

From the Newport Argus & Spectator.

Trial and Sentence of the notorious "Hicks," or John H. Day.

The trial of this individual drew a large assemblage of people to town on Monday last. His connection with the confagration at Charlestown, as well as his boldness in executing his plans, and his adroitness in eluding the vigilance of officers, had excited much curiosity in the community, and hundreds came from distant towns to catch a glimpse of the "lion." Those who came expecting to see a coarse, rough villain, went away disappointed. His appearance bears quite a contrary character. He is of middling stature, of light, active make, with fair complexion, and very good address. His head is very well formed, and his manner betrays a spirit of quiet coolness and decision, and his motions, as well as the glance of his eye, are quick as lightning. He is a smart fellow in his "profession," and a character in his peculiar way. His whole bearing and conversation involuntarily leads to the impression that had he been early under proper influences, and favored with an education, he might have shone with brilliancy in a very different position from that which he now maintains. He left with the other prisoners, under charge of Deputies Chase and Harris, in the Concord stage yesterday, with the prospect of a steady home during the residue of an ill spent life.

Like all other notorious individuals, "Hicks" has a great itching to get "into the newspapers;" and to gratify the curious public, as well as the last harmless request of a fellow going to his long home, we have taken the trouble to report, from his own lips, his "inklings of adventure," from his escape at Keene, up to his capture at Utica, N. Y.—We give it in detail, just as he recounted it, which he did with as much minuteness as one of our politicians would dictate a speech just before election.

"I broke out of Keene jail about 4 o'clock, P. M. through a hole 9 by 10 inches, and a mighty tough squeeze it was—I tried it first with my clothes on, but could not come it—the ends of the bars gouged my ribs and shoulders badly. I then tore up some cloth and wound over the ends of the bars, took off my clothes, put 'em through the hole, rubbed my body with some soft soap, and slipped through like an eel—Three miles from Keene took a horse, and rode 'bare back' to Acworth, where I left it, and took another, which I left at Unity; was almost 'split up' when I got off; went to Claremont on foot, where I stayed till night—crossed Sumner's bridge, walked boldly up to a house and asked for something to eat—the woman gave me a good supper, for which I thanked her; pay enough from a good looking chap you know; (and between us, I always was rather a favorite with the fair sex)—went to the barn, borrowed a horse, which I rode to Springfield—no saddle, and rather hard jogg'g—laid in the woods till near dark; went to Chester, met the stage—the driver and two passengers took after me, kept close up for a hundred rods into the woods, threw off my coat and 'legged it'—the boys kept up for a while, then slackened—looked round and saw one man 'puking blood'—got into the woods, hid under a log, and hid under a log in the woods; ten or a dozen men came close by the log, held my breath and kept still. When all was quiet, pushed on to Londonderry—met a man who told me he 'had seen the horse-thief'—'have you?' says I, 'I should like to get at him and the reward'—rode on all night; laid the horse go loose, and hid in the woods—next day made a coat of a horse blanket and fastened it with bark—next night went back to Chester; saw men watching—hid behind the fence; men passed, talking, forward and back close by; kept quiet—pretty soon a great dog jumped over the fence and saw me, and came up and lapped my face over with his tongue—thought I was a 'gone con' then, but laid still; he soon sneaked off, when I crept into a ditch, laid a while, then got up and by running a circuit got ahead of the men in the road—went on to Landgrove—the next night came to a bridge—saw two men watching, but laid close till they went into the house for refreshment—crossed the bridge and went on to Winhall—stayed in the woods—next night came to a toll-gate where I got some food—had no nourishment for five days previous except milk from cows in the fields and yards.

Went on after this to Arlington—just before I got there I borrowed a few oats at a barn, fed my nag, and turned him loose with a good belly full, and put the saddle and bridle into an old building for future use. The last horse I had taken at Manchester, and the sheriff there having got a handbill from Newport, suspected I must be the thief, and tracked me on to Arlington, where he aroused the village and gave a description of the horse, saddle and me. A fellow told him he had seen a saddle in an old slaughter house, which the sheriff knew to be the one taken from Manchester—they then surrounded a barn, near by where I had hid. I heard the noise and crawled under a beam between the boards and hay, with two feet of hay top of me. Several men came into the barn and I heard 'em 'jabbing' the pitchforks into the hay all round me, but they didn't hit me. By and by a sharp eyed chap outside 'spied me through a crack between the boards, come in and began to 'fork in' right over me—at the first dab he stuck me in the back and sung out 'I've got him!' I grinned and bore it—he stuck me again in the neck and I began to feel the blood pouring down my shoulder. Think's I then, it ain't no use—I'm done for, and so I sung out, 'here we am.' They laid all hands on me and 'scoured' me back to Manchester, where the Vermonters traded me off to the New Hampshire Sheriff for \$150,—and a devilish poor bargain he made I reckon! We came on to Landgrove stage house, pretty well tired all of us—I laid down on the floor, and the sheriff and two stout men close by me, beside two great dogs, which the landlord said would let any body stir in the room without being at their throats—I slept till the clock struck two—I got up and spoke low to the sheriff, who lay next to me—I saw that he and the rest breathed long and deep

—I knew they were tired and must sleep sound. I got up boldly, went to the bar and took a good "nipper" of cider. I then muffled my fetters by drawing my handkerchief through the links, pulled off my boots and took them in my hand; I seized a great coat and the landlord's cap, and made for the door, just as if I had a right to.—The dogs raised up their heads, opened their eyes and mouths, gaped, stretched out, and laid down very cleverly—knowing an honest fellow, like me could be trusted! I went through two doors, which I carefully closed, sat down on the door-step, put on my boots and coat, went to the shed, found an axe, went about twenty rods, cut off my "ankle ornaments," and then I was off about as fast as "shank's mare" ever carried any body, I calculate. I went to a town in the vicinity, that I guess I won't name, as you editors are always blabbing the news. I arrived about two o'clock next night at the house of a man whose name I knew, but to whom I was a stranger. I knocked, and after a while the old fellow came to the door. Says I, "I'm a relation of your wife—my name is H.—I have deserted from the U. S. Army and am pursued. You must hide me for a day or two and give me something to eat." The man woke up the old woman, who told me she was "desperate glad" to see me, but was "awful sorry" I was a deserter—said "she hadn't seen me since I was a little boy in my mam's lap," and I rather guess she did it then if I remember right. I stayed with the good folks a day or two, to whom I am greatly obliged, and was treated quite as well as though I had been a regular blooded cousin. I then pushed for Hudson river, and struck a private ferry a few miles above Lansingburg—knew the sheriffs were waiting for me at Troy. Finding no boat I took a pine log, stripped off my clothes and lashed them on top of it and paddled it across—took passage on the canal near Schenectady for Utica, and stopped at my uncle's a fortnight—went west to Rochester, Canada, &c., returned to Utica, performed several little embellishments in my line, and was arrested upon information obtained from my uncle.—The sheriff took me on Sunday—got away, and hundreds gave chase and caught me.—There is some little difference between absolute liberation in the streets in broad day, and cutting about the Green Mountains—and you know the best of us will miss it sometimes."

Hicks thinks that had the sheriff at Utica, not charged him with assault upon his person, it would have been impossible to commit him upon the proof which existed against him when he was taken. Thousands of characteristic anecdotes are told of him, which show him to be quite an original, tho' a bad one. We saw an unsealed letter to a person in Vermont, imploring him to see that his aged mother did not suffer for the necessities of life, and urging the friend to warn his young brother against those associates who had been the origin of his ruin. We have given up considerable space to the above particulars, which we presume will be interesting to many of our readers.

From the Voice of Freedom.
Your paper of the 6th inst., contains an article from the Emancipator, on the subject of the Vermont Election, in which the Editor, in undertaking to account for the diminished liberty vote, compared with that of last year, is pleased to consider my influence as having been very efficient in producing the result. He refers to my "Connecticut letter" as showing "how zealously I am willing to work to turn the whole current of abolition influence to the support of the Whig party," and copies an article from the Liberty Standard, gravely setting forth "the danger of allowing political partisans to become counsellors in regard to the cause of liberty," and holding up my course as "a warning to abolitionists," and so forth.

The Editors of the Emancipator and Standard give me too much credit for the result, which they so much deplore. I was at Washington from the 1st of December last, until within less than a week previous to our Election, during the whole of which time, I do not recollect that I corresponded with a single abolitionist in this State on the subject of the Election; nor am I able to learn that my "Connecticut letter" has ever been published by more than one newspaper in the State—and that, not an "abolition" paper.

The Editors of whom I speak should give the credit of this result to the good sense of the abolitionists of Vermont, and not to me. The great mass of our abolitionists think that every just purpose of abolition may be better accomplished without, than with a distinct political organization. They think, indeed, that so far as political action is concerned, that action may be rendered more safe and effectual, by incorporating abolition, as far as practicable, into all the parties, & infusing its spirit as occasion may require, into their movements and measures, than by a separate organization, which shall make the abolition of slavery exclusively the object, and leave unregarded, and undecided at the Ballot Box, many great and important questions which must be acted on long before slavery can be abolished.

The abolitionists of this State are mostly "Whigs" in principle, and do not see how they can discharge their duty as freemen, without voting to sustain Whig principles, in opposition to the monstrous combination of Tylerism and Locofocoism which is struggling to rule and ruin the country. They have, moreover, watched the course of the two great parties, and found that the Whig party has manifested a disposition decidedly more favorable to the great object of abolition than the opposite party. They have seen evidence of this in all the votes on the several gag resolutions in Congress. They have seen it in the votes on the questions growing out of the attacks of slavery there, upon its distinguished opponents, Mr. Adams and Mr. Giddings. They have seen it, to a considerable extent, in all the movements in the Legislatures of the free States, touching the subject of slavery.

It is true, they have not seen, nor do they yet see, in the Whigs all they desire to see, in this respect; but they have seen, and do

see much to commend, and much to inspire the hope that the spirit of abolition will be more and yet more, diffused among them, and that it will come, gradually, to exert a more efficient influence upon their political action. And they hope that the effect of this will be, as it has, indeed, been, to some extent, to "provoke to jealousy" the opposite party, and lead those who belong to it, to see the propriety, and duty, of uniting, on all proper occasions, with the Whigs in bearing testimony against slavery—in sustaining the right of petition, and in adopting the measures which the petitions, both to the state and national legislatures, touching the subject of slavery, have prayed for.

They believe that if abolitionists will have the patience and perseverance which the good cause in which they are engaged demands, they will, ere long, see in both the other parties a decided advance towards the point of doing all that can properly be done, in opposition to slavery. And they hope to see, in due time, the whole north, whatever may be its divisions upon other matters, coming to be of one heart and one soul upon the great point of maintaining its rights and interests, in opposition to the slave power, which has so long ruled the country.—They believe that this result will be more surely and more speedily accomplished without that separate organization which, disregarding every thing else but slavery, arrays itself in hostility to every other party, and in hostility peculiarly bitter, against all abolitionists who do not pronounce its Shibboleth, and wear its livery.

In the spirit, and tone, and temper, which strongly characterize the proceedings of that party, and especially in its "breathings out of threatenings and slaughter" against those abolitionists who will not wield its weapons and wear its uniform, they see anything but an omen for good to the cause of abolition,—unless good can be hoped from the strong feelings of repugnance and alienation, which bitter denunciation, will produce in the bosoms of those whose cooperation must be finally obtained, in order to carry forward, to any practical result, the great movement against slavery.

These, as I understood the matter, are some of the reasons which have induced the abolitionists of Vermont to refrain from supporting the third party ticket at the late Election. I might add others, but I forbear, as I did not sit down for the purpose of going fully into the subject—my main purpose being to ask you to publish my "Connecticut letter" (a copy of which I herewith send you) that your readers may see the "head and front of my offending," and possess the means of judging whether I deserve the denunciation which it has brought upon me. It was written when I was in very bad health and presents but a summary and imperfect view of my sentiments upon the third party question.

A word upon another subject. The Editor of the Liberty Standard charges me in the article you have copied, with having voted for "the gag" at the extra session of last year. In your remarks upon it you say—"As to Mr. Slade's course on the gag resolution, he can speak for himself." I accept it, and say—that I voted for no gag resolution, in the sense in which that phrase is usually understood, and in which the Editor of the Liberty Standard evidently intended to have it, understood, and in which the Editor of the Liberty Standard evidently intended to have it understood in his article. The resolution referred to, was to this effect—(I have not the resolution at hand, and cannot, therefore, give its words) that, inasmuch as the Extra Session had been called for special purposes connected with the financial condition of the country, it was not expedient to consume the time in receiving and considering petitions upon other subjects—excepting petitions on the subject of a bankrupt law. The resolution did not single out abolition petitions, but embraced all petitions except those of the description above referred to; and this, from any disregard of the right of petition, but simply from a desire to confine the Extra Session to the urgent business for which it had been called; so that it might be done, and the Session closed, as speedily as possible—leaving the ordinary business of legislation, and the question of slavery among other things to be considered at the regular session which was to follow. The whole matter was very appropriately treated as a court of justice would dispose of its business at a special session, held for the purpose of trying a particular cause.

I have never claimed, and do not now claim, nor do I understand any body to claim, that abolition petitions shall be treated with any more favor than other petitions. In the resolution for which I voted, they were treated just like other petitions, excepting those connected with the special business of the Extra Session, and, for obvious reasons, the bankrupt question. What more than this can any reasonable abolitionist want? Nothing it seems to me. And yet I am charged, in the name of abolition, with having voted for "the gag!"

I have "answered for myself." Let my fellow citizens judge between me and my accusers.

Yours in the cause of Liberty and Truth,
WILLIAM SLADE.
Middlebury, Oct. 12, 1842.

[As the "Connecticut letter" alluded to above, was published in our paper last August, we presume most of our readers have not forgotten it—therefore we omit publishing it in connexion with the above letter.—Phœnix.]

Reputation of a Tyler member of Congress. The Locos of Otsego county have refused to re-nominate Mr. Bowne, their late representative in Congress. We rejoice at this result, and in no spirit of party malevolence. Mr. Bowne is, in every form and phrase in which he can be presented to the public, a knavish politician. He sold himself, like Mephistophiles, to Mr. Tyler, and those who owned him before have now cast him off. This is even handed justice.—N. Y. Express.

Vermont Phoenix.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1842.

Mr. Editor.—Article 10th of the proposed amendments to the Constitution provides that all future amendments shall be referred directly to the people, for their adoption or rejection by vote in town meeting. The vote to be by ballot. Ballots to be provided for and against each amendment proposed; so that it will be no greater trouble or expense, to go to the polls and vote yes or no on the proposed amendments, than it would be to go and vote for a delegate to the Convention. This is a decided improvement upon the present system as delegates are liable to vote on the amendments contrary to the will of their constituents. In addition to this the expense of a Convention, once in seven years, would be saved by the adoption of this amendment. A saving to the taxpayers of the State of at least \$5000, for a service which the freemen themselves can perform better and more to their own liking, without the additional expense of a single cent. Moreover, if future councils of Censors should adopt the more equitable principle of equal representation in the Conventions called by them, the number of members would be greatly increased and the expense increased in proportion. There are about 240 organized towns in the State,—forty of these towns have less than five hundred inhabitants each, and less than three hundred each on an average. Now suppose future councils of Censors should, (as they probably will if this amendment is not adopted) adopt the principle of equalizing the representation in the Conventions they may call; giving these forty small towns one delegate each, and all the larger towns a number of delegates each, nearly in proportion, according to population. This would give us a Convention of over five hundred members and increase the expense to about \$10,000.

The remedy for the present inequality and all this unnecessary and worse than useless expense, is to adopt the amendment now proposed referring all future amendments to the people and thereby do away Conventions altogether. But there are other weighty considerations, which should determine the freemen to adopt this amendment. The Constitution is the supreme law of the State. It defines the rights and duties of the freemen; limits the powers of the Legislature and all other departments of the government—fixes bounds to the powers of all public functionaries, which when exceeded by them, make their acts null and void—mere usurpation. It is therefore of the highest importance that its principles should be thoroughly understood by every freeman so as to enable him to detect at once, all infringements of his Constitutional rights by any and every department and officer of the Government. And hence the necessity of adopting this amendment, that the subject may be brought up and discussed once in seven years by the people in their private circles, in their primary assemblies and in the newspapers, as it assuredly would be, if the freemen should be called upon to act in convention upon amendments to the Constitution. Equality of rights, the dignity and interests of the freemen, the welfare of the rising generation and of future posterity, all imperiously require that we embrace the present opportunity to take the right of deciding on all future amendments to the Constitution into our own hands. It is well said in the Address of the council of Censors, that "a right so vitally important, which can with so little inconvenience, be exercised by the freemen themselves, should never be entrusted to others." The Convention, the members of which are to be elected on the 15th instant, is to consist of one delegate from each organized town in the State; so that the forty small towns above referred to, with less than twelve thousand inhabitants will exercise the same power over the amendments to be acted upon by the Convention, as forty other towns in the State with a population of over ninety-one thousand. Yet such is the corrupting influence of unjust power upon its possessors, that there is reason to fear that the delegates from these small towns will oppose this amendment and refuse to restore to the great body of the freemen their equal rights on this most important of all political subjects. Let me put the question to every intelligent freeman—whether this unjust, unequal, expensive, rotten-borough system of amending the Constitution ought longer to be tolerated?—Whether it is not our duty to seize upon the present opportunity, and make a strenuous effort to elect delegates to the Convention who are pledged to use every honorable effort to secure the adoption of this amendment of the Constitution?

If it should be objected that this same amendment was proposed seven years ago and negatived by a very large majority of the Convention—still, it should be recollected that the question of a Senate at that time swallowed up every thing else. The friends and the opponents of a Senate were so much engrossed with that subject, that the other amendments, received little or no consideration from the people at the Convention.—The fact therefore that this amendment has been proposed by two successive Councils of Censors is an argument in favor of its adoption at this time, notwithstanding it was rejected by the convention in 1836.

EQUAL RIGHTS.
Use's Dictionary of Arts, Manufactures and Mines. The 18th and 19th Numbers of this learned work have been received. It is published by D. Appleton & Co. No. 200 Broadway, N. York.

Those persons who are in favor of establishing a Lyceum in this Village, are requested to meet at Mr Bradley's Office this (Thursday) evening at 7 o'clock.

A Free Library for Girls has been established in Philadelphia. It is the first of the kind on this Continent, and promises the happiest results.

How to Move a Horse.—The Pittsburg Post says—"In Peru a knot is tied in the horse's tail, into which the lady introduces her foot as into a stirrup. Rather a dangerous fashion we should think, but perhaps Peruvian horses are taught not to kick."

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS.

The reader will observe, in the legislative proceedings, that the House has settled upon the mode of districting the State. We give the districts, with the population of 1840, and the vote of 1841:

Counties.	Population.	FIRST DISTRICT.		
		Whig.	Loco.	3d Party.
Windham,	27,442	2,515	1,776	229
Bennington,	16,872	1,552	1,555	136
Rutland,	36,699	2,716	1,752	417
	75,013	6,833	5,083	782
SECOND DISTRICT.				
Windsor,	40,356	3,305	2,371	643
Orange,	27,873	2,200	2,735	427
	68,229	5,505	5,106	1,070
THIRD DISTRICT.				
Addison,	25,583	2,607	1,046	185
Chittenden,	22,977	1,815	1,762	135
Franklin,	21,531	1,734	1,483	175
Grand Isle,	5,853	257	184	3
	74,974	5,393	4,415	399
FOURTH DISTRICT.				
Washington,	23,546	1,330	2,505	281
Caledonia,	21,291	1,774	2,085	192
Essex,	4,285	352	419	3
Orleans,	13,624	1,118	1,610	131
Lamoille,	10,475	522	1,110	233
	73,221	5,335	7,189	740

As to population, this division is certainly as equal as could be made without dividing one or more counties; while as to a division of political power it is to say the least, very nearly just to all parties. One district (our own) is strongly enough loaded in all conscience, while the other three are probably Whig,—though in one of them, in 1841, the Whigs had not a majority, and in another but a small majority. Had the Whigs conceded more, they would have given half the delegation to their opponents, while the State has a clear and decisive majority against them. To this, we fancy the Whigs never would consent; and this, no right-minded man of the opposite party would ever ask. The majority have a right to insist upon having a controlling voice: it is in strict accordance with the first principle of our own government, and none but a spurious democracy will gainsay it. Yet, had anything more been conceded, than is conceded by the Whigs in this bill, Vermont would have no voice in the House; her votes would have been equally divided, and with a decisive majority of one party in the State, the State itself would be to all practical purposes disfranchised.

Montpelier Watchman.

WHIG STATE CONVENTION.

At a Whig State Convention held at the old Court House, in Montpelier, on Wednesday the second day of November, 1842, Hon. DANIEL M. CAMP was called to the chair, and E. P. WALTON, J. M. FAIRBANKS and EDWARD A. STANBURY were appointed Secretaries.

On motion of Hon. E. N. Briggs a committee of one from each county was appointed to make a nomination of State Central Committee:

Bennington,	Mr. Canfield.
Windham,	Mr. Townsley.
Rutland,	Mr. Kellogg.
Windsor,	Mr. Porter.
Addison,	Mr. Warner.
Orange,	Mr. C. Carpenter.
Chittenden,	Mr. Boardman.
Washington,	Mr. Jones.
Caledonia,	Mr. Chamberlin.
Grand Isle,	Mr. Sowers.
Franklin,	Mr. Eaton.
Mamouille,	Mr. Bailey.
Orleans,	Mr. Prentiss.
Essex,	Mr. Brooks.

The delegates of the several counties make a nomination of a County Committee for each county, and report to this Convention.

On motion of Mr. Fairbanks, Resolved, That when this Convention adjourns it adjourn to meet at this place on Monday evening next.

On motion of Mr. Fairbanks, it was Resolved, That the chairman of the several County Committees, within each Congressional District, constitute together the District Committee for such district.

On motion of Mr. Stanbury, a committee was appointed to prepare and report resolutions to the adjourned meeting on Monday evening.

The chair appointed as such committee Messrs. D. W. C. Clarke, E. P. Walton Jr., Shaffer, Fairbanks, Briggs, S. L. Billings, Lyman, E. P. Walton Jr., Tracy, and Milton Brown.

The Convention adjourned.

D. M. CAMP, President.
E. P. WALTON JR., Secretary.

THE ASYLUM JOURNAL.

Our Village has witnessed the past week the appearance of a new publication under the above title, and we accept it by a perusal of it that it is to be printed and edited by the inmates of the Asylum. Judging from the first number, it will undoubtedly not only be a valuable means of imparting information relative to the many forms of the disease of insanity, and the various modes of treatment through the world, but will afford a channel of relief to the teeming minds that are now suffering from its fearful visitations. It is asserted by medical authors that this disease so far from paralyzing or enervating the mental powers, not unfrequently invigorates and adds brilliancy to the exercise of them; and that a peculiar firmness of sensibility, almost inseparable from disease, is the most essential constituent of Genius. If such be the fact, (and who that has searched the records of the infirmities of Genesius can doubt it?) we may expect from the Asylum Journal such emanations as will not merely gratify the idle curiosity, but regulate the intellect, enlist the best sympathies of our nature, and illustrate the fact, that where our Heavenly Father administers his painful discipline, he accompanies the affliction with more alleviating compensations than we are led to imagine from a careless survey of the evils of society.

We trust this interesting paper may be encouraged by the liberality of our citizens, for we feel the Hospital to be a benefit to the Village in more ways than one; as it not only affords a channel of relief to the minds of alleviating a fearful disease, but it provides a market for much of the substance that might otherwise remain unconsumed. Its humane Physician is devoting all his energies to its firm establishment and just administration, and surely when opportunity occurs, we as a people ought to contribute our portion to the same object, either by kind effort or liberal subscription. We can give the paper a wide circulation, and the proceeds over and above the expenses of printing will be devoted to the double purpose of poverty and disease. Here, then we have an opportunity, and by a very trifling effort, for the gift of reason and our willingness to alleviate the misfortunes of those who are deprived of it, we would that men should do unto you—do even so to them.

Legislature of Vermont.

Monday, Oct. 31, 1842.

SENATE.—Bill, Abolishing capital punishment, taken up, when Mr. Butler went into the merits of the question, and in favor of the bill, and addressed the Senate at great length. He took the ground that the sentences are opposed to capital punishment, that, having no right to take our own lives we have no right, as individuals or as governments, to take the lives of others; the even admitting we have the right, there is no necessity of exercising it—the safety of the community could be secured with less expense, by confinement for life, than by public execution; that it was the certain not the severity of punishment, which secured the safety and promoted the morals of the community. If evidence of this was wanting, it was to be found in the histories of those governments where capital punishment had long been abolished. Another serious objection to capital punishment was found in the painful fact that the innocent frequently suffered, while the guilty escaped. In illustration of the position Mr. B. introduced a number of affecting cases in different parts of our country, and the case of the Bourns in our own state. Mr. Starr, one of the committee who reported the bill, being opposed to its provisions, replied to the argument of Mr. B., taking the ground that the author of human life had the right, and had conferred the authority and imposed the duty upon human government to take life for the commission of murder, allying and quoting scripture in illustration of the position—that not only the divine authority commanded it, but the safety of the community, and the preservation of human life, requested it. Mr. Briggs followed Mr. Starr in a few pertinent remarks upon the magnitude and solemnity of the subject in debate. He did not assent to the position taken by Mr. B., that the opponents of the bill were to furnish the arguments for not passing a bill. The duty devolved upon the friends of the bill to show the reasons for so great an innovation upon the system of criminal jurisprudence from the earliest ages to the present time. He feared that the abolition of capital punishment would remove one of the greatest restraints upon the commission of murder; besides, if we had not the right to inflict capital punishment, it might be questioned whether we had the right to deprive the offender of liberty, and consign him to imprisonment, thus taking his life by piece-meal. After further remarks by Mr. B., the bill was laid upon the table.

HOUSE.—Engrossed bill. Senate bill in addition to act for the benefit of the insane poor, and it was passed.

Bills. In addition to chap. 18 of R. S. (authorizing selection to borrow, for the use of the towns, portions of the surplus revenue;) read a third time and passed. Surveying and ascertaining the boundary line between the counties of Windham and Bennington; supported in debate by Messrs. Townsley, Barret, Plumb, Dutton and Starr, opposed by Messrs. Briggs, Camp, and Eaton, and rejected, yeas 11, nays 13.

Capital Punishment. Mr. Pettibone called up the bill to abolish capital punishment, and its passage was supported by Messrs. Baker, Pettibone, Cobb of S. Davis, N. Stark, Barton and Robbins, opposed by Messrs. Canfield, Niles and Noyes, and dismissed, yeas 11, nays 94.

Congressional Districts. Mr. Pettibone called up the bill to abolish capital punishment, and its passage was supported by Messrs. Baker, Pettibone, Cobb of S. Davis, N. Stark, Barton and Robbins, opposed by Messrs. Canfield, Niles and Noyes, and dismissed, yeas 11, nays 94.

Adj. Tuesday, Nov. 1.

SENATE.—Mr. Allen moved the reconsideration of the vote of yesterday, rejecting the bill to ascertain the line between the counties of Bennington and Windham; vote reconsidered, and the bill laid upon the table.

Congressional Districts. Mr. Wardner moved to lay the bill on the table; negatived.

The bill was then ordered to a third reading, 117 to 80.

SENATE.—Bills for surveying and ascertaining the line between the counties of Windham and Bennington; called up and ordered to be engrossed.

HOUSE.—Engrossed Bill.—In amendment of chap. 97 R. S. (no officer in charge of a jury to speak to them, except to ask if they are agreed;) passed.

SENATE.—Bill.—In addition to chap. 20 of R. S., relating to bridges and the duties of road commissioners, reported by Mr. Smalley, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

HOUSE.—Engrossed Bill.—To divide the State into Congressional districts; Mr. Harrington moved that the bill be dismissed—Mr. Harrington supported the motion, objecting that the division was unequal and unjust as to population, and he deemed it inconsistent with the apportionment bill of Congress. Mr. Vilas again stated his objections, and in allusion to the remarks of Mr. Canfield yesterday, denied that New York had been gerrymandered, and asserted that Massachusetts had been. Mr. Sprague disavowed all party views in his course on this bill; he supported it because he believed it was the best which could be agreed upon. The discussion was continued by Messrs. Canfield, Woodbridge, Warner and Van Sicken, for the bill, and Messrs. Vilas, Harrington and Pettibone, against, when the bill passed, yeas, 123, nays 92.

Wednesday, Nov. 2.

SENATE.—Bill.—In addition to chap. 20 of R. S., relating to bridges and the duties of road commissioners, reported by Mr. Smalley, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

HOUSE.—Engrossed Bill.—To divide the State into Congressional districts; Mr. Harrington moved that the bill be dismissed—Mr. Harrington supported the motion, objecting that the division was unequal and unjust as to population, and he deemed it inconsistent with the apportionment bill of Congress. Mr. Vilas again stated his objections, and in allusion to the remarks of Mr. Canfield yesterday, denied that New York had been gerrymandered, and asserted that Massachusetts had been. Mr. Sprague disavowed all party views in his course on this bill; he supported it because he believed it was the best which could be agreed upon. The discussion was continued by Messrs. Canfield, Woodbridge, Warner and Van Sicken, for the bill, and Messrs. Vilas, Harrington and Pettibone, against, when the bill passed, yeas, 123, nays 92.

Thursday, Nov. 3.

SENATE.—Report.—Of com. on Military Affairs, of a resolution in favor of asking from the General government the payment to this State of the sums expended during the late border difficulties in all amounting to \$1,694; resolution passed.

HOUSE.—Engrossed Bill.—In amendment of chap. 97 R. S. (no officer in charge of a jury to speak to them, except to ask if they are agreed;) passed.

SENATE.—Bill.—In addition to chap. 20 of R. S., relating to bridges and the duties of road commissioners, reported by Mr. Smalley, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

HOUSE.—Engrossed Bill.—To divide the State into Congressional districts; Mr. Harrington moved that the bill be dismissed—Mr. Harrington supported the motion, objecting that the division was unequal and unjust as to population, and he deemed it inconsistent with the apportionment bill of Congress. Mr. Vilas again stated his objections, and in allusion to the remarks of Mr. Canfield yesterday, denied that New York had been gerrymandered, and asserted that Massachusetts had been. Mr. Sprague disavowed all party views in his course on this bill; he supported it because he believed it was the best which could be agreed upon. The discussion was continued by Messrs. Canfield, Woodbridge, Warner and Van Sicken, for the bill, and Messrs. Vilas, Harrington and Pettibone, against, when the bill passed, yeas, 123, nays 92.