

The Eighth Week of the Session has been consumed, in the House of Representatives, (with the exception of Saturday,) in proceedings and debates of such a character as it has given us unremitted pain to be obliged to report to our readers, and upon which, the subject yet depending, we forbear for the present any other remark, than that the shortest possible way will, beyond all question, be the best way in which the subject of debate can be disposed of.

Much, however, as there has been to deprecate in the tone and temper of the debates of one branch of Congress, the last week has yet been the most fruitful of the session. The debate in the Senate, for the most part on both sides learned and able, terminating, as it did, in a decision sustaining the bankrupt Law passed at the late Session, was a worthy employment of the time of that body, and the issue one, in our opinion, corresponding to the purpose, for which that branch of the Government was established, of giving a character of stability and consistency to the National legislation.

The final passage, in the House of Representatives, on Saturday, of the bill to authorize a re-issue of the Treasury notes, to an amount not exceeding five millions of dollars, is the first step taken by Congress at this Session towards providing the ways and means for the support of Government for the year 1842, in addition to such revenue as the reduced imposts will yield. Though it is most seriously to be regretted that some such measure was not carried through five or six weeks ago, as it might readily have been, and doubtless would have been had Congress realized the urgency of the occasion for it, it cannot but be a subject of congratulation among our readers that, by this measure, the Treasury is restored to a state of solvency.

The reader will not fail to remark, in looking over the Yeas and Nays in the House of Representatives, with what reluctance the Whigs, even under the pressure of a necessity hardly to be resisted, assented to this authority to re-issue Treasury Notes; whilst the friends of the late Administration voted in mass against granting it. The reluctance of the former is easily accounted for, because they were heretofore opposed to the issue of Treasury Notes. The opposition of the latter to providing the means of supplying a deficiency in the revenue created by the reckless experiments and profuse expenditures of the two last Administrations, is not to be accounted for upon any principle that we can understand, unless, that, having brought the Treasury into its present predicament by their own errors, they are, out of mere mischief, determined that those errors of theirs shall be made to contribute as much as possible to the embarrassment of their successors in the Government. Should that be the game of the party, we must not be surprised to see them lay at the door of the Whigs the debt which they have left as a charge upon the Treasury, and which, as far as their votes are concerned, they will lend no aid to provide for the payment of. An indication of such a design is indeed given by their organ in this city, which represents the provision, by a re-issue of Treasury Notes, for paying claims arising out of their acts, as being "the first earnest of the promised retrenchment of the Whig Administration."

Yes! Such is the party cry, in defiance of the facts, that, during a period of profound peace, comprising the four years of the administration of the Van Buren party, when the ordinary revenues of the Government amounted to twenty-one millions of dollars a year, the actual and ordinary expenses of the Government amounted to nearly twenty-eight millions of dollars a year; thus absorbing, in the four years not only the entire revenues of the Government, but also the accumulations of revenue of previous years—amounting on the first of January, 1837, (exclusive of the moneys distributed to the States,) to something like eighteen millions of dollars—and entailing, besides, a debt upon the country to the amount of the outstanding Treasury Notes, added to many millions of unexecuted appropriations. In the face of such facts, it is a marvel to us how respectable men can keep their countenances when pretending to hold this Administration responsible for the debt which they contracted when in power, and which they left, when they went out of power—upon the rule, we suppose, of "D—l take the hindmost"—to be paid by any body that would.

UNITED STATES MINISTERS.—The salaries of ministers of the United States to Great Britain, France, Russia, Prussia, Austria, Spain, Mexico and Brazil, are \$9,000 per annum each; Secretaries of Legation to the same places, \$5,000 each. The salaries of the Charges d'affaires to Portugal, Denmark, Sweden, Holland, Belgium, Chili, Peru, Venezuela, New Grenada, Texas, Naples and Sardinia, \$4,500 each. Resident ministers at Turkey \$6,000; drogoman of the Legation to Turkey, \$2,500. Contingent expenses of all the Missions abroad, \$30,000. Contingent expenses of foreign intercourse, \$30,000. Consul at London \$2,000; clerk hire, office rent, &c., of Consul at London, \$2,000. For the relief of American seamen in foreign countries, \$50,000. Total foreign intercourse, \$265,300.

STATISTICS OF INSANITY.—By the last census, there are 17,816 insane persons in the United States, and the estimated number of those who annually become insane is 5719. There are sixteen insane asylums in the country containing something less than 2000 patients, and receiving some 1200 annually. Several other asylums are soon to go into operation, but, at the most, they can receive but one-fifth of the insane in the United States. The average proportion of the insane to the whole population is as 1 to 990.

Who would exchange the humble peace which virtue gives, for all the honors and pleasures of a vain world?

Imports and Exports.

The following is a statement of the luxuries imported from foreign countries, with the amount of the same articles exported from the United States for the year ending Sept. 30, 1841. The balance may be considered as the value of these luxuries consumed in the United States in one year:

Imported.	Exported.
Tees, \$5,442,859	\$1,358,041
Coffee, 8,546,322	930,398
Cocoa, 161,389	146,901
Fruits, 1,404,880	72,121
Spices, 558,930	366,015
Wines, 2,200,170	171,604
Spirits, 1,502,564	134,392
Ale and Porter, 135,485	2,070
Cheese, 23,220	5,840
Butter, 3,763	
Cigars, 850,434	67,346
Silks, 10,982,101	978,008
Lace, 468,425	18,141
Jewelry and precious stones, 201,500	16,335
Total imported, \$33,075,155	\$4,258,210
" exported, 4,258,210	

Home consump. \$28,716,945

To pay for these luxuries requires the following amount of articles exported during the same year:

Specie, Bullion, Foreign Gold and Silver, \$6,181,941
Gold and Silver coin of the United States, 2,235,073
Fish, Oil, Whalebone and Candles, 3,198,370
Beef, Tallow and Hides, 623,373
Pork, Bacon, Lard and Live Hogs, 1,894,894
Butter and Cheese, 210,745
Horses, Mules and Sheep, 277,018
Wheat and Flour, 11,777,998
Indian Corn and Meal, 1,043,515
Rye-meal, Rye, Oats, and other grain, 284,324
Biscuit, or Ship Bread, 428,988
Potatoes and Apples, 99,655
Flaxseed, 120,000
Hops, 11,235
Pot and Pearl Ashes, 523,193
Total, \$28,921,427

It will be seen that it takes to pay for a part of our imported luxuries, all the products of our fisheries which we are enabled to export, all the exports of our Northern farmers, including pot and pearl ashes, and our eight millions of dollars in specie and bullion.

The Distribution Bill.

Messrs. Benton and Calhoun, "par no-bis festrum," are again at their tricks.—The distribution act is a sore thorn in their path to the Presidency; and consequently, their whole forces will be drawn up and well drilled to attack it. Will the Whigs let these demagogues repeal this act for the purpose of placing in their hands the power to bribe the Western States? Have the people of the Old Thirteen forgotten who fought for this territory? And will they sit down and look calmly at a few designing politicians parceling out their property, without their consent, among the new States which sprang into existence since it was obtained?

The Old Thirteen furnished their sons who were engaged in the struggle for the acquisition of this territory, from 1775 to 1783, in the following proportion, to wit:

Massachusetts, 67,907
Connecticut, 31,939
Virginia, 26,878
Pennsylvania, 25,678
New York, 17,781
Maryland, 13,912
New Hampshire, 12,497
New Jersey, 10,726
South Carolina, 7,477
North Carolina, 7,268
Rhode Island, 5,908
Georgia, 2,679
Delaware, 2,380

Thus the Old Thirteen furnished 231,971 soldiers, who toiled and bled to gain our independence and right to the territory within the limits then claimed. They have done more. They have spent vast sums in guarding this territory ever since, and in exploring and surveying it.—Savannah Rep.

THE ARMY AND NAVY.—The military establishment of the United States for next year, including the pay of the army, the military academy, the fortifications, arsenals, arms, harbours, surveys, light-houses, pensions, Indian Department and extraordinary objects, is estimated to cost the country \$11,717,791. The Naval establishment, including the general service of the Navy and the Marine Corps, \$8,705,579.

A SENSIBLE REMARK. The Governor of Kentucky, alluding to the high reputation which that State now enjoys, remarked in his recent message to the Legislature, that the best mode for the preservation of such a character, is by "looking with a steady and constant eye to the payment of our old debts and be careful how we contract new ones."

GLORY IN PROSPECT. A writer in the N. O. Bulletin proposes to take Mexico, in revenge for the capture of the Santa Fe expedition. He says,

"There are twenty thousand men in the valley of the Mississippi, who would start at the sound of the drum, and neither give sleep to their eyes nor slumber to their eyelids, till they knelt to the God of Battles in the Temples of the Montezumas. For one would willingly lead where any dares follow; and I call upon General Columbus of Kentucky, whose son was in the expedition, and the friends of Kendall, of the Picayune, to rally around the standard of freedom, and come to their rescue. Before an August sun shall gild the towers of the ancient city of Anahuac, we will give 'civil and religious liberty' to a suffering and oppressed people, and expel every tyrant from the soil."

PROVINCIAL CONGRESS OF NEW YORK.

The journals of this body have been preserved, and have been deposited with the New York State Historical Society. The Evening Journal of January 7 contains a number of letters, from different individuals, and among others the following from General WASHINGTON, which is calculated to show that, in all situations, he was the same great and excellent character:

HEAD QUARTERS, NEW YORK, August 17, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN:—When I consider that the city will, in all human probability, very soon be the scene of a bloody conflict, I cannot but view the great number of women, children, and infirm persons remaining in it with the most melancholy concern. When the men-of-war passed up the river, the shrieks and cries of these poor creatures running every way with their children, was truly distressing, and I fear will have an unhappy effect on the ears and minds of our young and inexperienced soldiery. Can no method be devised for their removal? Many doubtless are of ability to remove themselves, but there are others in a different situation. Some provision for them afterwards would also be a necessary consideration. It would relieve me from great anxiety if your honorable body would immediately deliberate upon it, and form and execute some plan for their removal and relief, in which I will co-operate and assist to the utmost of my power. In the meantime I have thought proper to recommend to persons, under the above description, to convey themselves without delay to some place of safety, with their most valuable effects."

"I have the honor to be, with much regard, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant."

"GEO. WASHINGTON."

THE UNITED STATES JUDICIARY.—The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court receives a salary of \$5000; and the eight Associate Judges \$4,500 each. The District Judges range from \$1200 to \$3000. In Pennsylvania the Judges of the Eastern District receive \$2500 each, and of the Western District \$1800. The Chief Justice of the District of Columbia has \$2700 a year, and his two Associates \$2500 each. The Attorney General of the United States \$4000. The Reporter of the decisions of the Supreme Court, \$1000. Gross expenses of the Courts \$602,416.

We have the painful duty of announcing the decease of the Hon. NATHAN F. DIXON, a Senator in Congress from the State of Rhode Island. He expired at his lodgings in this city on Saturday last, of pulmonary disease, after an illness of three or four weeks. The age of the deceased was, we believe, about 65. He was a gentleman of superior intellect, of excellent heart, of sterling integrity, and gentle manners, which qualities obtained for him the strong affection of numerous friends, and the warm esteem of all to whom he was known.

In consequence of this melancholy event, the Senate adjourned yesterday, after the announcement of the fact without transacting any business, and the House of Representatives did the same as soon as officially informed thereof by the Senate. The funeral will take place to-day; and, in consequence of the attendance of Congress upon the funeral, it is not probable that any business will be done in either House of Congress to-day.—Nat. Intelligencer.

FROM MEXICO.—It was reported at New Orleans on the 19th, on the authority of a letter from Galveston, that the prisoners of the Santa Fe expedition had arrived in the city of Mexico, where they had met with kind treatment, and would, in all probability, shortly be liberated. It was furthermore rumored that preparations were making to invade Texas, and that her port would shortly be blockaded by a Mexican fleet.

"Grog money." We understand that \$2,500 were yesterday paid to the seamen on board the receiving ship Columbus, in lieu of spirit rations, for the last 3 months, which they had voluntarily relinquished.

We also learn the crew of the U. States schooner Grampus, commanded by Lieut. Van Brunt, which vessel is now ready to sail on a cruise, all with the exception of ten or eleven, receive money instead of grog.

It is time that the custom of allowing spirit rations on board our ships was abolished.—Boston Courier.

HARD TIMES.—These words are in the mouth of almost every person who is old enough to talk of the times. They are adopted as the language of complaint or apology by the great majority of those who are in any kind of trouble in relation to their business or means of subsistence, and form, with some, the plea of indolence and parsimony. But it should be remembered, that there are certain standing facts, in the face of which few can with justice continue to attribute any great portion of their real troubles to the hard times. It is yet true in our country that the industrious, prudent man will not suffer want. Where health is enjoyed, there is no excuse for miserable poverty. The earth produces her fruits from year to year as freely as ever; the materials of mechanical industry are abundant, and the wants of our race are not essentially changed, and our government does not (at least in comparison with many others) place the few in a situation to consume the earnings of the multitude. The grand sources of human enjoyment are neither inaccessible nor exhausted. If our countrymen will cheerfully recognize and submit to the great law of our existence in this world—that man must support himself by labor, and if they will abandon a life of speculation and the various modes, both reputable and disreputable, of gambling, they will find that the great promise of which the rainbow is the seal, is ever made good; and that the ordinances of the Creator still point out the path to happiness.—North American.

THE MESSENGER.
D. R. MANALLY & J. ROBERTS, EDITORS.
ASHEVILLE, N. C.
Friday, February 11, 1842.

Congress.

We are truly sorry to find that our national Congress progresses so slowly with the business before it—in truth, it almost does nothing, and in some instances worse than nothing. The bill to repeal the Bankrupt Law, which sometime since passed the House of Representatives by a considerable majority, has been rejected in the Senate by a majority of one vote. So that law remains in statu quo. A bill authorizing the re-issue of Treasury notes to an amount not exceeding five millions of dollars, has passed its final reading in the House. The Senate will, no doubt, concur. This is the first step taken towards devising means for the current expenses of 1842.

By an extract from the National Intelligencer of the 1st inst., it will be seen that the Hon. Nathan F. Dixon, Senator from Rhode Island, died at Washington since the commencement of the session. It is a little remarkable, and worthy of record, that, up to the last accounts, there had been but one fight among the members since they met last; and what is still more remarkable, that did not take place in the Representatives' Hall, but at, or near one of the hotels, between W. B. Campbell, of Tennessee, and Mr. Boardman, of Connecticut.

Of all the disingenuous and unfair measures resorted to by the present self-styled democratic party, to pander to the prejudices of the multitude, their pretended hostility to banks and paper money, is among the worst. With all the papers belonging to the party, with scarce a single exception, and every one who sets himself up, or is set up by others, as a prominent member or leader in the party, the continual cry is, "down with the banks!"—"the fraudulent banks!"—"the rascally banks!"—"they are ruining the country!"—"ruining the people!"—"killing the poor men," &c. &c. They are catching at every circumstance connected with the banking institutions of the country that can be possibly construed, tortured or misrepresented, so as to excite a foolish and unreasonable prejudice in the minds of the illiterate; and continually are they laboring to make political capital out of every bank failure, and every depreciation of paper money. We are as well apprised as any others that for the most part the present banking system of our country is unsound, and consequently unsafe; but we are also apprised that this system was indirectly brought about, and is now directly sustained by no other than the democratic party. While the U. States bank did business under a charter from Congress, it acted as a regulator of the paper currency of the country,—local banks were not so numerous, had a firmer basis, and conducted their business under a conservative influence, that rendered them comparatively safe; and, as a consequence, failures were much more rare, and depreciation not so great. But when "The Government," as Gen. Jackson was pleased to call himself, through vindictiveness, removed the public deposits from that institution, and subsequently prevented its re-charter, local banks, with a nominal capital only, sprang up in every part of the country. Things went on swimmingly for a while. Prices were high, and money was plenty. Unfortunately, however, for the banks, pay-day at last came, when one after another of those sickly and short lived creatures failed. Then, that party which had been directly or indirectly the cause of their existence, began forthwith to curse the banks and the entire banking system. But with all their blustering and denunciations, they, as a party, are now more the advocates of, and do far more to sustain, the present ill-founded and puny system of banking than their opponents—the whigs. In proof of which, we need only to refer to the course pursued by the democratic majority in the Georgia Legislature, in the Legislature of Alabama, and in the Senate of Tennessee.—In this last named State, when the House of Representatives where the whigs had a majority, fixed upon the first day of July next, as the time for the banks of that State to resume, the Senate where the Democrats had a majority, gave a much longer time.

We do not pretend to say that the course pursued in either of the States, was unwise or impolitic, but we refer to it as a proof of what we have said. With all this, the papers belonging to that party in these States, are as clamorous as ever, howling incessantly—the banks!—the banks! and still further, if possible, to excite prejudice. A number of democratic presses labor unblushingly to make the impression that the Bank of the United States, which lately failed at Philadelphia, was the same institution that existed under a charter from Congress, or a bona fide United States Bank.

SALT POND MOUNTAIN.

This is one of the highest mountains in that part of Virginia. We are not now certain whether it is in Tazewell or Giles county, on the top of it is a lake of clear pure water, one mile and a half in length, and half a mile in breadth. When in that section some years ago, we learned from some of the early settlers of the country, that upon their first acquaintance with this mountain, some fifty or sixty years before, there was a hollow of considerable depth between two high peaks of the mountain, exactly where the lake now is. On each side of this hollow there were springs which sent their water into the centre of the hollow where it sunk. By some means, this sink became stopped up, and in consequence of which, the entire hollow was soon filled with water, and now a considerable stream flows over the top of the mountain. The water is very clear, and a great number of trees still standing with their tops below its surface. In warm summer days it is a place of great resort for deer, many of which are killed by sportsmen who conceal themselves and lie in wait.

There has been a disgraceful mob at Louisville, Kentucky. It was the day after the one collected in Cincinnati. No serious injury was done.

Hon. JAMES GRAHAM, Representative in Congress from this district, has presented the following resolutions which were read and referred:

Resolved, That the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads be instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing the following mail routes in North Carolina:

- 1st. From Asheville, by Turkey creek Spring creek, in Buncombe county, and by Fine's creek and Crab Tree, in Haywood county, to Waynesville.
- 2d. From Scroop Enloe's on Shoal creek in Haywood county, by Mark Coleman's and Wm. F. McKee's in Macon county, and by Thomas Cochran's on Cheoa, to Jamesville, in Cherokee county.
- 3d. From Rutherfordton, by the new town of Shelby, in North Carolina, to Yorkville in South Carolina.
- 4th. From Shelby to South Point, in Lincoln co.
- 5th. From Pleasant Gardens, in N. C. by Grass creek and Rock creek, in Yancy county, to Jonesboro', in Tennessee.

In reference to the 1st and 2d routes proposed we wish to make a remark or two. We know that mail facilities are greatly needed in those sections through which it is proposed to establish the routes. On the first route there is on Spring Creek a settlement of between three and four hundred industrious, enterprising inhabitants. They now take several papers, and would subscribe for more if their mail facilities were greater—the nearest office to them is twelve miles distant. Between Turkey Creek and Spring Creek there is a settlement of several hundred inhabitants, who are from seven to ten miles from any post office. On Crabtree and Fine's Creek the settlements are large, and removed from twelve to twenty miles from any post office. The expense of transporting a mail weekly along this route would be trifling, and the amount of good effected very great. The people are entitled to a route here, and we earnestly hope their rights in this particular, will be properly considered and the route established.

We are not so particularly acquainted with the country through which the second route is proposed to be established, but know enough to satisfy us that it is needed, and should in justice, be established.

We seriously doubt whether any portion of these United States really possesses greater natural advantages than the Western portion of the State of Virginia. It is true the country is broken—very so—but the land is almost without exception rich and remarkably well adapted to the culture of all kinds of grasses. Its mountains abound with the richest of minerals; how many kinds we cannot pretend to say, but we have now in our possession as fine specimens as we ever saw of iron, lead, copper and gypsum; enough of the former, we believe, could be had to supply a fourth of the United States. Lead is abundant, and there is on New River, to our knowledge, at least one rich copper mine. We here in Western North Carolina, live in the midst of the same range of mountains and why the mineral resources of this country have not been more closely examined, and more fully developed, we are at a loss to know. The face of the country in the greater portion of Western Virginia, is perhaps, higher above the level of the sea than ours—but with us, the mountains are higher from base to summit than there.—There the country is limestone, here it is mostly freestone. There it is picturesque and romantic, here it is far more so. That abounds in natural curiosities—so does this—many of them there have been well described and they have long been matters of interest to the curious. So of these here. There is, however, one there, a description of which, we do not recollect to have seen before the public. We allude to the lake on

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Ladies' World of Fashion.

Ah, girls, you will miss it greatly if you do not subscribe for "The Ladies' World of Fashion"—it's positively one of the prettiest things of the kind we ever saw. We have just received the second number, and have not as yet had time to examine the matter, but from a glance at the names of the contributors, we are disposed to think it good. But the manner is unrivalled. It has two fashion plates, each containing three full length and three half length figures—we are not a good judge of these, but the ladies about us say they are splendid.

The work is published monthly, at Philadelphia, by C. J. Peterson, each number containing 32 p.p., at the very low price of two dollars in advance. Three copies for five dollars, eight copies for ten dollars, and one copy six months for one dollar.

Will the publisher be so kind as to forward us the first number?

News of the Week.

Colt, the man in New York, charged with the murder of a Mr. Adams, has confessed the whole, and read in court a long paper containing particular statements as to the transaction.

The Girard Bank at Philadelphia, has closed its doors. The excitement on the occasion is said to have been very great and not likely soon to abate.

A man named Fletcher Heath, in Richmond, Virginia, lately in a fit of jealousy, murdered his business partner, a man by the name of Carter Wells, immediately ran to the house where his mistress lived, broke open the door, killed her and made his escape.

A Miss Sarah Carter, of Madison co. N. York, lately let herself out of this troublesome world by jumping into a well about twenty feet deep. She first tried to cut her throat with a large carving knife, but not succeeding, she then adopted the other means.

Another serious riot lately occurred in Baltimore. It was between the fire companies—brickbats were scattered profusely but no body killed.

The Bostonians are getting up a splendid dinner for Charles Dickens, the popular English writer. They are celebrated for giving dinners to the rich—particularly if they happen to be foreigners.

A family of people in Ohio, named Crox have petitioned the Legislature of that State for liberty to change their names. We suppose they are tired of crying.

More than eighteen thousand persons have signed the Temperance pledge in Ohio, in the last three months. That will do to crow over.

COMFORT TO OLD BACHELORS.—One hundred and forty-two applications for divorce were made to the Legislature of Alabama, at its last session.

There has been considerable excitement lately at Columbus, Ga., in consequence of finding the body of one Artott, near the residence of a notorious character, named Ivey, who was said to be a ring leader among a set of assassins and outlaws.—The mob collected and destroyed several houses.

RATHER SMALL FOR SERVICE.—Professor Robinson, in his "Biblical Researches," vol. 1st, page 322, says: "Our guide having taken leave of his family, again joined us, bringing with him a half starved donkey not much larger than a rat!" We would hope for the credit of the worthy Professor's veracity, that it was a typographical error.

In Congress lately, Mr. Adams presented a petition signed by forty six abolitionists, praying the quiet dissolution of this Union. It caused a considerable excitement in the House.

There is a paper published at Rockville, Indiana, called "The Olive Branch," one side of which is devoted to Whig politics and the other side to the Democratic cause. It has two editors, one for each party.

A Mr. Phillips, one of the door-keepers to the Senate, at Washington city, lately died suddenly from the bursting of a blood vessel.

Prince de Joinville, after being feasted, and flattered, and puffed by American sycophants, is said to have arrived safe at home.

REV. MR. MAFFIT.—We learn that the Methodist in Boston have leased the 'Odeon' a spacious public building, for five years; the Rev. Mr. Maffit is to preach in it on Saturday night, after which he intends to proceed to Washington to attend to the duties of the office to which he has been elected. After the adjournment of Congress, Professor Maffit will return to Boston and supply the pulpit at the Odeon.