WASHINGTON.

The Robbery of the Exchequer—Ritchie's Raid—$100,000 taken!

Editorial Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, (Ho. of Reps.) Friday, Feb. 28.

I have been a deeply interested spectator through the last three hours of the struggle for and against the attempt to repudiate the Contract made by the last for the Printing of the present Congress. That Contract was made nominally with Trenholm and Belt, journeymen in the establishment of Thomas Ritchie of 'The Union,' but really with Ritchie himself, who became the surety for his journeymen, has had the work done in his office, and has received the pay for it—has in effect been the Contractor all along, the names of Trenholm and Belt being only used to obviate the necessity of Ritchie's giving sureties.

The work under the contract has been most unreasonably, ruinously delayed; it has in good part been badly done, and on paper much worse than was stipulated for in the contract. No honest jury of Printers who should be required to arbitrate between Ritchie and the Treasury could do otherwise than decide that Ritchie will honestly owe the Treasury many thousands of dollars when his job is finished and paid for according to contract. He has had more work to do than could have been anticipated—will have had almost steady work from January, 1850, to April (or later) in 1851—and has no claim to extra pay that every contractor who says he has made his bills too low has not or will not have. But it is useless to expose further the iniquities and mischiefs of this job. It *has passed the House* by a vote (on the test) of *One Hundred and Six* to *One Hundred and Three*—and twenty-three 'Union' Whigs gave their votes for it. Even these would not have carried it without the votes of Messrs. Meade, Venable, Featherston, and one or two more ultra Southerners, who have fought and denounced the 'Compromise' and Mr. Ritchie because of it, and been denounced by him in turn; these votes added to the twenty-three Whigs and the main body of the Opposition carried the Resolve through every stage against the determined and persevering efforts of its adversaries, and passed it at last by five majority—two or three opponents having stood out of the way.

—Will not the People of Virginia, Indiana, Kentucky and other States who are soon to choose Members of Congress inquire into the votes of their Members on this question? H. G.

CONNECTICUT.—Ex-Gov. CHAUNCEY F. CLEVELAND has been re-nominated for Congress in the IIId. District by one majority. On the first ballot in the nominating Convention Capt. Ephraim Williams of Stonington had 39 votes to 34 for the Governor. Beside the election of Congressmen, and a U. S. Senator by the Legislature the State has to be newly apportioned. The Constitution as amended in 1828, provides that the State Senate shall consist of not less than 8 nor more than 24 Senators, to be chosen by Districts—and that a new organization of Senatorial Districts may be made by the session of the General Assembly, next succeeding the completion of every census of the United States. Judicial Officers, never before elected by the people, have also to be chosen.

CONNECTICUT.—JOHN C. AMES of Sterling has been nominated by the Whigs of the 3d Congressional District.

The Opposition have presented Hon. Origen S. Seymour of Litchfield for Congress in the 4th District.

☞ The Connecuticut State Temperance Convention adopted a strong series of resolutions against liquor dealing, and for rigid license laws. A Committee of Nine was chosen from the three different parties to nominate a State ticket for the support of temperance men, who are to assemble at Hartford in March.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE.—The Manchester *Democrat* says that Mr. Atwood, the Free Soil Opposition candidate for Governor, asserts explicitly and unequivocally that Gen. Franklin Pierce wrote the letter which he signed, sustaining the Fugitive Slave Law. Mr. A. has issued a full statement of the moves made by the Concord regency against him, and free principles generally. He was announced to address a mass meeting at Manchester on the 27th, for which a call was published, signed by 600 Loco voters. The new Opposition nominee, Dinsmoor, keeps shady, and so far writes no letters for the public eye, being well known as a friend of the Fugitive Bill.

VERMONT.—An Anti-Fugitive Slave Law Mass State meeting has been called by the leading citizens of Vermont to meet at Bethel, March 6.

OHIO ITEMS.—The Legislature has finished the business of electing Associate Judges. They started the "Peoples' Line," by which arrangement Locos were elected to fill vacancies in Loco Foco counties, Whigs in Whig counties, and Free Soilers in Free Soil counties. No prospects of a U. S. Senator yet. The Constitutional Convention has agreed to adjourn March 10. Col. Thomas H. Benton has been invited to deliver the Annual Address before the Ohio Agricultural Society.

MISSISSIPPI.—The Union Party State Convention for the nomination of State Officers to be elected next November meets some time in May. So says the *Vicksburg Whig*. The Disunionists talk of renominating Gen. Quitman on the "Southern Rights" issue.

WISCONSIN ITEMS.—A counter demonstration to the movement made by the admirers of Land Monopoly was to be held at Milwaukee on the 19th ult. for the purpose of responding to the Land Limitation movement in the State Legislature for the limitation of 640 acres of land in the country, or four acres of city lots. Another Anti-Land Limitation meeting was to be held at Milwaukee on the 22d, with what result we have yet to learn. The *Free Democrat* thinks a majority of the people who attended the first meeting of the Opponents of Land Reform were for Land Limitation, and only attended from curiosity to see what was going on. In no State in the Union are there more active Land Reformers than in Wisconsin.

The Assembly has voted to submit the Bank question to the people by a vote of 41 to 19.

The Senate bill for the Abolition of the Death Penalty, was lost in the Assembly on the 10th inst. by Yeas 40 to Nays 19.

The debate in the Assembly on the Land Limitation Law was to continue until the 20th inst. so that the Legislature could hear from public meetings.

Secretary Conrad of the War Department has announced that Fort Howard and Green Bay are no longer required for military purposes.

LATER FROM YUCATAN.—The brig Mary Ann, Capt. Wait, arrived yesterday from Sisal, whence she sailed Feb. 12. She has returned with about one third of a cargo, after remaining at that port nearly two months. Many vessels were leaving without any freight. Owing to the protracted war with the Indians in the interior, scarcely any country produce came to market, and it is extremely high. The affairs of the Peninsula are in no enviable situation. The Government Treasury is exhausted, and the army of about 17,000 troops are without pay, and without clothing, and nearly in a starving condition—yet still they face the enemy.

☞ Major MOSES D. BURNET is the Opposition candidate for Mayor of Syracuse.

Tribune's Special Dispatches.

Another Tariff Effort.

Special Dispatch to The Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, March 1.

Another effort for a modification of the Tariff is to be made in connection with Hunter's Senate bill. Its success is very doubtful.

The Pennsylvania Legislature in Washington—The River and Harbor Bill.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, March 1.

The members of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, a fine looking body of men, have just arrived.

The *Intelligencer* still urges the River and Harbor Bill upon the Senate. There appears to be but little prospect of its passage. WOUTER VON TWILLER.

By Telegraph to the New-York Tribune.

Washington Items.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, March 1.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, held here yesterday, Ex-Gov. Samuel Spriggs, of Maryland, was elected President, *vice* Gen. Coale, who declined a reélection.

Wimer, McGill & Connolly will commence today the publication of a daily evening paper, to be neutral in politics.

The Treasury statement as published this morning shows a net amount of public moneys in the Treasury subject to a draft to be $14,222,261 25, of which $2,615,000 are in the Sub-Treasury, New-York, and $6,700,000 in the Mint at Philadelphia.

Another Murder at Buffalo.

BUFFALO, Saturday, March 1.

There was another murder committed here the night before last in a drunken row. A man named Camp struck Patrick McCormick with an ax, breaking his skull. McCormick died last night, and the Coroner held an inquest this morning, when Camp was committed on the charge of murder.

Further Arrests at Boston on account of the late Fugitive Case.

BOSTON, Saturday, March 1.

Robert Morris, Jr., a colored lawyer, and J. H. Coburn, clothes dealer, were arrested this morning on a charge of aiding in the late rescue, and were held for examination. The Hon. Josiah Quincy, Jr., became bail for Mr. Morris.

State of Navigation in the West, &c.

ST. LOUIS, Friday, Feb. 28.

The river is rising here—it is 9 to 10 feet at Cairo, Ill. and 5 feet on the principal bars of the Upper Missouri. All the upper rivers are rising, and in good boating order. We had a heavy snow storm yesterday. Weather to-day is clear and pleasant. The Mississippi is rapidly rising.

Ship on Fire at Charleston.

CHARLESTON, Thursday, Feb. 27.

The bark Ulrica, loaded for Antwerp, and having on board 400 bales of cotton and 300 tierces of rice is on fire in the hold. The cotton has been thrown overboard and the vessel scuttled.

The Pennsylvania Legislature at Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, Saturday, March 1.

The Legislature of Pennsylvania spent last night in Baltimore, and left in the cars this morning for Washington. The entertainment given them was a grand affair. The two States pledging in the Union of interests in prosecuting their great works of Internal Improvements. Governor Johnson did not accompany them. The Governor of Maryland was present. They return to Harrisburg on Monday morning.

Incendiary Fires at Utica.

UTICA, Friday, Feb. 28.

Two fires occurred this morning. The first was the Sixth Ward Hotel, which, with the adjoining barns, stables and ball alley, and the Lutheran Church, was destroyed. The whole was but partially insured.

The second fire destroyed the barns and outbuildings of the Croton House, on Fayette st., and the barn and shed of the adjoining house. Total loss about $15,000.

A reward of $1,000 has been offered by the citizens for the detection of the incendiaries.

Brutal Murder.

NEWCASTLE, Del, Friday, Feb. 28.

Last night a man entered the house of Mr. Crosden, near Georgetown Cross Roads, Kent County, Md., and shot Mr. C. dead. He then went to the chamber of Mr. C.'s wife, who was lying sick, and shot her and her sister, and the servant girl, very dangerously. The perpetrator of the deed is not known.

Weather Items.

By Morse's Line, Office 16 *Wall-st.*]

SATURDAY, March 1—9 A. M.

BUFFALO.—Cold wintry morning; wind west; ther. 26; bar. 29.40.

ROCHESTER.—Glorious morning; sun shines clear; air fine but cold; wind west; ther. 30.

AUBURN.—A beautiful morning; not a cloud to be seen; wind north-west; ther. 48; about two inches snow on the ground.

SYRACUSE.—A clear, beautiful morning, but rather cool; wind south; ther. 25.

OSWEGO.—Some snow fell last night, and is still falling; ther 24; bar. 30.650.

UTICE.—Cloudy, but quite pleasant; wind west; ther. 27; bar. 29.660.

ALBANY.—Clear, cold and beautiful morning; wind NW; bar. 30.14; mer. in bar. 58; ther. 25.

TROY.—Weather cold and sky clear; wind NW; ther. 22

XXXIst CONGRESS....Second Session.

SENATE....WASHINGTON, Saturday, March 1.

The CHAIR laid before the Senate a Message from the President, communicating all the information he possessed concerning the difficulties between the British and Nicaraguan authorities. The Message was not read, but ordered to be printed.

Mr. WALES presented a petition of the Governor and Legislature of Delaware in favor of the Ebony Line.

Mr. WALES also presented the crendentials of Mr. BAYARD, Senator elect from Delaware.

CONSTRUCTIVE MILEAGE.

Mr. PEARCE moved to take up the bill amending the existing laws regulating the compensation of Congress, by declaring that hereafter no Senator shall receive what is called constructive mileage. He explained the bill, and urged that the Senate owed it to its dignity to pass it.

Mr. CLAY, as an old man who had occupied a seat in the Senate before many of its present members were born, urged the Senate to pass the bill from its own self respect, and from respect for the character it enjoyed in every part of the country.

The bill was then read a third time and passed.

RIVERS AND HARBORS, &c.

Mr. BADGER moved to postpone all other business, and take up the River and Harbor bill.

Mr. BORLAND thought that Committees should be allowed to report. This day was their last opportunity

Mr. FOOTE considered the motion as irregular. The morning business should be disposed of. Moreover, there were three treaties to be acted on this session, or they would be nullities. These required an Executive Session.

Mr. HUNTER conceived that unless the Civil and Diplomatic Appropriation bill be sent back to-day to the House, it would hardly be got through.

Mr. RUSK had several bills, important ones, to report from the Committee on Post Offices.

Mr JOHN DAVIS said, it will depend on those who oppose the bill, whether there will be discussion or not.

Mr. BUTLER gave notice that he would not be forced into a vote on this bill, without first discussing it.

Mr. FOOTE said the general features of the bill met his approval, and would receive the support of a majority of the Senate—but in it also were features which could not be supported by ten Senators, because of their odious character.

Mr. TURNEY moved to lay Mr. Badger's motion on the table, and the question was taken by yeas and nays, and decided in the negative—Yeas 23. Nays 30.

Mr. HUNTER urged action on the Civil and Diplomatic bill.

Mr. BRADBURY was for disposing of the Appropriation bills. If they were defeated, the responsibility would rest on those who delayed them.

Mr. BADGER observed that each man is to be responsible for his own condset only. I am ready to bear my share of it.

Mr. DICKINSON thought the best course was to dispose of the Appropriation bills, and then take up this.

Mr. WALKER would consider this vote on taking up the bill, a test vote.

Mr. BORLAND was in favor of the bill, and would vote for taking it up.

Mr. FOOTE considered this bill as a bill of enormities in its present shape: but, if certain of its features were changed, it could perhaps be acted on.

Mr. JONES said that all are anxious for the passage of appropriation bills; and the best way is to take up this bill, vote on it without discussion, pass it or reject it, and then take up the appropriation bills. [Laughter.]

Mr. CLAY hoped that the friends of the bill would insist on its consideration now. It was now or never.

Mr HALE had voted to lay the motion on the table, but if taking up this bill would defeat the Army and Navy bill, he had done wrong. He would be glad to defeat those bills till they were reduced seventy-five per cent. [Laughter.]

The Senate was crowded to excess, and all the members of the Pennsylvania Legislature were introduced in the lobbies.

Mr. DOUGLAS would vote to take up the bill in order that he might say on what grounds he would vote for the bill if it could be put in a proper shape.

Mr. ATCHISON would vote against taking the bill up, because he did not think it possible to put the bill in a shape to enable him to vote for it.

The question was taken, and the motion to take up the bill was carried by Yeas 31, Nays 25, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Badger, Baldwin, Bell, Borland, Bright, Cass, Chase, Clay, Cooper, John Davis, Dayton, Dickinson, Dodge of Wisconsin, Dodge of Iowa, Douglas, Ewing, Felch, Greene, Jones, Miller, Phelps, Pratt, Rantoul, Sebastian, Seward, Smith, Underwood, Upham, Wales, Walker, Whitcomb—31.

NAYS—Messrs. Atchison, Bradbury, Butler, Clarke, Clemens, Jefferson Davis, Dawson, Downs, Foote, Gwin, Hale, Hamlin, Houston, Hunter, King, Mason, Morton, Norris, Pearce, Rhett, Rusk, Soule, Sturgeon, Turney and Yulee—25.

The bill was then read.

Mr. JOHN DAVIS explained the bill, and stated that it contained appropriations spread over all parts of the country, which amounted to over $2,300,000. It contained appropriations for improvements on the sea coast and lakes, and most of them apply to works already commenced and out of repair.

Mr. CLEMENS moved an amendment, restricting the appropriation for the improvement of the Tennessee River to that part of the River between Chatanoochee and Catron.

Mr. FOOTE advocated the amendment. It improved the nationality of the bill.

Mr. BELL opposed the restriction.

Mr. CLEMENTS said that the money might as well be thrown into the river as to apply it to the removal of Muscle Shoals.

Mr. FOOTE and Mr. BELL continued the debate on the subject of Muscle Shoals.

Mr. BRIGHT said there were now in the bill several appropriations for works of no national character, but whose object was to enhance the value of private property, Unless these were stricken out, he would not vote for the bill. He would not vote for it if any appropriations were in it for improving the Tennessee, Arkansas or Illinois Rivers. However much he might feel disposed to vote for such improvements, still there was a principle which would govern his vote. There were no estimates for surveys of many of the items of the bill, and unless the bill was narrowed down to national works and confined to those for which estimates had been sent in, he would move to lay it on the table.

Mr. HAMLIN said if any bills were lost for want of time, the responsibility would not be on the Senate It was a solemn mockery upon legislation to keep the Appropriation bills from the Senate till the last moments of the session. The Civil and Diplomatic bill reached the Senate a day or two ago; the Navy bill is in the House yet, and the Army bill has just been laid on the table. He was not in the minority on the committee reporting this bill. He had tried to have it amended in committee, but failed. The bill, in its present shape, had objectionable features, which, if not changed, would compel him to vote against it.—The bill appropriated nearly twenty-four hundred thousand dollars, of which seven hundred and nine thousand was for the Atlantic coast. It contained eighty-eight items, twenty-nine of which were for new works, many of which were never surveyed, and for which no estimates were furnished, nor appropriations asked by the government. He would not vote for the bill if these were retained in it. He would, at a proper time, move to strike out the appropriations for the Tennessee, Illinois, Arkansas and Rio Grande rivers.

Mr. CLAY said there were different ways to defeat the bill—among others, to vote it down and to amend it so as to make it objectionable to its own friends. He called on all friends of the bill to stand firm, and with him vote down all amendments. He examined the question of nationality in such works, and maintained that an improvement of the great Western waters was the greatest national work conceivable. The West, if denied, moreover, would in time insist upon, and by its own power will take, these improvements.

Mr. BUTLER supposed the bill was to pass, and that Mr. Clay was aware of it, from a count, or some other means. He was asked what had been done for the Valley of the Mississippi. He answered, everything. The Nile was worshipped as a god, because of the fertility it gave the soil. The Mississippi itself was an immense advantage to the States upon it. There was hardly a day that they were not called upon to vote land by millions of acres to the States for railroads and canals. Those States bordering on the Mississippi Valley had received the whole bulk of the public lands of any value. He then at length opposed the bill.

Mr. DOUGLAS would vote for the bill if its appropriations were reduced to those works for which estimates had been furnished by the departments, and the improvement of the Ohio and its natural tributaries. There should be some responsibility for this vast appropriation. The Administration asked for a little over one million, and this bill appropriated nearly two and a half millions. If these extra appropriations were not stricken from the bill, he would vote against it.

Mr BORLAND followed, and quoted Gen. Jackson and Mr. Calhoun as authorities for works of internal improvement, which were not more national than those in this bill.

Mr. DAWSON detailed the condition of the Treasury, and stated that at the end of the present fiscal year, the debt of the United States would be $100,000,000. At this late day, an appropriation bill, which had been dead since 1844, is to be galvanized in another hour. He alluded to the singular confusion of parties in this question.—He cited several items in the bill as as going far beyond anything known or understood as Whig doctrine. The Democratic party always opposed such appropriations. He considered the reason why this appropriation bill was received with such favor was that the Presidential campaign was coming on.

Mr. CASS—Mr. President, there is not as much noise and confusion on this occasion as there was on another memorable one—[laughter]—but I hope to be better understood now than I was then. He had been challenged by an Administration paper in this city to express his views on this subject, in terms which imply that his views had been concealed. He would be a fool to attempt to conceal his opinions on this subject. For six years he was Secretary of War under Gen. Jackson, and was responsible for all the estimates for internal improvements submitted to Congress during that time, and in the session of 1846–7, he had voted for a River and Harbor bill. He did not attend the Chicago Convention, and this was considered as another evidence of concealment. He was asked to go to that Convention, and nothing else. He did not go to the Convestion, and that was all. He was not asked for his opinions, and he did not give them. The reason why he did not go to the Chicago Convention was, that he conceived it a Whig scheme to break down Col. Polk and his Administration. As to the charge of noise and confusion, there was not one word of truth in it, and as to his views on this subject, they were stated in the message of Gen. Jackson, in 1834. He was opposed to Roads and Canals. The improvement of harbors was a matter within the discretion of the State Legislatures, and no rivers ought to be improved about a port of entry. He commented upon Mr. Calhoun's policy, and pointed out its errors. He stood now, as he always had done, on the Baltimore platform. It was well known that those resolutions were prepared by Silas Wright, and yet Mr. Wright had voted repeatedly for the River and Harbor bills. He would vote for reducing the appropriations in the bill to the estimates furnished by the Departments, and for such works as had been surveyed and recommended.

Mr. EWING followed in support of the bill as it is.

Col JEFF. DAVIS replied.

The Senate then took a recess till 6 o'clock.

KOSSUTH AND HIS COMPANIONS—SMITHSONIAN INSTITION—THE ARMY BILL.

The Senate having reassembled,

Mr. FOOTE laid on the table a resolution calling for the correspondence between the United States and Turkey, relative to Kossuth and his companions. Being objected to, it was laid over.

The CHAIR, by consent, laid before the Senate the report of the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution. Referred to the Printing Committee.

The Army bill was taken up and referred.

THE RESOLUTION FOR MR. RITCHIE'S RELIEF.

The joint resolution for the relief of Mr. Ritchie was taken up and read a first time.

Mr. BADGER moved a second reading, with a view to its reference.

Mr. TURNEY objected.

Mr. DICKINSON asked if a majority could not overcome one objection.

The CHAIR said the rules forbid a bill being read twice on one day.

Mr. TURNEY insisted on his objection.

LAND WARRANTS.

The joint resolution making land warrants assignable was on the table, and the CHAIR said if there was no objection it would be put upon its passage.

Col. JEFF. DAVIS objected.

Mr. CLEMENS moved to postpone the River and Harbor bill, in order to take up the joint resolution.

Col. JEFF. DAVIS then withdrew his objection.

Mr. WALKER renewed the objection.

RIVERS AND HARBORS.

Mr. CLEMENS moved to lay the River and Harbor bill on the table. Lost, by yeas 18, nays 30.

The question pending was on Mr. CLEMENS's amendment.

Mr. BORLAND commenced a speech in favor of the bill.

Mr. CLEMENS raised a point of order. He contended that it was not proper, when an amendment was pending, to discuss the general merits of the bill.

A debate sprang up, and the discussion was continued for nearly an hour on the point of order.

Mr. BORLAND finally said he would postpone his remarks.

The amendment was then adopted—Yeas 27, nays 25.

Mr. BORLAND again addressed the Senate, and contended that it was true democratic doctrine to improve rivers and harbors.

Mr. JEFF. DAVIS replied.

Mr. HUNTER said—It is obvious that this bill is to be debated all night. I know it is useless to move to lay it on the table; but I hope by general consent, it will be laid over, and the Civil and Diplomatic bill be taken up.

Mr. CLAY.—I object.

Mr. FOOTE said he desired to lay business of importance before the senate. This business required a secret session. He therefore moved that the doors be closed. (Laughter.)

CHAIR—The bill before the Senate must first be disposed of.

Mr. HAMLIN moved to strive out the appropriation of fifty thousand dollars each for the Tennessee and Illinois rivers.

Mr. BELL defended the Tennessee river.

Mr. FOOTE would vote for the amendment. The Tennessee River was a right respectable stream, but not a national river. He explained his views on the whole subject.

Mr. UNDERWOOD replied to the objections against the bill.

Mr. FOOTE would vote to increase the sums in the bill if the amendment was not stricken out.

Mr. DOUGLAS defended the nationality of the Illinois river.

Mr. TURNEY maintained that the Tennessee River was as national as any other.

Mr. RANTOUL defended the nationality of the Illinois River.

Mr. DOWNS favored the amendment. He remonstrated against the manner in which the bill had been forced upon the Senate, to the exclusion of every other subject. He moved that the bill be laid on the table. Lost—Yeas 23, Nays 34.

Mr. RUSK was in favor of the bill, but considered that it should be amended. He gave notice of amendments.

Mr. JOHN DAVIS replied.

Mr. BUTLER called attention to the fact that, to perform these improvements, money must be borrowed, and that, to pay it, eventually duties on customs must be raised.

The debate was continued by Messrs. CASS, ATCHISON, and JEFFERSON DAVIS, who supported the amendment, and Messrs. CHASE, JOHN DAVIS, and CLEMENS, who opposed it.

The amendment was rejected: Ayes, 23; Nays, 31.

Mr. JEFFERSON DAVIS moved to strike out the appropriation for the harbor at St. Louis.

A long debate ensued, and the amendment was rejected: Yeas, 24; Nays, 20.

Mr. CLARK moved to increase the appropriation for the improvement of the harbor at Providence, R. I. from $5,000 to $25,000.

Messrs. CLARK and FOOTE debated the amendment, which was lost.

Mr. FOOTE, at 10½, moved to lay the bill on the table, for the purpose of going into Executive Session. Lost—Yeas 22, Nays 30.

Mr. FOOTE moved to increase the appropriations for the Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee and Illinois rivers

Mr. CLEMENS moved an adjournment. Lost—Yeas 23, Nays 32.

Amendment debated till 11 o'clock, when Mr. CLEMENS again moved an adjournment. Lost—Yeas 22, Nays 30.

Mr. FOOTE's amendment was rejected.

Mr. MANGUM moved to lay the bill on the table, in order to allow him to lay a resolution on the table suspending a rule which prohibits a bill from being read twice in one day.

The motion was agreed to, by 28 Yeas to 26 Nays.

Mr. MANGUM laid the resolution on the table, and then moved to take up the bill again.

Mr PEARCE moved an adjournment. Lost, by Yeas 18, Nays 33.

After debate the bill was taken up, by Yeas 35, Nays 17.

It was now 12 o'lock.

Mr. CASS said he would move to adjourn. It was not proper to sit longer. It was the Sabbath.

Mr. BELL—How do you know? [Laughter.]

Mr. CASS—How do I know? How do I know yesterday was yesterday, and to morrow will be to-morrow? You will know it by and by. [Laughter.] I ask for the Yeas and Nays.

Mr. CLEMENS—If it is the Sabbath you can't vote. [Laughter.]

The Senate then, at 10 minutes past 12 o'clock, by Yeas 29, Nays 25, adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, March 1, 1851.

PATENT REPORT.

The Patent Office Report was received and ordered to be printed. The question of extra numbers is to be reported upon by the Committee on Printing.

THE CHARGE AGAINST SECRETARY WEBSTER.

The SPEAKER stated the question to be on Mr. Julian's motion to suspend the rules, to enable him to introduce a resolution for the appointment of a Committee, with power to send for persons and papers, to examine into the truth of Mr Allen's charges against Mr. Webster.

Mr. STANLY, (whig) of North Carolina, asked whether the Committee were to meet to-morrow, which would be Sunday, or the next day, which would be the last day but one of the session?

The SPEAKER said nothing was mentioned about the time.

Mr. STANLY—It is more than ridiculous to waste valuable time. The member for Indiana knows there can be no investigation at this session, and he wants none.

The question was taken on suspending the rules, and decided in the negative—Yeas 36. Nays 119.

The following are the names of those who voted:

YEAS—Messrs. Albertson, Allen, Bingham, Booth, Brisbin, Brown, (Ind.) Cable, Carter, Cleveland, Daniel, Danner, Dimmick, Durkee, Fitch, Gerry, Giddings, Gilbert, Harlan, Howe, Hunter, Johnson, (Tenn.) Julian, Littlefield, Horace Mann, Job Mann, McLanahan, Morrison, Parker, Penn, Phelps, Potter, Robinson, Sweetser and Wellborn.

The House then went into Committee on

THE NAVY APPROPRIATION BILL.

Mr. VENABLE, (Opp.) of N. C. was against the mail steamer establishment, and the ebony line particularly.

Mr. McMULLEN, (Opp.) of Va. did not agree with his colleague, Mr. Meade, who last night advocated the establishment of mail steamers. Mr McM. denied the constitutionality of such a course.

Mr. HILLIARD was for voting all that the Secretary of the Navy asked, but would not sustain additional lines of steamers, as it would cost more to fit them out for warlike purposes than to build new ones. Beside, the Treasury could not afford it.

Mr. GERRY, (Opp.) of Me., offered an amendment, which was rejected, to establish steamers from California or Oregon, or both, to the Sandwich Islands and China.

Two ineffectual attempts were made to incorporate the officers of the late Texas Navy into the Navy of the United States.

The other proceedings were of little importance up to the hour of recess.

After the recess, the consideration of the Navy Appropriation bill was resumed.

Mr. KING, (Whig.) of New-Jersey, offered an amendment reappropriating money which has gone into the Surplus Fund, to enable R. L. Stevens to carry out his contract of 1842, for building war steamers bomb and ball proof.

Mr. TOOMBS, (Whig.) of Georgia, said the contractor was incapable of carrying out his plans, and that he heard the Secretary of the Navy say so. The amendment was rejected.

A long, spirited, and noisy debate ensued, on an amendment offered by Mr. BAYLY, (Opp.,) of Virginia, that so much of the act of last September, as authorizes the construction of a dry dock, basin, and railway on the Pacific, be repealed.

Various propositions were made to this, and discussed.

One side insisted that the Secretary of the Navy had made a contract with Gilbert, Moody, Secor, and Dakin, and that it would be unjust to repeal the law.

The other side contended that no contract was made.

The expense of the works was likewise in controversy.

Points of order were frequently raised.

Finally, after suspending the five minutes rule for permitting debate, a substitute was adopted, appropriating one hundred and fifty thousand dollars for a dry dock in California, and authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to so modify the contract as to dispense with a basin and railway, provided the contractors execute the work as the estimate for the dock portion, and that so much of the law as calls for a basin and railway be repealed. Provided, before entering into said contract, the Secretary of the Navy shall give the usual notice of sixty days.

Mr. MEADE offered an amendment establishing two lines of steamers to carry the mails—one between California and China and the other between Philadelphia and Norfolk and Antwerp, touching at other ports in Europe: such vessels to be converted into war steamers when necessary, &c.—The contract to be made with Mr. Thompson of Philadelphia, on certain conditions.

The Chairman (Mr. RICHARDSON) decided the amendment to be out of order, and the Committee sustained his decision—Ayes, 119, Noes not counted.

Mr. BAYLY offered an amendment authorizing the Secretary of the Navy to pay E. K. Collins an additional compensation for carrying the Mails between New-York and Liverpool.

The CHAIRMAN decided that it was out of order. Sustained by Ayes 28, Noes 45.

The Committee adopted the amendment of Mr. Bayly, that in time of peace, or when war was not threatened, that steamers employed between New York and Liverpool, carrying the Mails, shall be under the exclusive control of the officers appointed by Mr. Collins and his associates.

There was much noise and confusion.

Mr. STANTON (Opp.) of Tenn. offered an amendment for a line of steamers to Africa on Mr. Bryan's plan.

This was decided out of order, by Ayes, 90; Noes 40.

Mr. JONES, (Opp.) of Tenn., offered an amendment to repeal all contracts of the Government with contractors for carrying the mails between the United States and foreign countries, and giving the contractors the right to sue for damages. Rejected.

Mr. MORSE, (Opp.) of La., wished to move a recess until 10 o'clock to morrow, but objection was made.

Various amendments were acted on.

The bill having been got through with, the Committee rose at 5 minutes to 11 o'clock.

Mr JONES moved to adjourn, but the House refused so to do.

The amendments were concurred in, and the bill passed.

THE CHEAP POSTAGE BILL.

Mr. POTTER, (Opp.) of Ohio, reported back the Postage bill as returned from the Senate, with amendments. The Committee on Post Offices proposed modifications to them not affecting the rates, making some additions to the printed matter clause, and providing for the coinage of three cent pieces. The amendments were concurred in.

The House adjourned at a quarter past 12 o'clock A.M., on Sunday.

NEW-YORK LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.....ALBANY, Saturday, March 1.

PETITIONS.

For the abolition of Capital Punishment.

THE USURY LAWS.

Mr. MORGAN reported favorably a bill to amend the Usury Laws. The bill is as follows:

SECTION 2.—No contract or assurance for the payment of money, with interest, at a greater rate of interest than is allowed by the preceding section, shall be rendered void; but whenever, in any action brought on such contract or assurance, it shall appear, upon a special answer to the complaint being made to that effect, that a greater rate of interest has been directly or indirectly reserved, taken or received, than is allowed by law, the defendant shall receive his costs, and the whole interest reserved or taken; and the plaintiff shall have judgment for the balance only which shall remain due after deducting the whole amount of said interest.

SEC. 3.—Whenever a greater rate of interest than is allowed by the first section of this law shall have been paid, the party paying the same may receive back the amount of the whole interest paid, provided an action shall be prosecuted within two years from the time when the said interest shall have been paid. If the creditor is living, the debtor may be admitted as a witness.

ASSEMBLY.

The Assembly held no session to-day.

BALTIMORE.

Visit of the Governor and Legislature of Pennsylvania—Homestead Exemption—Ins and Outs—Incendiarism—Baltimore Chivalry—Governor's Appointments.

Correspondence of The Tribune.

BALTIMORE, Friday, Feb. 28—A. M.

Quite a reception is to be given this evening to Gov. Johnson and the members of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, who are to arrive here over the York and Cumberland, and Baltimore and Susquehanna Railroads, on their way to Washington, the several railroad companies from Harrisburg to the Capital having proffered them a free passage to go and return. On their arrival here to-night they are to be met at the Dépôt, and escorted to their quarters at the "Eutaw House," where they will be entertained by a magnificent supper, got up at the instance of the officers of the two railroad companies. It is desired to obtain a charter from the Legislature of Pennsylvania to make a connecting link of railroad with the above roads and the great Central Railroad of the Keystone State, and this exhibition of liberality and hospitality, it is thought, will not be without its effect on those members of the Legislature who are jealous of the rivalry of Baltimore with Philadelphia. A connection with the Central Road would throw a vast amount of trade and travel into this city, which would otherwise go direct through to Philadelphia.

An effort has been made to engraft a section on the new Constitution, to give authority to the Legislature to exempt from execution $500 worth of property of every family of the State. It is extremely doubtful, however, whether so humane an act will be adopted. A majority of the people would no doubt favor it, but extraneous causes will defeat it, or I am much mistaken.

To-morrow all the old city officers who have fed at the Loco crib for many years past, will be turned out, and an entirely new set of Whig officials be installed in their places. Our new Mayor has made a good beginning and has received the gratulations of his friends, and commendation of his political opponents, for the firmness and decision with which he has administered the corporation affairs thus far.

The Bone Dost Mill of Lewis Turner, on the suburbs of the city, was destroyed by fire on Tuesday night; and two hours afterwards his new dwelling adjoining shared the same fate. Loss $6,000—insurance $1,000. Both were designedly fired, supposed by parties with whom he had a difficulty.

The Mechanical Fire Company of this city, who designed visiting Boston this Summer, are about foregoing their intention, because the people of Boston do not respect the laws and let a poor devil of a negro escape. So says a resolution before the Company. I really feel sorry that the Bostonians will be deprived of the pleasure of a visit from fifty or sixty of the "B'hoys who run wid der machine" in Baltimore. How sorely they will be disappointed!

I understand that Gov. Lowe purposes making many changes in offices within his gift in this city. Gov. Thomas's Loco friends were not Gov. Lowe's Loco friends, and they will have to "walk the plank." As Gov. Lowe was formerly a Whig and has made his first appointments from the recent converts to Loco Focoism, it is therefore fair to presume that political renegades will get the most "pap." We shall know in a few days—then for hard swearing in the Hunker wigwam. IAGO.

RAILROAD DEPOT BURNED.—The large freight dépôt of the Boston, Concord and Montreal Railroad, at Meredith Bridge, N. H., was entirely consumed by fire Saturday morning.

FURTHER FOREIGN NEWS.

Flax Cotton.

We find that a number of individuals in different parts of the country are turning their attention to various modes of preparing flax, with the view of rendering it suitable for spinning on cotton machinery; and there is fair reason for believing that some of the efforts now making in this way will be successful. Indeed we have already witnessed an amount of success which former experience did not lead us to expect at the present time. We have now in our possession a hank of throstle yarn, apparently about No. 16, spun entirely from flax, and not only very superior to any we have previously seen produced on cotton machinery from flax alone, but superior also in evenness and smoothness to any of those mixtures of cotton and flax which we have described on former occasions. It was spun, we are informed, at the mill of Mr. James Buckley, of Chapel Field, Pilkington, from flax prepared by Thomas Edmiston, foreman in the calendering establishment at Pilkington. We have seen samples of the material from which this yarn was produced, which does not appear to differ in any essential point from that prepared by Chevalier Claussen's process; and we presume that, if treated in the same way, the two materials would produce very similar results. What may be the utility and the value of flax yarn produced in this manner, we are, of course, wholly unable to say. That, when manufactured into cloth, it will prove different from ordinary linen or cotton cloth, is unquestionable; and its value, in comparison with those fabrics, can be ascertained only by experience. From what we have been able to learn as to its cost, we still think that, considered merely as a substitute for cotton, it will lose its value in periods when the price of the latter material is moderate; but it may, no doubt, possess properties which will keep it in use at all times. Having on a former occasion expressed some doubt whether mixtures of flax and cotton would take a uniform color when dyed, we think it right to say that we have seen some dyed samples of the yarn, which appeared perfectly unexceptionable in this respect—all the colors being perfectly solid and uniform in depth and brightness. [Manchester Guard.

Miscellaneous Items.

—The *Waterford Mail* states that Mr. Charles Power, a native of Waterford, by trade a coach-maker, is master of no less than fourteen languages, including the ancient and modern Greek. Power is a very young man.

—Newry is to be lighted with water gas at 1s per 1,000 cubic feet.

—There exists in Bengal a particular class of Brahmins, known by the name of Kulins, who are notorious for the number of their marriages. One member of this caste has been known to have formed three hundred matrimonial alliances, and to have had wives scattered over a vast extent of country.

—On the 1st of March a public dinner is to be given to Mr. Macready, at the London Tavern, on his retirement from the English stage. Sir E. Bulwer Lytton will preside, and Charles Dickens, Esq., is Chairman of the "Dinner Committee."

—A subscription has been set on foot to raise a "Nineveh Fund," to enable Mr. Layard to prosecute his researches—the funds provided by the British Government being exhausted. Prince Albert, the Earl of Ellesmere, and Sir J. Guest have each subscribed £100.

—An injunction has been granted against Cardinal Wiseman not to draw £7,000, under a disputed will, without leave of the Chancellor.

—The Pope claims from the British Cabinet for the use of his Church, 1,000 square miles of territory in Canada, heretofore the estate of the Jesuits.

—It appears from the *Tablet* that it is proposed to hold a Popish Synod for England at Shrewsbury, which is to issue "a uniform discipline for