

Indiana Legislature.

SENATE.

JAN. 2.—The hour having arrived which had been fixed upon for going into the election of a director of the state bank in the place of Robert Morrison, the senate proceeded with closed doors, to ballot for a director, and upon counting the vote, it appeared that Robert Morrison had received 23 votes, being all the votes given at said election, and after a message received from the House of Representatives informing the senate that Robert Morrison had also received a majority of the votes of that body, the president declared Robert Morrison duly elected a director of the state bank for and during the term of four years.

Mr. Sigler from a select committee to which that subject had been referred by resolution, made a lengthy report accompanied by a memorial to Congress on the subject of placing upon the pension roll those persons who were engaged in the Indian war between the commencement of our revolutionary struggle and the year 1794, which was read, 500 copies ordered to be printed, and the memorial was ordered to a second reading.

JAN. 3.—On motion of Mr. Hillis, the following preamble and resolution was adopted:

Whereas, Gambling is one of the most dangerous and pernicious practices, involving in its long train of mischief, amongst others, loss of time, health, property and reputation, the corruption and demoralization of youth, the perversion of public morals, the destruction of the peace and happiness of many of the fair part of creation, and the beggary of families; and not unfrequently leading on its own infatuated votaries by the natural and easy transition from folly to crime, step by step to ultimate and irretrievable ruin and even suicide—Therefore, Resolved, That the committee on the Judiciary be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the several acts and parts of acts now in force in this state relative to gambling, or any thing connected therewith, as more effectually to suppress the mischief, by rendering the detection and punishment of the offence, in all its diversified grades, more easy and certain; with leave to report by bill or otherwise.

JAN. 5.—Mr. Whitcomb, from the judiciary committee, reported a bill to prohibit the circulation of bank notes of a less denomination than five dollars, which was ordered to a second reading.

JAN. 7.—Mr. Morgan, on leave, introduced a bill to amend the act entitled "an act to organize and regulate the militia of the State of Indiana, approved February 10th, 1831," which was read and passed to a second reading.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

JAN. 1.—Mr. Kilgore, on leave, moved the following resolution: Resolved, That a select committee, composed of two from each Congressional District, be appointed to enquire into the expediency of repealing so much of the law now in force, as requires members of Congress to be elected by districts, and if they should deem the change proper, to report a bill repealing said law, and providing for the general ticket system of electing them.

Mr. Willet moved to postpone the further consideration thereof indefinitely; when,

On motion of Mr. Smith of R., said resolution and motion to postpone was laid on the table.

A bill to establish a State road in Dearborn county, was read a third time and passed.

On motion of Mr. Kelso, the resolution moved by Mr. Kilgore, on yesterday and laid on the table, relative to electing Representatives to Congress, by general ticket throughout the State, was taken up.

Mr. Bigger moved to amend said resolution, by inserting the word "that" and before the words "a select," the following: "for the purpose of bringing the census system into full operation in this State, and placing the minority completely at the mercy of the majority," when

Mr. Crume moved to postpone the further consideration thereof indefinitely; which motion was decided in the affirmative, ayes 63, noes 13.

JAN. 5.—Mr. Walker presented the petition of Robert Boward and others for a relocation of the State road from Rising Sun to Cross Plains; referred to the committee on roads.

Mr. Kelso, also presented the remonstrance of Enos Littlefield and others, against the above petition; referred to the same committee.

Mr. Torbet, on leave, presented a bill to incorporate the Dearborn county Seminary; twice read and ordered to be engrossed.

JAN. 6.—Mr. Howard presented the petition of Joel Decourcy and others, for the appointment of a school fund commissioner in Congressional township No. 3, in Range No. 1, west, in Dearborn and Switzerland counties; referred to the committee on Education.

Mr. Kelso, from the committee on elections, to which the subject of electing county treasurers, surveyors and other officers was referred, reported a bill, confining its provisions to the counties of Fayette, Dearborn and Switzerland; which was twice read; when, on motions of Messrs. Vandever and Carter of C., the provisions of the bill were extended to the counties of Orange and Carroll.

On motion of Mr. Kelso, said bill was recommitted to a select committee—Messrs. Kelso, Vandever, Walker, Torbet and Smith of F. were appointed that committee.

THE PUBLIC LANDS.

The following is the bill reported to the House of Representatives by Mr. Clay, of Ala., to which Mr. Lane had reference in his letter published in our last—

A Bill to reduce and graduate the price of the public lands.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, from and after the passage of this act, all the lands of the United States, which have been offered at public sale to the highest bidder, and have remained unsold fifteen years, or upwards, shall be subject to sale, by private entry, at the rate of twenty-five cents per acre; those which have been offered in like manner, and have remained unsold ten years, and less than fifteen years, at the rate of fifty cents per acre; those which have been offered in like manner, and have remained unsold five years, and less than ten years, at the rate of seventy-five cents per acre; and those which have been offered in like manner, and have remained unsold three years, and less than five years, at the rate of one dollar per acre.

SEC. 2. And be it further enacted, That all the lands of the United States, which may be hereafter offered at public sale to the highest bidder, and shall have remained unsold three years, and less than five years, shall be subject to sale, by private entry, at the rate of one dollar per acre; those which shall have remained unsold five years, and less than ten years, at the rate of seventy-five cents per acre; those which shall have remained unsold ten years, and less than fifteen years, at the rate of fifty cents per acre; and those which shall have remained unsold fifteen years, or upwards, at the rate of twenty-five cents per acre.

SEC. 3. And be it further enacted, That all actual settlers upon any of the lands of the United States, at the time of any reduction of price, provided for in the first and second sections of this act, shall have the right of pre-emption for the term of six months from and after said reduction, to any quantity not exceeding one hundred and sixty acres, or one quarter section, in any legal subdivision, to include his or her improvement, under like regulations and restrictions with those provided by an act entitled "An act to grant pre-emption rights to settlers on the public lands," approved on the twenty-ninth of May, eighteen hundred and thirty; Provided, That no person shall be permitted to enter more than six hundred and forty acres, or one section, in legal subdivisions, in his own name, or in the name of any other person, for his own use; and in no case, unless he intends it for settlement, or cultivation, or the use of his improvement; and the person making application to make an entry under this act, shall file his or her affidavit, under such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury may prescribe, that he or she makes the entry in his or her own name, for his or her own benefit, and not in trust for another.

From the Indiana Democrat.

Gentlemen—Some few days since I had two men employed to dig me a well on my farm adjoining Indianapolis. After they had descended 6 or 8 feet through the ordinary soil or rich earth they came to a species of blue clay, quite tenacious and hard, which continued until they had gone about 27 feet further, in all, 37 feet from the surface or top of the ground.—They then came to some litter, consisting of leaves, small brush, bark, &c. and finally to a black walnut log about two feet in diameter, perfectly sound with the bark on it. In cutting the side of the log to make room for the curbing, as it did not lay in the center of the well, they could distinctly hear something fall on the opposite side of the log, implying that it lay on the side or edge of some deep ravine

—they proceeded three feet further, making forty feet, and quit for the night, intending to prosecute their labors the next morning, but to our perfect surprise and astonishment the water had flown into the well, carrying a great deal of mud and dirt along and filling the well within 6 or 8 feet of the top with water. Our supposition is that the water found its way into the well by the side of the log, and in all probability communicated with some large stream of water running under the ground.

I remark for the benefit of those who are not familiar with the situation of my farm, that where the well is dug, the land is elevated about 60 or 70 feet above the bed of White river. Specimens of the bark and chips may be seen by going to the well. Respectfully yours,

JOHN H. SANDERS.

WOOD LAWN, Jan. 8, 1835.

REPENTANCE.—We copy the following card from the Madison "Republican and Banner," of the 1st instant:

"M. Stapp & Co. acknowledge the receipt of five dollars, enclosed in an envelope, and placed in the box of the post office by an unknown person. They congratulate the individual on his repentance, for having in an evil hour submitted to a temptation that led him into an error, and that the spirit of his understanding and honesty of his heart has caused him to make restitution. Such repentance is worth a thousand sorrows for the act, unaccompanied by a like restitution. Such repentance need not be repented of, and a person possessed of such principles need not be feared. They would, however, ask of the individual, to inform them through the same channel, in what manner he obtained the money, so that the public may in future guard against such occurrences from others, and they assure the individual that no effort will be made to ascertain his name."

OUR CLAIMS ON FRANCE.

I believe few persons in this country are aware, that at this moment, Louis Philip, is the real owner of at least one third of the claims on France. General Bernard was the agent employed to purchase them up, and was sent to this country immediately after the treaty.

This is the cause of the chambers refusing to make the appropriation, and so soon as the president's message reaches Paris, the French Government will no longer be able to keep the secret, and I should not be astonished to see the indignation of the people burst forth in another revolution.

[Balt. Republican.]

PUBLIC LANDS.—According to the official report of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, the sales of public lands, in the year 1833, exceed those of 1832, 1,393,885 acres; 1,856,903 dollars of purchase money; and of the amount paid into the Treasury, \$1,314,300; and it appears that the sales of the first three quarters of 1834, exceed those of the corresponding quarters of 1833, 330,291 acres; \$437,040 of purchase money, and of the amount paid into the Treasury, the sum of \$856,518.

THE NATIONAL DEBT.—Only nine years ago, our national debt was \$81,000,000. In 1816, the interest alone amounted to \$7,157,500.42. In 1826, to almost \$4,000,000. Since the beginning of that year, we have paid off, including interest, very nearly a hundred millions of dollars, over and above our current expenses, almost without feeling it.

The House of Lords, a branch of the British Parliament, is composed of dukes, marquesses, earls, viscounts and barons. The whole number of members is now 426. The House of Commons, representative in its character, consists of 658 members. The salary of the Lord High Chancellor, is £14,000 per annum.

MISSOURI.—The Legislature met at the seat of Government, on Monday, 17th November, when Mr. Jameson was elected Speaker of the House.—The Clerks of both Houses were Jackson editors.

The landlords having combined to charge five dollars per week for board, resolutions were introduced into both Houses, for charging the place of holding the session, in order to escape the imposition! In the Senate, the proposition was negatived, 10 to 12. In the House, it was debated from time to time, and skillfully brandished over the heads of the landlords, until the latter, thoroughly alarmed, reduced the board to four dollars per week.

Resolutions have been offered, prohibiting the introduction into the state of slaves for sale or hire, by others than residents, or persons about to become so, and for compelling masters to treat their slaves with humanity.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 1.

THE ORATION, on the life and character of Gen. LAFAYETTE, was pronounced yesterday, by Mr. Adams, agreeably to appointment, in the Hall of the House of Representatives, in the presence of the two Houses of Congress, the President of the United States, and all the principal officers of the Government, and an immense concourse of citizens and strangers, including some of the representatives of foreign Governments, who attended in accordance with special invitation. It occupied in the delivery, nearly three hours, and well it might, for wide was the ground it covered, being no narrower than the history of the last half century, and numerous and various were the topics which it embraced.

To say that the Oration was of great ability, it is enough to know who was the author. To attempt any analysis of it would be unjust and supererogatory besides, for the Oration will doubtless be published under the direction of Congress, eagerly sought after, and universally and delightedly read.

The circumstances of this ceremony were of a nature calculated to affect any mind of ordinary sensibility. There was a moral beauty in the whole scene, seldom equaled in public exhibitions; under the influence of which, it may be hoped, a pure and elevated patriotic feeling pervaded the whole assembly. Who, indeed, could listen unmoved to the eloquent accents of the accomplished Orator, pouring forth the gushings of a grateful heart in memory of the benefactor of his country, and of mankind? Who, that bore in mind the station which the Orator had filled, and the presence of illustrious men in which this mark of respect was paid to the memory of Lafayette, but felt the inspiration of the occasion, rejoiced in it, and responded, from the inmost recesses of his heart, to the strains uttered in honor and gratitude to the deceased, as well as to the pious aspirations of the Orator for the future welfare and prosperity of his beloved country? None, none; we hope not one.

[Nat. Intelligencer.]

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

This important document occupies almost the whole of to-day's paper. It presents a most flattering account of the state of our finances. On the first of January next, there will be nearly half a million in the public treasury above all demands against it. Besides this, the nation is the owner of 7,000,000 of stock in the Bank of the United States. The nation is not only out of debt, but is the owner of public stocks to a very large amount. The Secretary of the Treasury recommends that the office of Commissioner of Loans be abolished, and the duties of Commissioners of the Sinking Fund be suspended. He remarks with justice that by the payment of our public debt with punctuality and fidelity: "It is gratifying to reflect that our public credit as a nation has been raised to a high standing; and a large stock of confidence acquired from others, which in such future exigencies as are likely to happen sooner or later, in all countries, will aid us to procure ample and seasonable loans without ruinous discounts or delays."—N. Y. Times.

MISSISSIPPI.—The Governor of Mississippi has issued his writ convening the Legislature of the State, at Jackson, the seat of government, on the 3d Monday of Jan. inst. to elect a Senator to the Congress of the United States, in place of Mr. Poindexter, whose term of service expires on the 4th of March, 1835.

NEW ENGLAND SCHOOLS.—A writer in a Southern paper thus describes the free schools of New England:—"The poorest boy in the free schools feels as high and as proud as the son of the richest. You do not mean, said Gov. Barbour of Virginia, after visiting the superb free school of Boston, which he admired very much, that these schools are free? Indeed I do, said the school committee man.—You remember the boy that got the medal in the first class we have just examined, and the boy that lost it!—The first is the son of that wood-sawyer there (pointing to a man who was sawing wood in the street,) and the second is the son of John Quincy Adams, the President of the United States.—The Virginian started with astonishment at a spectacle like this, and he no longer wondered at the prosperity of New England."

BACKWARD, MARCH!—Last year the legislature of Pennsylvania modelled their school system after the excellent pattern of New York state. This excited the ire of those, who have got on in life by making their mark; and they have sent delegates to the present legislature, instructed to vote down the school system!!!

FOREIGN NEWS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.

By an arrival at this port, London papers have been received to the 22d of November.

The British ministry, under Lord Melbourne had been dissolved. The reason assigned is the death of Lord Spencer, and the consequent transfer of Lord Althorp to the peerage, which rendered it improper that he should remain Chancellor of the exchequer and leader of the House of Commons.

A new French ministry had been formed with the Duke of Bassano at its head. The French Chambers had been convoked for the 1st of December, instead of the 29th, (the date to which they had been prorogued,) the earlier convocation it is presumed, having for its object the consideration of the unexecuted treaty with the United States. It is probable, therefore, that the appropriation necessary to carry the treaty into effect has already been made, and the cause of our unpleasant relations with France removed.

Ireland still continued in a frightful state, outrages of the most alarming character being of constant occurrence in the midland counties.

A vessel is announced as about to sail from Liverpool, on a voyage round the world, in which cabin passengers may be accommodated at 130l. and that similar trips are to take place every six weeks.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.

By an arrival at this port, London papers have been received to Nov. 23d. They bring the unexpected news that the Melbourne ministry had been capriciously dissolved by the King, and the Tories, with Lord Wellington at their head, had been invited to office. There was great excitement at the announcement in all parts of Britain and Ireland, and meetings of the people had been called in most of the principal towns, but there seemed to be no apprehension of any immediate resort to violence.

The Bassano ministry in France was also of short duration. A new ministry had been formed, with the Duke of Treviso (Marshal Mortier) at its head, and embracing, with two exceptions, the same members who constituted it previous to the appointment of the duke of Bassano.

There is no news of importance from either Spain or Portugal.

SCRAPS.

We learn through the Niles' Register that Cotton Twist, has been imported into England from the United States, at a profit of 3 cents per lb. to the importer.

It is estimated that the annual circulation of all the newspapers of the United States, exceed seventy millions of copies.

The Globe informs us that gold has been procured to pay every member of Congress the full amount of their pay and mileage.

PLOUGHSHARES IN MEN.—There is iron enough in the blood of forty-two men to make a ploughshare weighing about 24 pounds.

A remarkable phenomenon has been observed in the neighborhood of Frankfurt. It is a sudden malady among the mice, thousands of which are found dead or dying in the fields.

Among the steamboats built during the late season at Pittsburgh, was the Mogul, with an engine of three hundred horses power. Her length on deck is 135 feet. She is intended for the New Orleans and St. Louis trade.

It is said that the French Minister at Washington, refused to attend the usual diplomatic dinner, given by the President of the United States at the commencement of the session of Congress.

The value of the coal annually shipped from Pittsburgh down the river, is estimated at one hundred thousand dollars, and the business is rapidly increasing.

WORTH RAISING.—The Rev. T. P. Dudley, near Lexington, Ky., sold a bull calf, of the Durham sort horned breed, 2 years old, for three hundred dollars. Why don't our farmers make such speculations as this? Just because they won't.

The Hon. Nathaniel Silsbee has made known to his constituents, his intention of declining a re-election to the Senate of the United States for Massachusetts.

UNDIGNIFIED LEGISLATION.—We find in the proceedings of the House of Representatives of the United States, on Wednesday, that, in electing a Chaplain, on the first ballot, four ballots being taken before a choice, Mrs. Anne Royal had two votes!! Those who voted for Mrs. R. ought to be exposed.

A bill has passed the South Carolina Legislature, incorporating a Bank in Charleston, with a capital of two million, and power to increase it to four million.