

CONGRESS.

SENATE.

SATURDAY, APRIL 13.—The Senate proceeded to the consideration of the resolution submitted by Mr. Randolph, proposing to change the role of the Senate, which gives to the President of the Senate the appointment of Committees, and the supervision of the Journal. Some observations were made by Messrs. Randolph, Eaton, Mills, Holmes, and Johnson, of Ky.; and.

On motion of Mr. Lloyd, the yeas and nays being demanded by one-fifth of the Senators present, on the question, "Shall the rule which vests in the President the appointment of committees be rescinded?" it was determined in the affirmative, as follows: Yeas 49; Nays—Eaton, Ruggles—2.

The question was then taken on rescinding the rule, which vests in the President the supervision of the Journal, and it was determined in the affirmative, as follows: Yeas 54—Nays 7.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12.—The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of War, transmitting the report of the Board of Internal Improvement, relative to the examination of an eastern, a middle, and western route for a road between the city of Washington and New-Orleans; which was referred to the committee on Roads and Canals.

[This report is characterized by the ability which usually distinguishes the veteran at the head of the Board, (Gen. Bernard,) and we are able, at present, only, for the want of time, to give our readers the following extract from that most interesting document.]

Extract from the Report.

"In order to facilitate the comparison between these three routes, we shall present, under the form of a table, the general results that the reconnaissance affords with respect to them. As to the Middle Route, we adopt in this table its upper section, without prejudicing by anticipation any thing against its lower section. We adopt, also, with the same restriction, the Western Route, passing through Rockfish Gap.

EASTERN ROUTE.

Extent throughout which materials can generally be procured, approximately—240 miles.

Extent throughout which there will be a scarcity of materials, approximately—896 miles.

Quality of soils traversed by the route—general growth of timber. Rich in the bottoms of the valleys, but sandy in the intermediate parts. The predominating growth is pine.

Total length of bridges—6 miles, 626 yds.

Total length of causeway—35 miles, 556 yds.

Graduation—7551 miles of 2°; 2921 of 3°; and 144 of 4°.

Population—Whites 292,489; colored 210,264—total 412,714.

Distance from Washington to New-Orleans, from the summary of reconnaissance—1169 miles.

Probable distance—1136 miles, of which 5-8 at 2° and under, 3-8 at 3° and above 2°.

MIDDLE ROUTE.

Extent throughout which materials can generally be procured, approximately—782 miles.

Extent throughout which there will be a scarcity of materials, approximately—354 miles.

Quality of soils traversed by the route—general growth of timber. From Washington to the Chatahouchee river, rich in the valleys, clayey in the intermediate parts. The growth is oak. From the Chatahouchee to New-Orleans, rich in the valleys, but sandy in the intermediate parts. The growth is principally pine.

Total length of bridges—5 miles, 1473 yds.

Total length of causeway—39 miles, 36 yds.

Graduation—714 miles of 2°; 524 of 3°; and 166 of 4°.

Population—Whites 262,335; colored 164,632—total 426,967.

Distance from Washington to New-Orleans, from the summary of reconnaissance—1204 miles.

Probable distance—1106 miles, of which 5-8 at 2° and under, 3-8 at 3° and above 2°.

WESTERN ROUTE.

Extent throughout which materials can generally be procured, approximately—782 miles.

Extent throughout which there will be a scarcity of materials, approximately—358 miles.

Quality of soils traversed by the route—general growth of timber. From Washington to Cahowba, rich in the valleys, clayey and good quality in the intermediate parts. The oak and hickory predominate from Cahowba to New-Orleans, the valleys and prairies productive; the parts intermediate unproductive. Pine and oak general growth.

Total length of bridges—5 miles, 951 yds.

Total length of causeway—24 miles, 1211 yds.

Graduation—662 miles of 2°; 359 of 3°; and 143 of 4°.

Population—Whites 204,295; colored 107,890—total 312,184.

Distance from Washington to New-Orleans, from the summary of reconnaissance—1,147 miles.

Probable distance—1,130 miles, of which 5-8 at 2° and under, and 3-8 at 3° and above 2°.

From this table, we draw the following conclusions with regard to the comparative merit of the three routes under consideration.

Materials.—The middle route and the western route are about equally provided with materials. In this respect they have the advantage over the eastern route.

Soil.—The soil along the western route is generally better than that along the middle route. On the eastern route it is inferior to that of the other two.

Bridges.—The western route will require less bridging than the eastern and middle routes—these two latter about the same.

Causeways.—The western will require less length of causeway than the others—the eastern in a less length than the middle.

It will be obtained with less expense for the eastern route than for the two others, but it will become more expensive for the western than for the other routes.

Population.—The eastern and middle routes have nearly the same amount of population, for the counties, districts, and parishes which they traverse; but for the eastern route the white population is to that of color as one to one; and for the middle route, the white population is to that of color as three to two. As to the total population of the counties, districts, and parishes, on the western route, it is about three-quarters of that of the other routes; but the white population is nearly to that of color as two to one.

Distance.—The length of the road will be less in the direction of the middle than in that either of the eastern or western route. With respect to time, and with the same graduation, we are inclined to give the preference to the middle route.

Expense.—The expense of materials for a solid and durable construction will be about the same for the middle and Western routes, but much greater for the Eastern.

In bridging, the expense will be much less upon the western than upon the other two routes.

In causeways, much less upon the western than upon the other two routes, and less upon the eastern than upon the middle.

To obtain the same graduation in both routes, the expense will be less upon the eastern than upon the middle route, and less upon the middle route than upon the western route.

The price of labor will generally be the same along the middle and western direction, though less for some sections along the latter; but it will be higher along the eastern.

The Board then go on to submit at large their views of the commercial considerations, accommodation of the population, political considerations, military considerations, and transportation of the mail, and sum up their views of these considerations, as follows:

Commerce.—The eastern route will enjoy the exclusive advantage of facilitating the commercial correspondence between our inland importing and exporting marts. The middle and western will contribute more than the eastern to the development of internal commerce and industry.

Accommodation of Population.—The eastern and middle routes will accommodate directly more States than the western; but taking into view, and by anticipation, the increase of population, perhaps the three routes ought to be placed on the same footing.

Political considerations.—The Eastern route has the advantage to pass by the Seats of Government of the Southern States—the Western to cross the chain of mountains which separates the Western from the Southern States.

War.—Through the Western Route, greater and more efficient assistance will be afforded in times of emergency to the States, and Naval establishments upon the Gulf, than through the other routes.

Transportation of the Mail.—As to time, we are inclined to believe that the Middle Route has the advantage over the others.—As to expense, they will be less upon the middle, and especially upon the Western, than upon the Eastern. As to horses, the service of the Mail will be better, and more cheaply secured upon the middle route, and especially upon the Western, than upon the Eastern.

Having thus investigated, to the best of our abilities, the points upon which, in our opinion, might rest the selection for the most suitable route for a national road from Washington to New Orleans, it would remain, in strict conformity to our instructions, to recommend which of the routes should be preferred. But if certain advantages pointed out in this report, can be expressed by figures to help in the comparison; yet the others being of a moral kind, each of them is liable to receive unequal weight from different minds; and if to this difficulty is added that of comparing moral with physical advantages, we must acknowledge that we cannot, without presumption, attempt to draw a conclusion as to the route which is entitled to the preference. Therefore, here is to end the task which has been entrusted to us; and we will only beg leave to close up this report, by submitting some suggestions in relation to the ulterior surveys of the road adapted to its construction, and to its repairs."

April 13.—In the Senate, the resolution proposing to fix the day of adjournment on Monday, the 15th day of May next, yesterday underwent some discussion, but was finally laid on the table, by a vote of 20 to 19. The consideration of the Judiciary Bill was resumed, and after considerable debate, in which Mr. Harper and Mr. Randolph spoke in favour of the motion to recommit, and Mr. Tazewell, Mr. Reed, and Mr. Van Buren, against it, the motion of Mr. Woodbury, to recommit with instructions to report such amendments as will remove any existing grievance without an increase of the Judges of the Supreme Court, was determined in the negative, by a vote of 33 Nays to 2 Yeas. Mr. Mills moved to reduce the proposed number of Associate Justices of the Supreme Court from 9 to

8. This motion was opposed by Mr. Noes 19. The bill was ordered to a third reading.

In the House of Representatives yesterday, Mr. Tucker, of South Carolina, introduced a joint resolution, fixing the day of adjournment for the 15th May. Some discussion, which was cut short by the expiration of the hour allotted to resolutions, took place, in the course of which, Mr. Webster stated that the situation of the Bankrupt Bill, which is pending in the Senate, formed the principal objection, in his opinion, to the determination on the subject of a specific day of adjournment. He thought the important bill in question would be destroyed by such a measure. The discussion will, as a matter of course, be resumed to-day, when Mr. Wright, of Ohio, has stated it as his intention to move to postpone the further consideration of the subject until Tuesday, and then to move a call of the House. In Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, Mr. Webster made a most able and eloquent speech in favor of the mission to Panama. His observations, throughout, were characterized by the vigour of thought, and that nervous facility of expression, which are so peculiar to this distinguished individual; but it was towards the close when, warmed with his subject, the orator quickened into a more stirring and lofty style of eloquence, that he seemed to exercise a power over the physical and moral faculties of the House, which has, perhaps, been seldom exceeded in any legislative assembly. If there be any truth in physiognomy, even those gentlemen who are opposed to the measure, felt themselves exalted in having such a noble adversary to encounter.

April 18.—In the Senate, the greater part of yesterday was passed in the consideration of Executive business.

In the House of Representatives, the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union was occupied about five hours in the discussion of the Panama Mission. Mr. McLane and Mr. Forsyth occupying the floor during all that time, except for a few minutes while Mr. Cook made his promised motion for the Committee to rise, with a view to terminate the discussion. On this question the yeas were 65—noes 82. It is probable that the House may now be occupied for two or three days longer before any decision will be made.

Speaking of the late Duel at Washington, the Richmond Whig says:

"The tempest of words in Washington has at last resulted in Duels. Goaded on all sides by his enemies—loaded with every foul and abusive epithet—reproached with the obscurity of his parentage—the levities of youth magnified into unpardonable and inexpiable crimes—those great talents and noble exertions by the favor of which he has ascended into the regions of fame and celebrity, made to reflect back his early obscurity—every citizen of plebeian birth insulted in his person—his family kept in a state of perpetual alarm and anxiety, Mr. Clay has at length turned on his persecutors."

A letter from Washington, after giving an account of the castigation which Mr. McDuffie received from Col. Trimble and Gen. Vance, adds:

"Under all this, the gentleman from S. C. has been obliged to remain quiet; he has found that bullying and hectoring won't do, and in coming across Col. Trimble, he has 'run against a snag'—as the Mississippi boatmen say. It is rumored, however, that we shall hear more from him, as soon as he can get a suit of silk made up by the tailor. The impression is universal that Mr. McDuffie has made himself supremely ridiculous, by the contrast between his abject submission to this castigation, and the careless audacity with which he provoked it."

Small Orators.—In the House of Representatives, after Mr. Webster had delivered a masterly speech on the Panama Question, Mr. Houston, of Tennessee, rose and spoke for a quarter of an hour, when a friend observing Mr. H. was indisposed, and the House fatigued with a long sitting, moved an adjournment.—It is a little surprising that a member should attempt to speak while ill; but the matter will be easily explained thus: The members, disgusted at the presumption of Mr. H. in speaking immediately after such a man as Mr. Webster, deserted the House, and Mr. H.'s ideas running out too soon, it was necessary to adjourn, that he might recruit his stock of words, empty words."

How Printers Live.—The editor of a paper in Warren county, Pa. says he has not received two dollars in five months. Many may doubt this, but those who do so, give evidence that they know but little of the trade.

Soon after the above notice, it is reported, the subscribers to the paper, as if stung with a delinquent conscience, by an almost simultaneous movement, went forward, paid up their arrears, some in advance, upon which the printer got new types, better paper, and went on with his business as gaily as a lark.

General Intelligence.

From late English papers.

SPAIN.—From Madrid the accounts are to the 1st of March. The landing of the Constitutional force near Alicante appears to have produced the deepest feelings. One letter says, "Terror and confusion reign here. The King and royal family reside at the palace El Pardo, and their guards now consist entirely of Swiss. The ministers have demanded of the English ambassador, in a formal note, explanations respecting the movements of General Mina, who has left England, as report states, to revolutionize Spain. The answer of Mr. Lamb was, that he understood he had left England, but his movements or intentions he knew nothing of. We await further details with the greatest anxiety."

The Curate Merino has declared himself hostile to the present Government, and has put himself at the head of a considerable force, which is said to be enthusiastic in the Constitutional cause. Though we have no doubt of the Curate's insurrection, we are rather sceptical as to the account given of his principles, and those of his troops.

It is asserted the Constitutional parties are already in possession of the forts of Carthage, and expect further reinforcements from the Algerine coast.

The Dey of Algiers having declared war against Spain, will, it is supposed, afford facilities to the Patriots. The commencement of hostilities by Algiers, was announced on the 6th, on the authority of the Spanish Consul General at Tunis.

GREECE.—A private letter was received this morning, dated in Zante on the 1st of Feb. (O. S.) the contents of which are important, and great reliance may be placed on the veracity and judgment of the gentleman by whom it was written. It states that on the preceding evening one of his Britannic Majesty's vessels had arrived there from Missolonghi, where she had witnessed an action between the Turkish and Grecian fleets, on the 26th of January, in which one Turkish frigate was burned, and one corvette was carried by boarding. The Ottoman naval forces afterwards retired to Patras, and the Christian fleet abundantly supplied the garrison of Missolonghi with provisions and various descriptions of military stores. When the English ship sailed from the mouth of the Gulf of Lepanto, the Greek fleet was closely watching that of Turkey in Patras, and was waiting a favorable opportunity again to bring on another action. It is much to be regretted that certain commercial failures have as yet prevented the auxiliary naval equipment, under Lord Cochrane, from rendering that assistance to the cause of Christianity in the Levant, which alone is necessary to secure it a brilliant success, but these difficulties are temporary, and a short period only can pass before they will be removed. Advices have likewise been received from Smyrna dated the 13th of February, on which day a fire broke out in the quarters of the Franks and did great injury. These barbarians only conceive themselves to inhabit a hostile country when they are quartered on the Levant; and, whenever they are displeased with passing events, they, following up the true principles of a wandering life, set fire to their habitations as a preliminary to the evacuation of them, should circumstances render such a movement necessary. It is a poor compliment to European civilization, that the jealousies of Christian nations should be the means by which barbarism is maintained in the fairest portion of the earth.

RUSSIA.—St. Petersburg advices are to February 26. The most authentic accounts mention the firm determination of the Emperor Nicholas, to reduce his army to an enormous extent. It is confidently asserted that they have actually discovered no less than from twelve to thirteen thousand conspirators implicated in the design of destroying the Imperial family, and producing a constitutional government; among whom are several of the first nobility, a great number of general officers, and many civilians. The intention is to make an example of some of the principal of the leaders, and to disperse the rest—some to their estates, and others to Siberia. Nothing whatever is said of any intention to make war on Turkey, or to aid the Greeks.

Mr. Alexander Baring made the following remarks in the British House of Commons, in February.

"If the run on the London Bankers had continued 48 hours longer, and if the Bank of England had not come forward as it did, the whole country would have been thrown into confusion, the whole money system entirely destroyed, and such a violent decline in prices effected, as would have involved merchants, manufacturers, and landed gentlemen in one common ruin."

The annexed advertisements are copied from a late number of the London Morning Herald.

Matrimony.—A gentleman of family, 29 years of age, and who is almost immediately going out to India, wishes to meet with a lady willing to be united to him, and share his fortune. She must have the immediate command of £4,000; if possessed of more, the surplus will be entirely at her own disposal. By a union with the advertiser, the lady will be mistress of a most comfortable and respectable establishment, and will have the entire into the best society the country affords. The most satisfactory references will be given, and secrecy and honour will be observed.—Letters (post-paid), addressed to No. 255, Post-office, Bristol, will be attended to."

To Noblemen, Members of Parliament, and Gentlemen.—The advertiser, a solicitor of good education, appearance, and address, who is well versed in the law on elections, qualifications of voters, &c. is desirous of being employed as a Private Secretary or Amanuensis, or as an Agent to a nobleman or gentleman who is likely to be engaged in a contest at the approaching election, possessing a talent for composing electioneering songs, squibs, speeches, &c. and capable of addressing a meeting with effect, his services in the latter capacity would be truly valuable.—Personal applications, or letters free of postage, addressed 'S. H. at No. 4, Leicester-place, Camberwell New Road, will be duly attended to."

PHILADELPHIA, APRIL 13.—On Friday night last Hopson M. Hubbard of Georgia, who was on that day admitted by the University of Pennsylvania to the degree of doctor in medicine, committed a violent and wanton attack upon Mr. J. H. Israel, a respectable merchant of this city, by striking him with a dirk upon the temple. This occurred in front of the Theatre, whither Mr. Israel had been followed by the other. Mr. Israel was carried into Mrs. Bradshaw's tavern, where Dr. Barton and other gentlemen afforded him every assistance. Hubbard was immediately arrested and taken before the captain of the watch, whence he was discharged upon bail being given for his appearance before the mayor on Saturday morning. He absconded from his bail and did not appear. He is supposed to have gone to Baltimore. Warrants have been issued for his apprehension, and 500 dollars reward will be paid on his conviction.

The life of Mr. Israel was supposed to be in imminent danger, but we are happy to learn that he is in a fair way of recovery: thanks to Providence, and not a him who inflicted the wound.

A woman considerably advanced in years, named Glass, died in Lambert, New-Jersey, on the 12th inst. in consequence of blows inflicted upon her head and body by her own daughter. They kept a disorderly house, and on the 8th inst. the daughter named Margaret, commenced beating her mother with a rod of iron, which endangered her life, and in the interim, in conversing with other persons, threatened her mother with death, which threat she put into execution on the Tuesday following, when she again beat her with the iron rod, to such a degree that she soon after died. The girl is full grown, and was supposed to be intoxicated at the time when the violence was committed. She is now in prison.

Remarkable Eruption.—In Calais, a town adjoining Montpelier, Vt. an eruption took place about 10 days ago, by which a large quantity of earth was thrown from the side of a hill, and near its base, leaving a cavity which measures 12 feet in depth, on the upper side, six rods in length, and 40 feet wide. Large trees were growing upon the spot, which were removed with such force, as to cause them to fall with their tops up the hill, although, while standing, they leaned down the hill nearly 30 degrees from a perpendicular point.—The ground was frozen nearly 2 feet deep, and was broken in a perpendicular manner. Large stones weighing from 3 to 400 pounds were thrown 30 rods, and one, which our informant thinks will weigh between 5 and 10 hundred, was thrown about eight rods. The force must have been great, as the explosion was heard at considerable distance. The fissures in the rocks, at the bottom, and on the sides, of the cavity are barely large enough to admit a man's hand. The cause of this explosion is unknown. Some suppose it to have been effected by water—but this is not very probable, although there was, undoubtedly, a considerable quantity of water. Yet the explosion being instantaneous, there must have been some invisible cause of the eruption. It furnishes a subject for the investigation of the philosopher, and cannot fail to excite the attention of the curious.

Vermont Patriot.

Water Boring in Alexandria.—The workmen, having got to the depth of 44 feet, water is within about 52 feet of the surface of the earth. The specimens of stratum for the first 150 feet, are the same as those of 440 feet, alternately varying from clay to sand, of various casts and colors.

Robert Trimble, now a District Judge for the Kentucky District, has been nominated by the President, to the Senate as an Associate Judge of the Supreme Court of the United States, in the place of Judge Todd, deceased.