At the request of several subscribers, we have been induced to republish the following article in relation to Mexico, which appeared in the Whig about three months ago. At this time, it will be found particularly interesting, and, from the information it embodies, useful in the discussion of the highly important questions which will most probably arise in both Houses during the present session. It is scarcely necessary to repeat that the article is from the pen of a gentleman who has devoted much of his time and attention to the subject.

THE RUPTURE OF THE TRIST NEGOTIATIONS.

The rupture of the negotiations for peace with Mexico has created a sensation throughout the length and breadth of the land. The public mind seems to have become concentrated upon the subject; and, as the war must continue, the general voice demands that it should be conducted with efficiency and vigor. Large reinforcements are to be promptly despatched to Mexico. Scott and Taylor are to be furnished with the means of conquering a peace, and the entire subjugation of Mexico, is loudly called for from various quarters.

It might, with some significance, be asked why has not all this energy been brought into action at an earlier period? Why have armies, inconsiderable in number, been sent into the heart of the country, competent, it is true, to gain victories, but unable to improve them; able to conquer towns, but not to garrison them; to make prisoners, but not to hold them; to penetrate to the capital, but not to secure the communications in the rear. The maxim of the Duke of Wellington is as strictly applicable to the United States as to Great Britain. We ought not and cannot carry on a small war. It is now universally admitted that the war in which we are engaged demands the full employment of our energies and our resources—all our military skill and means.—Happy had it been if this discovery had been made fifteen months since; happy had it been could a distinct and correct appreciation and discernment have led to a more judicious and energetic conduct of the war, prevented the appointment of incompetent and inexperienced men to positions of high command, and prevented the impolitic and unjust exclusion of those who were truly meritorious.

The nation is, however, now told that this "is not a war for glory—it is not a war for conquest—it is not a war for aggrandisement—it is not a war for the acquisition of territory—neither is it a war for revenge—but it is a war for *justice* and *humanity*." We are aware that such assertions have been repeatedly made, and such professions often reasserted. The documents recently given to the world, indicating the terms and conditions upon which the respective parties have declared their willingness to lay down their arms and return to their old relations of amity have been triumphantly referred to as substantially the demands made by the Executive upon the confidence of the people in its sincerity, its justice, its veracity, and its disinterestedness. With what success such an appeal is made time will develope.

There are two aspects under which the state of our affairs with Mexico and the terms proposed by Mr. Trist for the acceptance of that republic may be viewed. The one concerns the points in controversy directly between the two Governments, the other the relations subsisting between our Government and its own citizens. Both furnish ample and interesting fields of inquiry and examination.

The war between the United States and Mexico has become a subject of deep and universal interest. The eyes of the Christian world are upon us, and the eyes of our own nation are upon the Administration. The history of the war, freely, fully, and impartially written, will be read with intense interest by future and remote generations. The motives and principles of those who administer the power of the country will be scanned and probed as well as the conduct of those more immediately employed in its active operations. To the enlightened historian may confidently be referred the duty of recording, in appropriate language, the gallant achievements of our army, the skill of our officers, the unsurpassed bravery of our soldiers. His gifted pen will delight to illustrate the indomitable valor and military glories of our Taylor, and the skill and courage of our Scott. But the same pen will also trace the moral and political history of the war; will record the avowed motives, designs, and principles of our rulers, scrutinize their conduct, and institute an unshrinking comparison between their professions and their practices. If honor, truth, sincerity, justice, and humanity shall appear to have been not merely the language of the tongue and pen, but the real source and spring of action, then will our Executive share largely in the eulogies extorted by the conduct of our soldiers, and the whole nation will stand exalted in the estimation of mankind. Should the result of this ordeal be an exposure of the falsity, dishonesty, and perfidy of our rulers, they will be subjected to the deep damnation of the world, and the American people must bear its proportion in the just sentence of condemnation which will be pronounced.

In anticipation of this future judgment, a few observations may now be submitted. The language employed during the negotiation, more especially in the *project* submitted by Mr. Trist, discloses and illustrates fully the views and designs of the Executive.

The "Union" publishes the treaty as offered for the acceptance of Mexico, as it assures its readers, in the very language in which it had been prepared by Mr. Buchanan. No doubt can therefore exist as to the genuineness and authenticity of the document. In this proposition, then, and it would seem that it was to be considered substantially as the *ultimatum* of this Government, the United States demand from Mexico the establishment of a line of boundary, beginning at the mouth of the Rio Grande, from thence up the middle of that river to the point where it strikes the southern line of New Mexico, thence westwardly along the southern boundary of New Mexico, to the southwestern corner of the same, thence northward along the western line of New Mexico until it intersects the first branch of the river Gila, or if it should not intersect any branch of that river, then to the point in said line nearest to such branch, and thence in a direct line to the same, and down the middle of said branch and of the said river until it empties into the river Colorado, thence down the middle of the Colorado and the middle of the Gulf of California to the Pacific Ocean.

The line thus indicated may be easily traced upon Disturnell's late valuable map of Mexico. Independently of the disputed territory, connected with the limits of Texas, lying between the Nueces and the Rio Grande, the precise extent of which is not known, but it is estimated at 60,000 square miles; it comprehends—

1.	The whole province of S. Fe,	214,000 sq. miles.
2.	New Mexico—at least	60,000 "
3.	Upper California,	376,344 "
4.	Lower California,	57,000 "
		707,344 "

To this may be added—

1.	The disputed territory,	60,000 "
2.	The region between the Gila and Colorado, said not to be included in California,	100,000 "
3.	A part of Sonora, lying between the Gila and its first branch—say	3,000 "

Making a grand aggregate of 870,344 "

Mr. Brantz Mayer (p. 299) estimates the entire area of the Mexican Republic at 1,650,000 square miles, but he furnishes no detail showing how this aggregate is composed. Mr. Disturnell gives a tabular statement of items and a summary of 1,590,304 square miles. The territorial acquisition contemplated by the proposition would thus embrace more than 800,000 square miles, to which the United States had no pretence of title, and a quit claim from Mexico of other 60,000 square miles, the right to which was controverted upon other grounds than the alleged invalidity of the annexation of Texas;

The value of this contemplated acquisition does not admit of even a very close approximation. The estimates are various and contradictory. Upper California alone embracing the valuable harbors of St. Francisco, Monterey, Santa Barbara, San Diego, and others has been estimated by well informed men at $50,000,000. Within the territory the cession of which was thus demanded, are to be found many mines of the precious metals which have only been sufficiently explored to indicate their great richness and value. The political and commercial benefits resulting from such an extension of our limits, particularly on the shores of the Pacific, are wholly conjectural, and scarcely admit of a pecuniary valuation. Without including them in the calculation, the present and immediate value of the proposed cession cannot be estimated at less than one hundred millions of dollars.

It therefore appears that the Executive proposed to obtain from Mexico an extent of territory amounting to a full moiety of the entire Republic, and estimated to exceed the one-third of the supposed area of the United States, stated by Mr. Mayer at 2,300,000 square miles. Assuming the present pecuniary value at one hundred millions, we are furnished with some of the data by which to measure the terms to which Mexico was called upon to accede. How far, under the circumstances, these terms were liberal, magnanimous, or even just as between the two nations, is a point upon which it is not my present purpose to comment. It must be borne in mind that the Executive has, on all occasions, through its official organ, almost with daily reiteration, disclaimed all intention of making the present a war of conquest. Indemnification to our injured citizens was, as has been repeatedly announced, full indemnification for the past; and ample security against the recurrence of similar atrocities, was all that was desired, and all that would be exacted.

In carrying out these views, however, we see that an immense extent of territory is demanded. The unconditional surrender of all claim to the property in dispute; the absolute cession of national jurisdiction, and the unappropriated right of soil to eight hundred thousand square miles of land; valuable commercial ports, rich mines of the precious metals, and the right of passage across the republic to the Pacific is demanded. Property moderately estimated at one hundred millions of dollars, and in a national point of view far more valuable, is to be acquired by the United States, for the single purpose, and with the single design, of providing a full and complete compensation to her citizens for spoliation of their property, and outrages upon their rights.

Property thus acquired becomes a trust fund solemnly dedicated to the purpose declared. The inquiry then naturally suggests itself, what provision did the Executive contemplate to make for those injured citizens—how was this fund to be disposed of by the agent and trustee? Are the claims of our citizens upon Mexico, payment of which the Government assumed to enforce, and which have so loudly and energetically been urged as calling for war if no other means could be found for compelling their liquidation, so enormous in magnitude as to require a fund of one hundred million of dollars for their satisfaction? Are this immense extent of territory, these valuable mines, these commercial marts, to be made a common stock, and partitioned among these victims of Mexican rapacity and cruelty in proportion to their several demands? Is this fund obtained upon the sacred trust and obligation to see that justice is done to those whom we are bound to protect, to be applied faithfully and honestly to this legitimate end? Will the Government, which has thus undertaken from a high sense of imperative duty to secure its citizens from wrong, this Government, ambitious of no aggrandisement for itself, scrupulous in exacting nought but what justice demands, and fastidiously delicate in disclaiming all imputations of selfish cupidity in the discharge of its own high but painful fudction of enforcing against a delinquent only the demands of an inexorable justice, not transcend these self-imposed and gratuitous limits in compelling Mexico to pay down in money, or in property as its equivalent, the enormous sum of one hundred millions of dollars? Assuming the high position of the avenger of wrong, the administrator of justice, the enforcer of right, indignantly disclaiming all less pure and elevated motives, what disposition did this pure, honorable, disinterested party do, or propose to do with this fund thus extorted from the delinquent? Did it, as common honesty and veracity would have dictated, say, We have acted under the call and in the spirit of justice—we are bound by all the obligations which connect rulers with the people, to see that our citizens suffer no wrong from the lawless practices of other nations; when oppressed and injured it is our duty to see them righted. In the discharge of this high trust, we demand of you only that which you ought voluntarily to have performed without our interference; we demand redress, full and ample it must be, for all just causes of complaint. You are not able to make this compensation in money. You have no other medium of payment than land, of which you have a sabrabundant amount, more than you want or can make use of. Assign to our citizens such amount of land, at present unoccupied, within your own jurisdiction, subject to your own laws, as will indemnify them for the wrongs they have suffered at your hands. We ask for nothing for ourselves. We are desirous of cultivating with you harmony and peace. Whatever of national indignity that has been committed, we are willing to bury in oblivion. We have no right or authority to sacrifice the just rights of our own people. They owe to us allegiance, and to them we owe the correlative obligation of protection. If you prefer to transfer political jurisdiction over the territory thus to be assigned, we will become the purchaser for a fair equivalent. That, however, is a separate matter, and must be distinctly adjusted.

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By the terms of Mr. Buchanan's *project*, it was stipulated that the United States should assume the payment of the balance of the claims of her citizens, adjusted by the Board of Commissioners, under the treaty of 1839. Although that adjustment was notoriously corrupt and unjust, and was denounced in advance by the American commissioners as iniquitous, yet its judgments are to stand unquestioned and final. They further agreed to pay the unadjusted claims to an extent not exceeding three millions more. The amount of the awards made by the Board of Commissioners under the treaty of 1839, was originally about $2,025,000. Several instalments have been paid, and the outstanding balance, with all the accumulation of interest can, by no possibility, at this time amount to two millions of dollars. The Executive, then, proposed to limit the extent of its responsibility to its own citizen claimants, for whom it has assumed to act as protector and guardian to the paltry sum of less than five millions of dollars, while on the pretext of the magnitude of these very some demands, and as a means of paying them, it exacts from Mexico a cession of territory, the proprietary value of which exceeds one hundred millions!

It is manifest, moreover, that were Mexico to pay to our citizens the sum of five millions in specie, and this were to pass through the treasury without any charge whatever for its agency, or expense of transportation, although it has ever been careful to exact such compensation from the citizen, the aggregate wealth of this nation would be to this extent augmented. The acquisition of territory, even if every acre were already the private property of individuals, would be an absolute addition to the general strength and resources. These incidental and collateral benefits would be an ample remuneration to the government for all its labor and trouble in bringing about and executing the arrangement. But such agency is a high constitutional duty, not entitled to a mercantile commission—it grows out of the obligation to protect its people and to vindicate its own just rights, assailed through them in consideration of its allegiance.

Not content, however, with the consciousness of discharging a solemn and oft acknowledged duty, not satisfied with the large share of benefit resulting from such an arrangement for the payment of our citizens, in the enlargement of our territory, the acquisition of ports and places of great if not indispensable necessity; for the commercial and fishing interests of the Union, our Executive in contempt of all its own protestations, insists upon retaining a more than nine-tenths of the mere money value of what was asked from Mexico as a just debt due to our own citizens, as its own lion's share of the funds.

If the demands of our citizens upon Mexico amount only to the sum thus specified and provided for them in these terms proposed to that power, then has this country been most shamefully misled by the exaggerated representations which have been made in regard to them—representations in which Mr. Polk and Mr. Buchanan have officially and unofficially largely participated, and it will be utterly impossible to reconcile the enormity of the sacrifice demanded from Mexico, with the pitiful insignificance of the cause of complaint. If, on the other hand, these just claims have been truly and faithfully exhibited heretofore by Messrs. Polk and Buchanan, and other high functionaries, then will it be equally impracticable to justify the appropriation of so small a portion of what is exacted from the delinquent party to their liquidation. What would be the estimation in which a judge would be held, who, in administering relief to an injured suitor, should compel the transgressor to pay a contribution of twenty times the amount of the damage complained of, and turning over to the aggrieved party the full amount of his just demand, should coolly transfer to his own pocket the remaining nineteen-twentieths, as his own peculium? What judgment would a sound and honest public opinion pass upon an agent, who, in adjusting the claims of his principal for an injury perpetrated upon him, should appropriate to his own use ninety-five per cent. of that which came to his hands in liquidation of the demand? Such, however, is the position which, from the documents published by themselves to the world, the President and his Secretary would seem deliberately to have assumed. It is not easy to perceive how they are to avoid the alternative criminality of employing false pretences to mislead their own country to furnish the means, and then employing those means to perpetrate upon Mexico a most iniquitous act of oppression, injustice, and cruelty, or of having attempted a most glaring fraud in withholding from the injured claimants the fund obtained in satisfaction of their demands.

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DAILY NATIONAL WHIG.
WASHINGTON CITY.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, JANUARY 7, 1848.

☞ Those who desire extra copies of the Whig containing the "*Rupture of the Trist Negotiations*," can be furnished with them, by an early application at this office.

☞ It is proposed to publish Mr. Clay's Lexington Speech, with notes and references to historical events of the country, upon analogous points; also Mr. Gallatin's pamphlet. The work will be put to press as soon as a sufficient number of subscribers can be obtained. The list of subscription is placed at the office of the National Whig.

Santa Ana, the Administration, and the course pursued by the latter.

Santa Ana has issued a long and labored defence of his military conduct since President Polk sent him to Mexico to defend his country. He throws the whole blame of the successive defeats he encountered, from the landing of Gen. Scott till his retreat from the city of Mexico, to the cowardice and disobedience of his generals. He admits that he had under him 90 pieces of cannon, 20,000 men, including 5000 veterans of the army of the North, and the 24 pieces of artillery brought by Gen. Valencia from San Luis Potosi. "Therefore," he says, "on the 11th of August, when the enemy showed himself in the neighborhood of the Penon our situation was imposing, and confidence and enthusiasm were visible in every countenance." And yet with 6000 men Gen. Scott conquered this large army, and succeeded in bearing down every thing before him till he entered the city of Mexico in triumph. In almost every instance Santa Ana says his orders were disregarded, and defeat was the consequence. Had they been obeyed and his instructions followed, the result would have been very different. This, we think, is most likely, and to whom should the shame and disgrace of such a result be attributed? Assuredly to the Administration who, notwithstanding all the efforts of the gallant SCOTT to increase his force, seemed to lend a deaf ear to his importunities, and to act as if they wished his defeat and dishonor. What are the people to think of such an Administration—and especially of its head—who foolishly involved the Nation in a war, and to render that war disastrous, sends the best general the enemy possesses, to organize a powerful force, and to resist and subdue the troops he orders to carry on his unjust war?

According to every statement, official or otherwise, Gen. Scott never had engaged in any of his sanguinary conflicts with the enemy, a larger available force than between six or seven thousand troops of all kinds. The Whigs in Congress had performed their duty by granting men and money, though the war was deemed by them unjust and unconstitutional. Fifty thousand men and ten millions of dollars were voted, for the purpose, it was thought, of bringing the war to a speedy close. And what has been the result? The ten millions have been expended, and the whole military strength of the country does not exceed, at the present moment, 32,000 men. It is scarcely necessary, at this time, to dwell upon the unconstitutionality and injustice of the war in which we are now engaged with a sister republic. That is a point that has been demonstrated, we think, to the satisfaction of every dispassionate mind in the country. The war was conceived in folly and the ambitious lust of territory, and has been prosecuted with imbecility of purpose and feebleness of action.

The history of this war will show to posterity and the world that the gallantry and indomitable courage of our armies alone saved the nation from disgrace and dishonor, and form a splendid contrast to the inertness and imbecility of those who brought the war upon the country. Some future Tacitus will be able to portray the character of him who to the misfortune of the nation, has been placed at its head, but whom nature never intended to elevate above the condition of a mere pettifogger or "fomenter of village vexation." This example may, however, have a salutary effect, and impress upon future generations in our country the absolute necessity of always selecting, as their Chief Magistrate, a man whose intellect is not less prominent than his patriotism. He perhaps deserves impeachment more for the manner in which he has conducted this war than for commencing it, as he did. He has repeatedly endangered the safety of our armies in every part of Mexico, either intentionally, from feebleness of purpose, or pusilanimity of mind. He cannot plead ignorance as a justification of his most disgraceful conduct in this whole matter, because the commanding officers in Mexico have kept him, or his Minister of War, constantly informed of the condition of the armies under their command, and the vastly superior numbers arrayed against them. They have repeatedly besought him to send them reinforcements to prevent a disaster which, under any other circumstances, would have been the consequence. No necessity, no importunity would enable them to see the impending danger, or to stimulate Mr. Polk and his Cabinet to action. In quiet security themselves, they conceived that the danger was imaginary, and that a handful of men would do as well as the largest army that could be raised, and they neglected or refused to send the aid required, in contempt of solicitation, and in defiance of public sentiment everywhere expressed, except among the mere tools of party. The capture of Monterey astounded the President and his Cabinet here as much as it did the Mexicans themselves. It was not, and perhaps could have been expected, from so small a force, but still Gen. Taylor was ordered to advance.—He obeyed, and for months waited to be reinforced, but waited in vain. Neither fresh troops nor instructions were receive, and, at the very moment when a powerful army under Santa Ana marched down upon him from San Luis Potosi, and he was surrounded on all sides at Buena Vista by the enemy, with whom he was engaged in the bloodiest conflict of the war, the House of Representatives was endeavoring to pass a vote of censure upon him, and President Polk to supercede him in command by the appointment of a Lieutenant General taken from the ranks of civil life, and who had perhaps never seen a battle.—This injustice, however, was too gross to be tolerated even by his own party, and the scandalous scheme proved abortive, and only added another item to the catalogue of offences and follies of the Administration. The victory at Buena Vista covered General Taylor and his little army with glory, and induced his countrymen to think of him as one more worthy to fill the Presidential chair than the poor cypher who now occupies it. This was another source of mortification to the Administration, and he was left to fight his way onward or to hold possession of the places his valor had won, without additional force or any new instructions.

General Scott has been served in no better manner. His requisitions have been disregarded, and he has been compelled to fight his way to the city of the Aztecs with not more than the handful of men with which he landed at Vera Cruz. The glory of victory could not be taken from him, which his own valor and military skill had secured to him; but it was hoped that some reverse of fortune would occur to tarnish the brilliancy of his escutcheon, and that his fame might be obscured by a defeat. He remained at Puebla for some months, called for reinforcements, but they came "few and far between," and he determined to proceed. But finding that he too was increasing the laurels that already encircled his brow, and that he was likely to acquire the honor of concluding a peace with Mexico, a subordinate clerk of the State Department was despatched with full powers to negotate with the Mexican Government, and to propose such terms as might be honorable to both governments. The Commander-in-Chief was to be thrown aside, and, perhaps, not even consulted in a matter so important to the nation. Contrary to the usages of all foreign nations, he who had successfully carried on the war, and everywhere conquered the enemy, was not to enjoy the privilege of bringing that war to an end by negotiating the terms of peace or acquiring fresh laurels as a successful pacificator. It was a direct insult offered to him by the Administration, and one which should excite the indignation of the whole country. Such has been the unjust, pusillanimous and disreputable course pursued by the Administration from the commencement of the war to the present time—a course alike discreditable to our brave generals, and the armies under them, and to the character of the nation. We shall resume this subject hereafter.

It is stated that the Whig members of the Legislature of Virginia, assembled on the 22d ult., and resolved that it is expedient to hold a Whig State Convention in Richmond, on the 23d of February next, for the purpose of forming an electoral ticket for the approaching Presidential election, and requesting the Whigs throughout the State to send delegates to it. Mr. Caperton offered the following resolution:

Resolved, As the opinion of the Whig members of the General Assembly of Virginia, that Zachary Taylor will be a most acceptable candidate to the people of Virginia for the presidency; and that he will receive from them a most zealous and efficient support.

The Union is quite indignant at this attempt to catch his Locofoco friends. Father Ritchie need not make himself uneasy on this score; the people will be apt to think for themseves and to cast their votes for the one who deserves the most of his country.

Mr. Clay.

The Hon. Henry Clay arrived in Baltimore last night from Martinsburg, Va., by the Western train. He is the guest of his old friend and former Secretary, the Hon. Christopher Hughes, with whom, it is stated, he will remain until Monday.

J. T. B. DORSEY, House of Delegates, Md., will please accept our thanks for his attention in forwarding to us a copy of the "Annual Report of the Treasurer of the State of Maryland."

City of Washington.

Our fellow-citizen, Mr. John Sessford, has furnished another of his annual reports in relation to the condition and improvements of our city. This worthy citizen has long amused himself by taking a note, from time to time, of the advancement of the city in population and improvement. From his last report we are informed that 128 new buildings have been erected during the past year, viz: 20 in the 1st ward, 26 in the 2d, 27 in the 3d, 17 in the 4th, 11 in the 5th, 8 in the 6th, and 19 in the 7th.

The whole number of dwellings now in the city amount to 5,893. The additions to the assessment, during the past year, in the way of improvements, amount to $39,286—of personal property, $101,175: total 460,461. The grand total of property assessed in the city, is $12,334,480, yielding, at a tax of 75 cents on the $100, the sum of $92,508.50. This is exclusive of Government property, which is not liable to taxation, and is valued at from eleven to twelve millions of dollars. The centre portion of Pennsylvania avenue, from First street to the west side of Eighth street, has been pebble paved, being a great improvement over the graveling and curbing, which have been removed. Around the terrace of the Capitol gas-light, have been put up, and on the dome a lantern raised ninety feet high, also lighted with gas. South of the Capitol a fire-proof building has been put up for the use of the coast survey corps. An iron bridge has been thrown across the canal on Maryland avenue.

On the Mall, in the seventh ward, on the ground set apart for the Smithsonian building, the east wing, commenced early in summer, is nearly completed in its exterior, and is much admired. The foundation for the west wing is also commenced. The stone is conveyed from the canal by a temporary railroad.

The contemplated establishment of a cotton factory, if carried into execution, would be of great benefit to the city.

New improvements of a valuable nature have been made in Georgetown. The cotton factory is in full operation, making cloth of a superior quality. Two additional flour mills and a bark mill have been erected. The certainty of a speedy completion of the canal to Cumberland affords a sufficient stimulous for its citizens to be prepared for the increased trade which must take place. The continued filling of the basin with sand by the emptying of Rock Creek would necessarily show the propriety of carrying the canal over the creek by an aqueduct on a level with the two lower locks, and locking down on the city side beyond the effects of the freshets, continuing a narrow canal to the tide-lock and along the city shore to the Tiber, as now.

Messrs. Corcoran & Riggs.

The Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, speaks with just praise of the liberality of our worthy citizens, Messrs. Corcoran & Riggs. We have every reason to believe that he states nothing but the truth in the extract below. Their liberality and charity to the poor are well known, and if such men are fortunate they deserve to be so.

"The known liberality of Messrs. Corcoran & Riggs, of this city, has been farther evidenced by the gratuitous distribution, in the way of 'New Year's gifts,' of large sums of money. As I learn these gentlemen, ascertaining the actual amount of profits arising from their business for the present year, set aside a fractional portion for the purpose mentioned.

"I have not learned the amount distributed, but that they presented to their Clerks liberal sums—commencing with their chief Clerk, at one thousand dollars, and grading it along down to a boy engaged as a page, to whom was given one hundred dollars. In addition to this act, they made liberal donations to sundry charitable institutions. Such men deserve prosperity."

The performances at the Adelphi do great credit to the company engaged. The tragedy of Venice Preserved was well performed last night, and deserved a larger audience than attended. The reading and declamation of Mr. Herbert in Jaffier, Mr. Bradshaw in Pierre, Mrs. Nichols in Belvidere, were, with few exceptions, very commendable. Mr. Herbert seems to be equally at home in tragedy and comedy, and acquits himself well in both.

☞ Gen. PIERCE arrived at New Orleans on the 28th ult. It is said he intends resigning his commission.

THIRTIETH CONGRESS.—First Session.

FRIDAY, January 7, 1848.

The Senate did not sit to-day, having adjourned over yesterday until Monday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Prayer was said by the Rev. Mr. GURLEY.

The Journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

Mr. GOGGIN moved that the House go into Committee of the Whole upon the state of the Union.

Mr. VINTON wished the gentleman from Virginia would withdraw his motion, for the purpose of allowing him to introduce a resolution from the Committee of Ways and Means.

The motion to go into committee having been withdrawn, the Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, with the unanimous consent of the House, introduced a resolution to authorize the Committee to employ a clerk at the usual compensation.

Mr. HOUSTON, of Ala., asked the gentleman from Ohio what he meant by the usual amount.

Mr. VINTON said he did not think it necessary to make the inquiry on that point.

Mr. HOUSTON, of Ala., had understood that there was only one committee in the House that was in the practice of employing a clerk, and that was the Committe on Claims.

Mr. HENLEY moved to insert $4 per day while employed by the committee.

Mr. JAMESON asked if that was the usual compensation.

Mr. VINTON said that he understood that was the pay given to clerks who had been employed upon Select Committees for the last twenty years.

The question on the amendment of Mr. HENLEY was then put and carried, when the question recurring upon the original resolution as amended being taken, it was agreed to. He then renewed the motion of the gentleman from Virginia.

A report was read from the Committee on Printing in relation to the printing, which was similar to that reported by the Senate committee to that body yesterday.

Mr. KING, of Mass., remarked there was a large number of reports from committees on the table which ought to be disposed of.

Mr. ROCKWELL said he did not think there was many, of any great importance, and would not press the motion made yesterday to reconsider the vote by which the debate on the subject under notice was to be brought to a close.

The House having gone into Committee of the Whole, C. B. SMITH in the chair—

A long desultory debate then sprung up, upon a new point of order, with respect to the right of a member to speak one hour to a measure that he may have introduced to the House; in which Messrs. SIMMS of S. Carolina, POLLOCK, DUER, COBB, WICK, and SCHENCK, took part: when

Mr. TRUMAN SMITH rose and said: of all the questions that ever came before the House of Representatives, this of ascertaining whether a gentleman had the right to speak one hour, either before or after a certain point of time, this clapped the climax, (a laugh.) The House had already spent more than two days in examining into this very important question, and he did not know, from the course which it was then taking, how long it was to last. It was a most extraordinary question—a question (said Mr. SMITH) as to whether the gentleman of Virginia was to be allowed, or not, to make a parturation of half speech. (A laugh.)

Mr. THOMPSON, of Mississippi, rose to make some remarks, but the CHAIR decided that a gentleman had not a right to speak twice on the same subject. On this a discussion was raised, when

Mr. THOMPSON said that it was so only when another member wished to address the House, but as there was nobody desirous of doing so, he had the right to speak. The debate was further continued amid cries of