

States Government have not only de- cidedly upon this subject, but, by the principle they have assumed with reference to it, have precluded even the means of negotiation. It becomes not the self-respect of the United States, either to solicit gratuitous favors, or to accept as the grant of a favor that for which an ample equivalent is exacted. It remains to be determined by the respective Governments, whether the trade shall be opened by acts of reciprocal legislation. It is, in the mean time, satisfactory to know, that, apart from in- conveniences resulting from a disturbance of the usual channels of trade, no loss has been sustained by the commerce, the navigation, or the revenue of the United States, and none of magnitude is to be apprehended from this existing state of mutual interdiction.

With the other maritime and com- mercial Nations of Europe, our inter- course continues, with little variation. Since the cessation, by the Convention of 24th June, 1822, of all discriminating duties upon the vessels of the United States and of France, in either country, our trade with that nation has increased and is increasing. A disposition on the part of France has been manifested to renew that negotiation; and in ac- cording to the proposal, we have expressed the wish that it might be extended to other objects, upon which a good understand- ing between the parties would be benefi- cial to the interests of both. The origin of the political relation between the United States and France, is coeval with the first years of our Independence. The memory of it is interwoven with that of our arduous struggle for national existence. Weakened as it has occasion- ally been since that time, it can by us never be forgotten; and we should hail with exultation the moment which should indicate a recollection, equally friendly in spirit, on the part of France. A fresh effort has recently been made, by the Minister of the United States residing at Paris, to obtain a consideration of the just claims of citizens of the United States to the reparation of wrongs long since committed, many of them frankly acknowledged, and all of them entitled, upon every principle of justice, to a candid examination. The proposal last made to the French Government has been to refer the subject, which has formed an obstacle to this consideration, to the determination of a Sovereign, the com- mon friend of both. To this offer no definitive answer has yet been received; but the gallant and honorable spirit which has at all times been the pride and glory of France, will not ultimately permit the demands of innocent sufferers to be extinguished in the mere consciousness of the power to reject them.

A new Treaty of Amity, Navigation, and Commerce, has been concluded with the Kingdom of Sweden, which will be submitted to the Senate for their advice with regard to its ratification. At a more recent date, a Minister Plenipoten- tiary from the Hanseatic Republics, Ham- burg, Lubec, & Bremen, has been received, charged with a special mission for the negotiation of a Treaty of Amity and commerce between that ancient and renowned League and the United States. This negotiation has accordingly been commenced, and is now in progress, the result of which, if successful, will be also submitted to the Senate for their consideration.

Since the accession of the Emperor Nicholas to the Imperial throne of all the Russias, the friendly dispositions towards the United States, so constantly manifested by his predecessor, have continued unabated; and have been recently testified by the appointment of a Minis- ter Plenipotenentiary to reside at this place. From the interest taken by this Sovereign in behalf of the suffering Greeks, and from the spirit with which others of the great European powers are co-operating with him, the friends of freedom and of humanity may indulge the hope, that they will obtain relief from that most unequal of conflicts, which they have so long and so gallantly sustained. That they will enjoy the blessing of self-govern- ment, which, by their sufferings, in the cause of liberty, they have richly earned; and that their independence will be secured by those liberal institu- tions, of which their country furnished the earliest examples in the history of mankind, and which have consecrated to immortal remembrance the very soil for which they are now again profusely pouring forth their blood. The sympathies which the People and Government of the United States, have so warmly indulged with their cause, have been acknowledged by their Government, in a letter of thanks, which I have received from their late President, a transla- tion of which is now communicated to Congress, the Representatives of that nation to whom this tribute of gratitude was intended to be paid, and to whom it was justly due.

In the American hemisphere, the cause of freedom and independence has con- tinued to prevail, and is signified by none of those splendid triumphs which had crowned with glory some of the pre- ceding years; it has only been from the exhaustion of all external force, against which the struggle had been maintained. The shout of victory has been perceived by the expulsion of the enemy, when

it could have been achieved. Our friendly wishes and cordial good will, which have constantly followed the Southern nations of America in all the vicissitudes of their war of Independence, are succeeded by a solicitude, equally ardent and cordial, that, by the wisdom and purity of their institutions, they may secure to themselves the choicest blessings of social order, and the best rewards of virtuous liberty. Disclaiming alike all right and all intention of interfering in those concerns which it is the prerogative of their Independence to regulate as to them shall seem fit, we hail with joy every indication of their prosperity, of their harmony, of their persevering and inflexible adherence to those principles of freedom and of equal rights, which are alone suited to the genius and temper of the American nations. It has been therefore with some concern that we have observed indications of intestine divisions in some of the Republics of the South, and appearances of less union with one another, than we believe to be the inter- est of all. Among the results of this state of things has been that the Treaties concluded at Panama do not appear to have been ratified by the con- tracting parties, and that the meeting of the Congress at Tacubaya has been in- definitely postponed. In accepting the invitations to be represented at this Congress, while a manifestation was intended, on the part of the United States, of the most friendly disposition towards the Southern Republics by whom it had been proposed, it was hoped that it would furnish an opportunity for bring- ing all the nations of this hemisphere to the common acknowledgment and adoption of the principles, in the regulation of their international relations, which would have secured a lasting peace and harmony between them, and have pro- moted the cause of mutual benevolence throughout the globe. But as obstacles appear to have arisen to the re-assem- bling of the Congress, one of the two Min- isters commissioned on the part of the U. States has returned to the bosom of his country, while the Minister charged with the ordinary mission to Mexico remains authorized to attend at the confer- ences of the Congress whenever they may be resumed.

A hope was for a short time entertain- ed, that a Treaty of Peace actually signed between the Governments of Buenos Ayres and Brazil, would supersede all further occasion for those collisions be- tween belligerent pretensions and neutral rights, which are so commonly the result of maritime war, and which have unfortunately disturbed the harmony of the relations between the United States and the Brazilian Governments. At their last session, Congress were informed that some of the naval officers of that Empire had advanced and practised upon principles in relation to blockades and to neutral navigation, which we could not sanction, and which our com- manders found it necessary to resist. It appears that they have not been sus- tained by the Government of Brazil it- self. Some of the vessels, captured under the assumed authority of these erroneous principles, have been restor- ed; and we trust that our just expecta- tion will be realized, that adequate in- demnity will be made to all the citizens of the United States who have suffered by the unwarranted captures which the Brazilian tribunals themselves have pro- nounced unlawful.

In the diplomatic discussions at Rio de Janeiro, of these wrongs, sustained by citizens of the United States, and of others which seemed as if emanating immediately from that Government itself, the Charge d'Affaires of the United States, under an impression that his representations in behalf of the rights and interests of his countrymen were totally disregarded and useless, deemed it his duty, without waiting for instructions, to terminate his official functions, to demand his passports, and return to the United States. This movement, dictated by an honest zeal for the honor and interests of his country; motives which operated exclusively upon the mind of the officer who resorted to it, has not been disapproved by me. The Brazilian Government, however, complained of it as a measure for which no adequate in- tentional cause had been given by them; and upon an explicit assurance, through their Charge d'Affaires, residing here, that a successor to the late Representa- tive of the United States near that Gov- ernment, the appointment of whom they desired, should be received and treated with the respect due to his character, and that indemnity should be promptly made for all injuries inflicted on citizens of the United States or their property, contrary to the laws of nations, a tempo- rary commission as Charge d'Affaires to that country has been issued, which it is hoped will entirely restore the ordinary diplomatic intercourse between the two Governments, and the friendly relations between their respective nations.

Turning from the momentous concerns of our Union, in its intercourse with foreign nations, to those of the deepest interest in the administration of our internal affairs, we find the revenues of the present year corresponding as nearly as might be expected to the anticipations of the last, and presenting an aspect still more favorable in the promise of the next.

The balance in the Treasury, on the first of January last, was six millions three hun- dred and fifty-eight thousand six hundred and eighty-six dollars and eighteen cents. The receipts from that day to the 30th of September last, as near as the returns of them yet received can show, amount to sixteen millions eight hundred and six thousand five hundred and eighty one dollar and thirty-two cents. The re- ceipts of the present quarter, estimated at four million five hundred and fifteen thousand, added to the above, form an aggregate of twenty-one millions four hundred thousand dollars of receipts. The expenditures of the year may per- haps amount to twenty-two millions three hundred thousand dollars, presenting a small excess over the receipts. But, of these twenty-two millions, upwards of six have been applied to the discharge of the principal of the public debt; the whole amount of which, approaching sev- enty-four millions on the first of January last, will, on the first day of next year, fall short of sixty-seven millions and a half. The balance in the Treasury, on the first of January next, it is expected will exceed five millions four hundred and fifty thousand dollars; a sum exceed- ing that of the first of January, 1825, though falling short of that exhibited on the first of January last.

It was foreseen that the revenue of the present year would not equal that of the last, which had itself been less than that of the next preceding year. But the hope has been realized which was enter- tained, that these deficiencies would in no wise interrupt the steady operation of the discharge of the public debt by the annual ten millions devoted to that object by the Act of 3d March, 1817.

The amount of duties secured on mer- chandise imported from the commence- ment of the year until the 30th of Sep- tember last, is twenty-one millions two hundred and twenty-six thousand, and the probable amount of that which will be secured during the remainder of the year, is five millions seven hundred and seventy-four thousand dollars; form- ing a sum total of twenty-seven mil- lions. With the allowances for draw- backs, and contingent deficiencies which may occur, though not specifically fore- seen, we may safely estimate the receipts of the ensuing year at twenty-two mil- lion three hundred thousand dollars; a revenue for the next, equal to the ex- penditure of the present year.

The deep solicitude felt by our citi- zens of all classes throughout the Union for the total discharge of the public debt, will apologize for the earnestness with which I deem it my duty to urge this topic upon the consideration of Congress — of recommending to them again the observance of the strictest economy in the application of the public funds. The depression upon the receipts of the revenue which had commenced with the year 1826, continued with increased severity during the two first quarters of the present year. The returning tide began to flow with the third quarter, and so far as we can judge from experience, may be expected to continue through the course of the ensuing year. In the mean- time, an alleviation from the burden of the public debt will, in the three years, have been effected to the amount of nearly sixteen millions, and the charge of annual interest will have been reduced up- wards of one million. But among the maxims of political economy which the Stewards of the public moneys should never suffer without urgent necessity to be transcended, is that of keeping the expenditures of the year within the lim- its of its receipts. The appropriations of the two last years, including the year- ly ten millions of the sinking fund, have each equalled the promised revenue of the ensuing year. While we foresee with confidence that the public coffers will be replenished from the receipts, as fast as they will be drained by the expen- ditures, equal in amount to those of the current year, it should not be forgotten that they could ill suffer the exhaustion of larger disbursements.

The condition of the Army, and of all the branches of the public service under the superintendence of the Secretary of War, will be seen by the report from that officer, and the documents with which it is accompanied.

During the course of the last Summer, a detachment of the Army has been use- fully & successfully called to perform their appropriate duties. At the moment when the Commissioners appointed for carrying into execution certain provisions of the Treaty of August 16th, 1825, with various tribes of the Northwestern Indians, were about to arrive at the appointed place of meeting, the unprovoked murder of several citizens, and other acts of un- equivocal hostility, committed by a party of the Winnebago tribe, one of those as- sociated in the Treaty, followed by in- dications of a menacing character, re- quiring other tribes of the same region, rendered necessary an immediate display of the defensive and protective force of the Union in that quarter. It was ac- cordingly exhibited by the immediate and concerted movements of the Gov- ernors of the State of Illinois and of the Territory of Michigan, and competent levies of militia under their authority, with a corps of seven hundred men of United States troops, under the command of General Atkinson, who, at the call of

the Governor Cass, immediately repaired to the scene of danger, from their station at St. Louis. Their presence dispelled the alarms of our fellow-citizens on those borders, and overawed the hostile pur- poses of the Indians. The perpetrators of the murders were surrendered to the authority and operation of our laws, and every appearance of purposed hostility from those Indian tribes has subsided.

Although the present organization of the Army, and the administration of its various branches of service, are upon the whole, satisfactory, they are yet sus- ceptible of much improvement in par- ticulars, some of which have been heretofore submitted to the consideration of Congress, and others are now first presented in the Report of the Secretary of War.

The expediency of providing for ad- ditional numbers of officers in the two Corps of Engineers will, in some degree, depend upon the numbers and extent of the objects of national importance upon which Congress may think it proper that surveys should be made, conformably to the act of the 30th of April, 1824. Of the surveys which, before the last session of Congress, had been made under the authority of that act, reports were made:

1. Of the Board of Internal Improve- ment, on the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal.
2. On the continuance of the National Road from Cumberland to the tide wa- ters within the District of Columbia.
3. On the continuation of the National Road from Canton to Zanesville.
4. On the location of the National Road from Zanesville to Columbus.
5. On the continuation of the same Road to the Seat of Government in Mis- souri.
6. On the Post Road from Baltimore to Philadelphia.
7. Of a survey of Kennebec river, (in part.)
8. On a National Road from Washing- ton to Buffalo.
9. On the survey of Saugatuck harbor and river.
10. On a Canal from Lake Pontchar- train to the Mississippi river.
11. On surveys at Edgartown, New- buryport, and Hyannis harbor.
12. On a survey of La Plaisance Bay, in the Territory of Michigan.

And reports are now prepared, and will be submitted to Congress,

On surveys of the Peninsula of Florida, to ascertain the practicability of a canal to connect the waters of the Atlantic with the Gulf of Mexico, across that Penin- sula; and also, of the country between the Bays of Mobile and of Pensacola, with the view of connecting them together by a canal;

On surveys of a route for a canal to connect the waters of James and Great Kenhawa rivers;

On the survey of the Swash in Pamlico Sound, and that of Cape Fear below the town of Wilmington, in North Carolina;

On the survey of the Muscle Shoals, in the Tennessee river, and for a route for a contemplated communication between the Hiwassee and Coosa rivers, in the State of Alabama.

Other reports of surveys, upon objects pointed out by the several acts of Con- gress of the last & preceding sessions, are in the progress of preparation, and most of them may be completed before the close of this session. All the officers of both corps of Engineers, with several other persons duly qualified, have been constantly employed upon these services, from the passage of the act of 20th April, 1824, to this time. Were no other ad- vantage to accrue to the country from their labors than the fund of topogra- phical knowledge which they have col- lected and communicated, that alone would have been a profit to the Union more than adequate to all the expen- ditures which have been devoted to the object; but the appropriations for the repair and continuation of the Cumber- land Road, for the construction of various other roads, for the removal of ob- structions from the Rivers and Harbors, for the erection of Light-Houses, Bea- cons, Piers, and Booyes, and for the completion of Canals, undertaken by individ- ual associations, but needing the assist- ance of means and resources more com- prehensive than individual enterprise can command, may be considered rather as treasures laid up from the contribu- tions of the present age, for the benefit of posterity, than as unrequited applica- tions of the accruing revenues of the nation. To such objects of permanent im- provement to the condition of the coun- try, of real addition to the wealth as well as to the comfort of the People by whose industry and resources they have been effected, from three to four millions of the annual income of the nation have, by laws enacted at the most recent sessions of Congress, been applied, without in- trenching upon the necessities of the Treasury without adding a dollar to the taxes or debt of the community; without suspending even the steady and regular discharge of the debts contracted in for- mer days, which, within the same three years, have been diminished by the amount of nearly sixteen millions of dol- lars. (Concluded on last page.)

MINUTE
MONDAY, MARCH 3, 1827.
The hour of 12 having arrived, the

Vice President took the Chair. The roll of Senators having been called over by Mr. Lowrie, the Secretary, it appeared that every Member was in attendance, except Mr. Webster of Massachusetts, and Mr. Thomas of Illinois.

The oath of office was then adminis- tered to such Members as, having been elected since the last session, now take their seats for six years from the present time.

On motion of Mr. Macon, the Secre- tary was ordered to wait upon the House of Representatives, and inform them that a quorum of the Senate was present, and ready to proceed to business. He re- turned, and reported that the House had not yet elected their Speaker.

Mr. Johnson, of Kentucky, then rose to give notice that, on Wednesday next, he should ask leave to introduce a bill "to abolish Imprisonment for Debt." Mr. J. accompanied this notice with a few remarks, stating his desire that the subject might receive the early attention of the Senate, so that its fate might, without farther delay, be made known to the nation. He considered it his duty to press the subject at the present session, and should have done so at the last, but he had forbore in consideration of its being the short session of Congress, and a crowd of other business demanding the attention of the Senate.

Mr. Cobb offered the usual resolution respecting the furnishing of newspapers for the use of the Senators; which was agreed to, with one dissenting voice.

A message was received from the House of Representatives by their Clerk, announcing that a quorum of that House had assembled; that Andrew Stevenson, of Va. had been elected their Speaker, and that they were ready to proceed to business.

Soon after, a second message in- formed the Senate that the House had passed a joint resolution, that a Commit- tee be appointed by each House, to wait on the President of the United States, and inform him that they were ready to receive any communication he might have to make.

The resolution was concurred in, and Messrs. Macon, and Smith of Md. were appointed a Committee on the part of the Senate.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House was called to order by Mr. St. Clair Clarke, Clerk of the House, pre- cisely at 12 o'clock; and the Roll of the House being called over by States, two hundred and seven members, out of two hundred and thirteen, answered to their names. The House then proceeded to ballot for a Speaker.

Mr. Sprague and Mr. Haynes being named Tellers, reported the following as the result of the balloting:

For Andrew Stevenson, of Va.	164
For John W. Taylor, of N. York,	94
For P. P. Barbour, of Virginia,	1
Scattering votes,	3

Andrew Stevenson, of Virginia, hav- ing received a majority of the whole number of votes, was declared to be duly elected.

The Oath to support the Constitution of the United States was then adminis- tered by Mr. Newton, the Father of the House, to the Speaker, and by him suc- cessively to all the Members from the several States.

On motion of Mr. Sawyer, of N. C. it was

Resolved, unanimously. That Matthew St. Clair Clarke, Clerk to the late House of Representatives, be appointed Clerk to this House.

On motion of Mr. Ward, of N. Y. it was *Resolved, unanimously.* That John Oswald Dunn be appointed Sergeant at Arms to this House—that Benjamin Burch be appointed Principal Doorkeeper, and O. verton Carr Assistant Doorkeeper, to the same.

[These gentlemen filled the same offices for the last and several preceding Congresses.]

From the National Intelligencer:

"A Sign."—We offer the following for the special edification of our friends, the Editors of the "Enquirer," who appear to keep a sharp look out for consoling cir- cumstances in these "corrupt and de- generate" times.

Extract of a letter from a resident of Fairfax County, in Virginia, to the Editor of the "Whisperer" Republican.

"I hazard nothing in saying that, in the counties of Loudoun, Fauquier, and Culpeper combined, there is a majority of at least 5000 in the Administration, and the number is de- creasing. If the Administration should not re- nounce in their duty, from a conviction of their superior strength, Mr. Adams will certainly receive the electoral vote of Virginia and the electoral vote of Tennessee."

Ethony and Topaz.—The President's Toast has given rise to the display of much of mythological and pagan learn- ing, and among other definitions of its meaning, we find the following in the *Belvidere* (N. J.) *Apollo*:

"Ethony and Topaz.—A subscriber wished us to give him some information as to the meaning of these two words. Two of our patron's scolded last week, without leaving the club due us—They are *Ethony*, and we received three subscribers this week, who paid the advance—they are *Topaz*."