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UNITED STATES SENATE.

MONDAY, March 17, 1845.

The Journal of the last sitting having been read; and—

The Hon. SIMON CAMERON, Senator elect from Pennsylvania, having been presented by his colleague and sworn in—

Mr. WEBSTER rose, and, with a solemnity which held in the deepest silence the crowded auditory, and with an emotion which penetrated every heart—which at times drew tears from many a manly as well as female eye, and which more than once embarrassed and suspended his own utterance, addressed the Senate as follows:

While we are hastening to bring our session to a close, a melancholy event, the forecoming shadow of which, growing every hour deeper and darker, has hung over us for some days, at length arrests our attention. One of our number is no more. ISAAC CHAPMAN BATES, a Senator from Massachusetts, departed this life, at his lodgings in this city, yesterday, at twenty minutes past 6 o'clock in the afternoon, in the sixty-sixth year of his age.

At the moment when we are about to separate for our respective homes, to meet the circles of affection and friendship which are ready to welcome us, it has pleased Heaven that he should pass that bourne whence no traveller returns.

Mr. Bates had undoubtedly much overworked himself in the discharge of the duties of his station during the late session of Congress. Already fatigued and exhausted, he yet felt it to be his duty, on one of the last nights of that session, to make an effort which severely tasked his remaining strength, and seemed to prostrate his powers. He appeared in his seat, for the last time, on the last day of the last month; though then ill, no such catastrophe as has since happened was, at the time, apprehended. But after that day he did not leave his home, nor hardly his bed. His dangerous situation soon becoming apparent, his family were sent for, and his wife and son were shortly at his beside.

All that the highest degree of medical skill could do, all that could be attempted by the solicitude of anxious friends, all that could be suggested by conjugal and filial affection, was done, to the utmost, to save his life. But all was in vain. The will of Heaven was otherwise. He had touched on his last hour; he had reached the end of his earthly career; his Maker called him to another world.

Mr. Bates was born at Granville, in the State of Massachusetts, and was educated at Yale College. Adopting the law as his profession, he prosecuted his studies, for a time, under eminent instructors in New Haven, and afterwards with the late Judge Hinckley, of Northampton.

His ability and learning, and his high and honorable character, soon led to professional distinction, and in due time placed him in the rank of the most eminent lawyers and advocates in the part of the country in which he resided.

But the bar was not long his only sphere of action. The confidence of the community in his ability and fidelity, and its approbation of his principles, summoned him early into public life. He rendered long and valuable service in both branches of the Legislature of the State, and in its Executive Council. But a larger field opened to him, and nearly twenty years ago he became a member of the House of Representatives in Congress. In that body he remained eight years, sustaining his character, through the whole period, as a gentleman of probity and honor, of a deportment at once manly and courteous, and as much distinguished for the firmness with which he maintained his own opinions and principles, as for the liberality and candor which he always manifested to those who differed from him.

His subsequent election to the Senate shows the sense which his native State entertained of the value of his public services, and her confidence in his further usefulness.

Of this body he was a member for five years. I may not now, and here, speak of his political principles or opinions, the measures he espoused, or the measures which he opposed. But I may speak of him, I am sure, with the concurrence of every one who hears me, as a gentleman of uprightness and talent, of manly and honorable bearing, worthy to fill a seat here, by his intelligence and character, his just conception of the duties of his situation, and his conscientious devotion to the discharge of those duties. In this Chamber, I am sure, he had not an enemy. The morning salutations of all of us were given to no one with more hearty good will. While his intelligence commanded respect, his social virtues and his eminent kindness and good feeling won universal esteem. The interest felt in him by his associates in this body, could in no way have been more strongly manifested than by their daily and hourly and most solicitous inquiries during the progress of his illness; and all feel that his decease has left a void in our circle, as men and as Senators, not easy to be filled.

Mr. Bates was not over ambitious to attract attention as a public debater. In that respect, he was far more distinguished for abstinence and retirement than for obtrusiveness. He left occasion to find him out, and call him out. Yet he was an able speaker, and an eloquent man. His thoughts were clear, his topics well chosen, and his illustrations often quite happy and convincing. His manner was natural, simple, earnest. These qualities rendered him eminent and successful in addresses to the jury. To the hour of his death, he had no superior for such efforts among those with whom he practised. He spoke with as much manifest fairness of purpose, dealt so ingenuously with opposing arguments, and put so much of his heart into his acts and into his words, that those who listened to him were apt to find themselves persuaded and convinced, without once thinking that there had been any exhibition of oratory or rhetoric. It was his case which he put forth, and not himself. With no studied power of speech, no artistical preparation, he appealed at once with singular felicity to the good sense and the right feeling of those whom he addressed.

In this body, while not neglectful of more prominent and conspicuous subjects, he gave constant attention to the duties of the Committee on Pensions, of which he was chairman. All know that the application to particular cases of the general principles which the Government has adopted on that subject, is difficult and delicate in no inconsiderable degree. Carefully abstaining from going beyond established rules, he spared no pains in the investigation of cases in which parties appeared to have a claim on the bounty of the country. Many a Revolutionary veteran yet lives to bless his memory: many an aged widow owes her daily bread to his benevolent, patient, and assiduous labors.

Mr. Bates's death will severely wound many hearts among family, domestic, and social friends.

There is a partner of his life, now soon to follow his remains to the family vault; there are sons, and daughters, and kindred of various degrees. I will not invade the sanctity of their sorrow by empty words of attempted consolation.—They will look for solace to resignation and religious faith, and bow humbly to the will of God.

When information of his death shall reach the beautiful village in which he lived, it will be a day of general grief. I see many aged and venerable form, known to me, and better known to him, leaning tremulously on his staff, and shedding copious tears at the sad intelligence. I see the middle-aged pause in their pursuits to regret the death of a neighbor, an adviser, and a friend. I see the youth, of both sexes, lamenting that the mansion, always open to their innocent associations, always made instructive by the conversation and kindness of its head, is now closed against its accustomed visiters by the stroke of death; and I hear the solemn tones which shall call afflicted families and an afflicted neighborhood into the house of God, to pay respect to his memory, and supplicate the consolations of religion.

Mr. President, I have spoken of my deceased colleague in his professional and public character, and in his social and domestic relations. But Mr. Bates was conscious of a relation higher than all these. He felt deeply and sensibly that there was a Supreme Author of his being, and all beings, and that he had a connexion with a world to come. He was a believer in Christianity, and devoutly thankful for the revelation of the New Testament.

Several years ago, and before his entrance on public life, he united himself with a church in the town in which he lived, and continued a member to his death. There is reason to believe that his last hours were cheered by the light of Christian hope. He uttered no repining, but expressed his willingness to depart, if such was the will of his Maker. Not that he did not desire life; for he enjoyed life, and had much to live for.—Domestic love, general respect, public honor, and a consciousness of usefulness—all these conspired to render his life happy, and its continuance desirable. Nor was it that he looked with indifference on death; for who has such icy stoicism, or, rather, who has such blunted sensibilities, such a stupid mind, as to contemplate with indifference a change of being and a change of worlds? But he regarded death, with all its terrors, only as a passage to another state of existence—a state in which "this corruptible shall put on incorruption, and this mortal shall put on immortality."

"True, 'tis an awful thing to die;
'Twas, even to him; but the dark vale once trod,
Heaven lifts its everlasting portals high,
And bids the pure in heart behold their God."

Mr. President, when one of us rises here to announce the death of a colleague, he cannot but reflect that, if he stays here, the time must come, and he knows not how soon, when another colleague shall perform that sad office towards himself. We all know that we must follow our departed associate; and no one of us can tell how few steps he may be even now, behind him. I hope this reflection may chasten us in our too heated pursuits of worldly objects; may teach us to regard the world but as the world; may inspire us with kindness, forbearance, and mutual good will; and lead us, while we serve with all our powers the country which honors us, to recollect still that we are not here always, and that scenes not yet beheld, nor comprehended, nor capable of being fully conceived, are before us all.

Mr. W. having resumed his seat—

Mr. HUGER, of South Carolina, rose and said, that from his general habit of abstaining from participating in the debates of the Senate, and contenting himself rather with listening and observing, he enjoyed better opportunities than most members of forming an accurate estimate of the characters of his associates in the Senate; and he proceeded to say, that there was not a member of the body who, for all the qualities that command respect, had impressed him more favorably than the gentleman whose lamented decease had just been so impressively announced; that so high an opinion had he come to entertain of him, and such was his confidence in the judgment, assiduity and honesty of the investigations of the deceased into subjects committed to his examination, that even in cases where the Senate dissented from his reports they always had his (Mr. H's.) confidence. Mr. H. expatiated at some length on the estimable character and deportment of the deceased, and concluded by saying that Massachusetts might find a successor for him, but it could not find one who, by the qualities of intelligence, fidelity and honor, would do more credit to the station which his death had made vacant.

Mr. EVANS then rose, and, after a few feeling and impressive remarks, submitted the following resolutions:

Resolved, unanimously, That a committee be appointed to superintend the funeral of the Hon. Isaac C. Bates, which will take place to-morrow at 12 o'clock, meridian, and that the Senate attend the same.

Resolved, That the Senate go in mourning for the deceased, by wearing crape on the left arm, for the space of thirty days.

Resolved, (as a further mark of respect,) That the Senate do now adjourn.

The resolutions were unanimously adopted, and Messrs. Evans, Mangum, Woodbury, Barrow, Sevier and Cass were appointed the committee in pursuance of the first resolution.

And then the Senate adjourned.

WASHINGTON, March 18.

The Senate adjourned over yesterday, without transacting any business, immediately after the annunciation of the lamented death of the Hon. Isaac C. Bates, Senator from Massachusetts.

The funeral ceremonies are to take place at 12 o'clock to-day; at which hour precisely Divine service will be performed on the occasion in the Senate Chamber. Thence, at half past 12 o'clock the funeral will move to the Railroad depot, where the body will be delivered to the friends and relatives of the deceased, at their particular request, to be transported for interment to the place of his residence in Massachusetts.

National Intelligencer.

NANSEMOND COUNTY.

At a meeting of a portion of the Democratic party, held at the court-house in the town of Suffolk, on Monday, the 10th March, 1845, on motion, Dr. Robert M. Boykin was called to the chair, and Joseph C. Meador appointed secretary.

The object of the meeting having been explained by the chairman, the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That this meeting approve of the convention proposed to be held in the town of Portsmouth on the 20th inst., for the purpose of nominating a suitable candidate to represent this (the 1st) congressional district in the next Congress.

Resolved, That the chair appoint thirty-eight delegates to represent this county in said convention.

Whereupon, Col. Hugh H. Kelly, Captain John Oberry, John R. Lee, Captain A. Brinkley, Stephen Henderson, Joshua Simons, Edward Arnold, James M. McClemrey, Caleb W. Litchfield, William Howell, Hugh K. Darden, Henry Oberry, Joseph W. Hoockey, Capt. Nathaniel E. Pruden, Peter B. Prentis, Francis Riddick, Jacob H. Kelly, James M. Holland, Robert H. Holland, Robert R. Prentis, Exum Jenkins, Capt. Wiley Parker, Elisha Everett, John Gray, Henry L. Tynes, John Keeling, John W. Keeling, Dr. Robt H. Webb, Amos R. Harrell, Dr. Joseph N. Atkinson, John D. Day, Richard H. Riddick, jr., Robert Lawrence, Jos. J. Lawrence, Jethro Riddick, James Bidgood, Major John Crocker and Burwell Riddick were appointed.

On motion, the chairman and secretary were added to the delegation.

Resolved, That we approve the announcement of our worthy friend, John W. Keeling, Esq., as a candidate to represent this county in the Legislature, and, being entitled to, shall receive our cordial support.

On motion, the meeting adjourned to meet at 3 o'clock at the Central Hotel.

At the hour appointed, the meeting was re-organized, when John W. Keeling, Esq., appeared and withdrew his nomination—assigning as a reason, that he was laboring under an affection of the throat and breast, which would prevent him from canvassing the county.

On motion, John W. Keeling, Caleb W. Litchfield, Robert H. Holland, Captain John Oberry, Capt. A. Brinkley, Wm. Howell, and Captain J. Butler were appointed a committee by the chair to nominate a suitable individual to represent this county in the next Legislature.

After a few minutes' retirement, the committee, through their chairman, John W. Keeling, Esq., nominated Jacob H. Kelley, Esq., which was confirmed with raptures of applause.

On motion, Robert M. Boykin, John W. Keeling and Joseph C. Meador, Esqs., were appointed a committee to inform Mr. Kelley of his nomination.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be signed by the chairman and secretary, and forwarded to the Editors of the Richmond Enquirer and Portsmouth Chronicle and Old Dominion for publication. RO. M. BOYKIN, Ch'n.

Jos. C. MEADOR, Sec'y.

MR. CALHOUN.

This gentleman arrived at Charleston on Saturday, the Patriot says, in fine health and spirits.—He was welcomed, and tendered the hospitalities of the city by a deputation of the General Committee of fifty. In the forenoon a large number of the citizens paid their respects to him. At 12 o'clock he was waited on by the committee of 50 and the city council, and was addressed by Henry Bailey, Esq., in the name of the citizens, offering him their congratulations and thanks for the manner he had discharged his official duties at Washington; and further tendering him the honor of a public dinner. Mr. C. responded in a happy manner, and on the score of pressing engagements declined the honor of a public dinner. He however dined with the city council. He left Charleston on Sunday, for his residence in Pendleton.—[*Compiler.*

James A. Seddon, Esq., one of the most accomplished gentlemen in the State, and a pure Republican, has received the nomination of the Richmond District Convention, and is the Republican candidate, in opposition to John Minor Botts. We wish him all success.

[*Lunchburg Republican.*

(*From the Harrisburg Democratic Union.*)

SPLENDID PRIZE BANNER.

We have been shewn a beautiful prize banner, presented to the Hon. Benjamin A. Bidlack, member of Congress from Luzerne county, under the following circumstances: On the day of the nomination of Polk and Dallas by the Baltimore National Convention, a number of prominent Democrats, from New York and Pennsylvania, casually met in a friendly circle, and discussed the subject of the nominations. The New Yorkers doubted whether the vote of the Keystone State could be secured for the Democratic nominees at all, owing to the excitement growing out of the Tariff of 1842—whilst the Pennsylvanians contended, on the other hand, that they would give a larger majority than New York. Mutual pledges were interchanged, and an appropriate banner promised to the winning party. The promise, thus made, has been faithfully redeemed.—Before Mr. Bidlack left Washington for his residence, immediately after the adjournment of Congress, he was visited by Jonathan D. Stevenson, Es.,, on the part of the New Yorkers, who presented to Mr. Bidlack, and through him to the Pennsylvania Democracy, a silk banner superbly executed, which cannot have cost less than from four to five hundred dollars. The scroll work is of gold, on white silk ground; in the centre medalion the head of Jefferson; top, escutcheon of the Union; on the right of Jefferson, the arms of Pennsylvania, on the left, the arms of New York—in the lower medalion, the head of Franklin. Motto: "*No distinction but those of merit.*" Trimmings: marine border, blue, gilt stars—streamer of bunting—gilt fringe, silk cord and tassels—surmounted by a cap of Liberty, red, with blue velvet border and thirteen stars.

We understand that Mr. Bidlack intends depositing the banner in some public room in this place—there to remain until November, 1848, when an opportunity will be afforded to the New Yorkers to win it back again, IF THEY CAN.

The Expenses of the White House.—A writer at Washington says:

"Many persons believe that the President's salary, twenty-five thousand dollars per annum, is very abundant; but when the great mass of visiters is recollected—when the frequent levees, dinners, entertainments, &c., are considered, it soon dwindles away, and there is absolutely nothing left for the Presidential Chair but the empty honor. President Tyler's expenses in 16 months were over thirty-eight thousand dollars, and he left yesterday for his farm on James River, Virginia, with hardly enough of his last year's salary to pay expenses? Gen. Jackson came here with ten thousand dollars of his money, and after eight years' service in the Executive Office, left for the Hermitage with less than his travelling expenses! These are facts which I aver to be true; and they are very painful facts."—[*N. Y. Mirror.*

THE ENQUIRER.

Richmond, March 20.

SPRING ELECTIONS—*Organization.*

The Democratic Central Committee will publish their Address, in the course of this week or early in the next, to the People of Virginia.—They will pay their respects, of course, to the late Address of the Whigs.

We lay before our readers, in this morning's paper, the names of the county Committees, who were appointed by the Democratic Legislative Convention. They are earnestly and respectfully advised to meet forthwith, to organize themselves, to extend their number, and to spread their members in every part of their county. They are requested to exert themselves for the success of our Republican candidates—to rouse the people—to spare no efforts to carry their districts or counties—to concentrate the votes upon one candidate only, where there is but one Representative—and wherever there should unfortunately prevail too great a competition among the candidates, or any schism in our ranks, to strain every nerve to rule off superfluous candidates, and restore the union, harmony and energy of our party. No time is to be lost, and we earnestly recommend it to our committeemen every where to be up and adoing.

We have some snarls in our party—some candidates too many for the demand, and too dogged to accommodate themselves to the true interests of the party. We respectfully recommend all such cases immediately to the consideration of our County Committees. One of the cases to which we lately alluded, is the strong Republican county of Monongalia. Upon that subject, the Margantown Mountaineer of the 15th has the two following articles:

"A short time since, we *borrowed* the Richmond Enquirer, (as Father Ritchie has forgotten to exchange with us,) and observed a lecture to the candidates of this county especially, after a few flattering remarks upon us "in particular." We intend to publish it for the benefit of the Republican party, but the paper has been mislaid, but we remember the substance of the appeal which was. "hold a convention, rule off all the candidates but one, and if any man would dare to raise his voice against the nomination, throw him over the fence and let it be a lesson to all refractory spirits hereafter."

"This is sound doctrine, and we most heartily endorse it; and coming as it does from Thomas Ritchie, the father of the press in the Union, the people of the county will *en masse* approve it.—They are already pursuing that course, and there will not be a dissenting voice to the nomination. The plan is not yet agreed upon, and there is a general feeling to postpone the matter until March Court, when we can all meet, and in two weeks the nomination will be made, and Monongalia will be where she always has been and always will be, leading the van. We will then bring out our *chicken*, it is a beautiful bird and Chapman *shall* crow."

Again—"It affords us pleasure to say to our friends at a distance, that every thing is right in Monongalia. Discord has been banished, and all the candidates have but one feeling, and that is submission to a Convention. We heard two of them say this week, that they would rather be defeated a thousand times by Convention than have a Whig elected. We pride ourselves in the 'Old Vanguard' on our stern Republicans; and when Monongalia is named in any part of the Commonwealth, she is classed with the 'Tenth Legion;' and shall our ancient character be lost? Not if all the candidates act in accordance with their pledges. We have confidence in them, one and all; we would be proud to battle for any one in the thickest of the fight; if it would be necessary, we would traverse the whole country, and urge the people to the polls. But to be nominated, is to be elected without opposition; and we will support the nominee, whether he is our choice or not—and this is the feeling of ninety-nine hundredths of the Democracy of the county."

[Our friend of the "Mountaineer" might very well have saved us the bit of "Father Ritchie," or the compliment of "the Father of the Press," &c. But he shall no longer have to borrow our paper. It will be put upon our exchange list, as we supposed it had been done before. We shall be amply rewarded for any little service we may do him, by his telling us in the next Mountaineer, that all is peace and well in Monongalia.]

There is still some snarl in Harrison county. At least, the "Scion of Democracy" says, "We expect the Democracy of Harrison will do something on Monday with reference to their county candidate, and we hope also that the number of candidates for the Senate will be diminished. If it is not done, we shall endeavor to show that some gentlemen are more anxious for office than the success of the party to which they attach themselves. With regard to this Congressional canvass, we have only now to say, that if the Democratic party mean to carry the district, they must display more zeal, activity and energy than they seem disposed to do.—May we tell them, emphatically, that the *district is in danger?* We will strive for success in the person of our candidate, and after the battle is fought, if we have any complaints to make about that candidate, we will make them then. If every member of the party will pursue that course, he will gain more credit in the end, and will have the gratification of knowing that he was superior to personal objections and differences."

Organize, then, is the word! Organize every where. Let us beat the Whigs, and save the State from their misrule.

The New York Express, as most of the other Whig prints, which have spoken upon this question, is anxious to see the administration open the negotiation with Texas, under the amendment of the Senate. We confess, we prefer the other mode, *if* it be agreeable to Texas—and it seems to us sufficiently easy to ascertain that fact. We concur with the Globe, that President Tyler and his Cabinet ought not to have taken any action under those resolutions, on the very eve of its dissolution. The whole matter ought to have been turned over to the new President, who would have ample time to consider the subject, and to frame the instructions in whatever form and at whatever time he thought the public interests required. We are free to say, that this was the course, which it was expected things would take. But it does not, therefore, follow, that Mr. Tyler had adopted the wrong alternative.

From the information which we have received, we incline towards the immediate settlement of the question, under the House Resolutions, if it be agreeable to Texas. We had understood that Maj. Donelson approved this mode of adjustment, and expressed the opinion that it would be acceptable to Texas. The N. Y. Morning News seems to state the fact differently. There is no difficulty, however, in consulting Texas upon the subject, in such a manner as not to cut off Mr. Polk from either horn of the alternative, which he and the Republic of Texas may prefer. A little frankness alone is necessary to ascertain that fact. It requires no diplomatic subtlety, no finesse, no double-dealing in the matter. We have no advantages to gain over Texas. All that we want is to promote the interests of the two countries, which are fortunately not in collision with each other; but it is very desirable for us, to close the matter as quick and as easily as possible; to avoid all further agitation in our own country, and any renewal of the controversy at the next session of Congress.

The N. York Express is offended with Mr. Tyler's course; and, moreover, informs its readers "that the Senate have passed a resolution calling upon the President for information as to the condition of our relations with Mexico. Mr. Allen wished the resolution modified, so as to leave the communication of the information asked for, to the discretion of the President; but he was defeated, his proposition obtaining only six votes.

"It is further proposed, we are told, to direct the President to take immediate measures for the revocation and nullifying of all proceedings in the premises, assumed by John Tyler, and now in process of consummation; directing, also, that the President shall submit to the Government of the Republic of Texas the amendment of the Senate, to the Joint Resolutions of the House, as *the* plan for the Annexation of Texas."

We should doubt the accuracy of this last piece of information, because we very much doubt, whether the Senate (through the Treaty-making power) could undertake to *direct* the President in carrying out a proposition, which did not emanate from the Treaty-making power, but was a Joint Legislative Resolution of both Houses of Congress. We should suspect, therefore, that the Express has probably made some mistake in the matter.

For our own part, we repeat, that we cheerfully leave this whole question with Mr. Polk. He has no inducements to swerve his judgment, and we cannot doubt that he will take the wisest course which circumstances require. The public creditors of Texas may not like the House Resolutions so well, because they would prefer their debts to be immediately paid; but, as was remarked to us the other day by a citizen of Texas, "Let her come in now, and if it be found best hereafter for both parties, (for Texas and the United States,) that Texas make over her lands to the United States, and the United States to pay her debts (by funding them,) nothing would be easier to do it subsequently by a fair and honorable compact between them."

OUR RELATIONS WITH MEXICO.

The New York Herald says: "We have seen a long letter published in some of the papers, written by Caleb Cushing, probably with a view to its publication, giving his views on the present position of the United States and Mexico, growing out of the annexation question. According to this gentleman's opinion, it is improbable that any difficulties will spring from the resolutions passed by the last Congress. He thinks that Mexico is in no position to make war against the United States, when she was unable to carry on an offensive war with Texas alone. This is quite probable. He also states, that there is no probability of Mexico issuing letters of marque and reprisal, because such a movement would be condemned by the European Governments as an act of piracy. He is probably right also in this opinion." Right also for another reason—that, as the French Admiral did, we should feel ourselves authorized and compelled to do, viz: to hold every such vessel to be a pirate, which had not the greater portion of her crew of Mexican seamen—which, of course, she would be unable to supply. A few English crews, tucked up at the yard arm, would effectually end the letters of marque.

We need not be alarmed by this bugaboo humbug, which the Whigs are attempting to get up, of a war with Mexico. Great Britain, too, will not risk any interposition, at the hazard of involving herself in a war with the United States.

True; she is anxious enough to defeat the annexation of Texas. We hear it as a well-authenticated fact, that Mr. Packenham intended to have a great fete at Washington, in case the Resolutions were defeated—and, of course, his Whig guests would have been there, to chuckle over the defeat, and congratulate his Britannic Majesty's Plenipotentiary on the success of their opposition. But the firing of the one hundred triumphant guns on Capitol Hill apprized him of his disappointment, and dissipated his magnificent fete into thin air.

The Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Courier and Enquirer is probably behind the curtain in the secrets of the Green Room. He writes on the 9th as follows:

"Gen. Almonte, the Mexican Minister, at 3 o'clock yesterday, P. M., addressed a note to the State Department, complaining of the late act of Congress, resolving to annex Texas, which he considered an act of hostility to the Mexican Government; and in conclusion demanded his passports. In the course of the day, Gen. Almonte sent a formal letter, addressed to all the Foreign Ministers near our Government, remonstrating in the name of Mexico, against the resolutions of Congress for the admission of Texas.—The letter is written with some poignancy, and displays no little shrewdness. It is the intention of Gen. Almonte to sail from New York for his own country in the course of ten days.

"Last evening at a concourse of the Foreign Ministers, this subject was discussed. Though in some respects their opinions varied, in one they all agreed—that the men who now ruled the affairs of the Mexican nation had characters for intelligence and respectability. They are men of discretion and of experience; and though among the people of Mexico, there would be much exasperation and no little complaint of the conduct of our Government, *still they thought that the administration would not recommend any hostile measure towards our nation.* The most it would insist on, would be an indemnification from our Treasury for the loss of Texas. Satisfied with this, it would abandon any belligerent intention towards our Government. It may be taken for certain that the Mexican Government will grant no letters of marque—no licenses to afflict our commerce. It is impossible that we should be embroiled with her in a naval warfare, without implicating England, whose navigation would suffer as much as the American from such a state of things."

A Subsequent letter from Washington, to the N. Y. Courier and Enquirer says:

"It is understood that a reply has been made by our Government to the protest of General Almonte, and that it has been framed upon the precept that 'a soft answer turneth away wrath.' The Mexican Minister spoke of the annexation of a province of Mexico as 'an unparalleled outrage;' our Government passes by this harsh language, and seeks to smooth over the wrong, which no argument can justify."

"No argument can justify!" So says the Whig press—although Texas is as independent as Mexico is—as free to contract alliances—as "free, sovereign and independent," as *we* were after the battle of York Town.

A GOOD SIGN AT WASHINGTON!

Fruits of Executive Decision!

A Washington Correspondent of the New York Evening Post, writes on the 12th instant, that "it is clearly understood that no removals will be made except for cause, and that cause not political. Hence the efforts to remove the Collector, Naval Officer, Postmaster, &c., will prove abortive, unless some charge of malfeasance can be brought against them. Since it has been made known that no removals are to be made at present, and that the presence of an applicant here will rather retard than promote his pretensions, the city is thinned of visiters, and the hotels and boarding houses of their inmates." * * * "The intrigues and management of personal factions will not be very successful under the administration of Mr. Polk, who is a clear-headed and single-minded man, and will frown down all attempts to make false issues, and will give every one a fair chance. The Cabinet was in session till a late hour last night, and were closeted with the President again to-day. It is rumored, that the Mexican question was before them. All apprehensions respecting the course Mexico may pursue, are considered of no importance. We have a Cabinet on whom the country can rely with the greatest confidence, and nothing will be done by them without due reflection and the wisest consideration. Mexico will be treated fairly—her blusterings will neither retard nor accelerate the action of the Government. The Senate confirmed a large number of nominations to-day, among which was that of William Parmenter, as naval officer at the port of Boston. A better selection could not have been made, as he is a sterling Democrat and highly respectable and competent man. Such appointments will do honor to the administration."

Another letter (in the New York Evening Post) of the 13th says:

"The visitors, as well as the permanent residents of Washington, by a sort of impulse, are moved to draw a comparison between the general rush to the city in 1840, and the band of patriots, (enough of them certainly,) who are here now seeking office. I am told by those who were present both years, that the influx on Mr. Polk's accession to power, even when it was at its greatest height, bears no comparison to the advent of Gen. Harrison, neither in point of numbers, nor in the unappeaseable, almost ferocious appetite of the applicants. In 1840, for weeks after the inauguration, the halls, the closets, the bedrooms, the parlors, the kitchen, and even the vestibule of the white house, were swarming with the most ravenous office-seekers; and the poor old President, as is well known, was tormented out of life by this hungry throng, in one short month after he had assumed the reins of Government. And it is part of the strategy of the Whig press to represent, and to persist in saying, that a similar state of things exists here now; nay, that the case is even more aggravated than it was four years ago. But I pledge you my word that it is not so. * * Whatever cause may have attracted them hither, it has apparently ceased to operate, and we are now actually without as many strangers in town as are usually here on business with the various departments of Government. I note the circumstance, because I deem the comparison highly complimentary to the Democratic party—complimentary not only in comparison of the numbers, but in the manifest and creditable moderation of those who have now a right to look for official favors."

From the Bosom of the Seas!

We have received a newspaper of the 14th November, published at Honolulu, Oahu, in the Sandwich Islands. It is entitled "The Friend" ("The Friend of Temperance and Seamen") and is published monthly, eight pages, by Samuel C. Damon, Seamen's Chaplain, at $1 50 per annum. One cannot contemplate such an effort of the Press, in the midst of the Pacific Ocean, without some astonishment and pleasure. It is wonderful to reflect on the great benefits of commerce, in preading the lights of civilization to the remotest recesses of the seas. The Press presupposes a certain degree of education before it can be established at any particular point; but then it is calculated in its turn to extend in a more considerable degree the intellectual improvement which has introduced it. The Press has become the pioneer of refinement—Literature, schools, the fine arts and the sciences follow in its wake. The modest journal before us principally contains the Review of a Correspondence, which has passed between "H. H. Majesty's Secretary of State and the United States Commissioner in the case of John Wiley, an American citizen." We find very little news in it—but it gives the marine intelligence for several days. On the 1st November, 4 vessels arrived and 4 sailed. "The Friend" is not the only newspaper in the Sandwich Islands—the "Polynesian" is another.

THE WHITE HOUSE TO LET!—We heard from good authority, yesterday, that Mrs. Polk is making arrangements for a *private residence* in Washington! The six thousand dollars appropriated by Congress for the repair and re-furnishing of the Public Shabbyhouse will barely repair and carpet it, and Mrs. Polk prefers something habitably furnished, even if smaller and at her own expense. If this spirited design be carried out, and Congress be fairly and properly shamed for letting party pique rob ladies of the comforts due their station, we shall swear our fourteen millionth of homage to the lady Presidentess with much more emphasis than is proportionately expected from us.—[*N. Y. Mirror.*

It is scarcely necessary to say, that there is not a syllable of truth in the above paragraph. Mr. Polk and his family moved to the White House immediately after the Inauguration; they are settled there, and are likely to remain at head quarters for four years, despite of the reluctant Whigs. Mrs. Polk does not even dream of a private residence. Her pleasure is to carry out the will of the nation, and of course to occupy the White House. It is rather out of the elbows, of course—but the Superintendent of the Public Buildings is making every exertion to repair the Houses, and furnish the Government House.—Congress have appropriated about $20,000 for these two purposes, instead of $6,000.

We beg pardon of the Star for having placed it on the Whig list. It had been so uncompromising and zealous a friend of Mr. Clay, that we had failed to observe that it is now fairly astride the fence of *neutrality*—whence we have no desire to throw it off.

COUNTY COMMITTEES

Of Vigilance and Correspondence.

☞ The following Committees of Vigilance and Correspondence were appointed by the late Legislative Convention of Virginia.

☞ *These Committees are authorised and advised to extend their numbers—so as to have members near every Precinct and in every section of every county.*

Accomack—General Thomas H. Bayly, John B. Ailworth, John H. Custis, Richard J. Ayres, Wm. H. Parker, Colonel Francis D. Miller, Dr. Robert W. Williams, Dr. Peter F. Browne, James Selby, Wm. P. Bayly, J. J. Ailworth, Wm. H. B. Custis, Thos. W. Smith, Edward W. Taylor, Col. James Northam, Col. Edmund R. Allen.

Albemarle—Col. Willis H. Woodley, Shelton F. Leake, Francis G. Ruffin, Peter Meriwether, Willis Garth, James Alexander, P. Carr.

Alleghany—James O. Hobbs, John H. Hansbarger, Moses H. Mann, Stephen Hook, Chas. Callaghan, Lee Persinger, Edwin Jordan, John McD. Mann, Galbraith Kyle.

Amelia—Lewis E. Harvie, Fabius Lawson, James P. Cocke, Thomas C. Wilson, Thomas W. Webster, William H. Robertson, Peter F. Boisseaux.

Amherst—Willis H. Plunkett, Archibald Reynolds, Charles H. Rucker, Daniel Shrader, Dr. W. Wright, Newton Drummond, John Housewright.

Augusta—Captain George Baylor, Col. G. W. McCullock, Captain William Young, M. Garber, L. L. Stevenson, Thomas P. Wilson, Capt. Joseph Huddle.

Barbour—James T. Hartman, Isaac Strickler, Lair D. Morsell, John Holsbury, Martin Poling, Jesse Van-Roy, John S. Carlisle, Jas. D. Hall, Wm. Corder.

Bath—Wm. McClintick, Wm Shields, Andrew H. Byrd, Henry Miller, Adam Stephenson, James Brown, Alex. McClintick.

Bedford—Maj. Wm. Cook, Col. Daniel Anspaugh, Col. John P. Gray, Maj. Green B. Board, James M. Rucker, Col. E. D. Williams, Dr. Ro. A. Clemment.

Berkeley—Dr. John S. Harrison, Peter Gardner, Dr. Dennis Murphy, Alfred Hooper, Major Burwell Willis, Capt. Jas. Mason, Col. J. B. A. Nadenboush, Dr. Page.

Botetourt—Capt. Benj. Carper, Jas. McDowell, Colonel G. W. Wilson, Oliver Callahan, Robert M. Hudson, Capt. Martin McFerrin, John M. Robertson.

Braxton—Col. John S. Camden, Nathan Barnett, Joel Yancy, Philip Duffy, James Sutton, L. D. Camden, L. Stevenson.

Brooke—Jno. L. Gaines, O. W. Langfitt, Campbell Tarr, W. Marks, Wm. Russell, Paul Coppens, James Parmer, John Lazer, Jas. Regers, Wm. Mayhull, George Ficker.

Brunswick—Dr. Henry Lewis, John Harrison, Dr. Creed Haskins, Col. Isham Trotter, Dr. Jno. Orgain, Nicholas S. Edmunds, Joseph A. Riddick.

Buckingham—William P. Moseley, William Branch, Edward L. Scruggs, William Hocker, Dr. James Austin, Robert Shaw, sr., John W. Haskins.

Cabell—Solomon Thornburg, Henry Shelton, John Morris, Joseph Mansfield, Peter Buffington, John Laidley, John Hannon.

Campbell—Jerman Jordan, Bernard Finch, Richard Harvey, Daniel Stratton, Robert H. Walthall, Geo. W. Dabney, Thos. Rosser, sr.

Caroline—William W. Dickinson, Archibald Samuel, Samuel C. Scott, F. A. Coleman, Geo. Fitzhugh, D. Dejarnett, Lewis George, John B. Todd, Francis W. Scott.

Carroll—Major Orville Anderson, Col. John Carroll, John Cocke, William H. Cook, Major John Baskerville, Capt. Jesse P. Worrel, Wm. Lindsay, Col. Ira B. Coltraul, Robert Kenny.

Charles City—William A. Selden, James L. Roane, George Semple, John A. Selden, Benjamin Ladd, William A. Harrison, C. C. Folkes.

Charlotte—William Smith, Richard I. Gaines, Winslow Robinson, James Scott, John D. Richardson, Archd. A. Davidson, Robert F. Gaines, George W. Read, John F. Edmonds.

Chesterfield—James B. Jones, Benj. Hatcher, William E. Blankenship, W. W. Hancock, Alexander Jones, P. Turner, Patrick Gannon, James Howlett, S. Bassett French, Silas Cheatham, Thomas Howlett, Higgerson Hancock, Edward Anderson, William Goode, sr., John S. Peers, Daniel Flournoy, Moses Robertson, Jas. Clarke, Randall Royall, Mark F. Flournoy, Aaron Branch, William Goode, jr., William Wilkinson, Stephen Wilkinson, R. H. Tatum, Daniel S. Wooldridge, William Gray, Green Hall, Robert Forloine, James Moody, Mayo Watkins, Charles Friend, Thomas Bass, Wm. Pinchbeck, Deucalion Wilkinson, Richd. Goode, Benj. W. Gales.

Clarke—Jacob Isler, Dr. Cyrus McCormick, John Gant, James Castleman, John Loethan, Col. Joseph Tuley, Dr. John Fauntleroy.

Culpeper—James Richards, Gabriel Gray, jr., A. P. Hill, Henry Shackelford, John S. Barbour, jr., James Bowen, Geo. Ficklen.

Cumberland—Robt. Henderson, Creed R. Coleman, William B. Crowder, Thomas M. Isbell, James Isbell, Leonard D. Spears, James B. Anderson.

Dinwiddie—William F. Thompson, Benjamin B. Vaughan, Dr. Wm. B. Scott, Herbert Reese, Capt. Thomas Jones, Dr. H. C. Worsham, Marcus J. Gaines, Thomas Jones, William H. Goodwyn.

Elizabeth City—James M. Vaughan, John Tabb, Howard Poole, John B. Cary, George Booker, Richard Banks, John Armistead.

Essex—Austin Brockenbrough, Warner Lewis, Austin Trible, Richard J. Muse, William Blackburn, William A. Wright, Albert Micou.

Fairfax—John Powell, John Gunnell, Geo. W. Gunnell, Silas Burke, Edward Sangster, Richard R. Farr, Alfred Moss.

Fauquier—Major Charles Hunton, Inman Horner, Major W. W. Wallace, W. H. Gaines, R. M. Smith, W. F. Phillips, James French