

The Chancellor told the truth for once. The office-holders have had as good a time in the Treasury as so many cats in a cupboard.—*L. Journ*

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WASHINGTON Dec. 15.

The House of Representatives, after more than a week's delay, have at last turned their attention to the President's annual message. It was taken up this morning, in Committee of the Whole, for the purpose of reference to the different Standing Committees; and then gave rise to an exceedingly interesting and animated debate.

It is very manifest, from this day's proceedings, that the opposition members of Congress have the fullest sense of the responsibility and dignity of their position. It is their part now to endeavor to give a still more elevated tone to the feelings of the people—a more defined aim to the general desire for improvement and true reform—a distinct expression to the great principles which unite all patriots in resisting the designs of the Experimenters and Spoils-men. The reference of the different parts of the message affords a proper occasion for accomplishing these purposes; and I rejoice to inform your readers that it was seized upon with eager energy, and so improved, that if the discussion is continued with the same spirit and effect with which it has been begun, it will have no small influence in deciding the fate of this administration. This discussion, so far as the Opposition take part in it, will embody they *desires* and the *determinations* of the people, in regard to both the *measures* and the *agents* of *THEIR* *government*. They will tell *WHY* the country will no longer endure the misrule of "the party;" and in bold, manly language of freemen, speaking with the voice, and armed with the authority of a free people, they will remind the Executive that he holds the place, to which he has been elevated, for the *common good*; that it befits not the President of the United States, to lend his authority to the selfish purposes of a faction; that he *does hear* the reply to his appeal to public sentiment, in the decisions at the recent elections: and that if he should at this time have an opportunity of renewing his appeal in federal elections notwithstanding the accused enginery of electioneering demoralization which he and his myrmidons may bring to bear upon the weakness of some classes and the dependence and fear of others he would find the spirit of American people aroused to such a manifestation of determined principle and resistless power as would sweep the corrupt faction and oligarchy of officeholders from the places they have disgraced and where they brought only mischief and discredit on the country. The battle was begun on the motion to refer that portion of the President's Message relating to the finances and the safe-keeping of the public money to the Committee of Ways and Means. When this point was reached in the series of resolutions offered by the new and aspiring Captain of the train bands, [Haynes of Georgia]; Mr. Wise and Mr. Cambrelong rose at the same time. The latter first caught the eye of Mr. Adams who was in the chair. He suggested to M. Haynes, a modification, so as to refer all the Message relating to the re-issuing of the old notes of the Bank of the United States, to the Committee on the Judiciary; which was concurred in by Mr. Haynes.

Mr. Wise then obtained the floor; and in an admirable speech, full of

point and spirit, made a vigorous assault on the Message—the general financial policy of the government—and on the committee of Ways and Means. Mr. Wise he cared nothing at all about Cambrelong's modification. He objected the proposed reference *in toto*. And he went at large into his reasons. In the course of his remarks he touched with biting sarcasm on the *politic* devotion of feeling assumed in the opening of the Message. He then took a rapid view of the condition of the country at the beginning of the Extra Session and drew the attention of the House to the remedies which the Administration proposed for the accumulated mischiefs which had been brought upon the people—that sovereign panacea—the Sub-Treasury System—more patronage and power for the Executive—collecting the public dues in specie—taxing the people to procure gold and silver—giving the people rags—and paying the public officers in specie—the divorce of the government from banks—and the placing the safe-keeping of the public monies in the hands of men appointed by the Executive, and removable at his pleasure. These were the remedial measures offered to a distressed people! They were passed by an *HUMBLE, DISARMED, EXPUNGING SENATE*: and sent down to the House. Here, however, they met their fate—They were laid low, by the public virtue of the House, *NEVER TO RISE AGAIN!*

Mr. Wise demanded of the party, to say, whether the People had not sustained the course of the House? Have you not been *INSTRUCTED*? said he. If not, what means that shout of triumph? that roar of artillery?—the jubilant strain that have fallen upon our ears? Sir, said he, they are the rejoicings of the People, who, a short time ago, were in sackcloth and ashes, but who now see the day of their deliverance at hand.

"Will not the President yield?" he proceeded to ask. "Will he not obey the supreme will? He *professes* to comply with public sentiment,—but does he relent? No! he hurls back in our faces his impudent petition for power and patronage which the People have rejected and scorned and trampled in the dust?"

I have not time nor room to dwell upon the caustic and successful manner in which the distinguished Virginian exposed the *trickery* of the Message—its miserable attempt to draw public attention from the great question of finance and raise false issues; the offering of that poor boon the special deposit system as a ground of *compromise*—when every man must see that it is liable to all the objections which have been established against the Sub-Treasury System—and the effort to give the impression that all other system of finance had been condemned at the last session while the Sub-Treasury scheme was only postponed.

Mr. Wise averred with entire truth and challenged denial that had a *direct vote* been taken upon the Sub-Treasury Bill that pernicious measure would have been rejected by a majority of *NINE* at least. This shows how futile—how ridiculous is the pretence of the Message that the measure was only *put off*.

This intrepid and eloquent representative then commented upon the reasons of the President for persisting in the second recommendation of the Sub-Treasury System. All the Executive's arguments resolve themselves into the two positions that the system is now in *beautiful* operation! (in despite of Congress remember) and that the public will though decidedly against the scheme has been *blessed*

by money. Mr. Wise dwelt on the latter point with great force—the foul and most atrocious libel that the people who opposed him and his contemptible financial schemes must have been bribed?—corrupted by so many millions of banking capital.

And truly Mr. Editor this cry of the President of the spoils of men about bribery and corruption only shows how bronzed are their foreheads. It reminds me of an anecdote of Sheridan. An acquaintance who had a son of no great repute for honesty meeting the wit one day asked him, "have you heard of my son's robbery?"—"No," replied Sheridan, "I have not heard of your son's robbery, and do pray tell me who it is that he has robbed!" The clamor of the administration party invites a question quite as ugly.

Mr. Wise concluded by declaring his opposition to the proposed reference to the Committee of Ways and Means because the majority of that Committee were *committed* to follow the lead of the President. Six out of the nine members he said were *Loco Focos*—*DESTRUCTIVES*—pledged advocates of the *DIVORCE*. He wanted a free and fair Committee: not a set of men with whom the principle consideration will be how *they may best accord with the will of the President*.

The debate was continued with point by Mr. Reed, of Mass. who made an admirable speech. Mr. Hayns, of Ga made a poor figure in reply to Mr. Wise; Boon, of Indiana, attempted to rescue the new leader—but his colleague, Mr. Owing, gave him a severe rap over the knuckles for his pains.

Duncan of Cincinnati, the forlorn hope of the party, rose to speak; but Cambrelong thinking his forces already sufficiently beaten, black and blue induced him to postpone his speech to another day, and moved that the Committee rise, which motion was agreed to.

Before the House adjourned Mr. Adams moved that the use of the Hall be given to the Rev. Mr. Wolfe tomorrow who will deliver an address at eleven o'clock. The remarks of Mr. Adams on making this request were eminently beautiful and eloquent and highly complimentary to the Reverend Missionary. The request was granted. *D.*

The Abolitionist and Van Buren Loco Focos appear to hang well together. They have lately instituted a "*specie currency*" of copper, of which the following is a description: On one side is a negro woman, kneeling, in chains, surrounded by the motto, "Am I not a woman and a sister?" On the other, a wreath, with "Liberty, 1838," and "United States of America."—These pieces are calculated to produce much mischief, and we advise all to be on their guard, as the probability is they are intended to circulate in the slave States.

*Columbus (Mis.) Argus.*

An Indiana paper states that a white female was lately discovered among the Indians in that State who had been stolen by them 60 years ago, when she was only five years old. She was visited by two brothers and a sister who recognized her by marks on her body; but no entreaty could induce her to quit the savage life and accompany her relatives. She had been married to a Miami chief who died and left her with seven children. She had forgotten her mother tongue, and conversed with the visitors by an interpreter.—*C. Gaz.*

*ARREST.*—We understand that a captain of a vessel from James river bound to Boston, was arrested in Hampton on Tuesday evening last,

having a negro man from James county on board of his vessel, captain and negro were both committed to Jail.—*Norfolk Beacon.*

ULTIMATE DISSOLUTION OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM,

The idea of the ultimate dissolution of the solar system has usually been felt as painful and forcibly resisted by philosophers. When Newton alluded to the deranging effect of the common planetary perturbations he referred to the special interference of the mighty to avert the catastrophe: great was the rejoicing when the eminent analyst described a memorial power of conservation in our system constituent phenomena; but after why should it be painful? Absorption is visible nowhere around us; and the fact of change intimates that in the exhausted womb of the future unevolved worlds are in store. The phenomenon referred to would simply point to the close of one mighty cycle in the history of the solar orb—the passing of arrangements which have fulfilled their objects that they might be transformed into new—Thus is the period of a plant perhaps the essential date of its prolonged life; and when the individual dies and disappears fresh vigorous forms spring from the elements which composed it. Mark chrysalis! It is the grave of the worm but the cradle of the unborn insect. The broken bowl will yet be beautiful by the potter and a voice of joyful note will awaken one even the silence of the dayrune. What though all should pass? What though the close of this epoch in history of the solar orb should be accompanied as some by a strange fondness have imagined by the dissolution and disappearance of all the shining spheres! Then would the universe not have failed in its function but only been gathered up and re-edited away those functions being complete.

That gorgeous material framework wherewith the Eternal bath adorned and varied the abysses of space is an instrument by which the myriad of spirits borne upon its orb may be told of their origin and educated to more exalted being; and a time will come when the veil can be drawn aside—when spirit shall converse directly with spirit and the creature gaze without hindrance on the effulgent face of its Creator; but even then—no not in that manhood or firm maturity of being, will our fretful vault be forgotten or its pure inhabitants permitted to drop away. The reality may have passed, but their remembrance will live forever. The tenderer and more hallowed, that the grave has enclosed and embalmed their objects: and no height of excellence, no extent of future greatness will ever obscure the vividness of the frail but loved infancy in which, we walked upon this bounteous earth and fondly gazed upon these far-off orbs, deeming that they whispered from their bright abodes the tidings of man's immortal destiny!—*Nichol's architecture of the Heavens.*

Donna Mariah, the Queen of Portugal, has been blessed with an heir to her throne. The Royal baby has been named Don Pedro d'Alcantara Mariah, Fernando, Miguel, Rafael, Gabriel, Gonzaga, Xavier, Joab, Antonio, Leopold, Victor, Francisco d'Asse, Julio, Amelio, Saxe Coburg Gotha, de Branganxa, Bourbon.

*A hint to the Clergy.*—Dr. South says that many a man runs his head against a pulpit who might have done his country excellent service at the plough tail.

The whigs are mad with joy. *Gl.*