

A Russian instantly approached the gallant captain, and presented a pistol at his breast, but as he was in the act of pulling trigger, Sergeant Legge rushed forward, and whilst attempting to put aside the weapon, received the fire upon his arm.

It is impossible to give a minute detail of the desperate conflicts which followed, or the numerous instances of personal daring, manifested by the police officers and the military, thus brought into sudden contact with a band of assassins in their obscure den, and in utter darkness. Unfortunately this darkness favored the escape of many of the wretches, and the dreadful skirmish ended in the capture of only nine of them. They were instantly hand-cuffed together, placed in hackney coaches and brought down to the police office in Bow-street, under a strong military escort, and Mr. Birnie having arrived at the same moment instantly took his seat upon the Bench, & prepared to enter into the examination of the prisoners. They were placed at the bar in the following order:

James Ings, a butcher.

James Wilson, a tailor.

Richard Bradburn, a carpenter.

James Gilchrist, a shoe-maker.

Charles Cooper, a boot maker.

Richard Tidd.

John Monument, a shoe-maker.

John Shaw, a carpenter, &

William Davidson, a cabinet-maker.

Davidson is a man of color. At a meeting in Finsbury market place, he was one of the principle speakers.

Ings is a hoary Russian, between fifty and sixty. His hands were covered with blood. His small fiery eyes glared around upon the spectators with an expression truly horrible. The office was crowded with soldiers and officers, bringing in arms and ammunitions of various kinds, which had been taken on the premises; muskets, broad swords, carbines, pistols, blunderbusses, belts and cartridge boxes, gun-powder, found loose in the pockets of the prisoners, and a large number of singularly constructed stilettos. These latter were about 18 inches long and triangular in form; two of the sides being concave & the other flat, the lower extremity being flattened, and then wrung round spirally so as to make a firm grip and ending in a screw as if to fit the top of a staff. Several staffs were indeed produced, filled at one end with a screwed socket; and no doubt they were intended to receive this formidable weapon.

The deposition of a number of officers, most of them wounded, and several of the soldiers, having been taken, their evidence substantiated the foregoing narrative, the prisoners were asked if they wished to say any thing? Cooper and Davidson said they had surrendered themselves instantly. Ellis, the patrol, who received the murdered body of his comrade, Smithers, in his arms, replied that Davidson had made the most resistance. At the moment when the lights were extinguished, he had rushed out of the place armed with a carbine, and wearing white cross belts. Ellis pursued him a considerable distance along John street, and having caught him they fell together, and in the deadly struggle which ensued, Davidson discharged his carbine but without effect, and this succeeded in securing him.

Further particulars.—For two

police officers were near the place of meeting making observations, but still no suspicions were excited of the real object of their vigilance; and so well was the plan of surprise laid, that until the discharge was heard, every thing remained quiet.

But accurately informed of the constancy, warrants were issued to apprehend them while they were assembled. These warrants were put into the hands of the police officers under the direction of Mr. Birnie, the magistrate. A detachment of the Coldstream guards, from Portman barracks, were ordered to accompany the police officers. They proceeded to the place of meeting in Cato street, the police officers going first, for the guards did not come up so soon as the officers, having entered the street at the wrong end. The conspirators had taken the precaution to place a sentinel below, and the only approach to them in the loft was by a ladder, not wide enough for more than one to ascend at a time. Ruthven went up first, followed by three other officers, Ellis, Smithers, and Surman. Thistlewood was nearest the door of the loft armed with a drawn sword, the whole number of the conspirators in the room was twenty-five. Before the officers ascended the stairs, they secured the sentinel at the foot of the ladder, but we suspect that he contrived to give these aloft notice of the approach of the officers. The whole party above were hastily arming, some with belts and pistols stuck in them; others were loading hand grenades & muskets.—There was a large quantity of ammunition in the room and a sack full of combustibles.—Ruthven was the first that burst into the loft. Thistlewood attacked him, failed. The other officers followed close with the magistrate Birnie. Thistlewood called to his party to put out the lights; and soon afterwards escaped through a back window, as did several others. The quantity of ammunition in the loft was sufficient to arm 100 men.

The editor of the Courier thus announces this event:—This indeed is a tremendous annunciation, but it is not more tremendous than true. The diabolical principle which has been inculcated in revolutionary pamphlets and by incendiary writers, has found wretches wicked enough to act upon it—both here and at Paris. Scarcely had we finished communicating the details of the murder of his royal highness the duke de Berri—nay in the midst of the horror universally felt for his untimely fate, our attention has been directed to another plot, equally hellish in its purpose, but more ample in its range, and embracing a greater number of distinguished personages. The intention, as we have already stated, was to have taken away the lives of all his majesty's ministers, at a cabinet dinner at the earl of Harroby's in Grosvenor square. The time fixed upon was last night, and but for the timely discovery of the plot, it is probable we should have had this day to have recorded such a scene of blood and murder, as is not to be found in the annals of this country, or of any other.

It appears that the plot has been known for some time to his majesty's ministers, and that Arthur Thistlewood was at the head of the conspiracy. The earl of Harroby's was selected

London than the residence of any other of the cabinet ministers, and of course rendering it more easy to escape.

The horrible plan was, it is said, to have been executed in the following manner:—Thistlewood was to have knocked at lord Harroby's door, with a letter purporting to be a dispatch, or with a red box, as is used in all the public offices, desiring it to be delivered immediately to the cabinet ministers at dinner, without delay. The servant it is supposed, would immediately proceed with the dispatch, while Thistlewood, with another of the conspirators, entered the hall as if to wait. They were immediately to open the street door. Others were to come in with hand grenades, which were to be thrown into the house, and in the confusion produced by them, all the rest of the conspirators were to rush into the dining room, where the ministers were at dinner, and the work of assassination was to have been instantly begun.

Capt. Davis of the brig *Corporal Train*, which arrived at Boston on the 27th ult. from Gibraltar which place she left on the 20th Feb. states, that the Constitutionalists as they are termed, were in force near Cadiz to the number of 25,000. An engagement had taken place in that vicinity in which the Royalists were defeated with the loss of 1000 men.

Congressional Proceedings.

IN SENATE.

Monday, April 3.

The senate resumed the consideration of the bill providing summary process for the recovery of debts due by defaulters, &c. to the government.

An amendment, offered by Mr. Barbour, was ordered to be printed, & the bill postponed until to-morrow.

Mr. Pleasants from the committee on naval affairs, communicated to the senate a document, containing a plan (by lieut. Ramage, of the navy) for the defense of the commerce, and the protection of the revenue of the United States in the Gulf of Mexico, near the river Mississippi; which was read and ordered to be printed.

The senate resumed as in committee of the whole, the bill more effectually to provide for the punishment of crimes against the United States, and for other purposes, (to revise and embody in one act various penal laws of the United States.)

The bill—consisting of thirty-three printed folio pages, and embracing a great mass of detail—was read through, and some progress made in the consideration of its provisions: when

The senate adjourned.

Wednesday, April 5.

The senate took up the bill more effectually to provide for the punishment of certain crimes against the United States, (consolidating the penal acts of the union)—when,

On motion of Mr. Wilson, made on the ground that there was not at this session time enough to spare for properly considering the numerous provisions of this long bill, it was postponed to a day beyond the session, without objection.

The senate then resumed the consideration of the bill for the better organization of the treasury department, (providing summary process for the recovery of debts due by defaulters, &c.)

It was finally ordered to be

engrossed for a third reading, by yeas and nays—yeas 28, nays 8.

Some time was spent in executive business—and the senate adjourned.

House of Representatives.

Saturday, April 1.

Mr. Randolph moved to postpone all the orders of the day to take up the bill for the relief of the widow and children of the late coin. Perry—negatived, 58 for, 64 against it.

The engrossed bill to amend the revolutionary pension law, was read the third time, and the question stated on its passage.

Hereupon considerable debate ensued. Different gentlemen were influenced by different opinions, as appeared on a motion for its indefinite postponement, which was negatived by yeas and nays—yeas 63, nays 96.

The amendment desired by Mr. Barbour was adopted by the house, by general consent, and obviated the necessity of recommitting it: and was, to insert a provision that, in those cases where any person who had relinquished a pension (as many invalid pensioners have) to take the benefit of the act of March 18, 1818, should be excluded from its benefit by the operation of the operation of this bill, the said person shall be forthwith removed to pension list from which he had been transferred.

The bill was then passed, and ordered to be sent to the senate for concurrence.

Monday, April 3:

Mr. Pindall, of Virginia, offered for consideration the following resolution, in support of which he made some remarks, referring to the current report that an act of the description therein referred to had recently passed the legislature of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That the secretary of the treasury be instructed to procure and transmit to this house, as soon as practicable, a copy of such late act or acts of the Pennsylvania legislature as prohibit or restrain the justices, aldermen, or other magistrates or officers of that state from interposing in the apprehension or surrender of fugitive slaves, or from carrying into effect the act of congress, entitled "An act respecting fugitives from justice and persons escaping from the service of their masters," passed on the 12th of February, 1793.]

Mr. Macay, of Pennsylvania, suggested, that, if the object of the motion was only to obtain a copy of the act, the latter clause of the resolve was unnecessary—and he wished to see it expunged, because he did not think that any act had passed the legislature, prohibiting the state officers from carrying into effect the act of congress.

To obviate this objection, Mr. Pindall consented to modify his motion so as to omit the clause within brackets, at the close of the above resolve.

The resolve was then amended, on motion, by adding to the end of the resolution the words following "Provided, any such act or acts shall have been passed."

Mr. S. Moore then moved to lay the resolution on the table; which motion was opposed by Mr. Strother, and it was negatived, and

The resolution was agreed to. Previously to the rising of the committee, Mr. Clay submitted the following resolves, with an intimation that, should the business of the house permit he should call them up at a future

Resolved, That it is expedient to provide by law a suitable outfit and salary for such minister or ministers, as the president, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, may send to any of the governments of South America which have established and are maintaining their independence on Spain.

Resolved, That provisions ought to be made for requesting of the president of the United States, to cause to be presented to the general the most worthy and distinguished, in his opinion, in the service of any of the independent governments of S. America, the sword which was given by the viceroy of Lima to captain Biddle, of the Ontario, during his late cruise in the Pacific, and which is now in the office of the department of state, with the expression of the wish of the congress of the U. States that it may be employed in the support and preservation of the liberty and independence of his country.

The house adjourned at 3 o'clock.

Tuesday, April 4.

Mr. Anderson submitted for consideration the following resolution:

Resolved, That a sum not exceeding one hundred thousand dollars be appropriated for the purchase of stock in the Kentucky Ohio canal company, engaged for the purpose of cutting a canal around the falls of the Ohio river, at Louisville.

The resolution was read, and a motion was made that it be committed to the committee of the whole to which is committed the bill providing for the preservation and repair of the Cumberland road.

[Agreed to.]

The house then again resolved itself into a committee of the whole, Mr. Taylor in the chair on the resolutions submitted by Mr. Clay, respecting the treaty-making power, and particularly respecting the treaty with Spain, yet unratified by Spain.

Mr. Lowndes concluded his remarks, going to shew why the resolutions should not be acted on. He spoke for about half an hour.

Messrs. Archer and Trimble supported the resolves—Messrs. Anderson, Rhea and Brush spoke in opposition to them, and Mr. Clay rejoined.

Wednesday April 5.

On motion of Mr. Morton, a committee was appointed to enquire into the expediency of providing for an earlier commencement of the next session of congress than at the stated period.

The bill (as amended) for the relief of certain persons at Cattine, was ordered to be read a third time.

Much time was spent in considering the amendments of the senate to the annual military appropriation bill.

There are two amendments: the first increasing the appropriation for clothing from 300,000 to 430,000 dollars;—and the second increasing that for the quarter master general's department, from 450,000 to 500,000 dollars.]

Both of these amendments were disagreed to—there seems to be a decisive majority against the prosecution of the Missouri expedition so far as the mouth of the Yellow Stone river.

Henry Middleton, of South Carolina, formerly governor, and recently a member of congress, from that state, has been appointed by the president, with the senate, to