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THE NEWS.

CHESTER TOWN, MD.

Saturday, February 26, 1848.

☞"AMICUS" has been received but too late for insertion this week. It shall appear in our next.

The 22nd February.

Tuesday last, the 116th Anniversary of the birth of the illustrious Washington, whose memory and whose services will be cherished by every American patriot and over of freedom, to the latest age of the world, was celebrated in Chester Town by the Chester Division, No. 47, of the Sons of Temperance.

The day was rainy and threatening, but as the Sons of Temperance are true to their pledge, and to their duty, they assembled at the Court House, at half past ten o'clock, where the Farewell Address of General Washington was appropriately read by GEO. VICKERS, Esq., and an able, patriotic and eloquent address, adapted to the day, the Order, and the cause, was deliverec by the Rev. E. R. WILLIAMS. When the services ended the Division marched through the streets of the town, notwithstanding the rain, cheered by the soul-stirring music of the Chester Band, thus giving another practical evidence, that *Temperance men have no fears of cold water!*

At night, the rain being suspended, the Division again marched through the town, accompanied by the Chester Band, and repaired to the Court House, at 7 o'clock, where they found an array of citizens, and of beauty, and a crowded house was held in close attention, for two hours, in listening to real earnest, eloquent and able Temperance speeches, by the Rev. W. ROBY, and Rev. E. R. WILLIAMS. During the morning and evening the Division sung several of their Odes, and the patriotic Band, who generously attended on both occasions, played National and other Airs, in a manner highly gratifying to the audience, and which elicited a vote of thanks. We have never witnessed a celebration of the birth-day of the "Father of his Country," or more interesting than that of Tuesday last. It was an appropriate one, and we hope may make a salutary impression on the mind of the community.

Washington College.

In our last number, we endeavored to explain the Lottery grant to Washington College, the diposition and investment of the funds among the farmers of the county, the great care and security taken by the Visitors to guard them from loss, and their consequent exemption, (except in the isolated case of an investment to a limited amount in Bank stock, at a time when no stock stood so high in public confidence, or commanded so great a premium.) We now close our observations upon the subject with a few remarks. We have spoken of the contract of the State with the people of the Eastern Shore, that if the latter would, at their own expense, erect a College, the State would endow it. In virtue of this arrangement the College was erected, and in 1784 when the State was called upon to redeem her promise, she came nobly up to the work, and passed an act bestowing £1250, (equal to $3333 33⅓) per annum forever. That the correctness of our assertions may be duly estimated, we subjoin a synopsis of the act, and recommend to those who desire fuller information to refer to the original law. The State of Maryland is justly indebted to the College for the balance of the £1250, from the year 1798 to the present period, withheld from the institution. We conceive that no proposition can be clearer, or predicated more firmly of the facts, than that the portion of the original sum appropriated by the act and not paid, is justly and honestly due from the State. Upon the principles which individuals adjust their accounts each balance should bear interest from the time at which it should have been paid.

We have prepared a statement of the College claim against the State, upon the principles of equity, abating the question of interest, and find that the State is bona fide indebted in the sum of *one hundred and eight thousand dollars.* That full justice might be done to the State, we have given her credit for the amount for which the Lottery sold, and have appended the statement to this article. Instead of asking full justice, which the College might have obtained before a court of Law, the Trustees have only asked the small sum of $1500 per annum and for which they offered a handsome equivalent in the education of indigent youths. The Senate of Maryland have nobly responded to the action of the House of Delegates, and the Eastern Shore stands once more upon elevated ground—(Every Senator from the Eastern Shore supporting the claim.) vindicated as she ably was, by our young, but talented and eloquent representative, from from sneers attempted to be thrown upon her. To the Western, the Eastern Shore, sends greeting her thanks and gratitude, and our College will once more assume a high stand among Institutions of learning, and scatter abroad the seeds of moral and liberal educations.

In taking leave of this subject in a spirit of kindness to all, we remark that we have not designed to reflect upon upon any, or to treat with contumely any difference of opinion; we may be permitted to say, that we have no connection with the College and have never borrowed a dollar of its money. But, we have been influenced solely with a view of doing justice to the College, to our county and our shore; of disabusing the minds of some who were misinformed in regard to the facts, and with a desire of seeing once more, the College, which bears the name of Washington, who was "first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen," emerge into full and active usefulness in our midst.

An Act to prouide a permanent fund for the further encouragement and establishment of Washington College, passed in 1784, chap 7.

The preamble recites that "Whereas institutions for the education of youth, under the care and patronage of the State, has ever been encouraged by the wisest nations, as the most effectual means of disseminating the principles of civil and religious liberty, private and public, virtue, and those liberal arts and sciences which are at once the greatest ornament of a free republic, and the surest basis of its stability and glory." After reciting the facts which constitute a contract and obligation on the part of the State to endow Washington College permanently and liberally, the act provides that the sum of £1250, (equal to $3333 33⅓,) be *annually and forever* granted to Washington College. To enable the State to pay this annual sum, the 3d section provides that the sum of 25 shillings imposed on every marriage license, shall remain in the hands of the Treasurer of the E. Shore, *subject to the Orders of the Visitors and Governors of Washington College.*

The 4th section, directed, that all moneys received for Fines, penalties and forfeitures, under any law then in force or *thereafter made*, should be paid to the Treasurer and be subject to the orders of the Visitors and Governors of the said College.

The 5th section directed all money collected for Tavern or ordinary License, to be subject to the orders of the Visitors of the College.

The 6th section, defined who should be Hawkers and Pedlars, required them to take out License, and made the proceeds, subject to the order of the Visitors of the College.

The 7th section, imposed a tax on retailers of wine, rum, brandy, whiskey, or other distilled spirituous liquor, strong beer or cider and the 8th section appropriates the money arising therefrom to Washington College.

The Legislature not only acknowledged the existence of their contract to pay the £1250 annually to the College, and appropriated the moneys arising from marriages and ordinary keepers, but they actually laid *new taxes on Hawkers and Pedlars and Retailers*, to enable them to meet their engagements.

Statement of the College Claim.

Amount of appropriation for Washington College in 1784 £1250 per annum by contract.	
In 1798 reduced to £750, reduction £500 equal to	$1333 33⅓
This loss multiplied by 7 y's from 1798 to 1805 is equal to	$9333 33
From 1805 to 1812 all the funds withdrawn 7 years $3333 33	23,333 33
From 1812 to 1825, 13 years, the College received only $800, difference $2,533.33 13 years,	32,933 33
	65,600 00
Deduct the Lot'ry grant which sold for	20,000 00
	$45,600 00
From 1825 to 1834 the College received $800 per annum, 9 years $2533 33	22,800 00
	$68,400 00
From 1834 to 1848, 14 years the College received only $500 per annum, difference $28,33 33	39,666 66
Balance due Washington College, exclusive of interest on each year as the payments become due, which it added, would swell the amount to a much larger sum,	$108,066 66

☞AT A MEETING of Chester Division, No. 47, Sons of Temperance, held on Wednesday evening last, the 23d inst., it was moved by E. R. Williams, P. W. P., seconded by C. Stanley, W. P. Whereas, Chester Band, having contributed so largely to the interest taken in the celebration of the 22nd, by their cheerful and able co-operation,

Therefore resolved unanimously, That this Division tender them their most hearty thanks for their *very able services* during the exercises of the occasion, and that a copy be furnished for publication in the Kent News, and another to the Secretary of the Band. By order,

C. STANLEY, W. P.

W. WILEY, R. S.

☞Col. FREMONT has been found guilty of all the charges preferred before the Court Martial, of mutiny, disobedience of orders, and conduct unbecoming an officer. The Court decreed dismissal from the service, the lesser penalty of the law, but recommended him to the lenity of the President by a vote of seven to six. The President dissented from the Court on the charge of mutiny, but approved the finding on the other two. He then remitted the sentence and ordered him to duty. It is said Col. Fremont has resigned his commission.

SINGULAR OCCURRENCE.—Capt. Lund, of New Orleans, went to Mexico about eighteen months ago, on a trading expedition, and was taken prisoner and for a long time kept in confinement. His family and friends not hearing from him and taking it for granted he was dead, had his property all sold, and the proceeds paid over to his wife, who was again married about six months ago, to a young lawyer of New Orleans. A few days since, Captain Lund, to the astonishment of all hands, arrived home safe and sound.

☞A correspondent of one of the Cincinnati papers states that the Buena Vista battle field is still covered with bones, coats, pants, shoes, and knapsacks, &c. And what is most singular of all is, that a few Mexicans who were left unburied are still on the battle field entire. Neither putrefaction nor the wolves prey upon them, but they are dried up like mummies. The only way he has heard it explained is, that the Mexicans eat so much pepper that it preserves their bodies from putrefaction, and at the same time spoils them for the taste of wolves. Certainly they do not decay, and the wolves will not prey upon them.

The Illness of Mr. Adams.

THE SCENE IN THE HOUSE!

The National intelligencer of this morning gives the following account of the mournful and agitating event which occurred in the House of Representatives yesterday, which, as the news spread through the city, filled all hearts with sympathy.

Just after the yeas and nays were taken on a question, and the Speaker had risen to put another question to the House a sudden cry, was heard on the left of the chair, "Mr. ADAMS is dying!" Turning our eyes to the spot, we beheld the venerable man in the act of falling over the left arm of his chair, while his right arm was extended, grasping his desk for support. He would have dropped upon the floor had he not been caught in the arms of the member sitting next him. A great sensation was created in the House: members from all quarters rushing from their seats and gathering round the fallen statesman who was immediately lifted into the area in front of the Clerk's table. The Speaker instantly suggested that some gentleman move an adjourned. A sofa was brought, and Mr. Adams, in a state of perfect helplessness, though not of entire insensibility, was gently laid upon it.—The sofa was then taken up and born out of the hall into the Rotunda, where it was set down, and the members of both Houses and strangers who were fast crowding around were with some difficulty repressed and an open space cleared in its immediate vicinity; but a medical gentleman, a member of the House, (who was prompt, active, and self possessed throughout the whole painful sene) advised that he be removed to the door of Rotunda openings on the east portion, where a fresh wind was done; but the air being chilly and loaded with vapor, the sofa was, at the suggestion of Mr. WINTHROP, once more taken up and removed to the Speaker,s apartment, the doors of which were forthwith closed to all but profesional gentlemen, sevefal of whom arrived in succession as the news spread into the city. While lying in this appartment Mr. Adams partially recovered the use of his speech, and observed, in faltering accents, "This is the end of earth;" but quickly added, "I am composed."—Members had by this time reached Mr. A's abode with the melancholly inteiligence, and soon after, Mrs. Adams and his nephew and niece arrived and made their way to the appalling scene. Mrs. A. was deeply affected, and for some moments quite prostrated by the sight of her husband, now insensible, the pallor of death upon his countenance, and those sad premonitories fast making their appearance which fall with such a chill upon the heart.

In the Hall, meanwhile, a goloomy pause occurred in the usual hum of voices that fills it. Some members satin mute suspense; others stood in gronps, and made or answerd inquiries as to the cause and the probable issue of an attack; others hastened toward the Speaker's room to get the latest intelligence of the sufferer's condition; while many were busily engaged in writing to their friends at home the alarming news. A remark very frequently heard was, "Well, this is just what Mr. Adams could have wished; it he falls, like a second Chatham, in the Senate House."

Mr Adams, though for some months very feeble, was, when he entered the hall in the morning to his usual health, and had but a few minutes before delivered his vote, on a motion before the House, in an unusually distinct and emphatic manner. The attack was believed, at first, to have a fainting fit; but this idea soon gave place to the appalling conviction that it was a recurrence of paralysis, which has twice before affected Mr. A., though in a milder degree. Very slight hopes are entertained of his recovering.—Mr. A. attained his eightieth year in July last.

At eleven o,clock last night the venerable sufferer still lay in the Speaker's chamber, insensible to all enternal objects, but apparently more comfortable, and his symptoms giving hope to his medical attendants that he might revive sufficiently by this morning to bear removal to his own residence.

As soon as the news of the painful occurrence reached the Senate, that body likewise adjourned.

P.S.—We learn by passengers in the cars which left Washington at 6 o'clock this morning, Tuesday, that Mr. Adams was still alive, but had not been removed from the Capitol.]

PROJECTED TREATY OF PEACE.

The Baltimore Patriot, of Tuesday last says, the National Intelligencer of this morning gives the subjoined as the substance of the treaty brought on by Mr. Freaner. The Intelligencer says the Treaty was signed by Mr. Trist as Commissioner on the part of the United States, and by three Commissioners on the part of Mexico.

The Union, referring to the treaty, says: "We are sure our readers will excuse us from giving any explanation or speculations this evening upon these matters.—Propositions have been received by our government from Mexico, which will, no doubt, be the subject of due and prompt consideration.

The substance of the Treaty is given in the Intelligencer as follows—

First, Peace between the United States and Mexico and an Armistice between the Military Commanders of the two countries during such time as the Treaty shall be in suspense.

Secondly, Mexico agrees, in consideration; &c. that the boundary between the United States and Mexico shall hereafter be from the sea up the Rio Grande to the boundary of New Mexico, and thence in a line which (with some digression,) is to run west (or nearly west) to the Pacific Ocean, and strike a point south of the port of San Diego.

Thirdly, In consideration of this large cession of territory the United States are to pay to Mexico the sum of fifteen millions of dollars, and to satisfy all the just claims of citizens of the United States against the Government of Mexico.

The Treaty is understood to contain many provisions of detail: but does not, as we hear, include any provision, as has been reported, for the maintenance of a military force by the United States for a certain time in Mexico.

The Treaty makes its appearance in a questionable *form*; being concluded by Mr Trist, as with full powers, after those powers had been withdrawn, or intended to be withdrawn, by the Executive. It is understood, however, that the Treaty, such as it is, will be submitted by the President to the Senate for its consideration. What will be its fate in that body we shall not undertake to predict.

We can at least rejoice at one thing; that for the present there is a cessation of hostilities in Mexico. May it be perpetual!

DEATH OF MAJOR WEBSTER.—This distinguished officer, of the Massachusetts Volunteers and son of Senator Webster, died between the 20th and 25th ult., at San Angel, about eight miles from the city of Mexico, of the typhoid fever, which is unfortunately prevalent among the troops.

For the News.

A CHAPTER ON SCHOOLS AND SCHOOL TEACHING.

"This enlightened 19th century! This enlightened age! This age of social improvement!" Scarcely can we take up a newspaper or listen to a popular speaker but these and kindred phrases meet us in such profusion that if we are not convinced of our vast superiority over our predecessors of the 18th century, it certainly is not the fault of those who write and lecture for our benefit. I have smiled at these high-sounding words, and yet they are not wholly without foundation, for in some respects we doubtless are improving — *beginning* to improve in many, and if in view of this, a little vanity displays itself it need not cause surprise—for the vanity of beginners is proverbial. Reflections like these present themselves to most thinking minds but to none more frequently than that of the conscienous teacher; for upon him they are continually forced by the anxiety of his patrons to "afford their daughters every possible advantage," contrasted as it too often is, with their treatment of the man of whose talent and faithfulness, they would avail themselves in securing them.

Pedagogues and pedants have ever furnished a theme for ridicule. And justly for there are few persons less worthy of respect than he who in a dirty and uncomfortable school-house bestows his self-importance and his bad English on a group of urchins ssarcely ruder or more ignorant than himself. But in no instance perhaps does a "discerning public" manifest less discernment, than when it classes such a school with one properly conducted; or *practically* places such a teacher and a man of real worth upon a level. In no other case are we thus inconsistent! There are quacks in medicine and pettifoggers in law; but we do not therefore despide the really qualified members of those professions. We do not chitl them by indifference or annoy them by needless criticisms, or in our intercourse with them, assume an air of patronage or condescension—far from it. For their mere professional skill, tho' under God, the means, it may be, of restoring our health or saving our property, we perhaps deem the payment of their bills an ample compensation; but the heartfelt *interest* felt by the rightminded Physician or lawyer for those on whose behalf, he exerts his powers, we do not estimate so cheaply. In these cases, we at once perceive that such a course would be not only unjust but exceedingly impolitic. For what would be the inevitable result? A simple love of those professions might here and there induce a man of talent to pursue them but the majority would retire from a field where neither credit nor profit could be reaped, and their places would, course be filled by those only who, conscious of their inferiority would accept, with gratitude and defereuce, the crumbs which fell from their patrons' tables.—Need I draw the paralel? or mention the long course of study and self-discipline by which alone the experienced and well qualified teacher can acquire a right to that honorable epithet. Need I even add that if at length his income should exceed a mere pittance, it is laboriously earned and richly merited.

Let those who doubt the fact make their visits to such a school more frequent. Let them observe the dulness of one pupil, the trickiness of another, and the caprice or imperitence of a third, and my life for it, their visits will eventuate in a thorough conviction that his labours and his cares are already sufficiently onerous, and need no further addition. E. B.

Chester Town, Feb. 23rd.

☞An elephant died not long since in England, which was one hundred years old.

☞The number of deaths in Boston last week, was 66, and in Baltimore 85.

MD. LEGISLATURE.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Annapolis, Feb'y 16, '48.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from Wm. Johnson, Esq., warden of the Maryland Penitentiary, in answer to an order of the House of the 14th instant, relative to the number of free negroes employed in that institution.

The cummunication states that "there are at present confined in the Maryland Penitentiary, for offences committed against the laws of the State, 124 colored prisoners, 119 of whom are *free* negroes, and 5 slaves."

Prior to the passage of the act of the General Assembly, entitled "An Act respecting the punishment of Slaves," passed at December session, 1845, ch. 340, no slaves had been sentenced to the Penitentiary for many years. Since the passage of that act four slaves have been sentenced under it, are now imprisoned in this institution.—The *fifth* slave has been an inmate of the Penitentiary since it first establishment.—He is the only survivor of those who were transferred to it from the "Wheelbarrows," to which he was sentenced in October, 1803. He has been a prisoner here since 18th Nov. 1811."

The communication was referred to the Committee on Colored Population.

Mr. Harrison, from the Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred the Order submitted by Mr Biays requiring said Committee to enquire in the expediency of imposing annual specific tax on Bachelors between the ages of 26 and 50 years and widowers of two years standing, reported a resolution asking to be discharged the further consideration thereof.—The resolution was assented to.

Feb'y 17, '48

Mr. Dorsey submitted the following:

Resolved, by the General Assembly of Maryland, that Richard Swann be, and he is hereby appointed State Librarian—which was read the first, and by special order the second time, and concurred in.

Feb'y 18

Leave was granted on motion of Mr. Wickes, to the Committee on Grievances, &c. to report a bill in reference to the amending certain laws.

Mr. Owens submitted the following order:

Ordered, that the Committee on the Judiciary be, and are hereby instructed to inquire and report to this house whether any additional legislation be necessary to prevent the exhibitton of "Model Artistes" in this State, and whether the persons thus exhibiting themselves are not indicative at common law.

The order was adopted by a vote of 31 yeas to 24 nays.

Mr. Donaldson from the Committee on the Constitution, reported a bill confirmatory of the act to alter and change the Constitution and form of Government of the State so far as relates to the appointment of Treasurer, passed at the last session, giving the election of that office to the two Houses by concurrent vote.

Feb. 19.

The resolution in favor of the Visitors and Governors of Washington College; was endorsed "assented to," and the resolutions ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Hopper presented a petition of eighty-two citizens of Queen Anne's county county, praying a change in the license laws of the State; which was read and referred to the committee on Ways and Means.

Feb. 21.

Leave wa: granted, to the Committee on Grievances to report a bill explanatory of the act making it a felony to take corn standing in a field.

Mr. Hopper from the committee, made a report on Mr. French's resolutions, and Mr. Clagett's substitute, relative to the escape of slaves into Pennsylvania, &c.

Mr. Biays submitted the following:

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That the financial talents and decisive firmness displayed by the late Governor of this State, Thomas G. Pratt, during his administration, eminently entitle him to the grateful commendation of the people of Maryland.

Resolved, That, prompted solely by the purest patriotic motives, he has succeeded in relieving the State from the degraded position in which she had been placed, and elevating her upon that proud pinnacle of honesty and integrity she, at this time, so deservedly occupies.

Feb. 22.

On motion of Mr. Donaldson, the Committee on Ways and Means were instructed to inquire into the propriety of taxing the interest on stock of the United States Government.

Mr. Brooke submitted a resolution tendering the thanks of his native State to Capt. Oden Bowie, late of the U. S. Army, for distinguished gallantry displayed during the three days' siege at Monterey; which was assented to.

Mr. Brooke submitted a preamble and resolutions, setting forth the gallantry of Lieut. Semmes, of the Navy, a native of this State, during the naval battery at the bombardment of Vera Cruz; and as aid to Gen. Worth, at the battles of Contreras, Churubusco, Molino del Rey, Chapultepec, and the city of Mexico, returning the thanks and congratulations of the Legislature to the officers named, and cordially recommending him to the favorable consideration of the President of the United States for promotion. Adopted.

Mr. Tilden from the select committee to which was referred the bill from the Senate entitled, an act to extend the street leading from the Bridge in Chester Town, until it intersects the road leading to Washington College, reported the same without amendment, which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table.

IN SENATE.

Annapolis, Feb. 17, 1848.

A bill was passed to extend a street in Chester Town.

The resolutions in favor of Washington College in Kent county, were taken up and passed, by a vote of 12 yeas to 7 nays.

CONGRESSIONAL

Washington, Feb. 16, '48.

IN SENATE.

A great number of memorials were presented.

The joint resolution returning thanks to General Scott, was then taken up and passed—yeas 42, nays 1, (Mr. Hale, of New Hampshire)

The joint resolutions of thanks to Gen. Taylor was next called up.

Mr. Crittenden offered an amendment, which was agreed to.

In a few introductory remarks, he commented in terms of severity upon Mr Hale's course, in opposing thanks to our officers for their gallant conduct in battle, and in the service of their country.

Mr. Hale rejoined, and excused himself by saying that, as he believed the war to be unconstitutional and wrong, he would subject himself to be called a hypocrite, if he voted thanks to those who were engaged in it.

The resolution was then passed by a vote of 48 to 1, (Mr. Hale again in the negative.)

IN HOUSE.

Mr. Evans moved to reconsider the resolution to stop the debate to-day, but was rejected by ayes 93, nays 95.

The House then went into Committee and took up the Loan Bill.

Mr. Morehead, of Kentucky, then rose and addressed the house.

Mr. Pollock, of Pennsylvania, followed.

Mr. Vinton, Chairman of the Committee which reported the bill, closed the debate.

February 17.

In Senate—Mr. Yulee moved to take up the resolution of Mr. Dickinson, relative to the acquisition of territory, which was adopted.

Mr. Yulee then resumed his remarks in favor of of the amendment which he had offered.

In House—The House took up Mr. Palfrey's anti-war resolution. Some amendments were offered, and remarks were made by several members.

The consideration of the Loan Bill occupied the House during the remainder of the session, much confusion prevailing, but the bill as amended was finally passed by a vote of 192 to 14.

February 18.

In Senate.—Mr. Baldwin, of Conn., offered a resolution declaring that the forced contributions collected in Mexico ought to be applied to the payment of the claims of our citizens on Mexico, under the treaty of 1839, providing for their payment.

The ten regiment bill was then taken up, and Mr. Greene spoke in opposition to it and in general condemnation of the policy of the administration.

In House—Mr. Haralson from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill relating to the service of volunteers.

A short debate took place on the bill, when it was laid over.

February 21.

In Senate.—The bill for the relief of the heirs of John Paul Jones was taken up, and the Senate proceeded to consider the amendment made in the House.

The amendment was discussed at length.

Mr. John Davis moved to refer the whole matter to the Committee on Claims.

At this point of the proceedings, Mr. Benton rose and announced the sudden illness of John Quincy Adams, whereupon the Senate adjourned.

In House.—Mr. Chase offered a joint resolution returning thanks to Gen. Twiggs and other general officers, and moved to suspend the rules to allow the resolution to be considered at once—agreed to ayes 100, nays 54.

The previous question was then called, and the call sustained—ayes 98, nays 35.

At the close of the proceedings, the attention of the House was turned to Mr. Adams, who had been struck with paralysis, whilst sitting in his seat.

The sympathy of the whole House was aroused at once, and the members crowded around the venerable man. Dr. Fries took him in his arms and carried him out of the Hall, and the House immediately adjourned.

DIED.

In this place, on Monday last, Mr. Wm. McClean.