hastily opened it, and glanced his eye over its contents with manifest satisfaction.

"Gentlemen," said he, as he again folded it up, "I congratulate both you and myself on the fulfilment of all our wishes; we are even more fortunate than the most sanguine could have anticipated; I am instructed here that the transports destined to receive us are already assembled at Dover, and we march to-morrow morning."

A shout, loud, hearty and lengthened, followed this announcement. The mess was immediately dissolved; the adjutant was commanded to insert no order in the book, except that which had just arrived from the horse guards; and each individual set off to complete such preparations as he deemed essential to his own profit and future comfort: Jackson and his crime were alike forgotten in the excitement which the news produced, and the calling together of the court martial was overlooked.

Nor did many minutes elapse ere the intelligence, so joyfully received in the circle of officers, made its way among the men. In an instant the parade ground was crowded with soldiers, all eagerly demanding a repetition of details, of which each was as perfectly aware as the individual to whom he applied; till the sound of voices became loud as distant thunder, or the roar of a cataract in the woods; but it was not a sound of unmixed and unmitigated joy, neither were the figures which crowded the arena, those of happy and triumphant beings alone. There were women there—some of them rough and heartless enough, God knows; but others,—young, pure and gentle,—who read in this glorious announcement, no more than the decree which doomed them to part from all that they held dear upon earth; and there were children too,—infants in their mothers' arms, boys at their fathers' knees,—these chimed in, not with notes of gladness, but with weeping and bitter lamentation. There may be, and doubtless are, many heart-rending scenes brought forward, even in the progress of ordinary life. It is a sad spectacle to behold the widow and the orphans follow the corpse of their natural protector to the grave, and it is a sorrowful sight to be a witness to the parting embrace between a mother and her only son; but the arrival of the route which marks a regiment for active service before the enemy, is redolent of occurrences, which are exceeded, in power to stir up the pity of the spectator, only by those which attend the commencement of the march itself.

I need not, however, dwell at much length upon this. Of the facts as they generally occur, you are all as well informed by practical experience as myself; and, as nothing took place on the present occasion dissimilar to what occurs on others, your own memory or imagination will form a better guide than any comment of mine. Let it suffice, therefore, to state that it was not without great exertion on the part of the officers, that any thing like order was restored; after which, the customary routine of inspection was hastily gone through, and the lots which determined the fate of soldiers' wives, drawn. But by this time, the increasing twilight began to render objects obscure. Every one, therefore, whether joyous or sad, retired to his quarters; and the voice of triumph and lamentation were, before long, equally heard no more.

[*To be continued.*]

SUPERIORITY OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN FRANCE.

Whatever may be the state of the press in France, the extent and munificence of her public libraries must command our admiration. This is the more extraordinary when we consider that the country which produced a Newton and a Locke, names with which those of Malebranche and Descartes can bear no comparison, is very deficient in public libraries. When the King's library shall be added to the Sloanian, Harleian, and Cottonian collections, at the British Museum, the whole will not then amount to one-third of the books which are contained in the Bibliotheque du Roi, at Paris. The following list will appear sufficiently extensive:—In Paris the royal library has above 700,000 printed volumes, and 70,000 MSS. The library of Monsieur has 150,000 printed volumes, and 5000 MSS. The library of St. Genevieve, 100,000 printed volumes, and 2000 MSS. The Magazine library, 92,000 printed volumes, and 3000 MSS. The library of the city of Paris, 20,000 volumes. *All these are daily open to the public.* In the departments there are twenty-five public libraries, with above 1,700,000 volumes, of which Aix has 72,670; Marseilles, 31,500; Toulouse, 30,000; Bordeaux, 105,000; Tours, 30,000; Lyons, 106,000; Versailles, 40,000; and Amiens, 40,000. In the royal library at Paris there are several uncollated manuscripts of the scriptures.

The London Morning Herald, says the city of London has 194,000 houses, and 1,474,000 inhabitants. Paris has 45,000 houses, and 773,000 inhabitants. Petersburg has 95,000 houses and 449,000 inhabitants. Naples 40,000 houses, and 360,000 inhabitants. Vienna 7500 houses, and 390,000 inhabitants. Paris has according to the Herald's statement, nearly fifty people to each house.

U. S. Bank.—On the 6th inst, a dividend of *three and a half* per cent was declared for the last 6 months, payable after the 16th inst.

MAJOR DOWNING'S OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION TO THE CABINET.

Major Downing, in his letter of December 27th, after mentioning the fact of his having read his views on the subject of the Bank, and the Deposits, to the Cabinet, engaged to send a copy of the document to this paper for publication. A delay of some days occurred before we received it. This, we understand, was caused by a wish that the Cabinet might have an opportunity to re-examine the case, and a hope that they might unite in opinion on this thorny matter. Having waited some time for the accomplishment of this important object, the Major became convinced that the present Cabinet was far from being a "unit," and considered it useless to wait any longer, and he therefore fulfilled his undertaking by sending us the important paper alluded to. We recommend it to our readers as one of the most interesting exhibitions of the subject that has ever been presented to the public.—*N. Y. Daily Adv.*

MAJ. DOWNING'S OFFICIAL PAPER.

Read to the Cabinet, and majors, auditors, and under-secretaries, and sub-postmasters, and the rest of the Government, on the 26th day of December, A. D., 1833; and printed for the use of all the citizens from Downingville to New Orleans, along the sea coast, and up the Mississippi and Missouri, and so down the Lakes, and across by the Erie Canal to Albany, and along by the middle route over New Jersey, Pensylvany and Maryland, to Washington—and away agin to all parts of creation, and to every body.

General—and Gentlemen of the Cabinet, and the rest on you here present, composin the Government—I speak to you as a man standin right between you and the people—what I am goin to say aint calculated to make any on you change your opinion, so much as to make you know mine—you have pretty much all on you had your turn, and now comes my turn—if any thing I say has sharp corners and scrapes the skin a little, it is because I haint had time to file the edges smooth. I'll give you my notions pretty much as you git bread from the bakers, and leave you to slice it or chunk it as best suits, and every man can butter his own slice jest to please his fancy—that aint my business so much as it is hisn.

We are met here not only to fix on some plan to git the country out of trouble, but to see how it got into trouble; and I am goin to say a little on both pints. When a chimbly smokes at the wrong eend with the wind at north east, some folks may content themselves with openin windows and doors, to let the smoke out, but my notion is that the safest plan is to see into the cause on't, and correct it—so that the chimbly will ony smoke at the right eend, let the wind blow any way.

Now there is a few things we must look into a little, and then we will know more about 'em, and I am goin to examine—

What kind of a critur the Bank of the United States raly is.

Whether its nature is to do good or evil to the country, and then wind up with

Matters and things in general.

Twenty years ago the country was in trouble, and fill'd up with all kinds of bank paper—nigh upon as bad as old Continental, and a good deal was a little worse. If any body aint old enuf to remember that time, and wants to see what kind of money I mean, let him go to the Treasury, and Mr. Taney can show him nigh a million and a half of dollars, not worth the cost of the paper and ink used every year in makin a report on't—but this is ony a drop compar'd to what would be now there of the same kind of stuff if it hadn't been for the Bank of the United States. All our wise folks of that day, said we must have a Bank of the United States, and a good big one. One strong enuf to do the work well, and to clear out all this trash—and so this Bank was made, and the first thing was, as there was very little rale money in the country, the Bank went and bo't a good jag on't in Europe, and went to work here clearin away jest as we do our fields in the spring.

It was a pretty dirty job to do, so I tell you, and the Bank didn't git through with it without scratchin and smuttin its fingers pretty considerable; and that warn't the worst on't for the Bank. The Government made the Bank agree to pay fifteen hundred thousand dollars for the privilege of doin this work, and made it agree to take care of the people's money in all parts of the country, and to pay it here and there wherever the Government told 'em to, and to pay all the pensions, and to do every thing in the money way without chargin any thing for it to the Government. This was a pretty tuff bargin for the Bank—for all it got in return was to have the keepin of the money, and when the Government didn't want it the Bank might lend it out. It took a good many years afore the Bank got things to work smooth. It was like a whappin big wagon that wanted a good many horses to drag it, and as it had a valuable freight in it, it wanted none but the best kind of horses—real Conestogas—and it warnt evry one who knew how to drive sich a team. The owners of this wagon found that out—for some of the first that they got came plagy nigh oversettin it. So to rights they got Squire Biddle. I suppose they thought that seein that the folks in Pensylvany have the best and strongest horses and the biggest wagons, they ought to know best how to guide 'em. Well, they made a pretty good guess that time—for, ever since they told the Squire to take the lines, they haint lost a linch-pin or broke a strap; and there warnt no complaints made agin him by the folks on the road, or the country. All the other wagoners liked the Squire amazingly; he was always ready to give 'em a lift when he found 'em in the mud, and whenever they got short of provender, the Squire never refus'd to turn out some of his to keep their horses from suffering. Every thing was going on better and better, and every body said at home and abroad there warnt such a team in all creation. Well, about four years ago we began to pick a quarrel with the Squire, and its been goin on every year pretty much after this fashion. The first go off some of our folks wanted the Squire to change some of his leadin horses—they said the breed warnt right—he ought to put on the lead some Albany trotters—that they were the best horses on the lead he could have. The Squire didn't like to change—he said the horses he had knew the road as well as he did, and they wouldn't bolt nor kick up, and when they came to up hill work he could depend on 'em.

Then agin, our folks wanted the Squire to change harness—they said they had new *patent collars*, and a horse could pull as much agin with 'em as with the old fashion'd collars. Well, the Squire did'nt like that notion nother. So to rights, they told the Squire he must give up the lines—Well, that he would'nt do, he said, without orders from the owners of the team—they had appointed him there, and he would go along and do his duty, just as he had done—and it warnt right to keep stoppin him every day on the road, and trying to make him try new plans.

And with that, all our folks made a regular battle on the Squire—some took away out of his wagon a part of the bags and boxes, and divided it round among the drivers of other wagons who was mixin in the scuffle too, and away they cracked off with it.—Some undertook to cut the Squire's traces, they thought they was only leather and rope traces; but the Squire was too deep for 'em, for his traces was all chains kivered with leather, and so they spilt their jack-knives. Some went on ahead and rolled stones in the road, and dug deep holes, and tried all they could to make the squire upset, and threw stones and mud at him and his horses; but the Squire kept on, his horses did'nt flinch, and as they had dragg'd the big wagon over worse roads in their day, they went along without accident. Well, now it turns out that all the wagons that drove off so with a part of the Squire's load, are in trouble; for the first piece of muddy road, they all stuck fast, and there they are now. One wants the other to give him a pull and a lift, but they say they all want lifting—the Squire has just come up with 'em, and now they want him to hitch on to 'em and drag 'em all out together; but he says that's impossible; the most that he can do is to take back the load they took from his wagon, and then perhaps they could git out of the mud; but it is more than his team can do, and he wont run the risk of breakin his harness or injure his horses to drag 'em all out together. Well now that's just about the condition of things, and the longer they remain so, the worse it will be—the longer horses and wagons stand knee and hub deep in mud, the less able they'll be to get out on't.

And now I'll leave 'em there a spell, and we'll take a look into the natur of the Bank, and what it really is, for to hear some folks talk about it one would think it was a most shocking monster, and that it was pretty much nothin else but squire Biddle, when it is no more the Squire than the big wagon is, not a grain more. Look at this long list of names—well, these are the owners of the Bank—here we see in the first place, the nation owns one-fifth, and the rest is scattered round, as you see here, among an everlasting batch of folks, all about this country, and some in forin countries; and I am glad to see on the list here, old widows and old men, and trustees of children, who haint got no parents liven, and all our own people, they put their mony in the stock of this bank for safe keeping—not to speculate—and jest so with the innocent foriners, and the best on't is they have paid our folks a pretty high premium for every dollar on't—well, these are the folks then that compose the Bank. Now what way do they want this Bank managed?—the business of the bank is to loan mony, and it is jest for all the world like any rich man whose business is to loan out his mony—is it his interest to dabble in politics or to let politicians dabble with him? not an atom on't. I never knew one of your rale politicians who ever could pay his debts, and they aint the kind of folks people like to deal with any way who have got mony to loan—they know that talkin politics and gitten things into snarls jest to answer party purposes, aint the way to pay interest nor principal nother, and politicians in a bank are the worst folks in the world for the owners of the bank, for the most on 'em haint got mony of their own to lend, but they are plagy ready to loan other folks' mony to brother politicians of the same party.

No, no—a man who has got his mony loan'd out (and its jest so with a bank) wants to see every body busy and industrious and mind their business and increase their property, for then they will be able to pay interest and principal too; they dont like to see things all mix'd up with politics and people quarrelin and disputin, and when they do, they get their mony back in their pockets agin as soon as they can, for they know that politics aint profitable business.

Then it comes to this, that if the Bank is what I have said it is, (and its nothin else,) it aint such a monster as some folks try to make us think it is, and instead of bein a dangerous monster, I see, and I know every body else must see, who dont squint at it, but looks it straight in the face—that its natur is jest like the natur of any man who has got property in the country, and that is to have every thing go on in harmony and with industry and with honesty and accordin to law—no jangles and tangles and talkin politics in porter houses and bar rooms, hurrain for this man, and pullin down that man—that kind of work dont clear up new lands nor plough up old ones, it dont keep the hammer goin, and the wheels turnin, and dont pay interest nor principal nother.

But some on you say the Bank has too much power, and that squire Biddle might do a great deal of mischief if he would.—Well, there is my old friend, Capt. Elihu S. Bunker, of the steamboat President runnin twixt New York and Providence, he's got about sich another monster—there is no tellin what a "dangerous monopoly" of power that critur's got in that are boat. I was looking into it when I came on with him a spell ago, and he was showin me how he managed it. If he was to fasten down the kivers of them two mortal big copper kittles he has got in his boat, and blow his bellesses a spell he would smash every thing for more than 50 acres round—Does any body want to know why he don't do it—he has been in a steam boat, as long now as the Bank's been goin and haint scalded no body—but he can do it in a minit if he chuses—well I'll tell you why he don't—*it aint his interest*, and he don't own no more of the boat than Squire Biddle does of the Bank—the owners of the boat employ him to manage it, because they know he understands his business. He knows if he didn't watch over their interest they'd turn him out—and jist so the owners of the Bank would sarve Squire Biddle.—And that aint all, Capt. Bunker knows if he hurt any body with his boat, he'd run a chance of hurtin himself too—he knows that it is the interest of the owners not to have any accidents aboard any boat, for if the people git scalded in one steam-boat, they'll keep clear of all on 'em—and though some folks think Banks aint like steam-boats, I can tell 'em that in the main thing they are exactly alike—for unless folks have got confidence in 'em and feel safe in 'em, they aint worth ownin—but when they all go on and meet no accidents, they are pritty good property—and the largest, and strongest, and cleanest, and quietest, and best managed git the most business. Now I think that's enuf about dangerous monopolies for a spell.

Let us now see what the Bank is about, and what wee've been about.

Deacon Goodenou has been in that Bank as one of its directors off and on ever since it was a Bank, and I have heard him say 50 times, (and he's a man to be depended on) he never heard a word about politics in it till about 4 years ago—and it all came from our sending every year since that time, some rale politicians to help the other 20 directors to manage the Bank—the first go off, the Deacon says, they thought best to keep quiet, and make no stir about it; for it was pretty much like finding skunks in the cellar—the best way was to let 'em alone, if they'd keep there and run the chance of their goin out when they found there warnt no eggs to suck—but when they undertook to cum up chamber and smell about in all the cubbords, it was time to snub 'em—and then came trouble; and that's jist about the way now; and the deacon says, and he is about right, that politicians in a Bank are jist as bad as skunks in the cellar—there aint one grain of difference.

Some on you say we dont want a Bank *now*—well, that may be so—but when I got up this mornin it was plagy chilly till I got my coat on—now I am warm, and it may be I dont want a coat—but I think if I ever take my coat off I'll feel chilly agin—and I am so certing of this I wont make a trial on't.

Some of you say the owners of this Bank haint got no right to a re-charter—they have had it long enuf—and it's time now to have a new shuffle and cut—well, that aint my notion, and I'll tell you why—tho' this Bank was chartered for 20 years, it had a good right to believe we would renew its charter if it behaved well and did its duty—jist as a Congressman has a right to expect his constituents will send him to Congress agin if he behaves well—and it's a good way to keep folks strait and make 'em do their duty—but if we are to nock this Bank down, and have a new shuffle and a new cut, then I say that them folks who make money out of a rise of stock in the new Bank, ought to pay the loss that all these old folks and young children will suffer by nocking down the old Bank—to say nothin about the innocent foreigners who put their money in this Bank, thinkin it was safe. And let me tell you another thing—the longer a Bank stands, and the older it gits, the better folks abroad and at home like it—people who have got money to lend dont like charges—and particularly government charges. Would any on you like to lend folks in South America? and do you think any of them governments could make a Bank that folks would have any confidence in? I dont think they could—jist because they keep chopin and changin every year.

Will any on you say that it aint a good thing for a country to make folks all about think it is a safe one to lend money to? aint good credit worth nothin?

Well, how does any man in trade git credit, and make folks think him safe to trust? Will he break up his stand every year, change his business, and try new plans? I say that aint the way; and no man ever prospered after that fashion; but when he finds things go well with him, he hangs on; or else he aint got no wit in him.

Now, my notion is, that none on us alone can make folks all about creation think we are safe folks to trust; but all on us together can do so; and that is the reason a good big Bank can manage this for us. Folks abroad know the Bank, and the Bank knows us; and so we can manage things through the Bank better than we can alone.

Some on you say it aint right to pay interest to foreigners—that when we git money from foreigners, they keep drainin us of interest. Well, that is all chalk and water. Now I know we have got an everlastin new country to clear up yet; and if an honest, industrious man can git a few hundred dollars lent to him, he can go and buy a good many acres, and clear it up, and sell it to these very foreigners, who are all the while comin out here to settle among us, and they pay fifty times more for it than the land first cost; and so our folks go on borrowin, and can well afford to pay interest, and find themselves in a few years with money to lend too. And as long as this business goes on, I for one am willing to say to foreigners, as the Cape Cod fisherman says to the fish, when he gits on the hook, and is pullin him in—"So long as you hold on one eend, I will t'other." But folks abroad who have money to lend, don't know our folks who go on new land—and a good many on old land nother. But they know our bank, and our canals, and rail-roads, and we sell 'em the stock, and make 'em pay good premiums too: and our folks can lend their money to our farmers. But if we go on, and nock down this bank when its charter is out, and bring trouble on the country, foreigners say, "Aha! there's trouble there!" back they come with their stock, and git their money, and keep it; and all our prosperity is nock'd in the head! We chartered this Bank for 20 years; 'and so we do Canal Companies, and Rail Road Companies; but did we mean when the time was up, to nock 'em all up too, and say we dont want no Bank, nor a Canal, nor a Rail-road? It aint common honesty to say so; and I won't shuffle and cut with you after that fashion: for make what I might by a new shuffle, I would be ashamed to look one of these innocent foreigners in the face—to say nothin of this long list of Widows and Orfans, and Trustees of Estates, and old folks many on, 'em when they bought the Stock at a high premium, I suppose never thought about the charter, or how long it had to run but trusted to the Government. And now if you can chizzle them out of their property, as you will by puttin down this Bank jest to git a new shuffle and cut at a new one—without turnin as red as a beet when you meet 'em, I for one say I can't, nor I wont.

And now I'm most done—If I have trod on any one's toes, it aint so much my fault as hisen; for I tread the strait line, and tread ony on toes that stick out beyond the line, and that's too often the case with folks now-a-days in office.

I've telled you now pretty much my notions; and I tell you now for the last time you have made a mistake, and that's no disgrace to any manunless he tries to stick to it after he knows he has made it. If you don't know how to get the country out of the scrape you've got it in, the people will tell you pretty quick, or I aint no hand at gessin. I have now done my duty—If the people don't do theirn it aint my fault. If they say my notions are right they'll act on 'em; if they say they are wrong, then things will go on as they now go, and I hope they won't git worse—but that I won't promise. If things come to the worst, I shall suffer as little as any on 'em, for I haint got no wife and children to support, (and I am sorry for those who have, if things are to go as they now go,) I can cut my fodder pretty much any where.

But I love my country, ev'ry acre on't, and it goes agin my grain to see any part on't suffer. And I know all this sufferin comes from party politics—this same party politics that has driv all our wisest and best men out of office; and now to keep together wants to git hold of the big wagon and all the money in it.

My dander is up, and I best stop now—for the more I think on't and the more I write about it, the more wrathy I git. So no more at present.

From your fellow-citizen,
J. DOWNING Major,
Downingville Militia, 2d Brigade.

The Legislature.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Friday, Jan. 3.

Mr. Snowden obtained leave to bring in a bill to be entitled, An act to increase the salaries of the judges of the court of appeals.

Mr. Carroll obtained leave to bring in a bill, to be entitled an act to alter and amend the constitution of this state, with regard to the present ratio of the representatives of the House of Delegates, so as to make the representation more consistent with the increased population of Baltimore city, and of several counties of the state.

Mr. Moores obtained leave to bring in a bill, to be entitled an act to change all such parts of the constitution and form of government of this state, as relate to the appointment of Registers of Wills, and clerks of the county courts of this state.

Mr. Roberts submitted the following resolution, which was read the first and second time by special order and assented to:—

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That for the purpose of general information, and that the public may more fully know the proceedings of the General Assembly, that at the request in writing addressed to the public printers of the two houses of the legislature, by the editors of newspapers or public journals in this state, who may desire the same for publication, to have every day of the session, forwarded a copy of the printed journals of proceedings of the Senate and House of Delegates.

Mr. Palmer asked leave to bring in a bill, to be entitled an act to authorise and call a convention of delegates to alter and amend the present constitution of Maryland.

Saturday, Jan. 4.

Mr. Sutton obtained leave to bring in a bill, to be entitled an act to authorise the granting writs of replevin by justices of the peace, and for other purposes therein mentioned.

The bill reported by Mr. Handy, entitled an act concerning guardians and wards, was read a second time and passed.

Monday, Jan. 6.

The resolution relative to furnishing editors of newspapers or public journals with a copy of the printed journals of proceedings of both houses; and the bill entitled an act concerning guardians and wards, were sent to the Senate.

Tuesday, Jan. 7.

In the report of this day's proceedings, we notice nothing of interest, except the election of the Council to the Governor, the result of which will be found in another part of our paper.

Wednesday, Jan. 8.

The Speaker laid before the House a memorial of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, praying for additional subscriptions to the capital stock of said company.

Mr. Jones, of Baltimore city, presented a memorial of sundry citizens of Baltimore, praying the passage of an act to incorporate "The Merchants' Bank of Baltimore."

On motion by Mr. Sifford,

Ordered, That the Armorer of this state be directed to hoist the flag forthwith, in honor of the glorious anniversary of the victory of the 8th January, 1815, achieved at New Orleans, by the United States forces under General Andrew Jackson.

On motion by Mr. Burchenal,

Ordered, That the Committee on the Militia inquire into the expediency of collecting in the arms belonging to this state.

Mr. Franklin Smith submitted the following order, which was read:—

Ordered, That the Committee on the Constitution enquire into the expediency of abolishing all that part of the constitution and form of government of this state, which relates to the geographical limits of the several counties therein, so that the territory of said counties may be equalized.

Mr. Burchenal moved to amend the said order, so as to exempt the Eastern Shore, and the question was put and determined in the negative.

The question was then put on the adoption of the order; resolved in the affirmative.

Mr. Sellman, submitted the following resolutions, which were read the first time and ordered to lie on the table:—

Resolved, That the tenure of all offices of profit and trust (except the judiciary,) should be limited to a definite number of years.

Resolved, That the Executive Council is an useless appendage, tending to divide responsibility, productive of no advantage to the state, and ought to be abolished.

Resolved, That one branch of the Legislature ought to be based on popular representation; and to effect this purpose, the present manner of electing the Senate, in which the people have but a remote agency, ought to be changed, the state laid off into districts, and Senators elected directly by the people, from each district.

Resolved, That the Governor be required to submit all nominations to a Senate thus constituted and elected, for confirmation or rejection.

Resolved, That it be made obligatory upon the Governor to reside at the seat of government.

Mr. Palmer reported a bill, entitled an act to extend the powers of the Chancery Court, and the county courts as Courts of Equity, which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

Thursday, Jan. 9.

Mr. Jones, of Somerset, presented a memorial of Thomas King Carroll and others, in behalf of the trustees of Washington Academy, in Somerset county, praying indemnity for a lottery grant.

On motion by Mr. Harris,

Ordered, That the Committee on Elections and Privileges, be instructed to enquire and report whether any sitting member of this House holds such an office under the government of the United States, or receives the profits or any part of the profits of any such office or place under the aforesaid government, as render him incompetent under the constitution of this state, to hold a seat in the present House of Delegates.

And further ordered, That said committee have power to send for persons and papers.

It was ordered that the Committee on Lotteries, be instructed to enquire into the expediency of abolishing the lottery system, to prohibit the sale of lottery tickets and the drawing of lotteries in this state, and report to this House by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Larrimore obtained leave to bring in a bill, to be entitled an act to authorise appraisers on real and personal estate to qualify each other.

Mr. Burchenal submitted the following resolution, which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table:—

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That it shall be, and hereby is made the duty of the Judges of Election in each of the election districts of the several counties on the Eastern Shore of this state to ask every voter who may vote in the several districts in said counties, whether he is in favor of a union of said counties with the state of Delaware; and it is hereby made the duty of the clerks to said elections, respectively, to enter on the poll books, in a column which it is hereby made the duty of the Sheriffs of the different counties on the shore aforesaid, to prepare for that purpose, the result of which shall be returned by the return judges of elections in each of said counties to the Chancellor of this state, together with the returns of the county elections in October next, all of which to be reported to the next General Assembly,

The bill reported by Mr. Handy, entitled an act to restrain the owners of vessels from navigating the same under the sole command of negroes, was taken up, and, after some amendment, passed.

Friday, Jan. 10.

Mr. Nicols presented a memorial of sundry citizens of Dorchester county, praying that a law may pass regulating fences in cases of suits for trespass, so far as relates to said county.

Mr. Jones, of Baltimore city, presented a memorial of the president and managers of the Washington monument, praying for legislative aid.

Mr. Nicols obtained leave to bring in a bill, to be entitled an act for the condemnation of half an acre of land, for the repairs of the public causeway at Cratcher's Ferry, in Dorchester county.

Saturday, Jan. 11.

Mr. Burchenal obtained leave to bring in a bill, to be entitled an act supplementary to an act passed at December session, 1831, chap. 244.

Mr. Wright, of Dorchester, reported a bill, entitled an act to incorporate the Choptank Steam Boat Navigation Company of Maryland; read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

THE GENERAL POST OFFICE.

The people will get the truth at last, especially if a few more searching calls for information be made by the Senate. Until the last report from the Postmaster General, the people were assured that the affairs of the Post Office were prosperous beyond precedent, with abundant resources, notwithstanding the increased extent of mail carriage, &c. In the last report the tone was somewhat subdued, as Mr. Barry had to acknowledge a deficit of about $200,000: but he did not disclose the whole truth. It now appears, in answer to a call from the Senate, that Mr. Barry has borrowed within the last year, without law, *four hundred thousand dollars*, besides overdrawing postmasters' deposits to an amount which he estimates at $50,000—so that the post office department is now deficient not less than *six hundred thousand dollars!* When the office was transferred to Mr. Barry, he received at least $230,000 surplus accumulated by Mr. McLean. This sum, added to the present deficit, will make the pretty little amount of *eight hundred and thirty thousand dollars* spent in *reforming* this single department.—*Balt. Chron.*

The following letter from the Post Master General to the President of the Senate, containing information called for by the Senate, comprises a statement which we should suppose might properly have been included in the last annual report from the Department, and was in fact necessary to show the exact state of the finances. It appears that the Department has borrowed, during the past year—including over-drafts of sundry Postmasters—as much as $400,000, for which an interest is allowed of *six* per cent. a year—besides a loan of $50,000 from a local bank in Washington, which has been repaid with interest. It will be seen that the loans were all contracted at local banks.—*Balt. Gaz.*

General Post Office Department,
January 6, 1834.

To the Hon. Martin Van Buren,
Vice President of the United States, and President of the Senate:

Sir:—In obedience to the Resolution of the Senate of the 31st ult., I have the honor to state that this Department has borrowed, between the 28th December, 1832, and the present date, and which still remains unliquidated, to the amount of $350,000, viz:

Loaned of the Manhattan Bank, at N. York, at different times between the 28th December, 1832, and the 1st of April, 1833,	$100,000	
Between the 25th October and the 31st December, 1833,	100,000	
		$200,000
Of the Western Bank of Philadelphia, on the 28th April, 1833,		50,000
Of the Bank of Maryland, on the 5th June, 1833,		50,000
Of the Commonwealth Bank of Boston, on the 1st November, 1833,		50,000
Making together, as above the sum of		$350,000

A loan was also made of the Patriotic Bank of this city, on the 1st of May, 1833, of $50,000 for six months, which was repaid when it became due.

In all these cases, an interest is allowed at the rate of six per cent. per annum.

The above comprises all the moneys borrowed by the Department on interest. Some of the Banks in which Postmasters deposit their balances to the credit of the Department, have been overdrawn by the Department; but to what amount cannot be precisely ascertained, because the state of their accounts is changing every day by deposites being made in such Banks; but the total amount of such over-drafts is estimated at $50,000, from which sum it will not essentially vary.

I have the honor to be,
Very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
W. T. BARRY.