

The following singular circumstance took place within the last few weeks:—A number of English, mostly medical gentlemen, now in Paris, being at dinner together, the conversation turned on scientific subjects. A Dr. B. took out of his pocket Dr. Henderson's lately patented instrument to measure the energy of the pulse's pulsations called the Shygnometer, one of the company, Dr. S. in a careless way, and as if to feed the conversation, stretched out his hand, to have the energy of his pulsation ascertained. Dr. B. examined it with great care and attention, and laying down the instrument, said with a solemn countenance, "I would not for the world have such a pulse!" "Why," answered Dr. S. and notwithstanding he then felt quite well, the next day he expired in a fit of apoplexy.

WASHINGTON, D. C. March 4, 1835.

Last night the twenty-third Congress ceased to exist. The charity of mankind seems to require that it should not be spoken of the dead. But all general rules have exceptions, and if ever there was a case which would justify the application of strong and condemnatory language to what ought to be a dignified body, that case is to be found in the late House of Representatives of the United States. No apology entitled to consideration can be offered in their behalf. Their incapacity as business men, and their want of information on all matters connected with the public weal may, and probably will be by their friends, offered as palliatives. It were well for the country, and for the fame of some of them, if the mantle of weakness and folly was sufficiently broad to cover all their sins of commission as well as of omission. Never since the organization of the Government, have the American people elected a House of Representatives so incompetent, as much in the hands of a few designing leaders, who have thought for and dictated to them. But by their works shall we know them.

You will be astonished to learn (and a sufficient people will be more so) that they have a Journal, leaving their tables covered with numerous and vastly important public bills, moved upon by the House. So, too, in regard to private bills, where no objection to their passage existed, and where their failure, in some instances, must prove ruinous to unoffending individuals. The Senate have acted and decided upon all bills pending before them, of any magnitude. At no session during the last twelve years have they more completely cleared their calendar. To their honor be it spoken. But the House, as if reckless of all consequences to the nation, or injury to the citizens, have pursued a different and disreputable policy. Was this accident? Or was it a sympathetic plan of operation?

These are times when the sentinels on the watch tower of freedom should speak openly and boldly;—when the press should perform its duty;—when those who are connected directly or indirectly with it, should honestly and independently present to the people the facts connected with the wrongs they are doomed to suffer. There should be no misrepresentation on the one hand, not shrinking on the other. On this occasion great pains have been taken to ascertain not only the acts of the House during the last twenty-four hours, but the probable motives which have influenced the leaders, and which have aided in the consummation of those acts. On some points there are many vague rumors which will be permitted to pass unnoticed.

It is proper to remark here, that several occurrences, of an exciting character, took place in the Senate, while they were engaged on Executive business. They irritated the President, who attended at the Capitol, that he might sign such bills as passed at a late hour. The irritating incidents referred to, were the rejection of several land agents or receivers;—the postponement, indefinitely, of Mr. Taney's nomination, &c.

Among other important public bills which were not finally acted upon, were the annual fortification bill, the Judiciary bill, the Executive patronage bill, the bill for the relief of the City of Washington, the bill regulating the manner of securing the public deposits, the bill for the settlement of the boundary line between the State of Ohio and the Territory of Michigan, the Post Office bill, &c. &c. Now to suppose that all these, and many other public bills, were left on the table of the House, without some systematic design is to suppose that the members of that body were ten times more incompetent than they are represented to be; or, that they wantonly and wickedly inflicted injuries upon the community without reason or motive. The idea is preposterous.

The closing scene in the House beggars description. It shall not be attempted by me. The accustomed courtesy in all civilized countries, between the different branches of the government, was disregarded. It is usual to appoint committee in each body, to notify the other and the Executive, that they are ready to adjourn, if the co-ordinate branches have nothing further to communicate. The Senate performed their duty; but the House made no response, and adjourned without this formality, as if determined to scout and condemn all legislative civility or decorum.

The arrangement had evidently been made for producing a collision between the Senate and House of Representatives. The object cannot be misunderstood. The miserable tools of power, and the petty intrigants of the day, hope, by raising a storm, to promote their own mercenary views. Or, in the midst

of the tornado, to hide their own deformity from the sight of the people. It is not less evident that the fortification bill was selected is the one upon which the uprising of the tempest should be created. It is therefore, desirable that a just and true history of the proceedings in reference to that bill should be laid before the community. I will briefly, but faithfully perform that duty.

Some time since, the House passed the fortification bill, and sent it to the Senate. It received the usual reference. The Committee was informed that the departments wished some additional appropriations, which they enumerated. These, in the forms of amendments, were added, and the bill returned to the House on the 24th of February. From that day until the 3d of March, the last night of the session, at 9 o'clock, the bill was obtained by the House, when the following section having been added, it was sent to the Senate:

"Sect. 2. And be it further enacted, that the sum of three millions of dollars be, and the same is hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury, not otherwise appropriated, to be expended, in whole or in part, under the direction of the President of the United States, for the military and naval service, including fortifications and ordinance, and increase of the navy: provided such expenditures shall be necessary for the defence of the country, prior to the next meeting of Congress."

A few remarks seem necessary here. The Senate were astounded; or rather that portion of them that were not in the secret. Here was an appropriation of three millions of dollars to be left, in the expenditure, entirely at the control of the President. No estimate from any department of government, uncalled for by the state of the times, or the request of the Executive. In short, to the extent of three millions, depriving Congress of all legislative action or deliberation on the subject, and concentrating in the hands of the President, with the formality of law, the functions of the Legislature of the country. The proposition was appalling. The doctrines of Mr. Jefferson and his followers are well understood. That there should be no appropriation, but for specific objects. So rigidly was this enforced during his administration, and the administration of his immediate successors, that the money of one Department was not permitted to be drawn from, or mingled with, the money of another Department. But here is a proposition to place three millions of dollars, for the use of the army and navy, exclusively, at the disposal of the President. Why not make it twenty millions, and add the words to be expended for the civil expenses of the Government? All the business of Congress would then be accomplished in one week, as well as in one year. There is more in the proposition than meets the eye. Let the people look well to their own affairs, and to the conduct of their representatives.

They have cause for apprehension. The Senate rejected this amendment. The leaders in the House became boisterous; and determined not to recede. The Senate adhered to the rejection, & again returned the bill. The House asked a conference, which was granted. At the head of the conferees of the House was Mr. CAMBRELENG. At the head of the Senate conferees, was Mr. WEBSTER. The conferees of the two Houses met, and in five minutes agreed upon a compromise. It must be recollected, that them conquering objection of the Senate was to the principle involved in the amendment, and not to the amount of money appropriated. The latter was a mere question of expediency. The Senate objected to any appropriation that was not specified or that was to depend, exclusively, upon the whim or caprice of any one of the three branches of the government. It would be a violation of the spirit of the Constitution. The conferees, therefore, agreed to strike out the amendment of the house, and to insert the following:

"As an additional appropriation for arming the fortifications of the U. S. three hundred thousand dollars."

"As an additional appropriation for the repairs and equipment of the ships of war of the United States, five hundred thousand dollars."

The committees returned immediately to their respective houses, for the purpose of reporting their agreement. The Senate waited about an hour, expecting to hear from the house. Some inquiry was made what could detain them? Whereupon a gentleman remarked to an honorable senator—"You will hear nothing from the other branch." Why not? enquired the senator. "Because," was the reply, "I saw Mr. Cambreleng in conversation with two distinguished personages (naming them) and I accidentally heard a remark from one of them (naming him) which satisfies me, that Mr. Cambreleng will not report." The circumstance was communicated to Mr. Webster, who thereupon moved, that it be respectfully inquired of the house, what has become of the fortification bill? On the communication of this message, Mr. Cambreleng was called upon to report. He replied, that he had not acceded to the report, and then handed the papers to his colleague, Mr. Lewis of Alabama, who reported.

Whereupon a portion of the friends of the administration refused to act or vote, contending that it was past twelve o'clock, and that they would not do any thing. Thus the bill was lost. Heretofore, under every

administration, when necessary both houses have continued to perform the public business until one or two o'clock, according to circumstances. The great length of this letter precludes further comment to night.

#### THE SPY IN WASHINGTON.

\* On the motion of adherence, in the senate—Yeas—Messrs. Bell, Bibb, Calhoun, Clay, Clayton, Ewing, Frelinghuysen, Goldsborough, Hendricks, Kent, Knight, Mangum, Moore, Naudain, Poindexter, Porter, Prentiss, Preston, Robbins, Silsbee, Smith, Southard, Swift, Tomlinson, Tyler, Waggaman, Webster and White. 28.

Nays—Benton, Brown, Buchanan, Cuthbert, Grundy, Hill, Kane, King of A., King of Geo., Linn, McLean, Roggles, Robinson, Shepley, Tallmadge, TIPTON, and Mr. Wright, 17

#### LATER AND IMPORTANT FROM FRANCE.

We stop the press to announce the arrival of the packet ship Francis Depau, from Havre. She brings us Paris and Havre dates of the 31st January.

Owing to the extreme lateness of the hour, it is out of our power to lay before our readers to day all the intelligence of interest they contain, or even our private correspondence. We are compelled to confine ourselves to stating that nothing further has taken place in the Chamber of Deputies on the subject of our treaty of indemnity, save that the diplomatic correspondence in relation to it, has been laid before that body. From the same we extract the last Despatches to M. Serurier from his Government, with a draft of a note sent him, on which his last communication to Mr. Forsyth was no doubt founded. It will be recollected it was found objectionable at Washington, and therefore was not communicated to Congress.

The Treaty is of course the subject of frequent discussion in the journals. A document is published, signed by many of the most eminent manufacturing houses at Lyons, pointing out the injury that would result to that place from a cessation of the friendly intercourse with this country. It is said to have produced great effect. The claim of Russia for an indemnity also has excited even more attention than our treaty, and much discussion has already taken place in regard to it in the Chamber.

Our Paris correspondence, under date of 31st January, closes his letter in the following words.

"Herewith I have the pleasure of sending you an early copy of the papers to be had before the Chamber of Deputies on the subject of the treaty of the 4th of July, 1831. I am assured by several of the leading members on both sides of the House, and more particularly by General Delaborde, the Senior Questeur, who kindly suffers me to mention his name, that there is no longer any doubt of a majority in favor of the recognition."

**Forces Rebuks.**—A singular occurrence took place a few days since, in one of our courts of justice, admirably illustrative of the genius of our country and of the independence of our bar. In the course of a trial, a young and very talented lawyer, in examining a witness asked a question which the Judge considered improper and would not suffer to be put. In the progress of the cause, the Judge took occasion to ask the very question of the witness which he had interdicted to the counsel, whereupon that gentleman rose and respectfully protested against the question being put, on the ground of his having been prevented doing so by the bench. Sir, said the Judge, rather austere, I shall put whatever question I think proper in my court. Your court, sir, replied the barrister, I deny it to be so; it is my client's court; it is my court, it is the people's court, and not yours. It is unnecessary to add that the Judge seeing the correctness of the remark, bowed with silent courtesy to the rebuke and the cause proceeded.

**Indiana 5 per cent. Stocks.**—The 300,000 dollars of stocks of the State of Indiana, were taken by Messrs. Prime, Ward, & King at one hundred and two dollars five cents, for each one hundred dollars of stock, instead of \$100 for every \$102, as stated in our paper on Saturday last. N. Y. Cour. Enq.

#### ENGLAND AND IRELAND.

O'Connell, in one of his eloquent letters to the London Morning Chronicle, runs this parallel:

1st. The English people have no less than nine different franchises—the Irish, substantially four.

2d. The English franchise is much lower in value than the Irish, although England is the richer country. The Irish franchise is much higher in value than the English, although Ireland is by far the poorer country.

3d. The population of the countries at large in England is 8,336,263; the electors in the English counties are 344,564. The population of the counties at large in Ireland is 8,027,509; the electors in Irish counties are only 60,607.

4th. England, with a rural population of not much more than eight millions, has for her representatives of that population 144 members in Ireland, with a rural population exceeding seven millions, has for representatives of that population only 64 members.

5th. In England, one person in every gross of the population is an elector; in Ireland, only one person in 115 of the gross population is an elector.

6th. In England one person in every five of the male adult population is an elector; in Ireland, only one person in every twenty of the male adult population is an elector.

7th. Ireland on the combined ratio of population and revenue, ought to have 169 members in the United Parliament. Having 104, she is of course, deprived of no less than 65 of her fair and just proportion.

**Hurricane in Mississippi.**—A hurricane passed over the town of Liberty, in Mississippi, on the night of the 4th ult., which prostrated almost every thing in its path, and destroyed several valuable lives. Mr. John Hall, and his daughter Elizabeth, were killed, and Mrs. Hall and a negro girl were dangerously injured. A negro woman had a leg broken. A large number of houses and out-dwellings were overthrown and destroyed. Mr. Hall was a highly respectable gentleman and useful citizen. He leaves a large family, to lament his untimely fate.

It is calculated that, in the United States, there are 400,000 cigar smokers, who puff away annually the sum of \$900,000—also 600,000 chewers of tobacco, and 500,000 snuff takers, making nearly one eighth of the population, whose amiable propensities cost the country seven millions of dollars per year.

The fair and gentle sex of Maine, have entered heart and hand into a crusade not only against the intemperate use of ardent spirits, but against its being any longer considered a legal article of trade. Accordingly, a Mrs. Allen, with one hundred and fifty to keep her in countenance, have memorialized the Legislature to devise some method for destroying the trade in alcoholic liquors.

The following is the title of and an extract from Col. Crockett's Tour through the United States, now in press:

An account of Col. Crockett's Tour to the North and down East, in the year of our Lord 1834. His object being to examine the grand manufacturing establishments of the country; and also to find out the condition of its literature and morals, the extent of commerce, and the practical operation of the experiment.

**The Locomotives.**—This was a clean new sight to me; about a dozen big stages hung on one machine, and strait up hill. After a good deal of fuss we all got seated, and moved slowly off; the engine whizzing as if she had the razors. By and by she began to take short breaths, and away we went with a blue streak after us. The whole distance is seventeen miles and it was run in 55 minutes.

While it was whizzing along, I burst out a laughing. One of the passengers asked me what it was. Why, says I, it's no wonder the fellow's horses run off. A Carolina waggoner had just crossed the rail road from Charlestown to Augusta, when the engine hove in sight with the cars attached. It was growing dark, and the sparks were flying in all directions. His horses ran off, broke his wagon and smashed his combustibles into atoms. He ran to a house for help, and when they asked him what scared his horses, he said he did not know, but it must be hell in harness.

**Hellodorous says** that women are a compound of trees:—viz: old maid; of crab tree; the tender hearted of weeping willow; and the stubborn of knotted oak.

#### THE NEW JERSEY PIRATES ACQUITTED.

We are very much gratified in being able to state explicitly, that the story which has gone abroad through the whole country, of the plundering of the passengers and wreck of the ship Sovereign, on the New Jersey shore, by the people in the neighborhood, has not the slightest color of truth. We learn from a conversation with the United States Marshal, whose name has been very freely used on the occasion, that he has ascertained in the most authentic manner, that the people in the neighborhood are not in the least degree culpable. The robberies appear to have been committed by the sailors and others belonging to the vessel.

The only lady passenger, (Mrs. Schinley,) said to have robbed of her wardrobe, watch, and other valuables, stated to the Marshal yesterday that she lost only a chain and some small trinkets of no great value, and that these were abstracted from her on board the vessel. During the thirty six hours that she remained with the wreck, and on shore, she saw nothing of the fleet of pirates spoken of, and neither saw nor heard of any improper conduct in the people of the neighborhood.

We are more gratified in thus being able to relieve the state from the disgrace of the reputed depredation, because we had been led to believe that the exposures and arrests in a recent case would have the effect to prevent any future outrages of the kind. The neighborhood and State have enough of the past to answer for, and we earnestly hope there may be no cause of complaint for the future. Newark Daily Advertiser.

The votes of the two houses of Congress on the French question, must have deeply mortified the feelings of the President. Never before has it occurred that the recommendation of our President has been unanimously rejected by the senators and representatives of the Union; but the impolicy of precipitating the nation into a war with France has been so manifest, as to have had scarcely an advocate in the country. France will now be furnished with the true sentiments of the people of this country; and it is hoped that, rejecting all feelings of wounded pride occasioned by the improper menaces of

the President, she will be guided alone by principles of justice and respect for her own dignity. If such be the temper in which she takes up the bill of indemnity, framed in accordance with her solemn compact, it will doubtless pass; and thus will be terminated a disagreement that never should have existed between two powers so closely united in relations of amity and interest. Baltimore Chron.

We learn from Captain Smith, arrived at this port on Saturday from Montevideo, that a diabolical attempt had been made, in the first week of December, to blow up the United States schooner Enterprise, then lying in the harbor of Montevideo. It appears that a Mulatto seaman belonging to the schooner, from some motive of malice or revenge, had contrived to deposit in the powder magazine coals of fire wrapped up in linen. They were, however, discovered and removed before any mischief was done, and the design of destroying vessel and crew frustrated. The investigation which immediately succeeded the discovery, showed that the crew of the Enterprise had all been at their proper stations except the mulatto in question, who was found in the boat alongside, where it was evident he had gone to be out of the reach of danger. The United States ships Natchez, Ontario, and Erie were also lying at Montevideo at the time of this affair, and when Captain S. sailed Commodore Renshaw was holding a court martial over the mulatto, who, it was supposed, would be executed. Baltimore Amer.

**Vermont.**—The constitution of Vermont provides for a "Council of Censors," whose duty it is to meet once in ten years, for the purpose of considering and suggesting such alterations in that instrument as may from time to time become expedient. The Council has lately been in session, and was when last we heard from it, deliberating upon the subject of a state Senate, and also in relation to the term of service of the Judicial Officers—the election of Sheriff, Judges of Probate, States Attorneys, &c. &c., and also for providing a new mode of amending the constitution. This last matter, we should think, worthy of censorial deliberation.

An important bill, to amend the judicial system has passed the Senate by a large majority and is now before the house of Representatives. The bill dismembers the fourth circuit, which now consists of the districts Maryland and Delaware. It attaches Delaware to the third circuit, (Judge Baldwin's) and Maryland to the fifth circuit, (Judge Marshall's) which, by the bill with this addition, is to constitute the fourth circuit. In other words, Judge Baldwin's circuit, under the new bill, should it become a law would consist of Pennsylvania New Jersey, and Delaware, and Chief Justice Marshall's circuit consist of Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina. South Carolina and Georgia would constitute one circuit as heretofore, (to be the fifth) Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi would constitute the sixth; Ohio, Tennessee and Kentucky, the seventh; and Indiana, Illinois and Missouri, the eighth circuit. The bill passed by a vote of 31 yeas to 5 nays. National Int.

**An Illud in a Nut shell.**—This sentence is the whole history of Gen. Jackson's French War. Mr. Rives, to impress his countrymen with a high idea of his diplomacy, says:

"An arrangement, which amid many difficulties, has secured for the claims of our citizens (prosecuted in vain for the last twenty years, and a large portion of which has been considered as desperate) a sum sufficient, in all probability, to pay every cent justly due, and nearly treble the amount pronounced to be due by the commissioners charged with their examination here."

The decent claim of having outwitted the French, is blazoned about for electioneering purposes. Presently it gets to France, and the Chamber of Deputies very naturally say, "Look at these infernal Yankees, who cheat us out of our eye teeth, and then glorifying in it!—Are we really to pay the rascals this money?—Certainly not if we can help it!"—Columbia Telescope.

#### VERMILIONVILLE, February 14.

Louisiana warm country? pshaw! why Lapland beats it all hollow: here we are situated in a North latitude of a little over thirty degrees and we have ice four inches thick in the tubs of our yards, and the water in our pitchers at the bedside has congealed, that in the place of drinking water we have been compelled to eat ice to quench an ordinate thirst; our vinegar bottle frozen on the table; the compound solution of arsenic in the laboratory of a physician rendered a solid and most compact body; and what was worse than all our paper for the Sentinel was so frozen as to require two days to thaw it. Anticipating some how or other a severe frost, we had wrapped our first impression in a blanket, when we came to handle it, behold! it was as a log;—this will account to our subscribers for the delay of receiving the last number by the regular mail. Jesting apart, the weather for the last six days up to the 10th instant has been most excessively cold, and has impeded work of almost every kind. Gardening, which was commenced a month ago, and when the times promised to repay the laborer for his toil, is now suspended, and at our present writing the earth is entirely frosted; and we have now a promise of more moderate but wet weather. Louisiana Sentinel.

It is rumored that Gov. Cass is to be sent to the Court of St. James, and Thomas H. Benton be appointed Secretary of War