

tions have been offered as amendments to the Judiciary report, but they were all rejected, and hence it comes right down to this point, the only thing that was done on the legitimate work of the convention during one whole week, was to strike out the word "seven," and insert the word "five." Isn't that working with a vengeance?

The whole afternoon of to-day was spent discussing a resolution offered by Judge Hitchcock, to adjourn over till the first Monday of December next. After being debated *pro* and *con* from 3 o'clock till 6, he asked and obtained leave to withdraw the proposition, leaving the matter precisely where it was commenced, without getting any kind of a test vote on it. It will doubtless be up in a few days again, and I think it will yet prevail. There is evidently a majority of the members in favor of adjourning over, but they are afraid of public opinion. But if they got scared a little more, they will think about nothing but the cholera, and whether they get an adjournment or not, they will run away. There has been barely a quorum present to do business for the past eight or ten days—some days just a quorum, and some days two or three members over.

Yours, &c., ZED.

COLUMBUS, July 8.

My prediction, made a few days since with regard to the adjournment of the convention, was verified to-day.

After the reading of the Journal and the reception of two or three petitions, this morning, Gen. Loudon, of Brown county, offered the following:

"WHEREAS: It is now certain that Asiatic cholera is again scourging the citizens in various parts of this State, and that cases of the dread pestilence have recently occurred in this city. And WHEREAS: It is both natural and inevitable that members of this convention will in view of these facts, be concerned for the safety and health of their distant families, and to some extent disqualified for that calm and deliberate consideration of the important questions which they are called upon to decide.

"And whereas, in view of what has been done, and what yet remains to be done, it is the deliberate judgment of this Convention, that under the most favorable circumstances, no Constitution can be perfected by the 1st day of next September.

"Therefore, Resolved, That when this Convention adjourns to-morrow, it shall be to meet again in the city of Cincinnati, on the first Monday in December next.

"Resolved, That a committee of seven members be appointed by the President of this Convention, to make the necessary arrangements for the accommodation of the Convention, when they shall thus meet in said city of Cincinnati.

An attempt was made to strike out Cincinnati and insert Columbus, which failed by a very large vote. Cleveland, Mt. Vernon and Zanesville was also proposed, but a division of the question being demanded on striking out Cincinnati, it failed by a vote of 28 yeas to 31 nays; so no other place could then be inserted.

After being debated at considerable length, the previous question was called for and sustained, which cut off further debate, and a division of the question being again demanded, it turned on the adoption of the first resolution, that being the main question, and it was carried by a vote of 51 to 29.

The preamble and second resolution were then agreed to without demanding the yeas and nays, and the convention adjourned to meet at nine o'clock, to-morrow morning, at which time they will adjourn to meet in Cincinnati on the first Monday of December next. What do you think of the proceeding? It looks to me a little impolitic and immature, but I leave you to make your own comments.

With my best wishes for the happiness and prosperity of yourself and your readers, I bid you an affectionate farewell for the present.

Yours, ZED.

Report No. 1, of the Standing Committee on the Elective Franchise.

In Convention—Wednesday, July 3, '50.

Mr. Robertson submitted the following:

Sec. 1. Every white male citizen of the United States, of the age of twenty-one years, who shall have been a resident of the State one year, preceding the election, and of the county, township or ward in which he resides, such time as may be provided by law, shall be entitled to vote at all elections which are now, or may hereafter be authorized by law.

Sec. 2. All elections shall be by ballot.

Sec. 3. Electors shall in all cases except treason, felony or breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at elections, and in going to, and returning therefrom.

Sec. 4. The Legislature shall have full power to exclude from the privilege of electing or being elected, any person convicted of bribery, perjury, or any other infamous crime.

Sec. 5. No person in the Military, Naval or Marine service of the United States, shall be considered a resident of this State, by being stationed in any garrison, or military, or Naval station within the State.

Sec. 6. No idiot or insane person shall be entitled to the privileges of an elector.

D. A. ROBERTSON,  
JOHN L. GREEN,  
SABIRT SCOTT.

The Free Soil Convention.

At Piqueton, on the 4th inst., nominated Col. James Steel, of Ross county, as a candidate at the next October election, to represent the 8th Congressional District.

The convention passed resolutions recommending the immediate admission into the Union of California, and in favor of extending the "Jeffersonian Proviso of Freedom" to every foot of our territories;—in favor of granting universal suffrage to all males over 21 years of age, &c., &c.

R. S. Silcox, of Scioto county, was appointed as a delegate to the Free-soil convention in Cleveland, on the 22d of August, which is to nominate candidates for Governor and member of the Board of Public Works.

The Piqueton Journal says there were five delegates present, four of whom were from Beaver township, in that county. Truly a large gathering!

The Hon. Mr. Stephens, of Georgia, in a note which appears in the National Intelligencer, says, that in the event of a military collision in New Mexico, the whole south will rush to the aid of Texas and fight it out.

## THE INQUIRER.

PORTSMOUTH, OHIO.

FRANCIS CLEVELAND, EDITOR.

MONDAY EVENING, JULY 15, 1850.

FOR GOVERNOR,  
REUBEN WOOD.  
FOR THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS,  
ALEX. P. MILLER,  
OF BUTLER COUNTY.

Our publication day being on Monday, all advertisements and notices for publication, must be handed in on Saturday.

### Banking and Currency.

The majority report of the convention committee, on banking and currency is as follows:

"Sec. 1. The General Assembly shall have no power to create or incorporate any Bank or Banking Institution whatever, or to authorize the making, emission, or putting in circulation of any bill of credit, bond, check, ticket, certificate, promissory note, or other paper medium, intended to circulate as money or currency.

"Sec. 2. The General Assembly shall prohibit by law, any person, or persons, association, company or corporation now in existence, from exercising the privileges of Banking, or creating, emitting, or putting in circulation, any Bank notes, or paper of any description whatever to circulate as money or currency.

"Sec. 3. The business of loaning and dealing in money shall be left free to all, subject to such provisions as may be provided by law; but no special privileges or exemptions, shall ever be granted to those engaged in, or who may hereafter be engaged in such business, nor shall any person or persons either natural or artificial, ever be allowed to deal in or issue paper money, so called."

Declared enemy as we are, have been, and ever shall be, of any system of banking established by law, we feel in duty bound, at this juncture, as a member of the democratic party and a public journalist, to say that, in our humble opinion, this report goes entirely too far.

We have for years, privately and publicly, labored in opposition to systems of banking. We believe them to be corrupt and corrupting. They violate the individual rights and political equality of our citizens. They unsettle values, and sooner or later, bring pecuniary distress upon every business man in community. By the special privileges which they confer, a moneyed aristocracy is built up, opposed to the spirit of our government, and tending to make the rich richer, and the poor poorer.

We have rejoiced to see the democratic party, for the last fifteen years, awakening to the evils of the Banking system. We have watched their noble efforts, in this and other states, to break it down or reform it, by various modifications and restrictions, and we fondly hoped that the present constitutional convention, notwithstanding the formidable obstacles in the way, would succeed in taking an effectual and progressive step in the way of a thorough reform. But great as the evil confessedly is, we should deeply regret any attempt to do it away which must inevitably result in signal failure, and thereby prostrate the democratic party; or, which, if successful, must be so at the sacrifice of cherished and fundamental democratic principles.

Paper money, bills of exchange, drafts, certificates of deposit, checks, &c., &c., are the improved instruments, for conducting with facility, the extensive business operations which have grown up, and are continually increasing, in the present advanced state of civilization. These instruments are not money, nor are they really considered as such by those who use them most freely. They are mere evidences of debt, transferable forms of credit, or representatives of money. To attempt, at the present day, to remedy the evils incidentally connected with these now necessary instruments, by prohibiting their use, would be as futile as an attempt to dam up the waters of the Mississippi river, and can only end in overwhelming with ruin the party that ventures upon the rash expedient. As safely might it be attempted to abate the evils incident to an unlimited freedom of the press by destroying that freedom. The people of this country will never consent to be deprived of the facilities which credit, in its various forms, under a wise administration of just laws, affords.

But, if they would, the prohibition of these facilities would be a violation of republican principle, which could only result, as such violation ever must, in the infliction of greater evils than it was designed to prevent. We hold it to be a personal right, collateral and equally sacred with that of acquiring and possessing property, for any man to issue his promises to pay and receive those of another man. By what right shall I be forbidden to give my note on demand as evidence of my indebtedness for property purchased, or another man, to receive such note and pass it to a third for a like purpose? No such right can be established as belonging to government. Such acts are individual functions, which can never be rightfully destroyed. And this is one among the chief reasons why we have ever been opposed to incorporated banks. The powers and functions which belong to the individual are arbitrarily wrested from him, and conferred upon these privileged institutions; and are used for their own aggrandizement and his injury.

That the kingly governments of Europe, when it suits their purpose, should assume the power to confer such special privileges upon a favored few, is not to be wondered at. Nor would it be that the whig party in this country, which has always been the advocate of special laws, should do so. But that the democratic party, the party of progress, of equal rights and the largest liberty, should attempt to prohibit the exercise of an individual power, is passing strange, and can only be accounted for as an effect of those manacles which education and long usage fasten upon the best minds. In other

cases the democratic party has been true to its great mission. Has it not been reproached for advocating a separation of the affairs of government from the business of the people? Has it not been derided for its "let alone" policy? Has it not always been opposed in its endeavors to sustain individual and State rights? Has it not been denounced for its strenuous efforts to establish perfect freedom of trade—for holding to the right of the people to buy and sell where it was most for their interest? Wherein does the right to exchange products freely, differ from the right to use any facilities for effecting that exchange? Or, are they not both parts of one and the same process?

Even in the present instance, however, the democratic party, true to itself has got one foot on the right ground. It denies the right of government to confer the power of banking upon a favored few. But did it never occur to our democratic friends that this power belongs to all, and that the safest, the most effectual and only true policy is to LET IT ALONE? To give it into the hands of the people where it rightfully belongs, and to cease all legislation in regard to it, except such as may be necessary to prevent fraud in its exercise? Can any valid reason be assigned why the business of banking may not be as safely trusted to the people, as any other? Are they not more competent to devise and carry into effect wise and wholesome regulations in regard to it, than a few legislators, who are constantly subjected to the insidious wiles of rogues? The very fact that they are deeply interested in the soundness of the currency is the strongest reason why its regulation should be left in their hands.

A distinction is sought to be made, between ordinary business notes of hand, and notes intended to circulate as money. There is a difference in form, it is true, but none whatever in principle. They are neither of them money, nor are they so considered, but are both alike, the mere representatives of money. The value of both depends upon the ability of the makers to redeem their promises. They are embodied credits, like all the rest of the complicated machinery of trade at the present day. The basis of this credit is real value, and of the soundness of this basis the people must judge. No laws can enforce the circulation of irredeemable paper, or of debased coin. Nor can they prevent the circulation of that which is considered sound. The fact is, the people of this country feel it to be their right, to act as they please in this matter and they will do so. Why not then conform to this public opinion, since it is evidently correct, and since principle and expediency both demand it?

In our humble judgment, the true course to be pursued by the convention, is to place the whole matter into the hands of the people where it of right belongs. Let its democratic members at least, be determined not to merit the appellation of "currency tinkers." Let the people have their rights, and trust them implicitly with the exercise of their natural powers. This course will effectually put the axe to the root of all the present brood of incorporated banks. It will be a course approved by the people, and one of which the democratic party may well be proud. It will be a great step in advance and will place those who take it on an eminence of power and influence.

Is it feared that this course would open the door to a flood of irredeemable bank paper? Experience in analogous cases proves that it would not. The evils now complained of arise mainly from the sanction which law gives to the paper of legalized institutions, and to the concentration of a great power in the hands of a few favored individuals. Disseminate this power and it will be comparatively harmless. Competition, the great balance-wheel of trade, will soon bring about an equitable movement, in the exercise of the power, as it does in all other cases. Evils may arise as they do from freedom in other kinds of business, for these are inseparable from the nature of man and his free agency, which implies the power to do evil as well as good. But they would soon reach their lowest point, and there forever would remain.

But besides the complete emancipation of banking business, the convention now has in its power to take another great step by establishing an Independent State Treasury. Paper-money and other individual contrivances for facilitating trade may be used by individuals to promote their private interests, but the State should not rest its transactions on the basis of individual credit. Gold and Silver, with such evidences of debitas naturally grow out of its own financial operations, should form its only fiscal instruments, except, possibly, in certain cases to be specified by law.

Connected with these is one more progressive step, which is wanting to the perfect freedom of trade. This is to restore to the people the right belonging to them of paying what they please for the use of money. Laws regulating interest are relics of barbarism, and tend, more than most suppose, to shackle business and really injure the people. The subject is too extensive to enter upon now, but along with restrictions on banking, the laws on this subject are a flagrant usurpation of individual rights, and should be forever abolished.

As the convention has now adjourned, and will not meet again for several months, time is allowed for the discussion of many important reforms committed to its charge. We believe the people ought to reflect upon and speak out in regard to all the provisions of the New Constitution, and more particularly its duty of the press. For one, we have determined to do so, at the risk of losing the confidence of some of those with whom we have always been proud to act. But this is no time to be lukewarm or apathetic. The cause of democracy is in danger, and those who see it, or think they see it, should have the moral courage to sound the alarm. This we have endeavored to do, although we have little hope that our feeble voice will be heard. Yet it will be some

consolation to reflect that we have done what we regard as our duty, let the consequences be what they may.

Proceedings of the Democratic State Convention—July 4, 1850.

The Convention met in the Senate chamber at 10 o'clock A. M.

After the usual preliminary business, BARNABUS BURNS, of Richland was elected President, and C. L. VALLISBISHAM, Secretary. A Vice President was elected for every congressional district, and four assistant Secretaries.

After reporting the member of delegates present, on motion of Mr. Sawyer, the convention proceeded to ballot for a candidate for a member of the Board of Public Works.

The result of the first vote was as follows:

Alexander P. Miller, of Butler	41 votes
Edwin Smith, of Montgomery	44 "
James Myers, of Lucas	64 "
George W. Baird,	1 "
John Taylor, of DeFiance	10 "
John E. Hunt, of Lucas	33 "
John H. Dubbs, of Hamilton	33 "
J. B. Warren, of Hamilton	10 "
Jonas Ward, of Miami	4 "
William Walton, of Monroe	2 "
A. G. Dimmick, of Holmes	4 "

Three other ballots took place without a choice, in all of which Myers of Lucas received the highest number of votes.

The fifth ballot resulted as follows:

A. P. Miller,	130 votes
James Myers,	118 "
A. G. Dimmick,	1 "

Col. A. P. Miller, of Butler, having received a majority of all the votes cast, was declared the nominee of the convention.

On motion of Mr. Lawrence, of Guernsey, the nomination of Col. Miller was declared unanimous.

On motion of C. W. Blair, Esq., of Brown.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to wait on Col. Miller, and inform him of his nomination.

The Chair appointed C. W. Blair, of Brown, S. W. Stinchecund of Morrow, and William Lawrence of Guernsey, said committee.

Mr. Williams, from the committee on Resolutions, reported the following:

1. Resolved, That this convention, in the name of the Democracy of Ohio, reiterates and adopts the platform, recommended and adopted by the late Democratic State Convention, on the 8th day of January, 1850; and that the resolutions adopted at that convention be published with the proceedings of this convention.

2. Resolved, That we hail with high satisfaction the action of the people of California and New Mexico, in the formation of governments for themselves, and we insist on their admission into the Union, with the constitutions they have adopted, without delay.

3. Resolved, That with reference to the currency question, the Democracy of Ohio, plants itself upon the constitution of the United States. The currency fixed by that instrument, we desire to restore and establish, and we will use all legal and honorable means to accomplish this object, and being sincerely opposed to the existence of banks for the circulation of paper money, we are utterly opposed to any feature being incorporated into the new constitution, by which the legislature of Ohio would have the power to create any bank for the circulation of paper money.

4. Resolved, That we consider it the duty of all our public officers, after taking the oath to support the constitution of the U. States, to make all payments in their official capacity, in constitutional currency instead of paper money, and that we especially demand from the Board of Public Works, that they convert all paper money which may come under their control into specie, and in that shape disburse it.

5. Resolved, That the resolutions as adopted by the convention of the 8th January, 1850, and re-affirmed by this convention.

6. Resolved, That equality of rights, equality of burden and liabilities are fundamental principles of our government, and we therefore insist upon the unequivocal application of those principles.

7. Resolved, That banks of circulation are hostile alike to the equal rights of the people, and the principles of sound political economy. That hard money is the only currency recognized by the constitution, the only currency that defrauds no man, the only currency that is expedient and just, and we hold it to be inconsistent with the principles of the party for democrats to participate in creating or upholding banking institutions.

8. Resolved, That the banks of Ohio have signally failed to redeem the promises of their authors, that they would expel from the State the irredeemable paper of foreign banks.

9. Resolved, That the repeated refusal of the whig legislatures of Ohio to tax banks to the extent to which the people are taxed—the banks being taxed on their profits alone; the people on their capital—the banks being taxed for State purposes only; the people for State, for county, and township purposes—presents an instance of flagrant and scarcely paralleled outrage, for which there is neither palliation or excuse.

10. Resolved, That by the existing bank laws of this State a legislative power over the currency of the State is virtually conferred, so long as these laws continue in force upon a set of bank directors, called the Board of Control, who are chosen by the banks, sit in secret, are irresponsible to the people, and are governed by no other interest than the interest of the banks. That such a power, so lodged, is in manifest derogation of the rights of the people, and highly dangerous to the welfare of the State.

11. Resolved, That we condemn the action of the Treasurer of State, in making banking institutions depositories of the moneys of the people, in direct violation of law; and instead of charging them with interest for the use of the money, paying them premiums upon all sums remitted to New York, for the payment there of all the interest upon our State debt, thereby causing the people to sustain an annual loss of from fifteen to twenty thousand dollars; and making them, without their consent, contribute to support and enrich institutions they must ever dispute.

12. Resolved, That upon the subject of the tariff, a U. S. Bank, and the Independent Treasury, we affirm the position of the party taken in the convention of the 8th January, 1848.

The 12th Resolution relates to slavery.

The 13th Resolution relates to the Hamilton county case.

The 14th relates to the New Constitution.

The 15th is in favor of a Homestead exemption.

The 16th is in regard to the disposition of the public lands.

The 17th confirms the nomination of Reuben Wood, as candidate for Governor.

The question being on the adoption of the resolutions, a division was demanded; whereupon, the first and second resolutions were unanimously adopted.

The question being on agreeing to the 3rd, Mr. Covey, of Morgan, moved to strike out all after the word "object" in the sixth line of said resolution, which motion was discussed at considerable length by Messrs. Covey, Mr. Forbes of Mahoning, Mr. Manor of Licking, and Taylor of Erie, in favor of striking out, and by Messrs. Cradbaugh of Pickaway, Groom of Pickaway, Leadbetter of Holmes, Palmer of Putnam, and Wolfard of Wayne against the motion.

The question being taken, the motion to strike out was disagreed to by a large majority.

The remaining resolutions were adopted without dissent.

The committee appointed to wait on Mr. Miller, returned and introduced him to the Convention. Col. M. briefly addressed the Convention, and thanked them for the honor conferred upon him by the nomination.

After two or three unimportant motions, the convention adjourned *sine die*.

BARNABUS BURNS, Pres't.

J. L. VALLISBISHAM, Sec'y.

Death of Gen. Taylor.

The particulars of this melancholy event will be found among our telegraphic dispatches. In common with all American citizens, it is one which we sincerely deplore. The name of General ZACHARY TAYLOR, must always occupy a prominent place on one of the brightest pages of our country's history. While the fields of Palo Alto, Monterey and Buena Vista are remembered, his name cannot be forgotten. May his laurels ever be green. As President, we believe, in his own dying words he, "endeavored to do his duty."

May he ever hold an honored place in the memories of his countrymen. Peace to his ashes.

Railroad Meeting—Proceedings, &c.

The stockholders of the S. & H. V. Railroad, met in this place, on Saturday.

A report from the President and Directors, embodying the Engineer's estimate, and other facts and suggestions, was read and referred to a committee of four stockholders to examine, and report such action as in their opinion was advisable.

After examining the report, estimate and profile of the road, the committee unanimously recommended, that all the preliminary steps necessary for putting the work under contract from this place to Jackson, be taken without delay, but to wait the action of Jackson county on the question of subscription before a final letting of the work.

The Directors, having subsequently met, resolved that they would as soon as practicable, proceed to make a final location and such other arrangements, as would enable them without any delay to place the work under contract as soon as the course of Jackson county can be determined.

We congratulate the friends of the road upon the progress thus made, and although it may not be rapid enough to suit the views of some, it is as much so as prudence dictates under present embarrassing circumstances.

The following directors were chosen:

J. V. ROBINSON,	} Of Scioto.
C. A. M. DAMARIN,	
J. L. M'VEY,	
P. KINNEY,	
FRANCIS CAMPBELL,	
ISRAEL DILLE,	" Ross,
JACOB WESTFALL,	Licking,
J. V. Robinson, Esq.,	was then elected
President; John McDowell, Secretary; and P. Kinney, Treasurer.	

Cholera.

As a general thing the cholera is on the increase in the west. For the last ten days or two weeks, the number of deaths in Cincinnati has varied from 20 to 50 daily, by this disease. Many of the large towns on the river as well as the smaller ones in the interior, have been visited by it. In this place several deaths have occurred from cholera, or some disease very similar. With proper care as to living, and prompt attention on the first occurrence of the symptoms, we think there is little cause for alarm. Now is the time for the Health officers to be vigilant in doing their whole duty.

Convention Proceedings.

In another column will be found the proceedings of the Convention assembled to nominate a candidate for member of the Board of Public Works. We have no personal acquaintance with the nominee, but hail the most favorable accounts of his qualifications. The resolutions passed at this convention, merit serious attention.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE CONVENTION.—We do not feel like approving the adjournment of the Convention, although it was not done without some show of cause. One good may result from the delay, by giving the members time for reflection and consultation with the people. If we wait longer for a new constitution we may have a better one in the end.

HUNT'S MERCHANTS' MAGAZINE for July has been received. The number before us commences the 23d volume of this valuable monthly, and contains a portrait of the Hon. James Tallmadge, LL. D., President of the American Institute.

THE WATER CURE JOURNAL for July is before us, containing its usual amount of interesting matter. This number commences a new volume, and those who wish to subscribe had better do so as once. Single copy \$1. Fowles & Wells, N. Y.

The railroad between Springfield and Dayton is rapidly approaching its completion.

## BY TELEGRAPH.

President Taylor Dead.

WASHINGTON, July 10.

The President of the U. States died last night at 10 o'clock and 35 minutes. His last words were as follows: I die—I am expecting the summons—I am ready to meet death. I have endeavored faithfully to discharge my duty. I am sorry to leave my friends, but I am ready to go—Farewell.

The Philadelphia Conflagration—Full Particulars.

PHILADELPHIA, July 10, M.

One of the most destructive conflagrations that ever occurred in Philadelphia, was witnessed yesterday afternoon and evening. The fire first broke out in the fourth story of No. 78, North Delaware Avenue, which building was occupied for storage purposes. When discovered it had made considerable headway—the flames spreading in every direction. In a short time the fire spread westward to Water street, spreading north and south from near Race to Callon sts.

A terrific explosion originated as is supposed from one thousand bags of saltpetre stored in number 78, and spread terrible destruction in the area filled with a mass of human beings—among whom was several hundred firemen. The first explosion did not seem to cause much alarm or excitement, nor did the 2nd—but the third caused the death of a number on Delaware Avenue and Water streets.

The scene presented was frightful and appalling in the extreme.—The rush for life was terrific. Numbers were knocked down and run over and thrown into the Delaware, while large numbers jumped voluntarily over to shield themselves from the bricks and cinders thrown from the burning ruins.

The list of persons whose property has been destroyed occupies a column of the morning papers. The details of suffering are shocking to peruse. Among them are the following:

The remains of a woman, two boys and two girls were taken to the northeast police station house. They were shocking spectacles. One of the girls 14 years of age, was recognized as a Miss Drake. A woman burned almost to a crisp was taken to a Drug Store and died in the greatest agony. A number of infants, some of them not more than 3 months old were shockingly burned. There are supposed to be 30 killed. Some ten more will probably die. The total number of the wounded cannot be less than 100.

Judging from the extent of ground covered, and the value of the property destroyed, we venture to compute the damages at over \$4,000,000. At all events it was the most extensive and destructive fire that ever occurred in our city.

No praise can do justice to the conduct of the firemen. Some of them periled their lives almost to rashness, and their feats of gallantry excited frequent outbreaks of applause.

Proceedings in congress.

WASHINGTON, July 10.

The Rev. Mr. Butler, Chaplain of the Senate, delivered a most solemn and appropriate prayer in the House, the hall of which was crowded with sad and anxious faces. After an interval of five minutes the Speaker took the chair. A message was then read by the Hon. Millard Fillmore, President of the United States, and read as follows:

"WASHINGTON, July 10.

Fellow citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives: I have to perform the melancholy duty of announcing to you that it has pleased Almighty God, to remove from this life Zachary Taylor, late President of the U. S. He died last evening at the hour of half past 10 o'clock, in the midst of his family, and surrounded by affectionate friends calmly and in full possession of his faculties. Among his last words were these, which he spoke with emphatic distinctness: I have always done my duty, and I am ready to die—my only regret is for the friends that I leave behind me. Having announced to you fellow citizens this most afflictive bereavement, and assuring you that it has penetrated no heart with deeper grief than mine, it remains for me to say that I propose this day in the hall of the House of Representatives in the presence of both Houses of Congress, to take the oath prescribed by the constitution to enable me to enter upon the execution of the office: this event has devolved upon me.

MILLARD FILLMORE."

Mr. Morse in obedience to the suggestion contained in the melancholy announcement—moved that this House take a recess till 12 o'clock, at which time the House will be in readiness to receive the President and Senate. Mr. Winthrop said it seemed to him that the President having expressed his purpose to be here at 12 o'clock, it would hardly be more than respectful to send a message by a committee, informing him that the House is ready.

Mr. Morse accepted the modification.

Mr. Winthrop moved that the appointment of a committee of three to co-operate with such as may be appointed by the Senate, which was agreed to, and Messrs. Winthrop, Morse and Morehead were appointed the committee.

The House then took a recess, and on re-assembling at noon, a message was received from the Senate, that they had appointed a committee to wait on the President. Judge Cranch came into the House accompanied by Mr. Morse, and took a seat at the clerk's desk.

A few minutes elapsed when the Senators entered.—The House received their standing. The Senators were seated in the area fronting the speaker's chair. Every part of the Hall floor and gallery were crowded with ladies and gentlemen.

The President of the United States and Cabinet next came in and were received standing. Mr. Fillmore took a seat at the clerk's desk, and the cabinet immediately in front of it. The Speaker said the oath of office would now be administered.

Judge Cranch administered it as laid down in the constitution, and the President, Senate and the Cabinet retired.

A message from the President was read as follows:

Fellow citizens of the Senate and House of Representatives: A great man has fallen, and a whole nation is called to an occasion of unexpected, deep and general mourning. I recommend to the two Houses of Congress to adopt such measures