THE CHRONICLE.

SATURDAY MORNING, January 23, 1847.

The Orphan's Court of Dorchester count will sit on the 25th January.

THE MARKETS.—There is but little or no variation in the Baltimore Markets.

☞It will be seen, by reference to our advertising columns, that the sale of the Farm advertised by Dr. Joseph E. Muse, has been postponed until Monday next, the 25th inst.

☞In another column will be found an account from Rio, relative to a little difficulty between Mr. Wise and the Brazillian government. Mr. Wise was earnestly and evidently protecting the rights of an American officer. The Minister (Mr. Wise,) refused to illuminate his house on the occasion of christening the young Princess, but just then the American squadron arrived, and the California expedition, under Colonel Stevenson. Quarter Master Sergeant Harris had a daughter born to him on the passage, and so they had her christened at Rio with great ceremony.—Mr. Wise was god-father—the child's name was "Alto California." Her relatives might have protested, with those of St. John the Baptist, that none of the kindred of the family were thus named.

THE STAMP ACT.—The bill in relation to stamps, reported in the House of Delegates by Mr. Donaldson, from the committee of Ways and Means, provides:

1st. That all deeds, mortgages, &c., which are now by law required to be stamped, shall be valid without being stamped: provided, that the person offering the same for record, shall pay to the clerk of the county, where it is offered for record, the stamp duty which is now charged by law on such instruments of writing.

2d. That all such deeds, &c., which have been recorded, without having been stamped, as required by law, shall be valid: provided, the stamp duty was paid to the clerk of the county, at the time of offering it for record, or within six months thereafter.

3d. The law is not to be construed so as to require a stamp duty when the property conveyed does not exceed two hundred dollars.

4th. This section repeals the section of the original law limiting its operations to the 1st of May, 1848, and makes the stamp law perpetual, unless repealed by the Legislature.

☞The functionaries at Washington city are compelled to ask for taxes upon tea and coffee, and yet how can they dare to do this after all the scurrilous abuse with which they and their organs have assailed the Whig party for taxing those articles of daily consumption? Do they not feel that not a man or woman in the nation will hereafter take a sip of tea or coffee without being reminded thereby of their ridiculous inconsistency and miserable dishonesty?

WAR EXPENSES.—The amount of money paid out of the United States Treasury, on account of the war with Mexico, from the 5th to the 15th of December, was two million three hundred and thirty-five thousand dollars.

The Hon. JOHN BANKS has been elected Treasurer of the State of Pennsylvania.

A new Methodist Episcopal Church is being erected at Washington, in the first ward.

☞It is said, that, while Mr. Polk was riding out the other day, he and his horse were both very much frightened by the explosion of a little boy's string of fire-crackers. He evidently thought that Santa Anna was upon him with 30,000 men and 500 pieces of artillery!

☞If Gen. Scott burnt his mouth with a "hasty plate of soup," Polk and Walker have scalded theirs a good deal worse with hasty dishes of tea and coffee.

☞Letters from Washington, in the New York papers, speak with confidence of the possibility of an extra session of Congress being necessary, in consequence of the improbability of the present Congress being able, amid the raging of the conflicting elements, to do what the crisis demands.

The correspondent of the New York Tribune states, that among the recent arrivals at Washington, is SENOR ATOCHA, who it is said, was instrumental in procuring from the President the permission for Santa Anna to pass through the blockading squadron, and *to take command of the Mexican army operating against the forces of the United States.*

The appropriation bills already reported to Congress comprise a sum of over $73,000,000. So much for the Polk war.

FEDERALISM.—Our neighbor of the Spirit of the Times intimates that we feel the reproach of Federalism. Why should we feel any such reproach? What have we to blush for in Federalism? What have we to lament in it? Why should any one regret of the party of Washington, Knox, Adams, King, and a long list of great and good men that were the bosom friends of the country's Father?—Does Mr. Buchanan wish to let the Federal blood from his veins? Does CHIEF JUSTICE TANEY desire to forget the position he occupied in 1812? This hue and cry of Federalism is ridiculous, and would be so pronounced, if it were not made at a time when every thing in and from the quarter whence it emanates at Washington, is so supremely ridiculous as to hide such small matters, as the follies of the clown are overlooked in the misbehaviour of a drunken ring-master.—*U. S. Gaz.*

HONOR TO THE BRAVE.

In the House of Delegates of Maryland, on Tuesday, the following resolutions, submitted by Mr. WICKES, were unanimously adopted, after a few feeling remarks by Messrs WICKES and DIRICKSON, which were listened to with deep and profound silence, and received the high encomiums of all:

Resolved, That the General Assembly of Maryland record with melancholy pleasure, their profound sensibility of the loss which this State has sustained in the death of Col. Truman Cross, of Major Samuel Ringgold, of Col. Wm. H. Watson, of Major Wm. Lear, of Captain Randolph Ridgely, of Passed Midshipman John Ringgold Hynson, and her other brave sons who have fallen in our conflict with Mexico: and that while as Americans we cordially unite in the national tribute of admiration so justly and enthusiastically paid to their memory; yet as Marylanders we feel entitled to cherish with peculiar pride the honor which from the ashes of the dead has been gathered to her name.

Resolved, That in thus expressing our profound respect for the dead, we should do violence to feeling and to justice, were we unmindful of those whose swords, though not entwined with cypress, have yet won for them a meed for glory such as reflects honor on the name of Maryland, and stands a proud trophy of the intrepid valor, the cool discipline, and the unerring ardour of the gallant men—regulars and volunteers—who followed their bold leaders to desperate and brilliant victories.

Resolved, That this General Assembly take great pride in commending the gallantry of the Maryland Battalion, and in returning their thanks to them for the aid they have contributed to the brilliant victory of Monterey, exhort them by the glorious recollections which cluster around the name of the 'old Maryland line' to believe that the ancient renown of Maryland is committed to their keeping, and that their fellow citizens at home look to them with undoubting confidence to preserve that untarnished.

Further Resolved, That his Excellency the Governor be requested to transmit a copy of these Resolutions to the commanding officer of the Maryland Battallion, to be by him read to the officers and men as a slight token of that high respect and pride with which their fellow citizens of Maryland regard their indomitable gallantry and courage.

NAVAL DISASTER.—A letter from the Sandwich Islands mentions the loss of the U. S. schooner Shark, at the mouth of Columbia river, on the same bar where the Peacock perished.

The disaster occurred on the afternoon of Sept. 10th. The news was carried to the Sandwich Islands by the ship Mariposa, which was coming out of the Columbia river at the time, and hearing guns as a signal of distress lay off and on until morning, when she sent to the Hudson's Bay Company, and there learned the name of the vessel lost; also that the crew had been safely landed in boats early in the morning. At 9 o'clock of the 11th, only the bowsprit and quarter of the Shark were to be seen among the breakers.

The report of the loss of the frigate Congress doubtles had its origin in the above disaster. —Balt. Amer.

From the National Intelligencer.

THE CRISIS.

When the present Administration came into power, the country was eminently prosperous. We had a Tariff which protected our own labor against the pauper labor of Europe. All the great enterprises of the country were in successful operation. Real estate was gradually advancing in value, and the products of labor met with a ready sale. The money market was steady, and credit rested on a solid basis. There was a general confidence felt and expressed in the state of things which existed. All this was attributable to the wise measures adopted by the Whig party, which came into power with the Harrison Administration.

But this fair scene, which cheered the hearts and enlivened the hopes of this great people, was doomed to a sudden reverse. The Baltimore Convention, with its baleful influence, met, and, assuming to act for the people, without their instructions and against their interests, virtually elected the present Chief Magistrate: a citizen who did not himself aspire to the office, and who, without the influence of the nomination, could scarcely have received the vote of any county in the Union. But this usurpation of the popular right did not stop here. The same body decreed that the whole of Oregon was ours; that Texas should be annexed; that the Tariff of 1842 should be overthrown: and that the Subtreasury should be established.

Never did a body of men in so short a time entail upon their country a system of measures so calamitous. And, when we consider the elements of which that Convention was composed—some of its members being irresponsible, others self-appointed, and many of those who had a show of authority receiving it in disregard of popular rights and of the principles which they professed to hold sacred—it is amazing with what tame submission—a submission that augured unfavorably for the cause of free government—the decrees of this body were received.

The rights of the people were not only usurped by imposing upon them a Chief Magistrate, but the Convention bound in party fetters this instrument of its creation, and the National Legislature. True to the behests of that body, Mr. POLK, in assuming his duties, expressed a determination to carry out to the letter its decrees. The Oregon controversy brought us to the verge of a war with England, from which we were saved by the wisdom and firmness of the Senate. But Texas was annexed, the Tariff was overthrown, and the Subtreasury enacted. And we are now realizing the fatal consequences of these measures.

We have had a war of about eight months with Mexico. Two brillient victories in the field against superior numbers, and the capture of a city, strongly fortified and defended by a force much greater than ours, have added to the renown of our arms. We claim a nominal possession over a great extent of country, through which General KEARNEY has marched and which Captain STOCKTON has surveyed from his quarter-deck; but we only hold by a forcible tenure that which has been subjugated by General TAYLOR. And, to maintain this possession, our little army is necessarily divided and placed in garrisons remote from each other, liable to the attack of the enemy, and difficult to be defended. This is the bright side of the picture. Let us turn to that of a darker shade.

The people with whom we are at war are greatly exasperated, and their discordant elements have, in a great degree, become united. Their most favored and experienced captain, by the permission of the President of the United States, has returned from his banishment, and now leads its army. Several thousands of our brave citizens have fallen victims of this war, whose graves are on the battle-fields of the 8th and 9th of May, at Point Isabel, Monterey, on the shores of the Rio Grande, or on the line of their return homeward: and it is impossible to say how many now bear within them the seeds of fatal diseases in the army, at home, or on their way thither.

The Administration seem to have been as ignorant of the Mexican character as they have shown themselves to be of their own powers and of the great duties which devolve upon them. They evidently believed that a military array on the Rio Grande would alarm the Mexican Government and induce it to avoid a conflict, by a large cession of territory; and that this would glorify the Administration, and give great strength to its party. But, if this threatening attitude of our army should fail to intimidate, it was certain that a collision would take place, which would afford an occasion for our troops to sweep over the country, and, in the course of a few months, to "reval in the halls of the Montezumas." And then all Mexico would be annexed, or at least the terms of peace would be dictated by the Administration. In thus claiming, under their own measurement, compensation for past delinquencies, and indemnity for the expenses of the war, a rich harvest of glory was anticipated. Whatever may be said on the subject, we are satisfied that some such visions as these floated in the minds of the President and his Cabinet.

But they have experienced a sad reverse in their hopes. The death-scene has broken upon them. It is said that more men have fallen in this unfortunate and unnecessary war than fell in the late war with England: a war which involved our rights as a nation, and in which we exhibited a prowess and acquired a military fame, on the land and on the water, that astonished the world.

But an eight months' war has not only proved fatal to many thousands of our citizens, but it has brought our Treasury to the verge of bankruptcy. The Subtreasury hangs like an incubus upon the moneyed action of the country. The Tariff of 1846 will greatly diminish the revenue, and yet the friends of the Administration shrink from a vote for duties which the Secretary of the Treasury declares to be necessary to enable him to obtain any further loans.

Can the Administration, under the circumstances, ask the Whigs to impose taxes which have been refused by the friends of the war? Common decency would prevent this. The Whigs will, no doubt, appropriate all the means for the prosecution of the war which the Administration may ask, and which shall be reasonable. But, as the Whig system of finance has been repudiated by the Administration, and as they have imposed upon the country the Subtreasury, it is but just that they should carry out their system of finance, which their decided majorities in both Houses will enable them to do. As this state of things was brought about by a series of measures which has been steadily and zealously opposed by the Whigs, they are not answerable for the consequences.

If the co-operation of the Whigs is desired, let the Administration repeal the Subtreasury and re-enact the Tariff of 1842—let them undo so much as is in their power of the mischief which they have perpetrated—and we hazard nothing in saying that the Whigs will not shrink from the imposition of any taxes which the exigencies of the country shall require.—But they do not believe that the credit of the Government can be sustained whilst that miserable contrivance of a Subtreasury remains in force. There is not a man in the nation, we believe, who has any adequate knowledge of finance, that does not concur with them in this belief.

The futile attempt to identify the position of the Whigs with that of the Opposition to the late war with England will not be countenanced by any one who has a proper regard for his own character. Such a work must be left to the lowest political drivellers—those who fetch and carry to order, and who are only tolerated because they are useful.

Whether we regard their patriotism, their intelligence, or their character, the Whigs constitute an association of men unsurpassed in the history of any country. They conscientiously believe that, whilst the present Administration was brought into power under the forms of the Constitution, a serious and possibly a fatal blow was given to the principles which lie at the foundation of our Government; and they as sincerely believe that this Mexican War was commenced by a gross usurpation of the Executive; for admit—as we have said more than once before, and which cannot be too strongly impressed upon the public mind—admit that there was cause of war, Congress, and Congress only, could declare it. Notwithstanding which considerations, we believe, and indeed we know, that the Whigs, under every discouragement, will stand up for their country, and, so far as they can, sustain its honor. But the Administration asks too much when it calls upon the Whigs to surrender their discretion, their knowledge and experience, in matters of finance, to those who have shown themselves to be ignorant of its first principles.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT—*Plan of Operations against Mexico.*—The editor of the Spanish paper in New Orleans, who was recently appointed one of Gen. Scott's aids, but whose commission was subsequently revoked, gives the subjoined as the new plan of operation against Mexico, under Gen. Scott, and we notice the letters from Washington state that it may be relied on as correct:

Gen. Taylor, instead of moving upon San Luis Potosi, will repair to Saltillo, where he will remain for a short period. Gen. Scott, after having made some arrangements on the Rio Grande, will hasten to Tampico, where he will assume the command of 7000 volunteers recently called out and ordered to assemble at that point. From Tampico Gen. Scott will march towards Vera Cruz, and Gen. Taylor will make a simultaneous movement towards Tampico with all the troops he can muster, after leaving sufficient force to garrison Saltillo, Monterey, Victoria, &c., and in union with Gen. Worth's division, will join Gen. Scott, who will have at his command the new military arm of rocketeers and howitzers.

At the proper moment, fifteen or sixteen vessels of the American squadron, with a force of from 250 to 300 guns of all sizes and calibres, will appear off San Juan d'Ulloa, and begin the attack upon the castle. According to the new plan of operations, the land forces will rendezvous at the mouth of the river Antigua which empties into Gulf a short distance to the north of Vera Cruz, and ascend the same to where the road to Jalapa crosses it. If this plan be speedily put into execution, there can be no doubt but that Vera Cruz and the Castle will as speedily fall into the power of our forces; but if any faith be put in Santa Anna's declarations, it is plain, he will be able to cut off the advance of General Taylor from Saltillo.—Balt. Clip.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT FROM BRAZIL.

Arrival of the California Regiment at Rio—Eruption between the Brazilian Government and Mr. Wise—Arrest of three Americans Bombardment of the town threatened—Its effect—Recall of Mr. Wise requested.

The brig Reindeer, Capt. Winsor, which sailed from Rio Janeiro on the 26th of November, arrived at New York on Friday evening. All the vessels of the California expedition under Col. Stevenson, with the U. S. ship Preble had arrived safe at Rio. The officers and men were in good health, and would proceed for their destination in a few days. The following important news we copy from the New York Sun:

By this arrival we have the particulars of an unfortunate misunderstanding between the United States Minister at Rio and the Brazillian Government, which threatens to disturb our amicable relations with that power. The difficulty originated in the arrest of two men from the United States ship Columbus, who were on Shore while the vessel was at anchor in the harbor of Rio. The men got intoxicated, and while proceeding through the streets to go on board, were placed under arrest and conveyed to prison. Lieut. Davis, of the Columbus, was on shore with the men; being at some distance at the time of their arrest, he followed, calling on them to accompany him. Before he got up, they were taken into the fort. On arriving at the fort, he drew his sword in evidence of his authority as an officer of the United States, and demanded their release.

The guards then beckoned to him to come in and supposing them desirous of having an interview with him in relation to the men, he did so, but immediately found himself and his men prisoners. Mr. Wise, the United States Minister, being apprized of the occurrence by Commodore Rosseau, of the Columbus, opened a correspondence with the Brazillian government, demanding their release. The reply being deemed unsatisfactory, was answered by another communication from the Minister, informing them that the Columbus would open her batteries upon the city in two hours, if Lieut Davis and the men were not released within that time. The Lieutenant was promptly released, but the men were detained under a plea that being found intoxicated in the streets they were amenable to punishment by the civil authorities. Farther correspondence ensued, the men still remaining in custody. A day or two after this occurrence, the Emperor's youngest child, the infanta Isabella, was christened, the ceremonies being honored by salutes from vessels of war, and the illumination of the dwellings of the foreign ministers. The *fete* lasted a whole week. But Commodore Rosseau and Mr. Wise declined to join in any ceremonies of this character, until full reparation had been made for the insult offered to their country. The authorities requested the Commodore to fire a salute which he declined doing. Mr. Wise and the other Americans did not illuminate their dwellings, and have consequently been subject to repeated insults. The son of the Consul was assaulted in the streets, and seriously wounded. The subject was taken up in the national Parliament, then in session. The House of Commons passed a bill requesting the withdrawal of Mr. Wise, but the upper House rejected it, and the Commons tendered their resignation in a body.—Thus, the affair rested at last advices, and the men still in prison.

During the excitement at Rio, the California boys arrived and resolved to have an opposition christening of one of our American sovereigns, two of whom were born on the passage. A splendid silver cup was provided as a present for the young volunteer, whom the Chaplain duly christened *Alto California.* Col. Stevenson stood God-father on the occasion. All the officers of the ships and many of the Americans were present. It was a splendid affair, and operated as a hint to the Brazilians, who were somewhat astonished at the American volunteers leaving their homes in such numbers to go half round the world.—The volunteers were allowed full privileges on shore, but there had not been a single desertion. Col. Stevenson made a speech to them in relation to the difficulties, and every man expressed his readiness to join in storming the city Rio, if necessary to sustain the honor of their country's flag.

Capt. J. M. Turner, of the California volunteers, arrived last night in the Reindeer, as bearer of despatches from the U. S. minister at Brazil, and will proceed this morning to Washington. The other passengers were, Mrs. S. G. Steele, of Athens, N. Y., lady of Capt. G. Steele, of the Volunteers, Robt. P. Noah, of N. Y., Secretary to Col. Stevenson; and Lieut. G. D Brester, of the Volunteers, from West Point.

War had not yet broken out between Brazil and the Argentine Republic, but was daily expected. Brazil had ordered a large force to the Argentine frontier.

FROM THE GULF SQADRON.

The Campeachy schooner Amalio, the prize taken by the U. S. steamer Mississippi, off Alvarado, on the 27th ult. arrived at New Orleans on the 8th instant in charge of Passed Midshipman BARBOT, and a prize crew.

The A. sailed a few hours after the U. S. ship Mississippi.

Passed Midshipman Fitzgerald, formerly of the U. S. schooner Flirt, but now attached to the John Adams, performed a most daring exploit. His vessel was blockading Vera Cruz, and on a dark night he took a boat and eight men with muffled oars; rowed around the Castle of San Juan d'Ulloa, landed, entered the water battery and examined it, then rowed round again, went under the drawbridge, and made a thorough reconnoisance of that point. This exploit has proved that men may be landed from boats at night, and Midshipman Fitzgerald ascertained by his reconnoisance that the water battery may be easily taken.

On the arrival of Gen. La Vega at Vera Cruz on the 15th, all the sailors from the squadron in the hands of the enemy were released. It is now ascertained that but eleven of the crew of the brig Somers drifted to the main land when she was wrecked, and not sixteen, as was first stated. Midshipman Rodgers was at Vera Cruz. He had been tried by the civil and military tribunals as a spy, and had been acquitted by the former, but found guilty by the latter. It was believed, however, that the more favorable verdict would prevail, and that he would be liberated.

The Campeachians had declared themselves entirely independent of Mexico, and had sent three Commissioners on the schooner Sisalnio to Commodore Connor, at Anton Lizardo, to request him to desist from any hostile measures against Yucatan, until Commissioners could be sent to the Government of the United States, to obtain the recognition of the Independence of the State. These Commissioners left Anton Lizardo on the 20th ult. to return, but the result of their conference with Commodore Connor is not known.

The fortifications of Tabaco and Alvarado had been considerably strengthened. At the former there were about 3000 and at the latter 4000 men. It was supposed that Com. CONNOR would attack the latter place.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Correspondence of the Patriot.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.

IN SENATE.

When the telegrapic despacth was made up, this body had under consideration the amendment, reported by the Military Committee, under instructions, to the regiment bill, providing a land bounty to the privates in the army. The Committee had been instructed to extend the bounty to the officers of the volunteer corps, but had failed to do so.

Mr Berrien moved such an amendment to the amendment of the committee, and gave his reasons for favoring the officers, called into the service for a year, more or less, from various pursuits as they were, in preference to the officers of the regular army, whose profession was that of arms

Mr Benton could see no distinction, nor could he make any between the two kinds of officers The services to be rendered would be the same in the one case as in the other, and that the compensation should be the same He was opposed to granting any thing extra to the officers of either grade There were scores of applicants for those offices at the present rates of compensation He used some strong language against Mr Berrien for reflecting upon the Military Committee for not literally obeying the instructions of the Senate

Mr Berrien defended his position, and thought that if he had been chairman of the committee and had been instructed by the Senate to do a specific thing, he would have opened and read the instructions

Mr Benton lost his temper It was true his committee did not read or open the instructions of the Senate They all acted from memory The amendment which the gentleman from Georgia had cherished so dearly was not thought of by any one else! Even the father of the brat, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr Badger) had let go out But its foster-father from Georgia had hugged it and nourished it with the greatest care The gentleman from North Carolina had let the brat go and showed no more care for it than if it had been a bastard Why need the brat's foster-father care so much for it?

The discussion was continued be Mr Crittenden, Mr Calhoun and others, in the course of which Mr Benton pounced upon Mr Calhoun in the same imperious and overbearing manner that had characterized his course towards Mr Berrien