

It is even wise to abstain from laws, which, however wise and good in themselves, have the semblance of inequality, which find no response in the heart of the citizen, and which will be evaded with little remorse. The wisdom of legislation is especially seen in grafting laws on conscience.

Dr. Channing.

SALISBURY, ROWAN COUNTY, N. C. MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1831.

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## Foreign News.

**HIGHLY IMPORTANT FROM EUROPE!**  
*Travels in Prussia;—Cognition and*  
*certification of the Ex-Ministers;—*  
*Threatened counter-Revolution;—*  
*Resignation of La Fayette;—*  
*Changes in the French Ministry;—*  
*Ineligibility of Belgium;—March*  
*of the Russians into Poland;—*  
*Problems in England and Ireland.*

The packet announced as being below yesterday, came up in the afternoon, and the Canada has arrived in addition—having sailed on the 5th ultimo. By these arrivals the Editors of the *Commercial Advertiser* have received the usual supply of foreign papers, embracing London of the 4th, and Liverpool of the 5th of January—both inclusive. The contents of these papers are full of importance, as the reader may infer from the array of capitals given above.

The French government has passed through an hour of great and imminent peril, which it is to be hoped, will not recur. The trial of the Ex-Ministers was concluded on the 21st of December, and the prisoners have all been sentenced to be stripped of their titles and honors and to perpetual imprisonment. The Parisian mob, however, thirsted for the blood of the unfortunates, and their rage was for the great levity and firmness on the part of the National Guards, and great energy and wisdom in the government, they would have been successful, and a counter-revolution would have followed. We have given below a series of letters from Paris, written during the days of this most fearful excitement. One of these written the day before the trial closed, is by the spirit of an unpopular correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle*. "O P. Q." The removal of the Ex-Ministers back from the place of trial, to their old quarters, was a bold stroke, exceedingly well devised and executed. It was a measure from which La Fayette shrunk; but the Minister was inflexible to his purpose, and was successful. This measure, alone, probably saved the country.

The sentence upon the Ex-Ministers is one of great severity, and, in ordinary times, unnecessary so. But perhaps the Peers could do no less, and considering the excited state of the mob, Polignac and his colleagues may felicitate themselves that they have escaped with their lives. When the excitement shall have subsided, the term of imprisonment may be diminished, or committed altogether into a decree of banishment.

In addition to the letters above referred to we have a debate of much interest at the present moment, which took place in the French Chamber of Deputies on the 29th of December in which M. Lafayette declares the opinion of the government as to the internal and external relations of the kingdom. It will be seen that the minister officially announces the fact, that the five powers have agreed to recognize the independence of Belgium. The Duchy of Luxembourg is not included, nor is it known what arrangements have been made respecting the King who is to rule over Belgium. A Prince of Nassau is talked of, and a matrimonial alliance between the Prince, and a daughter of Louis Philippe.

These papers likewise announce the resignation of Gen. Lafayette, as commander-in-chief of the National Guard. His speech on the occasion is given below. This resignation, and the withdrawal of several of the ministers from the cabinet, have resulted from recent feverish events. He is succeeded in the command of the Parisian National Guard by Count Lobau one of the aids of the late Emperor. There seems to have been something even beyond this to induce a change of Ministry, and the retiring of several of Lafayette's friends and associates, amongst whom are Dupont de

l'Eure, Keeper of the Seals; Odillon Barrot, Prefect of the Seine; M. Mathieu Dumis, Inspector General of the National Guard; Gen. Cabanel, Chief of the Staff, and M. Joubert Director General of the Taxes.

The Peers are making spirited exertions to maintain the rights they have so lately and unexpectedly asserted; but the Autocrat, as it will be seen, has declared war upon the rebels, and his troops, in great force, are in full march against them.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

### DISTRIBUTION OF SURPLUS REVENUE.

The following are the resolutions submitted by Mr. MARTIN on Monday last, to the report of the Committee on the Distribution of the Surplus Revenue; which our reporter was unable to obtain at the time:

**Resolved,** That the power of taking money from the people, by laying and collecting duties, imposts, and excises, is one of the most sacred of trusts vested in governments; that it is conferred solely to enable them to command the necessary means to execute the objects for which they were instituted; and that to exact money from the people when not necessary for those objects, or more than may be necessary, would be, on the part of the Government, a manifest breach of trust, and to the people unjust and oppressive.

**Resolved,** That the General Government was created by the people of the States for certain general objects, to execute which particular and specific powers, enumerated in the Constitution, were conferred on it, and, among others, the power of laying and collecting taxes, duties, imposts, and excises, which, like the other powers, was conferred solely as means for effecting the common objects entrusted to the Union; and that, for the General Government to collect taxes, to distribute the proceeds among the several States, would be in fact to acknowledge that the money is not necessary for those common objects, and would, therefore, be not only unjust and oppressive, but a direct and palpable violation of the Constitution itself.

**Resolved,** That, to collect money to be distributed among the States must, in its consequences, put to hazard all the objects for which the General Government was formed, as it would necessarily create in all the States powerful factions, whose objects would be to obtain a control over the sums distributed, and whose influence would be directed to increase the surpluses to be distributed, by arresting or demolishing the appropriations of the General Government, however constitutional or proper they might be, while they would be under the most direct and powerful influence to sustain the General Government as a mere engine for the unconstitutional, unjust, and oppressive purposes of collecting money from the people for an object never contemplated by the framers of the Constitution, and wholly inconsistent with the purposes for which it was created.

**Resolved, therefore,** That, to distribute the surplus revenue among the States would be unjust, unconstitutional and oppressive, and dangerous to the General Government; and that the only plan that can be devised, that will be at once economical, just, constitutional, and safe, is, by a reduction of taxes, to leave the money not necessary for the purposes of the Government in the pockets of those who make it.

**Literary talents rewarded.**—Washington Irving published his life of Columbus, History of Grenada, and abridgment of the life of Columbus, within the period of eighteen months, and received for the copy rights \$18,000. The Messrs. Carvill paid him \$10,000 for his Columbus. We presume no other American ever received so large a sum for his literary labors in the same short space of time, though we have understood that Cooper's last novels, have produced him about \$18,000 each. He receives one dollar a copy for the sales in this country, which vary from five to eight thousand copies. *Cour. & Eng.*

## REFORM IN BRITAIN.

The London Times, which perhaps expresses the feelings of the nation with as much fidelity as any other print in the country, gives the following enumeration of subjects, to which the attention of the new administration should be directed:

1. Retrenchment of Expenditures.
2. Parliamentary Reform.
3. Reform in the Law Proceedings.
4. Revision of the Poor Laws.
5. Abolition of the Game Laws.
6. Total repeal of the Corn Laws.
7. A better distribution of the Taxes, and entire release from some of them; and
8. An overthrow of all vile Monopolies, which enable individuals, or knots of men to rob the community, in a manner at once revolting to the rights of commerce, and ruinous to its solid interests.

**Not Bad at all.**—A person stepped into our office, a few days since, who appeared about three sheets in the wind, and very good humoredly accosted us—"Does thee know my wife Betsy?" We told him we did not. "Well," he continued, "she's a most desperate ornery woman." To our inquiry, why he married her if such was the case, he replied "because she makes such good apple-dumplings!" After complimenting him on his taste, he left us in the same spirit as he came, informing us at the time; that he mistook our sign for an opposite one. *Genwanton Tel.*

**Love.**—Every poet that ever had an existence has written of it—every minstrel has sung of it and every maid has dreamed of it; but we much doubt whether all that has been written, sung and dreamed, comprises more than is compressed into the following stanzas:

"O love! love! love!  
Love's like a dizziness;  
It waxes let a pure bodie  
Gang about his bizzness!"

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

### SENATE.

Thursday, Feb. 10.

Mr. Poindexter, in pursuance of notice given on Tuesday, (instead of presenting a memorial, as erroneously stated,) introduced a bill for the relief of Mrs. Martha Randolph, only surviving daughter of the late Mr. J. H. Randolph; which was referred to a select committee, consisting of Messrs. Poindexter, Bell, Webster, Tyler, and Hayne. Mr. Benton withdrew his motion to introduce a bill to repeal the duty on alum salt, and gave notice of his intention to ask leave to introduce a bill providing for the gradual abolition of the duties on that article, and for a change of the mode of measuring the same. The resolution of Mr. Grundy, in relation to the condition of the Post Office Department, having been taken up as the unfinished business, Mr. Clayton resumed and finished his remarks in opposition to the resolution, began yesterday. After a few remarks from Mr. Benton, Mr. Woodbury occupied the floor in support of the resolution, until the hour of adjournment. Mr. Woodbury has the floor tomorrow.

Friday, Feb. 11.

The bill from the House of Representatives, making appropriations for the support of Government for the year 1831, was read, and referred to the Committee on Finance. Mr. Hayne, from the select committee to which had been referred the bill from the House of Representatives for the settlement of the accounts of James Monroe, reported the same with an amendment, striking out the words "for public services, losses and sacrifices." The bill for the completion and support of the Penitentiary in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes, was read the third time, and passed. The Senate resumed, as unfinished business, the consideration of the resolution submitted by Mr. Grundy, prohibiting the select committee appointed to inquire into the condition of the Post Office Department, from calling before them the

persons who have been dismissed from office, for the purpose of ascertaining the reasons or cause of their removal. Mr. Woodbury, who had the floor, then resumed his argument in favor of the resolution, and concluded at about two o'clock. Messrs. Sprague, Livingston, and Holmes, subsequently addressed the Senate. Mr. Livingston offered, as an amendment, a substitute to part of the resolution, declaring that the committee shall not make inquiry into the reasons which have induced the Postmaster General to make any removal of his deputies. Mr. Holmes then addressed the Senate in opposition to the amendment, for about half an hour, when he gave way to a motion to adjourn.

Friday, Feb. 12.

The President communicated a report from the Secretary of War, making returns of the militia of the United States; and a report from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting a statement from the Mint of the United States, of the gold and silver coin struck in the year 1830.

Monday, Feb. 14.

Mr. Barnard presented a memorial from citizens of Philadelphia, praying for a modification of the tariff so as to reduce the duty on imported flax. Mr. Woodbury, from the Committee on Commerce, reported a bill providing for an allowance of drawback on nails manufactured from imported iron. The resolution submitted by Mr. Grundy, in relation to the committee appointed to inquire into the condition of the Post Office Department, came up as the unfinished business, when it was laid on the table, on motion of Mr. Holmes, with the understanding that the question be taken on it tomorrow. After some time spent in the consideration of Executive business, the Senate adjourned.

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Thursday, Feb. 10.

Mr. Hoffman, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported adversely on the bill for the more effectual execution of the ministerial duties of the Navy Department. Another bill on the same subject was subsequently introduced by that gentleman; which, after being read twice, was postponed, till Monday. Mr. Everett, of Massachusetts, reported a bill for the purchase of 216 copies of Mr. Elliott's report of the debates of the State Conventions, on the subject of the adoption of the Federal Constitution. Mr. Everett spoke in favor of the measure, and testified to the merits of the work. The bill was, however, negatived. Mr. H. then presented a voluminous report from the Committee on Internal Emigration; which was ordered to be printed. Mr. Buchanan, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill defining the nature of offences constituting a contempt of court; which was read twice, and referred to a committee of the Whole on the state of the Union. The remainder of the day was devoted, by a previous special order, to the consideration of the business appertaining to the District of Columbia. A protracted discussion arose on the bill authorizing the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company to construct a lateral branch to the City of Washington, or to some point in the District of Columbia. Mr. Dacey moved to postpone it till Tuesday next, in order to afford time to hear from Annapolis, where the Legislature of Maryland were legislating on the subject; but, at the suggestion of Mr. Howard, afterwards withdrew his motion. Mr. Semmes proposed an amendment, prohibiting the Rail Road Company from charging on the lateral rail-way an increase of toll, on the transportation of goods to or from east to west. Mr. Brown opposed the amendment. Mr. Howard followed; and the bill was ultimately ordered to be engrossed for a third reading. The bill on the subject of the better organization of the militia of the District of Columbia, was taken up; but, after some remarks from Mr. Thompson, of Georgia, was postponed till Thursday next.

Friday, Feb. 11.

Mr. White, of New York, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported

a bill for the construction of navy hospitals at Charlestown, Massachusetts, Brooklyn, N. York, and Pensacola; which was read twice, referred to a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and, together with the documents, ordered to be printed. Various other reports were made; among the number of which was one by Mr. Everett, of Mass., from the Committee on the Library, who reported a resolution, that the Clerk of the House cause to be prepared a digested index of the executive papers, reports, and other documents, from the commencement of the 18th Congress to the termination of the present one, and to have the same printed, for the use of the present Congress. The resolution was adopted. Mr. LeCompte gave notice that he should, on Tuesday, move the House to take up the resolution offered by him in relation to the Judges of the Supreme Court. The resolution of Mr. White, of New York, for the printing of 6,000 additional copies of the report of the Committee on the Judiciary, respecting the repeal of the 25th section of the judicial act, was next taken into consideration, and Mr. Daniel continued his argument in support of the proposition, until the close of the hour. The Speaker laid before the House a number of communications from the Treasury, War, and Post Office Departments; which were severally read and laid on the table. The House, on motion of Mr. McDuffie, took up the bill, on a division by yeas and nays, by a vote of 102 to 82, for the relief of the widow of the late Commodore Decatur and went into Committee upon it, Mr. Cambreleng in the chair. It was debated till five o'clock, by Messrs. Potter, Storrs, McDuffie, Hoffman, Craig, Carson, Whitlesey, Barringer, Miller, Sutherland, Doddridge, Chilton, Crockett, and Park. Various amendments were proposed; after which, the committee rose and reported. Two of the amendments of the committee were concurred in, and a third one rejected. It was renewed, and a further discussion ensued; but the previous question being called for and seconded, the main question was taken by yeas and nays, and the House refused to order the engrossment of the bill for a third reading, by a vote of 89 to 81. Mr. Doddridge subsequently moved the reconsideration of the vote; but before it was acted upon, an adjournment took place, at nearly 6 o'clock.

Saturday, Feb. 12.

Bills for the relief of individuals principally, engaged the attention of the House.

Monday, Feb. 14.

The Speaker laid before the House various communications from the public Departments; which were severally read, and laid on the table. One was from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting a report from the Directors of the United States' Mint, on the subject of the assays made during the year 1830 of foreign gold and silver coin; and another, a letter from the Secretary of War, enclosing an abstract of the general annual return of the number and state of the militia of the Union. Numerous bills were received from the Senate; after which, the House took up the memorial presented by Mr. Everett, of Mass., on Monday the 7th instant, from the inhabitants of Northampton, Mass., against the removal of the Indians. A call of the House was ordered, but suspended, on 193 members answering to their names. Mr. Tucker, of S. Carolina, and subsequently, Mr. Wickliffe, moved the question of consideration, on a motion of Mr. Everett that the memorial should be committed to the Committee on Indian Affairs, with instructions to report a bill making further provision for executing the laws of the United States, and for the faithful observance of treaties with Indian tribes. The question of consideration was carried, upon a division by yeas and nays, by a vote of 101 to 93. The subject was then taken up, and discussed by Mr. Everett until 4 o'clock, when, on motion of Mr. Vance, the House adjourned.