

Gov. McPherson

TWENTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

THIRTY-EIGHTH WEEK.

We like much the spirit of independence which has characterized the opening proceedings of this memorable Twenty-ninth Congress. The debate of Wednesday, following as it did, hard upon the Message of Tuesday, and so totally unlike the President's speech, was one of the most brilliant off-hand discussions ever heard in the House of Representatives. We are encouraged by it to hope that no Executive will hereafter attempt to dictate to Congress the latitude of debate consistent with his notions of propriety, or if the rebuke was meant for the People and the Press, we think that the Representatives of the People, to whom this speech from the throne was addressed, have timely and fittingly spoken in their behalf. Mr. Polk will find his attempts to frighten Congress or the Press into silence, as abortive as other attempts he has made, to win success for his party and his measures, by corresponding declarations of his own virtue and other people's wrong. A man, proving himself so good a patriot, and so wise a man, as Mr. Polk pretends to be, will never, like Mr. Polk, be found either traducing his opponents or praising himself. The justice of his measures will vindicate the purity of his motives. It is certain that Mr. Polk's own friends in Congress have not, at the present session, shown any remarkable attachment to his person or his intolerable doctrine against free discussion, by imputing treason to those who dare consider and comment upon his acts. One of the Representatives of his party, Mr. Holmes, of S. C., has denounced the Proclamations of Captain Stockton and General Kearney, as in utter violation of every principle of international law. He has said, too, that the Executive could have had no knowledge of the law of nations, and no very correct understanding of the Constitution of the United States, to have sanctioned such acts of official misconduct on the part of the President's officers. Another member from South Carolina, (Mr. Rhett,) hoped to excuse the whole matter, by declaring that the President's officers,—men like Kearney, Sloat and Stockton, could not be expected to have any very critical acquaintance with the Constitution, and the reason was, that this gentleman, who has recently visited London, found very intelligent merchants who could not comprehend the nature of our Government! We doubt, if the officers, whose acts are meant to be defended by this flimsy shield, would thank Mr. Rhett for any such appeal in their behalf. We take it for granted that they have issued their extraordinary Proclamations, under the advice of the President; and we come to this conclusion, because they are at least silently sanctioned by the Administration, and openly defended by Congress

The debate in the House on Thursday was spiced with a good deal of satire and novelty. Mr. Stanton, of Tenn., could not regard Santa Fe as in Texas; but the President was defended, nevertheless, for so claiming it. When, we ask, did ever a Texan enter Santa Fe as a conqueror, when the Republic of Texas existed? The attempt made to conquer the Province failed, and those who participated in it failed also, and were made prisoners of war. Mr. Seddon, of Va., exhorts Congress to preserve its rights from Executive encroachment, and yet goes as far as he who goes farthest in abandoning the special rights of the National Legislature. His theory is good enough, but his defence of the practice as bad as the Executive could wish for his support. Mr. Woodward, of S. C., says to his party, gentlemen, don't put the President upon a ground where he cannot stand—don't defend him in false principles—don't put him in the wrong and then straight-way defend his greatest enormities. This man all through runs away with the principle, and the "one man power" is defended as if there was no such thing as a Country and a Constitution. The debate must be renewed upon this Resolution on Monday.

The other proceedings of the House, during the week, have not been of much importance. In both Houses the annual Reports have been submitted, and they will present much matter of comment and reference for some days to come. In both Houses notices have been given of bills which are to be brought forward for the purpose of increasing the pay and subsistence of Volunteers. Gentlemen who receive eight dollars for every twenty miles of travel, ought to be willing to allow something more than fifty cents for the same distance. The monthly pay is also less than it should be, and the clothing and subsistence provided in a manner, and at an expense, which makes the Volunteer service more onerous than the service in the regular army.

The Vice-President has received a rebuke in the Senate, in the refusal of the majority of that body to entrust the appointment of the Standing Committees to the presiding officer. This is well. The man who would defraud his Country and State, as Mr. Dallas has done, by professing sentiments he did not believe in, or making promises he did not mean to keep, deserves to be held up to public reprobation.

We hope that Congress, to whom all eyes are now turned, will not forget that much is to be done, as well as said, during this unusually short session. There are hundreds of bills which ought to be passed upon, besides the great public questions which press upon the attention of Members.—New York Express.

LARGE TRUST AND EXECUTOR'S SALE OF OR ABOUT 120 LIKELY AND VALUABLE NEGROES. ALSO—4000 ACRES OF LAND AND TOWN PROPERTY.

80 very likely NEGROES, Consisting of MEN, WOMEN, BOYS and GIRLS.

1300 ACRES. The Plantation on the York River, and known as the "WHITE HOUSE PLANTATION," containing about 1300 ACRES.

"SPRING HILL PLANTATION," containing about Eleven hundred ACRES.

THE HOUSE AND LOT, in the South square of the Town of Salisbury, near the Factory, and now in the occupation of J. G. Cairnes, Agent. Also, the east half of

LOT Number 13, joining the Bank Lot. The Real Estate will be sold on a credit, and conditions made known on day of sale.

20 DOLLARS REWARD. AN AWAY from the subscriber, at Mount November last, a negro boy named LONDON, 25 or 30 years old, black, five feet eight inches high, of good appearance and manners.

Valuable TOWN Property FOR SALE. BEING desirous of selling my House and Lot where Doct. P. Henderson now resides, I shall, if not privately sold before that day, offer the place at Public Sale, on the 1st January, 1847.

From the Raleigh Register, Dec. 25. SENATE'S DEBATES. On Saturday last, the Resolution to appropriate \$10,000 for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Regiment of Volunteers, until their arrival at the place of rendezvous, came up for discussion in the Senate.

Dr. GILLIAM, who introduced the Resolution, advocated its passage in a short Speech, in which he maintained the pressing necessity of the appropriation. Congress had made no provision for these expenses, and the formation of the Regiment would be retarded by this neglect, if not wholly prevented, unless the State should place funds in the hands of the Executive to meet the emergency. He urged immediate action, and hoped the Resolution would pass immediately, and by acclamation.

Mr. WILSON, of Edgecomb, said he desired that the Resolution should pass, and pass unopposed, and he thought this unanimity might be secured by making a slight, a very slight amendment, to the Preamble. There was a word or two in that, which he thought might very properly be stricken out, without marring the Resolution itself. He arranged his spectacles and smiled blandly, as he read the objectionable words, across which he proposed that the pen should be drawn. They were insignificant, to be sure, and might be harmless; but as a matter of taste, he would prefer their omission.

pass that Corpus Christi was not properly a part of Texas. Of it they had possession. There was no dispute about that. So of some other places higher up the River Neuces, which were in possession of the Texans, and particularly that small, but rich spot on the west bank, where lived the member of Congress. But if these instances of ownership thro' undisputed possession, prove that the Texans owned all between this River and the Rio Grande, then the undisputed ownership by possession of the Mexicans of Point Isabel, Santiago, Santa Fe, &c., on the east bank of the Rio Grande, will equally prove that the Mexicans owned the same broad district of country. The argument is the same in both cases. It will at least make it a matter of dispute, and that is all that the Whigs, and many Democrats too, have ever contended for. Taken all together, it might more satisfactorily prove that neither the Neuces nor Rio Grande, is the real boundary, but some line in the desert prairie between. But if in all this he was mistaken, if the real western boundary of Texas is the Rio Grande, does it therefore follow that the statement is untrue that this Republic is engaged in a foreign war by the action of the Executive? Both may stand together. Both may be true. Whether the Rio Grande be the boundary or not, the war was begun by the action of the Executive? Mr. POLK almost admits this in his last Message to Congress, about two-thirds of which is taken up in a labored argument to prove that he was right in doing that very thing. Where was the use of that long argument, which the Senator from Edgecomb has both read and marked, to justify himself for a course which his friends here wish to say that he did not pursue? He understands it rather better than his friends in this Hall. In the language of Lawyers, he "confesses and avoids." His friends here take a shorter cut, and stoutly deny. The argument of Mr. WOODFIN was worthy of his standing as a Lawyer and Senator. It was pointed, logical, well spoken, and sometimes eloquent.

Mr. GILMER was called up again by some things which had fallen from Senators on the other side. His effort on Saturday, was a playful salley, when compared with this. He is from old Guilford, that Gibraltar of Whig principles, and has much of the air and manner of him who is so dear to the Whigs, and who has been styled the "Rough and Ready" of North Carolina. Those who might think, from Mr. Gilmer's placid, smiling face, that he is a harmless adversary, have grievously mistaken the man. Some gentlemen were evidently mistaken on this occasion. Those who stir up the uncaged tiger with a pole, are apt to find him quite an ugly customer. The lofty scorn with which he hurled back the language of the President, about giving aid and comfort to the enemy, and echoed feebly by some of his friends in that Hall, was truly withering. The proud defiance with which he challenged the Democracy to weigh their patriotism against that of the Whigs, will not soon be forgotten. He spoke of those who now lead our Armies in Mexico—of those, who have fallen in battle—whose blood had fattened the Mexican soil—of those who had shown every where the greatest alacrity in rallying around the standard of our country—were there no Whigs among them? Have the Whigs proved themselves Traitors in this? Do traitors do so? Still the Executive coolly asserts that those who may dare to doubt the correctness of his course, are traitors; giving aid and comfort to the enemy, "forsooth, though they give the lie to the infamous charge, by detaching their lives to their country, and write their indignant denial in their own hearts blood.

Mr. EHRINGHAUS addressed the Senate, and was happy in many parts of his Speech. Speaking of the army planting itself on the banks of the Rio Grande, and pointing their guns upon Matamoros—with a precision of aim that, in the language of one of the Engineers, could pick off the head of any Mexican who showed himself in the City—Mr. E. said he presumed he had a right to carry arms, even loaded arms, whenever he pleased. He might even march with his gun on his shoulder along the public streets. He might associate with him a number of his friends, who might also carry arms in this way, and nobody would have a right to complain, provided they molested and threatened no one. But if they should plant themselves in front of his neighbor's house, and point their guns at his window, there might be just cause of complaint. Such an act, of itself, would provoke resistance, even aggression, &c.

Dr. GILLIAM advised his friends on the other side, to make up their minds to take the pill. It would not hurt them. It had been carefully prepared, and if they would go it like men, they might be certain no murder would be done. He cautioned them that it would be unbecomingly, to make faces at a compound which they had once prepared for the Whigs.

Mr. HOGAN said, that the pill had been prepared by a skillful Physician, and it was a rare by him, when he employed a Physician in whose skill he had confidence, to swallow the physic and ask no questions. Our Democratic friends would behave with dignity becoming themselves, considering, if they would follow his example.

Dr. CAMERON was understood to say, that as a Physician of considerable practice, he would advise an entirely different course of medicine. He sincerely doubted whether the pills of his brother of Bertie were not drugged with poison. He advised his friend from Randolph to "throw all such physic to the dogs," and take a prescription which he would offer.

Mr. HOGAN thought, that when Learned doctors disagree, The lucky patient may go free; So he should even take the dose on his own responsibility, not as physic, but as wholesome diet.

This collateral discussion upon Therapeutics, brought up Dr. RUSSELL, of Granville, who closed the debate for the day, in a vein of drollery and irresistible fun, which set the Senate in a roar, and scattered the "clouds that lowered over our House," though they were not in "the deep bosom of the Ocean buried," as the proceedings of Tuesday will show.

The last act of the Senate to-day, (Monday,) was a vote upon the motion of Mr. HAWKINS, of Warren, to amend the amendment, by substituting the words "the Government of Mexico," for the words "the Executive," by which amendment it would read thus: "Whereas, by the action of the Government of Mexico, subsequently sanctioned by Congress, this Republic is engaged in a foreign war," &c. This amendment received the unanimous vote of Democratic Senators.

Mr. THOMPSON, of Wake, opened the discussion upon the Resolution in aid of the Volunteers, with a "Jeremy Dismal" air, and in tones so sepulchral, and hollow, that the cold chills crawled bodily over all beholders. That brace of ranting Cameronians, the Reverend Gabriel Kettle drummel and Ephraim Mr. Briar,

who flourished so extensively in the solemn days of the covenant, when "Polk! drum! Ecce, Ecce!" "Was beat with fire, instead of a stick," could not have held a candle to the Senator from Wake, in the earnest vehemence of his appeals. "This is no time for sport," quoth the Senator. This way of drugging the Democratic party with dirty pills, might be a tolerable good joke for the Whigs—it was no joke for him. The Country calls upon us to act. Those who are about to peril their lives for us, are in want of instant aid, of the means of getting to the field of glory and honor. Their fellow soldiers in the service are calling on them to come to their aid. The Country needs their services now, and here we are debating about a miserable preamble which has no proper connection with the Resolution. Why cannot we pass the Resolution at once, and send them the money?—All of us wish to provide the money, but we are required to take some Whig physic before we can do what we wish. He therefore pounded his desk and besought the Whigs around him to agree to strike out the preamble, and allow them to pass the Resolution unanimously. If ever a War was a righteous and holy War, this was one. And he called upon all parties to give it a hearty support. He spoke of the want of patriotism in thus insidiously attacking the President—and awfully squinted at the aid and comfort Whigs might give the enemy. Turning to Mr. WADDELL, he conjured him to allow the Resolution to pass, without the obnoxious Preamble. You say that you were served in the same way once under similar circumstances. You complain of it as a great wrong. I ask if it was wrong then, can it be right now. I dare you to come out and say boldly and openly that you will counsel and procure to be done an acknowledged wrong! I dare you to take that position, &c., &c.

Mr. WADDELL, in reply, was sorry to see the Senator from Wake, so decomposed. It was only a change of circumstances. He used to laugh when he was in a majority, and we had to take the physic. Let the Senator have more philosophy. Let him nerve himself like a man. This will so happen sometimes. It is prudent to school ourselves to these reverses. It is no sport to the Senator now. He does it cruel to force this physic upon them, and threatens us with due retribution, unless we desist. We are used to such threats,—they pass by, as the idle wind. Whigs cannot be frightened from their propriety thus. Where they know their duty they do it, and leave the consequences to Heaven. But when did the Senator become so sensitive about right and wrong in this matter?—Did he not approve the act of his party in Congress, when they forced the Whigs to assent as a truth, what Mr. CALHOUN declared his own right hand should let out his heart's blood, sooner than he would say? It was naturally possible, that the one might be done—it was morally impossible for him to do the other.—Did the Senator groan over the poor insulted Whigs, when his party forced them to vouch as truth for what another Democrat, Mr. Holmes, of S. C., declared before his God was "a lie"—or vote against supplies for the War? Has not the Senator in his harangues before the people, even this last Summer, publicly justified his party for that very act, and now shall he beseech that the cup may pass him?

It is not for that Senator, to look with loathing upon the poisoned chalice which we now commend back to his lips! No, Sir, that Senator must not turn away in disgust. He must drink it to the dregs. He is estopped by his own acts, or by the acts of his party, which he has over and over approved and applauded. It does not lie with him to say that we are wrong, or that we are exercising harshly our power. But said Mr. W., laughing and bowing to Mr. T., I assure the Senator that he mistakes.—There is no cause for alarm, at what he is pleased to call our physic. We ask him to assent to "lie" in the language of a distinguished Democrat—(Whigs have used none such.) We do not ask him even to concur the President. In this Preamble, we do not characterize the "act of the Executive" as wrong. We only speak of it as an act of his, which act he himself justifies, at large in his late Message. If then we only speak of it as an act without either praising or blaming it, and if that act is true, and admitted by himself to be true, why this repugnance on the part of our friends? After disposing of these few preliminaries, Mr. WADDELL turned upon the Senator of Wake, and such a torrent of indignant eloquence poured out, over and all around, the cowering Senator, about that charge of treason, made against the Whigs in high places, and caught up and echoed here, has been rarely witnessed. During some of the bursts, one Whig at least held his breath; and in that Hall, you might almost have heard a spider, weaving his web, so profound was his silence. The chain was broken, and the galleries cleared by Mr. ASHE, who made a long and bitter speech, but he spit out his words so confusedly, that he commanded but little attention. After Mr. ASHE was done, the Senate adjourned without taking a vote.

The subject was resumed again on Wednesday, but we have no further space to-day, for a continuation of the sketch. We will give the finale in our next. The Senate continued in session until 5 o'clock, P. M. Speeches were delivered by Messrs. WADDELL, FRANCIS, and GILMER, on the Whig side, and by Messrs. ASHE, THOMPSON and CAMERON, on the opposite. Of these speeches, we will give an account in our next, but must add here, that Mr. WADDELL, by his speech, did what no one else could have done, eclipsed his previous efforts. At length, the voting commenced. On the adoption of Mr. WILSON'S amendment, mentioned above, the vote stood: Yeas 19—Nays 24. Mr. SPRIGHT then moved a division of the question, and that a vote be taken first upon the Preamble. Mr. HALEY, the excellent Senator from Tyrrell and Washington, being in the Chair, decided that the question was not divisible. From this decision, an appeal was taken, but the Senate sustained the Chair by a vote of 23 to 19. The question was then taken on the adoption of the Preamble and Resolution, and was decided in the affirmative, 41 to 21—every Democratic Senator, but two (Messrs. ASHE and STOWE,) voting for a measure, which they have wasted so much time in arguing against, though they knew it would pass.

Gen. Hawkins gave notice, that he should avail himself of his Constitutional right to have his Protest against the Preamble, entered upon the Journals.

Thus, gloriously, have the Whigs of the Old North State repelled the foul slanders published against their party, by President POLK, in his late Message.

Rail Road Charters.—The Legislature has passed into Laws the Bills chartering rail roads from Raleigh via Fayetteville, to Camden, S. C., and from Wilmington to Manchester. The Legislature of South Carolina granted similar Charters.

LIBERALITY.—The operatives of the Richmond Woolen Manufactory, presented to the Virginia Valley of Red Flannels, worth one hundred dollars. This is only one of the many where valuable gifts have been sent.

We have received an account of the death of Mr. John Mathews, which shall appear in our next.

FRIDAY EVENING, JANUARY 1847.



DEBATE IN THE SENATE

We call attention to the intense heat of the debate which took place in the House of Representatives, on the Resolution introduced by Mr. Gilliam, to appropriate \$10,000 for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the Regiment of Volunteers, until their arrival at the place of rendezvous. It will be seen that the Whigs were not only struggling hard, but in vain, to strike out the Preamble which was to be the act of the President. The Whigs were not only to give "aid and comfort" to the Regent, but they will not be so cautious as even to intimate, as the done, that any man in our State, who forget his Country.

The Wilmington Journal article of complaint against the Whigs, because they cannot find it in their power to approve the conduct of Mr. Polk's subject of the war, says—"The Country in a state of war, supplies to carry on that war, turn round and abuse Mr. Polk's duty in carrying on the war." This is partly true and partly false. After Mr. Polk commenced his marching an army into a desolate and menacing the inhabitants of Amoros, thus bringing on war, in Congress voted for a resolution to the Country in a state of war, ing supplies; and at the same time condemned the President, not only on the war with vigor, as the states; but they condemned the volving us in a war so unbecomingly they condemned the Democracy of the Executive who forced the false position of declaring war had been commenced by the can Government. Let the member these facts, and compare such doleful articles as the one we have quoted as above.

PRICES IN 1845 AND IN 1846

- The following is a sentence taken from Mr. Walker's Report to the present session of the Tariff of 42 than on the 1st of December, 1845, was \$1.35. On the 30th July 1846, it was \$1.93, 331,906; and on the 1st December, 1846, it was \$1.93, 331,906. An aggregate difference in the price of cotton, of 57 cents per bale, or 15 cents per pound.
- The New York Tribune replies to the following statements:—1. That the rise in the price of cotton from July 30th to Dec. 1st, 1846, was 57 cents per bale, or 15 cents per pound. 2. That the prices of Grain were higher on the 1st of December, 1845, than it was at the same period of the year.
- 3. That the prices of Grain were higher on the 1st of December, 1845, than it was at the same period of the year.

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- 8. That the price of Grain was higher on the 1st of December, 1845, than it was at the same period of the year.
- 9. That the price of Grain was higher on the 1st of December, 1845, than it was at the same period of the year.
- 10. That the price of Grain was higher on the 1st of December, 1845, than it was at the same period of the year.

We present to our patrons a sheet. We presume it hardly needs all know it is the custom of Printer's to take the Christmas holidays. We heartily to suspend publication during the pleasure of our readers, we have much news as we can crowd on to you, which we trust they will be satisfied with.