The Press.

NATIONAL EXPENDITURES.—From a statement of the appropriations made by Congress during its recent session, published by the Clerk of the House of Representatives, it appears that the expenses of the session were $548.344. Of this sum $370,944 were required for the pay and mileage of members; $43,400 for pay of the officers and clerks of the two houses; and $35,000 for stationary, printing, fuel and other incidental and contingent expenses of the Senate; ditto for the House of Representatives, $100,000.

The total appropriations made during the sessions amounted to $36.862.242 78; the details of which are:

Civil and diplomatic $9.010,031 57; Army fortifications, and Military Academy 16,556,253 65; Revolutionary and other pensioners 2.499,020 15; Current expenses of the Indian department 1.755 007 23; Preventing and suppressing Indian hostilities 1,656,774 00; To promote the progress of the useful arts 9,259 22; Private claims, 45,065 27.

The Clerk also appends to this statement a list of the new offices created during the session, with the salary attached to each; which are as follows:

Special minister to Great Britain, salary and outfit $18.000 00; Minister resident to Turkey 6.000 00; Commissioner to carry into effect the convention between the United States and Texas for marking the boundary between them 2.000 00; Commissioner and clerk to re-examine claims under the 2d article of the treaty of September, 1837, with the Sioux Indians 5.500 00; Two assistant examiners in the patent office, at 1,250 each; 2.500 00; To the chief justice of the district court of the District of Columbia, in consideration of the duties imposed on him by the "Act in addition to 'An act to promote the progress of the useful arts'" 100 00; Two additional clerks in the office of the clerk of House of Representatives of the U. S., at $1,500 each 3.000 00.

MASSACHUSETTS FOURTH DISTRICT.—The last trial resulted in the election of Parmenter the Tory candidate for Congress in this district, by a majority of nine votes. The abolitionists of Massachusetts—such of them, at least, as were instrumental in producing this result,—have won an undesirable degree of infamy. Whole number of votes, 9916; necessary to a choice, 4947; Parmenter has 4972; Brooks, 4432; scattering 412.

CONNECTICUT ELECTION.

WHIG GOVERNOR—WHIG STATE LEGISLATURE, AND WHIG CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION THROUGHOUT.

It is with no ordinary feelings of joy that we record the result of another contest in the staunch and true land of steady habits and good principles. We are victorious again in Connecticut; completely, fully so; our friends have carried every thing before them; have elected *the Governor*—a majority of *both Houses of the Legislature*, and the *entire Congressional ticket* which displaces *six Loco Focos*, and sends in their stead six good WHIGS, making a difference of twelve votes in the House of Representatives.

Our expresses are from all parts of the State, and we have the pleasure of informing our readers that Connecticut maintains her ground in opposition to the mad schemes of the Administration. She has declared in her "sober, second thoughts," her determined resistance to Loco Focoism, Van Burenism, and the sub-Treasury. J. M. Niles and Isaac Toucey & Co. are consigned to their proper insignificance, and men are chosen in their places who will represent our true interests, and not betray our rights to further the designs of a party.

Our enemies have met with a Waterloo defeat—they are completely prostrate.—With all their weakness, they had dared to hope that the free and intelligent electors of Connecticut could be induced to vote for a man for Governor who had slandered the whole State by comparing the laboring classes to cattle in the market—and for men to represent them in the councils of the nation, who had betrayed the trust reposed in them—but never were they more sadly mistaken. THE FREE BORN SONS OF CONNECTICUT WILL NOT BE TRAMPLED UPON.

Never was there a political contest in this state, in which greater exertions were made by our opponents—they propagated slanders of every kind—nothing was too low for them; falsehoods the most barefaced, and which were without the least shadow of foundation, were manufactured and published in their papers—and fraud and corruption in every form they could assume, were practised.

To the Whigs of the United States we proclaim in the spirit of grateful exultation, that our VICTORY IS COMPLETE. We have carried our State ticket by a large majority. We have changed our entire delegation in Congress, having elected SIX WHIGS in the place of as many Loco Focos—and we have 15 out of 21 Senators, and near two-thirds of the members elected to the House of Representatives;

But our joy is too full to comment, and we hasten to give the result.

	Ellsworth.	*Niles.*	*Phelps.*
Hartford county,	5235	4080	445
New-Haven do	3831	3481	131
Lew London do	2175	2053	5
Fairfield do	2370	2485	75
Windham do	2172	2011	43
Litchfield do	3748	3326	77
Middlesex do	1947	1120	
Tolland do	1653	1401	169
	22676	19957	945

The following gentlemen are elected Members of Congress:

First District, Hartford County, JOSEPH TRUMBULL, majority over Toucey, 1080, over all opposition, 640.

Second district, New Haven and Middlesex counties, WM. L. STORRS, majority over Ingham, 339.

Third district, New London County, THOMAS W. WILLIAMS, majority over Billings, 87.

Fourth District, Fairfield County, THOMAS B. OSBORNE.

Fifth district, Litchfield county, TRUMAN SMITH, majority over Phelps, 510.

Sixth district, Tolland and Windham counties, JOHN H. BROCKWAY, majority over Cleveland, 576.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—The administration is putting forth its whole strength, to carry Virginia. From every part of that State we hear the notes of preparation for battle given by "*the* party." The Whigs and Conservatives also are animated by at least equal zeal and energy, and are determined not to be outstripped in their exertions by the Loco Focos. The Cabinet are looking to the struggle with deep solicitude. Emissaries of the Government are traversing the State, urging the election of the Government's candidates; and making the most disgraceful appeals to the sordid passion of self-interest. In the Norfolk district the Loco Foco candidate for Congress is openly electioneering, on the ground that, being a supporter of the administration, he would be able to obtain more favors from the General Government for his constituents, that would his opponent, who is well known to be out of favor at Court!! The people of that district, I am informed, have properly resented so disgusting an appeal; and will return Dr Mallory by a larger vote than has ever been given to him. The veteran weather-cock of the Inquirer seems imbued with a second spring of existence. His ardor, his industry, his perseverance, furnish an example to the editors on the Whig side. They are most creditable to him; and would do honor to a better cause. He is, of course, in the highest favor with the administration party, and with the Cabinet.

Letters from our friends in all parts of the State, represent their prospects as highly encouraging; and the election of Mr. Rives to the United States Senate is looked upon as certain.

The President continues to be besieged most mercilessly by applicants for office. A gentleman who is in the habit of seeing him frequently, declares that not a day passes without Mr. Van Buren receiving numbers of letters, begging, imploring, and some absolutely demanding appointments for the writers or their friends. He is consequently in the most pitiable tribulation. What can he do? If he makes a removal, the most tremendous clamor is borne upon the wings of every wind. He hears but one burst of indignation from the hoar mountains of the North to the teeming vallies of the South? By every appointment he makes he gratifies one applicant, and disappoints ninety nine—perhaps converts them into enemies. It is an unquestionable fact, that the President has received the most significant intimations, that he is in danger of losing the greatest portion of his *Irish Legion* in New York, because the claims of a clever young barrister, the son of an Irishman, and one of the "fallen soldiers" in the glorious three days of November, who is considered as a leader of the said Legion, have been so long disregarded. Do not be surprised if you hear that Mr. John McKeon, formerly Representative in Congress from the city of New York, should be *gazetted*, one of these fine sunny days, as ——— (or something or other) in the place of Lukewarm Donothing, Esq. *removed!*

There has been another—not explosion—but *fracas* in the cabinet; and Mr. Van Buren and Mr. Forsyth are excessively cool, polite, and diplomatic towards each other. That "*Oliver le Diable*," Amos Kendall, is the cause of it. Forsyth hates him with a creditable rancour, and became so indignant at some new proof of Kendall's influence over the vacillating mind of the President that he could not forbear expressing his feelings in a most contemptous manner. Kendall returns the sentiments of Forsyth, Pointsett and Grundy towards him, with all the malignant and furtive hate of his nature. It is not generally known, that when Kendall insulted the Senate, a cabinet meeting was held on his case; Mr. Grundy was in the Supreme Court shortly before that meeting; and his eyes sparkled with ineffable pleasure as he spoke of the conduct of the Senate towards the Postmaster General. Gladly would he have sent that person a packing. The occurrence of any fracas in the Cabinet will be denied of course by the 'authority presses,' but it did take place notwithstanding. Whether any thing will come of it further, will be determined solely by the consideration of whether the parties concerned, regard it as consistent with their present interest and future prospects, to have a quarrel.

It will be remembered that Col. Johnson was some weeks ago hustled off the course for the Vice Presidency in a very unceremonious manner, by the Richmond Enquirer. The gallant colonel has kicked most dreadfully against this treatment; and proclaims every where that he will not decline voluntarily the honor of re-election if the people choose to take him up!—in plain words, he will not withdraw his name as a candidate. It is moreover rumored, that before leaving Washington, the colonel spoke most indignantly of the attempts of a few politicians to thrust him aside, and declared that if the party were to yield to their wishes, he would be even with them—he would go home to Kentucky, take the stump, and come out boldly for the opposition candidate for the presidency!

Hard pounding this! The regues have got themselves into a fine pickle; and we must try to keep them there.

ANOTHER CANDIDATE FOR THE PRESIDENCY.—The name of Gen. Scott has very recently been mentioned by several public journals in this quarter of the Union, in connexion with the Presidency: and the American, an influential political paper of this city, attached to the opposition party, has adopted that gallant and estimable officer as its candidate for the next ensuing term of that office. He is far from being the least qualified, of those who have been put forth as suitable incumbents for the high and important trusts which devolve upon the first officer of our republic; and unquestionably so far as those duties partake of a character involving relationships with other nations, pacific or belligerent, and as they relate to the consideration and direction of matters pertaining to aught connected with the war department of our government, no individual is better qualified for their judicious fulfilment than is Gen. Scott. Those duties, however, include but comparatively a small portion of all those great interests, the direction of which lies in a great measure, in the hands of the chief magistrate of our country.

Of the competency of Gen Scott for the proper fulfilment of *all* the duties which devolve upon the executive head of our government, we are unprepared to express an opinion, as we know little of him except as pertains to his military career, which has been brilliant and spotless.—Should he, however, be advocated to any great extent, as the successor of Mr. Van Buren, his capabilities for all the varied and complex duties of the station, will not be likely to remain long "hid under a bushel," as they have been heretofore, but the public will undoubtedly be fully advised of all he can do, if not a little more. We shall see.—*N. Y. Sun.*

ENLARGEMENT OF THE ERIE CANAL.

The Argus of Monday contains the estimate of the Engineers in relation to the cost of enlarging the Erie canal, as furnished by the Canal Commissioners to the Legislature a few days since. The conclusions arrived at by the Engineers, are that the total expense will be $23.402.863.02; of which $2.574. 304 30 are already expended, $4.704.000 will become due on the 1st April, 1840, and 10.405.913 33 were under contract on the 21st Jan. last. The items making up the grand total are given as follows:—For sections of equal, $11.270, 771 76; Locks, $4 981.586 83; Aqueducts, $2.022.706 78; Culverts, $341.677 95; Bridges, $1.266.653; Waste wiers, $169. 737 80; Feeders, except Black River, $111.011; Dams, bulk heads, and guard gate, $48.725 66; weigh locks, houses and scales $63.000; land, damages and buildings, $804.844 60; engineer, superintendence and cont. $1.512.050 07; Black River feeder, $290.097 66.

NEWS BY THE GREAT WESTERN.

The principle topic of conversation at present is, "what accounts will the Great Western brings us of the course of Great Britain relative to the boundary question?" To those who know the jealousy with which Great Britain has ever guarded her immense territory, there will arise some apprehensions perhaps, that she has taken Governor Fairfield's military demonstrations in high dungeon. But when we consider that Mr. Van Buren's message and the correspondence of Mr. Fox and John Harvey, were also transmitted to England at the same time with the news of the belligerent attitude which Maine had assumed, we have every reason to expect that the British government will deliberate calmly upon the subject, and not allow the remembrance of ancient animosities to foster and keep alive a disagreement which can be easily removed.

As to war between Great Britain and the United States, it is utterly out of the question. For the truth is that neither that country nor any other monarchy in Europe would dare to involve themselves in a war with us. The spirit of republicanism is so rife all over Europe, that the first blow struck in such a contest would be the signal for the downfall of many an ancient prerogative. The accuracy of our remarks is verified by the course which the French government pursued relative to the American indemnity money. Louis Philippe well knew that his tenure upon the throne of the Bourbons was far too frail to be periled in a war with a *real* republic.—And the consequence was, that although the *people* of France were extremely indignant at the tone of General Jackson's message on the subject, their rulers pocketed the affront and paid the money. In all quarrels therefore, with kings or despots we are sure to have the advantage; such personages preferring a security to their own families and themselves, of present power and affluence, to the risk of losing all in a contest with democracy.—*N. Y. Star.*

FOREIGN.

A DAY LATER FROM ENGLAND.—London papers to the 31 March and Portsmouth to the 4th arrived on Monday night by the packet ship Montreal.

The news they contain is neither of much importance nor great amount. On the 29th Feb. the Inconstant frigate arrived at Plymouth, 14 days from Halifax, with the rumor (not then confirmed) that the U. S. government intended to take possession of the disputed territory; also, of the secret assemblage of Maine Senate. No mention of the arrival in London of these reports is made in the papers of that city.

Sir Francis Head, and his pompous account of his doings in Upper Canada, excite much attention. In the House of Commons, on the 1st, Mr. Charles Buller offered to submit to the decision of a committee, composed exclusively of opposition members, on the question whether he had vacated his seat by going to Canada with Lord Durham.

Up to the 14th February, 214 petitions had been presented to the British Parliament, for the repeal of the Corn Laws, containing an aggregate of 269,357 names. Against the repeal, 1224 petitions, containing 99.936 names.

The Official Gazette of the 1st records the swearing of Lord Ebrington and Sir George Grey as members of the Privy Council.

A bloodless duel was fought at Coombe Wood, 7 miles from London, on the 28th of February, between Lord Powercourt and Mr. Roebuck—the latter attended by Mr. Trelawney, well known in this country. Mr. Roebuck fired in the air, after receiving the fire of his antagonist, and then declared his readiness to apologize; the declaration was accepted as a sufficient apology, and the parties returned to London, all good friends. The causes of the duel were certain expressions used by Mr. Roebuck, charging his lordship with corrupt conduct in relation to the elections.

The expense of the British Naval service for 1839-40 is estimated at £5,197.511.—For 1838-9 it was £4.811.990. An unusually large number of vessels are to be put in commission; and will be placed on the most efficient footing.

News had reached London of the massacre of four Carlist generals by order of General Maroto. On the 21st February, Don Carlos issued a proclamation, disavowing all agency in the wholesale murders perpetrated by Gen. Maroto, declaring him a traitor, and authorizing 'all chiefs, authorities, and every individual' to treat him as such if he did not immediately surrender himself and submit to the decision of the laws. Maroto had issued a proclamation three days previous to that of Don Carlos, stating his reasons for shedding the blood of his victims. He alleges that they were conspirators, traitors, and anarchists.

CAPT. MARYAT AND THE AERICAN MARINE.—Capt. Maryat has lately addressed a long communication to the London Times, on the subject of the American naval and merchant service, which contains a great deal of truth, with a considerable amount of error. As a specimen of the latter, we will repeat to our readers, some of the gallant captain's statements relative to the large proportion of English and other foreign sailors on board our ships. At the present time, he observes, by far the largest proportion of sailors on board their men of war are English; and if that is the case now, with a population of 15.000.000, what must it have been during the last war with Great Britain, with only half that number of inhabitants? The captain then proceeds to repeat the stale falsehoods of the London Quarterly, and to prove, very satisfactorily no doubt to himself and his tory readers, that our naval superiority is to be attributed to the fact of our ships being manned by British seamen.

But there is one point which he and his countrymen seem to have overlooked.—Suppose we grant that the sailors who manned the Constitution and the United States, the Wasp and the Hornet, were British. The officers of these renowned ships were at least American; and hence it follows that American officers with a British crew are superior to British officers with the same crew. How will *Peter Simple* get over that?

But a truce to this *badinage*. Our readers know, as every American ought to know, that two thirds of the crew of the Constitution at the time she captured the Guriere, were Marblehead fishermen—a race of men who have stood by their country in its darkest hours, who in that dreadful night when Washington seemed almost ready to despair of the holy cause in which he was embarked, and paused on the bank of the Delaware uncertain and desponding—dashed boldly into the raging torrent, and by their exertions secured the passage of the whole army. When the ocean closed over the ill-fated Wasp and her gallant crew, sixty-five families in Marblehead were bereaved of parents or children. And so it will ever be. Whenever their country demands their services, the fishermen of Marblehead, Cape Ann, and Cape Cod, will be foremost in the fight, whether on the land or on the sea.—*Sun.*

FROM TAMPICO AND MATAMORAS.—Our New Orleans slips of the 26th ultimo, furnish several items of interest from Mexico, received by arrivals at that city the previous day. The treaty with France has been ratified by the Mexican Congress, and peace being established in that quarter, the attention of Bustamente was concentrated upon the insurrectionary movements in the provinces. At the 17 ultimo, Generals Arista and Cez, were rapidly advancing upon Tampico, with an army of 7000, driving Urrea, with his 2000 men, before them. The greatest consternation prevailed. Gen. Urrea would try to make a stand, and give battle in the valley of the Maiz. It was feared the city would be taken, and given up to plunder, and the American property there—a million and a half, be sacrificed. The only U. S. vessel in port was the small revenue cutter Woodbury which might serve perhaps as a shelter to protect the lives of our countrymen from massacre. The American residents had formerly requested protection from our consul and the cutter had consented to remain.

Advices from Matamoras to March 16th, state that 600 to 800 government troops had marched against the federal forces who are besieging a party of the government troops in that city. Private advices state that the army under Mejia at Tuxhan, consisted of 1400 men, who are working at the fortifications night and day. Great ferment prevailed in the interior. The town of Toluca had declared in favor of Urrea.

Santa Anna entered the city of Mexico on the 13th Feb. It was believed that Bustamente would soon place himself at the head of the army acting against the federalists.

An English gentleman, a few days back, was walking under the arcades of the Rue de Rivoli, in Paris, holding in his hand a gold headed cane of splendid workmanship; a man supported by two crutches come up, and asked for alms in a pitiful tone. Our countryman, moved to pity, gave the beggar a small siver coin. At the moment, a person near him suddenly exclaimed, 'How can you, sir, allow this rogue to deceive you; please hand me your cane; I will soon show you that the rascal runs better than I can' The Englishman, taken unawares, without reflecting, lent his cane; the beggar, the moment he perceived it in his detector's hand, threw away his crutches and took to his heels as if his satanic majesty was running after him, and was followed by the gentleman with the cane, whilst the spectators, and the Englishman particularly, remained in convulsions of laughter at the sight; and exclaimed alternately, "Oh, he will be caught!" But both the racing heroes disappeared at the next turning in the street, and the good Englishman remained waiting for his splendid cane which cost 900 francs.

LYNCH LAW AND ITS EFFECTS.—We received a private letter from Natchitoches, a day or two since, in which the writer relates an instance of Lynching in the following words:—'Some time within the last month, a man living on the Texas road, about twelves miles from Natchitoches, within the State, who had three orphan children under his care, whom he frequently maltreated, was pretty harshly dealt with by the adherents of Lynch law, as the following circumstances will show. The citizens of Natchitoches, on hearing of his maltreatment of the children, disguised themselves, and repaired to his house at night, for the purpose of inflicting summary punishment upon him. Having found him, they carried him to the woods, tied him to a tree, tarred and feathered him, and then whipped him severely. Shortly afterwards he came to town, armed with a loaded pistol, and meeting a strange man, accused him of having assisted in the Lynching affair. Instantly upon making the accusation, he discharged the pistol into the breast of the innocent man, wounding him severely. The fellow was then taken up, and committed to prison. He subsequently gave bail for his appearance at court, and was liberated. On the evening after his release, he went to his home, and killed himself! So ends the affair.—*N. O. Sun.*

Suspected Murderous Conspiracy of Slaves. A fortnight since the inhabitants of Memphis, Tenn., were in a state of great alarm and excitement, occasioned by the supposed discovery of a conspiracy among a portion of the slaves of that place against the lives of some of the citizens. What first gave rise to the alarm was an attempt which proved nearly successful, to destroy the family of a Mr Dabney by poison.—Suspicion fell upon a yellow girl belonging to him; she was arrested, & confessing her guilt, alleged that she administered the poison under the solicitations and instructions of others, several of whom she named. Numerous arrests were made, and a town meeting was held on the subject, at which a committee of investigation was appointed. The result of the investigation was, the satisfaction of the committee, that the conspiracy did not extend beyond the attempt upon Mr. Dabney's family, and several of the negroes arrested had been discharged. Four, however, remained in prison, as accomplices with the yellow girl in the diabolical attempt above stated.

FIRE IN AUBURN PRISON.—A postscript in the Auburn Journal and Advertiser of April 3d states that on Tuesday last, about 8 o'clock P. M., the south wing of the prison was discovered to be on fire. The fire caught from the kitchen chimney, and and had undoubtedly been at work for some time before it broke out. It was first discovered in the ceiling of the roof, and for a short time threatened a good deal of injury, but the flames were very soon subdued. The attempts to trace out the peculiar locality of the danger were far more destructive to the building than the flames.—*Troy Whig.*

Destructive fire at Mobile.—Three sides of an entire block comprising about 25 private edifices on St. Michael's conception, and St. Louis street, were destroyed by fire on the night of the 25th ult.

EDUCATION AND CRIME.—The Manchester (Eng) Guardian says: By the column in the calander denoting the state of education of the prisoners for trial at the present sessions, we learn that of the 206 charged with felony, 97 can neither read nor write; 51 can read imperfectly; 41 can read and write imperfectly; 1 can read well; 12 can read well and write imperfectly; 4 can read and write well, but not one has received a superior education. Of the 19 persons charged with misdemeanors, 7 can neither read nor write; 3 can read imperfectly; and four can read and write well.

Easy method of detecting counterfeit coin. Take a clean slip of common sheet zinc, about two inches by half an inch and lay it on the tongue; place a genuine silver coin under the tongue, and on bringing the silver and zinc together, a pungent and disagreeable taste will be perceived. Substitute, now, a coin suspected to be counterfeit, in the place of the genuine coin, and a very slight if any taste will be perceived. The false coin of half dollars, dimes and half dimes, is made mostly of German silver, and produces scarcely any galvanic action with a piece of zinc. The above test is almost infallible, and recommends itself for its simplicity.

FROM THE FRONTIER.

The St. Albans Messenger of the 11th says—

The first burning since last paper, was a house in Highgate, belonging to a Mr. Drury, situated about half a mile on this side of the line. It took place on Thursday morning, in open day light, after our guard left it, who had occupied it, during the night, as a post. At daylight they carefully extinguished the fire in the house before leaving it, which they had during the night, by pouring water upon it. A few hours after they had left the house it was discovered to be on fire on the north side, towards the line. No family was living in the house.—Mysterious as this burning appears, we think that the most reasonable supposition is, that it was the work of an incendiary. In fact, we are informed by an eye witness that there can be no doubt of it.

On Sunday night the heavens were illumined by a large fire in the direction of Alburgh. It was seen at a great distance, and in beholding its magnificence, various were the conjectures as to its probable situation and extent, and the end of such nightly scenes. We learn that the fire was the burning of two barns and a shed, belonging to P. Huxley, in Alburgh, situated about half a mile this side of the line. What were the contents of the barns, we are not informed.

On Friday night previous to the burning of Mr. Huxley's barns, an attempt was made to fire the house of Mr. Vosburgh, at Caldwell's Manor, which was set on fire last January. The following extract of a letter gives the circumstances of the case, and are entitled to credit:—

"ALBURGH, April 6.

* * * Last night there was another attempt to burn Abraham Vosburgh's house. The fire was well kindled in the cellar-way with straw. It was done about dark, when the guards were exchanging. The day guard had been gone about an hour, and the night-guard coming within about half a mile, the light of the fire attracted their attention, which they put out.

"John Vosburgh, a nephew of Abraham Vosburgh, who is a loyal volunteer and a night-guard, raised a loud cry, and fired his gun at somebody—and the rest of the guard did the same—they say at two men in French clothes; but the truth is John Vosburgh is the incendiary, and is now arrested. They think there is proof enough against him to convict him."

☞At an interview between the American and British officers on the Highgate frontier, holden at P. Shetler's in Highgate, on Sunday last, Col. Williams of her Majesty's regular force is reported to have said: that in a conversation at Montreal, with Sir John Colborne, in which Col. Williams remarked, that the state of things on the frontier was worse than it would be if the two countries were actually at war.: Sir John replied, that "HE WISHED TO GOD THERE WAS WAR!" If such is the actual wish of the Governor General of the British colonies, with all the power he has ready to back his wishes, how is it to be expected that our own authorities can restore quiet to the frontier? What can we rationally expect but a continued and increasing state of excitement, which will finally end in the full fruition of the wishes of Sir John Colborne.—*St. Albans Messenger*

MONTREAL, APRIL 5.—We understand that the battalion of Volunteer militia under Lieutenant Colonel Dyer, is to be kept on actual service for the period of one year from the 1st proximo, and is to be limited to 400 rank and file; the Queen's Light Dragoons and Montreal Cavalry are likewise to be kept on for the same period all to be stationed on the frontier.—*Herald.*

From the New York Express.
WASHINGTON, 2d April, A. D. 1839.

To Squire Biddle—

I got your letter tellin me you had quit the bank, and intended, if you could possibly so manage matters, to go to farming. I know this has always been your notion, and that you would do so as soon as you see all things clear ahead; and a man who has been cyphering so hard as you have for more than twenty years for the public, now I think has some right to go and dig his own potatoes, and hoe his own corn, and take a little comfort in his own way. But somehow I feel, squire, a leetle wamblecrop'd, jist as I did when the Gineral left and went home to the hermitage; and tho' you have left in your place as good a man to manage the bank as the Gineral did to manage the government, I hope you will keep an eye on matters and things, and give as much of your advice in matters you understand to Mr. Dunlap and his cabinet, as the Gineral does to Mr. Van Buren and his cabinet. The fact is, you and the Gineral I always thought was made of pretty much the same kind of grit, and both of you considerably overworked yourselves, though the Gineral got the best pay.—I used to tell the Gineral—says I "Gineral, you are too good natured by half, you not only do government work, but you dip into pretty much all kinds of work that no other president ever thought on," and the fact is, the Gineral did carry matters so far, or let other folks carry him so far that there was few things going on he was not mixed up with, till it got so at last that almost every old lady about the country wouldn't set a hen, without writing or calling on the Gineral to ask him which was the most lucky number of eggs to put in the *nest*, 11 eggs or 13 eggs; and it almost wore him to the skin and bone. I believe you was the only man that was able to outwork the Gineral, and if it hadnt been that you was a leetle younger than he was, he 'd made a tooth pick on you, as he did of pretty much all the rest of creation. But as I said afore, I am considerable wamblecropt at your leaving public life—for now that the Gineral has gone home and you too, I feel somewhat cut out. Mr. Van Buren dont seem to want my survices no how, and I dont complain of that—I did expect to git a chance down east, but he selected Gineral Scott—a man that outranked me all hollow, as he does pretty much every man now a days. However, Gineral Scott didnt forget me, and said that if any fighting was to be done among the loggers, he knew who he could count on, and looked me strait in the face, and I sat down and writ a letter, marked "confidential" to the 21 Brigade, and tell'd 'em to stand firm, and obey no orders but Gineral Scott's—that it was a national matter, and that he was a national officer; and when he said "shoulder hoo," then to march and follow him to Holton or Halifax, or any other place beginning with H—if he chose to lead; and in that way they would not only have a Fairfield, but a *Winfield*, and that was more important.

In this matter of fighting, there is one thing I always keep my eye on; and I found Gineral Scott in the same way of thinking: and that is to depend less on folks who say they are ready to shed the last drop of their blood, than on folks who are ready to shed the first drop. Give a man eight dollars a day to make speeches in Congress, with the right of free postage, and you hear enuf of the "last drop" matters; but when it comes to camp duty, and raw beef and stale bread, and bagnet work, then the "first drop" folks have to stan' the racket at $8 a month. I tell'd Gineral Scott—says I, "Gineral, I suppose you would about as liefs fight as eat, for that is your natur; but for my part, seeing as how things are getting on remarkably smart now all over the country, and the spring of the year too, and the new improvements every day and the green leaves and grass, and the little children all sprouting, and the canals and railroads about half made, and the cotton crops jest about hogging, and the banks all gitting into specie payments, and every thing looking about slick—to say nothing of our the steamboats crossing the ocean every week—it seems to me that a war wont help matters no how." "I know that," says he, "major, war is a great calamity, and there aint only *one thing* worse," says he. "What is that?" said I. "National dishonor," said he, straightening up pritty nigh like an Aroostock pine. "Go ahead, you critter," says I "and if there is any chopping to be done down east, let me know." Well, you see what he has done; and all I've got to say about it thus far is, that when you come to think of a man nigh upon seven foot high and strait as a bean pole, and all *grit* from one end to tother, and willing to work like a beaver at all pints—south and south west, north and north east, and *down east*, to keep an honorable peace; and watching like a lynx, to see that the nation's honor is no way siled, I do think tho' a war would give me a considerable boost up in the world in military rank, the man who keeps the peace is, according to the good book, entitled to a blessing—especially, if war is his trade.

There is one thing I think Mr. Van Buren deserves great credit for, and that is in commanding the services of Gineral Scott to manage all matters of this natur; and there is only one thing more I think is wanting, and that the people are entitled to, and that is some one to manage the money matters of the country as well. I go on the principle, that if a man does right in using the best plough he can get on his farm, and sowing the best grain—jest so a President does right in calling into the service of the country the best talent the country has—the people are entitled to it—and if party folks grumble they should take it out in grumbling. Look at what party has done already for some years back—"scratch ploughing, and smutty crops"—but enuf of this.

I thank you for your kind invitation to stop and eat peaches with you when they are ripe; and as I remember you have got some capital early apple trees on your farm, I'll stop and take a bite on my way north, and a chance at the peaches when I return back, jest by way of reminding you of old times in the bank—for jest so sure, you remember when you tell'd folks you thought peaches would be ripe in September they would be down upon you to get a nip of early apples in June, and then fetch up on the peaches afterwards.

The fact is, squire, I am desperately afraid now that you and the Gineral have both backed out and gone to get some quiet and rest—tho a good many on us will have cause to feel that good times have gone by—only with this difference that the Gineral's extra work came from his notion of "rewarding friends and punishing enemies," and you went on the principle of feeding hath—and one was about as hard as tother was.

As Amos Kindle haint yet got a post office nigh your farm, I send this letter to the N. Y. Express, to print and send on, and I suppose you'll git it some how that way best.

Your frieud in old times and times present,
And times to come,
J. DOWNING, Major,
Downingville Militia, 2nd Brigade.

Gen. Hedsdon, commanding the Maine army in the disputed territory, interdicts violation of the Sabbath, profane swearing, &c.