

any navy? any revenue? any patronage? in a word, any power whatever? If I had been a dictator, I think that even those who have the most freely applied to me the appellation must be compelled to make two admissions: first, that as a dictator I have been distinguished by no cruel executions, stained by no blood, nor soiled by any act of dishonor; and, in the second place, I think that every man (though I do not exactly know what date my commission of dictatorship bears—I imagine, however, it must have commenced with the Extra Session) that if I did not usurp the power of a dictator, I at least voluntarily surrendered it within a short period than was allotted for the duration of the dictatorship of the Roman Commonwealth. If to have sought at the extra session and at the present by the co-operation of my friends, to carry out the great measures intended by the popular majority of 1840, and to have desired that they should all have been adopted and executed; if to have anxiously desired to see a disordered currency regulated and restored, and irregular exchanges equalized and adjusted; if to have labored to replenish the empty coffers of the Treasury by suitable duties; if to have endeavored to extend relief to the unfortunate bankrupts of the country, who had been ruined in a great measure by the erroneous policy, as we believed, of this Government; if to seek to limit, circumscribe, and restrain Executive authority; if to retrench unnecessary expenditure and abolish useless offices and institutions; if, while the public honor is preserved untarnished by supplying a revenue adequate to meet the national engagements, incidental protection can be afforded to the national industry; if to entertain an ardent solicitude to redeem every pledge and execute every promise fairly made by my political friends with a view to the acquisition of power from an honest and confiding people; if these objects constitute a man a dictator, why, then, I suppose I must be content to bear, although I still only share with my friends, the odium or the honor of the epithet, as it may be considered on the one hand or the other.

That my nature is warm, my temper ardent, my disposition, especially in relation to public service, enthusiastic, I am fully ready to own; and those who suppose that I have been assuming the dictatorship have only mistaken for arrogance or assumption that fervent ardor and devotion which is natural to my constitution, and which I may have displayed with too little regard to cold, calculating and cautious prudence, in sustaining and zealously supporting important national measures of policy which I have presented and proposed.

During a long and arduous career of service in the public councils of my country, especially during the last eleven years I have held a seat in the Senate, from the same ardor and enthusiasm of character, I have no doubt, in the heat of debate, and in an honest endeavor to maintain my opinions against adverse opinions equally honestly entertained, as to the best course to be adopted for the public welfare I may have often inadvertently or unintentionally, in moments of excited debate, made use of language that has been offensive and susceptible of injurious interpretation towards my brother Senators. If there be any here who retain wounded feelings of injury or dissatisfaction produced on such occasions, I beg to assure them that I now offer the amplest apology for any departure on my part from the established rules of parliamentary decorum and courtesy. On the other hand, I assure the Senators one and all, without exception and without reserve, that I retire from the Senate Chamber without carrying with me a single feeling of resentment or dissatisfaction to the Senate or to any of its members.

I go from this place under the hope that we shall, mutually, consign to perpetual oblivion whatever personal collisions may at any time unfortunately have occurred between us; and that our recollections shall dwell in future on those conflicts of mind with mind, those intellectual struggles, those noble exhibitions of the powers of logic, argument, and eloquence, honorable to the Senate and to the country, in which each has sought and contended for what he deemed the best mode of accomplishing one common object, the greatest interest and the most happiness of our beloved country. To these thrilling and delightful scenes it will be my pleasure and my pride to look back in my retirement.

And now, Mr. President, allow me to make the motion which it was my object to submit when I rose to address you. I present the credentials of my friend and successor. If any void has been created by my own withdrawal from the Senate, it will be filled to overflowing by him; whose urbanity, whose gallant and gentlemanly bearing, whose steady adherence to principle, and whose rare and accomplished powers in debate are known already in advance to the whole Senate and country. I move that his credentials be received, and that the oath of office be now administered to him.

In retiring, as I am about to do forever, from the Senate suffer me to express my heartfelt wishes, that all the great and patriotic objects for which it was constituted by the wise framers of the constitution may be fulfilled; that the high destiny designed for it may be fully answered; and that its deliberations now and hereafter, may contribute in restoring the prosperity of our beloved country, in maintaining its rights and honor abroad, in securing and upholding its interests at home. I retire, I know it, at a period of infinite distress and embarrassment. I wish I could take my leave of you under more favorable auspices; but, without meaning at this time to say whether on any or on whom reproaches for the sad condition of the country should fall, I appeal to the Senate and to the world to bear testimony to my earnest and anxious exertions to avert it, and that no blame can justly rest at my door.

May the blessing of Heaven rest upon the whole Senate and each member of it, and may the labors of every one redound to the benefit of the nation and the advancement of its own fame and renown. And when you shall retire to the bosom of your constituents, may you meet that most cheering and gratifying of all human rewards—their cordial greeting of "Well done, good and faithful servants."

And now Messrs. President and Senators, I bid you all a long, a lasting and friendly farewell.

Mr. Crittenden was then duly qualified and took his seat when Mr. Preston rose and said: What had just taken was an epoch in their legislative history and from the feelings which were evinced, he plainly saw that there was little disposition to attend to business. He would therefore move that the Senate adjourn, which motion was unanimously agreed to.

THE PUBLIC LANDS.
In the Senate on Wednesday, Mr. Rives's amendment, proposing a suspension of the dis-

tribution part of the Land Act, was negatived as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Allen, Archer, Bagby, Bolton, Calhoun, Fulton, King, Linn, McRoberts, Preston, Rives, Sevier, Smith, of Conn., Sturgeon, Tappan, Walker, Wilcox, Williams, Woodbury, Wright, Young—21.

NAYS—Messrs. Barrow, Bates, Berrien, Choate, Clay, Clayton, Evans, Graham, Huntington, Kerr, Mangum, Merrick, Miller, Morehead, Phelps, Porter, Prentiss, Simmons, Smith of Ind., Tallmadge, White, Woodbridge—22.

In the House.—Mr. Wise moved to pledge the proceeds of the sales of the Public Lands to meet the Loan about to be created. This motion was negatived, ayes 77 noes 104; majority for not disturbing the Land Bill, 27.

The National Intelligencer remarks upon this—"It may be considered beyond a doubt, that the policy of the Land Bill will not be disturbed by the present session of Congress."

We beg to know, though, what becomes of the Land Bill in case this tariff is raised as it must be above 20 per cent.

CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Tuesday, March 29, 1842.

The following petitions, presented under the rule this day adopted, were handed in to the Reporter:

By Mr. B. RANDALL, of Maine: Petitions of 132 citizens of Lewiston, asking for a protective tariff.

By Mr. CHILDS: Petitions in favor of a tariff from the city of Rochester, signed by 1,700. Also, from Mendon, Greece, Chili, and Webster.

By Mr. SIMONTON: Three memorials from citizens of Lebanon county, Pennsylvania, numerously signed, asking the attention of Congress to the present condition of the country, resulting from the want of a sufficient tariff upon the manufactured goods of other countries, to contrast the former flourishing condition when a different system prevailed with the present languishing one, and to apply the proper remedy.

Also, one from citizens of Dauphin county, Pennsylvania, of similar import.

By Mr. LAWRENCE: A petition from citizens of Columbia county, Pennsylvania, in favor of an increase of duty on imports.

The proceedings of a public meeting held in Monongahela city, Washington county, Pennsylvania, without distinction of party, at which resolutions were adopted urging Congress to increase the duty on imports, to increase the revenue, as well as to protect home industry.

A petition from the inhabitants of Bloomsbury, Pennsylvania, praying for the same object.

By Mr. BROCKWAY: The petition of Elijah Hammond and 242 others of Vernon, Connecticut; of Andrew F. Kimball and 131 others of Wellington, Connecticut; of Norris Lippett and 37 others of Killingly, Connecticut; of Simon Spalding and 41 others of Killingly, Connecticut; of William Fisher and 173 others of Thompson, Connecticut; of Justin Swift and 46 others of Windham, Connecticut; of Alvin Kingsbury and 66 others of Coventry, Connecticut; of John Tracy and 157 others of Willamantic, Connecticut; and of Dyer Clark and 113 others of Ashford, Connecticut; all praying for protection in American labor, enterprise, and capital, by imposition of discriminating duties on foreign productions.

Petition of Elihu King and 126 citizens of Tompkins, New York, for the same object.

Petition of Josiah Letchworth and 39 citizens, praying Congress to reduce the pay of members to five dollars per day, and mileage to three dollars for every twenty miles.

By Mr. ANDREWS, of Ohio: The petition of 72 citizens of Lorrain county and 94 citizens of Lake county, praying for retrenchment and reform in Congress.

Petition of 72 citizens of Ashtabula county, praying for such an apportionment as will reduce the number of Representatives to 100.

By Mr. HUDSON: The petition of S. P. Adams and 800 others, of Massachusetts, dealers in straw goods, praying for increased duties upon straw goods.

Petition of 180 persons, of Leicester, Mass., praying that no new State be admitted into the Union with a Constitution that tolerates slavery.

Petition of 196 persons, of Leicester, Mass., against the admission of Texas into the Union.

Petition of M. Eaken and 127 others, inhabitants of Ann Arbor, for the removal by appropriate means of the British tariff on grain and other articles of produce.

By Mr. HENRY: The memorial of 30 citizens of Beaver county, Pa., praying Congress to take immediate measures to regulate the currency, by passing the Exchequer recommended by the Secretary of the Treasury.

Correspondence of the New York Express.

WASHINGTON, March 30.

The Loan Bill escaped its long imprisonment in committee of the House to-day at two o'clock. Two hundred members were at their posts at that hour, ready to vote upon the amendments as they should be submitted. Mr. Atherton of New Hampshire, for the two hours previous had been pelting away at the Land Bill, as if the Land and not the Loan question had been the subject of debate. The Bill before the House I believe was never once referred to, and if it had been it would probably have been pronounced out of order. The clock and the Chairman of the Committee were the observed of all observers during the early part of the day, and when the hour of two came, the Speaker's hammer gave the signal of the end of a long, irrelevant, personal, abusive and low a discussion, as ever disgraced any assembly this side the Stygian Council. It was eyes to the blind to see the minute and hour hands of the clock tell the hour of two, and an opening for deaf ears to hear the Chairman proclaim the welcome intelligence, Mr. Atherton sunk into his chair with his speech not finished, and ready no doubt to have continued until to-morrow morning if the members around him would have given a patient hearing.

A scene followed, such as school-boys sometimes indulge in when "schoolmaster is abroad" from school. For one hour and something over it seemed as if all bedlam had been let loose. A stopper was put upon every member's mouth, and it seemed like an effort to stop Mount Etna at the moment of an eruption. Action now, and not words, were demanded, and as many amendments as the members chose to submit were offered. They came upon the original bill like snow balls in a frolic when everybody has a fort to storm. Some were offered in very wantonness of temper. Some in the unsophisticated tone of a

mischievous disposition—some for one purpose and some for another, but many of them in all, and nearly all of them irrelevant and voted down. General Ward was in the chair and proved a much better tactician than politician. Though as many untidy boys as there are members of Congress could not have behaved worse, the General instituted a sort of martial law, and in the words of an honest Hibernian, "forced his company to volunteer." In due time there was submission. A score of amendments had been gone through one by one, some of them disposed of by tellers, and others by a viva voce vote, when the important question was submitted, "Shall the committee rise and report the bill?" A tremendous "ay" filled the hall.—Speaker resumed the chair, the Chairman escaped from the forum, the silver-mounted mace did the change; order was restored, and the Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means rose with a new proposition.

In the House propositions were debatable, and Mr. Filmore having sent his to the Chair it was found to be an amendment to the Loan Bill, which authorized the Secretary of the Treasury to sell the stock of the Government for whatever it would bring, after it should have been duly advertised by the Department. Mr. Filmore backed his motion by an able, earnest and eloquent appeal to the Whigs and all others, to sustain the amendment, upon the ground that it was necessary to obtain money to sustain the credit of the country. Mr. Filmore's speech was very brief and very much to the purpose. Mr. Johnson of Maryland, followed by the next most effective speech of the day—a motion for the previous question. This put, and the end of the beginning fairly seen, the House concluded upon a rest, and adjourned until to-morrow.

The Senate brought much to pass in the disposition of Mr. Clay's series of resolutions and all the amendments pending. Mr. Rives' were rejected by a vote of 22 to 21. Two of Mr. Clay's were adopted, relating to general matters. Those of a more specific character and relating to the finances of the Government were referred to the Finance Committee. Others relating to retrenchment in one form or another were referred to the appropriate Committees. All were referred, and the end of the series, as of the subject, was found.

The debate upon the Land Question was very spicy, and between Mr. Clay and Mr. Rives more spirited than any thing which has occurred since the memorable sparring at the Extra Session of Congress, when the Senator's were divided on the Bank Bill. Mr. Clay felt the Resolutions of the Senator from Virginia, proposed as a substitute to his own, to be personally unkind, as well as offensive, of themselves—inasmuch as they were calculated to produce instability in the legislation of the country, and to destroy all confidence in the legislation of the country. Mr. Clay made a sublime and beautiful oration upon the necessity morally, politically and socially considered of preserving a permanency in the legislation of the Government. He defended the Distribution Bill also with an earnestness and eloquence worthy of his best days.

Correspondence of the Boston Atlas.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, March 31.

MR. CLAY'S RESIGNATION—OUR RELATIONS WITH MEXICO—WITH ENGLAND—RIGHT OF SEARCH—NOMINATION OF CONSUL FOR LIVERPOOL—OF COMPTROLLER.

In the Senate, to-day, after the transaction of business, mostly of a private nature, Mr. Clay, of Kentucky, took the floor, for the purpose of introducing to the Senators assembled his friend and successor, the Hon John J. Crittenden. And as this was the day which he should probably forever bid farewell to Senatorial honors and its great responsibilities, public expectation was raised to its highest point, and the curiosity of hundreds, hours before the appointed time for the meeting of the Senate, filled the galleries, the floor, the antechamber, yea, the very passages, from which neither eye could see the countenance, nor ears intercept the words of the retiring Statesman, whose history has been, for so long a period of time, so closely and inseparably interwoven in his country's annals.

It has often been said of Mr. Clay, that on any occasion for which he had had time to prepare himself by due deliberation and anxious study, he has scarcely satisfied the expectations of his friends; his unpreparedness essays being always the best, his most brilliant efforts ever the "firstlings of his heart." His genius, like the steeds of Araby's best blood, is fleetest and most powerful, in all the untamed wildness of its native course; before it has felt the curb, and is yet ignorant of the spur. His speech to-day, in many parts, was excellent—in none, uninteresting; and perhaps friends and enemies will unite in the opinion, that nothing in the Senate so well became him as the leaving it.

On the termination of Mr. Clay's remarks, Mr. Preston moved the adjournment of the Senate, as, in its then state of feeling, no business could be transacted.

In the House, the Loan Bill was passed, 105 to 86.

As I wrote you in my last, no message will be sent to either House in relation to our affairs with Mexico, though I find in some of the papers in New York and Philadelphia, that a message has already been sent; and not that alone, but the whole Home Squadron has been ordered to sail directly for the dominions of Santa Ana to show him experiments with our Paikhan guns. I am very sorry, however, for the promotion of science and the fine arts in general, and for the gratification of my friend Antonio Lopez de Santa Ana in particular, that no such expedition is to be fitted out. The squadron may be wanted nearer home before long; and, besides, a frigate would be all-sufficient to teach the distinguished Mexican the art of naval warfare, as best practised by our bold sailors. Our Government has wisely determined first to try the virtue of the pen before resorting to the "ultima ratio regum," the all-conquering sword. Mr. Dorsey, of Maryland, is about leaving the city with instructions for our Minister there, the Hon. Waddy Thompson; and from what I learn of their tenor and character, his Excellency, the said Antonio, will relish but little the terse style of our Secretary for Foreign Affairs. Upon one point the Administration is "firm as adamant;" it will in no way concede the liberation of every American citizen captured at Santa Fe, and such apologies from the Government of Mexico as the Executive and his cabinet hold necessary to satisfy the outraged dignity of our nation. Fortunately, our minister there is not to be diverted from the path of his instructions, by the gasconading of his Excellency, or the subtle force of his diplomatic talent.

By the arrival of the Columbia, dispatches have been received from Mr. Everett, but not containing matter of any great importance. The arrival of Lord Ashburton is now daily

expected; and as he comes with full power to treat upon all the conflicting causes of dispute which now threaten to disturb the amicable relations between the two countries, not till after his conference has terminated, can the future course of policy of either nation be, with any degree of certainty, prognosticated. For my own part, I am of that number who anticipate the result of but little good from this mission—for, unless his instructions are of a far more liberal and yielding nature than we have reason to anticipate from even the slight knowledge we have of the tone of the British Ministry, and the bull-headed obstinacy of the British character, I fear his attempts at negotiation will serve but to procrastinate, instead of smothering, the ebullition of our just indignation. Upon one strong point we entrench ourselves—To allow at no time an unqualified right of search. And this position the administration is determined to maintain at every hazard. Rather than concede so important and vital a principle of our very existence as a commercial nation, we would encounter "the world in arms." And though high contracting powers of another hemisphere agree with each other to insist upon so great an extension of illegitimate authority, the United States, true to herself, and to all the important principles of a liberal commerce, with all the diplomatic ability of her distinguished sons, and, if need be, with all her physical strength, will untiring and unflinching, assert and contend for the "largest liberty" upon the unincircumscribed ocean. Upon that wide extended plain no law can be enforced against a resisting nation. Beyond the water's edge, as all rights are equal, so no peculiar claim of any individual nation can be allowed. The mutual comity of nations, and the laws universal practice sanctions, are the only restrictions (and these self-imposed) an independent people will tolerate.

I forgot to mention in my last, that the nomination of Mr. Haggerty was unanimously confirmed by the Senate as Consul for Liverpool—an appointment alike popular at home and abroad—for the gentleman, during his residence at Liverpool, years since, gathered "golden opinions" from all people—and here, wherever known, he has been always respected. The office, as I find by returns at the State Department, is worth about \$15,000 per annum, perhaps the fattest in the gift of the Executive.

McCulloch's nomination as Comptroller, hangs fire—some say he may be rejected, on suspicion of improper management when cashier of a bank in Baltimore.

P.S. We hear from Texas this morning, that the Mexicans are retreating home "as fast as their legs can carry them," and that their force has been much overrated. President Houston writes, the war shall not cease till Mexico has acknowledged the independence of Texas.

IMPORTANT VOTE IN CONGRESS.

March 31.

The reader will be glad to learn that yesterday's sitting was not without fruit in both Houses of Congress.

In the SENATE, the 1st and 6th of Mr. CLAY's series of resolutions were agreed to; (the 11th having been heretofore agreed to); and all the rest of the resolutions were severally referred to the appropriate standing committees.

But the important vote of the day was that in which Mr. RIVE's amendment, proposing a suspension of the Land Act of the last session, was negatived by a majority of one vote.

In the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES the Loan Bill was taken out of Committee of the Whole, after being amended in all respects as proposed by the Committee of Ways & Means, and after the rejection of a number of other amendments proposed to it. The most important decision was that in which a proposition to suspend the operation of the Distribution Act of the last session was negatived by a majority of twenty-seven votes being a majority much larger than that by which the Distribution Act was passed at the last session in the House of Representatives. After all which, the bill before reported to the House, the Previous Question was moved, and the House adjourned.—So that to-day the question on the bill and amendments will be taken and decided without further debate.

It may be considered as beyond doubt, after the indications of yesterday, that the policy of the Land Bill will not be disturbed by the present Congress. Nat. Intel.

From the N. Y. Express.

April 1, 1842.

Proceedings in Congress—Confirmation of the First Auditor—Treaty Bills in the House of Representatives—Public Opinion in Virginia upon Protection—The Projects before Congress, &c.

The Senate Chamber which yesterday was thronged from early morning until the adjournment, to-day presented a most beggarly account of empty boxes. The public session continued but for an hour, and the remainder of the day was devoted to Executive business.

The Loan Bill was received from the House and referred to the Committee of Finance.—The Executive session was for the purpose of acting upon the nomination of Mr. McCulloch as First Comptroller of the Treasury. After a secret session of two hours and a half, which must have called forth a pretty animated debate, the nomination was confirmed by a large vote, nearly two to one. This is a most important action, and relieves the Treasury Department at once from many embarrassments. Two other small nominations, a Surveyor for Alabama and a Land Office Commissioner were also confirmed, when the Senate adjourned to-morrow. The House have devoted the whole day to private business, and have accomplished wonders. Scores of private Bills have been acted upon in Committee of Whole, and are ready for the House.

The House for this day's work deserve all praise. Virginia is moving here in behalf of her domestic interests and among the recent petitions is one of more than general interest, which Congress ordered to be printed. It embodies the proceedings of a public meeting of the iron masters of Virginia, held in June. These men have adopted resolutions stating that the iron interests of Virginia cannot sustain themselves without an increase of duties.

The Report of the Secretary of the Treasury upon the revision of the Tariff is looked for with great interest. It will be a most important document. Mr. Saltonstall's Report in the House recommends a duty of 30 per cent. generally, and a discriminating duty for protection. The chairman deemed it necessary to impose a tax upon tea and coffee, but the majority of the Committee would not take the responsibility. The Committee of Manufactures is composed of the following gentlemen:

Mr. Saltonstall, of Mass.
Mr. Tillinghast, of Rhode Island.

Mr. Randolph, of New Jersey,
Mr. Slade, of Vermont,
Mr. Hunt, of New York,
Mr. Henry, of Pennsylvania,
Mr. Hammersham, of Georgia,
Mr. A. V. Brown, of Tennessee,
Mr. Caldwell, of South Carolina.

The three first members were ready, I believe, to do that which must be done to rescue the Government from existing embarrassments. Mr. Hunt has been absent from indisposition for some weeks. The other disagreed, and excepting Mr. Slade and one other member, I believe, intend to give in a counter report.—The Committee of Manufactures in the Senate it is supposed, will report in a few days.

Yours, E. B.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE EXPRESS.

Washington, April 2d.—Saturday Evening.—The Senate did not sit to-day, and the House of Representatives has devoted the day exclusively to private business. The bills yesterday acted upon in Committee of the Whole, were this morning reported to the House, and after being engrossed many of them were read.—The reading upon the final passage consumed the greater part of the day.

The business of the day has been of interest only to the individual claimants, and no effort was made to go to the public calendar.

The new Comptroller of the Treasury Department entered upon the duties of his office to-day. The confirmations in Executive session yesterday were some eight in all. The name of Mr. Powell as Consul at Rio Janeiro, was among them, and since the action of the Senate there have been rumors afloat adverse to the appointment. The Consul until now at Rio Janeiro, was George W. Slacum, of this District. There is no news in the city to-night. Yours, E. B.

[Correspondence of the Express.]

Washington, April 4th.—Monday Evening.—The President to-day sent in the following nominations:

Alexander Hamilton, Jr. of New York City, Secretary of Legation to Spain, in place of H. Cogswell, who declines the appointment.

John S. Maxwell, Secretary of Legation to St. Petersburg, in place of Mr. Motley, who desires to return.

Accompanying these nominations, the President sent in a message withdrawing the nomination of Alexander Powell, as Consul to Rio Janeiro, heretofore made by him. The Senate think a new nomination necessary, and the question under consideration to-day has been partly of this character, and partly in reference to the manner of Mr. Powell's success in procuring the appointment.

The President among other nominations to-day sent in the names of several consuls who were appointed during the recess, but whose nominations have not been considered by the Senate.

Lord Ashburton made his entree in the city to-day from Annapolis, where the frigate *War-spite*, which brought him out, will remain a while. His Lordship had selected comfortable quarters in advance of his coming; and will be a housekeeper as long as he remains in the city.

The Mississippi and Missouri arrived at the city to-day from New York. The steamers attracted great curiosity in coming up the river, and will be visited by thousands of people here as great curiosities.

The Loan Bill will be called up in the Senate to-morrow. It is reported by the finance committee in the precise form in which it passed the House, and I think will pass the Senate in the same form. The *Loco Focos*, however, have resolved to make horrid war upon the measure.

Mr. Cushing in the house to-day made a motion to consider the Exchequer Bill. The House objected, but the mover was not strenuous in consequence of acting upon the Civil and Diplomatic Bill.

The House of representatives met at eleven o'clock to-day, and devoted the whole session to the consideration of the Civil Diplomatic Bill.

The committee of finance in the Senate to-day, reported the bill from the House to extend and increase the loan. Mr. Evans, the chairman of the committee, gave notice that he should to-day ask for the consideration of the bill.

MR. SLADE'S SPEECH.

We earnestly commend to the profound attention and enlightened judgement of every reader the able and convincing SPEECH of Hon. WM. SLADE of Vt. showing the absolute unanimity and zeal of every eminent Statesman whom our Country has produced in favor of Protecting Domestic Industry, the acquiescence and union of all parties which ever existed in this Country (except the Tories of the Revolution) in support of this policy, and the imminent necessity which now exists for its re-adjoption and maintenance as essential to all interests and all sections of the Country. MR. SLADE'S SPEECH is very long—longer than any document we shall usually publish—but is in good part made up of pertinent and forcible quotations from WASHINGTON, JEFFERSON, MADISON, and the Sages and Patriots of our Revolutionary era, as also from our more modern Statesmen, showing the absolute necessity of Protecting Duties on Foreign Products to our National Independence and welfare. Long as it is, there is not a paragraph that we could consent to spare. We entreat the Farmers, Mechanics and Working Men of the Union to consider carefully its arguments, and compare them with the easy flattery, the pert assurance the irrelevant common-places of the Free Trade theorists of our day. Only let both sides be heard by the toiling millions whose interests are so deeply involved in the decision of this controversy, and we shall cheerfully abide their verdict.—*American Laborer.*

Destructive Fire.—We learn that a most destructive fire took place in Charleston, N. H., on Thursday evening and Friday. It commenced in the old jail and is reported to have been communicated to the building by one of the prisoners.—The fire commenced at 11 o'clock, and in its progress destroyed the old jail and Court house, a brick store formerly occupied by V. Lovell Esq. the stables and sleds belonging to the Hassam tavern, D. Holton's Saddlers shop, the hotel as it old buildings of J. Snow, the congregational church, which contained a valuable organ, all the sheds contiguous to the Church, and a new barn belonging to Mrs. Walker. The amount of loss we have heard variously estimated from 20 to 30,000 dollars. What amount was insured we are unable to learn. Most sincerely do we sympathize with the sufferers.—*Bellows Falls Gazette.*

Encke's Comet.—A writer in the United States Gazette calculates that Encke's Comet

is now approaching the earth at the rate of two millions of miles a day, and that its distance from us would be reduced one half in less than three weeks. It is supposed that it may shortly be seen, by the aid of a good telescope.

We find the following in the last No. of the Boston Post:

Encke's Comet has been observed by Prof. E. O. Kendall, at the high school observatory in Philadelphia, with the eight feet Fraunhofer. It is about two minutes and three quarters south of the place assigned to it in Encke's Ephemeris.

PEOPLE'S PRESS.

Tuesday Morning, April 12, 1842

HISTORY OF THE COMPROMISE BILL.

In the present upheaving of the public mind in favor of protection, the leaders of the opposition, in this region, are endeavoring to screen themselves from the storm of public indignation, which is raging around them, for their hitherto fixed, uniform and inveterate hostility to protection, by charging the disastrous results of the Compromise bill to the whig party, under the guidance of Henry Clay, as if Henry Clay, who has ever been reputed the father of the American system, whose very first speech in Congress was upon the subject of protecting domestic industry, and who has never since quailed through good or through evil report, to uphold it with all the powers of his splendid eloquence, as the palladium of our best interests, had wantonly put a knife to the throat of the offspring of his own creation, and made shipwreck of a system which is identified with his fame, and fraught with such incalculable blessings to his country. This charge can only be made out by cutting history in two, in the middle, and contemplating Henry Clay, in the first instance, introducing the compromise bill, without looking back to see what transpired previous to that period. A retrospect will show the charge to be as false as the Alcoran.

We all recollect the excitement of the whole South, in 1832, against the tariff. In Nov. 1832, South Carolina passed ordinances nullifying the revenue laws of the Union, declared them unconstitutional, forbid the state authorities from enforcing them, and threatened that if the United States should attempt to coerce them, the State of South Carolina would secede from the Union. This rebel state was sustained, if not to the full extent of her nullification, at least in her opposition to the tariff, by all the states on the other side of the Potomac; and down with the tariff, tomahawk the tariff, was the cry which rang through the whole Southern section of the Union. Then it was that in a moment of exasperation, Gen. Jackson issued his famous proclamation, threatening vengeance to nullification and to J. C. Calhoun and his coadjutors, who had nourished it into existence. But within one short month, what a change came over the spirit of his dreams. In his succeeding message to Congress, the lion hearted Jackson frowned as submissively to those he had rebuked, as if they had been so many Androcles, who were capable of extracting a thorn from his paw. He therein declares that the idea of a protective tariff was not to be admitted for a moment, and that it should be retained only upon articles necessary in war.

The word was followed by the deed, and Mr. Verplank, a Jackson man, and Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, immediately introduced a bill, abandoning the principle of discrimination altogether, and reducing duties to a horizontal tariff of 15 per cent. This bill, which the political economists of the day well understood, would prostrate all the manufactures of the country, was strenuously opposed by Mr. Clay and the whole whig party, and as warmly sustained by the whole Jackson party, until the votes upon several incidental questions clearly indicated its certain passage through both branches of the Legislature. It was at this crisis, with the concurrence of most of the friends of protection in Congress, that Mr. Clay came forward with the Compromise bill, as the only means of saving the manufacturing interest from instant annihilation; hoping, could he obtain a lease for a few years of life to the manufacturers, that a favorable change in public sentiment would, at length, secure them a permanent and prosperous existence. But, unhappily, from that day until the revolution of 1840, as in the beginning, tophococism has been tripping its sails to catch the breezes from the sunny south. The destructive party have wielded every possible weapon against it, and even now, its leaders and leading prints are pouring out upon it wormwood and gall of the bitterest cast, to the complete satisfaction of their Southern allies. But why should we urge another syllable to show what history confirms, that it was the sweeping and deadly influence of Jacksonism, which, in 1833, made the adoption of the Compromise bill necessary as a conservative measure, and that at the time, Mr. Clay was hailed by the friends of protection as the savior of the country from immediate and utter prostration, which the adoption of the Verplank bill would have brought upon it. Who does not know that, had the Jackson party at the north united with the whigs in sustaining the tariff of 1823, this country would this moment be the most prosperous nation on earth. And even during the present session of Congress, were it not for the humiliating fealty of the northern locos to southern slaveholders, and the clogs which this unholy alliance is incessantly throwing in the way, a single month of honest legislation would be sufficient again to replace the country on the highway to prosperity and greatness.

In conclusion, we defy any oppositionist to