load, an extra allowance to the purrevor."

Ordered, That all Noblemen and Gentlemen, at the end of the Sessions of Parliament, depart to their several counties, on pain of the Royal displeasure.

CONGRESS.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 14.

In the Senate, yesterday, the various subjects of the Message of the President were referred to their appropriate Committees, and the resolution offered by Mr JOHNSON, of Kentucky, to appoint a Committee to inquire into the expediency of abolishing imprisonment for debt, was agreed to, after amending it, by instructing the same Committee to inquire into the expediency of establishing an uniform system of bankruptcy throughout the United States. Some discussion took place on a resolution offered by Mr. KANE, of Illinois, relative to our existing Judiciary system, which will be found under our Senatorial head. A resolution was offered by Mr. LLOYD, of Massachusetts, calling upon the Navy Department for the documents in the case of Commodore PORTER, &c.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. WEBSTER presented the petition of the surviving officers of the revolutionary army, residing in the State of Massachusetts, which was read and referred to the select Committee on the Claims of Revolutionary officers. Mr. WURTZ presented a petition, on the subject of a National Vaccine Establishment, which was referred to a select committee. A series of resolutions were introduced by Mr. BAILEY, of Mass. the object of which is to amend the Constitution, by conferring on Congres a specific power to appropriate money for roads and canals, a National University, and the encouragement of the useful and liberal arts. The object of these resolutions is to place all powers in relation to roads, canals, colonization, and education, exclusively with the States; excepting that Congress may appropriate money to be expended by the several States for such of these objects as the States shall please, and may also make surveys, and in urgent cases, construct roads and canals, and exercise several minor powers relating to education and the arts. Mr. MITCHELL, of Tennessee, also introduced a resolution to amend the constitution so far as to make a Senator or Representative in Congress ineligible to any office in the gift of the government while in possession of his seat, or within one year after the expiration of his term of service. A Committee on the Territories was ordered, on motion of Mr. STRONG, to be added to the list of Standing Committees, and a change was made in the names of the revolutionary Committees, so as to give them more extensive cognizances, and to prevent those errors and difficulties which have heretofore arisen in the reference of petitions of this character.

THURSDAY, Dec. 15.

The SENATE was chiefly occupied yesterday, *in presenting petitions, and* in offering resolutions. The resolution offered by Mr. BENTON, is much the same with that submitted by this gentleman two years ago, contemplating the election of a President and Vice-President, directly by the People, in districts, without the intervention of any electoral body. The resolution of Mr. JOHNSTON, of Louisiana, proposes a general amendment of our existing Judiciary System, and is, in some respects, therefore, similar to that offered by Mr. EATON, which was agreed to, and to the one submitted by Mr. KANE The resolution offered by Mr. LLOYD, of Massachusetts, in relation to Commodore Porter, was agreed to, Mr. L. stating to the Senate, that that part of the resolution which called for information relative to the employment of the squadron under Com. Porter, was submitted at the solicitation of the Commodore himself, and the other parts of it, with his concurrence. About half an hour was passed in the consideration of Executive business.

In the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Mr. TOMLINSON presented a petition from the surviving officers of the Revolutionary Army in Connecticut; and Mr. BURGESS presented a similar petition from those residing in Rhode-Island; which were referred to the Select Committee on the claims of Revolutionary Officers. The residue of the business consisted of the introduction and adoption of resolutions.—*Nat. Jour.*

On THURSDAY, the bill making an appropriation to pay the members of Congress, was passed in the Senate, with a small amendment, which was afterwards agreed to by the other House. Mr. Benton's resolution for amending the constitution was taken up; and Mr. Hayne proposed to add a clause providing that the election of President and Vice President shall not devolve on the Senate and House of Representatives. As a citizen of the state of Delaware, we hope and trust that the small states will never suffer such an amendment to be adopted. We might as well cast ourselves upon the large states, and allow them to do with us what they please. Mr. Cobb proposed, as an addition that no member of Congress should be appointed to office during the term for which he may have been elected, which, with Mr. Hayne's was agreed to; after which Mr. Macon proposed to refer the whole subject relative to the election of President and Vice President, without restricting the committee to distinct propositions. In the House of Representatives Daniel Huguenin, Jr. having claimed the seat occupied by Egbert Ten Eyck, and it having been referred to the committee, on elections a report was made in favour of the claimant which report was agreed to, and he was admitted to the seat. The resolution relative to Com. Porter's case was called, when Mr. Webster suggested that it might be prejudicial to the public interest, and Mr. Buchanan was willing that it should be properly amended. He was not anxious to press it immediately upon the House, and it was laid on the table, by a vote of 95 to 73.

On FRIDAY the Senate did not sit. In the House of Representatives, a resolution offered by Mr. Baylies, for an inquiry into the expediency of fitting out the sloop of war Boston for exploring the North West coast of America, was adopted, after the rejection of an amendment proposing an extension of the cruize into the polar seas. The resolution relating to Com. Porter's case was called up and adopted. Mr. Hamilton, of S. C. submitted a resolution for a call upon the President for a copy of the correspondence relating to the Congress of Panama, which has induced him to signify that "ministers on the part of the United States will be commissioned to join in those deliberations." The resolution relative to the rules of the courts of the United States, was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, instead of the Committee of the whole house.—*Del Gaz.*

It will be seen by our Congressional report of Tuesday, that the proposition of Colonel R M. JOHNSON, in relation to the abolition of imprisonment for debt, was, on that day, referred to the same Committee of the Senate to whom was committed Colonel HAYNE'S resolution on the subject of a system of Bankrupt law. The two propositions are so kindred in their principles, that they properly belong to the same class of business. They look to the same object—the mutual protection of debtor and creditor—the former from useless and unconstitutional oppression, and the latter from secret fraud and open dishonesty. Imprisonment, as a punishment for crime, or a restraint on those who are guilty of it, is necessary in itself, and of utility to society; and when the conduct of a debtor is such as to cast on him the stain of criminality, he becomes a proper subject for imprisonment. In cases where no suspicion of crime attaches to the debtor, imprisonment cannot, with justice, be demanded as a punishment, nor in any view of policy, can bodily restraint be productive of advantage to a creditor. It can only be regarded as a lien on the body, at the same time, that the property held is perverted by the very act of imprisonment, from rendering any payment of the debt. The property of a debtor may justly be pursued, but to arrest and suspend the functions by which property is created, is something like choaking up a fountain, at the very moment when we desire to appropriate its streams to our advantage. As a matter of policy, therefore, as well as justice, imprisonment for debt cannot be sustained, except in cases where it is intended as a punishment for fraud.

As a question of humanity, it is still less susceptable of defence Every genuine feeling of our nature revolts from the idea of incarcerating a fellow creature, because *misfortune* has blighted his prospects, and thrown him on the cold charity of mankind. Because his ships have been wrecked, and his fortune is swallowed up in the pathless and bottomless ocean, must we enter into alliance with his persecuting destiny, and conclude the chapter of his misfortunes, by depriving him of his liberty? Because the mildew has descended on his harvests, or the whirlwind or the floods have desolated his fields, and destroyed his wealth, is it expedient that he to whom he is indebted, should tear him from hearth, home, and kindred, and plunge him into desperate incarceration? If such be the tendencies of human nature, the benevolence of the law should step in between the creditor and his victim, instead of aiding and abetting the harsh impulses of breasts in which selfishness only exerts its sway.

The effect of imprisonment for debt, is to make poverty criminal, inasmuch as imprisonment is a punishment of crime. Men are apt enough to regard it as a crime, without legislative sanction to justify the propensity. Poverty has to sustain all the moral punishment of crime: it is neglected, despised and insulted. Let this be sufficient, without adding to the list of evils the loyal punishment also. It is a sufficient punishment to endure it with all its train of miseries, creeping about on the surface of the earth like a base intruder on the courtesy of sun and air, like a mere mendicant in existence, occupying the breathing place which ought to be the exclusive property of wealth and influence. A fellow creature, thus humbled in his own estimation, and in that of other men, wants no legal infliction to fill the cup of his misfortunes to the brim.

We would certainly have the line most broad and unerringly drawn between the fraudulent and the unfortunate debtor. We would not let our sympathies run a Quixotic tilt in defence of that which reason and morality unite to condemn. Let the debtor who attempts to cheat his creditor out of his just rights, by concealment or fraud of any other character, partake of the punishment, as he has participated in the commission of crime: but keeping in view the great principle which lies at the foundation of justice, that it is better for nine guilty persons to escape, than for one innocent man to suffer, let us so shape our laws, that while they operate as guides and checks to our sympathies when they would mislead us, they at the same time, guard and secure the few principles which misfortune leaves in the possession of its victims, when property and credit are destroyed.—*Nat. Jour.*

Pay of Members of Congress.—From the first Congress, in 1780, inclusive, until the 4th of March, 1795, Senators and Representatives received six dollars per diem, and six dollars for every 20 miles travel. From the 4th of March, 1795, to the 4th of March, 1796, Senators received 7 dollars per diem and 7 dollars for every 20 miles travel, and Representatives only six dollars. From the 4th of March, 1796, until the 4th December, 1815, the per diem was six dollars, and the mileage six dollars to Senators and Representatives. From the 4th of December, 1815, until the 4th of March, 1817, each Senator and Representative received 1500 dollars per annum, with a proportional deduction, for absence from any cause but sickness. The President of the Senate pro tempore, and the Speaker of the House, 3000 dollars per annum each. From the 4th of March, 1817, the compensation to members of both branches of Congress has been 8 dollars per diem and 8 dollars for every 20 miles travel.—*Nat. Gaz.*

VIRGINIA FUSTIAN & FACTION.

From the Richmond Enquirer.

Little did I dream, when I addressed you, on Tuesday last, that so fearful a Crisis was at hand. The President's Message, of itself, forms an æra in the government. A higher-toned Message has not been seen since the days of John Adams One so directly looking to the establishment, by downright encroachment, of a magnificent, overshadowing government, has never been uttered from that Chair! What will Virginia do? Whom will her Representatives select for Senator of the United States? The more I see, the more I am satisfied that WM B. GILES is that man. Put John Randolph there and you lose his services in the other House. Put WM. B. GILES there, and you have them both.—In the Senate there is a great contest. Mr. Adams assumes the power of originating embassies by his sole authority. "Ministers on the part of the U. States will be commissioned to attend these deliberations" at Panama. Will the Senate submit to this assumption? Will they confirm Rufus King? The battle is to be fought in the Senate; and you ought to have your strongest and most fearless men to face the crisis.

On the appearance of the above and another article, the Constitutional Whig, published at Richmond, came out with the following little *morceau*, which portrays at once, the true character of Thomas Ritchie.

From the Constitutional Whig.

Political Consistency—We have heard much of this commodity of late. The following specimens of it, will amuse our readers. They have probably read two articles in the two last Enquirers signed a Republican of 98, eulogising Mr. Giles and Mr. Randolph—those articles were both written by Thomas Ritchie, Esq. In one he says, "I will not disparage John Randolph. Heaven forbid! I admire his genius: I acknowledge his firmness and his adherence to the Constitution," &c.

Let us see what the same gentleman thought on the 5th April, 1811.

"☞We understand, that a poll will be taken for Mr. Eppes, by some of his friends in every county of the District, lately represented, or rather *mis* represented by *John Randolph*. There is to be sure, some little difference between the two men—Mr. Eppes is as much an ornament to Congress, as Mr. R. is a NUISANCE and a CURSE."

The reader will readily perceive that the celebrated Giles was the man Mr. Ritchie and the Dynasty, wished the Legislature to elect to the Senate, as a 'battering ram' against the Administration. But in this they are doubly foiled—they have disregarded this mandate, and elected Mr. John Randolph, who although a "nuisance and a curse," has had for a long time no more influence in the House than a child, and in the Senate, he will have still less.

Mr. Ritchie and his party met with a similar defeat at the last session of the Virginia Legislature—they wanted "the hotspur" Mr. Tyler—the Legislature did not comply, but elected Mr. Tazewell. Will not certain Factionists take warning from "the signs of the times."

OUR SENATOR.—Mr. John Randolph, of Roanoke, is elected Senator to Congress from Virginia. *Mirabile dictu!* He, who ten years ago, was deemed the leader of the federal party, is now elected by the Republican legislature of Virginia to the important office of Senator. But, 'Times change, and we change with them.' We confess, that we preferred Mr. Randolph to Mr. Giles—the one is a fearless and candid politician—the other a cynic—Diogenes in his tub, throwing his filth on all who stand in his way. Let him stay at Wigwam and write "Disquisitions" for the next four years, when, in all probability, *Time* may have wheeled about another revolution, and the Philosopher of the tub may also become the favorite of those whom he has denounced with all his might—and abused with all his virulence! He must growl on, however; lest his silence may be the precursor of his retirement to a more enduring obscurity. As Mr. Pleasants, who was our favorite, did not offer, and as some little doubt has been suggested as to Mr. Tucker's mode of construing the constitution, we are pretty well satisfied. Mr. Giles is out—and the Richmond party defeated, and that is sufficient cause of congratulation.—*Lynchburg Virginian.*

COTTON ROPE—The article of cotton, the great staple of our southern country, it would seem is about to be brought into requisition for a new and valuable purpose. We learn from a Providence paper that Samuel Greene, of Pawtuxet, (R. I.) has received a premium at the exhibition of manufactures in that state, for making cotton cod lines. It is stated that they outlasted the hempen lines employed for the same purpose The inventor thinks that cotton cables would be more durable than hempen, possesses more elasticity, and the threads being much finer and many thousands twined together, would be stronger. The Inventor thus speaks on the difference between cotton cables and those made of hemp:—*American.*

As to the comparative cost between cordage of hemp or cotton, there being no tar in the cotton and the weight much less for the same strength of rope, (I should think nearly half less) it can in fact be afforded at a cheaper rate, and from its being so much more durable will turn out much more economical. Thus if the price of a pound of cotton yarn is two shillings, one half the weight being required for cotton cordage, will reduce it to one shilling; and if it will last six times longer, this will reduce it to three cents, and if it serves your vessel in a gale when hemp would not do it, it will be reduced comparatively to nothing. The cotton yarn for cordage need not be finer than seven or eight, and if properly spun in the factories, I can make the cordage at $3 per hundred weight. I think cotton will answer better than hemp for every kind of use, where hemp is now taken—for careening falls, bolt ropes, whale warps, &c. and if this be a fact, the sooner it is reduced to practice the better it will be for the economy and safety of vessels and their crews. I have thoroughly tried it on a sail for bolt rope, and find it to answer every purpose.

New Frigate South America.—This ship, which has been riding at anchor for several days in the North River, opposite New York, and has excited the admiration of all who beheld her, was yesterday visited, by the invitation of the builder and owner, HENRY ECKFORD, Esq. by about 500 citizens, and strangers of distinction, among whom were Count Palacio, the Consul General of the Colombian Republic, Gen. Lallemand, Mr. Buchanan, the British Consul, Capt. Reid, of the British sloop of war Pylades, Judge Thompson, Gen. Van Courtland, several of the Clergy, the members of the Corporation, the members elect of the Legislature of this city, the Marshall of this District, Com. Chauncy, and the other naval officers on this station, Major Gen. Morton and several other military officers, the officers of all the Marine Insurance Offices, the corps of Newspaper Editors, &c &c. who were conveyed on board the ship about noon, by the steam boat Bolivar.

The visitors were received with great politeness, and gratified with a view of the ship throughout.—She was pronounced by all who beheld her including many gentlemen well qualified to judge of her merits, to be (if not the best) equal to any ship that ever floated, so far as relates to model, materials, execution of workmanship, and equipment—She is finished throughout and her cabin is decorated in a style of elegance and splendor, far surpassing any national or merchant ship ever seen in this port, & her whole construction has added much to the high reputation of the builder, as well as to the credit of our city. The frigate mounts sixty guns, 30 forty-two pound cannonades on the spar deck, and 30 long thirty two's on the main deck. She is 180 feet long on the upper deck. As a specimen of the expensive and substantial manner in which the ship is finished throughout, we can mention that the capstan, which is of brass, cost $4000. She is at present commanded by Captain James Gillender

After a thorough inspection of this splendid vessel, the company sat down to an excellent dinner prepared for the occasion by their liberal host—the tables were spread with every delicacy our market affords, and the finest wines in the country. About 4 o'clock, the company were landed in the city, highly gratified with their visit, and with wishes of "success to the *South America.*"—*N. Y. Merc. Advertiser.*

From the Baltimore Gazette.

FREE-MASONRY.

If we were to argue from the course pursued in despotic Europe, against the society of *Free Masons* we should judge that the establishment of the Grand Lodge in Mexico, whose officers are the first men in the nation, was a favourable omen—at least it denotes a liberality and intelligence, which places Mexico already far on the path of civilization.

Whatever may be the secrets and ceremonies of this fraternity, and that they have such, appears not be doubted, we cannot but believe that its true principles must be those of a sublime morality. It has existed for a longer time than any known association, in every country, and under every form of government—and if it had depended upon partial political feeling, instead of pure benevolence, it would long since have sunk into oblivion.

When it is recollected that *Washington*, the father of his country, took pride in presiding over the labours of a Lodge of Masons, and continued an active member until his death, those who are not Masons must join with those who are, in ascribing to the Fraternity the purest principles as the foundation of their order.

We rejoice therefore, to see, that a Grand Lodge has been constituted in Mexico, and that its officers have been installed by Mr. *Poinsett* our minister to that country—The bond of union is thus, by a peculiar mode, made stronger—and the spirit of brotherhood whose mysterious and useful influence is felt from Maine to Florida, and which greeted *La Fayette* in the bosoms of twenty four *Grand Lodges*, will expand until it covers and adorns the sister Republic of Mexico.

We understand that Mrs. Patterson, now the Marchioness of Wellesley, is about 33 years of age—the Marquis her husband 66: that her sister Miss Caton, lately married the aid-de-camp and nephew of the Duke of Wellington, and that she is justly esteemed as one of the most fascinating & accomplished ladies, ever presented at the court of George the Fourth.—*Wash. Gaz.*

From the Baltimore Gazette.

So long ago as the fourth day of October last, a statement appeared in the Patriot of this city in the following words: His Excellency the commander in chief of the Militia of Maryland, has ordered a Division Court Martial to be instituted with all convenient speed, for the trial of Sheppard C. Leakin, Esq. of this city" The statement was not accompanied with any explanation as to the nature of the charge against Mr. Leakin, or wherefore the *extraordinary* interposition of the Commander in chief should, have been deemed by him necessary or proper—especially as it was a course of proceeding that had never before been resorted to by the Executive of this state but in one instance, and in that instance had been very generally if not universally condemned.

Nothing further appeared in the Patriot on the above subject until yesterday afternoon, when the following appeared as an advertisement:—

"DIVISION ORDER.—HEAD QUARTERS 3d DIVISION, M. M—*Baltimore December* 19th, 1825.—The proceedings of the Division Court Martial, of which Brigadier General J. Spear Smith was President, being approved by his Excellency the Governor and Commander in Chief of the Militia of the State of Maryland, the said Court is hereby dissolved, and Brigadier General Sheppard C. Leakin will resume the command of the 1st Brigade Artillery, attached to the 3d Division, M. M.

By order of Maj Gen. W. M'DONALD,
JOHN C. VAN WYCK, 1st
Aid-de-Camp."

There was no editorial reference to the above advertisement, and the people of Baltimore who had already been left for more than ten weeks in suspense as to the supposed offence of General Leakin, are still uninformed why and when his command was suspended, at what time the proceedings of the Court Martial took place, and what were those proceedings, which his Excellency the Governor has thought proper to *approve* and in virtue of which approval General Leakin is ordered to resume the command of the 1st Brigade of Artillery.

We are enabled to add to the above statement as facts which have come to our knowledge, that General Leakin received a written order on *the third day of October last* to consider himself under ARREST, from which arrest he was not relieved until yesterday;—and, that the Court Martial referred to in the above Division Order, met on the 24th day of October for the first and last time, of course all the proceedings took place on that day.

The people of this state, knowing thus much, will necessarily feel interested in enquiring, whether there is any legal right or authority vested in the Governor as commander in chief of the Militia of this State, or in any inferior Militia officer as such, in time of peace, to order the arrest of any officer or other citizens for any cause whatever? The people of Baltimore will also feel some anxiety to know whether there was any reasonable *excuse* for so vexatious and harrassing a proceeding against one of their justly esteemed fellow citizens—a proceeding for which, as appears by the Division Order there was no *justification.*

FUNERAL OF COL. PINKNEY.

This much esteemed and lamented officer of the U. S. army was buried on Sunday evening with military honors, and with every demonstration of public respect. During the day the flags of the shipping in the harbor were flying at *half mast.* At three o'clock precisely the procession moved off—the armed escort under Major Belton (commanding at Fort M'Henry.) Notwithstanding the shortness of the notice, and the unfavourable state of the weather, the deceased was followed to his grave by nearly all the officers of the *Third Division.* Col. Pinkney was a native of Annapolis, and highly respected as he was in the *public* service, he was no less *valued* and beloved by all who knew him in the relations of *private* life. Col. Pinkney commanded the 3d Regiment of Infantry.

Amer.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 20.

FALL OF THE CASTLE OF SAN JUAN D'ULLOA—By the schooner Lafayette, captain Alexander, arrived at this port last evening in 26 days from Sacrificios, the gratifying intelligence is received of the fall of the Castle of San Juan D'Ulloa. It surrendered at discretion on the 18th of November, the garrison being in a state of starvation. The only particulars received are, that the garrison were to be sent to Havana. The sick had been transferred to Vera Cruz. Captain A. was informed by captain Lane of the schooner Hornillas, that the garrison were embarked on board of English vessels, and had sailed for Havana. The H. had been captured by the Mexican fleet, and carried into Sacrificios, but was subsequently released.—*Pat.*

The New York Mercantile Advertiser has received by the Rodman, Caraccas papers to the 23d ult.

CARACCAS, Nov. 23.

It is currently rumoured that the government of the United States has refused to become a party of the Assembly of the American States, about to be formed in Panama.—We understand, however, that the refusal is courteous, and that a complimentary commission is appointed to announce it in Panama.

On the 14th inst. General Pedro Briceno Mendez, left this city for Laguayra, to proceed forthwith on his important mission to Panama.

Our dates from Bogota, are to the 19th of October. The Intendant of Boyaca has prohibited games of hazard and chance, being played in that Department—an evil of great extent which exists throughout all Colombia.

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