TAYLOR. vs. CLAY.—The N. Y. Courier and Enquirer is unequivocally in favor of Taylor as the whig candidate for President, and Webster for Vice President. It says—

"The election of Taylor and Webster would not only insure us a wise and successful administration of the goverment for the next four years, but it will contain a promise likewise for the hereafter four years; for nobody can doubt but that, in such an event, Daniel Webster, if living, would succeed Gen. Taylor."

On the other hand, the Tribune, is still for Clay and against Taylor. It observes:

"Mr. Clay has long been the acknowledged leader of the whig party; was its last candidate for President, and barely, unfairly defeated; is more beloved, esteemed, and confided in by the whigs to-day than any other can be. He has been suggested in various quarters as the whig candidate next time, but has not signified his assent. He says he shall not be a candidate unless there shall be a call upon him which shall render it his duty to accept. Gen. Taylor—a man utterly unknown as a whig or as a civilian in any way, until within the last year or so—has also been proposed. He declines to answer questions calculated to test his devotion to whig principles; declines to say that he will abide the choice of a whig national convention, or of the whig party, in any way; declines to say he will support Mr. Clay, if nominated; but says he will run anyhow, nominated, or not nominated, whig candidate or no whig candidate. To suppose that Mr. Clay would, under such circumstances, volunteer to decline in favor of Gen. Taylor, is to pay a poor compliment to his political integrity or his self-respect."

Touching the same subject, the Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger, writes as follows:

"Mr. Clay, as I have said in a former letter, has no idea of accommodating certain politicians, and least of all, is he willing to make a Vice President berth for Mr. Webster. His affections for that distinguished gentleman, are about as warm as to-day's Intelligencer's welcome of his own person, and his disposition to serve him equal to his love for the man. Mr. Clay will rally his friends to a stand on the principles avowed by him in his Lexington speech; but whether he will be able to govern the convention, is quite another question. Should he succeed in this, then it is pretty certain three candidates will be in the field; should he fail, his proud spirit will not stand rebuke, and his blessings will not be on his deserting friends. The rumor of Mr. Clay's withdrawal was altogether premature, and too great a draft on his self-denial. Mr. Clay is not the person to allow his friends to chalk out a course for him; he prefers tracing that which his friends are to follow.

"Mr. Clay's reception was cordial—somewhat similar to the return of a prince to his own residence, from which he was driven by a revolution—and has quite animated the hopes of the friends of restoration. I cannot tell you when his case in the Supreme Court will come on; but that he will argue his own case satisfactorily, I have no manner of doubt."

Notwithstanding all this, we have little doubt that Mr. Clay will be thrust off the track, and that the whigs will follow in the wake of the Taylor men in full cry. The Clay men will be obliged to support the military hero, however much it may go against the grain; and the best of the joke will be, if Taylor should be elected, *they* will not get the offices which they covet so much. The Taylor men will take them *all*.

☞ A correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, relates the following anecdote. Some of our readers may doubt its authenticity, but we do not. We ourselves could relate similar incidents within our own experience that would beat this all hollow, and would appear altogether incredible:

We heard to-day a story of a "functionary" too good to be lost, and therefore, with permission, it shall be jotted down. Not long since, the "functionary" was appointed Charge to a court in Europe. A day or two after he received his credentials, he was introduced to a gentleman of influence and great popularity, who had been for some years theretofore one of the most celebrated editors in the North. The Charge asked him if it was not customary to notice such appointments as his in the newspapers. Most certainly. The Charge asked him if he was not the editor of a paper. He had been so in times past, but now only occasionally, for amusement, penned a paragraph or a letter for his friends. But the Charge was duly "noticed" in a newspaper of large circulation, and very much to his satisfaction. Afterwards, the gentlemen met in New York, and the Charge inquired if it was not "customary" for diplomatists abroad, to subscribe for some newspaper published at home. Most certainly, a half a dozen at least. The Charge thought that number too many by five. He had an idea for subscribing for a weekly paper. By no means; he ought surely to take the daily paper at all events. No, he abided by the weekly paper, and requested the ex-editor to do him a favor and see his name and address on the books. He did so, as a favor, and the next day proffered eighty-five cents change from the amount given him. "No, no," said the diplomatist, don't mention it. Keep it, keep it, my dear sir—don't you remember the notice you gave of my appointment? It was first rate, capital!—keep it!" This is a "fixed fact."

☞ Speaking of the professional pursuits of the members of the Legislature, the Madison Courier says—

"The proportion of farmers is very fair, and not more than it should be. They compose the fly wheel in legislation—keep things regular, and prevent irregularities which would inevitably occur were the majority composed of lawyers. In the foregoing statement several are set down as farmers, who are in reality lawyers. They perhaps own some land, and ashamed of their real occupation, they therefore dress themselves (though genuine Wolves,) in sheep's clothing. There are entirely too many lawyers, quite enough physicians, and too few mechanics—too few practical men."

The Courier may be right, but the *people* don't think so. All other things being equal, they generally prefer lawyers to men of any other profession,—perhaps on the score of *economy*.

☞ The New York correspondent of the W. Union says—Simple and yet grand is the memorial of our victories in Mexico, now in progress of completion at West Point. On the most prominent front of the Palisades, the names of "Palo Alto," "Resaca de la Palma," "Monterey," and "Buena Vista," are cut in colossal letters. "Vera Cruz" is nearly completed, and the others will follow. It is difficult to conceive a monument more expressive or more sublime—the immortal words "alone in their glory" on the face of the eternel rocks, the sky above, and the deep Hudson below, forever. The boys at West Point know how to write history as well as to make it; and they do both with the cold steel!

TEXAS.—Gen. Lamar, a member of the House of Representatives from Lorado, has introduced the following resolutions into the Legislature:

"A joint resolution protesting against the relinquishment to Mexico of the country south and west of the Rio Grande, conquered by and in possession of the United States; read first time.

"A joint resolution, respecting the incorporation of a portion of the conquered provinces or States of the Republic of Mexico into the State of Texas, with the consent of the United States; read first time."

The Supreme Court of the United States has decided Mrs. Gen. Gaines's great land case, in her favor. This decision renders Mr. Gaines one of the wealthiest persons in the United States. The old General is lucky in his pecuniary affairs, at least.

The Clay whigs in New York city are formally reading out of their ranks the Taylor whigs. The Taylor whigs on their part, are calling on the masses. The masses on their part are laughing at both of them; and waiting for the Democratic nomination.

The bark Santee, which recently sailed from Boston, carried out a handsome and powerful Fire Engine built by order of the Turkish Government for use at Constantinople.

Congress.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17.

Mr. Mangum offered resolutions calling on the President to lay before the Senate General Scott's plans for prosecuting the war.

The resolutions were discussed at some length.

The Ten Regiment Bill was taken up and severely debated.

Mr. Butler deprecated the increase of the executive patronage. He thought that Mexico had great cause to complain of the terms demanded by the United States.

Mr. Badger took the floor, and commenced speaking on the Bill, when on motion the Senate went into executive session and adjourned.

House—Mr. Boyd offered a resolution to conclude the debate on referring the President's Message at 3 o'clock.

Mr. Stevens offered an amendment to postpone the further discussion of the bill until next Monday.

The resolution as amended prevailed.

Mr. Giddings offered resolutions instancing the sale of a negro in Washington City, and asking for the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the expediency of abolishing slavery in the District of Columbia, or of removing the capital to a free State.

The resolutions caused some excitement, and much disorder.

Mr. Hugh A. Haralson moved to lay the subject on the table. The yeas and nays were called, and the motion to lay on the table was carried—yeas 94, nays 88.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18.

Senate.—Mr. Baldwin submitted resolutions calling on the President for information as to the extent of the Mexican domain, and the power of Mexico to cede any portion of a country to foreign governments.

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of the Ten Regiment Bill.

Mr. Badger opposed the bill, charging the war and its immediate results to the unconstitutional act of the President, in ordering the Army to the Rio Grande.

Mr. Mangum's resolutions calling on the president for Gen. Scott's plans for prosecuting the war, was taken up.

Mr. Sevier called for the yeas and nays, which were taken, and the resolution passed: yeas 22, nays 20.

Mr. Bagby offered resolutions denying the constitutional power of the Government to improve rivers and harbors, or construct internal improvements.

Mr. Foote took the floor, but gave way to a motion to go into Executive Session, after which the Senate adjourned.

The House occupied the day debating Mr. Trist's correspondence.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.

Ten Regiment Bill was taken up.

Mr. Foote defended the bill earnestly, and contended that it ought to pass. He continued his speech until the Senate adjourned.

House.—Mr. Botts, chairman of the committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill providing for clothing volunteers; and another relative to the wages of regulars.

Mr. Burt, from the same committee, reported a bill providing for disabled officers: and another providing for enfeebled soldiers.

Mr. Vinton, chairman from the committee on Ways and Means, reported a bill providing for a loan of 80,000,000 dollars.

Mr. Broadhead desired to consider those portions of the President's Annual Message relating to Military affairs. He spoke at length in opposition to the War.

Mr. McLane, of Maryland, obtained the floor, and defended the course of the President.

Mr. Tompkins followed in a speech in opposition to the Message of the President refusing to give the information called for by the House.

Mr. William P. Hall, of Missouri, replied to Mr. Tompkins in defence of the President.

Mr. Barrow obtained the floor, but gave way to a motion to adjourn.

Hon. J. W. Davis.

CARLISLE, IND., Jan. 13, 1847.

Gentlemen—I forward you the enclosed correspondence, and request that you will publish it in the Sentinel.

Your obedient servant,
JOS. W. BRIGGS.

Messrs. G. A. & J. P. Chapman, Indianapolis, Ind.

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CARLISLE, IND, Jan. 12, 1848.

HON. JOHN W. DAVIS—*Dear Sir:* As a committee on behalf of your fellow citizens of Carlisle and vicinity, we address you. About to leave us for an indefinite period, on a mission in behalf of the Government of your country, we cannot suffer you to depart without giving some expressions to our feelings on the occasion. For many years you have been a resident among us, associating with us in every day intercourse, filling also in the country many high and importannt stations, and we are happy to bear testimony to your kindness in the one, and ability and impartiality in the other. Your absence from us will leave a vacuum in our society, which cannot be filled, but our regrets will always be mingled with the ardent wish, that in the new sphere to which you are called, you may discharge the duties of your station, in a manner honorable to yourself and beneficial to your country's interest.

As an evidence of our esteem, we would, without distinction of party, tender you a public dinner, to be given in Carlisle, at such time as may suit your convenience before your departure.

Respectfully, you obedient servants,
JOSEPH W. BRIGGS,
JAMES K. O'HAVER,
JOHN S. DAVIS,
R. B. JENKINS,
ALEX. TRIGG, Committee.

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CARLISLE, IND., Jan. 13, 1848.

Gentlemen—Your kind invitation to a public dinner has been received by me, and it is with feelings of deep regret that I find pressing engagements will compel me to decline it. A United States ship will be waiting for me at New York by the first of February, destined to convey me to China, as the representative of this government; and I feel it incumbent on me, not to permit any delay that is in my power to avoid, and shall therefore find pressing demands for every moment of my time from this until I am ready to set out on my journey.

I beg to return to you, gentlemen, and through you to my neighbors and friends, whom you represent, my sincere thanks for this manifestation of their kindness and good feeling towards me. I shall ever cherish it as among the most marked of public favors; and coming as it does from those who have known me best, adds not a little to its value. For the kind terms in which you are pleased to allude to my past services, I can only say that I exercised the power you gave me to the best of my judgment, always keeping in view the responsibility of the representative to his constituents; and to have the approbation of such as my late constituency is my highest ambition.

In conclusion, permit me to say, that throughout a long and in all probability an eventful journey, I shall always bear in mind the many favors I have received from my kind neighbors; and while I live, will remember, that to them and adjacent friends, I am indebted for everything.

I beg that Heaven may long preserve in happiness and prosperity, you, gentlemen, and those you represent.

Your obliged friend,
JOHN. W. DAVIS.

To Joseph W. Briggs, James K. O'Haver, John S. Davis, R. B. Jenkins and Alex. Trigg, Committee.

NEW COUNTERFEIT—BEWARE.—A counterfeit $10 on the Lafayette Bank of Cincinnati, (old plate,) made its appearance in several parts of the city yesterday. It is a perfect fac simile of the genuine note—engraving as well executed, and as likely to deceive, as the counterfeit $5 on the same bank that appeared last year. The filling up and signatures are not so well done, and persons to whom $10's on the bank are offered should look well to this feature of them particularly.—*Cin. Gazette.*

COUNTERFEITS.—Within a few days, our brokers have had returned to them several packages of paper of the New Haven (Conn.) Bank, which they had remitted to New York. The notes—$5—were pronounced counterfeit. They were printed on the original plate, for the use of the bank, and the impressions are supposed to have been stolen. It is almost impossible to discover the fraud. The whole issue of five dollar notes of this bank should be rejected by business men.—*St. Louis Repub. Dec. 28.*

☞ Major J. McMICKIN, of Pottsville, Pa., has received the appointment of post-master of the city of Mexico, with a salary of $1800 per year.

Veto of the White Water Canal Loan Bill.

To the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana.

GENTLEMEN: The accompanying bill entitled "an act in relation to that portion of the Northern Division of the Central Canal, which lies between Broad Ripple in Marion county, and Waverly in Morgan county," was passed at the last session of the General Assembly; but not having been presented to me until within "five days" (indeed less than twenty four hours) of the final adjournment of that session, and the intermediate time not being sufficient for such a consideration of the bill, as some of its provisions seemed clearly to demand, it was held over as authorized by the constitution, and is now respectfully returned to the house in which it originated, with the objections which have constrained me to withhold my approval of the same.

Passing by the previous sections of the bill, a few remarks will first be submitted in relation to the 20th section. That section provides "that it shall be lawful for the treasurer of State to loan to the White Water Valley [Canal company, the State revenue collected and to be collected for the year 1846, in the counties of Wayne, Rush, Henry, Fayette and Franklin, for the term of five years, provided said company shall give good and ample security, for the full payment of said principal and six per cent interest per annum until paid."]

By the act approved on the 20th of January 1842, entitled "an act to incorporate the White water valley canal company," the State transferred to that company, all its rights to the line of the White water valley canal, from the Ohio river to the National Road, all materials procured and privileges obtained, therefor, and all expenditures which the State had made thereon; provided the company should complete the canal within five years from the first of March 1842, to Cambridge city, and that the State should have the privilege of redeeming the canal after the period of fifteen years from its completion by paying to the company the full amount of their expenditures in its construction. The company was also empowered to fix and regulate the amount of, and receive all the tolls and charges on the canal, to make their own regulations and by-laws, and if broken, to sue upon them in any competent court for their own use and benefit. It appears further that the State had expended upon the canal, before it was transferred to the present company, more than one million of dollars, ($1,101,224 22) as appears by the Auditor's Report of the 22d of November, 1842, communicated to the ensuing legislature.

In return for all this, the State was not to receive any share of the profits or any thing else for the first fifteen years after the completion of the canal, and after that period, the company, first retaining eight per cent. clear of all expenses, on the whole of their stock in the canal, were only to leave to the State the overplus, if any there should happen thereafter to be. When it is further considered that the sum expended upon the canal by the State before its transfer, was more than double the amount since expended by the company in its completion, it will be admitted that the State has, by the terms and conditions of their disposing of the canal, shewn no lack of liberality towards the company. But in addition to this, a loan is now sought from the State, by the company under the present bill, for the term of five years, of an amount of State revenue, which (as computed in the Auditor's Report of Nov, 3, 1846) exceeds fifty thousand dollars.

By the 18th section of the company's charter, the president and directors of said company or any agent by them lawfully authorized, were empowered to negotiate loans, and for the payment thereof on such terms as should be agreed upon, the bonds of the company were to be given, which when duly issued were to be a valid lien upon all the stock and effects of said company in the order of their issue, and all the effects of the company both real and personal, were pledged for the punctual payment of the interest on said bonds and their ultimate redemption. It thus appears that by the act of transfer, the company was empowered to contract debts which would be prior liens upon all their property. At the time of the passage of the bill under consideration, bonds of the company to the amount of more than $112,000, had been issued, and were outstanding and unpaid; and if the canal and corporate property should be pledged to the State as a security for the loan contemplated to be made, under this bill, it would become a question, whether such security would be satisfactory, incumbered as is by so large a debt which must first be paid. It appears to me indeed, to be an objectionable feature of the present bill, that it does not prescribe in a more definite manner, the kind of security that should be given.

Since the adjournment of the last legislature by certain proceedings in chancery, instituted by one Henry Vallette, as the complainant in the circuit court of the United States for Ohio, against said company it appears that bonds (of those above mentioned,) to the amount of $112,000, dated January 1, 1845, were held to be liens preferable to any which the company could subsequently give, and an injunction was granted by the Judge of that court at his chambers in Cincinnati, on the 25th of September last, prohibiting the company from doing certain acts prejudicial to the claim of the complainant, and requiring them to make report of their receipts and expenditures to said court from time to time, until the whole of the demand shall be discharged. Since that time it is understood that the works of the company have been again injured by a flood, and while the losses thus occasioned are much to be regretted, a due regard for the paramount interest of the State, requires that these losses should be considered as seriously diminishing the means of the company, and as impairing the security which the canal itself might otherwise have afforded for the repayment of the loan.

But another and still more serious objection to this section of the bill arises from the fact that at the last two sessions of the legislature, acts were passed providing for the final satisfaction of the State debt, upon terms too requiring no increase of taxes for that purpose, and for that very reason, making all the available means in the treasury, necessary to carry the arrangement into effect. The means would have been amply sufficient to meet the first instalment of interest payable under this arrangement in July last, had it not been for several extraordinary appropriations made at the last session of the legislature. Owing to this circumstance, the Agent of State was compelled to borrow temporarily, a small balance, to enable him to meet the interest under positive requirements of law. Had the contemplated loan been made to the White Water Valley canal company, it is manifest from what has already been said, that it would have been necessary for the State to have immediately turned round and borrowed the same amount elsewhere, to make up the deficiency, occasioned by such loan. Would not such a loan, at that particular time, have been calculated to shake the confidence of the State's creditors, in the faith of our late legislation, and would not its tendency have been to prevent the surrender of any bonds after the 1st of July last, and of thereby throwing the one half of them upon the Wabash & Erie canal for satisfaction? Enough bonds had been surrendered under that arrangement, by the day last named, to cause it to go into operation as the law of the land, and that being the case, even those originally opposed to the arrangement itself, would be rejoiced to see as much of our State debt surrendered and satisfied under it as possible. Indeed, it would seem, that the leading objection to the arrangement was that but few bond holders comparatively, would surrender under its provisions, and thus controlling the canal, leave the large body of our creditors unprovided for. While it is gratifying to find that these fears are now shown to have been without substantial foundation, yet, it is apprehended, if the State by making the loan sought by the present bill, had been compelled to go into the market as a borrower, to get the money wherewith to meet the first interest due on the surrendered bonds, it would have materially checked, if not entirely prevented the surrender of any more.

The success of the plan which had been adopted for the arrangement of the State debt, depended upon the surrender, by the voluntary choice of the holders of the bonds, which were outstanding; and there was strong reason to apprehend that a measure of this kind would have created a distrust in the minds of the bond holders of the faithful application of the State revenue to the payment of the interest under the new arrangement, and thus have induced them to a great extent to withhold their co-operation. Both sound policy and good faith therefore required that the means of the State should be carefully husbanded to meet the new engagements she had made, especially at a time when she was struggling earnestly to relieve herself from the financial embarassments under which she had been so long, and (in the estimation of many) hopelessly depressed. At such a time, it appears to me that too much caution cannot be observed in the adoption of any measure having a tendency to divert the resources of the State, and thus prevent the accomplishment of this most desirable object.

The citizens of the State at large have cheerfully submitted to a State tax, rated as high as they could well bear, for the avowed purpose of paying the interest upon the public debt, and thus relieving themselves and the commonwealth from the stigma of insolvency or repudiation. If the loan now asked from the State should be greater, it necessarily follows that the tax payers of the State at large, including those of the Whitewater Valley, must be assessed as much more as will make up the deficiency. Are we sure that we have their consent to this? But it is not probable that this would long be the only deficiency of this kind to be thus supplied. If we have derived any one truth from the lessons of experience, of the last thirteen years in this State, it is that the grant of the favor now sought, would stimulate and encourage similar applications from other quarters. It would be plausibly urged that each part of the State is as much entitled to be favored as the others, and it is quite doubtful if the precedent would not lead to a vicious and dangerous system of legislative expenditures, by exciting *combinations* of sectional interests for the purpose of aiding each other in procuring contributions from the treasury. Similar influences and a similar policy once brought our young State to the brink of ruin, from which we are just extricated, and it is hoped we may avoid the seductive whirlpool of debt and insolvency hereafter.

It is true it may be said that this is only a loan, but experience has proven that public money, invested in whatever manner in a private enterprise, is but too frequently surrendered, or otherwise ultimately lost.

But there is another view of this question, which, in my judgement, is equally conclusive against it. There is at this time, beyond doubt, a larger amount of capital, in the hands of enterprizing individuals, in the United States than at any former period of our history. The security intended to be given by the company for the proposed loan, whether by a pledge of the profits of the canal or otherwise, is either good or it is bad. If it be a bad security, the money of the people ought not to be lent upon it; and if it be good, there will be no difficulty in procuring the loan from capitalists. And it is gratifying to reflect that the failure of the bill now under consideration to become a law at the last session, did not prevent the completion of the repairs on the canal, for which the loan was sought. The same considerations, it is hoped, will enable the company to effect the repairs required by a more recent injury.

The remaining sections of the bill are mainly occupied in relation to that part of the northern division of the Central Canal, and which is indicated by its title.

The 8th section appropriates all money due from lessees of water power thereon, and the further sum of fifteen thousand dollars from the treasury for repairs. As an expenditure equal to making these repairs was already authorized by the act of the General Assembly, approved January 13, 1846, if in the opinion of the Secretary, Treasurer and Auditor it was deemed indispensible to repair any unusual breach therein, it did not become necessary for me to decide as to the appropriation by the present bill. The expenditure would have been made, it is presumed, whether the present bill had been approved or not. I will merely remark, however, that the statement of the Auditor in his annual report of this session, "that the State officers, after mature deliberation, *and with the sanction of the Governor*, determined that they could not discharge their duties without authorizing the Agent to proceed to let out the work [for repairs] and bring it into use as soon as possible, could hardly have been intended to mean more than my legal opinion as an individual as to the meaning of the act of January 13, 1846; for it is clear I had no official sanction to give, by the terms of the law, to make it operative, and still less could my sanction be claimed for the *mode* that was adopted for making the repairs, as I gave my opinion in favor of dividing the work into smaller jobs, as being calculated to finish the repairs sooner and cheaper, than by the system of large contracts. I also advised a somewhat longer notice so as to invite a larger competition. My advice was adopted, I believe, only so far as to extend the time three days longer, for commencing operations. Having no legal control in the matter, my opinion was only *advisory*, and as I had no practical skill in the subject, it was given with deference. The matter is now referred to (after what has been said) only for the purpose of placing myself right in the premises, not for the purpose of censuring others.

Before dismissing this subject, I would respectfully recommend that in appointing commissioners to hear and settle all matters in controversy between the State and the lessees of water power on the Central Canal, as provided in the first part of the bill, provision be also made that the assent of the lessees to the arrangement be severally ascertained,—that the commissioners, or others authorized to make new contracts with the lessees, by which the latter shall be empowered and required to take charge of and keep the canal in repair at their own expense, until needed by the State for purposes of navigation, in consideration that the present amount of their rent shall undergo a reasonable and corresponding reduction. I believe such a change might be made as would be far more advantageous to all parties concerned, than the present plan. It is respectfully suggested too, that provision be mode that no settlement reported by the commissioners, nor any new or modified contract made by them, be regarded as valid until confirmed by the legislature, or some other tribunal. This seems to be required no less by the interest of the parties, than as an act of justice to the feelings and motives of the commissioners themselves.

In conclusion, the regret I have felt in differing in opinion on the important questions involved in this bill, has been greatly lessened by the reflection, that the canal repairs therein contemplated have been effected, and it is trusted as well and as early as though the bill had been approved; and in the further reflection, that it is yet competent for a bare majority of the members elected in each House to pass it, notwithstanding my dissent.

JAMES WHITCOMB.

December 7th, 1847.

DINNER TO GENS. QUITMAN AND SHIELDS.—The dinner given to those gentlemen in Washington, was a brilliant affair. The speeches and sentiments, as published in the *National Intelligencer*, indicate how strong is the determination to uphold the honor of the country despite all tory counsels. As we have not room for a detailed account of what occurred at the table, we copy the following from the *Baltimore Sun*:

The speeches of Mr. Dallas, Mr. Buchanan, and Mr. Reverdy Johnson, of Maryland, were distinguished by great fervor, tact and eloquence. The latter gentleman, with his iron-cast countenance, spoke words of fire, when he declared that, though a whig, he was an American, and believed the war a just war, and the duty of a patriot to prosecute it with vigor. And he said this not only on a festive occasion over the cup, but would prove his sincerity by his course in the Senate. And he did this, not individually, but in accordance with the sentiments of his State, which would not permit him to represent her, did he entertain different sentiments. Mr. Johnson's style of oratory was solemn, impressive and determined, as is the man, and produced immense sensation. He was repeatedly cheered and at last sat down, literally overwhelmed with applause. Gen. Quitman and Shields, each, in turn addressed the audience; but the Irish descent of Gen. Shields proved his power of eloquence to be superior to those of his fellow officer.

Mr. Dallas, in his speech on Friday evening last, paid a beautiful compliment to the leading Generals of our army; and that "old Zack with his white horse," came in for a respectable share. This was in excellent taste, and well received by the company. Gen. Shields pronounced a fine eulogy on General Scott, and after the health of that General, that of Gen. Worth was drunk with great enthusiasm.

THE TOWN OF LAWRENCE.—The Lawrence (Mass.) Courier, Extra, contains a history and description of that town, with a map on a large scale. The first building was erected in 1845. There are now incorporated companies in the town with capitals amounting to $5,500,000, for manufacturing purposes. In the course of the last year 7,735,000 bricks were laid. There are eight religious societies in the town.

EXPENSIVE SLANDER.—At East Cambridge, Mass., on Friday week, a Mr. Jennison, obtained a verdict for $1,926, against Mr. White, in an action for slander. The defendant called the plaintiff a thief.

President's Message,

ON RETURN OF SANTA ANNA TO MEXICO.

To the House of Representatives of the U. States:

I have carefully considered the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 4th instant, requesting the President to communicate to that House "any instructions which may have been given to any of the officers of the army or navy of the United States, or other persons, in regard to the return of President General Lopez de Santa Anna, or any other Mexican, to the republic of Mexico, prior or subsequent to the order of the President or Secretary of War, issued in January, 1846, for the march of the army from the Nueces river across 'the stupendous deserts' which intervene to the Rio Grande; that the date of all such instructions; orders, and correspondence be set forth, together with the instructions and orders issued to Mr. Slidell, at any time prior or subsequent to his departure for Mexico, as minister plenipotentiary of the United States to that republic," and requesting the President also to "communicate all the orders and correspondence of the government in relation to the return of Gen. Paredes to Mexico."

I transmit, herewith, reports from the Secretary of State, the Secretary of War, and the Secretary of the Navy, with the documents accompanying the same, which contain all the information in the possession of the Executive which it is deemed compatible with the public interests to communicate.

For further information relating to the return of Santa Anna to Mexico, I refer you to my annual message of December 8th, 1846. The facts and considerations stated in that message induced the order of the Secretary of the Navy to the commander of our squadron in the Gulf of Mexico—a copy of which is herewith communicated. This order was issued simultaneously with the order to blockade the coasts of Mexico, both bearing date the 13th of May, 1846, the day on which the war with Mexico was recognised by Congress. It was issued solely upon the views of policy presented in that message, and without any understanding on the subject, direct or indirect, with Santa Anna or any other person.

General Parades evaded the vigilance of our combined forces by land and sea, and made his way back to Mexico from the exile to which he had been driven, landing at Vera Cruz, after that city and the castle of San Juan d'Ulloa were in our military occupation, as will appear from the accompanying reports and documents.

The resolution calls for "the instructions and orders issued to Mr. Slidell at any time prior or subsequent to his departure to Mexico as Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to that republic." The customary and usual reservation contained in calls of either house of Congress upon the Executive for information relating to our intercourse with foreign nations has been omitted in the resolution before me. The call of the House is unconditional. It is, that the information requested be communicated, and thereby be made public; whether, in the opinion of the Executive, who is charged by the constitution with the duty of conducting negotiations with foregn powers, such information, when disclosed, would be prejudicial to the public interests or not. It has been a subject of serious deliberation with me, whether I could, consistently with my constitutional duty and my sense of the public interests involved and to be affected by it, violate an important principle, always heretofore held sacred by my predecessors, as I should do by a compliance with the request of the House.

President Washington, in a message to the House of Representatives of the 30th of March, 1796, declined to comply with a request contained in a resolution of that body, to lay before them "a copy of the instructions to the minister of the United States who negotiated the treaty with the King of Great Britain"—"together with the correspondence and other documents relative to the said treaty, excepting such of the said papers as any existing negotiations may render improper to be disclosed." In assigning his reasons for declining to comply with the call, he declared that "the nature of foreign negotiations requires caution, and their success must often depend on secresy; and even when brought to a conclusion, a full disclosure of all the measures, demands, and eventual concessions, which may have been proposed or contemplated, would be extremely impolitic; for this might have a pernicious influence on future negotiations, or produce immediate inconveniences, perhaps danger and mischief, in relation to other powers. The necessity of such caution and secresy was one cogent reason for vesting the power of making treaties in the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate; the principle on which that body was formed, confining it to a small number of members. To admit, then, a right in the House of Representatives to demand, and to have, as a matter of course, all the papers respecting a negotiation with a foreign power, would be to establish a dangerous precedent." In that case the instructions and documents called for related to a treaty which had been concluded and ratified by the President and Senate, and the negotiations in relation to it had been terminated. There was an express reservation, too, "excepting" from the call all such papers as related to "any existing negotiations" which it might be improper to disclose. In that case, President Washington deemed it to be a violation of an important principle, the establishment of a "dangerous precedent," and prejudicial to the public interests, to comply with the call of the House.

Without deeming it to be necessary, on the present occasion, to examine or decide upon the other reasons assigned by him, for his refusal to communicate the information requested by the House, the one which is herein recited is, in my judgment, conclusive in the case under consideration.

Indeed, the objections to complying with the request of the House, contained in the resolution before me, are much stronger than those which existed in the case of the resolution of 1796. This resolution calls for "the instructions and orders" to the minister of the United States to Mexico, which relate to negotiations which have not been terminated, and which may be resumed. The information called for, respects negotiations which the United States offered to open with Mexico immediately preceding the commencement of the existing war. The instructions given to the minister of the United States relate to the differences between the two countries, out of which the war grew, and the terms of adjustment which we were prepared to offer to Mexico in our anxiety to prevent the war. These differences still remain unsettled; and to comply with the call of the House, would be to make public, through that channel, and to communicate to Mexico, now a public enemy engaged in war, information which could not fail to produce serious embarrassment in any future negotiation between the two countries.

I have heretofore communicated to Congress all the correspondence of the minister of the United States to Mexico, which, in the existing state of our relations with that republic, can, in my judgment, be at this time communicated without serious injury to the public interest.

Entertaining this conviction, and with a sincere desire to furnish any information which may be in the possession of the Executive Department, and which either house of Congress may at any time request, I regard it to be my constitutional right, and my solemn duty, under the circumstances of this case, to decline a compliance with the request of the House, contained in their resolution.

JAMES K. POLK.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12, 1848.

☞ The Washington Union of the 10th instant says of the position and speech of Mr. Johnson, of Maryland:

"Mr. Reverdy Johnson addressed the Senate to-day in a written speech upon the war. It was distinguished by great ability and eloquence. The first portion was elaborate, and fortified by strong documentary arguments. It *demonstrated* that our war against Mexico was a just war. It took the side of the United States as to the boundary claimed by our administration. He successfully cleared himself of the charge of falsehood in voting for the preamble to the law which declared the existence of the war which Mexico had waged against the United States. This portion of the speech was admirable, and forms an irresistible argument in behalf of the war which we are carrying on with Mexico. But the last, and much the shortest part of the speech, was very unsatisfactory. It charged the President with bringing on the war by the alternative which he had adopted in carrying into effect the resolution for the annexation of Texas: and 2d, by the order which had been issued to Gen. Taylor for marching to the Rio Bravo. We excuse the last part of the speech for the sake of the former. Differing, as we do, from Mr. Johnson, on the proximate reasons which he contends brought on the war, we cannot help admiring the masterly manner in which he has stood up for the rights of his country."

SUPREME COURT OF INDIANA.

November Term, 1847.

REPORTED FOR THE SENTINEL BY A. M. CARNAHAN, ESQ.

JANUARY, 10th, 1848.

Lucas et al. v. *Weider*—Appeal from the Tippecanoe C. C.

PERKINS, J.—Bill for an injunction to restrain trespass to lands. A plea of matters in *pias* was filed, verified by the oath of the Attorney for the defendants. It was stricken from the files on motion, because it was not verified by the oath of a defendant personally. *Held*, that the motion was correctly granted.

Held, also; that the bill does not make a sufficiently strong case to authorize an injunction. Cause remanded, with instructions to dismiss the bill.

State v. *Mason.*—Error to the Allen C. C.

An indictment founded on two statutes should conclude against the form of the *statutes*, and not against the form of the *statute*. *Affirmed.*

State v. *Shoaf, State* v. *Worthington et al., State* v. *Redelsheimer et al., State* v. *Jones, State* v. *Evans et al., State* v. *Chittenden, State* v. *Hanna et al.* Error from the Allen C. C., and affirmed on the same principle as that of the *State* v. *Mason.*

Carlton et al. v. *Hunter.*—Error to the Lawrence C. C. *Per Curiam.* If a record shows that a cause was submitted to the Court by the parties or their Attorneys, it need not show an express agreement by the parties to waive their right of trial by jury. The submission by the parties or their Attorneys is equivalent to a statement that the submission was by their consent. *Affirmed.*

JANUARY, 12th.

Walpole v. *Birchard.*—Error to the Marion C. C.

Held, per Curiam.—That the statute providing that appeals from the judgment of justices of the peace may be taken "within thirty days after the rendition of such judgment," the day on which the judgment was rendered must be included in the computation.

As a general rule, when the computation of time is to be made *from* an act done, the day on which the act is done should be included. But where the words *from* and *after* are used as in the statute referred to, there is no essential difference in the signification. *Affirmed.*

Benson v. *Rodney et al.*—Error to the Parke C. C.

PERKINS, J.—To give a Court jurisdiction in foreign attachment, it is not necessary that the affidavit on which the writ issues should show that the defendant in the attachment has property in the State. R. S. 1843, p. 773, sect. 49. *Reversed.*

Taylor v. *Spencer.*—Error to the Tippecanoe C. C. *Reversed.*

Muir v. *White.*—Error to the Ripley C. C. *Affirmed.*

JANUARY, 17th.

Woodruff v. *Atchison.*—Error to the Lagrange C. C.

Per Curiam.—The case was submitted to the jury before the pleadings and issues were properly adjusted. Demurrers to some of the pleas remained undisposed of, and other pleas unanswered. As there are either numerous mistakes in the record, or in the pleadings as originally filed, all the proceedings will be reversed to the filing of the pleas, and joinder of issue, upon the plea of *non assumpsit*, and the cause remanded, with leave to the parties to amend the other pleadings and make up the issues anew.

Allen v. *Hardesty.*—Error to the Vermillion C. C.

PERKINS, J.—A. sued B. before a justice of the peace and obtained judgment, B. making no defence, for a fraction over $30. B. appealed to the C. C., where a judgment was rendered against him for a fraction less than $30, but the costs in the case, including those before the justice, were taxed against the plaintiff. *Held*, that the costs were correctly taxed. *Affirmed.*

JANUARY, 20th.

The State v. *Irwin.*—Error to the Marion C. C.

SMITH, J.—The defendant was fined, for contempt of Court in failing to obey its process summoning him as a juror, and judgment for the amount of the fine and the costs of the attachment rendered against him. The prosecuting Attorney thereupon moved the Court to order a docket fee to be taxed for him, against the defendant as part of the costs of the prosecution, which motion was overruled.

Held, that the act of February 7th, 1831, authorized docket fees to be taxed in favor of prosecuting Attorneys, only in cases of conviction upon presentment or indictment, and on partiure of applications for divorce. The R. S. 1843, p. 1050 abolishing docket fees in certain cases left this part of the act in force, but it affords no authority for the motion made in this case. *Affirmed.*

State v. *Garner.*—Error to the Marion C. C.

PERKINS, J.—The local act of 1846 authorizing the electors of Marion county to vote license or no license, and requiring the county commissioners to be governed by the result of that vote in granting or withholding license to retail spirituous liquors, did not repeal the penal section in the R. S. against retailing without license. *Affirmed.*

Thayer v. *Dove.*—Error to the Steuben C. C.

SMITH, J.—In a suit commenced before a justice of the peace when process had not been served on the defendant three days before the time set for trial by the justice, and a motion was made to dismiss the suit for that reason, which motion was overruled, and the defendant then applied for a continuance, and a trial was had pursuant to such continuance which resulted in a judgment for the plaintiff. The defendant after such trial must be considered as having waived his right to have the suit dismissed for want of a sufficient notice, and the dismissal of the suit by the Circuit Court, on appeal, on a motion by the defendant, for that reason, was erroneous. *Reversed.*

Slick v. *Bundy.*—Error to the Steuben C. C. *Affirmed.*

AN ACT to amend an act entitled "an act for the benefit of the Volunteers for the Mexican War, and for the relief of county treasurers.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana*, That the provisions of an act, entitled "an act for the benefit of the volunteers of the Mexican War, and for the relief of county treasurers," approved January 14th, 1847, be so amended, as to extend to such volunteers in the Mexican War, as were at the period of their enrollment, citizens and residents of the State of Indiana.

SEC. 2. That it shall be the duty of the County Treasurer of any of the coun