

Madison and Indianapolis Railroad.

The bill granting to the Madison and Indianapolis Railroad Company the use of the road for eight years, on condition that the Company will finish the road to Indianapolis in three years, passed both Branches of the Legislature—and is now a law. This bill allows the Company the privilege of opening bonds for stock in the eastern cities, for the purpose of obtaining a subscription sufficient to complete the road; or, the Company have the privilege of borrowing money at a rate of interest, not exceeding seven per cent. The Company are to have the full benefit of the road, by paying the State what she now receives, for eight years; and should the road be completed to this city, in two years, as is expected, the entire profits of the road for the next eight years, over and above keeping it in repair, if no unforeseen accidents occur, will go far to complete the unfinished portion. Had the Company the means to finish the road, they would doubtless go ahead, without soliciting any additional subscription of stock. The bill gives the Company the privilege of negotiating a loan, and should they conclude to do so, the road would afford ample security. The Company, we have no doubt, if they consult their individual interest, will immediately borrow money sufficient to complete it.

The people will now have every confidence that cars will be running into Indianapolis, within the next two or three years. Although the Company have received a temporary advantage under the law, which will insure the completion of the road to Indianapolis, yet the additional advantage to the State, afforded by the extension, will fully indemnify the State in a short time after she resumes her full interest in the avails of the road, after the expiration of the eight years, which will be in proportion to the length completed by the State and the Company. The State has completed twenty-eight miles of the road, and the Company will have completed about fifty eight additional miles, when the road reaches Indianapolis. One hundred thousand dollars has been estimated as the annual income, when the road reaches this city. Although, at first blush, the benefit afforded by the State to the Company may seem considerable, yet when it is considered, that without the extension of the road, effected by the Company, the work would have been almost valueless, either in a revenue point of view, or as affording facilities for taking the surplus of the country to market, from one of the most fertile regions of the great west, now destitute of such facilities, a liberal and patriotic people will not be disposed to complain of temporary benefit extended to the central portion of the State.

Whig Precept and Whig Practice.

The Journal, in its paragraph concerning the rights of minorities, says— "We always supposed till the article of Saturday in Chapman's Sentinel, that minorities had rights as well as majorities—if not in every case to the same extent. For instance, we supposed, or should have supposed, that when a party of 70,000 voters had already one representative in the United States Senate, it was more fair that the other party of 60,000 should have the remaining one, than that the rights of this large majority should be entirely overlooked." &c.

And we had supposed too, or should have supposed, that in the present Legislature, it would have been but "fair" that the seventy Democratic members, representing the above 70,000 voters, should have had the election of some of the officers, appointed by the Legislature at the session just closed, instead of the other eighty members, representing only the other 60,000 voters, getting all the offices. "For instance," they elected their principal and assistant clerks in both branches—their sergeant-at-arms—their circuit judges for seven years—their Secretary of State for four years, and they even condescended to turn out the Democratic State Librarian and appoint a Whig in his place! The party lines were never more closely drawn, Whig caucuses there regularly held, nor more uncompromising bitterness shown, than by the present Whig Legislature. They filled their insatiable political wish with every office, big and little, within their reach, and now, overfed and overgrown, they are growling, because they did not get the last remaining office, that of the United States Senator, as a means to violate the public will of Indiana, and make war upon the President of her choice. The Journal seems to concede that the majority should have their present U. S. Senator, though its party tried hard to prevent even that, and now it thinks the minority should have one, of politics as opposite as day is to night, to balance and neutralize each other, and leave the State without any influence at all in the U. S. Senate.

Supreme Judges.

The Senate having refused to confirm the first nomination of the Governor to fill the vacant seats of Judges Dewey and Sullivan, he subsequently sent in the names of C. H. Test, Andrew Davidson; E. Claiborn, and S. E. Perkins, none of which were approved by a majority of the Senate. Late on Saturday evening, the Governor re-nominated Judges Wick and Morrison, but, after a secret session of nearly two hours, they were again rejected. We understand that the Governor will now reappoint Judges Dewey and Sullivan, temporarily, to hold their places till the expiration of the next session of the Legislature, as provided by the Constitution.

Such an immense number of acts were passed during the last few days of the session, that it was impossible for us to obtain a list in season for this paper. We shall endeavor to have it in our next weekly paper.

The session of the Legislature being now closed, we will endeavor to clear our files of matter which has accumulated, and which the press of legislative matter has forced us to defer. A few weeks will set all right.

A CORRECTION CORRECTED.—Under this head the National Intelligencer corrects the statement put forth by the Germans, in relation to the story of the prisons and poor-houses of that country being poured out upon this. The Intelligencer, in answer to the statement that Mr. Calhoun had received no communication about the matter, says, Consul List did not write to the Department of State, but to that of the Treasury.

This letter will be found printed in the Executive Documents for the 22 session of the 25th Congress, Vol. 10, Doc. 370, pages 13 and 14. It is dated at the Consulate of the United States of America, Leipzig, March 8, 1837, and is addressed to the Hon. Levi Woodbury, Secretary of the Treasury.

The letter in question was communicated to the House of Representatives on the 15th of May, 1838, by the President of the United States, with a number of others to the same effect, some from the State Department, and others from the Treasury Department, in answer to a call made by the House of Representatives, on the 30th of April preceding.

From this it will be seen that this is the old statement, now revised to lend a helping hand to nativism.

It is stated by a traveller recently from Kentucky, that Messrs. C. M. and H. Clay have had some sharp words between them since the election. What was the nature of the dispute is not stated. It is also said that C. M. Clay is about establishing a paper in Louisville, Ky., for the advocacy of the emancipation of the colored race.

Interesting Letters.

The following letters received by the Committee of Invitation, at the celebration of the anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans, on the 8th inst., at Indianapolis, will be read with interest:

WHITE SULPHUR, BOON COUNTY, KENTUCKY, 22d December, 1844.

GENTLEMEN: It would give me infinite pleasure to comply with the resolution of the Democratic meeting at your State House, on the 14th inst., by which I am invited to the celebration of the anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans, on the 8th inst., at Indianapolis. It was on this day, that the gallant chief, Andrew Jackson, sustained our star spangled banner, against the choice troops of Great Britain, with a comparatively inferior force in numbers, and composed principally of undisciplined soldiers. The events of that great battle and glorious victory, have furnished the brightest page in our annals, since the revolution. But independent of the contemplation of the interesting results of the day you propose to celebrate, we should have additional cause of rejoicing, in our success in the late presidential canvass, which has secured Democracy from defeat; which has restored to us Texas and the occupation of Oregon; which has vindicated the right of the foreigner to citizenship under reasonable naturalization laws; which has condemned the cruel and odious imprisonment of Gov. Doty; which has saved the free press; and which, in short, has restored to us the Jeffersonian doctrine of 1788.

The necessity of attending close to my private concerns will be the chief cause why I cannot comply with the wishes of the triumphant Democracy of the flourishing State of Indiana. I feel much honored by the invitation.

Most respectfully, your friend and fellow-citizen,

R. H. M. JOHNSON.

Messrs. Jesse D. Bright, George A. Chapman, A. C. Peppé, Z. Tannehill, A. F. Morrison, L. Dunlap, and Jas. G. Read, Com. of invitation.

DETOIT, Dec. 24, 1844.

GENTLEMEN: I have just received your invitation to attend the celebration of the anniversary of the 8th of January next, together with the resolution adopted at the meeting held there to make arrangements for that purpose.

I thank you, Gentlemen, for this distinguished mark of favor and kindness, and not the less so, as my name is associated with two gallant soldiers, whose services and merits are known and appreciated through the country. It would afford me great pleasure to be with you, upon that interesting occasion, and to participate in those feelings it is so well calculated to inspire in the breasts of Americans. But circumstances will not permit me to be there, though I shall rejoice with you and fully share your sentiments.

The eighth of January, 1815, was a proud day for our country. A haughty and confident foe was arrested in his projects of conquest, and driven with disastrous results from our shores. And this result was obtained under circumstances not less glorious to those who accomplished it, than auspicious for the future security and prosperity of our country. It was a defensive, not an offensive victory. It was gained by inferior numbers and undisciplined valor over troops of the most desperate battles recorded in the military annals of modern Europe. They who fought that memorable fight, and he who led them, have undying claims upon the gratitude of their countrymen. And we have cause to be thankful that the great captain yet survives to receive the expression of that gratitude, and the acknowledgment of his worth and services. And when, in the Providence of God, he shall be called hence, his name and fame will go down to succeeding generations, increasing, indeed, in years, but undiminished in brightness.

I am, Gentlemen,

With great respect,

Your ob't servant,

LEW. CASS.

To Jesse D. Bright, Geo. A. Chapman, A. C. Peppé, Z. Tannehill, A. F. Morrison, L. Dunlap, and J. G. Read, Com. of invitation.

CARROLLTON, 3d Jan'y, 1845.

GENTLEMEN: I have had the honor to receive your letter communicating a resolution adopted at a meeting composed of the members of the Legislature and members of the military, writing Gen'l Cass, Colonel Johnson, and myself to attend the approaching celebration of the 8th of January, at that place; and regret extremely that the precarious state of my health, with the distance, and inclemency of the season, compel me to decline an invitation, which under other circumstances it would afford me no little gratification to accept.

I have very kind and complimentary manner in which you have been pleased to make your communication, I beg you to accept my thanks.

Respectfully,

W. O. BUTLER.

Messrs. J. D. Bright, George A. Chapman, A. C. Peppé, A. F. Morrison, L. Dunlap, and Jas. G. Read, Committee.

The position of the President is extremely critical one, therefore every thing depends on whether his troops adhere to him against the Congress and the constitutional government. If they do, he becomes the military Dictator of the Republic, but unconquered in contrast of the Emperor.

This subject occupied the Chambers on the 29th and 30th of November; and their attitude had now become so menacing, that the President's Italian Cabinet (after consultation with Santa Anna) took the high handed step of declaring the Congress in rebellion, and declaring Santa Anna Dictator of the Republic.

Accordingly, on repairing to the Palace on the 1st of December, the members found the doors shut against them, and surrounded by armed troops.

The President's Italian Cabinet, in consequence of the Chamber dissolved indefinitely, and conferring all the powers of government, legislative as well as executive, on Santa Anna. The members of the Congress were ordered by Santa Anna to leave the country.

For some days this forcible dissolution of the constitutional government by the creatures of Santa Anna, remained unchallenged. The members of the Congress, but on the very day when the news reached Puebla, General Inzua, commander-general of that department, in concert with the civil authority, pronounced against Santa Anna, and in ten days the army of Mexico, and the army of Vera Cruz, against the government, and the President of Mexico, and his minister—Congress re-assembled—the President of the Council of Government, General Herrera, assumed the exercise of the functions of the President, and the members of the Congress were appointed the next day, whose authority was immediately acknowledged in Vera Cruz.

Meanwhile Santa Anna is constitutional President of the Republic, but in the name of the Emperor, and the troops employed against Paredes. The new Minister of War has ordered him to give up this command.

If he refuses, he becomes undoubtedly a rebel and a traitor; because he has proclaimed himself Dictator of Mexico constitutionally constituted. If he consents, he ceases to have any troops for his support; he is placed at the mercy of his enemies.

Reports were current at Vera Cruz that a part of his troops, by a secret march, had fallen into the hands of another part declared against him; but, upon this point, no information in authentic form had reached the public ear.

Any sufficient portion of troops adhered to him, to enable him to continue the war, still he is surrounded with difficulties, being in the very heart of the Republic, with Jalisco and its concurrent department to the Pacific against him on the one hand, and Mexico, with its concurrent departments to the Gulf, against him on the other hand.

He may recover himself by some new turn in the wheel of fortune, and resume his place as the constitutional President of the Republic; or he may fall into the hands of his enemies, as the public sentiment is almost unanimously against him in nearly all the Departments.

It seems likely that he will have to yield to the storm; and if not deprived of his life, he may escape to the United States, or to Tampa, or to South America by way of the Pacific.

TERRIBLE TRAGEDY.—A Son Murdered by a Father. —A terrible and aggravated murder was perpetrated on Christmas day, in the village of Madison, Virginia. The son, Edmund Malone, between 23 and 25 years of age, with the remainder of the family, was sitting at the dinner table, when some trivial dispute arose between him and his father, Blanks Malone. The old man then stepped up behind his son with a large knife and stabbed him through the breast bone to the heart. The father is lodged in Amherst jail, awaiting his trial before the prothonotary.

GAMING.—It is possible that a wise and good man will be prevailed on to game; but it is impossible that a professed gambler should be a wise and good man.—Leweller.

Thorwaldsen's statue of Byron, excluded from the sacred precincts of Westminster, is about to be erected in the Cemetery of Kensal Green.

The Garland Forgery.

Our readers will remember the letter ascribed to Mr. Birney which made its appearance on the eve of the election in Ohio; and how it has since been proved a forgery. But the extent to which the fraud was participated in, has not before been known. We therefore copy from the Boston Chronicle the following curious statement:

"The Atlas of Saturday, sheds little additional light upon this infamous affair. It appears that the hand-bill purporting to be a 'Genessee Co. Democrat Extra,' was at least seen by Messrs. Williams and Harding, the publishers of the Detroit Advertiser, so early as the 24th of October, for on that day they were sent a letter to Messrs. Hayden and Brewer, of the Boston Atlas, marked 'Confidential,' in which they inform their Boston friends, of the existence of such a handbill, which they 'suspect is a forgery,' and therefore 'guard you [H. & B.] against its publication, until something further is known.' They also say, 'A gentleman has been despatched North to ascertain the facts, if possible.'"

"We observe, the forged letter was published on the 28th, by the state committee of Indiana at Indianapolis, and by the Ohio State Journal at Columbus, and sent in extras all over those States; and on the 29th was published in Pennsylvania, and on the 30th in New York, in the eastern parts; also in Portland, Me., on the 29th, and over this State by the 2d of November. On Monday, the 4th, we published the letter as a forgery, it having been previously declared such by the Western Copy and Advertiser. Yet it was published in the Boston Advertiser, and several other whig papers of this state, down to the Liberator of Friday. And all this time neither the Detroit Advertiser nor the Boston Atlas, nor any other whig paper, so far as we know, except the two above named, and those gave no authority) denounced it as a forgery, until the Atlas of Wednesday morning, Nov. 7, published Mr. Birney's direct denial. We charge these two papers with a guilt similar in kind and degree to that of the original forger, and several other whig papers of this state, down to the Liberator of Friday. And all this time neither the Detroit Advertiser nor the Boston Atlas, nor any other whig paper, so far as we know, except the two above named, and those gave no authority) denounced it as a forgery, until the Atlas of Wednesday morning, Nov. 7, published Mr. Birney's direct denial. We charge these two papers with a guilt similar in kind and degree to that of the original forger, and several other whig papers of this state, down to the Liberator of Friday. And all this time neither the Detroit Advertiser nor the Boston Atlas, nor any other whig paper, so far as we know, except the two above named, and those gave no authority) denounced it as a forgery, until the Atlas of Wednesday morning, Nov. 7, published Mr. Birney's direct denial. 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