

Congressional Proceedings

Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot. WASHINGTON, Feb. 18, 1848.

In the House, there were no members which were the members and the persons in the gallery in a state of tumultuous behavior for some time. Even the chairman, Mr. Berlin, who had to preside over the deliberations of the body with dignity, could not refrain from laughing, with his mouth wide open, while he was calling to order and bringing his hammer down upon his desk in quick succession.

The first outbreak of mirth was caused by a queer speech from that noisy member Mr. Sawyer, of Ohio, in reply to the speech of Mr. Cass, of Ohio, on the 17th inst. Mr. Sawyer, the first member had delivered his speech on the 17th inst. on the subject of the Indian Territory.

Mr. Sawyer, after some preliminary observations, said his colleagues (Mr. Giddings) were always alive when any subject came up that bore in the remotest degree on the question of slavery. He had heard of a microscop through which one might look at a drop of blood and see ten thousand million unicellular. Now he believed that if any person were to look through such an instrument at a drop of his colleague's blood, he would see ten thousand million niggers! He believed that whenever slaves or slavery came up in any shape or form, the ten thousand million unicellulars, or big niggers, that are in his colleague's blood, got into commotion and stirred up his colleague to make an abolition speech as he has done to day. Mr. Sawyer sat down with the remark that he had nothing more to say.

Some time after this performance, said and sober old Mr. McKay, Chairman of the Ways and Means, got the floor, upon the same bill and the way he aroused himself and "whoop," in a scolding discussion which he picked up with Mr. Thompson, of Miss. has severely been surpassed, according to the other gentleman, since the reading of Rip Van Winkle. His hands and his head were thrown about in a most dilated manner, his words rolled forth in volumes, and his whole bearing was grand in the extreme. It is no matter what he said. The House didn't appear to care. The fact that the quiet grave, venerable, peaceable, grey-headed Chairman of the Ways and Means, had suddenly become bisterously and vehemently eloquent, set all the members into roars of laughter. It was indeed an uproarious time—so fast that the last man in the House that would have been suspected of such a thing! What are we coming to!

POTOMAC.

Correspondence of the Petersburg Intelligencer. HUNTSVILLE, Feb. 20.

SENATE. This has been a great day to the Senate. It being understood last evening, that a vote was to be taken to-day upon certain amendments to the resolution for giving the aid. The galleries were, at an early hour, crowded with people, by far the greater portion of whom were ladies.

Mr. Bates wished to postpone the consideration of the resolution until Monday next. Mr. Webster said the Senate yesterday adjourned with an understanding to take up, to-day, either the amendment offered by Mr. Colquitt, or that offered by Mr. Crittenden.

Mr. Crittenden hoped that, inasmuch as the notice was not given until the close of the session, the Senate would not proceed too hastily. The question will still be open for negotiation, and if it was not settled amicably the responsibility must rest on the administration. He hoped the difficulty would be speedily settled either by negotiation or by arbitration.

Mr. Webster contended in some of the remarks of Mr. Crittenden. Mr. W. reviewed the course of the Executive upon this question. He considered that it had placed itself in a peculiar position. He thought that unless all opposition were at an end, the Administration had done wrong in making public the late correspondence. The resolution had passed the House for giving the notice as recommended by the President, but there was no qualification. And he thought, that at this stage of the proceedings, the Senate had a right to know what the Executive expected would be the consequence of giving the notice.

Mr. W. said as yet heard from the Executive department was "the whole or none," and yet Senators talked of negotiation. Was it impossible that the Executive thought that it could, by negotiation, convince Great Britain to relinquish her claims to the whole of Oregon? He hoped that this question would be speedily settled, by negotiation or otherwise. If the Executive was of a mind not to compromise, why thought to say so. It was the general opinion that, if the notice is given, and we claim the whole territory, there will be—in the language of Mr. Cass, "inevitable war." Mr. Webster wished to ask the gentleman (Mr. Cass) whether he supposed that England would ever give up the whole of Oregon without war?

Mr. Cass said he had his doubts about it. Mr. Webster thought that England would never give up the whole of Oregon without war. And he did not believe, that at the hazard of a war, the Senate should now reject, as no longer proper to be considered, the proposition made by this government 20 years ago. He could not comprehend what was meant by negotiating, and still keeping the whole negotiating to later, and not to give. The country was greatly embarrassed by the present position of affairs.

Mr. Bates spoke against the amendment offered by Mr. Colquitt. He did not believe a majority of the Senate would ever vote for that amendment. We will here give the amendment of Mr. Colquitt: "Resolved, That the notice be given in terms of the treaty for abrogating the Convention made between Great Britain and the U. States, on the 26th of October, eighteen hundred and eighteen, and continued by the Convention of eighteen hundred and twenty-seven, immediately after the close of the present session of Congress, unless the President in his discretion, shall consider it expedient to defer it to a later period."

And by a further resolution, That it is earnestly desired that the controversy respecting the limits in the Oregon Territory, be speedily settled by negotiation, and compromise, in order to tranquillize the public mind, and to preserve the friendly relations of the two countries.

Mr. Colquitt wished to know whether a majority of the Senate thought our title to the 42° 30' as clear as our title to the territory then, and it was to ascertain the voice of the

Senate upon that point, he had submitted the amendment. Mr. Bates then proceeded to announce Mr. Bates' amendment upon a resolution to compromise, they ought to name the line upon which that compromise should be based. Mr. Bates had his message declared our right to the whole territory and his (the President's) opinions were still unchanged.

Mr. Colquitt remarked that the question was simply, whether negotiation and compromise should settle the difficulty, or whether we should declare our right to the whole territory. He thought that the Senate should decide this very day, whether this question should be one of negotiation or not.

Mr. Henderson offered an amendment to Mr. Colquitt's amendment. After a few remarks by Messrs. Crittenden and Johnson, Mr. Pennybacker said he did not believe that the whole of Oregon could be attained by negotiation. [Mr. P. is truly a prophetic man.]

Mr. Cass then made a few remarks, in the course of which he said, that if Sir Robert Peel was sincere in what he had uttered on the floor of the British Parliament, his only course would be to withdraw Mr. Pakenham. The Senate, at half past 3 o'clock, by a vote of 23 to 24 adjourned over to Monday next.

Slave Revolt on a Louisiana Plantation.

The New Orleans Delta publishes the following account of a revolt among the slaves on the plantation of Hewitt, Heran & Co. near New Orleans, on Friday, 13th inst.

On Friday morning an insurrection of the negroes took place on the plantation of Messrs. Hewitt, Heran & Co. about ten miles below the city, on the line of the Mexican Gulf Railway. As far as we can gather from the various statements all in, we believe the following: A negro man belonging to Mr. Hewitt had been refractory for some time past, for which he was threatened with punishment. On Friday the 13th, about noon, he committed another fault and became abusive. The overseer ordered him to be whipped, and called the driver to lay him down by force for that purpose. The negro replied to this that no white man should ever whip him and live. This appeared to be the signal for an outbreak, for the driver then refused to perform his duty. The overseer finding himself powerless and in danger, went for assistance to the adjoining plantation of Mr. Sydney Story, and returned with Mr. Bates, his overseer, each being armed. On entering the plantation, they found the negroes, about seventy in number, had quit their work, and many of the men were grouped together, as if in consultation. The overseers approached, and demanded of them to return to their work forthwith, or all should be punished. Just at this moment Mr. Story entered, having a sword case in his hand.

The overseers had scarcely ceased speaking when the negro driver bid them defiance, and calling to the others, he shouted—"Now let us kill them all—Liberty or Death!" Here a general melee commenced, and each of the whites were wounded by the hoes which the negroes used. Mr. Bates was elenched by the driver, when Mr. Story drew the sword from his scabbard and stabbed the latter, but he would not let go his hold, and the other overseer then fired and shot him dead on the spot. The cars coming in sight at this time on their way up, means were taken by the wife of the overseer and some others to stop them. Fortunately six or seven hunters with their fowling pieces, were returning to town, and went to the aid of Mr. Story and the two overseers. With their assistance the revolt was checked, and several of the negroes fled from the plantation, some of them badly wounded; and one was killed as he was aiming a second blow at one of the last named party. The women and children in the neighborhood were gathered together, and sent up to town. Yesterday all the planters of that section formed themselves into a court of investigation, and ordered every male negro on Messrs. Hewitt, Heran & Co's plantation to be severely flogged, with sentence was carried into immediate effect. We learn further that some seven or eight of the ringleaders are still in the woods.

We omitted to state that Mr. Story brought twenty of his hands with him to aid, if necessary, in tying down the first offender and the driver; and when the array commenced they did good service in protecting their masters.

Tax on the Colored Population.—A bill has been introduced into the Legislature by Mr. Hoover, of Frederick county, for levying a tax of two dollars per annum on all colored male inhabitants of the State over 21 and under 55 years of age, and of one dollar on every female over eighteen and under forty-five; to be collected by the collectors of the State taxes, and devoted to the use of the Colonization Society. In the case of the refusal to pay of a property holder or house-keeper, for her goods are to be seized and sold; if not a property holder, the body of the non-paying person is to be seized and hired out to the lowest bidder who will agree to pay the tax; and in case of not being able to hire said delinquent out, they are to be sold to any person who will pay the amount of tax and cost for the next period of service.

This bill, as it now stands, appears to be unequal, oppressive, contrary to the Bill of Rights, and unconstitutional, as forcing the payment of a tax for the benefit of a charitable society. However we have no expectation that it will become the law of any considerable portion of the members of the Legislature, and we doubt whether, if passed, the Maryland Colonization Society would receive a fund thus raised by oppressing a class of the community for whose benefit said Society had been instituted.—Baltimore Sun.

Queen Victoria.—Several hints have recently been thrown out in the periodicals of the day, that letters were entertained in reference to the sanity of Queen Victoria; and we observe that the Paris correspondent of the London and Well's Express, intimates that rumors are all at on the subject in the Parisian circles. It has been supposed that the suspicion of journeying, fever, royal visits, &c., which are constantly kept up, are intended to occupy the Queen's mind, lest the hereditary insanity of her family should be induced by cost and want of occupation. That she has a tendency towards aberration of intellect, cannot be doubted. This is unfortunately the case, as she seems to be living cherished by her people.

From the United States Gazette.

Mr. Clay and the Great Conspiracy. We have already had occasion to notice the approaching publication of two octavo volumes, containing a history of the "Life and Times of Henry Clay," by Calvin Colburn. Much expectation has been excited by the knowledge, that the author has given considerable time to the examination of the charges of "bargain and corruption" brought against Mr. Adams and Mr. Clay at the time the latter voted for the former as President. These charges are examined, sifted, and their wickedness exposed in all the deformity of their premises; and the mere gross, unadorned facts are set before a candid and discerning man who had done more for his country than any other man then living. The author has not passed this subject lightly. He felt that these charges affected the character of "Henry Clay," and affected him as a public man, who could not be reached without injury to the country. He saw that the time had arrived when such a charge must be met fully; met without doubt and fears as to the effect; met with a determination to give up Henry Clay to the consequences of the act; if it should appear that he had been guilty; met with a determination not to screen any one who might become involved in the plot, if plot there should be proved.

It is difficult at all times to prove a negative—so difficult that courts of justice never require it; but in this instance, the negative is proved, fully, entirely, satisfactorily; no man can avoid the conclusion that the proof is full. But this is not all. Not only does Mr. Colburn prove that no such bargain was made, or proposed by the friends of Mr. Clay, to insure the election of Mr. Adams, and Mr. Clay's appointment of Secretary of State, but he has a testimony on the other side of immense importance—testimony that goes to show there was an attempt at bargain and corruption—so attempt to elect General Jackson by the aid of Mr. Clay, and to give Mr. Clay, as a reward, the office of Secretary of State, with the reversionary chance of succeeding General Jackson.

Yet while year after year, men have been raising the cry of bargain and corruption against "Henry Clay," while even as late as 1844, the owner of the Hermitage did not fail to publish a letter containing a decided expression of his belief in the truth of the charge against Mr. Clay, there was evidence enough to prove clearly that the friends of General Jackson had proposed the very corrupt bargain which they had, through poor "George Kremer," attempted to fix on Mr. Clay, and his friends, and that the latter with Kremer allowed to bear his name, was intended to cover the rottenness of those who wrote it, and to divert attention from their infamous course.

It is in evidence in the book, that Sam Houston approached a member of Congress from Ohio with just such a proposition in favor of General Jackson, as is charged as having been accepted in favor of Mr. Adams. Indeed, we think we must copy that statement, premising at the same time that the author has given to the subject of the great conspiracy against Mr. Clay, no less than one hundred and forty pages. Here follows the extract:

WOOSTER, Ohio, June 20, 1844. "In December, 1823, about the same time that the choice of President by the House of Representatives, was beginning to attract attention at Washington, I happened in company with General Houston, (Samuel, since President of Texas,) then a member of Congress from Tennessee, when the subject of that election was introduced by him. Although the subject of the Presidential election, from the time of the commencement of the canvass before the people, had been fully discussed between us, this was the first after the people had failed to elect, that we had conversed in relation to it. Gen. Houston commenced by suggesting, that he supposed the Ohio delegation were all going to vote for Gen. Jackson. To this, I answered, that I could not undertake to speak for them, for, as far as I knew, no meeting or consultation had taken place among them. The manner of Gen. Houston was anxious, and evinced much solicitude, and at this point of the conversation, he exclaimed: "What a splendid administration it would make, with Old Hickory for President, and Mr. Clay Secretary of State! Having often before expressed to Gen. Houston my opinion of the several candidates, I did not, at that time, think proper to repeat it, contenting myself with an implied acquiescence in the correctness of his declaration.

"The conversation was continued for a considerable time, and for the most part in relation to western interests, as connected with the Presidency, and was concluded by Gen. Houston's observing: "Well, I hope you, from Ohio, will aid us in electing Gen. Jackson, and then, you men—meaning Mr. Clay—can have anything to please."

"These expressions of Gen. Houston made a strong impression on my mind at that time, and from the relations known to subsist between him and Gen. Jackson, I had not then, nor at any time since, a doubt, but they embodied the feelings of that prejudice, and that it was the object of both, that Mr. Clay and his friends should so understand it, and have every thought that the sordid charges of bargain, corruption and intrigue, subsequently preferred by Gen. Jackson against Mr. Clay and his friends, had its origin in the mere neglect, with every every advance made to them by the friends of Gen. Jackson, was treated.

"In a letter written by me, dated Wooster, May 6, 1827, and appended to Mr. Clay's address to the public of that year, I referred to the impurity of some of Gen. Jackson's friends, as indicative of a disposition to enter into bargain, in that remark, I had in my mind, among other things, those observations of Gen. Houston. Should it now be asked, why I did not then divulge the whole, my answer is, that although I held myself at all times ready to do so, if called upon, I did not then consider it necessary. The only question then before the public was the charge, that Mr. Clay's friends had made propositions to Jackson for a bargain. It was to repel the charge, that my letter above mentioned, was written, and I chose to confine my statements to the nature of the issue. General Jackson most signally failed, being fully contradicted by his own witness.

J. SLOANE.

We have no space for any more at present, but in the meantime, we wish to know what the Secretary of State has to say to his very peculiar position.

Notice at the Court House Door.

We were thinking, as we passed the Court-house door the other day, how much more profitable to all parties concerned, it would be to have all the written notices that are stuck up, inserted in the newspapers. As it is, not one-half of the notices are stuck up or read by the public, for whom they are generally written in a careless running hand, which none but a man who can decipher hieroglyphics can read. Besides, the newspaper goes into a man's family, and is opened at his bedside, so that all these notices would meet the gaze without looking at the Court-house door. We had a thought some time ago, of suggesting that it would be better if the Sheriff's duty obliged them to send these notices to the press; but then, we concluded, as we were a party interested, the best would not be so forcible.

A few years ago, an effort was made by an intelligent member of our State Legislature, William H. Gray, Esq., from Loudon, we believe at that time, to make it the duty of the Sheriff to advertise all their sales in some public newspaper printed near where they were to take place. We pay Mr. Gray's intelligence a full regard for the rights of the people no underserved compliment when we state that a more wise proposition was never offered to the consideration of the Legislature. But it failed, as too many other important matters fail; because Mr. Gray could not get into the heads of the Legislative body that the interests of the people required it. Thousands of dollars are sacrificed by people who are not able to lose it by this "penny wise and pound foolish" plan of having simply a written notice of an intention to sell property, stuck up at the Court-house door. It is a shame that a man's property which is intended to be sold to pay his debts should not be advertised to the best advantage. What would be thought of our keen, sharp sighted merchants, all of whom are admitted to know "what's what" in successful, money-making, business transactions, if they were to write their store advertisements and stick them up at the Court-house door? and what would be thought of the vendors of patent medicines, if they were to stick their pills and certificates of wonderful cures performed by their nostrums at the Court-house door? They would be considered fools, and justly, for the legitimate mode of communicating with the public is now universally acknowledged to be the newspaper press. A man is decidedly behind the age if he expects to do business or sell property to advantage by sticking written notices at the Court-house door or any where else.

We did not intend, when we commenced, to spin out our remarks to an extravagant length on this subject; but the importance of what some persons may regard as small matters, has called us out. If we succeed in showing what is perfectly obvious to every business man in the community, we shall be amply compensated for the trouble of writing this article.—Old Dominion.

The Lost Steamship President.—We have been shown a copy of the Cork (Ireland) Examiner, of January 23d, which states that the Madrid Gazette asserts that the Minister of the Interior had received a communication from the Political Chief of Guipuzcoa, announcing that a bottle had been found floating in the water near Montorio, Spain, containing a paper of the contents of which the following words only could be deciphered: "Ship President. We are blocked up in ice, and we can't live much time. Our kind friends will acquire. We are dying of hunger. I am fainting. If you can't help us, we are done for."

The bottle was found by some fishermen and handed to the Alcalde of Montorio, a few leagues from St. Sebastian. A copy of the paper has been communicated the British Minister.

The London Literary Gazette, in alluding to this account, says: "The probability is that the unfortunate steamer went down nearly where last seen, and owing to the weight of her machinery, is floating now, unbroken and without fragments sent to the surface, at a mid depth of ocean, as the strong current of these seas waft her back and fro. At some future time, when the perishing wood is separated from the heavy iron, and the latter sinks, the last vestiges of the President may be met with on the Atlantic wave. This opinion is much strengthened by the following notice from the Pacific ocean:—"On the 30th of December, a part of the bulk of the Hambro or Otopatras's Barge, wrecked some fifteen or twenty years ago, started up from its watery bed and washed upon the shore. Many of the oak timbers are in quite a sound state, except so far as perforated by the shipworm."

A horrible story.—A horrible story is related in the Cincinnati Commercial of Monday last week, the particulars of which are given on the authority of Dr. L. M. Rogers, of New Richmond—some 20 miles distant from Cincinnati, on the Ohio—and of the truth of which no doubt is entertained. It appears that on the preceding Friday, a box about the size of a large sperm candle box, was discovered floating past New Richmond.

The inhabitants, supposing it to contain merchandise, caught it up, and towed it to the wharf. Immediately on taking off the cover, the stench of corruption was so offensive, that the men, who were engaged to find it contained the dead bodies of two infants, and the legs, breasts, and inner portions of the body of a grown female, undoubtedly the mother of the children! The whole town was thrown into excitement, and Dr. Rogers was sent for, as well as the most prominent citizens of that place. The unfortunate mother—it was a general opinion, was young—very probably the victim of seduction, and while travelling on a boat, was cruelly murdered, and her body was thrown into the river. The scene, believe that the murder was committed in Cincinnati, and that one of the up-river packets had taken the box to some place above New Richmond, and thrown it overboard, in that city. The opinion appears to have gained strength, from the fact of the box bearing the name of a firm in Cincinnati, which had been planned off, but the water had caused the letters to show plainly as ever again.

Conjecture is at a loss to account for these murders, and the placing of the bodies in a box, and then throwing into the Ohio. Of course when it was dropped in, and by whom unknown, and all there is to show where the box came from, is the fact of the mark.

Terrible Disease in Indiana.

The New Albany, Ind. Democrat has the following notice of a singular and fatal malady prevailing in that county. "Henry Wilson, of Greenville, in this county, died yesterday morning, after an illness of only two hours. Several have already died of a disease the most appalling—Physicians have no knowledge of the disease, and stand horror-stricken to witness their patients struck down in a moment and hurried to the tomb. History gives no account of so terrible and fatal a malady. In all cases persons attacked have died. Some twelve deaths have already occurred. The first symptoms are chilliness, severe vomiting, prostration of the brain, followed immediately by death."

Mrs. Ex President Tyler.—It is reported that Mrs. Tyler has abandoned her husband, and returned to the home of her mother on Long Island. The circumstance, if true, will not be considered very strange, when we remark the great disparity between them, in point of age, tastes, &c. The Ex President is an exceedingly repulsive looking companion for a fine, fresh, youthful woman, or girl. He has nothing in his personal appearance to commend him to the warm and ardent love of a sweet and confiding young creature, for her worshipful admiration and devotion. His age is upwards of sixty—head quite bald, with a sprinkling of grey hair scattered over the temples—eyes, dead grey, and of course lustreless—wrinkled in face and forehead—shrivelled in limbs and body, and—such a nose!

Now, Miss Gardner, his present wife, is young, handsome, gay, and as unspoiled by the staid and prosaic wife of a old man as the month of June is calculated for the bride of December. It was always a mystery to us how she could ever consent to such a singular union. But now the mystery is unveiled—she is no longer President of the United States—even by accident.—Saturday Evening Review.

A Safe for the Sub-Treasury.—The N. Y. Sun says that the Rothschilds of France have invented a wonderful piece of mechanism to prevent any removal of their deposits, and it thinks we shall be under the necessity of adopting it for our United States Sub Treasury. It thus describes the invention:—"If the person attempts the lock, or tamper with it in the slightest degree, an iron hand and arm is thrust out from the door, clutches the offender and holds him motionless in its iron embrace, while at the same instant a bell is struck in a room over head, occupied by a watchman, giving him notice that his presence is required in the room below. Should this watchman not get down to the assistance and release of the wretch held by the iron arm in fifteen minutes time, then a blunderbuss is discharged into the body of the trespasser. This is mercifully allowed 15 minutes grace to reflect upon the enormity of his offence. It is told that a few years since a man was caught by the iron nippers of the watchman came to his release only to find the blunderbuss would have been discharged."

A very excellent thing, no doubt. There is only one defect. Who is to watch the watchman? As John Randolph said when a stranger upon a Northern race course offered him a bet and remarked that Squire Thompson would hold the stakes, "Who, but who'll hold Squire Thompson?"

HIGHLAND MESSENGER. "Veritas una pars." Friday, March 13, 1846. FOR GOVERNOR, WM. A. GRAHAM, OF ORANGE COUNTY.

Asheville Female Seminary. We have heretofore neglected to call attention to the advertisement of the President of the Trustees of this Institution. The Rev. Erasmus Rowley, it will be seen, takes charge of the Seminary as Principal, and will be assisted by competent Teachers in the several departments. Mr. Rowley is well known to most of our citizens as a gentleman every way qualified to discharge the duties of the responsible office he is to fill.

Disgraceful Fight—Death of John H. Pleasants. The details of a bloody and desperate fight, ending in death to one of the parties, have reached us from various sources. For some time past, a war of words has been carried on with considerable bitterness between John H. Pleasants, Esq. late Editor of the Richmond Whig, and more recently one of the editors of the Richmond Times, and Thomas Ritchie, Jr. one of the editors of the Richmond Enquirer. It appears that Ritchie had soundly abused Pleasants that the latter could no longer bear it, and accordingly sent word to him that he would meet him on an island, in the river, opposite Richmond armed. No arrangements as to the terms of the fight, it would appear, were made, nor were regular seconds appointed, but each were attended by several friends, as witnesses of the horrible and disgraceful scene. On approaching within some thirty yards of each other, the parties commenced firing with revolving and duelling pistols, advancing all the while—Several of the shots took effect on the person of Pleasants, while Ritchie was not materially if at all harmed. After firing the last shot, Mr. P. is stated, threw his empty pistol at his antagonist, hitting him in the mouth, when the two hellish creatures commenced operations with bowie knives, dirks, or swords (as reports differ as to the character of the weapons used in the contest) perhaps all these instruments of destruction were used. The result was that Mr. Pleasants was severely cut in several places—one of the wounds being in the abdomen, and so severe as to allow his entrails to protrude. The meeting took place on Wednesday morn-

ing, and Mr. Pleasants expired on Thursday night, or Friday morning.

An inquest was held on his body on Friday morning, which says the Compiler copied nearly the whole day. Their verdict was, that THOMAS RITCHIE, JR. was guilty of the murder of PLEASANTS in a mutual combat and between them on the 24th ult. and that Peter J. Jackson, Arthur, Washington Garrison and William Scott were present, aiding and abetting in said combat and in said murder. The coroner has issued his warrant to arrest said parties found guilty by the inquisition.

It was (says the Alexandria Gazette) a most bloody affair, and the arrangements were very unusual; but the accounts are correct. The result, however, will be an extinguished lamp on duelling in Virginia. Public sentiment in the State has been long setting strongly against the practice; and exercising a more potent influence in bringing it into discredit than even the severe laws against it on the statute book. The sentiment will, we predict, now become stronger and more determined than ever.

Mr. Pleasants was one of the best political writers of the day, and his death will be widely and generally lamented.

The following remarks, extracted from an article in the "North American," on the intelligence by the Cambria, appear to be an apt matter for very serious consideration: "The revolution in England—for the radical change of the foreign and domestic policy of the Government is a revolution more important than any mere substitution of one set of rulers for another—must be attended with results pregnant of good or ill to this country. Indeed, it must strike the most casual observer that the thread of our destinies lies, by some mysterious agency, been woven into the web of English policy, and that changes there are supposed to be the twin of changes of a like character here. How this union of decrepitude with vigorous youth, this espousal of January and May, has been effected, remains to be explained; but, strange as it may seem, the inheritors of the independence of seventy-six have again been taught to read their fate in the decrees of an English Minister."

Those who, for many months, have inveighed against the selfishness and swiftness of England, by the settled and prosperous policy of the country, at her feet. They will now declaim of mutual confidence, esteem, and happiness; as if England ever yielded except to acquire tenfold what she lost."

The Queen recommends an amicable settlement of the Oregon question, and Pacific commercial policy. Sir Robert Peel brings to the two subjects, as kindred points of policy, before Parliament. Lord John Russell not only sustaining the peaceful policy of the Administration, but assails Mr. Pakenham for having rejected the proposed compromise; and Mr. Peel, in responding, while he compliments her Majesty's Minister at Washington, admits that he erred in this respect.

"Thus these two leaders, who but a short time since agreed in pointing all their thunders against this country, and insisted that national honor and dignity demanded that England's claim to Oregon should be maintained, if necessary, by all the force of the empire, suddenly smooth the wrinkled front of war, and smile you as willing and winning an assent as ever was breathed by an enamoured maiden to her wooer. Now, all this must mean something more than has been given to the American people. It may be remarked also that these developments in England are in singular accordance with occurrences in this side of the Atlantic. Wise men have been in a loss to comprehend what the Administration really intended. Its policy was brilliant and warlike, its tone blistering and rash; yet no measures of preparation were recommended. Its course led apparently to the cannon's mouth; yet those in the secrets assured us that there was no danger of war."

"It was thought that the Administration must be immanely reckless thus to rush up on assured disaster; for no one dared to presume that, beneath this display of enraged patriotism, the Administration was secretly bargaining with England for Oregon, sacrificing the independence of American industry to the very power which, through its organ, it daily vituperated. The American people have heretofore demanded business an fair dealing from the Government; and if, in the present instance, while the Administration has been accusing those who rebuked its violence as Anglo-Americans, it has itself been plotting the betrayal of the tariff to purchase a peace, the contrast between its profession and its acts will not be lost upon the American people. While the voice of Sempronius was "swill for war," he was engaged in a treasonable plot to betray Cayo and his little Senate to Canada."

The important intelligence of the dethronement of Tharawaddy, the Burmese usurper, and of the accession of the Prince Markhara, has been received by the Baptist mission rooms in this city.

The Brooklyn Advertiser tells the following: "A gentleman of this city was elected N. G. of one of the Odd Fellows' Lodges three weeks since, and his lady was so charmed with the honor conferred upon her lord and master, that she presented him with three fine plump babies, at one birth, during the past week. We learn that the fortunate man positively declines to be a candidate for re-election."