CHRONICLE.

"SALUS POPULI SUPREMA EST LEX."

DAVID P. HOGE--EDITOR.

Cambridge, Md.

SATURDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 19, 1836.

☞The Orphans' Court of this county will sit on Monday next.

The proclamation of Governor Veazey, which appeared last week in the columns of the Chronicle and which is republished in the present number, cannot be spoken of in terms of too high commendation. It is a firm, manly, decided, but sufficiently temperate document; just such a State paper as suits the emergency, and precisely meets the crisis at which the political affairs of the State of Maryland have arrived. It is well for the good old ship of State that she has at the helm a navigator of such dauntless courage and such fixed determination—one who cannot be intimidated by the portentous lowering of the seemingly approaching storm, or shaken from his purpose by the vain menaces of a mutinous and reckless crew. The Constitution, it is proclaimed, *"must be preserved;"* the civil authority is called upon and enjoined to do its duty; and the military officers and citizens are required to hold themselves in readiness to assist the civil power, if it shall be necessary, in the maintenance of order, the government and laws. Nothing more could be expected, nothing less would have sufficed. Had the Executive remained inactive, or felt inclined to shrink from the high responsibility which devolves upon him as the guardian of the Constitution—the tempest of civil commotion would soon have been raging—the spirit of violence would have swept over the land as with the besom of destruction, and perhaps the destroying spirits that meditated the prostration of Government, would not have suffered one monument of freedom to stand, from the sacred vestibule to the inmost recesses of the temple of liberty. What but profanation could be expected from such men had they been successful in their unholy purpose? Would there be any security for the rights of person and of property, if the powers of government were committed to the hands of men, who by one daring and flagrant act of usurpation have shown themselves the enemies of social order? It was in the event of the *success* of such men, that anarchy, revolution and bloodshed were predicted; and we believe civil war *would* have been the consequence. But they are disappointed in their seditious hopes. There is a redeeming virtue in the people, and it has shown forth with lustre; there is a self-preserving principle in the government, and it *will* be made to act in its support. The Governor has acted as became him in the present exigency; the proclamation is worthy of himself, and is due to the ancient commonwealth over whose destinies he has been *legally* called to preside, and whose dignity and majesty a band of political desperadoes have wantonly insulted. As to the time at which the proclamation was issued it need only be remarked, that had the measure been taken sooner, it would have been denounced as *premature* by the political opponents of the Governor.

At one of the recent land sales in Mississippi, it is said a premium of twenty five per cent was paid for silver, and the lands were struck off at fifty per cent less than such lands had previously been sold at.—The order of the Secretary of the Treasury prohibiting the reception of any thing else but specie in payment for public lands, is the cause of this state of things; and yet it is pretended that the requisition was designed to curb the spirit of speculation and restrain a land mania, from which ruinous consequences were affected to be apprehended. The Treasury department could not have conceived of a better plan, to foster and sustain the heartless speculator upon the necessities of honest substantial and *bona fide* settlers, than that promulgated by its arbitrary and unauthorised circular. When this order was issued, the Western banks, under the apprehension that a run would be made upon them for specie by land purchasers, prepared themselves to meet the emergency "by refusing to loan, and by calling in all their available resources, and especially their deposites in the Eastern cities, these last being generally ordered home in specie." The Western banks, located as they are in the very region where there must be the greatest demand for specie, and not anticipating the circumstance which has caused such heavy demands upon them were compelled to take the step which they *have* done, suddenly and without any regard for its probable effect upon the community.—The consequence has been general distress, and a constant, dangerous and alarming pressure upon the southern and western cities. It is obvious that the derangement in the money market must also be felt in the east and north, as well as in the south and west. Gold and silver cannot be obtained in the sections of country where they are wanted; and hence specie must be sought elsewhere. The whole business community of New York is represented to be in a suffering condition; complaints are loud and strong; and the call for relief, universal, urgent, pressing and imperious. These are not imaginary evils; they are real, undoubtedly existing, and such, as it might have been foreseen, would certainly flow from the unwise and uncalled for Treasury order. Was there ever a nation beset with such a compound of folly, stupidity, arrogance and wickedness in its administration as *our* recent history has developed? Let the government cease from its officious interference with the concerns of individuals under false pretences; and let the Executive no longer attempt the regulation and control of matters with which it has no business to meddle, and which, experience has proved, are touched only at the hazard of general pecuniary distress and universal commercial embarrassment.

A volume has lately been issued from the press entitled "The War of Florida"—the production of a late staff officer, and written with the view of exposing the true origin of the war as well as the manner in which it has been carried on. It is spoken of favourably, and is said to contain an accurate account of the campaigns of Generals Clinch, Gaines, and Scott. All the *honor* and *glory* of the difficulty with the southern Indians the author does not scruple to ascribe to the officers in the War Department, and to the gross negligence of the administration as regards the situation of the Territory. The President, it seems, had good grounds for believing that resistance would be made upon the attempted enforcement of the measure and policy so obnoxious to the Indians, and if so, it was his duty to have sent at first a force adequate, not only to the defence of the country, but sufficient to prevent even the "possibility of resistance."—Had the proper precautions been taken by the President, it is believed the inhabitants of Florida would have seen and suffered none of the horrors of Indian warfare. The Secretary of war is charged boldly, with suppressing many very important letters which should have been laid before Congress in answer to a call made by the House of Representatives. But instead of doing his duty as a faithful officer of Government, the author accuses him of "furnishing a volluminous document of chaotic letters, which had as little bearing upon the subject, as the attempted sacrifice of General Scott will have in securing Gen. Jessup from the indignation of every honourable man in the army.

As to the conduct of the commanders, and the entire management of the war, a short time, it is apprehended, will disclose the whole truth; and the real causes of the failure of the several campaigns in Florida will be brought to see the full and open light of day. An investigation will assuredly take place, and censure will certainly be attached to some one—for it must be somewhere merited.

The communication of Dr. Joseph E. Muse, which will be seen in to-day's paper, will be found to contain some useful information on a subject of general interest. It will be perceived that the communication embraces a letter written by Dr. Muse some time since, to a gentleman who had requested his opinion upon the subject of the "variation of the magnetic needle." The mention of the subject should be enough to direct the attention of all who are desirous of useful knowledge, to the article, and to obtain for it the perusal which it merits.

The field of competition is opened to the friends of education throughout the United States, by a resolution adopted by the Western College of Teachers lately assembled at Cincinnati, offering a premium of $100, or a gold medal of that value, for the best essay illustrative of the maxim "that knowledge is wealth."

Experiments tried in a well or drill hole 800 feet deep, at Montpelier, Vermont, have shown that the increase of heat in descending is at the rate of one degree for every 80 feet. Such an increase would indicate that in descending towards the earth's centre, at no very great distance from its surface, the heat must be such as to hold in a state of fusion any body with which we are acquainted, and would seem to prove that the globe is in fact in the depths of its interior a huge mass of materials heated to melting. How far the above experiments may go to account for the existence of the hot springs which are found in various countries, we leave it to the scientific to decide; one thing is certain, that whatever may be the state of things at the centre of our ball, people on its outside are too often apt to get into hot water.—*Balt. Amer.*

Staying and Going.—Maine, Connecticut, New Hampshire, New York, Pennsylvania have *staid* for Van Buren; Maryland Vermont and Delaware stay for Harrison—Ohio has gone for Harrison, and to-day we shall hear whether New Jersey is staying or going.—*Philadelphia U. S. Gazette of Thursday.*

A lively authoress says—"A walk by moonlight is a very pleasant thing with a lover, and a lover, too; just beginning to bud into one. A budding lover is a much pleasanter thing than a full one, very often there is so much trouble attendant upon the latter sort."

COMMUNICATION.

MAGNETIC MERIDIAN.

For the Editor of the Cambridge Chronicle:

DEAR SIR:—If you are willing to descend for a moment, from the *whirl* of politics, to a less obtrusive branch of science, I think it probable, from the general interest of the subject, that a communication, which, not long since, I made at the request of a friend, on the subject of the "Magnetic Meridian," and containing some useful facts and relative calculations, may afford facilities to many land-holders and land measurers, by giving it a place in your useful paper. A similar request, from another source, recently made of me, leads me, now, to ask the favor of your insertion of the following communication.

—"You asked my opinion of the "variation of the magnetic needle," &c. &c. I send you a copy of a memorandum, which I made several years ago, of a report of Mr. David McClure to the Philosophical Society, on the variation, for nearly a century, in the city of Philadelphia, ascertained by the streets of the city. I have not, now, the report; but, my memorandum is correct.

"In 1710, the magnetic meridian was 8° 30′ West of the true one. In 1793, it had decreased to 1° 30′ West. In 1804, it was at 2° 00′ W.; that is, again returning to the West. In 1813, it was 2° 25′; still returning W. In 1821, it was at 3° 00′, do. do."

From these premises, it appears, that, from 1710 to 1793, the magnetic needle was approaching the astronomical meridian, at the mean rate of 5 minutes per year; and from 1793 to 1821, it had again receded from it, "the true one," at the rate of 3¼ minutes per year.

Then, suppose, upon these data, that you desired, in 1793, to correct the variation, so as to run a line conformably to its actual place in 1710,—you must, necessarily, add the difference of the two variations; that is, 8° 30′—1° 30′=7° to the bearing in 1793, if it be within the North West or South East quadrant of the circle—or, deduct the 7°, if the bearing be within the North East or South West quadrant—and mutatis mutandis;—i. e., at the point of time, (1793,) when the variation began to return again to the West, the converse of the rule will, of necessity, be correct.

Hence, the plain and practical method, in the former case—that is, for locations made from 1710 to 1793, is to allow the difference of variation, or, whatever may be agreed on, by running, uniformly, to the *left;* and for those made from 1793 to 1821, and still on, to 1836, to do it, by running uniformly to the *right* of the present pointing of the needle.

These corollaries above drawn, "*as rules of practice,*" will be rendered obvious and familiar by the aid of a diagram, within the scope of any one in the least conversant with the first principles of geometry."

I have understood, that the former Chancellor, Hanson, of Maryland, had assumed the fact of a degree for 20 years, progressively Westward, and that that assumption has continued to the present, to be the general calculable rate of allowance: if so, it is erroneous; because the fact is, (though unaccountable,) that the needle is subject to the law of *periodicity*, and alternates, no doubt, with perfect uniformity, its Eastern and Western aberrations.

It may be well to remark, though it is very generally known that the variation differs in different places; yet, it is believed that that of Philadelphia, and any part of Maryland, is sufficiently near for all practical purposes.

There is, also, a *diurnal* variation of the needle; yet, it is so slight and transient as not to merit attention.

It is an established principle, that the attractive power of a magnet decreases while it is heating, and increases while it is cooling; and it is experimentally known, (vide Silliman's Journal, vol. xxx.,) that, conformably to this principle, the *morning sun*, heating faster the *Eastern* magnetic parts than the *Western*, the needle will move Westward, and the *absolute* variation will *increase;* but, when the *Western* magnetic parts are heating faster, or cooling slower than the *Eastern*—as in the evening—the needle will move Eastward, and the *absolute* variation will *decrease*. But these *diurnal* variations, from one to three minutes, only, do not affect the mean of the *annual* sufficiently to be worthy, or capable of practical consideration.

Respectfully,

JOSEPH E. MUSE.

Cambridge, Md., Nov. 5, 1836.

The Tennessee Legislature adjourned on the 26th ult. They passed a law to secure to the State her proportion of the surplus revenue of the United States. It empowers the Governor, Comptroller and Treasurer to receive the money, on giving the pledges for its safe keeping and return when required. They are to deposit it in the Union Bank and in the Planters' Bank of Tennessee—on their giving bond to receive it at their own charge, repay it when required by the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States—and pay 5 and 6 per cent. interest on it—and if these banks decline, then to deposit it with the Bank of Memphis.

Correspondence of the U. S. Gazette.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2, 1836.

GENERAL CALL.

It is the general impression here that the resignation of his command in Florida is to be ascribed to the unconquerable reluctance of the officers of the regular service to serve under a general commissioned in so summary and irregular a manner. His appointment over the heads of meritorious officers, veterans in the service, and possessing a legitimate claim to promotion, was an usurpation of power on the part of the President, partaking of that arbitrariness of character which distinguished the removal of the deposits, *et id genus omne*. It was bad in tone, bad in *time*; its immediate effect has been to create in the army a feeling of insecurity and lukewarmness, if nothing worse, and as a precedent it may be referred to, to excuse, or even justify, measures of a still more odious stamp, and more pernicious to the chivalric temper and *esprit du corps*, which constitute the moral strength of the service—The difficulties of the campaign may indeed have had some effect in determining the decision of General Call. A mouse of performance from such a mountain of promise would never have satisfied the pudlic expectation, would never have realised the calculations of General Jackson. Whatever the number, skill or positions of the Indians—whether they appeared in swarms or in fragments, whether they were to be found only intrenched on the margin of some intervening river, or hidden in impenetrable swamps, or not to be found at all, it was expected that the troops of the United States, drooping, diminished, feeble from the paralysing effects of the enervating temperature, should spring from the bed of sickness to the field of battle, and with every mental and bodily energy prostrated, should complete the prescribed task of subduing, dispersing and exterminating the unhappy remnants of tribes which our cruelty and oppression have driven to insanity and insurrection. Because General Call doubted, perhaps dispaired, of his ability to fulfill these expectations, and under the conviction that he was placed in a situation which ought to be filled by another, he may have been led to send in his early resignation of his command. How the Indians are to be expelled from Florida, and the citizens of the territory are to be tranquilized may now be questions to be settled, *not by General Jackson*, but by his successor.

The language used by Mr. Woodbvry to the the New York Merchants seems to bear out the rumor that an attempt will be made to procure a repeal of the Deposit Bill. The Secretary seems to take pride to himself that that bill did not originate in any recommendation from the Treasury. It would have surprised me if it had. It would have astonished me if the Department had ever exhibited the slightest indications of such foresight—republican views, or statastical policy. The The Secretary might have spared himself the trouble of the disclaimer. Instead of inpulging in this gratuitous prudery, he had been better employed in mending his phraseology. We might then have escaped the unedifying information that he considered a sudden and immederate transfer of the public monies; "*not only impossible, but ruinous,*" &c. The revolutionary propensities of the Secretary must be very innovating, when they indulge in incursions into the republic of letters, or rather into the society of sentences, unsettling even the established forms of expression If the Pet Banks have issued money of th public to Mr. Van Buren, Amos Kendall and their friends, or any of them, for the purpose of speculating in public lands, and cannot reclaim it in time to meet the transfer drafts on the first of January, it is no more than the Whigs have foretold, and the people should have been prepared for, Let those who have committed the folly bear the punishment.

Washington, November 5, 1836.

In my last I expended a few sentences in attempting to explain the causes which might have induced General Call to resign his command in Florida, while there appears nothing before the public to shew that he has resigned, Nevertheless, I believe that he has—I am assured that a letter was received from him but a few days since announcing the fact. Why it has been kept from the public it is for the Department to explain. If he has so soon been coerced into the conviction, to which General Jessup was reluctantly brought before him, that General scott's "splendid campaign" on paper, after all exhibited more military skill, and embodied a more profound knowledge of Indian warfare, than either of his successors has exhibited in his plans, or embodied into his practice, it may suit the purposes of an administration which substitutes dictates of prejudice for rules of equity, to prevent the people from learning this fact any sooner than it must in the course of things be divulged. Events themselves, in the default of human agents, have become the champions of General Scott. There has not been a day since he left the army which has not produced some new testimony to establish the accuracy of his cause, and confound the judgement of his accusers; and whenever the Court of Inquiry shall go into the prescribed investigation of the causes of the delay which has taken place in bringing the Seminole War to a close, it is to be hoped that it will not stop at the point at which Gen. Scott was recalled, but pursue its enquiries up to the latest moment. My personal feelings towards Gen. Scott are not such as to urge me to a gratuitous defence of his conduct. It has been my misfortune to imbibe the belief that he is overbearing, haughty, and morose in his deportment, perhaps the result of his military habits; but I should blush for myself, could I suffer more personal impressions, which may be founded in error, to seduce me into an abandonment of those principles of justice which are immutable and eternal.

The death of Colonel Lane, by his own hand, has produced here a strong feeling of regret. He was well known in our circles as a chivalrous and honorable young man—and although his assault on Mr. Erving, one of the representatives from Indiana, was not justified, it was palliated by the reflection that it was prompted by that filial affection which we ought to be cautious in condemning. There is no doubt that he fell a victim to his own professional pride.

There appears to be great difficulty in obtaining supplies of provisions for the army. The contracts require the delivery of the provisions at certain points which are designated, and the contractor must deliver them there, or he is certain to be mulcted by the government! When he has reached these posts, he has in many cases, found that the troops are not there, having been transferred to the seat of the Southern Campaign. Thither he is not bound to follow them; he has fulfilled the terms of his contract, and he well knows that if he incurs additional expense it will never be refunded to him, or if ever not perhaps until he has spent years of vexatious applications to Congress. Hence it is that the army in Florida is almost destitute of provisions, and this may be one of the causes of the general sickness which has converted the whole camp into a hospital. Unless some change can be made, some alieviation of the present difficulties effected, I fear that we shall neither gain advantage nor glory from this crusade against the Southern Indians. They feed on the produce of the thickets, or the spoils which they collect, while the troops are comparatively destitute of food. They are commanded by a skilful, intrepid and enterprising chief, who is conversant with all stratagems, vigilant against all surprises, full of resources, and confident in his own capacity to sustain himself against the forces now arrayed against him. Our troops, on the contrary sick dispirited, subject to changes in their commanders as a capricious temper may dictate, can do little more than they have done.

Correspondence of the American.

"APALACHICOLA, Oct. 26, 1836.

"The Steamer Merchant returned here on the 24th from Tampa Bay, having on board Gen. Jesup, and his aid Lieut. Chambers. The Merchant has received on board all the officers and men of the Marine Corps (a list of whom I sent you some days ago,) and their equipments and provisions, and left here this morning for Tampa Bay—Gen. Jesup and his aid returning with them. They are all in fine health and spirits. The steamer Swan left here to day for New Orleans, having on board Assistant Adjutant General Staunton, now acting as Quarter Master General of the Army of Florida, and Lieut. Linsay, (of the Marine Corps,) Assistant Commissary, for the purpose of obtaining supplies. The energy and devotion heretofore displayed by Col. Staunton in the discharge of his duties, are a guarantee that ample supplies of provisions, clothing, and forage for the army will be promptly deposited.

The brig Apalachicola is about to sail for Tampa Bay with the detachment of 100 U. S. Artillerists, under command of Major Lomax, Lieut. Bainbridge, and Lieut. Sherman. She has also a quantity of provisions and clothing for the army. Several other vessels are also to sail forthwith with army supplies. Lieut. Watkins of the Marine Corps, acting Asst. Quarter Master, has charge of the public stores here.

Lieut. Col. Wm. Walker, of the Indian expedition against the Seminoles, and in whom the Creeks had entire confidence, departed this life a few days since. He came here with the Creeks in a debilitated state, arising from chronic dysentary.

Departure of the Mexican Envoy.—Signor Gorostiza has embarked for Mexico, with all the members of the legation. Previous to his departure he addressed to our government an exposition of his reasons for taking this step, from which we give the following extract:

"Unhappily the result has not been what the undersigned expected. The note of Mr. Dickens has left him no hope. The explanations, moreover, which have been given him in the name of the president, have shown how little can be looked for, by Mexico, from the United states, since her most sacred rights, her most important interests, are thus sarificed to the shadow of an imaginary danger. Mexico is wronged and insulted as a measure of precaution.

"Under such painful circumstances, the undersigned would be wanting in his duty, as the representative of Mexico, if he did not avail himself of the only method left him to express the pain he feels at the wrongs done his country. On his own responsibility, therefore, he declares his mission from this moment terminated.

We are gratified to learn from the New York Commercial Advertiser that Joshua Andrews, late first mate of the William Gibbons, has been arrested and committed for trial on the charge of robbing the passengers and lading of the steam packet after the wreck. The occurrence previous and subsequent to that disaster, have been such as to call loudly for a close investigation, and severe punishment of all who may be proved deserving thereof. The examination of Andrews took plac on Wendnesday before Judge Betts, of the U. S. District Court.

Disasters on lake Michigan.—We learn from the Michigan City Gazette of the 5th instant that on the Saturday night preceding, during a heavy blow, the Schooner Sea Serpent, for Michigan City, parted her cables, ran aground half past nine, sprung a leak at half past three in the morning, and lies high and almost dry on the sand, may be got off with much labor, cargo considerably damaged.

The Clarissa Harlow, laden for the same port, was also driven ashore at the same time, below New Buffalo.

The Van Buren likewise sustained much damage, but came to anchor, out rode the storm, losing part of her rigging.

The storm is spoken of as being more severe and violent than any before witnessed by the oldest settlers.

About four o'clock on Monday, the schooner Chicago, having rode out the former gale, parted her cables and was driven ashore with great velocity, and now lies on the beach below the mouth of the river.

The account adds:

We have travelled the Atlantic, the German Ocean, the Baltic and the bay of Biscay, but never saw a time when we would be less willing to be on the water. Could some of the members of our national legislature have witnessed the gale on Saturday night last, we should hear no more of opposition to the construction of harbors on the western lakes. There is not a season in which more property is not destroyed than would construct two or three harbors, independent of a consideration of far more importance, the loss of life.—*Monroe Times.*

The silk culture in our country may no longer be regarded as the pastime of ladies, who, having nothing else to do, have employed their time in raising silk worms, and in winding and reeling the products of their industry. The preparation of this valuable article is becoming rapidly a regular branch of manufacture, employing large capital and returning to those who have embarked in it, a handsome profit for their money and labor. There is at Dedham, Massachusetts, that land of enterprise and industry, a factory which drives sixteen hundred spindles and employs one hundred females, who turn out two thousand dollars worth of silk every week. With a climate adapted to the growth of the food for this valuable *operative*, and well suited for its existence, we can see no good reason why our country should remain tributary to other nations for its beautiful and useful product. Millions have gone, year after year, to pay for the stuffs fabricated by foreign industry, which might have been kept at home to great advantage; and we hope that the day is not far distant when Americans will no longer expend their money in supporting the laborers of other countries.—Silk, in its raw as well as prepared state, may soon be sent abroad as one of the staple commodities of our commerce, and so far from being a drain upon our wealth, will be a powerful mean of increasing it. Why may we not become in the course of a few years what the French and Italians are at present, and our silks be as celebrated for their lustre and beauty as those of France and Italy?—*Balt. Amer.*

The public spirit which has caused the city of Edinburgh to be visited and admired by travellers from all the nations of the globe, has been indulged to such an extent that at length the Athens of Britain is bankrupt in between £600,000 or £700,000 sterling. To one who may have seen this splendid seat of science, its monuments, bridges, schools, and public buildings of every description, it appears only wonderful that means could have been raised without oppression to the tax payers, to be applied to such magnificent works. With a surface so abrupt and broken, and so well calculated to increase the expenses attendant on every species of improvement, this noble city of the north surpasses every other in Britain, in the multitude and splendor of its public and private buildings, its magnificent squares, and spacious avenues made over the summits of hills and deep vallies, which seem only intended to furnish an opportunity for the display of the taste of the projectors and the wealth of the population. As a seat of learning, the University of Edinburgh has extended its fame to every nation, whilst the vast scale on which the buildings are erected for the purposes of education, is such as to excite the surprize of every beholder If bankruptcy can be palliated in an individual or a corporation, it is when the expenses which have led to it have been incurred in the prosecutions of plans of general utility. In this point of view, whatever disability the corporation of Edinburgh may labor under, the population have been the gainers, and whatever temporary embarrassment may exist, permanent comfort and elegance have been promoted.

The Quebec Gazette of a late date states that during the preceding three mornings the thermometer had stood at sun rise at twenty degrees above zero. The ground was frozen six inches deep, and the beaches of the St. Lawrence were white with broken ice. A great portion of the potato crop was still out, and an end had been put to ploughing. Such early and severe frosts are said to be unprecedented in Canada.

Breadstuffs.—On Thursday, 10th, there were received into the port of New York 9539 bags of wheat from London, Odessa and Hamburg, and 1549 bags of Rye.