

There are in the Halls of Congress between two and three hundred individuals to most of whom habit has rendered the use of the pen natural—to many of them almost necessary. How little employment they have for the faculty of composition, in their daily vocation of legislators, our readers can imagine, if they for a moment compare the results of the labors of Congress with the great aggregation of knowledge and talent in the two Houses. It is not surprising, therefore, that the members of Congress communicate freely and fully with their friends at home, not that, in such letters of theirs as find their way to the press, we find frequently views of public affairs quite as attractive as those which are taken within the walls of the Capitol.

There are, besides, a number of gentlemen, of various talents, some visitors, others resident, at Washington, whose exclusive occupation it is to communicate by letter with the leading public journals all over the country; a duty which appears to be discharged with much industry and general ability. A telegraphic intercourse is thus established along the whole line of cities and towns from Bangor to New Orleans, and across the country from the Chesapeake Bay to the waters of the Upper Mississippi. The number of journals having regular correspondents at Washington scarce falls short of a hundred.

It will be obvious, upon reflection, that the cooperation of so many minds and hands in the same labor, must put forth a flood of intelligence such as to throw into the shade the light that can be emitted by any single press in the city of Washington, which labors under the disadvantage moreover, in competition with letter writers, of being obliged to put into printed form all its contents before they can enter into the mail in company with the missives from correspondents at Washington. The reporters for the Washington papers lie under another disadvantage, also, which, not desiring here to be drawn into a dissertation on reporting, we will barely allude to: they are known and to a certain extent, at least, responsible and accountable for what they report; whilst letter-writers, if they make mistakes, or what would be perhaps quite as offensive, if they report too exactly, are in a situation to bear with composure exhibitions of wounded pride or irritated sensibility, excited by their delineations and narrations.

Hence happens that the Letters from Washington furnish, in fact, much more spirited representations of scenes at the Capital than can be supplied by those whose duty obliges them to aim rather at an accurate chronicle of facts than at picturesque views of things.

There are occasionally, however, articles furnished by the Washington correspondents of distant papers, which are the fruit of more laborious thought or industrious research than the daily reports; and from the perusal of which we draw as much instruction as we do of amusement from others. Of this description we have just met with the following in the Boston Daily Advertiser, containing an excellent view of the business before Congress. It appears to us to be in the main accurate in its statements, and reasonable in its opinions. We copy it, because we believe it will be acceptable, and may be useful to our readers.

Nat Int.

FROM THE REGULAR CORRESPONDENT OF THE BOSTON DAILY ADVERTISER.

Washington, Feb 20, 1835.

Now that all apprehension of a war with France is at an end, and no disturbing cause exists in our foreign relations to affect materially the deliberations of Congress, it may seem a fitting time to give you a view of the measures which have been or will be agitated in this body during the present session.

1. Foremost among them, and on the very surface of things, is the abolition question. This comes up in three shapes: First, in the presentation of petitions respecting slavery and the slave trade in the District; secondly, in bills, reported or to be reported, for the regulation of the mail and the exclusion from it of incendiary publications, so called; and lastly, on the report to be made by the committee named under Mr. Pickney's resolution.

2. Next is the lost fortification bill, discussed in the Senate on Mr. Benton's resolutions, and in the House upon that of Mr. Adams. Who debate in the Senate is at an end, but that in the House is not. It waits its turn, to be renewed when other business shall give it place.

Both of these subjects are political and partisan, more or less, in their bearings, and in the views taken of them by many of those who have engaged in the debate.

3. Thirdly, the appropriation bills, which upon discussions all the policy of the Government, and all the interests of the country, foreign and domestic. Very large appropriations, for the contingent possibility of war, were contemplated by the Administration a few weeks ago; but all such ideas are now abandoned, and Congress will be divided upon this subject into two sections, not distributed precisely according to party lines, one side demanding liberal peace appropriations for the Navy and for fortifications, and the other advocating a rigorous and jealous curtailment of all such expenditures.

4. The Patronage bill. This has passed the Senate, and is now in the House, waiting to be committed. The tendency

of this bill is to diminish the power exerted by the Executive through the means of appointments to offices of profit under the Government of the United States. It will draw into discussion all the measures and principles of the present Administration.

5. The Post Office bill, already reported in the House, which provides for a complete reorganization of the Post Office Department, and is a measure of great public importance.

6. Mr. Clay's bill for distributing the proceeds of the public lands ratably among the States which has heretofore passed both Houses, and been vetoed by the President, and is now again under consideration in the Senate.

7. The Ohio and Michigan Boundary, which is a subject upon which the States of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, as well as the Territory of Michigan, are extremely sensitive, and upon which there will be prolonged and very earnest debate.

8 and 9. The admission of Michigan and Arkansas into the Union. How much question these two subjects will occasion, I know not. They are, it is evident, things of great consequence to the whole country. If both enter the Union together, they will maintain, as it is, the equal balance of the slaveholding and non-slaveholding States in the Senate.

10. Various plans are in contemplation for extending the Pension system, especially one to embrace within it the widows of officers of the Revolutionary Army, and another to give pensions to soldiers in the West who served in the Indian wars consequent on the Revolution.

11. The Custom House Regulation bill. This subject is now in the hands of the Committee on Commerce of the House. They contemplate a thorough revision of the whole system of compensation to the officers of the customs, providing fixed salaries in the place of fees and perquisites.

12. The Judiciary bill, which has passed the Senate now for the second time, but has not been acted upon in the House.

13. Claims for French Spoliations prior to 1800. Between two and three hundred memorials on this subject have been referred in the House to the committee on Foreign Affairs, who have the subject under consideration. What the issue will be I cannot say.

14 and 15. The Land Office, and Patent Office. These branches of the public service require to be revised and extended, and will receive more or less attention from the present Congress, with a view to improvements in their organization.

But enough. I might augment this list by the specification of many other things of local or temporary interest, or of minor importance, which are in the hands of committees, or on the course of discussion, in one or the other branch of Congress. But I think you will be satisfied that, what I have now suggested to you, there is ample matter for a session of six or seven months, which will roll away, I doubt not, leaving many things undone and many overdone. And if to the subjects already mentioned, public or private, national or local, you add the ever present question of the Presidency, coloring all the proceedings of Congress—the conflicting interests and passions of the members, and the stirring debates in the Senate and the House, you will have some idea of the multiplicity of objects of thought and business which are concentrated in the precincts of the Capitol.

GEN. WILLIAM EATON—Among the bills ordered to be engrossed for a third reading in the Senate a few days ago, was a bill for the benefit of the heirs of the late General William Eaton. In looking into the bill, we perceive that it makes allowance to General Eaton's heirs for his great and almost romantic services on the Barbary coast, by paying him according to his real rank, and compensating him for his actual losses. Thus after a lapse of many years, the Republic is showing itself grateful to a chivalrous and meritorious officer, who was supposed, at the time to have received hard treatment from his own Government. We understand that the vote was unanimous in the Senate and we subjoin the brief report from the Committee on Military Affairs, by Col. Benton, which presents a rapid view of Gen. Eaton's merits and services.—*Globe*.

Mr. BENTON made the following report:

The Committee on Military Affairs, to whom was referred the petition of the heirs of General William Eaton, report:

That, having carefully examined the contents of the petition, and compared its statements with the official correspondence and public documents of the period to which it relates, they find the history of Gen. Eaton's services on the Barbary coast correctly set forth, and refer to that petition for the principal facts necessary to be known to the Senate. From these facts, it appears that General Eaton had the merit of planning, organizing, and leading the expedition to Derne, which had the immediate effect of compelling a peace, by which the future degradation of tribute was avoided, a demand of ransom of two hundred thousand

dollars reduced to sixty thousand dollars, the four hundred captives, including the crew of the Philadelphia, immediately set at liberty, and a regulation agreed upon, by which future American prisoners were to be exchanged as prisoners of war and not ransomed as captives.* These were the positive advantages immediately accruing to the United States from the heroic enterprise and success of General Eaton, and probably would have been far greater, if the peace with the reigning bashaw of Tripoli had not been precipitated by the negotiator without communicating with General Eaton. But there was another advantage which did result, and the value of which is above calculation; it was to show to the Barbary powers that there was another way, besides ransom, to relieve Americans from Tripolitan dungeons—it was to go and cut them out with the sword.

At the moment when the success of Derne produced these great results, and promised still greater, in the immediate march upon Tripoli, the overthrow of the reigning bashaw, and the establishment of solid peace upon our own terms, General Eaton was required to abandon his expedition, and to come on board the United States frigate Constitution. The embarkation of his Christian followers, of Hamet Caramalli and his principal friends had to be effected by stratagem, at midnight, and with the loss of every thing to escape the rage and vengeance of the deserted Arab troops, and of the inhabitants who had been induced to revolt against the reigning bashaw.

For all these services and losses General Eaton received the pay of consul, or navy agent, at the rate of one hundred dollars a month, and six to eight rations per day. The committee are of opinion that he ought to be paid as a general commanding, and compensated for his losses, and report a bill accordingly.

*American State papers, folio, vol. ii, p. 715.

†American State papers, folio, vol. ii, p. 715.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

IN SENATE—Feb 15, 1835.

Mr. Baker, this morning, from the committee appointed by the Senate, in pursuance of a resolution to inquire into and report the facts connected with an alleged attempt to corrupt the integrity, and influence the vote of Jacob Krebs, Esq. reported:

That in the discharge of the duties assigned him, they have examined under oath, Jacob Krebs, Esq. Bord Patterson, Esq. and Jediah Irish, Esq. and received voluntary statements from Henry W. Conrad, Esq. and L. Dunn, Esq. the result of which is a perfect conviction in their minds, that neither the Bank of the United States, nor any agent for it IN THE REMOVEST DEGREE, are implicated in the charges made by Jacob Krebs, Esq. before the Senate on the 10th inst. and that so far as the examination of testimony has gone, the committee are satisfied that neither the Bank or any person connected with it, have improperly interfered to promote the passage of the bill now before the Senate. The committee will close their labors in a few days, when a full report of the evidence will be submitted.

A FUNERAL AT SEA.

Death is a fearful thing, come in what form it may; fearful, when the vital cords are so gradually relaxed that life passes away softly as music from the slumbering harp string—fearful when in his own quiet chamber, the departing one is surrounded by those who sweetly follow him with their prayers, when the assiduous of friendship and affection can go no further, and who discourse of heaven and future blessedness till the cleaving ear can no longer catch the tones of the long familiar voice; and who, lingering near still feel for the hushed pulse and trace in the placid slumber which pervades each feature a quiet emblem of the spirit's serene repose.—What then must this dread event be to one who meets it, comparatively alone far away from the heart of his home, upon a troubled sea, between the narrow decks of a vessel's ship and at the dread hour of night, when even the sympathies of the world seem suspended. Such has been the end of many who traverse the ocean, and such was the hurried end of him whose remains we had just consigned to a watery grave.

He was a sailor, but beneath his rude exterior he carried a heart touched with refinement, pride and greatness. There was something about him which spoke of better days and higher destiny; but by what errors or misfortunes he was reduced to his humble condition, was a secret which he would reveal to none. Silent, reserved and thoughtful he stood a stranger among his free companions and never was his voice heard in

laughter or jest. He had undoubtedly left behind many who will long look for his return, and bitterly weep when they are told they shall see his face no more.

As the remains of poor Pretner were brought up on deck, wound in that hammock which through many a stormy night had swung to the wind, one could not but observe the big tear that stole unconsciously down the rough cheeks of his hardy companions. When the funeral service was read to that most affecting passage we commit this body to the deep—and the plank was heaved, which precipitated to the momentarily eddy of the wave and quickly disappearing form, a heavy sigh from those around told that the strong heart of the sailor can be touched with grief and a truly unaffected sorrow may accompany virtue, in its most unpretending form, to the extinguishing night of the grave. Yet how soon is such a scene forgotten. As from the wind the sky no scar retains,

The parted wave no furrow from the keel,
So dies in human heart the thought of death:

There is something peculiarly melancholy and impressive in a burial at sea, there is here no coffin or hearse procession or tolling bell—nothing that gradually prepares us for the final separation. The body is wound up in the drapery of its couch, much as if the deceased were only in a quiet and temporary sleep. In these habitments of slumber, it is dropped into the wave, the waters close over it, the vessel quickly passes on, and not a solitary trace is left to tell where sunk from light and life, one that loved to look at the sky and breathe this vital air.—There is nothing that for one moment can point to the deep, unvisited resting place of the departed—it is a grave in the midst of the ocean in the midst of a vast untrodden solitude; affection cannot approach it with its tears, the dews of heaven cannot reach it, and there is around it no violet, or shrub, or murmuring stream.

It may be superstition, but no advantages of wealth or honor, or power, through life, would reconcile me at its close to such a burial. I would rather share the coarse and scanty provisions of the simplest cabin, and drop away unknown and unhonored by the world, so that my final resting place is beneath some green tree, by the side of a murmuring stream or in some family spot, where the friends of my life might visit me in death.

MORMONISM IN NEW ENGLAND.

The Mormons have congregated in some force at a place called St. Johns, in Vermont. Their house of worship is an old barn, which they have fitted up. The elect from the land of faith and promise in the West have despatched twelve apostles to the East for the purpose of making proselytes. An eastern paper furnishes an account of their mode of worship and the article of their faith. A brother of Joe Smith, the chief prophet of the Western tribe of Mormon Saints, is the principal apostle now on a pilgrimage of faith to the East. He claims—as do his brethren—the gift of tongues, and the gift of healing—and he recommends—very justly, that these gifts be not abused. The saints to whom they have been vouchsafed, have trifled with both these gifts. Their gift of tongues has introduced them to talk a great deal of nonsense, and their gift of healing has failed in its efficacy, probably because those on whom it was exercised, were deficient in faith. By the book of Mormon it appears, that a large tract of country has been set out by Providence with proper metes and bounds, to which, although they have a right, yet they consider it prudent to obtain an earthly title by purchase. The object of the Mormon in the East to dispose of their property, and proceed to the West. There is every reason to believe, says an Eastern paper—that they will succeed in making proselytes in Vermont.—*N. Y. Times*.

OHIO AND MICHIGAN BOUNDARY.

We shall lay before the public, in a few days, the report made on Tuesday, in the Senate, by Mr. Clayton, from the committee on the Judiciary, on the interesting subject of the Northern Boundary of Ohio. It is a document which discusses all the questions connected with the Michigan and Ohio controversy, and fully sustains the principle of the bill to establish the boundary by the line from the southern extreme of Lake Michigan to the most northerly caps of the Miami Bay. The committee unanimously agreed that Congress has the power thus to settle the boundary, and that it is expedient so to settle it. The results of the investigation by this committee, at the present session, are the same with those at which the same committee of the Senate, though differently constituted, has twice before unanimously arrived. The reading of the report occupied more than an hour, and five thousand extra copies of it were then ordered to be printed. Since this

report was made in the Senate, we understand that the Judiciary Committee of the House have reported on the same subject. Their report, made yesterday, (Wednesday) arrives, it is said though we have not seen it or heard it read, at the same general result, and was made with nearly equal unanimity.—*Nat. Int.*

Carrollton:
FRIDAY, MARCH 11, 1835.

Legislative.—Both branches of the Legislature have resolved to adjourn, without day, on Monday next. There is but little business of general interest now before that body. Mr. Crouse's bill to prohibit the circulation of the bills of the U. States Bank, has passed the Senate. A bill has passed both branches, to authorize the Commissioners of this county to borrow money. We observe also that a bill to incorporate a School Association in Union Tp. in this county, has passed the Senate.

—We intend to give the boundaries, &c. of the new Townships, which were formed at the late session of the county Commissioners; but our correspondents have not left us sufficient room.

—The Rail Road Report will be published in our next paper.

—The Hon. John Tyler, of Virginia, has resigned his seat in the Senate of the U. States. Mr. Tyler's resignation was brought about by the passage of certain resolutions in the General Assembly of Virginia, instructing her Senators to vote for Senator Benton's "Expanding resolutions."

Johnson's Escape.—The gentlemen who have been occupying our columns for some time past, with a controversy concerning Johnson's escape, will now see the necessity of abstaining from further indulgence in personalities. We have been compelled to file down the asperities of two or three passages in Mr. Davat's communication, which appears in this week's paper. There is but one topic properly before the writers—that is, the escape; and to this the controversy must be confined.

We owe an apology to our readers for permitting the columns of the Free Press to be occupied by communications so palpably scurrilous as the two last in this controversy. As the writers were unknown to each other, their personal allusions, of course, were founded upon conjecture, & consequently, entitled to but little consideration. In future, they will appear in their proper persons; and each, knowing his adversary, will confine his remarks to the subject, without attempting to draw into the controversy persons who are in no way connected with it.

Northern Boundary.—We are enabled, at length, to say, there seems to be a probability that the Boundary question will be settled during the present session of Congress. The committee in the Senate, to which this question was referred, have made a report sustaining the claims of Ohio; and a bill has been introduced in the House of Representatives, to establish the boundary between Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Michigan. We have not learned what the provisions of this bill are; but we have the utmost confidence in the opinion, that Ohio will secure the disputed territory.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Among the many topics that are now exciting the public, perhaps, none may claim more attention, than the subject of constructing a rail road from the Town of Zoar, on the Ohio Canal, through Carrollton to the mouth of Yellow Creek, on the Ohio River.

In the winter of 1834, an act of incorporation was granted by the Legislature of Ohio, authorizing the construction of a rail road from the points as above stated.

Under the provisions of the act of incorporation, the company was organized; and a survey and estimates have been made by an Engineer (in whose capability the Board of Directors have entire confidence.) From the report of the Engineer, the estimates are found to be much lower than that of any other road (of the same magnitude and importance) constructed in the United States.

To those who are not acquainted with the location of the road, or the geography of the country through which it is intended to pass, it would be well to say, that the western end of the road terminates in or above the Town of Zoar, on the O. Canal. (at a point where the Great Western Rail Road, authorized by an act of the Legislature of the last session, a survey and estimate of which are now making under the superintendence of the Canal Commissioners, is intended to commence—thence through the Towns of Wooster, Mansfield and Bucirus, until it intersects the Miami or Wash., or Erie Canal.) The town of Zoar is delightfully situated on the Ohio Canal, and populated by an

industrious wealthy German community—who carry on the Farming and Manufacturing to a considerable extent.

The whole extent of the road passes through one of the most fertile wheat-growing countries in the north part of the State. Taking a street of country of eight or ten miles, north and south of the road, it affords as great a surplusage of produce, as any other of the same extent in the State; besides the agricultural advantages, the country through which the road has been section of the road passes abounds with mineral coal, iron ore, and salt, of the latter, thousands of barrels are manufactured annually in the valley of the creek. The water privileges on the eastern or Yellow-creek end of the road, are numerous, besides the steamboats already occupied with floating establishments, there are others which afford a strong inducement for a profitable investment of capital.

On the completion of the great western thoroughfare to the Ohio Canal, the most sceptical cannot entertain a doubt as to the immense trade that will be thrown to Pennsylvania by the construction of this connecting link with the Ohio River, or with the Pennsylvania canal at Pittsburgh, which we anticipate is not far distant. When we take into consideration the fact that in the season of the year in which our farmers have the surplusage of their farms to dispose of, the Ohio Canal is obstructed with ice, which tends to depress and causes the price of the produce of the country to fluctuate, while by means of Rail Road this surplusage could be transported to the east, before the removal of the ice on the Lake will permit its transportation to the N. York canal.

When we take into consideration also, the rapid increase of the population of the country, and with it the necessary increase of business, it is to be presumed that, when the road contemplated shall have been finished, the tolls arising therefrom will afford a much better percentage on its cost than any other improvement of the kind in the State.

When the great western thoroughfare shall have been completed, and connected with the Wash. and Erie Canal, through the State of Indiana, and the contemplated rail road through the State of Illinois to the Mississippi River; it will constitute a connected chain of improvement, from the city of Philadelphia of more than 1000 miles.

The question is, how far would the citizens of Philadelphia, by fostering this object, advance their own personal interests, and the now elevated standing of that commercial city?

In reply we would say, a large proportion of the produce of Ohio that now finds its way to the city of New York, after traversing almost seven hundred miles of canal, lake and river navigation, would be transported to Philadelphia by a much shorter channel and secure to that city the entire control of the produce of the fertile valleys of the Far West.

It may be advanced here by the enemies of this measure, that there are other works of improvement, running parallel with the one in contemplation, which will supersede the necessity of its construction—but certainly experience has shown that of all the modes of communication, rail roads are at once the cheapest, the easiest of construction; are less liable to interruption from the changes of the seasons and weather, are more easily repaired, and afford by means of locomotive engines, the quickest and most certain communication.

AGRICOLA.

THE OBSERVER NO. 3.

Messrs. Editors.

Another subject that has often deeply impressed my mind; is the conduct of young men, with respect to their manner of spending their time.

The present state of society affords ample encouragement to diligence in business; but there is scarcely any calling so pressing in its demands as to leave no leisure hours. And we need them, surely we were formed for other purposes than merely to grovel in loads of kindred muck. But what means do we take to enjoy the hours of relaxation from business? I fear that many, very many, young men are grossly mistaken in the pursuit of happiness. It is a most prevailing evil among the young to seek pleasure in company; after their daily task is done, or whenever opportunity serves to assemble in places of amusement in the society of the gay and the trifling. These much mistaken votaries of happiness, I would ask to pause and consider, whether any lasting benefit can accrue from their present course,—your enjoyments are but for the moment,—you can't look back on them with any degree of satisfaction,—you are hastening on to fill important stations in society, totally unprepared. However, thoughtless of tomorrow, or however bright your prospects may be, you may be assured, there are trials for you to pass through, there are hours of sadness awaiting you,—yes, dark and lonely may yet be your wayward life; and then you will wish for the solace of a mind well stored with useful ideas, and prepared by extensive information for any duty devolving on you.

On the other hand you have the example of all the most illustrious of our countrymen to stimulate you to exertion in the improvement of your mind. We need only to be acquainted with the history of our own nation; to be furnished with the most glowing instances of the rise of humble individuals, by the exertion of their own mind. Who among us is so void of principle as not to admire the character of Franklin, Sherman, and our own dis-