

firmation. Being, however, informed that no other means could be obtained to meet the July interest in London to prevent a forfeiture of good faith on the part of the State, I at once determined to confirm the contract. The residue of the bonds, after deducting the £30,000 advanced, still remain in the hands of Messrs. Wright & Co., and are as yet unavailable to the canal fund. If they are not sold prior to the 1st day of April next, the contract ceases by its own stipulations, and, in that event, no means are provided for the prosecution of the work on the canal for the ensuing year.

Subsequent to being informed by Gen. Thornton, that canal lands could be sold to meet the July interest upon the canal debt, he communicated to me, that in June last the Board effected a sale to the amount of \$70,000.

Whether the money is available or not I am uninforming, not having been furnished with the proceedings or report of said Board during the year, which prevents me from laying before you as full and complete a statement in relation to the progress and condition of the Canal, as I desired.

About \$2,245,000 of canal stock has been sold under the act of 1839, leaving a balance authorized to be sold by said act, of \$1,755,000; but the present depreciation of American securities does not afford a reasonable expectation that a sale can be made of the residue of the stock at par, in time to meet the wants of the canal. The great amount already expended upon this stupendous work, and the vast sum yet required for its completion, a portion of which must be immediately had, presents a subject for your consideration well worthy of mature deliberation.

The accruing interest upon the debt which has already been incurred, the delapidation of the work which has been done, and the destruction of fixtures and other preparations for its prosecution, the loss of which must fall upon the state if it is abandoned, seems to forbid its suspension. It is, therefore, submitted to your wisdom and discretion what means are to be provided for its future progress. In view of the difficulties to be encountered in obtaining money, I would renew my former recommendation of selling so much of the canal lands as will be sufficient to pay the accruing interest upon its debt.

Rigid accountability being essential to the fidelity of public officers, I feel it my duty again to recommend a thorough and rigid scrutiny into the conduct of all those connected with the management of our finances.

It again becomes my duty to call your attention to the suspension of specie payments by the State Bank, and the Bank of Illinois at Shawneetown. The frequent failures of institutions of this character to meet punctually their engagements, solemnly admonish us that they can never be of any permanent utility, until the security to the public that their notes will be redeemed upon presentation, is increased, and they are thrown entirely upon their own resources, instead of Legislative indulgence. Twice, in the short space of two years, have they violated their obligations, and twice has that violation received legislative sanction. It is to be hoped, however, that a similar occurrence will not take place, and that our banks will prepare for resumption of specie payments at an early day, and at least take care of themselves for the future.

Having found no cause to change my sentiments in relation to the banking system generally since the date of my last message, it is unnecessary that I should enter upon that subject at length on the present occasion. The pernicious consequences inflicted upon the country by the operations of Banks, within the last few years, is too indelibly stamped upon every department of business to be misapprehended by the most sceptical. The fluctuation in the prices of labor, property, and trade of every description, have kept pace with the alternate expansions and contractions of their issues; and whether the injuries thus sustained are attributable to their guilt or innocence, the effect upon the prosperity of the people is the same. So interwoven have the affairs of our citizens become with those institutions, that it cannot be denied that they control and direct the circulating medium, commerce, and wealth of the country; and not only so, they frequently wring from legislative bodies an acknowledgment of their utility, and exercise an influence over the public mind which it is difficult to overcome. Thus have they fortified themselves behind an almost invulnerable rampart, erected by enactment, and justified by the tyrant's plea, "necessity."

Usurpations, of whatever character, are usually preceded with the persuasion that they are essential to the advancement of the people in prosperity and happiness; and in this way they are stripped of their rights, and bound in the chains of political slavery before they are aware of the danger. To guard against such startling power, concentrated in banks, all the virtue and energy of the patriot must be called into action, and constant requisition. Already one important blow has been struck for the severance of this power from the Government: its deadly grasp was broken by the adoption of the Independent Treasury. If this salutary measure of public policy continues in operation,

rolling influence upon their issues, limit the amount collected to the wants of the Government, and teach them the necessity of relying entirely upon their own resources. If they are deprived of the public revenue, and, consequently, a participation in the management of a momentous department of public business, it will be impossible for them successfully to attribute their reversions and suspensions to the existing administration. The whole world would know the fault was along their own, and their labors to conceal it would add a deeper stain to their guilt. However true the argument, that they afford facilities to trade and commerce, the conclusion would be preposterous, that these facilities would be more certain and useful if they were connected with the management of our national finances.

Being convinced of the propriety of providing a fair compensation for prosecuting attorneys, I regard an increase of their salaries as absolutely necessary to the advancement of the public welfare. It will be impossible to command the best talents of the State in the administration of justice, which is highly essential, if a fair and just equivalent is not held out for the enlistment of that talent. The adoption of this course, instead of being a useless expenditure of money, would, I have no doubt, conduce to that economy, which is imperiously demanded by our condition.

Although I know of no instance of any individual coming from another State into ours to vote, yet I have been informed from sources in which I place the utmost reliance, that extensive arrangements were concerted among a portion of the citizens of another State to come into Illinois for that purpose at our recent election for President and Vice President. In view of the danger to which we are exposed from such innovations along the borders of the State swept by the Mississippi and Ohio rivers, I feel it my duty to recommend the passage of a law, providing for the apprehension and rigid punishment of offenders who may invade the rights of the elective franchise. The starting frauds which have recently been perpetrated in New York and other places for the destruction of these sacred rights, I regard as little better than high treason, and striking a deadly blow at the foundation of the government.

A frequent recurrence to fundamental doctrines being essential to the perpetuity of free government it is a matter of the first consideration, that we keep the respective political rights of the Union, the States, and the people clearly defined. The security of each depends upon the separation and well regulated balance of power between them; and care should, therefore, be taken to prevent strengthening the arm of the Confederacy. Congress should exercise no power but such as has been expressly delegated, or is absolutely necessary to carry the delegated power into effect. There is certainly no necessity for encroachments upon state sovereignty or individual privileges. If the General Government will protect us from foreign invasion and domestic insurrection, the great object of its formation, and deal out justice with an impartial hand, it is all we can expect or desire. The one will leave us in the quiet enjoyment of our pursuits, while the other will afford us no cause of complaint. But when it draws within its grasp powers never surrendered to it, and adopts partial legislation as the rule of its action, then, indeed, it is verging rapidly to monarchy, and may justly alarm the fears of the patriot.

The idea that the people should look up to it for assistance in times of pecuniary distress, is most revolutionary in its tendency, and this revolution is speeded in its object when the laws are directed to the promotion of private interest, instead of the general good. Hence, the various and diversified charters granted to monopolizing companies, are sapping the foundation of the Republic, destroying the equality of citizens, and creating distinctions in society. In the pure republican days of the Revolution, merit and demerit, virtue and vice, alone drew the line of separation between one man and another: now the pampered and monopolist seizes an association with honest poverty. Why is this? It is because the Government lost sight of the object of its formation, and by venturing upon special grants of power, gave rise to a modern aristocracy, who are mere consumers, living on the productions of the poor man's labor; and although the pernicious effects of such legislation may be unobserved by many, still it is leading to the most fatal consequences—I fear to civil revolution.

Ours was intended to be a government of limited power, plain in its construction, and economical in its administration; not one of unbounded sway, special privileges, hereditary descents, titles and nobility. Yet its frequent inroads upon individual rights, and the sovereignty of the States, furnish living memorials of its increasing strength, and solemnly warn us to be vigilant and active in the maintenance of our independence. Although the virtue and patriotism of the people were enabled to triumph over a National Bank, the alien and sedition laws, and their kindred acts, they may yet yield their freedom to the same despotic spirit, which, always restless, and never weary,

proaches them under various disguises. Fearful of an appeal to their reason, resort is had to show and parade to inflame their passions; thus proving that, while their influence is courted, the utmost contempt is entertained for their intelligence. The history of all republics which have preceded us bear evidence to the fact, that the wily and ambitious usually resort to such resources to corrupt the public mind and public morals previous to seizing upon the reins of supreme authority; and if we do not guard ourselves against such insidious devices, we will lose our liberties in the same way, and have nothing but the wreck of a violated Constitution, and a ruined country to transmit as a legacy to our children. Let the Government be free from monopolies and the influence of wealth, just in its administration, and economical in its expenditures, liberal in its policy, and free from encroachments, taking care of itself, and leaving the people as much as possible to the enjoyment of their own pursuits, and it will insure its own perpetuity, and the freedom of its citizens.

Having called your attention to various interests of the State which presented themselves to my mind as worthy of your first consideration, I doubt not that such as I have omitted will be suggested by your own wisdom. Hoping that you may be guided by patriotism in all your deliberations, and a sincere desire for the promotion of the public welfare, and that your labors may be crowned with signal success, I take my leave of you with earnest benedictions to Almighty God for your happiness individually and collectively.

THO. CARLIN, SPRINGFIELD, NOV. 26, 1840.



THE FREE TRADER.

Wenver & Hise, Editors.

Ottawa, Ill., Friday, December 4, 1840.

The Governor's Message.

We deem it unnecessary to make any apology to our readers for excluding our usual quantity of miscellaneous matter in order to lay before our readers, in today's paper, the Governor's Message. This invaluable document should be carefully read and examined by every citizen of Illinois. The financial affairs of the State, as exhibited by the Governor, are indeed in a miserable condition; her credit, though not yet ruined, is considerably shattered; and nothing but the most judicious action of the legislature, in providing the means promptly to meet all the engagements of the State, can save her credit from impending ruin. The means which the Governor recommends to avert such a calamity, are such as must meet the views of every true Illinoisian. The ruinous policy of making new debts to pay the interest on old ones, should never be resorted to; and that covardly system of legislation which, through a want of confidence in the intelligence of the people, resorts to such means should and always does meet public condemnation. Closely akin to such a system is that of indirect taxation, which has its origin in the same base fears, and is equally, at least, if not more, ruinous and oppressive. Against all such expedients, it will be seen, the Governor takes a decided stand, and if there is sufficient nerve among our legislators to sustain him in his high-minded and patriotic views, there is a cheering prospect ahead of leading the affairs of our State conducted on sound and rational principles. We shall then have no more monopolies privileged by the state to plunder the many for the benefit of the few; but as the taxes of the people will come directly from them, they will also be able at a glance to see to what objects they are appropriated; and they will forever be relieved from the burdensome necessity of maintaining a ruthless horde of bank directors, usurers, and stockjobbers.

We say, then, let every one read and weigh well the Message of our Governor, take into consideration the exigency of the times—our condition and prospects—and we have full confidence that the great body of the people will gladly sustain our enlightened, patriotic, and thorough-going democratic Governor.

The Steamer President.

The Steamship President, which left New York for Liverpool on the 2d ult., after having proceeded on her way 5 days, returned again to New York. She is said to have had such a succession of heavy gales and head winds to encounter, that, at the end of the 4th day, it became evident that the quantity of coal on board was inadequate to complete the voyage, even with favorable weather, and she returned, therefore, to take in a new and much greater supply. The "Staatszeitung," however, hints that the true reason of her return was, that she might be the first to take out the result of the Presidential election.

Iowa Territory.

The third session of the Legislature of this Territory is now being held at Burlington. The Council, which consists of thirteen members, organized by electing MORTIMER BAINBRIDGE, of Du Buque county, President, and B. F. WALLACE, of Henry county, Secretary. The occupations of the different members are as follows: 7 Lawyers; 5 farmers; 1 Merchant—7 Democrats and 6 Whigs.

The House of Representatives consists of twenty-six members, and organized by electing THOMAS COX, of Jackson county, Speaker, and JOSEPH T. PALES, of Du Buque county, Clerk. The occupations of the different members are as

1 Miller; 1 Miner; and 1 Physician—15 Democrats and 11 Whigs.

At the late election for Delegate to Congress, &c. a vote was taken for the call of a Convention to form a State Government, which resulted as follows:

For a Convention, 937  
Against a Convention, 2297

Governor Lucas has issued his proclamation declaring Augustus A. Dodge Delegate to the next Congress.

Called Session of Congress.

Col. Todd, of the Cincinnati Republican, Gen. Harrison's acknowledged organ, presuming that at the end of the present Congress the National Treasury will be empty, &c., &c., recommends the calling of an extra session, shortly after the new administration comes into power. "Go it while you're young, boys!"

Congress meets on Monday next.

NEWS BY THE MAIL.

John Leighear, who murdered John Farley at Rochester, Noble county, Ind., was executed at Augusta, on the 13th ultimo. The particulars respecting the murder, which led the unfortunate Leighear to the scaffold, are thus, as given by the Goshen Democrat: "On the 13th of May last, he met John Farley at Rochester, in that county, and engaged with him in shooting at a mark. He had drank pretty freely of liquor, and some dispute arose between them, during which Leighear levelled his rifle, and fired at Farley. Farley looked around laughing, and said, 'you can't shoot me!' Laughlin then snatched another rifle from the hands of his nephew, aimed at Farley, who fell and survived but a short time."

Murderer Arrested.—The Burlington (Iowa) Gazette says: "We learn that Jones the villain who deliberately shot a Mr. McCarrillo in the neighborhood of West point, in this Territory, a few weeks since has been apprehended and safely lodged in jail in Fort Madison."

Large Deer.—A moose deer was lately shot at Tattagonche settlement, New Brunswick, measuring nine feet in length, and seven and a half in height, weighing after it was skinned and dressed 700 pounds. This species of animal has become very rare, except in very high latitudes.

The population of Richmond, Va., according to the late census, is 20,152.

Horrible Fate.—The St. Louis Pennant says: "Mr. Crevasse, merchant tailor, on the corner of Myrtle and Maine streets, went gunning in Illinois. Not returning at night, his family became alarmed, and search was immediately commenced. It was not until two days had elapsed that he was found dead, and half buried in a marsh which he had probably entered to get some game he had shot. It is reported that the people in the vicinity heard cries of distress on the evening of his death, but refrained from attempting to rescue the wretched man, on account of the depth of the mud."

Sale of Town Lots in Iowa.—The sale of lots in the flourishing towns of Burlington and Fort Madison, will be held as follows: At Burlington, on Monday the 1st day of February next. At Fort Madison, on Monday the 23d day of the same month.

Deadly Catastrophe.—We learn from the Trumbull county (Ohio) Democrat, that Mr. Hill, of Coitsville, in that county, while engaged in digging a well at the depth of fifty feet, heard a rumbling noise, but did not know whether it was above or below. On again descending with a candle, at the depth of twenty feet, the carbureted hydrogen gas, in conjunction with the atmospheric air, suddenly ignited, occasioning a loud explosion. The flames ascended to the height of thirty feet above the surface. Mr. Hill had fallen to the bottom of the well, and when taken up he was dreadfully burnt, his clothes being reduced to tinder. He expired in three days afterwards.

Duel.—Dr. G. C. McWhorter and Mr. H. B. Barbour, a lawyer, both of Vidalia, La., met on Natchez Island on the 5th ultimo, to adjust an affair of honor. At the first fire, the Doctor administered a leaden pill to the lawyer which, in 20 hours, operated mortally.

Great Fire at Natchez.—Natchez seems to be a devoted city. On the 3d ultimo, the two principal blocks of buildings at the landing nearest the water, and where the most business had been done, were discovered to be enveloped in flames. It is supposed the fire was communicated by an expiring candle in a house on Fulton street, near Faulkner's corner. In almost an instant after the flame burst out it overwhelmed the entire block, swept across the street to the Southwestward and laid the adjacent block in ashes. About twelve buildings were consumed, the total loss on which cannot fall short of \$40,000.

Mail Robber Arrested.—The Chicago Democrat says: "Reuben Rose, a young man who recently drove stage for Messrs. Frink, Walker & Co., and who was discharged by them for pocketing way fare and since has been residing at Mr. Doty's tavern, on the Des Plaines, has been arrested and committed to the Cook county jail for robbing the mail in Pennsylvania, near Lancaster, last winter. He had been kept in expectation of another situation on their line in order for the proper documents and the Post Office agent to arrive. So he had begun to prepare himself for his old business, and had filed a new key to fit the mail lock exactly, which was found on his person. Several other keys, evidently altered over by the file, were also found. The young man has been rather flush with money, much of which was the emission of Pennsylvania banks. He will be soon taken to the U. S. Circuit Court at Springfield, for examination."

Thanksgiving.—Governor Seward of New York has issued a proclamation appointing the 17th of December as a day of praise, thanksgiving and prayer, and recommending its observance by

Edridge, the accused Forger.—We learn from the New York Planet that Dr. Edridge, who was accused of extensive forgeries, and tried in the city of Philadelphia, has been acquitted.

Nomination.—Colonel Charles McClure, of Carlisle, Pa., has been nominated by the Democrats as a candidate for Congress, to supply the vacancy occasioned by the death of Mr. Ramsey.

Mr. John Van Buren, who has been elected to Congress from the Ulster and Sullivan District, in New York, is not a son of the President, as has been stated in many of the papers.

The New York delegation to the next Congress stands, 19 Whigs—21 Democrats—Democratic gain, 2.

There are eleven newspapers in Texas.

Synopsis of the Proceedings of the Illinois Legislature.

SENATE. TUESDAY, NOV. 26.

The Chair announced the following as the Standing Committees of the Senate for the present session, viz:

- On Elections.—Richardson, Parish, Feaman, Ross, and Gibbs.
- On School Lands and Education.—Davidson, Moore, Churchill, Sloumb, and Richardson.
- On Internal Improvements.—Hacker, Wood, Parrish, Moore, and Cullom.
- On the Judiciary.—Snyder, Ralston, Little, Pearson, Johnson, and Baker.
- On Internal Navigation.—Harrison, Houston, Evans, Hamlin, Allen, Sloumb, and Warren.
- On Public Roads.—Nunnally, Harris, Kilpatrick, Hunter, and Gaston.
- On Canal and Coal Land.—Stadden, Pearson, Fithian, Witt, and Gatewood.
- On Finance.—Gatewood, Churchill, James, Monroe, and Hacker.
- On Public Accounts and Expenditures.—Ralston, Witt, Stapp, Henry, and Markley.
- On Military Affairs.—Harris, Ross, Feaman, Gaston, Allen, and Cullom.
- On Saline and Sulfur Land.—Parrish, Davidson, Hunter, Gibbs, and Houston.
- On Petitions.—Wood, Stapp, Hamlin, Evans, and Stadden.
- On Public Buildings.—Henderson, James, Henry, Little, and Nunnally.
- On the Penitentiary.—Churchill, Snyder, Fithian, Harrison, Herndon, and Warren.
- On Counties.—Moore, Markley, Snyder, Baker, and Sargent.
- On Enrolled Bills.—Johnston and Sargent.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, NOV. 24.

The Speaker laid before the House certain depositions in the case of the contested seat from Peoria county, which were laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. Peck, the petition and depositions in the case were taken up for consideration and referred to a select committee, consisting of Messrs. Peck, Henderson, Dodge, Cawley, Menard, Gridley, Ross, Hardin, and McDonald.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 25.

Mr. Turney offered the following: Resolved, That the committee on the Judiciary enquire into the expediency of so amending the executive laws as to prevent the sale of property levied on, unless it bring three-fourths of its value, and that they report by bill or otherwise.

The resolution was not agreed to.

Mr. Peck, from the select committee to which were referred the petition and accompanying documents connected with the contested election from Peoria county, reported the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That the select committee to whom were referred the petition and accompanying documents connected with the contested election from the county of Peoria, have power to send for persons and papers, and that a subpoena duces tecum be forthwith issued to William Mitchell, clerk of the county commissioners' court for the said county of Peoria, directing him to bring with him the respective poll books in his custody, containing the votes given in August last for Representatives to the present General Assembly.

The resolution was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Edwards, Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed to consider and report upon the expediency of a distribution among the several States in a representative ratio, of the proceeds arising from the sales of the public lands with reference to the effect of such distributive policy upon the future prospects and permanent welfare of the State of Illinois.

The resolution was agreed to, and Messrs. Edwards, Drummond, Brown, of Vermillion, Trumbull and Leamy were appointed the committee.

Our Springfield correspondent will oblige us by sending his letters one day sooner. The letter which we published last week came to hand too late for our Fox River mail, and in consequence, the paper was sent to our subscribers in that quarter without it. For their information the substance of the letter is annexed.

SPRINGFIELD, NOV. 24, 1840.

MESSRS. WEAVER & HISE.

The Senate and House were in session yesterday for a short time, and almost entirely occupied in qualifying their members. The Senate chose for their officers as follows: M. L. CAVELL, of McLean county, Secretary; DOWNSING BAUGH, of Jefferson, Enrolling and Engrossing Clerk; ANDREW J. WITT, Sergeant-at-Arms—all Democrats.

Today the House chose for officers Gen. EWING, of Fayette, Speaker, by a vote of 46 to 36; JONAS CANNON, of Sangamon, Clerk, by a vote of 70 to 13 scattering; GEORGE DAVIS, of Cook, Assistant Clerk, by a vote of 46 to 36; ROBERT SMITH, of Madison, Enrolling and Engrossing Clerk, by 17 majority; WILLIAM C. MURPHY, of Perry, Door Keeper, by 28 majority; and Mr. ROSS, of Montgomery, Assistant Door Keeper, by 4 majority—also all Democrats.

A Wicked Wretch.

The murderer, Robert McConaghy, was executed in Huntingdon, Pa., on Friday the 5th ultimo. He was attended by a clergyman, to whom, at the moment of being swung off, he solemnly asseverated his innocence, declaring that, standing as he did on the very threshold of eternity, he knew nothing of the crime for which he was to suffer. The clergyman withdrew, the drop fell, and the rope broke. The cord was doubled, and just

away the drop, the wretched man asked for a little time to make an open confession of his crime. It was granted. He confessed his guilt, and was hung.

Illinois Official Returns.

1840. 1839.

President. Governor.

COUNTIES. V. B. H. A. C. A. L. E. W.

Table with columns for Counties, V. B., H. A., C. A., L., E. W. and rows for Adams, Alexander, Bond, Boone, Brown, Bureau, Calhoun, Cass, Carroll, Christian, Champaign, Clark, Clay, Clinton, Cook, Coles, Crawford, De Kalb, De Witt, Du Page, Edgar, Edwards, Ellingham, Fayette, Fulton, Franklin, Greene, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hancock, Hardin, Henry, Iroquois, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson, Jersey, Jo Davies, Johnson, Kane, Knox, Lake, La Salle, Lawrence, Lee, Livingston, Logan, Macoupin, Macoupin, Madison, Marion, Marshall, McDonough, McHenry, McLean, Menard, Mercer, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Ogle, Peoria, Perry, Pike, Pope, Putnam, Randolph, Rock Island, Sangamon, Schuyler, Scott, Shelby, Stark, St. Clair, Stephenson, Tazewell, Union, Vermillion, Wabash, Warren, Washington, Wayne, White, Whiteside, Will, Williamson, Winnebago.

47476 45537 30573 29629

45537 29629

Dem. maj. 1939 944 maj.

JAMES G. BIRNEY, the abolition candidate, received 159 votes in the State.

"The vote of Hancock is averaged in the above table.

ELECTIONS.—Van Buren's majority in Virginia is between 1,000 and 2,000. Harrison's majority in Ohio is 23,375.—In Massachusetts about 15,000. We hope in our next to give the result more in detail.

Rare Vegetable.

Mr. John Michel, whose uncommon success in the culture of fruit, flowers and vegetables has often challenged our editorial commendation, has entitled himself to the credit of introducing a new vegetable into our horticulture. He exhibited to us, yesterday, a fine specimen of the Yam Masticot, or St. Domingo potatoe, raised in open air, in his garden on the Neck. This potatoe grows on a rich and luxurious vine, with large and beautiful heart shaped leaves, the vine itself, and not the root, bearing the fruit. We are told by Mr. M. that the potatoe when cooked exhibits a white gamboge color, and is superior in flavor to the Irish potatoe. Mr. M. has also succeeded in raising this new vegetable from the seed—the common mode of planting it being by