

SEMI-WEEKLY JOURNAL.

INDIANAPOLIS:

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1841.

The attention of those who have wheat to sell is directed to the advertisement of C. Woodburn, Madison, Ia. A gentleman just from the river, told us yesterday that it was selling for 90 cents per bushel cash when he left.

In to-day's Journal will be found some interesting articles, in relation to the recent important events at Washington City.

ELECTION OF SENATOR.

We refer to this matter again for the purpose of correcting the *Sentinel* in one of its statements. It is not a fact, as that sheet would induce its readers to believe, that at the election in question the people of Marion county decided against a National Bank. A glance at the table below will satisfy any unprejudiced mind of that. We are as confident as ever that there is a majority of at least 300 of the voters of this county in favor of a United States Bank; and when the time arrives to decide that question, that opinion will be fully confirmed.

It will be seen, by a comparison of the vote on the 18th with the vote for Governor in 1840, that over 600 Whigs failed to vote, while the Opposition, as usual came out in their full strength.

Hanneman, W. Bigger, W. West, Op. Howard, F. B.			
Centre, 633	580	588	375
Decatur, 64	102	10	25
Franklin, 49	94	99	132
Lawrence, 8	35	133	171
Perry, 63	158	60	95
Pike, 53	137	118	137
Warren, 40	92	106	162
Washington, 95	249	101	133
Wayne, 47	216	69	130
1052	1663	1284	1360

John Sergeant, a member from Philadelphia, has resigned his seat in Congress.

Gov. Cannon, of Tennessee, died a few days since at his residence in Nashville.

THE NEW CABINET. All of Mr. Tyler's Cabinet, except Messrs. M'Lean and Wickliffe, have signified their intention to accept the stations that have been tendered them. Judge M'Lean has *declined* his appointment. This his friends from the first thought he would do. Nothing has been heard from Mr. Wickliffe as yet; he will, however, doubtless accept. No one seems to know or care who will be called to fill the place refused by Judge M'Lean.

Vulgar abuse—To tell a notorious truth. For example, that the editor of the "Dunhill Oracle" was *fowl*-ly drunk on the afternoon of the 18th instant.

A SUB-TREASURER ROBBED.—The Chicago American of the 14th inst. says: "We regret to announce that Mr. Prescott, Receiver of the Land Office in this city, has been robbed of something over eleven thousand dollars. Of this sum \$10,838 was in gold, and the rest in Treasury notes, silver and a bill of fifty dollars on the Bank of North Adams, Mass. Mr. Prescott has offered a reward of \$1000 for the money, and \$500 for the detection of the thief. The robbery took place it is supposed on the night of Saturday or Sunday last, and must have been effected by means of false keys. We deeply deplore the loss which Mr. Prescott has sustained, and sincerely hope that the money will be restored to him. Our very vigilant officers are upon the alert, and if it depend upon their exertions the thief will unquestionably be taken."

The *Sentinel* is violent and abusive.—*Corydon Whig*.

We think if the editor of the Whig had taken a second thought, he would hardly have penned that sentence. Can he not distinguish between truth and energy, and abuse and violence?—*Ia. State Sentinel*.

Yes, we can "distinguish between truth and energy, and abuse and violence," and therefore said "the *Sentinel* is violent and abusive;" and had we "taken a second thought," we might have added falsehood to the *Sentinel's* violence and abuse.—*Corydon Whig*.

ANOTHER GREAT FORGERY.—The New York papers mention the commission of a second great forgery, effected in the same way and by the same rogue who recently cheated Messrs. Brown, Brothers & Co. of New York. The *Herald* says that the house of Messrs. Cliburn & Co. of London, have been swindled out of \$25,000.

A letter of credit was received from New Orleans, advising them of a shipment of cotton to Fletcher & Alexander, of London, and authorising the house in New York to negotiate for \$25,000. This amount was transmitted in twenty-five one thousand dollar bills of the Bank of America, to the person in Georgetown or Alexandria.

The amount obtained of the Browns was \$62,000, and it was sent to the "financier" according to his request in funds of the District of Columbia. On receiving the cash, the fellow had the cool sarcasm to return a letter of thanks for their "promptitude and accuracy" in following his instructions.—*Balt. American*.

POPULATION OF VIRGINIA.—The total number of whites in Virginia is 741,013; free colored persons 49,554; and slaves 448,979—total 1,239,846. The number of white persons over 20 years of age who cannot read is 58,462. The number of *abstractionists* is not reported.—*Lexington Intell.*

From the New York Commercial Advertiser.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

"Audi alteram partem."

The attention of the American people is earnestly invited to the following letter. It comes from a distinguished source. We need not say it is written by an able hand. That fact is evident from the force of it. It is a calm statement of facts, defining the position which Mr. Webster has occupied in the Executive councils during the recent trying scenes at the capital, and illustrating the propriety of his present position. We trust that it will receive that grave consideration from the public to which the importance of the subject, and the character of the facts and circumstances it discloses are entitled. Appeals to reason, rather than the inflammatory essays of men who evidently write under the influence of passion, caused by personal disappointment, are those to which the people should give heed in a crisis like this.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14.

Your friendship for Mr. Webster, and your solicitude for his fame, induce me, who share with you both these sentiments, to communicate some particulars of his course during the eventful session just terminated, which evince his patriotism, judgment and devotion at once to the true interests of his party and of the country. I shall tell you nothing which you do not know already; but it may not be unseasonable nor useless, at such a moment as this, to have in one view, and from an eye witness, important familiar facts. I confess a desire to have it kept constantly in the public mind, that his counsels and his wishes would have preserved unimpaired the integrity of the Whig party; would have prevented a dissolution of the cabinet, have maintained our official relations to the President, and have carried us through this administration and to the organization of another, undistracted, unalienated, and full of reasonable hope.

At the commencement of the session, as before, Mr. Webster desired to see the country provided with a useful bank. This, of course, was to be expected from his whole public life and opinions. Ascertaining the existence of constitutional difficulties in the mind of the President, he assisted to have the bill which the Secretary of the Treasury was directed to send to the Senate as a *projet*, made as perfect as possible, consistent with those difficulties; he endeavored to persuade his political and personal friends to pass that bill, imperfect though he thought it, and thought it was, the disconcerted introduction of another and different one, which there were the best reasons to fear the President would not approve; he favored the attempt of Mr. Rives to restore, by an amendment, the substance of the Treasury *projet*; and when that had been defeated, and the bill containing the compromise provision was sent to the Executive, he sought to secure his official approval. In all this he manifested that fidelity to the party, delicacy to the President, consideration of unfortunate and unanticipated circumstances, and constant pursuit of a practical public good, which the country expected, indeed from him, but could scarcely expect from any other man.

When the purpose of introducing another bill, after the veto of the first, was adopted in Congress, Mr. Webster no doubt sought to have it so framed as to avoid the objections of the President; and probably had no doubt it would receive his signature, until the appearance of Mr. Bott's letter. From that moment, as you collect from Mr. Ewing's letter, the President manifested great and not unnatural uneasiness and anxiety, and a very strong wish that the whole matter might be laid over until the next session. Mr. Webster thought this reasonable and expedient, under the circumstances, as did Mr. Ewing, if I understand his letter; and he communicated his opinion and his desire to his friends in Congress. The bill was passed and sent to the President, and then, as Mr. Ewing tells the public, and as I believe the truth to be, Mr. Webster submitted a written and oral argument to the President to persuade him to give it his sanction.

You see, therefore, that if, in this matter there had been on both sides, or on either side, faults or errors, Mr. Webster did all that he could do—all that man could do, in the succession of events, to prevent them. Down to the moment when he adopted and declared his determination not to retire from office, there was no one within or without the Whig party who did not appreciate his sound judgment, his perfect fidelity and his admirable counsels. I have not a doubt that the sober second thought of the country will do justice to this determination. His colleagues have retired from the same conviction that influenced that portion of the Whigs in Congress who have presented an address to the public; to wit—that there exists no longer any hope of a satisfactory arrangement of the question of the bank, under Mr. Tyler's administration. Mr. Webster thinks the case not thus hopeless. He is for another trial; and in another sense than they would exert us—

No, cede malis, sed contra audientior iro. He thinks there is yet a reasonable chance that the President and his new Cabinet, all Whigs, selected by a Whig, may present such a scheme as shall receive the vote of a Whig Congress. You perceive, from his recent letter, that he deems a bank, as he always has done, in some useful form, to be wholly indispensable; and for so great a good he does not think the country ought to be required to wait four years longer. In this hope, and with these opinions, he remains in the Cabinet. He remains at the post which the good President assigned to him, and at which Mr. Tyler desires him to remain. He sees, I have reason to believe, no cause to doubt that the President is influenced by a constant regard to the public interest and to the duties of his great office—although it is true that schemes of a bank have struck his mind differently at different times, as being within, or not within, the constitutional principle he had adopted and avowed. In the considerations suggested in the concluding language of the last veto message, there may perhaps be found for this an explanation and an excuse.

You have, then, in a word, Mr. Webster's whole course on this subject. He thought, as did the entire Cabinet, that the *projet* of a bill first sent by Mr. Ewing to the Senate, on its call, ought to have been passed by Congress into a law. He wished the President to sign the somewhat different one which, instead of that, Congress first sent to him. When the second bill was introduced, he thought it was in such a shape that it would receive the Executive approbation; but after the explosion created by Mr. Bott's letter, he strongly advised, as did Mr. Ewing too, that the whole subject should be laid over for three months, to afford time for mature thought, and for collecting the true sense of the country.

Under these circumstances, you will concur with me that Mr. Webster ought to stay where he is. His personal honor permits and his public duties require it. The means of doing good—of preserving peace—of quieting the public mind agitated by apprehension of war—of assisting the administration by his wisdom, his experience, his unrivaled ability and his hold on the confidence of the country—these all are in his hands, and they impose a responsibility which he could not evade if he would, and I believe would not if he could. I verily believe that his retirement from the Cabinet at such a moment as this would produce

such an impression on the North and East of the uncertainty of our foreign relations, as greatly to diminish the chances of obtaining the residue of the authorized loan at favorable rates. For the country, then, if not for himself, let him remain. "In all exertions of duty something must be hazarded."

LETTER FROM HON. G. E. BADGER.

To the Editors of the *National Intelligencer*:

Messrs. GALE & SEATON: I deem it proper to offer for a public explanation of some of the reasons which led to my resignation, on the 11th inst., of the office of Secretary of the Navy, and for that purpose, ask a small space in the *National Intelligencer*.

At the Cabinet meeting held on the 18th of August last, (the Attorney General and the Postmaster General being absent,) the subject of an Exchange Bank, or institution, was brought forward by the President himself, and was fully considered. Into the particulars of what passed I do not propose now to enter. It will be sufficient to say that it was then distinctly stated and understood that such an institution met the approbation of the President, and was deemed by him free of constitutional objections; that he desired (if Congress should deem it necessary to act upon the subject during the session) that such an institution should be adopted by that body, and that the members of his Cabinet should aid in bringing about that result; and Messrs. WEBSTER and EWING were especially requested by the President to have a communication upon the subject with certain members of Congress. The institution then spoken of was to be located in the District of Columbia; to be authorized to establish agencies in the States and Territories with a power to deal in bills of exchange between the United States and foreign countries, and in bills of exchange drawn in one State or Territory, and payable in another State or Territory; and the exercise of this power was not to depend on any assent, expressed or implied, of the States within which such agencies might be established.

In consequence of what passed at this meeting, I saw such friends in Congress as I deemed it proper to approach, and urged upon them the passage of a bill to establish such an institution, assuring them that I did not doubt it would receive the approbation of the President.

The bill was passed, as the Public know, and was met by the Veto. Now, if the President, after the meeting of the 18th August, had changed his mind as to the constitutional power of Congress, and had come to doubt or deny what he had admitted in that meeting, (which is the most favorable interpretation that can be put upon his conduct,) it was, in my opinion, a plain duty on his part to have made known to the gentleman concerned this change of sentiment—to have offered them an apology for the unpleasant situation in which they were placed by his agency—or, at least, to have softened, by a full explanation of his motives, his intended Veto of a measure in promoting the success of which they, at his request, had rendered their assistance. But this the President did not do. Never, from the moment of my leaving his house on the 18th, did he open his lips to me on the subject. It was only from the newspapers, from rumor, from heresy, I learned that he had denied the constitutionality of the proposed institution, and had made the most solemn asseverations that he would never approve a measure which I knew was suggested by himself, and which had been, at his own instance, introduced into Congress. It was still in the President's power, by a proper statement in the message containing his objections to the bill, to have supplied these omissions, and in some degree at least to have repaired his former neglect; but when that paper came to be read, it was found that so far from saying frankly that he once favored and had been willing to sanction the bill, but had been led (if such was the fact,) by subsequent reflection to adopt different views upon the subject, he treated the measure as one evidently inconsistent with his previously expressed opinions, and which it ought not to have been supposed for a moment he could approve.

Whether this conduct of the President is susceptible of just defence or reasonable excuse it is not necessary now to inquire. I have not heard, nor can I imagine any ground for either. Whether an explanation of it has been offered to any one of the gentlemen concerned I know not, but none was at any time offered me; and while I forbear to make the remarks, obvious and painful as they are, which the transaction suggests, I declare the conviction that this conduct of the President, standing without known defence, excuse, or explanation, constituted (if no other reasons had existed) ample ground for a withdrawal from his Cabinet without delay.

It is scarcely necessary to say that I have not supposed, and do not now suppose, that a difference merely between the President and his Cabinet, either as to the constitutionality or the expediency of a bank, necessarily interposes any obstacles to a full and cordial co-operation between them in the general conduct of his Administration; and therefore deeply as I regretted the veto of the first bill, I did not feel myself at liberty to retire on that account from my situation. But the facts attending the initiation and disapproval of the last bill made a case totally different from that—one it is believed without a parallel in the history of our Cabinets: presenting, to say nothing more, a measure embraced and then disowned—efforts prompted and then disowned—service rendered and then treated with scorn or neglect. Such a case required, in my judgment, upon considerations, private and public, that the official relations subsisting between the President and myself should be immediately dissolved.

GEO. E. BADGER.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18, 1841.

From the *Madisonian*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22, 1841.

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER,

Dear Sir—It is stated in Mr. Ewing's letter to the President, that the President wished the members of his Cabinet to obtain a postponement to the next session, of the last Bank bill, and that an effort was made by some of them, Mr. Ewing himself being one, to gratify his wishes. I heard at the time, that you addressed a letter on that subject to the two Senators of Massachusetts, and caused it to be communicated to the Committee of the Senate, before which the bill was then pending. I have never seen the letter, but from what I heard of its contents, I think its publication would be useful. Have you any objection to furnishing a copy for that purpose?

I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,

THOS. ALLEN.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22, 1841.
Dear Sir—I have received your note, and send you a copy of the letter, to which you refer.

Yours, respectfully,

DANIEL WEBSTER.

THOS. ALLEN, Esq.

Editor of the *Madisonian*.

AUGUST 25th, 1841.
GENTLEMEN:—As you spoke last evening of the

general policy of the Whigs, under the present posture of affairs, relative to the Bank bill, I am willing to place you in full possession of my opinion on that subject.

It is not necessary to go further back, into the history of the past, than the introduction of the present measure into the House of Representatives.

That introduction took place, within two or three days, after the President's disapproval of the former bill; and I have not the slightest doubt that it was honestly and fairly intended as a measure likely to meet the President's approbation. I do not believe that one in fifty of the Whigs had any sinister design whatever, if there was an individual who had such a design.

But I know that the President had been greatly troubled, in regard to the former bill, being desirous, on one hand, to meet the wishes of his friends, if he could, and on the other, to do justice to his own opinions.

Having returned this first bill with objections, a new one was presented in the House, and appeared to be making rapid progress.

I know the President regretted this, and wished the whole subject might have been postponed.

At the same time, I believe he was disposed to consider calmly and conscientiously, whatever measure might be presented to him.

But in the mean time Mr. Bott's very extraordinary letter made its appearance. Mr. Bott is a Whig of eminence and influence in our ranks. I need not recall to your mind the contents of the letter. It is enough to say, that it purported that the Whigs designed to circumvent their own President, to "head him" as the expression was, and to place him in a condition of embarrassment.

From that moment, I felt that it was the duty of the Whigs to forbear from pressing the Bank bill further, at the present time.

I thought it was but just in them to give decisive proof that they entertained no such purpose, as seemed to be imputed to them. And since there was reason to believe, that the President would be glad of time, for information and reflection, before being called on to form an opinion or another plan for a Bank—a plan somewhat new to the country—I thought his known wishes ought to be complied with.

I think so still. I think this is a course, just to the President, and wise on behalf of the Whig party.

A decisive rebuke ought, in my judgment, to be given to the intimation, from whatever quarter, of a disposition among the Whigs to embarrass the President.

This is the main ground of my opinion; and such a rebuke, I think,