

FOREIGN NEWS.

ARRIVAL OF THE ACADIA—TWENTY ONE DAYS LATER!

Birth of an English Princess—Taking of St. Jean D'Acres—Submission of Mahrat Ali—Stormy Debates in the French Chamber of Deputies!

Such is the heading given by the N. York Commercial Advertiser, to the foreign news received by the steamship 'Acadia,' at Boston, on the 22d, with London and Liverpool papers to the 3d and 4th December. The extracts cover a great deal of space, but we think can be condensed into a column without any material loss:

ENGLAND.

The most important English news, is that of the birth of a British Princess, and the death of several British Banks. The first of these events is detailed with considerable minuteness, in extracts from the "Court Circular." It appears that Her Majesty was "taken unwell" at an early hour, on the morning of the 21st November, and that, in consequence, "the medical gentlemen" were summoned to Buckingham palace; that the Dutchess of Kent was sent for at "half past eight o'clock," by Prince Albert, and answered the summons instantaneously; that the Queen was safely delivered of a Princess at "ten minutes before 2 o'clock, P. M." in presence of Prince Albert and the Dutchess of Kent, Sir James Clarke, Dr. Locock, Dr. Ferguson, and Mr. Blagden, the medical attendants on her Majesty; that after a time the infant Princess was brought into the room where the ministers and great officers of State were assembled, who thereupon took their first look of the Heiress Presumptive, and then departed; that the "nobility and gentry" soon thronged to the Palace to make "their dutiful inquiries;" that throughout the day and evening Her Majesty and the infant Princess were "going on favorably;" and that "the intelligence of Her Majesty's accomplishment and the birth of a Princess Royal spread like wildfire through the metropolis," and soon brought a pretty tall crowd to the gates of Rockingham Palace.

The Banking institutions whose failures are noticed, are those of Wright & Co., Sowden, Mrs. Drewry, Penrith, and the Guilford Bank. The failure of the first institution is represented to have been caused by injudicious speculations and loans, without the knowledge of the firm by the principal partner. Its cash and available assets are stated at £500,000, while its liabilities are supposed to be between £800,000 and £900,000. It was feared that great distress would follow the failure of Mrs. Drewry's house, as it was the Savings Bank of that place. Suspicions of the soundness of the Guilford Bank were first occasioned by the suicide of Mr. William Sparks, the principal partner and manager, when an investigation took place, and it was discovered to be in a truly bad condition. Before destroying himself, Mr. Sparks had destroyed a portion of the papers of the Bank, so that a full knowledge of its affairs could not be easily obtained. As far as the investigation has proceeded, it was found that the total amount of the estate of the deceased was £82,372, and the securities, cash, &c. due to the bank, was £123,400, making a total of £207,772; while the only liabilities that could be ascertained amounted to £184,000, but the whole were believed greatly to exceed that amount.

On the 2d December, an ungainly youth, aged about 17 years, was found secreted under a sofa in the Queen's dressing room, Buckingham Palace. He was the son of a poor tailor in Derby street, Westminster, and after examination was sent to the House of Correction, Coldbath Fields, there to be kept at hard labor for three months.

Private letters to the New York Commercial speaks of an improvement in the money market, and it was expected that the January dividends would make things materially better. The Bank was determined to go on granting loans at 5 per cent on the usual terms.—*Cin. Gaz.*

FRANCE.

The address in answer to the king's speech, drawn up by M. Dupin, was read on the 23d of November, amid frequent murmurs. It was still the subject of debate at the date of our latest advices, and it was thought it would be greatly modified before adoption. The debate latterly assumed a very personal character, chiefly between M. Thiers and his successor M. Guizot. The former was exceedingly personal and vehement.—*N. York Commercial.*

DEMOCRATIC VAN BUREN FLAG.

The Advertiser appears to have the singular honor, among the press of this city, of corresponding with big bugs, past, present, and to come. Within the year now about to close, it has treated its readers to letters from Ex-President Jackson, President Van Buren, and would be President Benton. There's honor for you!

The dignity last named, writes from Washington, under date of December 16, "glad to see" that the Advertiser has "hoisted the Van Buren flag for 1844." And his letter the Advertiser published on the 23d, taking "pleasure" to itself to find that "its humble effort in the cause has the approval of Colonel Benton." Of any portion of this gladness and pleasure, it would be cruel to deprive either of the gentlemen. It rather seems enjoined, by ordinary courtesy, that all who have in their power should endeavor to add to it. To this end, therefore, we contribute our mite, by transferring the letter of "Colonel Benton" from the Advertiser to our columns.

"Colonel," it will be perceived, is "for Mr. Van Buren against the world" and wants

"no better candidate, no better President, no better man." It is marvellous, how much in accordance with the taste of the people, is the taste of "Colonel Benton."—*Cin. Gaz.*

"SENATE CHAMBER, Dec. 16, 1840.

Dear Sir: I am glad to see that you have hoisted the Van Buren flag for 1844. This is the third time since the commencement of our government, that the Democracy have been defeated in a presidential election, and I think the party should do now as it has done heretofore, and immediately take up their defeated candidate, and move forward with him without division and without faltering. This is the way the Democracy acted in 1796, when Mr. Jefferson was defeated by the elder Adams, and in 1824, when General Jackson was defeated by Mr. John Quincy Adams. In each of these cases the Democracy, instead of wasting their time in vain regrets, or weakening themselves by divisions, immediately took up their defeated candidate, applied themselves to his proper presentation before the public, and carried him triumphantly through. I am for following the same course now, and can see no reason for an hour's delay. For one, I am for Mr. Van Buren against the world, and that upon a full approbation of his conduct, public and private, for twenty years past. I want no better candidate, no better President, no better man. I want no fairer trial for the Democracy than a second contest in his person will afford. The late election I do not regard as settling the question of party supremacy. It is a great victory for the federalists, and a great defeat for the democracy, but the line was not fairly drawn between them, and I require a new trial before I can surrender the democratic cause. I want a new trial in the person of our defeated, but irreproachable candidate, and look for the same result which the democracy in former days found in the second trial of Mr. Jefferson and General Jackson.

Yours truly,

THOMAS H. BENTON.
MOSES DAWSON, Esq."

OBITUARY.

Departed this life on Saturday, at 4 o'clock, P. M., the HON. FELIX GRUNDY, of this city, in the sixty seventh year of his age, a Senator in Congress from Tenn. Mr. Grundy was by birth a Virginian. He was raised in the State of Kentucky, where he was married, and at an early period of his life rose to eminence in his profession—that of the law. He was first a member of the Legislature, and afterwards a Judge of the Supreme Court of that State. The latter station he afterwards resigned, and removed to Tennessee about thirty three or four years ago. He was a man of high order of talent, and as an advocate at the bar he had few rivals, and, perhaps, no superior in the West. His success in this branch of his profession, did not so much depend on the magic of voice or manner—there was nothing harsh or disagreeable in either, nor in the variety and extent of his legal acquirements—though in these he was respectable—but it depended still more upon his plain practical sense—his quickness in discovering the strong points of a cause—his great self possession—his adroitness in the examination of witnesses, and his deep knowledge of the human heart, which never failed him in the hour of need, accompanied with all the "reasoning powers divine." We have said there was nothing remarkable in his manner. His style of speaking was the plain or common style, yet he never failed, in an important cause, to enchain the attention of his audience. He possessed an unusual share of wit "that loved to play not wound." And he never permitted it to divert his mind from the matter in hand—the point to be proved, or the object to be obtained.

Mr. Grundy was elected to Congress in 1811, and served three successive sessions in that body. He afterwards resigned, and devoted himself exclusively to his profession till 1819, when he was elected to the Legislature of this State, in which body he represented Davidson county for six successive years. From this station he retired in 1824, and in 1829, was elected to the Senate of the United States, where he remained (with the exception of one session) till his death. Differing widely from him in his late political race, we shall say nothing of it. An eminent citizen he was, and we on this occasion prefer paying this small tribute to his genius. He died a Christian, and in the full hopes of a blessed immortality, leaving an amiable wife and a numerous posterity to lament his loss.

He was buried yesterday with Masonic and civic honors.—*Nashville Banner* of December 21.

THE MESSAGE. We have given up a large space to the Message of the President of the United States, which was communicated to both Houses of Congress, yesterday at 11 o'clock.

Our impression, from a cursory perusal is that Mr. Van Buren has determined to retire with as much dignity as is possible for him to assume. If the message had been addressed "to posterity" instead of "to the Senate and House of Representatives," we have no doubt it would have indicated the wish paramount in the author's heart when he sat down to dictate it. He has not alluded in the remotest manner to the recent demonstrations of popular sentiment, to which, he was, not long ago, fond of recurring. But he has sketched a general resume of the leading acts and doctrines of his Administration, endeavoring to vindicate them, drawn his Presidential cloak around him, and sat down, as indifferent to the popular clamor, as the "Star to the passing cloud," and waits the approach of the hour of his exit. If the second and third sober thoughts of the people are not right, he thinks nevertheless that their judgement is "never ultimately wrong."—*Madisonian.*

LEGISLATIVE.

From the Indiana Journal Dec. 23.

The Senate, since our last, has progressed with facility with considerable business. If the same promptitude continues to characterize its deliberations, and the House should continue to progress with the same care and dispatch that it has thus far evinced, the session will not be as long as its immediate predecessor. On the 19th the bill repealing the law of last session prohibiting the intermarriage of whites and blacks, was discussed at considerable length. Messrs. Test, Baird of St. J., Ewing, and Thompson, participated. The bill was referred to the judiciary committee. We believe it does not entirely repeal the old law, but only that part which provides penalties for the Clerk who may issue license for such unnatural union, and the authorized person who may solemnize the bands of matrimony. Considerable discussion also, arose on a resolution offered by Mr. Wattis, instructing the select committee, heretofore appointed to consider the subject, to lay off the State into 12 judicial circuits, which will be an increase of one on the present number. The resolution was finally laid on the table. There seems to be a disposition to create at least one new circuit.

On the 22d, Mr. Elliott, from a select committee, reported a bill so amending the law in relation to mills and millers, as not to compel a miller to grind grain for distillation if he does not wish to do so. We hope this may become a law of the land. It is a disgrace to our statute books that a law should there be recorded, that requires a man to do an act to which he is conscientiously opposed, particularly when corrupting and desolating influences may flow from that act. Mr. Arion introduced a resolution directing the committee on education to inquire into the expediency of appointing a Chaplain to the Penitentiary. This is an important matter, and we sincerely trust that the present Legislature will provide for the moral and religious instruction of the unfortunate inmates of our State Prison. Mr. Chamberlain introduced a resolution directing the committee on finance to inquire into the expediency of repealing a law refusing to pay the interest on all state bonds that have been fraudulently obtained by the Morris Canal and Banking company. Mr. Collins introduced a bill directing the Governor of the State, by proclamation, to order a special election for members of Congress, in the event that the President of the United States should convene the next Congress before the regular time appointed by law.

In the House, on the 21st, Mr. Dunn offered a joint resolution, directing Milton Stapp, Fund Commissioner, now in New York, not to accept certain Rail road iron in the payment of a debt due the state from the Morris Canal and Banking Company. Mr. Stapp, in his last report, informed the House that he had agreed to receive \$300,000 worth of iron to secure the payment of a debt of very doubtful character from said company, and that one third of the amount would be received in rail road iron, if not otherwise directed by the Legislature, previous to the first of January next. Much objection was made to the immediate passage of the resolution, because sufficient time had not been given to examine the question, and also that if the iron should not be accepted, that the debt might be entirely lost, and as a portion of the Madison and Indianapolis road would soon be ready for the reception of the rails, that the State should thus apply them, and render that work available for the purposes of revenue. It was contended by the friends of the resolution, that if not passed, it would operate as an indirect appropriation to the Madison Rail road, and that they were not prepared, at this stage of the session, to make such appropriation. The joint resolution was read three several times and passed.

Mr. Matson, from the judiciary committee, reported unfavorably on the petitions of S. S. Wiseman, John Teel, and Philip Dotson, to be divorced from their wives; which was concurred in by the House.

Mr. Matson, from the judiciary committee, reported a bill to revive certain acts relative to a stay of execution.

A resolution was introduced by Mr. Robinson, proposing to bring on the election for members of Congress previous to the annual election, that this State may be represented in the event of a called session.

From the Indiana Journal Dec. 25.

In the Senate, on Dec. 23d, much time was occupied in the discussion of a resolution, offered by Mr. Cravens, to know of the Board of Directors of the State Bank, whether they had appointed a committee to attend on the present Legislature, and advise with the members relative to their legislation on the subject of the State Bank. The discussion took a wide range, and embraced the banking and internal improvement policies of the State. Messrs. Cravens, Elliott, Parker, Eggleston, Carnan, and Chamberlain, advocated the adoption of the resolution; and Messrs. Arion, Ewing, Test, Williams, Nave, and Moffatt opposed it. The vote was finally adopted by a vote of 26 to 19. In the afternoon, considerable debate took place on a resolution declaring, as the sense of the Senate, that it is expedient to divorce the State Bank entirely from the system of internal improvement; and an amendment offered by Mr. Eggleston. Senate adjourned without coming to any question.

Dec. 24th, Mr. Collins, from the judiciary committee, reported that it was inexpedient to distract or change the present Probate system; which was concurred in by the Senate. Mr. Test, from the same committee, reported against the Legislature granting divorces.—The report expressed the belief that, like all other contracts, the Legislature had no con-

stitutional right to interfere with the marriage contract, but that such should be referred to our courts, whose powers in that matter, were ample. The report met with considerable opposition, but was concurred in by the Senate. Mr. Test's resolution came up in the forenoon, and the discussion was continued by Messrs. Elliott, Arion, Ewing, and others.

In the House, business thus far has been much more advanced and a greater amount fully acted upon, than at any session for years past. This is more attributable to the inflexible adherence, of the Speaker, of the House, by which every thing is done in order, and each respective portion of business has a regular share of time allotted for its consideration.

On Dec. 23d, considerable discussion arose upon a motion of Mr. Smith of F., to amend a bill extending the time of payment to the borrowers of the college, saline and surplus revenue funds, so that loans now secured by personal security, shall be secured by real estate, before borrowers shall be entitled to the benefits of said act. The necessity for such provision was urged, in consideration of the large amounts already lost by the insolvency of borrowers and their securities, and the great insecurity of those funds from the fluctuations in personal responsibilities. It was opposed on the ground that it would operate very oppressively on present borrowers, and place the funds entirely in the hands of land holders, to the exclusion of the honest but poorer classes of community. The amendment was, however, adopted.

Mr. Chapman from the committee of Federal Relations reported a Joint Resolution instructing our Senators and Representatives in Congress to vote for repeal of the sub-treasury law past at the last session.

On the 24th, Mr. Jenckes, from the committee on Ways and Means reported a bill authorizing the State Bank to issue one million of dollars in notes of the different denominations of \$1, \$2's and \$3's, which are to be kept in circulation for three years from the first of January next. The perplexing question of apportioning the Senators and Representatives in this state, agreeably to the constitutional provision, came before the House on yesterday on a motion to instruct the select committee appointed upon that subject. The several motions to fix the number of Senators at forty, forty two and fifty, and Representatives at eighty, eighty four and one hundred, were rejected by the House. The conflicting interests of the different counties in case of a reduction, renders the question a very difficult one to decide. The great expense attended upon so large a representation as the present, the embarrassed situation of the state, together with the examples of adjoining states, possessing more than twice the population and but little more than one half the representation, are powerful arguments in favor of a reduction. On the other hand, the difficulty of apportioning the Senators without legislating some of the present members of that body out of office, & the necessity of depriving some of the smaller counties of the full representation in the House, which they now enjoy, are arguments of local and personal nature not easily to be satisfied by logical demonstration. It is very uncertain as to the matter now stands, what will be the ultimate action of the House upon it.

Mr. Sweetser, from the Judiciary committee, made a report upon the charges preferred by H. Chase against John W. Wright Judge of the 8th circuit, and concluded with expressing the opinion that articles of impeachment ought not to be preferred against said Wright; which report was concurred in by the House.

From the Indiana Journal Dec. 28th. The business of the Senate is well up. This comes from the regular order in which the various matters that come before that body are attended to. The President, Lieut. Gov. Hall, notwithstanding his want of experience, proves to be a prompt and efficient presiding officer.

On Saturday a number of bills was passed; and, among others, one to amend the law relative to mills and millers, leaving it optional with millers to grind or not for purposes of distillation. It passed with very little opposition. In fact no Senator seemed to be seriously opposed to it.

In the House, on Friday, (being Christmas) but little business was transacted. After the reading of the journal, a call of the House was ordered to ascertain the number absent.

About sixteen members, beside some eight or ten who had leave of absence, failed to answer to their names. An effort was then made to adjourn over till Monday, which failed. The question was next taken upon adjourning till Saturday morning, which also failed. At 11 o'clock the House adjourned.

On Saturday morning the roll was again called, and the absentees noted. A motion was then made to adjourn till Monday, which did not succeed. The joint resolution instructing Senators and requesting Representatives to use their exertions to repeal the Subtreasury law of Congress, came up on its third reading, and was passed by vote of 57 to 16. Considerable local business was acted upon, when the House, at 11 o'clock, adjourned till Monday.

POPULATION OF OHIO.

Free White Males	779,769
" " Females	718,824
Total White Population	1,498,593
Free Colored Males	8,637
" " Females	8,465
Total	17,102
Total Population of the State	1,515,695

APPOINTMENTS BY THE GOVERNOR.—The B. B. Bird, of St. Joseph county, and George R. Gibson, of Knox county, to be Aids-de-camp to His Excellency Gov. Bigler.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Congress.

Our Washington and Baltimore papers have reached us somewhat irregularly of late. By Saturday's Mail we received none; by Sunday's Mail the dates of the 22d and 23d; by yesterday's Mail nothing again. We notice below the principal matters that have been brought up in Congress since our last abstract.

DECEMBER 21: In the Senate, Mr. Clay, of Alabama, from the Committee on the Public Lands, reported without amendment, Mr. Benton's bill for establishing a permanent pre-emption system. It was made the special order for Monday, the 28th. Mr. Wright reported a bill from the Finance Committee providing for the reduction and graduation of the price of the Public Lands. Mr. King reported from the Committee on Commerce a bill allowing a drawback on merchandise imported into the United States in the trade between New Orleans and Mexico. Mr. Tappan's joint resolution to limit the term of service of the Judges of the Supreme and Circuit Courts of the United States, was special order of the day for the first Monday in January.

In the House, Mr. Davis of Indiana, made an unsuccessful effort to get Mr. Hand's bill for establishing a Uniform System of Naturalization, out of the hands of the Judiciary Committee, on the ground that that Committee had had the subject before them during the last session, and yet failed to do anything in reference to it. [The next day, Mr. Stanley explained that the Clerk of the House of the fees of the witnesses summoned by C. J. Ingersoll in his contest of the seat of Charles Naylor, while the witnesses of Mr. Naylor were paid out of his own pocket he refused to appropriate the public money for that purpose. [We shall have occasion to refer to this matter hereafter. It is undergoing a strict investigation in the House.] Mr. Monroe of New York, introduced a bill for abolishing imprisonment for debt, which was referred to the Committee of the whole. Mr. Filmore introduced a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, for the purpose of changing the time of commencing the term of Senators and Representatives in Congress from the 4th of March to the 1st of December. [Mr. Tallmire, Mr. Hunt, Mr. Tappan, Mr. Filmore, we respectfully petition, that unless you have very special and important reasons for contrary action, you let the Constitution of the United States alone.]

DECEMBER 22: In the Senate, Mr. Calhoun introduced a bill for ceding the Public Lands to the States, under certain specified conditions. The following bill, engrossed the previous day, was passed:

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