

National Legislature.

15TH CONGRESS... SECOND SESSION.

SENATE.

THURSDAY, JAN. 13.—The following message was delivered from the President of the United States, by Mr. Everett, his private secretary.

To the Senate of the United States:

In compliance with two resolutions of the Senate, the first of the 21st, and the second of the 23d of December last, requesting information respecting the injuries which have been sustained by our citizens by piratical depredations, and other details connected therewith, and requesting, also, information of the measures which have been adopted for the suppression of piracy, and whether, in the opinion of the Executive, it will not be necessary to adopt other means for the accomplishment of the object, and in that event, what other means it will be advisable to recur to, I herewith transmit a report from the Secretary of State, and likewise a report from the Secretary of the Navy, with the documents referred to in each.

On the very important question submitted to the Executive, as to the necessity of recurring to other and more effectual means, for the suppression of a practice so destructive to the lives and property of our citizens, I have observed that three expedients occur: one, by the pursuit of the offenders to the settled as well as unsettled parts of the Island from whence they issue; another, by reprisal on the property of the inhabitants; and the third, by a blockade of the ports of those Islands. It will be obvious that neither of those measures can be resorted to, in a spirit of amity with Spain, otherwise than in a firm belief that neither the government of Spain, nor the government of either of these Islands, has the power to suppress that atrocious practice, and that the United States interpose their aid for the accomplishment of an object which is of equal importance to them as well as to us. Acting on this principle, the facts which justify the proceeding being universally known and felt, by all engaged in commerce in that sea, it may fairly be presumed, that neither will the government of Spain, nor the government of either of those Islands complain of a resort to either of those measures, or to all of them, should such resort be necessary. It is, therefore, suggested, that a power commensurate with either resource, be granted to the Executive, to be exercised according to his discretion, and as circumstances may imperiously require. It is hoped that the manifestation of a policy so decisive, will produce the happiest result; that it will rid the seas, and this hemisphere of this practice. The hope is strengthened by the belief that the government of Spain, and the government of the Islands, particularly of Cuba, whose Chief is known here, will faithfully cooperate in such measures as may be necessary for the accomplishment of this very important object. To secure such cooperation, will be the earnest desire, and, of course, the zealous and persevering efforts of the Executive.

JAMES MONROE. The Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

THURSDAY, JAN. 13.—Mr. Wright offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to prepare and report such rules, as, in their opinion, may be proper to be observed by this House in the choice of a President of the United States, for the period of four years, from the 4th day of March next—if, on counting the votes given in the several states, in the manner prescribed in the constitution of the United States, it shall appear that no person has received a majority, of all the Electors of President and Vice-President appointed in the several states.

On motion of Mr. Mallary, the resolution was laid on the table.

FRIDAY, JAN. 14.—The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the Post Office Department, containing a statement of the extent of each post route in the United States, the number of miles the mail is transported annually on each route, with the annual expense of transportation under existing contracts, which was referred to the committee on Post Offices and Post Roads, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Beecher moved that the House take up the following resolution, which had been on the table for some time, waiting for a report from the Secretary of War, which was promised in a few days, but had never yet been presented.

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to communicate to the House what progress the Engineers have made in carrying into effect the Act of Congress of the 3d of March, 1825, entitled, "An act to establish a National Army on the Western Waters."

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

On the unfinished business being called up.

Mr. Webster stated that the committee rose yesterday, on the motion of the Honorable Speaker, who was, of course, invited to the floor. That gentleman was unfortunately prevented by indisposition from taking the floor to-day, and he

therefore hoped the bill relative to the Cumberland Road would be allowed to stand over till Monday.

DELAWARE AND CHESAPEAKE CANAL STOCK. The House then went into committee on the bill "authorising the subscription of stock in the Delaware and Chesapeake Canal Company," by a vote of 92—Mr. Tomlinson in the chair.

The bill, which authorises the Secretary of the Treasury to subscribe, in the name of the United States, for 1500 shares in this stock, was then read.

Mr. Hemphill stated, that the amount of these 1500 shares, would be \$300,000. He considered the bill of sufficient importance to justify a few remarks. A survey had been made on the route of this canal, before the revolution. The first legislative step on the subject was taken by the legislature of Maryland, which proposed to co-operate with Delaware and Pennsylvania. In consequence of the law which was subsequently passed, two companies were formed. The subject came before Congress in 1806; and favorable reports were made in the Senate at various times, from 1806 to 1817. Several bills also passed the Senate. The House of Representatives had also had the subject before them from 1806 to 1824, and several reports in favor of the canal were made. Several bills were also reported in the House, to create stock. The state of Maryland had passed a conditional act on the subject in 1815, and the state of Pennsylvania had also acted; but no law passed which was effective in its character, until 1823. The report subsequently made by the Engineer, was fully approved of by the President. The canal is to be 60 feet wide, 13 feet deep, and 14 miles in length. Contracts have been made, the lands purchased, and the workmen commenced in April, 1824. In one part of this canal called the Deep Cut, more earth will be removed than has ever been removed, within the same space, in any part of the world. The estimates for the whole canal are about \$1,500,000; of which \$700,000 have been subscribed. Nothing is now wanted for the completion of this work, but the countenance of the general government. Many persons who are ready to purchase shares are fearful lest the work should be again suspended. The countenance of the government will remove this apprehension, and induce those persons to co-operate. In a military point of view, a channel of transportation of stores and troops, this canal is of the highest importance. The difficulty of transporting merchandise across the isthmus is very great. The completion of this work would be as beneficial to this city as to any other place. The vessels which will pass through this canal are the same as those which pass through the Dismal Swamp Canal. He had no doubt that a general system would be adopted by the United States; but there were many particular objects which might not be embraced in this general system. If a sum were distributed among the states, in the ratio of their population, Maryland, Delaware, and Pennsylvania would not derive an equal advantage from this measure. He would not attempt to name any specific profits which may be anticipated from this canal. Under all the circumstances, he was satisfied that no loss would result from this purchase of stock, on the part of the government. It may be asked why Pennsylvania could not take the stock which yet remained of the Canal? Pennsylvania had already expended a heavy sum on internal improvement. She had made a vast extent of turnpike, and it was not to be expected that she could go beyond the line she had marked out. He concluded his remarks (which were delivered in such a low tone, that we could only catch them imperfectly) with calling on the House to suffer a vote to be taken on this bill to-day. He repelled the idea that it was not yet time to commence works of this character, as inapplicable to a country whose population exceeds ten millions. He hoped the general government would act in unison with the spirit of the nation, and make a commencement of a system which must be so eminently of advantage to the whole country.

No amendment being offered, the committee rose and reported the bill.

On motion of Mr. Cooke, the question on the engrossment of the bill, was ordered to be taken by Ayes and Noes.

The bill was then called, and there appeared—Ayes 83—Noes 82.

The bill was then ordered to be read a third time.

On motion of Mr. Van Rensselaer, it was ordered, that when the House adjourn, it adjourn to meet on Monday.

Mr. Storrs offered the following resolution, which lies one day on the table:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to communicate to this House such parts of the correspondence between the governments of the United States and Spain, relative to the piracies committed in the vicinity of the dominions of Spain, in and near the Gulf of Mexico, as it may not, in his opinion, be improper to communicate.

The House then adjourned till Monday.

NAVY CLAIMS.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 12.—A bill further to amend the act authorising the payment for property lost, captured or destroyed by the enemy while in the military service of the United States, and for other purposes, was read a third time and passed—Yeas 129—Nays 50.

MISCELLANEOUS.

FROM THE CHARLESTON COURIER.

From a Correspondent—by the Ship President, NEW-YORK, JAN. 17.

Seduction.—Last week one of the most singular cases of seduction which ever came before any jury perhaps in this country, was tried before Judge Edwards at Nisi Prius, then sitting in the City Hall. The public prints will already have given you an outline of the trial, but no report is adequate to bring to the mind a full conception of the absorbing interest which rigned in the Court House for two days, not only from the circumstances of the case, strange as they were, but also from the great display of judicial eloquence which that occasion drew forth. JANE MAURAN, the young woman who had been the object of the seduction, was the principal witness in the case. It was an action on the case brought by the mother against the seducer, WILLIAM DAWES. When the young woman came forward to give in her evidence, every eye was cast upon her, and she seemed to shrink into the very earth before the gaze of the crowd. She was dressed in a becoming black crape gown, with a mourning shawl thrown over her shoulders. A simple green veil from a common straw hat, hung over her face, which on removal, discovered a countenance which had once been beautiful, but sorrow had snatched the roses from her cheeks. She is rather under the middle size, and betrays much fragility in her form and shape. During her examination, which lasted over two hours, she sunk under the anguish of her feelings, particularly when the cross-examining counsel, put direct and pointed questions on the principal fact in question. When she first sat down in the chair appropriated for female witnesses, it was some time before she could compose herself to the critical nature of her situation, but by degrees she assumed a considerable portion of confidence, which supported her very well until the cross-examination commenced. She showed every symptom of modesty and decorum on the trying occasion, and during these moments of overpowering sensibility, when bursting into floods of tears, many of the jurors could not help brushing something away that trembled on their own cheeks.

Wm. Dawes, the defendant, who had been the cause of her unfortunate calamity, was sitting close by, and with a singular degree of effrontery, every now and then, whispering a new question into his counsel's ear. He is a very respectable-looking man, of about 40 years of age—his hair has assumed that kind of iron grey, which stout, athletic men are seen to possess near his age. It appears that he stole into her chamber, one day in May, 1823, and accomplished his villainous purpose, when no person was in the house but herself. It was about mid-day, and a severe tooth-ache had made her retire to her own chamber for a little repose. Dawes was very intimate in the house, and was received, it appears, as a friend of the family and a suitor to the young woman in question.

The great eloquence which this cause elicited was beyond all praise. Each of the counsel shewed great ingenuity and power, but Mr. Maxwell, the district attorney, shot far beyond all his associates. He closed the summing up on the part of the plaintiff; and never did I witness a greater burst of eloquence than fell from his lips on that occasion. It was not beautiful; it was sublime. It was not tinsel imagination; it was the solemnity of passion. Mr. Maxwell is apparently heavy in his perception, but when something that interests the deeper feelings of the human breast, and the eternal principles of justice, comes with full force upon his mind, he then meets with an object that he can grapple, and rises even beyond the wants of the occasion. He poured forth the copious torrent of his indignation against the destroyer of Jane Mauran's peace and honor. He caught each circumstance in the conduct of Dawes, and raised upon it sentence by sentence, until he swept every remaining fragment of virtue that appeared in his character, and exhibited him to the court and jury in the colors of a perfect demon. Dawes had been one of the pall-bearers at the funeral of the young lady's father, who had died a short time previous to the signal calamity which befell her, and the accident was not overlooked by the scrutinizing intellect of Mr. Maxwell. He represented Dawes as availing himself of the friendship he professed to the memory of the dead father, to accomplish the ruin and destroy the honor of the living daughter. At this part of the address, which was pronounced by Mr. Maxwell with astonishing force and feeling, every lip trembled to an overwhelming burst of the speaker, and every eye appeared to melt before the fire of his powerful eloquence. In short, it was doubtless one of the finest specimens of eloquence which has been witnessed in this city, for a long time past; and this you will consider is no small praise in a place where Emmet is frequently seen at the bar. The verdict of the jury will also be considered, in some degree, complimentary to his eloquence. The sum of \$5000 is not given by every twelve men.

This trial has produced a great excitement in the city, and was the cause of a large concourse of spectators for several days.

It is also another trial to be brought on soon, in which the same parties are concerned. This is commenced by the girl herself, against Dawes, for a breach of promise of marriage. As it is probable it will be interesting, I shall endeavor to give you an account of such portions of it as are not generally published in the newspapers.

POTTER.—A mysterious account was published a few days since, under the signature of one who signed his name John Mulligan, stating that as he and another man, whose name was Thomas Kierman, were crossing the ferry on Friday evening last, the latter fell overboard and was drowned. It was also stated that the deceased said he was to be married that evening, and had eight thousand dollars in his trunk, about which he expressed some anxiety. The deceased was also represented as having come from New-Brunswick. From the manner in which the account was published, suspicions were excited that all was not as it should be; and the police officers undertook an investigation. The result may be gathered from the following circumstances:—

Several persons have been examined, and it appears that a man of the same name as the supposed deceased, a foreigner, has been engaged in the distilling business at New-Brunswick. He came to this city last week with several pipes of whiskey, and about forty fat hogs, all of which he sold, and realized the cash; and since the night spoken of above, he has not been seen. A check, however, signed by him, has been procured from New-Brunswick, and the signature is a perfect fac simile of his name as written in the body of the letters sent to the Daily Advertiser and Evening Post, giving an account of his being drowned. It also appears that he was engaged to be married. And it has been further ascertained that previously to leaving New-Brunswick, he tested his credit by borrowing from his friends as much money, in sums of from 50 to 150 dollars each, as he conveniently could—to the amount, already ascertained, of 12 to 1400 dollars. Nor is this all. A man answering to this description, is ascertained to have gone on board the Cortes, on the eve of the departure of that ship for Liverpool. From all these circumstances, the conclusion is irresistible that the fellow has been playing the part of a swindling knave, and has sailed for England—leaving an account of his own death to console his betrothed, and satisfy the demands of his too-confiding friends.—N. Y. Com. Adv.

New kind of Traffic.—Yesterday, a tall, grave-looking fellow, from the land of Steady Habits, made application in the way of business to the keeper of Potterfield, for the purchase of two human subjects for dissection. He said he was induced by some Doctors in Connecticut, to enter into the speculation, and expected it was a good one. The keeper did not exactly feel himself authorized to trade with Jonathan, so he told him he would introduce him to somebody who better understood such business and with whom he could drive his bargain to the best advantage, and accordingly took him to the police office. He soon, however, discovered, from the interrogatories put to him by the justices, that there were doubts about his being able to accomplish his object, and that he had come on an awkward errand, which might perchance, involve him in serious difficulty. In short, he was given to understand, that although this was a great trading metropolis, where all kinds of goods and wares could be bought and sold, yet no one presumed to deal in dead human flesh. He then became exceedingly alarmed, begged pardon, and promised if they would let him go, he never would engage in such another speculation. In consideration of his ignorance and apparent simplicity, he was accordingly permitted to depart, and made off with all possible haste towards his native State.

N. Y. Ec. Post.

Fire.—We have an extra sheet from York, Upper Canada, announcing the destruction of the centre and north wing of the Parliament House, in that town. The fire broke out about midnight of the 20th ult. in the north wing, and burnt with such fury as to defeat every effort to save that wing and the main body of that extensive building. The south wing was saved by great exertion, but not until considerable injury had been done. The fire originated in the rooms appropriated to the use of Dr. Powell and his clerks, the whole of whose valuable papers were lost. The loss, said dollars, includes the worth of a suitable place for the members of the Legislature to assemble in, at their approaching session.

From the Hallenell, Mr. Liberator.

New Tax is Proposed.—Capt. William Kendall, Jr. of Waterville, has recently made up a bill for an improved circular saw, adapted to all logs of the largest size. This saw is capable of making boards at the astonishing rate of 40 to 50 at the same time. Those who have any utility in an article so admirably adapted to the uses and economy of log sawing, should immediately apply to Kendall, at Waterville, Me., for a prospectus.

power required in the usual way of doing is saved by Mr. Kendall's machine, which at the same time makes smoother and better boards. About 100,000 have already been made, though Kendall is not prepared to make a business of sawing, till several important appendages are annexed to the machine. Circular saws have long been in use, the peculiar construction of this saw, and other parts of the machine, are well adapted to heavy timber, are well warranted by a patent. The ardour in which he engaged and the skill and ingenuity with which he has persevered in this new and useful invention, are worthy of commendation, and his complete success will perpetuate his fame and augment his usefulness.

From the New-York Daily Advertiser.

The President of the Mexican United States has adopted the truly republican practice of giving public audiences to his citizens. An official notice, in a Mexican paper, mentions that he will receive in person, complaints, petitions, &c. every day in the week except Wednesday, Saturday, and the festival days, (which include the Sabbath,) between the hours of one and half past two. It is added, that the departure of the couriers, by mails, on Wednesday and Saturday prevents his attending on those days.

We may form some idea of the state of manners and government in the Mexican territory, from the following list of offences and crimes, committed in the capital, which we find successively reported in several of the latest papers we have received:

Oct. 20.—A man and a woman were carried to prison wounded; and another man and woman to the hospital of San Andreas, having been wounded by the fire, who intended to rob them. Another man was arrested for attempting to stab an officer with a dagger. Another man was arrested for entering a house and beating a woman.

Oct. 21.—A man was carried to the hospital wounded, who did not know the person who had attacked him.

Oct. 24.—A man was taken to prison for wounding another; and two wounded women were carried to the hospital.

Oct. 25.—A corpse was found in the street, and a wounded man lying near it, who was taken to prison, having been attacked by an artilleryman.

Oct. 26.—Two men were committed to prison, one for striking a sentinel with his fist, and the other for wounding a man.

These are specimens of the daily police reports in Mexico; so that the accounts we have often received, less officially, of the frequency of murders in that country, have too much foundation. It is to be sincerely hoped that the new government will exert themselves to extend the security to the lives of their citizens, which the world has a right to expect from them. If they intend to introduce the arts and improvements of more civilized countries, by encouraging foreigners to live among them, after the example of Colombia, they will find it necessary to offer some better guarantee to their persons and property, than such daily reports as the above, or they cannot expect a very free emigration.

Relations with Spain.—A resolution of the Senate, passed at the last session of Congress, called upon the President of the United States to transmit to that body information of the effect produced on our relations with Spain by the recognition of the Independent South American Governments. The documents affording that information, it will be seen by reference to the Message of the President, it was his intention to have laid before Congress in connection with the Message. That intention was accidentally not carried into effect. On the 31st of this month, they were transmitted to Congress. They make a volume of 140 printed pages.

We have turned over the leaves of this volume of documents, which we find to be at least as important as any that have been presented to congress at the present session. They consist of letters from the Secretary of State, to Mr. Forsyth, the earliest date of which is 13th June, 1823, and of Mr. Forsyth, to the Secretary of State; of letters which passed between Mr. Anaya, last Minister Plenipotentiary from Spain, and the Secretary of State; of letters between the Secretary of State and the present Charge des Affaires of Spain; and of more recent correspondence between the Department of State and Mr. Nelson, the present Minister of the United States to Spain.

What to do with these documents, we are at a loss to know. To publish them is impossible; to make a selection is difficult, to say no more of it. We have no option, however, but to make selection, unless we keep our readers in total ignorance of these papers, and we believe we shall make the attempt.

The papers show a state of considerable excitement, on both sides for the last two or three years, between this Government and that of Spain. We learn from them the fact, which we were not before aware of, that the conduct of Mr. Anaya, as the last Minister from Spain to this country, was considered so offensive as to have been made the subject of reprobation to his Government, through the

Minister of War.