

tifications, to improve a harbor in Lake Erie, or to build a light house at the mouth of the Hallow. He thought so at the last session of Congress, and thought so still. If the honorable gentleman thought Congress had better pass another law to make the improvement he had in view, he would not object to the measure; but he had no hopes of the passage of another law on the subject, with better success than the one of the last year, until there is more unanimity in the public councils. When the other resolution came up for consideration, he should take the liberty to express his views fully in relation to it.

*This appropriation is for the improvement of the Monongahela river, upon which there never has been any part of entry established.

GAZETTE. VINCENNES.

SATURDAY, JAN. 3, 1834.

We refer our readers to the letter of the Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Patriot, which will be found on the first page of to-day's paper, for a faithful and vivid sketch of things as they are at Washington, and of the arrangements and objects of the dominant party. It is too true, that we of the West are to be made the dependants of New York.—The wealth of the Empire State is to rule the whole country. Hence it is, that we are retarded in our growth—in our progress to greatness. Hence it is, that appropriations on our rivers and roads are vetoed to satisfy the new born constitutional scruples of the President. The west is to be sacrificed; and that too by a western President—a President of their own choice, and all this to give New York an undue preponderance in the scale.—For the longer we remain poor, the longer shall we require foreign assistance; the longer the balance of the trade is against us, the longer shall we be dependant on the East. We have often heard of men that would gamble away their last shirt, but these persons are always considered the slaves of a ruinous infatuation. Whether such a course of conduct as a people, is less reprehensible, than as individuals, we shall not say.

It is truly melancholy to think how corrupt our government has become. Every thing is carried by trick, and the people are the dupes. The infection is spreading, and even the people themselves are beginning to shew it. But a few years ago, no man could be elected to a responsible office, unless the people, at least, thought him honest. Now many laugh at the idea of honesty, and have adopted the Jesuitical doctrine, that the ends sanctify the means; and of course, that it is right and proper to resort to all and every expedient to carry our point.

Our readers will find in our columns of this week, the speech of our Senator, Gen. Tipton, upon a resolution authorizing an appropriation for the improvement of the Wabash river. A similar resolution has twice passed both Houses of Congress, and has been as often vetoed by the President. The General has been a staunch friend to the President, but he does not, it seems, approve of a blind subservience to Gen. Jackson's will, and prefers consulting the interest of Indiana, rather than the interest of what the office-holders call the party, or in other words, he would rather see our rivers and roads improved, than Mr. Van Buren our next President.

A Mr. Lestly of Gibson county, Indiana, was mortally wounded on Monday last by a pistol shot. While waiting at the ferry for the boat, he dismounted, and taking his pistols from their holsters, reprimed them; in replacing the last, it unfortunately went off, and the ball passed through his body. He survived but a few days.

At a meeting of the companions of Vincennes Royal Arch Chapter, No. 2, held on the 29th December, A. L. 1834, the following named persons were elected its officers for the ensuing year:

M. E. Thomas Bishop, High Priest,
E. John B. Martin, King,
E. Robert Buntin, Jr. Scribe,
Companion, H. P. Brokaw, Captain of the Host,
" E. Stout, Principal Sojourner,
" John Law, Royal Arch Capt.,
" H. A. Hunter, Master 1st Veil,
" H. M. Gilham, " 2d "
" H. Derker, " 3d "
" Samuel Hill, Secretary,
" Andrew Gardner, Treasurer,
" Willis Fellows, Steward and Tyler.

Extract of a letter from H. M. Shaw, Representative in our Legislature, from this county, to his friend in Vincennes.

INDIANAPOLIS, 20th Dec. 1834.
My Dear Sir—We are likely to have a

session of at least eight weeks. There is much business, (and some of it of great importance to the State) now before the House, and much more is now being prepared by the standing and select committees. An interesting and animated debate took place in the House on an application for divorce. It was finally determined by the majority, that it was inexpedient to legislate on the matter during the present session. I am pleased at the result.—Much time and much too of the public money has been thereby saved. Had we not decided in an early stage of the session against legislating upon cases of divorce, we should have been flooded with petitions of that nature before its close.—Many of the members had them in their pockets ready to be presented on the first favorable indication on the part of the House. Fortunately its early and decided action closed the door of hope against all such applications. Such cases are much better acted on in our courts, where both parties can be heard, and with a great saving of money to the State. In the Legislature it is an exparte proceeding altogether. Resolutions introduced by the member from Jennings (Mr. Vawter) by which we would be authorized to borrow one million, four hundred thousand dollars at 4½ per cent. for the purpose of internal improvements, have called forth a long and exciting debate. I considered it my duty to oppose them in consequence of the inequality of the provisions. The mover entirely lost sight of our great and important thoroughfare, the road from Vincennes to New Albany. I shall feel bound to record my vote against any measure of that description which does not secure a just proportion of the loan to "Old Knox," whose citizens have on all occasions, in war as well as in peace, so eminently borne the "heat and burden of the day." An amendment has been offered to those resolutions making the loan on the faith of the State, one million and a half at 5 per cent. The whole will ultimately go before the Committee on Canals and Internal Improvements, of which I am a member; and so far as my humble influence can extend, it shall be exerted in favor of the county which I have the honor to represent. I should be pleased to receive an expression of the will of my constituents on the subject. Instructions from them will ever, while I act as their Representative, be most implicitly and promptly obeyed. An effort is now making to change the Probate system, by either transferring the Probate business to the Circuit Court, and allowing three instead of two terms for such Court, or by constituting a Probate Circuit Court, the Judges to be elected by the Legislature. I have opposed the contemplated change thus far. I have heard no complaints from my constituents in relation to our present system, who have now the services of a Probate Judge, as well qualified for the office, I may safely affirm, as any in the State. The resolution which I introduced to abolish imprisonment for debt, was approved by the Judiciary Committee. A bill was directed to be reported thereon, and it is now on its second reading in the House; which will be its ultimate fate, it is impossible now to determine. The mail is about closing, and I can write no longer.

Ever your friend,
H. M. SHAW.

From the Indiana Journal of Dec. 19.
Rather an unusual quantity of petitions and resolutions, as will have been perceived, have been introduced this session. A great many of them however relate to matters of local concernment.—We have thus far, we believe, published all the resolutions which have been adopted, and taken some notice of all the petitions presented; but our room has not permitted us to give all the reports made by committees to which they were referred. Whenever committees report favorably an account of it will be found in our proceedings; but when the reader shall find no notice taken of subjects after having been referred to committees he may take it for granted that they have not met with favor by the committees.

On Tuesday last Mr. Crume from the committee of ways and means, to which had been referred a resolution directing an inquiry into the propriety, of repealing the law of last session imposing a tax on Michigan road lands, reported that after the most careful deliberation a majority had come to the conclusion that the law should not be repealed. On the question of concurring in the report considerable debate took place, Messrs. Liston, Evans, Kelso, Smith of F., Bigger, Newman, and Chapman opposing the concurrence; and Messrs. Crume, Wallace, Conwell, and Vawter supporting it. It was contended by those who opposed concurrence in the report, among other arguments, that there was no propriety nor justice in the immediate taxing of her lands, acquired by gift, and which it was desirable should be sold as rapidly as possible, whilst the lands of the general government are exempt for five years; that it would operate hard only upon poor settlers whose means were exhausted by the purchase of their land; that speculators would deem the tax an advantage to them inasmuch as it would operate to prevent the purchase of the lands by those in indigent circumstances, and consequently lessen the competition in the purchase; that the imposition of a tax short of five years was an implied violation of public faith so far as it concerned prior purchasers, &c. &c. On the other hand it was contended, in support of the report, that the greater part of the land has been purchased by resident and non-resident speculators who never intend to settle on them, the latter of whom can

be taxed in no other way, and neither of which should in justice be permitted to hold so much valuable property without paying something for the privilege; that no prayer for the repeal of the tax had been received from the purchasers of the lands; that the repeal of the tax would operate onerously upon the counties in which the lands lie, inasmuch as it would greatly reduce the objects of taxation for county and road purposes, increase the burdens of the citizens, &c. &c. The question on concurring in the report of the committee was decided in the affirmative by a large majority; so that the question, we suppose, is settled for this session.

The greater portion of Wednesday was occupied by the H. of R., in committee of the whole, in the consideration of the resolution heretofore moved by Mr. Vawter on the subject of a loan by the State in aid of internal improvements. The reader will recollect that on a former day the original resolution was struck out from the resolving clause and a substitute offered by Mr. Thompson, the substance of which has been heretofore stated, and that the pending question was a motion to reduce the amount of stock to be taken by the State in any incorporated company from two thirds to one half. A very interesting and extended debate took place, as well upon the whole question as upon the proposed amendment, in which Messrs. Vawter, Evans, Thompson, Shaw, Ray, Crume, Marshall, Smith, of F. and perhaps other gentlemen, participated.—Before any question was taken the committee rose, and obtained leave to sit again.

A bill was yesterday reported from the Judiciary Committee providing for abolishing imprisonment for debt which was twice read and committed to a select committee.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot.
Washington, Dec. 15, 1834.

The most important news I have heard for some days, comes—not from the Capitol nor from the White House, but from South Carolina,—that the Union men and the Nullifiers have laid down their arms, and are now at peace. In the movement of politics, I look upon this as an important event, happening in a most auspicious time, and as one of our most important results will spring. The Union men of South Carolina, and indeed of the whole South have been in a false position for a long time past, and this event now restores them to their true position, and unites them with their Whig friends at the North, the party with which they have ever acted, and with which their sympathies also are. I look upon it as an event likely to consolidate the whole Southern vote from the Potomac to the Mississippi, in the next Presidential question, and as putting to route all such men as Ritchie, and his coadjutors, who for months and months have been fighting under false colors,—With the Van Buren flag in the field, and any flag, just as they tell in with companies on the deck. It unites the Union men in Georgia, who have hitherto been anti-Jackson men (not a few,) with the Nullifiers there, and thus, I am quite sure, gives us the vote of that State against Van Buren. It will have its influence in South Carolina, Alabama and Mississippi,—and in Virginia, it strengthens that alliance, which virtue ever makes against profligate corruption, and unprincipled management. Ritchie may tremble at the signs of the times.—Though he may live in Richmond, all his companions will soon be in Albany, and though his ashes, as he says, will rest in Virginia, yet his heart, if any he has, be among the New York Bankers, whose tool he is, whether wittingly or unwittingly it is not for me to say. It is indeed, these glorious news, that the Union men and the Nullifiers have laid down their arms, and are brethren now,—that South Carolina, with so much heart and soul, full of intellect and strong men, moves with one impetus, and one front against that most corrupt of all bodies of men,—the Albany Regency. The Calhouns, the Pettigrews, the Hamiltons, the Huggers, and the McDuffies, are now one. When Virginia acts thus, the days of her glory will return. The reason why she has lost her fame, is, that she has introduced within her boundaries a part of the Regency system of politics, which reduces all intellect to mere machinery, and forces men to act the part Ritchie is acting, that is, degrading his own State, to foreigners for foreigner's purposes. Ritchie belongs to Albany, not to Richmond. Why will not Van Buren take him there? His body had better be where his heart is; and if he insists upon it, that Virginia shall have his ashes, why, Van Buren can return him there.

The debate in the House to-day relative to the four Paintings, to be selected for the four vacant places in the Rotunda of the Capitol, was of some interest, but it will not bear abbreviation in a letter. We have a letter from a Member of Congress, who expressed the belief, that President Jackson is resolved never to sanction an appropriation for the Wabash, even though the town of Lafayette he made a port of entry. He will not suffer a farthing to be spent upon the Wabash, the Kentucky, or the Falls of the Ohio, because the objects, proposed to be attained, are local and not national. He has, however, during his Presidency, expended his own private money in ornamenting his own palace at Washington, setting out trees, and beautifying his pleasure grounds, and he intends, no doubt, to expend as much more during the next two years. Is he not right? What true hermit is so stupid as not to perceive, that the decorations of Andrew Jackson's mansion is a matter of infinitely more importance to the nation than the opening of the great streams of the country? What story is so blind to his own interest as not to see, that the former object is national in the broadest sense of the word, and that the latter is merely local? What is the paltry interest of the people in internal navigation, compared with their momentous interest in the planting of shrubbery as a shade for President Jackson and his Cabinet in their summer loungings? Louisville Journal.

WABASH VETO AND GEN. TIPTON.

There is one point, to which we especially invite attention. The Globe, last spring, in reply to Mr. Tipton's Circular, stated, that the President had invariably refused, on account of Constitutional scruples, to sanction any appropriation for the improvement of rivers unless below ports of entry. The Advertiser and the other Executive organs loudly applauded the doctrine. The President himself, in his late annual Message, speaks of it as a settled and prominent principle of his administration. He says: "I have prescribed a limitation for the government of my own conduct, by which expenditures are confined to places below the ports of entry or delivery established by law." Again: "I sincerely regret, that I could not give my assent to the Bill entitled an Act to improve the navigation of the Wabash, but I could not do so without receding from the ground, which I have, upon the fullest consideration, taken upon the subject, and of which Congress has been heretofore apprized." In reply to all this, Mr. Tipton shows, that the President has sanctioned appropriations for clearing out rivers above ports of entry. He convicts him of inconsistency the most disgraceful. He shows, that the Executive gives one construction of the Constitution for one part of the country and an opposite construction for another part, and, that the whole Government, as at present administered, is merely a Government of awkward shifts, expedients, and tricks, with which principles have not the remotest fellowship or connection.

There is another matter which the people ought to consider. The Whigs, it will be recollected, censured the President, at the close of the last session of Congress, for putting the Wabash bill in his pocket instead of returning it to the Senate and thus giving Congress an opportunity to pass it by the constitutional majority of two thirds. All his hirelings attempted to defend him by alleging, that he had not time, before the adjournment, to give to the bill that consideration, which the important principles, involved in it, required. Such too, it appears, was the pretence of the President himself. Mr. Tipton says: "On the last day of the session, we received a verbal message through our Committee, informing us, that the President of the United States had approved and signed all the bills passed at the then present session, except that of improving the navigation of the Wabash; and, as that bill involved a question of importance, it was retained for further consideration." Now, what says the President in his late message? He says, that, as there is no port of entry upon the Wabash, he has put his veto upon the bill for its improvement in conformity with an old and established rule of his administration, and, that Congress, at the time of voting for the appropriation, was aware of the existence and inviolability of the rule. We call upon every reader to mark these things. According to what the President now says, he wanted no time at all to consider the Wabash bill; he needed only to know, that there was not a port of entry above the contemplated improvement; the rule, which he had communicated to Congress, was applicable to the case, and his mind was at once made up; and yet, instead of sending the bill back to the Senate with his negative, he informed that body, that he most retain it some months for consideration.—By his own confession, he kept the bill under a pretence at once false and hypocritical; and he can have had no other object than to paralyze the two Houses of Congress in the exercise of their constitutional prerogatives. We say with Mr. Tipton—"these things must be corrected at the ballot boxes."—Louisville Journal.

VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot.

Richmond, Dec. 9, 1834.

The House of Delegates has been engaged in a debate for more than two hours upon a resolution offered by Mr. Marshall of Fauquier, to proceed on Friday to the election of a Senator of the U. S.

The Van Burenites resisted the proposition most earnestly, on the ground that the instructions were not complete, and that if the Legislature were now to act, the sentiments of the people would not be carried out. They exhibited all the uneasiness and alarm which conscious weakness always exhibits, and not satisfied with the deliberate and full expression of the people at the polls, they want another throw of the dice, under the faint hope of getting a little more strength.

The modern scheme of instruction, by getting signatures under false pretences, was denounced in appropriate terms, and the impudence of one member's obtruding himself between another's and his constituents, was portrayed in a style which struck home to the prerogative party.—Mr. Johnson of Richmond, and Mr. Janney of Loudoun, gave merited and severe rebukes to this sort of dictation and impudence.

Several members, in whose counties movements were going on, voted through delicacy against the proposition, though they declared their own minds to be perfectly made up on the subject.

The vote stood, ayes 62, noes 53—fourteen members absent.

It is expected that the Senate will lay the resolution on the table, and perhaps endeavor to defeat its passage altogether at the present session.

Come on when it may, I feel a perfect assurance that Virginia will be true to herself. She cannot, and will not, sacrifice one of her most gifted sons, to elevate the New York Magician.

You will observe that this crafty Editor of the Enquirer has suffered what he calls "Martyrdom." Verily, he grumbles more than any martyr of which history gives us information. I was under the impression that martyrs generally suffered for the steadfastness and consistency with which they adhered to their faith.—Never for their tergiversation and vacillations. But we must open a new page in the calendar of saints; and enter, with all due pomp and solemnity, the name of St. Thomas, the first Political Saint and Martyr of the Old Dominion.

FROM HARRISBURG.

Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot.

Harrisburg, Pa. Dec. 9, 1834.

On Saturday, as you may have seen by the papers, the two Houses went into joint ballot for a U. S. Senator in place of Mr. Wilkins. The election resulted on the 14th ballot, in the choice of James Buchanan, Esq. a Federalist, from his youth up—until about three or four years ago, when, as he himself stated, he became "wedded to the Republican party." A cross of this kind appears to promise well in regard to official fruits. The yield has already been abundant in the case of Mr. B.—some think the harvest is not all yet reaped.

MAJOR DOWNING.

To my old friend Mr. Dwight of the New York Daily Advertiser.

Washington, Dec. 6, 1834.

I suppose you have read the message long above this, and began to think that the time had far off when we shall all on us be called on to give the Frenchmen a stirring up, for not paying us that just debt they owe us.

I wish I could write French as well as I can American, for then I'd sit down and give Louis Philip my notions about this business, for I am plagues afraid he and his folks don't know as much about this country as they ought to know. If they or any other nation, think that because we differ in opinion here among ourselves on home matters, we are going to carry our differences into foreign matters, they are amazingly mistaken.

War ain't calculated to bring much profit to any nation, especially to our nation as things now stand, but it will never do to look to profit or loss account in a business of this nature.

The Frenchmen owe us five millions of dollars, and they must pay it, or we must try and get it out on 'em if it costs five times the sum. The mode of doing this, is for Congress to say, if Congress says "wait a spell," I for one of the people, say agreed. If Congress say take French property enuff to pay the debt, I say agreed; and then if the Frenchmen do anything in turn that looks like war, and Congress says, "go at 'em now boys," I for one say "I am ready"—and if any man may think he can do more good at the head of a Brigade of Militia than I can, he is welcome to my sword and cocked hat, and I'll take his place in the ranks, I don't want a better place to do my duty to my country, than that.

I think it is the duty now of every man on this point, to drop all politics. Every man to be sure has a right to give his opinion in Congress or out of Congress, as to the best mode of settling this business;—but when once that Congress has ordered what is to be done, then my notion is for all parties to shake hands and stand by the Government, and if it comes at last, to the point, and war is the word, then off coat and go at it, and have no disputing among ourselves till we have thrashed the enemy.

If Congress should agree with the General, that the best course, in case Frenchmen don't pay us, is to take French property on the ocean, I suppose the Frenchmen who lose their property, will think it mighty hard in us; well, if they do, they will understand exactly how our merchants felt some twenty years ago when their property was taken from them—it ain't a good tasted dish any way.

However, I have a notion, that the best way after all to bring the Frenchmen to their senses, is to stop all trade with 'em, till they settle all old accounts. This is a peaceable mode, and they'll soon find out we can give up their ribbons and ruffles a little better than they can give up our Cotton and Tobacco, 'tis amazing to see how much good solid articles go from this country to France, and paid for in fashions and trash, that ain't worth, when you rudy come to look close into 'em the expense of bringing out.

Some will say that our Cotton and Tobacco will go to France through other countries;—well, let 'em go so.—The French can't do without 'em, and will have to pay the more for 'em. And then, again, some will say that French silks and ribbons and gow gows will come to us through other countries, and if needs be will be called "English" or "Italian" or "Swiss" or "Spanish," but there is a rod in pickle for all that.—If I and the General only come out with a proclamation to our women and gals, and ask 'em to