

written. What do the House think proper to do? Is not everybody well satisfied with it as it is said we ought to have written? and action, and yet it proceeded to consider the report and adjourn the House by a majority of thirty-one votes. — The "American奴隸" was however referred to the committee, where it will remain to be acted on, on the second Monday in April, when all the other documents, taken "in relation to the ultimate right," shall have arrived.

It was urged by the minority, and repeated in debate, that the clause, in giving the instructions, and the Committee on making the report, in the absence of the Committee, was a house of cards, not to have been expected. How can this be, after the reference to this journal which we have made? The chairman's last resolution provided especially that a preliminary report might be made at any time the committee might think proper. All attempts by the majority, or any of them, to get out of this resolution had been rejected, and Mr. Fisher's resolution, above mentioned, and Mr. Moulton's, also concerning a preliminary report, were introduced, discussed, and decided in the presence of both parties in the committee room several days before they left the city. We remain the public also that not only were these prophecies made in their presence in the committee room, but a resolution calling for a report in the New Jersey case, introduced by Mr. Turner of Pennsylvania, was also pending before the House, before any of these gentlemen left vicinity of Washington. Were they, then, taken by surprise? Were they deceived, due to the instructions of the House or the action of the committee in delaying them? But it is still the public ought to have noticed them. What for? That day might be present when the polls of Millville and Andover were to be added to the estimates made by the Governor and Council? That they might be counted by themselves and their council? They had been heard repeatedly and patiently on every question which had arisen in this case. Again we ask, why should we have noticed them, when they had referred to take further testimony on the first night, with full knowledge that a preliminary report was contemplated, and a position for one actually pending before the House, before they retired from the walls of the Capitol. We have a fuller refutation of the alleged surprise and deception, but because our man who has made it to that extent which is scarcely furnished by the journal of the committee of the House.

#### PROCEEDINGS IN CONGRESS.

##### REMARKS OF MR. FISHER,

(OF NORTH CAROLINA.)

In the House of Representatives, March 19, 1840, on the Bill for issuing five millions of Treasury Notes.

Mr. FISHER said: I do not rise for the purpose of delivering a set speech. It is now too late in the debate, and in the day, to do this, were I even so disposed. Nor shall I follow the example of some who have pregealed me, and discourse about every thing except the one before us. I have no party censures or reprimands to make; I leave this to those who take more delight in such warfare than I do. Above all, I shall not make a campaign against the Seminoles—for these campaigns, whether fought in this House or in Florida, as yet, have yielded no laurels. What I propose to do is, to make a few remarks on the subject before us, and in the shortest manner possible, give the outline of the reason why I shall vote for this bill. I proceed at once to do this.

However much gentlemen have differed on other matters, there is one point on which they all agree; that the public Treasury is national money. Owing to causes not necessary here to state, it is now well understood that the revenue will not be sufficient to meet the expenditure of the present year; and we are called upon to supply the deficiency otherwise the Government, for the want of means, must stop, as would a steam engine for the want of the propelling power. The question then presents itself, how is this to be done?

There is one way (and Mr. F.) above all others, by which I wish to see the revenue of the Government made equal to the expenditures; and that is, by reducing the expenditures down to the revenue. That this can be done at a single dash, I doubt; but the work should now be commenced, and steadily followed up until fully accomplished. I will go as far as any member in this House, to bring about so desirable a reform; and though we may not be able to complete it at the present session, still if all sides would talk less, and act more, much might be done. But for two large items, we might at once equalize the revenue, and the expenditures. I mean the Florida war and the pension lists. When these two items shall be cut off, or the one wholly cut off, and the other reduced, the income of the Government will be more than enough to meet all legitimate demands. It is to be hoped that the Florida war will not last forever; but will end with the present year, and with it end all annual expenditure of several millions of dollars.

As to the pension list, it is every body's longing less and less. The relics of the patriotic generation of '76 are rapidly disappearing from among us to take their places in another world, and it is to pass on new pension acts, this source of expense in a few years will cease to exist.

Still there is a deficiency for the present year, and if we cannot at this sess. bring the expenditures down to the income, it necessarily follows that we must, in some way, bring the income up to the expenditures; that is, we must in some way or other supply the means treasury on the Government. The question returns, how is this to be done?

In casting about, I see but four ways in which we can possibly raise the money.

The first is, by increasing the import duties, that is, by raising the taxes on the people.

The second is, by making a regular loan; that is, by beginning a new national debt.

The third is, by calling on the States to pay back the surplus and deposited with them.

The fourth, and last, is, by the issue of Treasury notes, bearing a reasonable interest; the plan proposed by the bill now before us.

There is no other way than these, except direct and excise taxes; and now let us see which of these plans is least objectionable.

First as to increasing the import duties, the tariff. Shall we now sit to work, and raise the import duties; this is, impose new burdens on the country? Shall we revive the old tariff, enacting again a contest which can so near breaking up this Government? I know that there are many here and elsewhere, for doing so, but I hope no one seriously contemplates a movement of this kind at present. I doubt very much whether the manufacturers themselves would desire to see this experiment now attempted.

They hardly wait to see this question so long again opened, and their interests thereby addled on the wide ocean of strife and uncertainty. Besides, they begin to understand that high protective duties are not what they had supposed them to be; they begin to see that incidental protection, with a sound and steady currency, is vastly more important to them than high duties, with an inflated paper circulation, expanding and contracting, as per suggestion. But even if it were otherwise, if the manufacturers were desirous to see the tariff now increased, you cannot do it. The Southern members, without distinction of party, will resist the attempt to the utmost. Then as additional taxes are one out of the question, shall we resort to the second plan—that is, to a regular loan.

Now we begin a new national debt. Many, indeed, in debate, have warmly urged this scheme; and, one gentleman has actually introduced it, by way of amendment, for this purpose; but, my self, I can say I am as much opposed to it, as any one else, if you once establish a regular national debt, it will soon lead to wars, and none that are now living, will see the end of it. The day in which this Government will be compelled to do so, will be a great and glorious day for our Republic. It should be long remembered, and resisted by the American people. While the rest of the United States had paid off their debts, and given up their *monopolies*. These men, with the exception, maybe, of the GREAT SEAL of the State, came on to the meeting of Congress; and the other men, who had been deprived of the election, also came on. Both represented themselves before the House, and claimed seats, and the question arose as to which should have the seats, the five who held the Governor's commission under the green seal, but who had not exercised a majority of votes, or the other five, who had no commission, but who received the greatest number of votes?

One portion of the House voted for giving seats to those who held the Governor's commission, alleging that we had no right at that time to look beyond the commission. The other portion of the House were for giving the seats to the five who had no commission, but who had received the greatest number of votes. After much controversy, however, the House did, in effect, neither set to the seats nor then, but referred the matter to a committee for investigation. This committee, under a subsequent resolution of the House, re-

ported, from the testimony before them, that the five, who had not the commission, actually received the greater number of votes; and, therefore, the House, by a majority of thirty-one votes, admitted them to take their seats.

Then being the facts of the case, the true question now is, did the House act right in admitting or seating those who had received the greatest number of votes, or ought they to have kept the seats vacant, and New Jersey unrepresented, until the whole State could be searched over for illegal votes, given as well on the one side as on the other?

For one, I believe that the House acted right in what it has done, and I am willing to defend the principles where involved, but I am not willing to be drawn off on collateral questions, and enter into disputes that may mislead the public mind from the true point in view.

CHARLES FISHER.

He undersigned has not affixed his signature to the foregoing address, because he is unwilling to arraign the conduct of the Governor and Privy Council of New Jersey, or to refer to proceedings in committee, which he considers not strictly relevant to the present issue.

The author of the report, however, is a vindication of the report hereto appended, or an answer to the position assumed by the majority of the committee, either in their opposition to the American people, or in their report, it meets with his unequivocal approbation.

JOHN CAMPBELL.



#### THE WESTERN CAROLINIAN

BALTIMORE:

Friday Morning, April 17, 1840.

We are requested to announce B. B. ROBERTS as a Candidate for Sheriff of Davidson County.

We this week crowd out a great deal of Editorial and other matter, to make room for the Appeal of the majority of the Committee of Elections, and the Speech of Mr. Fisher; which we are sure will be more acceptable to most of our readers than any of our own productions.

Col. Johnson's Letter.—Under the head of "Abolition Petitions," will be found a very interesting and important letter from the Vice President of the United States, Col. RICHARD M. JOHNSON. In this letter, Col. Johnson signs his reasons for declining to present to the Senate, as its presiding officer, a Petition praying the abolition of slavery, and they are such as must meet the cordial approbation of every Southern man.

We are extremely gratified to see the Vice President, occupying the position he does as the candidate of the Democratic party for re-election, coming out thus boldly and decisively against the Abolitionists—especially, when his opponents, Gen. Harrison and his political friends at the North, are either against us, or refuse to make any pledges "to meet the public eye," on this all important question.

The calm and dignified Appeal of the majority of the Committee of Elections on the New Jersey Contested Election, will be found in our paper to-day. It is lengthy, but we hope every man in the country will read it, without regard to party. It is a plain, temperate, and clear production, and completely exposes the enormities attempted to be perpetrated upon the sacred rights of the freemen of New Jersey, by the Governor of that State and his friends in Congress, and fully justifies, by facts, the action of the Committee and the House upon this famous question.

Mr. Fisher's Speech on the Treasury Note Bill will attract the reader's attention. It will be seen that, while other members are engaged in making *Precedents* for the people, Mr. F. is honestly endeavoring to carry out the great principles of "retrenchment and reform" upon which he was elected to Congress. While he supported this Bill only as a measure of temporary relief to the country and the Government, he raised his voice in favor of "reducing the expenses of Government down to the revenue," instead of raising the Tariff, or borrowing money to support extravagance, as the federalists wish to do. And if there was less party spirit and more patriotism in Congress, such advice would not pass unheeded.

The elections are just over in Connecticut, for Governor, &c. The Harrisonites have carried the State by about 3,500 majority. So goes the land of blue-light federalism—as might have been expected.

The Hon. Thaddeus Stevens, one of the Connecticut Senators in Congress, died at Washington City, on the 7th instant. His funeral was attended by the President, the Heads of Departments, and both Houses of Congress.

His Excellency, Patrick Noble, Governor of South Carolina, died at Abbeville, his residence, on the 7th inst. He was a man of sterling integrity, and of great worth in private life.

A rumor has reached here, that the Hon. Hugh L. White, late a Senator in Congress from Tennessee, died a few days since, at his residence near Knobsville.

Sudden Death.—We learn, that Mr. James Martin, a citizen of Cabell county, while returning home a few days since from a logrolling, fell from his horse with something like an apoplectic fit, and died immediately.

Charles Haskwood, the talented Editor of the Cincinnati Gazette, died in Cincinnati recently.

Distracting.—We learn that John W. Gray, Esq., who lived near Mount Morris, Iredell county, was killed about yesterday, shot by his father of a tree. He was at work, clearing off a piece of ground, when becoming tired, sat down on a log to rest; while in this position a decayed tree blew down upon him, causing his death in about two hours.

French Cabinet.—After repeated offering the King of France, as we learn by late arrivals, has succeeded in forming a new Cabinet, as follows: M. Thiers, President of the Council and Minister of Foreign Affairs; Adolphe M. Vibert, Minister of Justice; M. de Remond, Minister of the Interior; M. de Malmaison, Sub-Secretary; M. Joubert, Minister of Public Works; General Chabrier, Minister of War; Admiral Roussin, Minister of Marine; Polit de la Loire, Minister of Commerce; M. Coutin, Minister of Public Instruction, and M. Guizot, Minister of Finance.

We learn, that at the Republican meeting in Mechanicsburg last Saturday, the following gentlemen were nominated as candidates for the Legislature: SENATE, WILLIAM PYRON Esq.; COMMISSIONERS, GREECE W. CALDWELL, Esq., MELVIN BENJAMIN MORROW, and DR. ORR.

The Contract.—The late Republican Convention at Richmond, Rockingham county, appointed Col. WALTER F. LEAK to present to Mr. Van Buren and Gen. Harrison the following inquiry, being the same as that proposed by the Editor of the Fayetteville *North Carolinian*, and answered by Gen. Saunders, to wit:

"Are you, or are you not, opposed to the abolition of slavery in the United States, in any way, shape, form, or fashion, except as the owners of the slaves may themselves desire?"

Well, what do we see? Gen. Morehead promptly answered the question: Mr. Morehead gave a prompt and explicit answer, as follows:

WASHINGTON, March 27, 1840.

I have received your letter of the 21st inst., and can have no objection to my in reply, that the sentiments expressed in my letter to Junius Birrell, and others, on the 5th March, 1838, and subsequently repeated in my Inaugural address, ARE NOT ONLY STILL ENTERTAINED BY ME, BUT HAVE BEEN GREATLY STRENGTHENED, BY SUBSEQUENT EXPERIENCE AND REFLECTION.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servt's,

M. VAN BUREN.

To WALTER F. LEAK, Esq. Chairman, &c.

In the letter to Mr. Birrell and others, here alluded to by Mr. Van Buren, he says:

"The Constitution of the United States carries with it an adjustment of all questions involved in the delimitations which led to its adoption, and the compromise of interests in which it was founded, in binding in honor and good faith, independent of the force of agreement on all, who live under its protection, and participate in the benefits of which it is the source. The relation of master and slave is a matter exclusively belonging to the people of each State, within its own dominion; and any attempt by the Government or people of any other State or by the General Government, to interfere with or disturb it, would violate the spirit of that compact which lies at the basis of the Federal compact. We can only hope to maintain the union of the States, notwithstanding frequent interference with the laws, domestic policy, and peculiar interests of every other State."

If the desire of those of my countrymen who are favorable to my election is gratified, I expect to go into the Presidential chair the inflexible and uncompromising opponent of every attempt on the part of Congress, to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia, against the wishes of the slaveholding States, and also with a determination equal

to decided, to resist the slightest interference with it in the States where it exists." "It now only remains to add, that no bill conflicting with these views can ever receive my constitutional sanction."

Could the South ask more of Mr. Van Buren?

But, where is Gen. Harrison, and why does he not answer, too? Why, the reply is to be found in the "policy" adopted by his "dry negro," the secret Committee, who say that he shall not make "any further pledges to meet the public eye"! Friends of North Carolina, will you support such a man?

Cavil.—If the federalists abroad should credit the statements of "Rowan," in the last "Watchman," of this town, about the "changes in favor of Harrison" in this county, w-h-e-w! what a shower bath they'll get next August and November! There are changes going on in this county, but not *in favor of Harrison*. The "log cabin and hard cider picture books" are "working off," what little Harrisonism there is among the people of this county. The federalists will not be able to drive the State Rights Republicans of Rowan into the support of Harrison. Set this down in your scrapbook.

We have laid aside, for publication, the proceeds of a very spirited meeting of the Republicans of Lincoln county, in which we are glad to see several stalwart Nullifiers, and gentlemen of worth and influence, who have for some time stood aloof from the party conflicts of the day, came out openly against Harrison.

At a meeting of the Republicans of Mecklenburg, on Saturday last, we also learn that several gentlemen, Nullifiers, who have formerly stood neutral, came out against Harrison. The same may be said of Haywood county, where at a late meeting of the Republicans, several gentlemen who have, hitherto, hitherto, voted with the federalists, but who had to the State Rights creed, came out openly against Harrison. Despite of all the noisy brawling of the federalists, about "changes in favor of Harrison," etc., their cause is destined to a most woeful defeat in Western North Carolina next August, and a still worse one in November.

Projects in Virginia.—The Virginia Elections take place on the 23d of this month. The Republicans seem to be in high spirits. A late *Engineer* says: "In spite of all the bravado and tricks of the federalists, we are most grossly deceived by others, if we do not carry the State this spring. We take the *less* heavy, or any other than in Virginia, on this result, with the *Whig* or any of its adherents. Let the *Whig* say *vix*, and we think we shall wear a hat at its expense."

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The Chick Bug.—We learn from several intelligent Farmers of this County, that this destructive insect is making sad havoc in our wheat crop. Some fields are already nearly ruined. They are said to be more numerous than ever before known in this section of country.

Nothing new from Congress, only that the Sub-Treasury Bill has been reported to the House, by the Committee of Ways and Means, without amendment, as it passed the Senate.

Texan Independence.—The document of a letter, received in Washington, dated at Galveston, Texas, the 23d ult., says that "the news has just arrived, that Mexico has acknowledged our Independence."

President Lamar has issued his proclamation, dated February 11, abolishing the duties on French wines, imported direct from France to Texas, in either French or Texan vessels.

Cotton.—The last accounts in relation to the price of our great staple, are as follows:

In Cherokee 5000 lbs. were sold during the past week, at prices ranging from 9 to 10 cents per pound.

In Savannah, it was selling from 5 to 9 cents, in August, from 5 to 7 cents.