CHRONICLE.

"SALUS POPULI SUPREMA EST LEX."

DAVID P. HOGE--EDITOR

Cambridge, Maryland:

SATURDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 11, 1837.

☞ The Orphans' Court of this county will sit on Tuesday next, 14th instant.

The committee of the House of Representatives, appointed for the purpose of inquiring into the nature of the connection between Reuben M. Whitney and the Deposite Banks, called upon the President, in the discharge of the duties imposed upon them, for certain information with which it was supposed that officer could furnish them. That high functionary, who should be the first to lend his assistance to a committee instituted with the view of ferreting out existing or supposed abuses, has thought proper to respond to the inquiries addressed to him in a manner altogether unbecoming his station as the highest Executive officer of a free people. The letter of the President in reply to the committee, judging from the extracts which we have seen, is insulting in its language, and overbearing in its tone and spirit. He refuses to give the information sought, and undertakes to prescribe to the heads of departments, the conditions, upon which, *they* shall answer the calls made upon them by the authorized agents of the Representatives of the people. The committee is denounced as an inquisitorial tribunal, and in this denunciation the House of Representatives is of course embraced, the committee having been raised by the act of that body. Not only is the house insulted, but the whole body of the people through their representatives treated with unparalleled indignity. What! Is it come to this. When the House of Representatives choose to institute an inquiry into alleged abuses, shall its committee be told in a tone of arrogance more suited to an absolute monarch than to a Republican President, that it is an illegal and unconstitutional tribunal, and shall all investigation be thus frustrated by the sic jubeo sic volo, of the Executive? When such things as these shall be tamely borne, it will be time to lay aside the forms of our Republican institutions and acknowledge ourselves the subjects of one man, whose edict none dare question, whose will none may venture to gainsay.—Surely the spirit of a free people will not brook such tyranny, such effrontery, such supercilious behaviour, and such shameless audacity on the part of those whom they have chosen as their servants. We give below an extract from this haughty and truly sovereign like response of our Republican President.

"The heads of departments may answer such a request as they please, provided, they do not withdraw their own time and that of the officers under their direction from the public business to the injury thereof. To that business I shall direct them to devote themselves, in preference to any illegal and unconstitutional calls for information, no matter from what source it may come, or however anxious they may be to meet it." And then the General asserts, that he, for himself, shall repel all such attempts, as he "*would the establishment of a Spanish Inquisition.*"

It will be seen by reference to the correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot, that the Hon. R. J. Walker, and the Hon. Thomas H. Benton, Van Buren members of the U. S. Senate, have been amusing themselves lately by giving vent to the bitter, acrimonious feeling which the two champions cherish towards one another. The Senator from Mississippi did not scruple to express the opinion, which every sound man in the country, whatever may be his political attachment or personal predilections, must entertain of that "greatest of all humbugs," Senator Benton. "God save the country from the wild and extravagant notions of the Senator from Missouri," says Mr. Walker. So say we. But is it not nevertheless true, beyond the possibility of contradiction, that this same Senator Benton has been the great, the untiring, the vigorous advocate of all the measures of this administration? Is he not identified with them? Is he any thing more or less, than the mere echoing minister of the opinions, "notions" and measures of the palace, including the gold scheme among the rest? Is not Mr. Van Buren pledged to carry out these same "notions" of the illustrious President, which the Missouri Senator has been so zealously defending? And if he does *not* perfect "the work so gloriously begun," will the party sustain him? We shall see.

Bustamente, who has lately been received with such acclamation in Mexico, was once the rival of Santa Anna, and was driven from his country in consequence of the political ascendency of the latter. Now Santa Anna is exiled, and his former opponent a liberalist, and supporter of the federative compact, is again triumphant. Mexico has been the theatre of various insurrectionary movements and calamitous civil commotions, from the period of the first revolt against the Spanish authority up to the present moment; and there are certainly at this time no indications of a speedy dissipation of the clouds of intestine war. The whole country still regarded by the parent state as a rebellious province, though recognised as independent by Great Britain and the United States;—Texas and California in open resistance—with no settled government; torn asunder and distracted by the furious contentions of political factions, there can be no ground for indulging even the slightest hope, that the reign of peace and order will soon be restored to that agitated portion of the Globe. On the contrary, there is every reason to fear, that a storm is impending over that devoted region, which in its violence, will surpass any that it has yet been its fate to encounter. When the banished chief, the lately captured sovereign of the Republic, and the now liberated President, so recently called the "idol of the hearts of Mexicans, the immortal Santa Anna," shall set his foot upon the soil of his country, the standard of partizan warfare will then be erected, and the friends and followers of the monster of the Alamo will perhaps once more re establish in his place and power, the object of their affections. That Santa Anna has a strong party in his favor, that he is a man of tremendous influence and great popularity, the past history of Mexico, and the part which he has borne in her affairs, will not permit us to entertain a doubt. If there is not a contest when this chieftain returns, (and he is now on his way) the accounts from that country have all worn a fallacious aspect. Situated as Mexico now is, under the guidance and direction of no regular civil authority, unable to collect or concentrate her energies, what probability can there be of a subjugation of Texas, populated as it is by a race of men who are animated with the spirit of liberty? There can be none. We would sooner believe that Mexico could be overrun and conquered by the Texians, than that the latter could be subdued by all the force which the former can send against them.

Mr. Van Buren, the Vice President and President of the Senate, recently vacated the chair and delivered a short address upon the occasion. He is preparing, we presume, for the inauguration. Mr. King of Alabama was elected President pro. tem. of the Senate.

There has been some personal altercation between Mr. Bell of Tennessee, and Mr. Jarvis of Maine, both of the House of Representatives, growing out of an imputation of improper motives to Mr. Bell in introducing his "Bill to secure the freedom of elections." Through the instrumentality of their respective friends the matter was adjusted.

The Bill reported by Mr. Hicks, entitled an act to prevent the owners of vessels from navigating the same under the sole direction of negroes or mulattoes, has passed the House of Delegates.

Case of the Whites.—The opinion of the Court on the verdict rendered by the jury in the case of R. H. White was given on Thursday. It will be remembered that in this case the Jury had brought in a verdict of *Not Guilty*, on account of the Statute of Limitations, though they stated they believed him to have been guilty of the charge, contained in the indictment of burning the Treasury building. On this verdict the counsel of R. H. White had moved for the discharge of his client, and had been opposed by Mr. Key the Prosecuting Attorney, on the grounds that the verdict was not conclusive, it being argumentative, &c. Judge Morsell first delivered his opinion, stating his reasons why he thought the verdict should be set aside.—Judge Thruston next read his opinion, and concurred in sentiment with the above mentioned Judge that the verdict should be set and a "*venire facias de novo*," Judge Cranch concluded by stating the decision of the Court to be that the verdict be set aside.

In consequence of this decision, Richard H. White remains still in prison, and his case will be tried over again.

The decision of the Court, in the case of Henry White found guilty by the jury on the motion made on a former day by Mr. Brent, for an arrest of judgment for reasons apparent on the record, was given also on Thursday.

Judge Morsell delivered his opinion in favor of the motion, Judges Cranch and Thruston then delivered severally their opinions, with the reasons thereof against the motion. The majority of the Court therefore decided against the motion, and consequently the verdict of guilty against Harry White remains undisturbed. The prisoner who was present in in Court, was then remanded to prison, and will be brought up to morrow morning to recieve judgment.

Congressional.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot.

There was quite a blow up in the Senate to day. I have heard that in consequence of the outrageous arrogance and violence which Mr. Benton displayed yesterday, in his speech on the bill which repeals the Treasury Circular, several Senators of the Rives section, at a meeting last night, resolved that he must be put down—that he must be given to understand his part was to follow, not lead! But I had no expectation of hearing such a declaration of war as Mr. Walker, of Mississippi, evidently with the concurrence of a majority of "the party" proclaimed against the Great Expunger to-day. "God save the country," he exclaimed, "from the wild and extravagant opinions of the Senator from Missouri!"—This in his opening paragraph. Then, as if the recollections of their former companionship had rushed over him, he said he would overlook many of the remarks of Mr. Benton.

"I hope you will not overlook *one* sir!" cried Mr. Benton, rising in wrath, and pushing his chair from before him.

"What one?" asked Mr. Walker, his choler rising.

"Not one of them, I say," replied the Great Expunger, in infinite wrath and fury, retreating towards the door.

Mr. Walker called out after him, in the most excited tones, "Then I'll examine all, sir! and if the gentleman wants an angry discussion here or elsewhere, he can have it!"

And the Senator from Mississippi did proceed to examine the points; and for a hour and more did all he could to hold up the opinions, arguments, and figures of the Great Expunger to the contempt and ridicule of the Senate. He declared his belief that Mr. Benton was alone in his wild and impracticable opinions, and he challenged the ayes and noes on any proposition he choose to offer to ascertain how many participated in those opinions. He upbraided him (oh! unkindest cut of all!) with having been "an opponent, in 1823, of the illustrious President of whose conscience he now wishes to be considered the exclusive guardian." And he finished a speech of extreme severity and open defiance, by declaring he held himself responsible for what he had said, in or out of the House.

Mr. Rives followed, and returned his thanks to Mr. Walker for the masterly defence he had made of *his* propositions against the assaults of the Senator from Missouri! He asked an adjournment, which was granted. The "genteel" Virginian will do his devoir on Monday, and we will then see whether he or Benton is the stronger.

What will the poor deluded fellows, who thundered away 25 guns on Federal Hill, in honor of Tom Benton, say, when they hear that their great man has been annihilated by the pop gun of Mr. Walker. Tell them to wheel about and fire fifty guns now for Mr. Rives, or they may be too late for the spoils. D.

Extract from Correspondence of the New York Daily Express.

Washington, January 29, 1837.

I wrote you yesterday hurriedly, that the President of the United States had written a letter to Mr. Wise, of Va. in which he protested against a request of the committee, which Mr. Wise as Chairman had made, of knowing what names there were of U. S. officers, not on the blue Book. I know now that this letter, for I have since seen it, is more courteously worded than I then heard it was, and that it is not a production of the President's own pen, though his name signed to it. He denounces however the inquisitorial power of the Committee, calls it even a Spanish Inquisition—proclaims his intention to disregard it, and adds that he has ordered his Secretaries to attend to their own business, and let the Committee alone. Such a letter as this from the highest officer of the Government, who thus steps forth with his shield thrown over all his officers, and all the corruptions of which they may be guilty, creates, as it well might, a great sensation, and is the universal topic of conversation in every circle. In other countries, the monarch who *dare* do this, might find his throne shaken to the ground,—but ours is a *free* country, and our monarch being the monarch of *freemen*, has the *freedom* to act as he please!

SPECIAL ORDER.

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill to prevent the sales of the public lands except to actual settlers, &c.

The question pending being on the motion of Mr. Moore to limit the prices of lands which have been more than ten and less than fifteen years in market to one dollar, and those which have been more than fifteen years in market to seventy five cents per acre no more than one hundred and sixty acres to be sold to any one person, or to any other person than actual settlers.

Mr. Moore called for the yeas and nays which were ordered and the question being taken it was decided as follows—Yeas—Messrs. Benton, Black, Dana, Fulton, Hendricks, King, (Ala) Linn, moore, Morris, Mouton, Nicholas, Norvell, Rives, Robbins, Sevier, Walker, White—17.

Nays—Messrs. Bayard, Brown, Buchanan, Calhoun, Clay, Clayton, Critenden, Cuthbert, Ewing, (Ohio) Hubbard, Kent, King, (Ga,) Knight, Niles, Page, Prentiss, Robbins, Southard, Strange, Swift, Tallmadge, Tomlinson, Wall, Wright—25.

Mr. Moore moved another amendment, which was negatived—yeas 15, nays 27.

Mr. White said he had acted with the friends of the bill, with a view to make it as perfect as possible, but in its present form he should be compelled to vote against it. He moved to amend the bill by striking out all the bill except the first section, and inserting a substitute which introduced the graduation principle on a different scale, and the concession of the privilege to the States of taxing the lands sold by the United States.

The question had not been taken when this packet was closed.

Legislature of Maryland.

FROM ANNAPOLIS.

Correspondence of the Baltimore Chronicle.

ANNAPOLIS, 30th January, 1837.

In the Senate, the bills to change the organization of the Executive and Legislative Departments of the Government, were laid on the table.

A message was received from the Governor transmitting a report and resolutions of the Legislature of Georgia, relative to the Surplus Revenue of the Udited States—Referred to the consideration of the House of Delegates.

In the House, on motion of Mr. Richardson, a call was made on the Treasurer for the statements made by the several banks in obedience to their charters.

Mr. Alexander, from the committee on Ways and Means, reported a supplement to the charter of the Farmers' and Planters' Bank—Also a supplement to the charter of the Citizens' Bank, both relating to the bonus to be paid by them to the State.

The supplement to the charter of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road, authorising the Company to alter the location of their road from Baltimore to the Monocacy, for the purpose of dispensing with inclined planes, and avoiding unnecessary curves, was passed.

The message submitted some time since, proposing an investigation into the affairs of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal and Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road Company, came up as the order of the day—when a substitute was submitted by Mr. Eccleston, and adopted by the House, directing the committee on Internal Improvements to inquire into the expediency of creating a board of Public Works, to be elected by a joint ballot of the General Assembly to represent the State as a Stockholder in all Internal Improvement Companies incorporated by the State, and to examine into the various works of Internal Improvements in which the State is interested, and to make annual reports of their condition to the General Assembly.

Both Houses disposed of some local and private business.

The following is the message of the Governor of Maryland, on the Tariff bill of 1833.

Executive Department,
ANNAPOLIS, January 30th, 1837.

Gentlemen of the Senate and of the House of Delegates;

We here with lay before you, in pursuance of a request therein contained, a copy of a report and resolution, passed by the Legislature of Georgia, on the subject of the surplus revenue of the United States proposed to be deposited among the States.

It will be perceived that the existence of a surplus of revenue in the national treasury is deprecated in the strongest terms by the Legislature of our sister State; and that the laws, by the operation of which this surplus was created, are viewed as an exercise of assumed power of the General Government. The whole context and tenor of the report clearly demonstrate that it is against against what is familliarly called "the protecting power" that the Legislature of Georgia protest; and they urge an immediate reduction of the revenue to what they call "the legitimate wants of the Federal Government," (notwithstanding the compromise Tariff act of 1833,) upon the ground that the surplus has accrued in consequence of an assumption of power by Congress, not conferred by the constitution.

We do not intend on the present occasion, to enter into any argument upon the question of power, or to produce the numerous authorities which are at hand to sustain the constitutionality of its exercise, since the Congress of 1789 to the present day.

We are firmly persuaded that the compromise of that vexed question, made by the Tariff act of 1833, ought not to be disturbed—that the opponents as well as the friends of a Tariff of protection, ought to adhere to that compromise—not because either are legally bound to do so—but because reviving the exciting and embittered contest which that act allayed, would again, and speedily, revive the discontent and dissatisfaction among the States which had become so threatening in their consequences and were so happily allayed by that act. We solemnly believe that the public harmony, prosperity and peace are involved in, and require a strict adherence to its provisions.

Under these impressions we respectfully submit to you our views of the propriety and importance of protesting in the most earnest and unequivocal manner against an infringement of the compromise made by the Tariff act of 1833.

With the highest respect, we have the honor to remain, your obedient servants.

THO. W. VEAZEY.

LATEST FROM FLORIDA.

We have received an extra from the St Augustine Herald, of the 30th inst., through the Charleston slips of the 24th.

Gen. *Jessup* had arrived at Camp Dade on the 10th from Tampa Bay. A letter from an officer of the Army states that on the 11th, it was intended to march against Powell or Philp at Top-ka-li-ka or both, and that circumstances indicate an early termination of the war. The letter adds that the negroes who were taken prisoners in a recent sortie, report that Powell was in the Wahoo Swamp, with a few of the Micasuky Indians, the rest having left him. That in the several actions of Gov. Call, a great number of Indians were killed and that in the affair when the whites destroyed a boat in the Withlacoochee, 17th Jan., 10 hostiles were killed and 20 wounded. Jumper, Micanopy and Abram, are said to be at A-ha pop-ka, and were willing to make terms, if they will be treated well, and that they have but a small quantity of ammunition left.

An express arrived last night, to Col. Crane, from which we learn that Gen. Jessup had ordered home the Georgia and Alabama Militia. There was a regular force sufficient in the field.

It is reported that the mail rider, between this and Tallahassee has been killed by the Indians.

Col. Crane has been ordered to Garey's Ferry, where he will have his head quarters.

A letter from Tampa Bay, under date of Jan. 4, states that Commodore J. Dallas, with the seamen under his command, intends taking the field. Fort Drane is garrisoned by seamen from the navy, under the command of Lieutenant Leib; and cantonment Brook, by seamen, under Lieut. Adams of the United States ship Concord.

All the West India squadron is ordered to rendezvous at Tampa Bay. The vessels will be left at anchor, with barely sufficient men to take care of them, while the balance will take the field.

All the forts in the interior are well stocked with provisions, against the event of the troops being compelled to fall back upon them.

Commodore *Dallas* is constructing a number of boats of an easy draught with which the seaman can enter the everglades. They are constructed to carry 40 men well armed.

DISPOSITIGN OF SURPLUS REVENUE.

The Bill reported to the Maryland House of Delegates by the chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, for the disposition of the State's share of the surplus revenue, provides, in the first place, that $275,451 shall be set apart for defraying the interest on the State debt already created, and other expenses of government. Such portion of this sum as may not be immediately wanted is to be deposited by the Treasurer in some bank or banks at an interest of five per cent. per annum. The sum of $1,000,000 being the residue of the State's portion of the surplus, to be appropriated to the purchase of the public debt of the Sate, and in case the Treasurer cannot purchase the State's stock on terms designated, he is to deposite the money in a bank or banks which shall pay interest therefor at the rate of five per cent. per annum.

The same bill also authorises the Treasurer to sell to the Merchants' Bank of Baltimore the right of the State to subscribe for 5000 shares of its capital stock, provided he can obtain therefor not less than $40,000. And if the Treasurer cannot make sale of the State's right above mentioned before the 15th February, he is directed to subscribe for 5000 shares of the stock of said Bank, and to pay on account of the said subscription $50,000 out of the moneys to be received from the United States on or before the first of October next. These payments are declared to be a temporary investment. Whenever the Treasurer can purchase the State's stock on the terms designated in a preceding section of the bill, he is directed to sell the shares thus subscribed to the stock of the Merchants' Bank, and apply the proceeds to the purchase aforesaid.—*Balt. Amer.*

Mr. Rives, it is stated, showed the "white feather" on Monday in his speech in reply to Mr. Benton. The Alexandria Gazette has the following paragraph:

There was a little 'billing and cooing', between Mr. Rives and Mr. Benton, on Monday—a dash of honey in the cup of gall.—Speaking of the war against the Bank of the United States, Mr. Rives said the Senator from Missouri "was an older and a better soldier" than he was. "An older, *not* a better," responded Mr. Benton. "Yes," rejoined Mr. Rives "I repeated it—both an older and a better soldier; I yield the palm in both particulars." The complacent and satisfied Senator from Missouri fell back into his chair with—as the newspapers and novels say,—"feelings which can be better imagined than described." O! this Brutus and this Cassius!

Texan Consul General.—It is stated in a New York paper that John Woodward, of New York, has been appointed by the Texan Government, Consul General for New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Baltimore.

On Dit—That a Court Martial will soon assemble for trying Major Gates, lately dismissed from the army, but since reinstated by the President.

Reuben M. Whitney.—The following extraordinary statement will astonish the public. *R. M. Whitney*, a consulting member of the cabinet council!—for Mr. Woodbury's contumacious silence admits such to be the fact.

Washington, Jan. 19, 1837.

Dear Sir—Among the questions put to Secretary *Woodbury* this morning, by the Committee of Investigation, he was asked if Mr. Reuben M. Whitney was at a famous Cabinet Council held in relation to the Treasury order, *and he declined answering*. The country will soon learn strange things.

"A Gentle Pass."—It was but the other day that we gave a report of a "keen encounter of wits" in the Virginia House of Delegates between Mr. Moore and Mr. Fisher, in which there is no doubt as to who was 'second best.' The last Richmond Whig furnishes another instance, about which, likewise, there can be no mistake.

In the course of Mr. Bayly's remarks yesterday in the House of Delegates, he was called to order by the Chair, on the ground that he was introducing irrelevant matter. Mr. B. was about to appeal from the judgment of the Chair,

When Mr. Shinn said, let him go on, Mr. Speaker—give him rope enough, and he'll soon hang himself.

Mr. Bayly replied—Well, if I do, Mr. Speaker, I shall do that for myself which some gentlemen ought to have done for them if they had their deserts.

Mr. B. then proceeded with his argument

The severity of the retort will be properly estimated when it is recollected that Orator Shinn lies under the incubus of several *indictments* at home.—*Alex. Gaz.*

WESTERN WONDERS.

A friend showed us a more than common curiosity,—being notes than a sketch of an ancient city, the remains of which have been discovered within a year past, in the fertile and flourishing territory of *Ouisconsin*,—on the West branch of Rock or Crawfish river. The brick walls of this metropolis, thus accidentally rescued from the mists and mould of the past are between four and five feet high. At their base, they are nearly twelve feet in thickness. At regular intervals of five rods, massive buttresses support these ramparts, which circummured a city of nearly three miles, in an irregularly oblong square. The remains of five large buildings are enclosed within this space, and nearly fifty others of smaller size, may there be found. The walls, as defined in the unpretending sketch to which we allude, are in length on the north one hundred rods, on the east, fifty-five, on the west forty-five. The remaining boundary has not been accurately traced. From an inscription on a rude portal of the city, it was found that its name was *Aztalan*.

Now who dified these walls, and established gates of this forest city.—and when?—Were they reared before successive springs had brought up the wilderness to its full stature? These are points on which Conjecture alone can play the umpire. Was the region of Ouisconsin, in other days, some golden Hispaniolia, pregnant with mines like those which the immortal Columbus encountered, and which led him to believe that he had verily discovered the Ophir of yore, and the ruins of refining furnaces of Hebraic construction? Who can tell? What sort of a city was this *Aztalan*? (Phil. Gaz.

From the Philadelphia Inquirer, Feb. 1.

The Abolition Convention organised to day by appointing Dr. Francis Lamoyne of Washington county, President; Joseph Truman and Samuel Scott, of Philadelphia, Dr. B. Fussal, Chester, M. Baron, Allegheny, M. Adair, Erie, Dr. Chambers, Rev. Mr. Slem, and D. Allen, Vice Presidents. Several committees have been appointed, and the business of the convention is in progress, but little has been done as yet.

On to-morrow, the committees are expected to report, when some opinion can be formed of the general character of its proceedings. My own opinion is, that the South would call some of the doctrines which will be advocated, incendiary. I do not think we have much to fear on that score, or that the South is in any danger from what will be done in this Convention. Tappan, and other abolitionists, are here from a distance. Perhaps the cause would have prospered as well at this time, without their aid or presence.

We find the following anecdote, in company with some other news from Washington, in the Boston Advocate, whose Editor is at present on a visit to that city.

"The Expunging Pen.—A little anecdote is related at Washington, which is worth recording. The night the expunging resolution was carried into effect in the Senate, Mr. Benton, the persevering mover of that measure, sent to the President the pen used by the clerk of the senate in drawing around and across the black lines, and writing the words "Expunged by order of the Senate." It was a new pen that had never been used for any other purpose. The President received it with much pleasure, and informed Mr. B. that he should preserve it while he lived, and at his death bequeath it to Mr. Benton as a mark of his regard,