportioning representation throughout the commonwealth—so as to assign one delegate to the county of Alexandria, one additional delegate to the city of Richmond, and six additional delegates and two additional senators to the counties lying west of the Allegheny mountains.

The motion of Mr Lacy, submitted on yesterday, to lay on the table, pending, the House refused to lay on the table.

After remarks from several gentlemen, the vote was taken upon the resolution, by yeas and nays, and it was adopted—ayes 90, noes 28—

ENGROSSED BILLS.

A bill relating to the Cumberland Road in Virginia. Passed.

A bill to provide for extending the Rocky Mount Turnpike. Passed.

A bill to incorporate the New Market and Sperryville Turnpike Company. Passed.

A bill to provide a connection between the James River Canal and the county of Powhatan. Passed.

A bill for the extension of the Howardsville and Rockfish Turnpike Road. Passed.

A bill to amend the act passed march 13, 1847, concerning the Dunkard's Creek Turnpike Company. Passed.

A bill concerning the Virginia Military Institute, the University, and the Colleges of the Commonwealth. Passed.

A bill to provide for the construction of the Jackson's river and Warm Springs Turnpike road.

A bill to provide for the completion of the Hardy and Winchester Turnpike road. Passed.

On motion of Mr. Lanier, the House ajourned.

THIRTIETH CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

U. S. SENATE.

Washington, Feb. 7—4½ P. M.

Shortly after the Senate was called to order, to day, Mr. Johnson, of Louisiana, submitted a resolution calling upon the Post Master General to inform the Senate of the cause of the continued failures of the New Orleans mail; also, what additional legislation may be necessary to prevent the U. S. mail being beaten by private expresses.

The resolution was adopted.

The bill granting half pay to the widows and orphans of officers and soldiers connected with the regular army, who may die of wounds received in battle, was taken up and passed.

On motion, the Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the order of the day, viz: The Ten Regiment Bill.

Mr. Hunter, being entitled to the floor, made a speech in opposition to the policy of the administration, touching the Mexican war, depicting the dangerous tendency of that policy, and advocating the plan of a defensive line, as shadowed forth by Mr. Calhoun, as the best means of securing peace.

Mr. Miller has the floor on this question to morrow.

On motion, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Stephens asked and obtained leave to introduce a resolution requesting the President of the United States to communicate to the House, copies of all letters on file in the War Office from Major Gen. Taylor, between the 1st and 22d February, 1847.

On motion, the rules were suspended for the purpose of considering the resolution, which was passed.

Mr. Washington Hunt offered a joint resolution of thanks and an appropriate medal, to Maj. Gen. Scott, for his gallantry, &c., in Mexico.

On motion of Mr. H., the rules were suspended for the purpose of considering the resolution at once.

Several motions being made to amend the resolution, Mr. Hunt called for the previous question—which was sustained, and the resolution then passed—yeas 190—nays 1.

Mr Henley moved a reconsideration of the vote adopting the resolution, with a view to amend it. This motion was seconded by Mr. Houston of Alabama, and being put to the vote, was lost.

Mr. Botts offered a resolution calling on the President to communicate any propositions of peace received from Mexico.

Mr. Botts moved a suspension of the rules, which was carried, and the resolution was adopted.

Mr. Stephens offered a joint resolution of thanks to Maj. Gen. Taylor, for his services, gallantry, &c., in the war with Mexico.

Several propositions to amend being made, Mr. Stephens called for the previous question on his resolution, which was sustained by the House, and the resolution was adopted, by yeas 181—nays 1.

Mr. Wilmot asked and obtained leave to make a personal explanation. He said that the "Union" newspaper had attempted to injure him—defined his position respecting his celebrated Proviso and Direct Taxation for the support of the war. Mr. Wilmot was quite warm and earnest in his manner, and denounced the editor of the Union with some severity. The remarks of Mr. W. were listened to with profound attention. In the course of his remarks, Mr. Wilmot took occasion to denounce the Secretary of State, (Mr. Buchanan,) most violently.

Mr. Charles Brown denied the truth of some of Mr Wilmot's statements, and pronounced others unqualifiedly false.

Thereupon much confusion ensued in the Hall—several members were addressing the Chair at the same time. The Speaker called loudly to order, rapping with his hammer. Order being finally restored.

Mr. James Thompson took the floor in reply to Mr. Wilmot. He defended the Secretary of State from the charges of Mr. W.

Mr. Giddings submitted a resolution of thanks to Albert Gallatin, for his views relative to the war—which was laid on the table, yeas 132—nays 59.

The House then adjourned.

Washington, Feb. 8.

U. S. SENATE.

Sundry petitions and memorials were presented, and appropriately referred.

The joint resolutions of thanks to Generals Scott and Taylor, which passed the House of Representatives yesterday, were referred to the Military Committee.

On motion, the Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the order of the day, viz: The Ten Regiment Bill.

Mr. Miller being entitled to the floor, spoke at length in opposition to the bill contending that the force at present in Mexico was sufficient for all the legitimate purposes of the war, and granting an increase by the Senate would be tantamount to sanctioning the entire conquest of Mexico.

Mr. Niles has the floor on this question for to morrow.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Brodhead offered a resolution authorizing the Clerk of the House to pay to the widow of the Hon. Mr. Hornbeck, who died a few weeks since in Philadelphia, the expenses of the funeral, in the same manner as if the deceased had been buried in Washington City.

Mr. Atkinson opposed the resolution, and it was finally referred to the committee on Accounts.

The Speaker called for reports from committees, when sundry bills were reported, read twice and referred.

On motion, the House then went into committee of the Whole, Mr. J. M. Botts in the chair, and took up the Loan Bill.

Mr. Vinton moved to strike out *eighteen* millions dollars, the amount called for by the bill, and substitute therefor *sixteen* millions—Mr. V. argued the whole question of the financial condition of the Government, and predicted that more money would be needed than was now asked for.

Mr. Lahm next occupied the attention of the committee with a speech against improvements by the Federal Government. He cited Baltimore Harbor as a case in point. After Mr. L. had concluded,

On motion, the committee rose, and the House adjourned without transacting further business.

Washington, Feb. 9, 1848.

U. S. SENATE.

The Vice President appeared to day, and took his seat as the presiding officer.

Mr. Dix presented the instruction resolutions of the Legislature of the State of New York, favoring the principle of the Wilmot Proviso, which were ordered to be printed.

After the transaction of some other business, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the order of the day, to wit: The Ten Regiment Bill.

Mr. Niles being entitled to the floor, addressed the Senate in a speech in which he depicted the evil consequences likely to ensue from the present war, and opposed the further prosecution of it in the manner proposed by the administration.

Mr. Underwood claimed the floor after Mr. Niles had concluded, when

On motion, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The Speaker announced that the first business in order would be the reception of Reports from Committees.

Mr. Botts, chairman of the committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill providing for filling up regiments by giving bounties to persons who might enlist; and also, a bill providing for the transportation of sick and disabled soldiers—which were read twice and referred to the committee of the Whole.

Many other bills were reported from the different committees, and referred.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, Mr. Botts in the chair, and took up the Bill providing for a Loan of $18,000,000.

Mr. Fisher took the floor and spoke against the War and in opposition to the general policy of the present Administration.

Mr. Thomas, of Tennessee, followed in defence of the Administration.

Mr. Marsh next took the floor, when, on motion, the committee rose.

And the House adjourned.

ARMY INTELLIGENCE.

From the Delta's correspondence from Mexico and Vera Cruz, we obtain some very interesting additional items.

By general orders the following officers, "sick, wounded or supernumerary," are ordered home to report by letter to the Adjutant General; viz.—Major E. V. Sumner, 2d Dragoons; Major C A Waite, 8th Infantry; Captain W J Hardee, 2d Dragoons; 1st Lieut. L G Arnold, 2d Artillery; 1st Lieut. Arnold Elzey, 2d Artillery; 1st Lieut. C J Emery, Massachusetts Regiment; 1st Lieut. J Ward Henry, N Y Volunteers; 2d Lieut. H F Clarke 2d Artillery; 2d Lieut. W C Wagley, 3d Dragoons; 2d Lieut. P A Farrelly, 5th Infantry, 2d Lieut. H E Clitz, 2d Infantry; 2d Lieut. Geo. Wainwright, 8th Infantry; 2d Lieut. J G Fitzgerald, 14th Infantry; 2d Lieut. I. W Templeton, 15th Infantry; 2d Lieut. J. E. Slaughter, Voltigeurs; Capt. J R Smith, 2d Infantry.

The following extracts are from "Mustang's" letter of Jan. 12:

To day the funeral of Capt. Irwin took place. He was followed to the grave by a long line of mourning friends. The Rifle Regiment paid the military honors to his remains, but it was no one corps that grieved at his death—when he died, the army wept.

Maj. J. L. Gardner has been appointed "Superintendent of the direct and indirect taxes to be levied for the support of the army, on that portion of Mexico called the Federal District."

A Mexican officer has been detected in endeavoring to induce the soldiers to desert. A military commission of which Gen. Smith is President, and R. P. Hammond, Judge Advocate, is now in session trying him for the offence. If he is found guilty, as I expect he will be, he will either be shot or hung.

By the order of Gen. Scott, Capt. A. C. Myers has been assigned to the Chief of the Quartermaster's Department. From what we know of his capacity, we have no doubt but that he will discharge the duties to the interest of the Government and with credit to himself.

Gen. Cadwalader has arrived at Toluca.

"Mustang" encloses a letter from a correspondent who marched with Gen. Cadwalader to Toluca. He describes the arrival there and the town itself, as follows:

At sunrise on the next day, (8th) we started for Toluca, some ten miles distant, marching for some short distance on the edge of a marsh, where we perceived abundance of waterfowl, and promised ourselves some good sport anon. The country on either side became more and more fertile: a superior cultivation to any we have seen in Mexico, obtained; fine haciendas, with American looking farm yards and granaries; abundance of cattle, &c, &c.—all proclaiming a decidedly improved state of society.

We have reached Toluca after a few hours' march and, as usual, were surrounded by a dense mass of wandering beings, and took our quarters—the soldiers in convents, &c., and many of the officers by billet. I have never seen a more pacific looking people in all our progress, notwithstanding the preaching of Father Jarauta, who was lately here. Some thousand troops, it is said, left here on our approach, with the Government, for Morelia.

This town is capable of holding from 10,000 to 12,000 people, but at present has not so many. It is prettily built, is very clean, and is supplied with good water by an aqueduct. Nor have we felt the degree of cold for which it has a reputation.

Yesterday the 11th Infantry were ordered to retrace their steps as far as Lerma, and occupy that place. Rumor says that the convent in which they were quartered suffered *a few* in the way of gold vessels, and the General thought it prudent to quarter the regiment where gold and silver are *apparently* unknown.

There are no pretty women here!!! Whether the good friars are looking after their morals, I cannot tell.

"Mustang" gives the following relative to the conspiracy in Puebla:

A conspiracy has been set on foot, in Puebla, to assassinate the Mexican Governor of the State of Puebla, Don Raphael Izunsa, by Gen. Rea and some of his worthy associates. Their letters were intercepted by Col. Childs, from which it appears that their first object was to get Gov. Izunsa out of the way by assassination, and then murder some of the peaceably disposed inhabitants of Puebla, seize the reins of government, and proclaim Rea Dictator. Gov. Izunsa is known to be a strong advocate of peace; the project, nipped in the bud, has caused the following proclamation to be issued by Col. Childs, the American Civil Governor and Military Commandant of that Department.

[The proclamation declares that persons corresponding with guerrillas, or any Mexican organized military body will be treated as spies.]

Correspondence of the Delta.

City of Mexico, Jan. 13, 1848.

Eds Delta: The city of Mexico is rife with rumors in reference to peace; some have it that peace is made; others have it that Commissioners have gone on to Washington, &c, &c., and thus we have it up and down every day—peace and war alternately. Believe nothing you hear from this city at the present time on this subject, for I assure you no one, unless it is Gen. Scott or Mr. Trist, knows anything more about it than "the man in the moon." And these gentlemen are exceedingly cautious in everything relating to the movements in the army, and everything connected with it—The nearest that I can come to the present state of affairs, is from my correspondent at Queretaro, but he adds: "The whole subject rests with the United States—the Government of Mexico is willing to make a treaty, and are prepared, and are strong enough to sustain it."—Many of the most influential men in the Republic, who have heretofore been violently opposed to making a treaty are now advocating it strongly. These persons, who formerly belonged to the army and have been discarded by the Government, are perfectly prostrate; their influence is nothing on either side of the scale. The Congress had not yet met at Queretaro at the latest dates, but it was expected there would be a full meeting by the 15th or 20th inst.

The brigade of Col. Riely is still at Tacubaya and the brigade of Gen Cushing at San Angel. No movement of troops for San Luis can take place before the 1st of February, even if Gen Scott most ardently desired it.—The command, if it starts from here, must be fully appointed for five or six months, as it will take at least that time before they would be able to make a road from San Luis to Tampico, by which they would be enable to bring supplies from the latter place. At present they are without one of the most necessary articles, clothing, for such an expedition. Gen Scott has sent twice to Vera Cruz for it, and both times has received a very meagre supply; therefore he has had to resort to one of the poorest means of procuring it,—having it made here. Capt Mc Kinstry, of the Quartermaster's Department, has now about 1000 men and women engaged in making clothing for the soldiers, and I understand they will be at least until the 1st of February before a sufficient quantity will be ready. It is a very easy matter to move armies on paper, but more difficult in the field.

Yesterday the Palace Guard discovered about a wagon load of muskets concealed in a Convent in this city.

Mr Trist does not go home with the train going down to morrow.

The gallant Capt Walker, of 6th Infantry, so severely wounded at El Molino del Rey, will be sent down; he goes in a litter—still being too weak to travel otherwise.

MUSTANG.

From the N. O. Picayune, Jan. 30.

FROM THE RIO GRANDE.

Among the passengers on the Maria Burt, came Lieut. Franklin, of the Topographical Engineers, a gallant young officer who rendered himself conspicuous at Buena Vista as a member of Gen. Wool's staff by his gallantry. Lieut. F. is direct from Gen. Wool's head quarters at Monterey, which place he left on the 18th inst. Just before he left an express was received from Saltillo from Col. Hamtramck, in command of the forces there, stating that a report had reached him from a source entitled to credit, that a force of Mexicans, 10,000 strong, under command of Gen. Bustamente, were marching down from San Luis upon Saltillo. The report even particularizes the points from whence the troops had been raised, but so frequent are the stampedes upon that line, very little credit was attached to the report. Our forces there were in good condition, and perfectly willing to be attacked whenever the enemy thought best to make the experiment.

Upon the receipt of this news Gen. Wool had apprised the merchants at Monterey, Camargo, Matamoros and other parts, that he could afford them no protection in the way of escorts. From another source we learn that Col. Carasco, a Mexican officer who has rendered himself rather conspicuous, is at Monterey, proposing to enter into negotiations with Gen. Wool for a *pronunciamento* against the existing Government of Mexico and in favor of the United States, on the part of the States of Tamaulipas, Nueva Leon, and Coahuila. He also proposes to bring in Gen. Canales, that cowardly chief of guerrillas, who has given us so much trouble upon the Rio Grande. Col. Carasco has been for a long time residing in Matamoros with his family, and appears friendly to the Americans. We know not what degree of credit to attach to this report.

Capt. Deas, of the Artillery, who was a short time since wounded by a Mexican lancer between Saltillo and Monterey, has recovered from the effects of his wound, which was not so severe as was reported.

The Matamoros Flag of the 22d contradicts the report as to the probable death of Capt. G. K. Lewis, from wounds received in a recent fight with the Indians near Parras. He was able to move about the streets of Saltillo with slight aid from a crutch. The wound is in the foot, a toe or two having been cut off by an Indian arrow. Mr. Lewis is a printer.

DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE.

WHIG NATIONAL CONVENTION.

At a Meeting of the Whig Members of the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, held on Thursday evening, January 24th, 1848, to consider the propriety of recommending a *Whig National Convention*, the Hon. W. P. Mangum, of North Carolina, was called to the chair, and Hon. Caleb B. Smith, of Indiana, was appointed Secretary.

After discussion and due deliberation, it was—

Resolved, That it is expedient to hold a Whig National Convention for the purpose of nominating candidates for the offices of President and Vice President of the United States.

And then the meeting adjourned for one week.

On Thursday evening, 3d February, the meeting convened pursuant to adjournment, when, after some general discussion as to the time and place of holding the proposed Convention, *Independence Hall, in the City of Philadelphia, and the seventh day of June*, were agreed upon.

It was therefore Resolved, That the Whig Members of the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States do recommend to their friends throughout the Union that a Whig National Convention be held at Independence Hall, in the city of Philadelphia, on Wednesday, the 7th day of June 1848, for the purpose of nominating candidates for the offices of President and Vice President of the United States.

On motion, it was ordered that the proceedings of this meeting be published in the National Intelligencer, and that all the Whig papers in the United States be requested to copy them.

After which the meeting adjourned *sine die*.

WILLIE P. MANGUM, Chairman.
Caleb B. Smith, Secretary.

From the National Intelligencer.

THE NEW DOCTRINE.

Concurring circumstances show that the doctrine of the "manifest destiny" of the United States to become the great robber of lands and destroyer of nations and of the right of a powerful nation to appropriate to its use, by conquest, the territory of adjoining powers, is now the cardinal and cohesive principle of the Administration portion of the Democratic party in this country. What has transpired on this subject in casual interlocutions as well as regular debates in the Senate of the United States is already known to the public in general. What doctrines are avowed at the headquarters of Democracy at Albany our readers will have learned from the preceding article. Since that article was penned, there has been published, in the government paper in this city, a speech delivered by General Sam Houston at a great "War Meeting" held at Tammany Hall, in the city of New York, a few days ago. A speech from that quarter, considering the position which the General at this moment occupies in his own party, would of itself attract no little attention. But when, in addition, we find the entire report of the speech transferred to the columns of the "Union," and which the "Union" endorses as an almost unprecedented demonstration of the enthusiasm and unanimity of the people *in favor of the policy pursued* AND RECOMMENDED BY THE ADMINISTRATION *in relation to the war*"—we are bound to consider the leading and prominent opinions expressed in that speech, as to the spirit and object of the war as those [not, we trust, of the whole Democracy, but] of the War Party among the professors of that creed.

In this view, and without offering a word of comment upon them, we place before our readers the following brief extracts from the speech of the honorable Senator from Texas, as we find it in the Union:

"You, here, fellow citizens, are living in cities, in the enjoyment of all the blessings and comforts of civilization; but, if you undertake to go into the wilderness, into the domain of the wild beast, and begin to pursue the game, to plant plantations; when you see the farm, the garden springing up around you, your feelings will become attached to the land; it will imbue your hearts; you will catch the contagion of the frontier settler; you will not be able to escape it. You may escape the small-pox, but you can never escape the *contagion of land loving*. As sure as you live, it will become a part of your nature.—There is not an American upon earth but who *loves land*. It is the fact, though I say so only in my coarse and vulgar way. [Great applause.] Your ancestors, when they landed at Plymouth, upon that famous rock, were not long contented with that barren spot, but proceeded in their might, and went on progressing at Jamestown, as well as at Plymouth, till all the country was possessed by them. From the first moment they landed, they went on trading with the Indians, and *cheating them out of their land*. Now the Mexicans are no better than Indians, and *I see no reason why we should not go on in the same course now*, AND TAKE THEIR LAND. But these countries will be benefitted by our occupation. Look at the Californias, Senora, Western Mexico, New Mexico," &c.

"Though I am not pious, yet as a sinner I say it, we have *peaceful authority for wars* in the conduct of the people of Israel, who were led by Divine power to smite them with the edge of the sword. *This same mandate from God guides us in this war*, and gives success to our arms; and, I think, will continue to guide and to prosper America."

A BLOODY DUEL ALMOST.—Two gentlemen in St Louis, having a dispute, (a lady being at the bottom of it,) agreed to heal their offended honors with a pair of pistols, at a distance of ten paces. The ground was measured, but before the word was given one of the parties fired; this produced some altercation, and before it was settled the lady was seen approaching at full gallop.—She neared the belligerents, sprung from her horse, clasped her lover in her arms, and by her entreaties prevented any further waste of powder, the challenged party and seconds having agreed that the pistols should be loaded with nothing more.

From the National Intelligencer.

LETTER FROM THE HON. TRUMAN SMITH.

Messrs. Editors: I desire to invite the attention of my friends in Connecticut (through the medium of your columns) to the action of the Whigs of the two Houses of Congress, in expressing, as they have, in conformity with usage, the opinion that the selection of our candidates for President and Vice President should be referred to a National Convention, to be held at Independence Hall, in the city of Philadelphia, on the first Wednesday of June next. It is the wish of our judicious friends here that Members of Congress should have as little to do with this subject as possible; and I am confident that any attempt to forestall the action of that body in this focus of political excitement will be frowned at and put down. To this tribunal the various opinions and predilections which seem to exist in many parts of the country in regard to the most suitable persons to unite the suffrages of the great Whig party of the Union should be submitted by all. I entertain unhesitatingly the conviction that the wise, discreet, and good men who it is believed will compose that body, will come to such conclusions as are best adapted to arrest the tide of evil now setting in upon the country, and to promote the happiness and prosperity of the American people. At no period of our history has a thorough union of the conservative impulses and principles of the Whig party been more imperatively demanded than at the present moment. I cannot see the least chance of rescuing our Government and institutions from the dangers which beset them except by means of the next Presidential election. With a war on our hands, waged with a prodigality of treasure and of life which is as stupendous as the object now avowed—the absorption of a large part (which may soon become all) of Mexico, to be soon converted into States and admitted into the Union—to permit devotion to or admiration of this or that public character to interrupt our harmony or to prevent co-operation, would be the height of folly and madness. It cannot be necessary to remind you that our political brethren of other and distant sections of the Union take precisely the same view we do of the existing condition of public affairs; that they stood by us shoulder to shoulder (with few exceptions) in resistance of Texas annexation, opposed the reckless policy of this Administration in the matter of Oregon, and thus aided in warding off the danger (at one time imminent) of a collision with Great Britain in that regard, and are now unceasing in their efforts to arraign the authors of the war with Mexico "unnecessarily and unconstitutionally begun," at the bar of an enlightened public opinion. Under such circumstances it seems to me that Whigs every where should speak of the views of each other in regard to the Presidency with moderation, good temper, and liberality; should forego premature and unprofitable discussion, and unfurl the banner which we bore aloft so proudly and so successfully in 1840, and on which was inscribed the generous sentiment "the union of the Whigs for the sake of the Union." If we cultivate this spirit we shall, as I think, find in mutual consultations an ark of safety; and I trust that the Whigs of the whole country, and particularly those of Connecticut, will be prepared to accord to the proposed Convention their entire confidence. If by such an agency a ticket shall be formed which shall pay a proper respect to the opinions and feelings of all sections of the Union, (as I doubt not there will be,) we may rest assured that a large majority of the American people will mark with their signal displeasure the present rash administration of our affairs, and will sternly rebuke those who have sported with the peace of the country, and made of war and its bloody fruit a game of politics.

TRUMAN SMITH.

Washington, February, 5, 1848.

Chloroform.—The Washington Union notices the late surprising advantages found to result from the use of chloroform in surgical operations, deadening the pain and preventing writhing of the body and says—

"We understand that the surgeon general of the army of the United States has already taken it in hand—so effectually has this new discovery overcome the first prejudices which oppose bold innovations, and a supply of the article has been sent to the armies of the United States, for hospital purposes. We trust the surgeons of our army will try it and duly report the result to their fellow citizens at home."

GOVERNMENT BANK.

The following letter from the Washington correspondent of the New York Express, will give the reader some idea of the rapidity with which "the constitutional currency of gold and silver," about which we heard so much said a few years ago, but in regard to which there is the most profound silence now, is being replaced by government paper money: for although the Treasury Notes were issued at first only as evidences of debt, they are now, it seems, used in payments, both to and by the government! But one more step is necessary to be taken, in order to render the Treasury Department, to all intents and purposes, a Government Bank—and that is to adopt the suggestion of reducing the denomination of Treasury Notes to $10, when they will at once enter into the channels of circulation, and Secretary Walker will be invested with a power over the currency of the country far greater and more dangerous than that formerly wielded by the U. S. Bank and Nick Biddle.

Washington, Feb. 1.

It is curious to observe the operations of the so called Hard Money Administration in the financial measures of the year past. In eleven months, from January 1, 1847 to November 30, of the same year, the issue of Treasury notes amounted to the following sum, monthly, and in the aggregate:

1847.	
January,	$1,254,100
February,	4,298,750
March,	612,600
April,	2,501,050
May,	3,505,800
June,	2,802,950
July,	1,683,700
August,	2,135,250
September,	506,850
October,	575,500
November,	599,500
	$20,537,050

A portion of these notes were issued at the following rates given in a recapitulation of the several bids:

Under act of July 22, '46, at 5 2-5 per ct. $985,750 00
Under act of January 28, '47, at 5 2-5 per ct. 471,000 00
Under act of January 28, '47, at 6 per ct. 15,469,800 00

The aggregate of the reimbursement of Treasury notes during the period above named, was $8,971,791.

The Treasury Notes [six per cent] sold at New York on the 3d of July last at 103 per cent in the same city.

The Clerks were paid yesterday in Treasury Notes, and the Clerks were obliged to exchange them for less than par.

E. B.

FRACAS IN NEW ORLEANS.

In Saturday's Enquirer we find an extract from a Card, in the New Orleans Delta, giving an account by A. Walker, one of the editors of that paper, of an assault committed upon him by Col. Balie Peyton, in which the latter gentleman is represented as having deported himself in an assassin-like and cowardly manner. Mr. Walker also states that Col. Peyton only escaped "the chastisement he merited," by being rescued by two of his friends. This is one side of the story. Now, let us hear the other, which we copy from the Picayune:

TO THE PUBLIC.

It is scarcely necessary for me to notice a card published in the Delta, this morning, by A. Walker, one of the Editors of that paper, further than to say that its statements respecting what occurred when I met him yesterday, are as destitute of truth as his article in regard to myself, a few days before, was of decency.

It is true that when I met him in Chartres street I boxed his jaws soundly, and expressed my opinion to him, in no doubtful terms, of his veracity and courage. He has chosen to resent this chastisement by a card in the paper over which he presides, and if he can find consolation in this mode of redress I am glad that it is so, for at the time I boxed his face, his only defence was a reiterated apology—though, as I learn, he became more valiant after I left him. There were several gentlemen present, who will state that when he was slapped and denounced as a liar and coward, his only resistance was an humble disclaimer of having designed to affront me.

BALIE PEYTON.

NAVAL.

Com. Sloat took command of the Navy Yard and station yesterday, in place of Com. Kearney, relieved at his own request. He was received at the Navy Yard with the usual honors, and broad pennant was hoisted on board the Pennsylvania, Comd'r. Page, under the usual salute.

The sloop of war Germantown sailed from Vera Cruz on the 15th ult. for Norfolk. She has on board the remains of the late Dr. Charles Jarvis Bates, and of many other officers of the navy who have died in Mexico.—*Norfolk Beacon of Friday.*

TREASURY NOTES.

The New Loan.—The proposition for a new Loan, submitted by Mr. Vinton, from the Committee of Ways and Means in Congress, contains no provision for the issue of Treasury Notes. This omission is complained of by some of the friends of the Administration, who consider that money could be raised more easily and properly by the use of Treasury issues than by the sale of Government stock.

It must be confessed that this complaint comes with a bad grace from the advocates of an exclusive metallic currency, and the denouncers of paper money. Yet in this, as in many other things, these gentlemen seek to get the benefit of both sides of the question, and care not for the inconsistency of engrafting Whig practice upon their own theory.

The New York Courier is of the opinion that the most advisable shape of borrowing is that of Treasury Notes, with a due admixture of small ones, which may pass into the currency and be kept afloat. "We are as much aware as any body else," says the Courier, "that in sanctioning such an issue of paper promises, the Whig party would be interposing to save the Administration from the consequences of its own ignorance, weakness and presumption—but they would also be interposing to save the country—and when that is to be done, the Whig party do not hesitate, albeit that in serving the one, they may help the other."

As a system, this practice of issuing Treasury Notes has never had the approbation of the Whig party, so far as we know. It is a sort of underhanded contrivance, and bears upon the face of it an evasion of present responsibility, or an intimation of an unsound credit. It may be conceded, however, that as one evil engenders another, the operation of the Sub Treasury in a time of war might become so severely oppressive that an issue of Treasury Notes to go into general circulation would be of use in the way of alleviation.

THE TREASURY REPORT.

An able paper from the pen of Professor George Tucker, late of the University of Virginia, examining the annual Report of Secretary Walker on the Finances, is published in Hunt's Merchant's Magazine for January.—Walker's Report has been lauded to the skies by men who, we are satisfied, have never perused it even, as well as by others, who, if they have read, do not comprehended one half of it. This we say without intending at all to disparage the critics—for, we hold it to be no discredit to any one not to be able to understand a document, which, as in this case, is, we believe, to a great extent incomprehensible to the writer himself. Nor are we surprised, that not being able to penetrate the Secretary's meaning, they nevertheless eulogized his Report; for, in the first place, it is sometimes the case that readers, puzzled and confounded by what they conceive to be the profundity of one who sets himself up as a teacher are apt to extoll the work, though all may be Greek to them, rather than run the hazard of having their own ignorance suspected—while, in this particular case, every "Democrat" is bound, of course, to swear by the wonderful financial genius, who is the perpetual theme of the Union's admiration, but who nevertheless might have gone down to an obscure grave, had not the sagacious Mr. Polk placed him at the head of the Treasury Department.

After adverting to the fact that the annual expositions from the Executive Departments, instead of being mere statements of facts, for the information of the people, consist rather of elaborate vindications of the measures of the Administration, which they laud beyond measure, and consequently they ought to be read with the same caution and searching scrutiny with which we would examine the pleadings of a special advocate, Prof. Tucker proceeds to make the following brief exposition of a remarkable error in Mr. Walker's Report:

"Mr. Walker, referring to his report of July 1846, says that he had then estimated the annual value of the products of the United States at *three thousand millions* dollars. As this was nearly three times as much as they were estimated but six years before, the report of July, 1846, was inspected; when it was found that Mr Walker, on loose and conjectural data, had there estimated the annual product at *two Thousand millions*. This error of a thousand millions of dollars is well calculated to lessen our confidence in Mr. Walker's accuracy of judgement as well as of memory: for taking out the women and children, it supposes the average production of each man to be about *six hundred dollars*; or deducting only the children, the average product of each male and female above the age of sixteen to be *three hundred dollars*—a result, which he ought to have known was physically and morally impossible. In truth, after making a liberal allowance for the increased quantity of our annual products since 1840, as well as the advance in the price of provisions, no one familiar with the principles of political arithmetic would estimate them in July 1846, at more than from sixteen to seventeen hundred millions of dollars."

The following remarks of Professor Tucker, on our foreign and internal commerce, are both just and forcible:

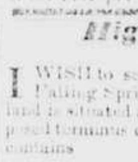
"In seeking the enlargement of our foreign commerce, let us not depreciate that which is carried on between State and State, and which is entitled to our first favor, both because it is less precarious than the other, and more profitable for its extent. If, for example, the trade between New York and Liverpool be supposed to amount to ten millions of dollars, the profits both of buying and selling, may be presumed to be equally divided between the English and American merchants; but, if the trade between N. York and N. Orleans be only 5 millions, then, as the whole profits centre in the United States, the trade of these five millions is of equal importance, in a national point of view, with the ten millions employed in the trade with England.

"The immense trade which is carried on between this country and Great Britain is owing to our being able to furnish her with raw produce on better terms than she can purchase it elsewhere, and to the greater cheapness of her manufactures. The last cause is every year diminishing. But the trade between State and State, growing out of physical diversities, has a permanent foundation. In twenty years more our costing and lake tonnage will be double of that which we shall have on the ocean; and in time it will probably exceed the shipping of all Europe."

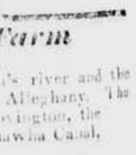
Mighty Valuable Farm

FOR SALE.

I WISH to sell my farm, upon Jackson's river and the Falling Spring run, in the county of Alleghany. The land is situated about seven miles above Covington, the posed terminus of the James River and Kanawha Canal, contains



Two Thousand
SEVEN HUNDRED
AND
Twenty-Two Acres,



almost the whole of which may be considered as arable; for, whilst several hundred acres is mountain land, it is exceedingly fertile, and admirably adapted to the growth of Tobacco, and very little of it is too steep for cultivation. Seven hundred and twenty two acres of the said tract is the undivided half of fourteen hundred and forty-four acres of land, purchased of Dr. Thomas Massie. The Farm can be conveniently divided into three tracts, and if necessary, to suit purchasers, will be divided. About

Three Hundred and Seventy-Five Acres is Cleared Land,

and of the finest quality, in good condition, and well fenced in; the rest is heavily timbered. The Land upon Jackson's river is unsurpassed for

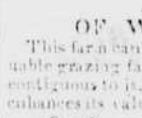
CORN, HEMP AND TOBACCO;

and that upon the Falling Spring Run, for Grass, Wheat, Rye and Oats. There are two large

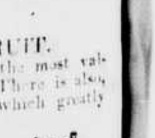
APPLE ORCHARDS

OF WELL SELECTED FRUIT.

This farm can be made, by clearing, one of the most valuable grazing farms in Western Virginia. There is also, contiguous to it, an almost unlimited range, which greatly enhances its value as a stock farm.



The Dwelling is a two story LOG HOUSE, with a Kitchen, Smoke House, Dairy and Ice House convenient. The stable is good, and contains eight stalls; the barn large, well built and in good repair. There are



TWO LARGE TOBACCO HOUSES,

recently erected, a Blacksmith's Shop, and quarters for 50 or 60 negroes; a Flour, Grist and Saw Mill; the two last in good repair, the first somewhat out of order.

My friend, Mr James Cosby, residing upon the premises will show them to any one wishing to purchase.

The terms will be accommodating, and made known upon application to the subscriber.

JOHN L. PEYTON

Staunton, Va., Jan. 17—2m