which he cannot understand! he regards it as an object of inquiry, and begins to penetrate the reasons, and acquire a new mastery over his own instruments. He finds other and better modes of doing what he had done before, blindly and without interest, a thousand times. He learns to profit by the experience of others, and ventures upon untried paths.—Difficulties, which before would have stopped him at the outset, recieve a ready solution from some luminous principle of science. He gains new knowledge and new skill, and can improve the quality of his manufacture' while he shortens the process, and diminishes his own labor. Then labor becomes sweet to him; it is accompanied by the consciousness of increasing power! it is leading him forward to a higher place among his fellow men.—Relaxation. too, is sweet to him, as it enables him to add to his intellectual stores, and to mature, by undisturbed meditation, the plans and conceptions of the hour of labour. His home has acquired a new charm for he has become a man of thought, and feels and enjoys the peace and seclusion of that sacred retreat: and he carries thither the honest complacency which is the companion of well earned success. There, too, bright visions of the future sphere open upon him, and excite a kindly feeling towards those who share in his prosperity.—Thus his heart and mind expand together. He has become an intelligent being, and, while he had learnt to esteem himself, he has also learnt to live no longer for himself alone. Society opens like new world to him, he looks upon his fellow creatures with interest and sympathy, and feels that he has a place in their affections and respect.—Temptations assail him in vain. He is armed by high and pure thoughts. He takes a wider view of his relations with the beings about and above him. He welcomes every generous virtue that adorns and dignifies the human character. He delights in the exercise of season—he glories in the consciousness and the hope of immortality. G. B. EMERSON.

☞We commend the following able article to the attention of our readers.—It is from the pen of our talented townsman, Doct. Joseph E. Muse, whose scientific researches have removed mists that for a long time dimmed the sight.—Although the subject seems rather obstruse for ordinary comprehensions, yet when divested of its technicalities, and viewed in a proper light, it vitally concerns the whole human family. Humanity shudders at the idea of '*mors ex venenum*.' Its associations are revolting to our feelings; hence we should consider ourselves deeply indebted to the eminent author of the following treatise, for the benefits which his labours must confer upon the whole human race.—Ed Camb. Chron.

ART. 1—ON THE HYDRATED PEROXIDE OF IRON AS AN ANTIDOTE FOR ARSENIC.

BY JOSEPH E. MUSE, M. D., OF CAMBRIDGE, MARYLAND.

To Professor Dunglison.

Cambridge, Md., March 1, 1838.

Dear Sir,—In your "General Therapeutics" the hydrated peroxide of iron is suggested as an antidote to arsenic acid, though it is marked by you as *questionable*.

Drs. Bunsen and Berthold, in 1834, reported it as a "*true specific*."

In the last January number of "Bell's Medical Liberary," I was much gratified to read "Experiments on the Hydrated Peroxide of Iron, by Dr. Von Specs."

The fact being a very interesting one, I determined to satisfy myself, by a series of experiments, of the efficacy of the antidote; and I was, perhaps, the more inclined to be sceptic from having understood frequently, and from respectable sources, that arsenic would not kill a dog—and the experiments of Dr. Von Specs had been made with that animal.

For this purpose I prepared some hydrated peroxide of iron by a solution of the metal in nitro-muriatic acid, precipitated by an alkaline carbonate (I used carbonate of soda),—having dried the precipitate I obtained a beautiful specimen of "brown hematite," or hydrated peroxide of iron. I also borrowed of a kind neighbour a worthless dog, in full health, about two years old, and of ordinary size.

Being thus prepared with materials for the work of destruction and preservation at will, I determined, in the first place, to settle the question of the efficacy of the arsenic as a poison upon the animal economy of the dog; and secondly when I should have finished the first dog; or the first question, to obtain the loan of another dog, and then to settle the second question, of the efficacy of the antidote to preserve him.

In my experiments it will be observed that I used the same quantities of arsenic reported to have been used by Dr. Von Specs, that I might have the more fair and appropriate results.

On Sunday afternoon, Feb. 18, 1838, at half past three o'clock, a scruple of the white oxide of arsenic was given, in minced meat, to the dog before described; at six o,clock the dog was not at all affected by it. The next morning, Monday, at nine o'clock, the dog which was chained in a stall in my stable, appeared sickened, dull, and timid,—which two latter incidents I ascribed to his being a stranger both to the hostler, my assistant, and to myself, as well as to the fact of his being chained; and I name them because they were noticed by Dr. Von Specs, apparently, as pathological symptoms. His stall bore the evidence of emesis during the night, though not copious; at five o'clock, P. M., he was quite well, and ate meat and became more friendly and lively.

On Tuesday, nine o'clock, A. M., the dog being perfectly well, I gave him one dram of the arsenic in minced meat; in the afternoon he was sickend and vomited as before.

On Wednesdy morning, about nine, he was quite well and lively. I allowed him a small piece of meat to test his appetite; he would have consumed a large mess. but I withheld it for further experiment, and I gave him at this visit one dre am more of arsenic, mixed in much and lard, he ate it freely. In the evening he had copious emesis; but neither in this nor in any of the previous cases had he any fluid alvine dejections.

On Thursday morning, about nine o'clock, the dog was *apparently* well, and I believe was so in *reality*, as he ate freely what was allowed him; which, as before, was limited for further experiment,—yet every day he had a little milk and some water.

On this day, Thursday morning, about ten o'clock, I offered him six drams of hydrated peroxide of iron in mush and lard, with a view to witness the effects of the supposed antidote upon him. He ate only about two thirds of it; in the afternoon his bowels were considerably affected.

On Friday morning, about ten o'clock, though a little reduced in flesh, he was quite well, and ate voraciously of meat and other food given him, except the mess of the antidote, which he would not again touch, though enveloped in a larger and richer medium.

On this day—late on Friday evening—I returned the dog to his owner, preserved, unequivocally, from the generally fatal effects of the arsenic, not by the *factitious antidote*, but by the *natural counter-poison* of his *peculiar constitution*.

On Tuesday, 27th, I called on his owner, and witnessed the unimpaired health of the dog.

The experiments of *Dr.* Specs were predicated, necessarily, and reasonably, upon the general truth of the poisonous effects of arsenic upon the animal economy.

From my experiments, above detailed, and whose results were widely different from my anticipations, and I may add, my wishes; it would seem that the family of the "dog" is an exception to this general truth, and that it is constitutionally capable of modifying or resisting the action of this general poison, without the aid of a *foreign* antidote; or it may *possibly* be true only with the *solitary subject* of my experiments, whose *individual* idiocracy may have preserved him, and it may not hold with the *family*, though this is not at all probable.

Should this family of the "dog" be found, upon further examination, to possess this modifying power, it would not be wholly anomalous; many analogous instances are to be found, among the vegetable poisons, of plants which are wholesome to one family of animals and destructive to others; the ground ivy, "Gaultheria procumbens," as our farmers universally believe destroys their sheep, which will eat it only in the winter,—but it is wholesome and nutritive to our deer, and perhaps to others. The "atropa belladonna," it is confidently asserted, though I know not fact, is consumed by the hog with avidity and safety: to animals in general it is notoriously poisonous. Bigelow, in his "Medical Botany," though I have not the work at hand and do not recollect them, adduces several similar instanees.

I have only to repeat, that my experiment-dog was infallibly *arsenic proof*, and without the aid of a foreign antidote; and though other individuals of that family may possibly give a different result, yet, without further experiment, the antidotal powers of the hydrated peroxide of iron againt the poison of arsenic cannot be considered as established.

CLASSIFICATION OF THE SENATE.

In accordance with the provisions of the amended constitution, the Senate of Maryland, on Wednesday, proceed to divide, by lot, the Senators into classes—those of the first class to serve two years, those of the second class, four years,—those of the third class, six years. The result was as follows—

First Class—to serve two years.

David Stewart, (Whig) of Baltimore city.

Hugh Ely, (L. F.) of Washington county.

William Matthews, (L. F.) of Allegany county.

John Evans, (L. F.) of Cecil county.

———Goldsborough, (L. F.) of Queen Anne's county.

Wm. U. Purnell, (Whig.) of Worcester county.

Second Class—To serve four years.

Horace Wilson, (W.) of Montgomery county.

Alexander C. Magruder, (W.) of Anne Arundel county and Annapolis city.

Thomas G. Pratt, (W.) of Prince George's county.

Alexander Matthews, (L. F.) of Charles county.

John Beckett, (W.) of Calvert county.

John Boon. (W) of Caroline county.

Alexander Donoho, (W) of Somerset county.

Third Class—to serve six years.

Richard Potts (W) of Frederick county.

W. P. Maulsby, (L F) of Carroll county.

Otho Scott, (L F) of Harford county.

Richard Thomas, (W) of St. Mary's county.

Nicholas Martin, (L F) of Talbot county.

James B. Ricaud, (W) of Kent county.

T. H. Eccleston, (W) of Dorchester county.

The three classes are, therefore, politically divided:—

	W.	L. F.
First Class,	2	5
Second Class,	6	1
Third Class,	4	3
	12	9

MARYLAND LEGISLATURE.

Correspondence of the American.

ANNAPOLIS, January 1st, 1839.

The house of Delegates organized this day by the election of Charles S. Ridgley, Esq. (Whig) of Anne Arundel Co'ty, as Speaker. He received thirty nine votes and John C. Wharton, Esq. (V. B.) of Washington county received thirty two votes neither gentleman voting for himself. George G. Brewer, Esq. was elected Chief Clerk, Eli Duvall, Esq. Assistant Clerk, John Burnett, Thomas M. Flint, and Isaac Gibbons Committee Clerks from the Eastern Shore; Harry D. Gough and Benj. E. Gantt from the Western Shore; Levin J. Broadwater Sergeant at Arms. and John Quynn Doorkeeper. The Senate were informed by Message that the House had organized and were ready to proceed to business. A Committee was appointed to wait upon the Governor, in conjunction with a Committee from the Senate, and inform him of their readiness to receive any communication he might have to make to them. An order was passed passed admitting to seats on the floor those gentlemen from Frederick and Kent Counties who are in attendance, claiming their seats.

The Senate has been occupied with counting the votes for Governor given at the late election, and find that Wm. Grason, Esq. received 27,720 votes, and John N. Steele, Esq. 27,309 votes. Nothing else of importance was done.

P. S. The Governor's Message will probably be transmitted to-morrow.

MARYLAND LEGISLATURE.

EDITOR'S CORRESPONDENCE,

WEDNESDAY, January 2nd, 1839.

Both houses convened.—No business of importance was transacted.

Numerous petitions for divorces were presented by the delegates from the several counties, and city of Ballimore.

Petitions were presented for Dr. Geyer of Frederick and Messrs. Lassell and Kirby of Kent county, each claiming their seats;—the petitions being read, were referred to the committee on elections.

The Committee of Elections are Messrs. Handy, Chairman, Causin, Thomas, Spencer. Watson Soldiers and Mason.

The standing committees of the House have not yet been appointed with the exception of the Committee on Elections. The Speaker assigned as his reason to the house for the appointment of this committee, the importance of an early decision of the several contested elections.

When the time for leave arrived, Mr, William of Harford, asked leave to introduce "a bill to abolish imprisonment for debt," and moved to refer the bill to select committee.

Mr. Bowie, of Prince George's county, opposed the motion to refer the bill to a select committee, as there was a committee especially appointed, to which all such bills were to be referred. The bill, he said was one of general importance, affecting all sections of the State alike—and he, therefore, moved to refer the bill to the committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Page followed, and advocated the motion of Mr Bowie.

Mr. Causin was for referring the bill to a select committee.

Mr. Williams, of Harford, said that he did not wish by the motion he had made to throw the apple of discord into the House, nor had he any personal object in view. His motion was not made for the benefit of any particular craft, but for the community at large; and as the state was rapidly advancing in democratical principles, [Heaven save the mark!] he wished to abolish this last relict of barbarism. He objected to referring the bill to referring the bill to the committee on the Judiciary, as that committee was generally composed of of Lawyers, who were but a small part of the community.

Mr, Causin made some reply, the substance of which I do not now fully recollect, but I understood him to say that however much he may have had of ancient democracy, he was imbued with but little of the modern Loco Focoism.

The bill was finally referred to a select committee of five.

A joint committee was appointed by the Senate and the House of Delegates to wait on the governor and inform him that they were prepared to receive any communication that he would be pleased to make.

A short time after he transmitted his message to the Honse, which was read and ordered to be printed. The House then adjourned.

A THRILLING INCIDENT.

Among the perilous scenes of the heavy gale, which caused such wide spread disaster to our lake shipping, a fortnight since, one has come to our knowledge equalling in interest the most highly wrought tale of fiction. In that fearful night, the steamboat Constitution, Captain Appleby, was out amidst the terrors of the gale. By the glimpses caught at intervals, when the fitful storm for a moment broke away, the anxious and watchful commder was made aware of the critical situation of his boat, which was rapidly drifting in—under the hurricane power of the gale, which blew almost directly across the lake—towards a dangerous reef, from which escape would have been impossible. He went directly to the engineer and ordered on more steam The reply of the engineer was that there was already as much on as the boilers would safely bear. Again did the Captain seek the deck to see if his laboring boat was making headway, and again returned to the engine room. He explained to the engineer their hazardous situation, and told him that all hope was lost, if no more headway could be gained. but left the engineer to use his own discretion in the crisis. A moment of reflection, and his decision was made. Life or death hung on the issue. Certain destruction awaited the boat and her devoted crew in a few brief minutes, if she did not gain on the driving storm, This might be averted if the boilers already crowded to a fearful pressure, could yet bear a heavier strain, and that he determined to try. True the awful horrors sf an explosion were vividly before him—the mangled limbs, the scorched and lifeless bodies, the death shrieks and groans of the hapless victims, were before his eyes and on his ear. The alternative was a fearful one, yet it must be resorted to. He coolly directed the heads of two barrels of oil to be broken in, and the furnaces were rapidly fed with wood dipped in the highly inflamable liquid, while two men with ladles dashed the oil into the flames. The intense heat which these combustibles created generated steam with the rapidity of lightning, and soon the resistless vapor forced the safety valve, and issued forth with tremendous violence, its hissing heard above the wild uproar of the waters and the storm. With a desperate and determined courage, which equalled the most daring heroism that the page of history has ever recorded, the engineer set down upon the lever of the safety valve, to confine and rsise the steam to the necessary power required to propel the boat against the drifting waves! In this awful situation he calmly remained, until the proditgious efforts of the engine had forced the Constitution sufficiently off shore to be beyend the threatened danger.

This intrepid act was not a rash and vain glorious attempt to gain the applause of a multitude by a foolhardy exposure of life in some racing excursion; tt was not the deed of a drunken and reckless man, wickedly heedless of the safety of those whose lives were perilled, but it was the self possessed and determined courage of one whose firmness is worthy of all admiration. We give it as it was told to us, as one of those frequent scenes of real life whose actual realities are, indeed, 'stranger than fiction.'—Buffalo Com. Adv.

THE CHRONICLE.

Constans et lenis, ut res expostulet, esto.

CAMBRIDGE, MD.

SATURDAY MORNING, JAN. 12th, 1839.

The Orphans' court of this county will siton Monday 13th January.

FOR PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED STATES
HENRY CLAY,
OF KENTUCKY.

Subject to the decision of a National Convention.

HENRY CLAY.—Every session of Congress adds fresh laurels to the chaplet that encircles the brow of this distinguished statesman. Although in the wane of life, he still retains all the fire aud energy of his youth. His ardour is undiminished. As in those days when the haughty Randolph writhed beneath the lash of his scorching sarcasm—when the present chief Magistrate shrunk into insignificance before the finger of scorn, he still is ready to encounter and vanquish the champions of Loco Focoism.

In the Senate the other, day, in the debate upon the graduation bill, when its host of advocates were bearing down all before them; unaided and alone, he met them, and arrested the fate of the bill. His clear and prespicuous reasoning—the simplicity and force of his illustrations, superinduced by his matchless eloquence, scattered their arguments to the idle winds. This is the last, though not the least triumph of his mighty and gifted genius. Although a few distempered journals, have sought to disparage his reputation, still he is looked upon as the hope, the glory, the "*Mount Atlas*" of the Whig party.

"Though storms and tempests thunder on his brow,
And oceans break their billows at his feet,
He stands unmoved, and glorious in his height.

GOV. VEAZY'S MESSAGE.—We have read, with more than ordinary gratification, this admirable state paper. He dwells principally upon the subject of Internal Improvements, which he treats in a plain, but forcible manner. We shall endeavour to lay its most interesting portions before our readers next week. *Nous verrons.*

THE LEGISLATURE.—We commence publishing to-day, the proceedings of both branches of the Legislature. We shall endeavor to keep our readers apprized of their proceedings by publishing them weekly, in a condensed form.

POSTMASTERS.—From the repeated complaints of a subscriber residing near White Haven, we are induced to believe that "something is rotten in the State of Denmark." We are informed by him, that he frequently receives no paper for three successive weeks, and then receives the whole *en masse*. We hope we shall hear no more complaints from this quarter—if we do, we shall not scruple to probe the matter to its centre, and handle this worthy postmaster in a manner disagreeable to us and to him far more so.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—"Como," is unavoidedly crowded out this week, but shall be inserted in our next.

LOCO FOCO ELOQUENCE.—During the recent debate upon the mode of electing the clerks of the house of delegates—Doct. Risteau, from Baltimore county, alledged, that to elect the clerks by order was depriving the people of their "*rank, liberty* and *life*." He is the member, who, in the course of a speech, of three columns in length, remarked that the present reform bill was "an *unmerciful* measure."

Correspondence of the Baltimore Chronicle.

THIRD SESSION OF TWENTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

Proceedings of yesterday.

Washington, Jan. 8 1839.

IN SENATE.

Mr. Hugh L. White, Senator from the State of Tennessee appeared and took his seat.

Mr. McKean presented an abolition petition.

Mr. Williams, of Miss. objected to its reception.

Mr. King, of Alabama, moved that the question of reception lie on the table which was agreed to, yeas 27, nays 14.

Mr. Mc Kean presented another petition for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, Mr. Williams, of Miss., objected to its reception, and the whole subject on motion of Mr. King, was laid on the table, yeas 27, nays 12.

Several private bills were reported.

Mr. Benton, from the committee on military affairs, reported a Bill.

Mr. Merrick offered a resolution for an inquiry by the Committee on the District of Columbia into the expediency of making such alterations in the Charter of the City of Washington as the change in the condition of the city may have rendered necessary.

Mr. Merrick made some explanations of of the object of the resolution, pointing out some of the alterations which the citizens of Washington required. The resolution was agreed to.

Mr. Davis offered a resolution calling upon the President to communicate the result of examinations, made under a law of last session, for testing the comparative strength of Steam Boilers; lie over.

U. S. BANK, AND THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

Mr Rives offered the following resolution, which lies over one day.

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate to the Senate at as early a day as practicable, the terms of any agreement, in formal or otherwise, which may have been entered into between the Secretary of War and the Bank of the United States, respecting the sale or payment of one or more of the Bonds of this institution held by proceeds thereof in the said Bank, the periods when, and the proportion in which they were to be paid, and the manner in which they were to be disbussed—the time when such arrangements were entered into and whether with the Bank directly, or with an agent or agents of the Bank, and in the latter care, the name or names of such agents together with all the correspondence which may have passed between the Secretary of War and the Bank and its agent in relation thereto. Also copies of all circulars issued or instructions given by any branch of the War Department relative to the mode or medium in which the money arising from the sale or payment of the said bonds or any part thereof was to be disbursed, and as far as can be conveniently stated, the amount which has been disbursed in the notes of the Bank under the said instructione and the objects for which the said disbursements have been made, together with all correspondence or communication which may have taken place between the Secretary of War and the Bank of the U. States, or its agents or between him and any other Department of the Government on the subject matter of these instructions.

GRADUATION LAND BILL.

The Bill to reduce and graduate the the price of public lands, was taken up as the order of the day.

Mr. Clay, of Ky., spoke briefly in support of the motion made by him yesterday to recommit the Bill to the Committee which reported it with instructions so to amend it as to limit its benefits to actual settlers. He said the bill, as reported, furnished no practical restriction to the quantity of land which would be entered at the reduced price by any one individual. His motion allowed actual settlers to enter 160 acres each.

The debate was continued by Messrs. Williams, of Miss., Clay, of Ala., Walker, Preston, and Morris.

The vote was first taken on the motion to recommit and decided in the affirmative, yeas 23, nays 20, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Buchanan, Calhoun, Clay of Ky., Clayton, Crittenden, Davis, Foster, Knight McKean, Merrick, Morris, Niles, Pierce, Prentiss, Preston, Rives, Roane, Robbins, Ruggles, Smith, of Ind., Strange, Swift, Williams, of Maine—23

NAYS—Messrs. Allen, Benton, Brown, Clay, of Ala., Fulton, Hubbard, King, Linn, Lumpkin, Lyon, Mouton, Nicholson, Norvell, Robinson, Smith, of Conn., Tipton, Walker, Williams, of Mississippi—20.

The question being on the instructions, Mr. Clay, at the request of several Sentors, modified the instructions, so as to leave the quantity of the land, to be entered by the settler blank, and, in this form, the instructions were agreed to, yeas 26, nays 17. The Senate then adjourned.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. S. Williams moved that the House meet hereafter at 11 o'clock, A. M.—lost.

Mr. May moved that the House take up for consideration the motion of Mr. Cambreleng to refer the subject of Swartwout's Defalcation to a select Committee—lost.

Mr. Underwood offered a resolution calling upon the Secretary of War for information relative to the default of Gen. Charles Gratiot, which was agreed to.

WISCONSIN CONTESTED ELECTION.

This being the day set apart for the consideration of the Wisconsin contested election.

The report of the Committee of Elections on the subject was taken up and read.

The report comes to the following conclusion, viz.

Resolved, That James Doty is and John W. Jones is not entitled to a seat in this House, as delegate from the ter-