EASTON GAZETTE.

WHERE THE PRESS IS FREE—"Literature, well or ill-conducted, is the Great Engine by which all Popular States must ultimately be supported or overthrown." Religion purifies the Heart and teaches us our Duty—Morality refines the Manners—Agriculture makes us rich—and Politics provides for the enjoyment of all.

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REMARKABLE SPRING.

At 12 miles distant from Tallehassee, the new capital of Florida, is the Big Spring, the source of Wakulla river.—This celebrated fountain is one of the greatest natural curiosities in the United States. Ascending the river, about one mile below its source, it becomes so much obstructed by flags and river weeds that it is with great difficulty that a boat can be propelled up the stream; suddenly this immense spring breaks upon the eye. It is nearly one mile in length and of circular form. The water is almost as transparent as air itself.—it is of an unfathomable depth, which gives the water a deep blue tint, similar in appearance to the water in the Gulph Stream. It is stated that a plumb has drawn 250 fathoms of line without finding any bottom. After arriving in the centre of the spring in a small boat upon a clear day, the appearance of the azure vault above, and the blue depth below, gave rise to a succession of the most singular ideas. It appeared after abstracting the surrounding foliage from the mind that we were suspended in the immense regions of space. The water is highly impregnated with decomposed limestone; which gives it that extremely transparent appearance which can only be accounted for by supposing that water impregnated with calcareous substances has much less refractive powers for light than water in a state of purity. The temperature of the water is very low, even in the warmest weather it has an icy appearance. It has however a nauseous taste by being highly impregnated with the sulphuret of lime. On the northern side of this spring, a beautiful hammock rises gently from the water. This is the site of the former English Factory for the Indian trade, while this country was under the British crown, and afterwards the residence of the celebrated Ambrister, who was executed during the Seminole campaign. This fountain is fed from the subterraneous sources which gush from the bowels of the earth with incredible force, rising in the centre with the velocity of boiling water. Some idea may be formed of the power with which it gushes from the earth, by its displaying a column of water more than 250 fathoms in height, and removing with violence the water on the surface. This spring is about 12 miles from St. Mark, and about 20 from the ocean.

From the Philadelphia Journal, Feb. 7.

MISS KELLY.—Yesterday morning when the doors of the Theatre opened, a scene of great confusion occurred amongst the many attempting to procure seats.—One gentleman vociferated 'Mr. T's. box! murder! No. 20! Let me out, Mr. T's. Box!' Another had his English surtout ripped up the back to the collar, 'Gad! fellow' says he to the offender, 'you're an excessively impudent person.' 'Och! tunder and potatoes! you've spilt all my money!' roared an Irishman; 'Monsieur! you ave smashify my chapeau!' squeaked a Frenchman. 'I shall esteem it a particular favor if you will remove your shoulder out of my mouth' said one; 'and your foot out of my pocket' said another to a third who was clambering over the heads of the multitude. All was turmoil and confusion.

In the evening Miss Kelly played Beatrice to one of the most crowded and fashionable houses, we have witnessed. The boxes were all taken, and were filled with ladies in their best dresses.

The gang of marauders and robbers who lately prowled in the neighborhood of Philadelphia to the infinite terror of the good citizens who were obliged to travel, have undoubtedly moved elsewhere in quest of adventure. We hope the following is the closing incident to the whole drama, which has been enacted with so much industry. On Saturday morning, a stout old farmer, not distinguished for his courage, while travelling on the Norristown road, just before day, on horseback, heard some one running on foot after him and crying out "Hilloa!—stop!" The old gentleman concluded he was a dead man. His horse, like himself, had no courage, for to run away was an attempt far beyond his powers, and too desperate a measure for a Rozinante which has long since declined into the vale of years. The farmer making a virtue of necessity dismounted, and the moment his pursuer reached him, began laying about him with his whip on the head and back of the other, with a vigor which did him credit, but which, no doubt, was the result of his terror. Accompanying his operations with obstreperous cries of 'Murder! thieves! fire!! the devil! help!' it was not until he had expended all his force and strength, that he discovered that he had been beating a messenger who had been sent after him—his own flesh and blood in the shape of—*his son.*

Philadelphia Journal.

CONGRESS.

[From the National Journal.]

TUESDAY, Feb. 14.

In the Senate, the bill to extend the limits of Georgetown, and the bill for the relief of Elijah Buckley, were passed.

The bill making an appropriation of $15,000 for the repair of the road, through the Indian country, between Jackson and Columbus, in the State of Mississippi, was the subject of considerable discussion. It was opposed upon the ground that Congress had no power to make a road within the limits of a state, and that when the State of Mississippi was admitted into the Union, the jurisdiction which, previously, the Indians ceded to the United States over this road, passed to the state, and was vested in it. It was supported on the ground, that the road run through an Indian country, the title to which had never been extinguished, and that, therefore, the state had no power to make it; that like applications had received the favor of Congress, and that no constitutional principles were connected with the bill. It was ordered to a third reading.

In the House of Representatives yesterday, the bill for the relief of Penelope Denny was passed. A little discussion took place on the consideration of the resolution offered some time since by Mr. Miner, calling for information on the subject of the revenues, &c. from the ports in the Delaware, with a reference to the construction of the proposed break-water, and the resolution was ultimately rejected. The House went into committee on the bill making appropriation for the navy, but made little progress therein, when the committee rose. On motion of Mr. Ward, of New-York, it was referred to the Committee on the District of Columbia, to inquire as to the expediency of deepening the channel leading into Tyber Creek; and on motion of Mr. Alexander, of Virginia, relative to amending the charter of Alexandria; on motion of Mr. Everett, of Massachusetts, on the subject of revising the law regulating the importation of foreign books; on motion of Mr. Wood, of New-York, relative to placing disabled and wounded officers on the list of invalid pensioners; and on motion of Mr. Mallary, of Vermont, on the subject of the tonnage and value of the trade between our Atlantic ports and the ports of the United States on the Gulph of Mexico. Mr. Cocke laid on the table a resolution asking of the President information relative to the compensation allowed to the Paymaster and Quartermaster of the Marine corps for the last two years.

Mr. Webster, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill relative to executions in the states of Kentucky, Ohio and Louisiana.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 15.

In the Senate, the bill for the survey of a route for a Canal across the Peninsula of Florida was the subject of discussion the whole day, and was ordered to be engrossed for its third reading. The interesting views contained in the letter of Mr. White, the Delegate from Florida, which was addressed to the Committee on roads and Canals, will show the general grounds on which the subject was recommended to Congress, and the probability that the undertaking is likely to be crowned with success. During the discussion, Mr. Johnson, of Louisiana, stated that 150,000 tons of shipping were employed in the commerce of the Mississippi; that 732 vessels entered the port of New Orleans during the year 1825; and that he had received from a gentleman in Boston, well informed on the subject, a schedule of all the vessels lost on the Bahama Banks and the Straits of Florida, last year; that they amounted to 64 vessels; that the first five amounted to $478,000, and the whole loss of the balance would exceed $700,000.

In the House of Representatives, yesterday, Mr. Forsyth introduced resolutions on the subject of repealing and modifying parts of the act of March, 1819, in relation to the Slave Trade. Mr. Storrs, of New York, introduced a resolution relative to an amendment of the Constitution, as to the appointment of United States Senators, which his resolution proposes to be made by electors in each state. On motion of Mr. Thompson, of Pennsylvania, the Committee on Military Affairs were instructed to inquire into the expediency of erecting a chapel at West Point. On motion by Mr. Estill, of Va. the Committee on Military Pensions were instructed to inquire into the expediency of amending the laws relating to Revolutionary Pensioners. A motion was made by Mr. J. Johnson, of Kentucky, to reconsider the decision of the House rejecting the resolution offered by Mr. Minor, of Pennsylvania, having reference to the proposed break-water. The House then went into Committee on the Navy Appropriation Bill, which was ordered to a third reading to-morrow.

THURSDAY, Feb. 16.

In the Senate, the greater part of yesterday was passed in the consideration of Executive business. The bill for the survey of a route for a Canal between the Atlantic and the Gulph of Mexico was passed, and sent to the House of Representatives.

In the House of Representatives, the discussion on the resolution of Mr. Miner, of Pennsylvania, was resumed, the question of re-consideration was carried, but the discussion was again cut short by the expiration of the hour devoted to resolutions. The House then resolved itself into Committee on Mr. M'Duffie's resolution to amend the Constitution, in relation to the election of President and Vice-President. Mr. M'Duffie made an able speech, of about an hour and a half, and will resume his argument to day. The bill making appropriations for the Navy and the Library were passed.

FRIDAY, Feb. 17.

The Senate yesterday was occupied nearly the whole day in the consideration of Executive business.

In the House of Representatives, the resolution offered by Mr. Miner, of Pennsylvania, in relation to the Breakwater in the Delaware Bay, which has occupied the House for some days, was finally adopted. Mr. Cocke, of Tennessee, introduced a resolution on the subject of giving a fixed compensation to the officers of the Army and Marines, in lieu of allowances. Mr. Taylor, of Virginia, introduced a resolution on the subject of Members selecting their seats in the Hall by ballot, and Mr. Garnsey offered a resolution proposing an amendment of the Constitution in relation to President and Vice President. The House then went into Committee of the whole on the state of the Union, when Mr. M'Duffie completed his argument in a speech of near three hours in length; of which even in our imperfect abstract swells beyond the capacity of our columns to admit.

SATURDAY, Feb. 18.

In the Senate, a bill was reported for the relief of Otway Burns, and the report of the Committee on Foreign Relations against the petition of Alexander Scott, was agreed to. The Senate were in Executive business until after 3 o'clock.

In the House of Representatives yesterday, an interesting report from the Secretary of War was transmitted by the President, in relation to the site for an arsenal at Augusta, in Georgia. Mr. Cambreleng introduced a resolution calling for the monthly statements of the affairs of the United States Bank for the last year. On motion of Mr. Cook, of Illinois, the Committee on Public Lands were instructed to consider the expediency of allowing certain privileges to settlers near the Lead Mines in Illinois. The House then went into committee of the whole on the state of the Union, when Mr. Storrs delivered an able speech, which occupied about two hours, in opposition to Mr. M'Duffie's proposition to amend the Constitution. Mr. Alexander, of Virginia, from the Committee on the District of Columbia, made an adverse report on the subject of a Territorial Government.

The House adjourned till Monday.

From the proceedings of the *Legislature of Virginia* of Wednesday last, we extract the following:

THOMAS JEFFERSON.—Mr. *Loyall* observed that he rose under embarrassed feelings. He was about to discharge a task which gave him pain; not from a sense of the impropriety of the measure asked, but from the nature of the task itself, and the melancholy reasons which had rendered it necessary. He rose to ask leave to bring in a bill authorising THOMAS JEFFERSON to dispose of his estate by lottery. It would take no money from the treasury, nor abridge the right of any individual. It was in favor of a man who had devoted more than 60 years of his life to the public service—a great benefactor of mankind. The poor boon he asked in the extremity of his fortunes, was to be allowed to do that, which he could not do without an act of the General Assembly. Would it be asked how he had become so involved? How with a patrimony so large, he had become reduced in his old age to poverty? He had become so in the performance of public services. Since the dawn of manhood, he had devoted the energies of his soul and body to the service of his country, and the causes of mankind. Mr. Loyall proceeded in an eloquent manner to enumerate the cause which had impaired Mr. Jefferson's ample patrimony and reduced him in the extremity of his age to the verge of bankruptcy. Until his retirement from the Presidency in 1808, his attention to public duties had been unremitted from the commencement of the Revolutionary War.—These duties had necessarily excluded attention to his private affairs, and involved him in embarrassment which continuing to this day, and increased by his general, unavoidable, and munificent hospitality, since his retreat to private life, had at length driven him to the necessity of making this application to the Legislature of his native state. Travellers from every part of the union, and the civilized world, particularly since the establishment of the University, made pilgrimages to Monticello, and it was not in the noble and generous nature of Mr. Jefferson to repress their visits; or to curtail his hospitality. These expenses were incident to his name and his character, and who among us would desire that he should do so, or for the few years that he might yet linger among us, be compelled to seek some hiding place in his mountain? How was it proposed to relieve him? By allowing him a privilege which invaded the rights of no man—which took nothing from the treasury. Mr. Loyall stated within the last 40 years, more than 70 examples of lotteries authorised by the state were to be found—that a counteracting policy would force us again to resort to them—and that thousands were drawn annually from Virginia to construct the roads and canals of the northern state.—He appealed to no political feelings, but desired that the application should rest on its intrinsic merits.

LEGISLATURE OF MARYLAND.

From the Maryland Republican, Feb. 18.

Mr. Millis' bill for electing the governor of the state by the people, passed the House of Delegates yesterday by a majority of one vote.

Mr. Chapman has reported a bill to limit the number of suits upon joint and several bonds, penal and single bills.

The 1st section of the bill restricts the number of the suits upon bonds, &c. executed by two or more persons, to one action, where all the obligors are alive, and reside in the same county.

The 2d section provides, that if either of the obligors be dead, one action is to be brought against the survivors, and one against the administrator or executor of the deceased obligor.

By the 3d section, if either of the obligors die, pending the action, his death may be suggested on the record, and an action docketted immediately against his executor or administrator, and the same proceedings are to be had, as if seperate actions had originally been brought on the bond.

By section 4th, if either of the defendants die after judgment, and before execution, the plaintiff may cause a scire facias to issue against the executor or administrator, and the same judgment may be had on the scire facias, as if seperate actions had been brought.

The 5th section provides, that where two or more actions are brought at the same term, between the same plaintiff and defendant, upon the same subject matter, the court upon motion of the defendant, shall order the actions to be consolidated.

The 6th section allows the plaintiff to levy his execution upon either defendant.

The 7th permits several suits where the obligors live in different counties.

The 8th provides against delays which might arise in case the writ might be returned non est, as to any of the obligors and protects the right of the creditor.

By this bill much unnecessary cost will be saved to suiters, and the rights of the creditor in no manner impaired. The unnecessary accumulation of costs in civil suits, has been a subject of just complaint, and if it can be removed, it will relieve the unfortunate debtor of a heavy burden.

PETITIONS—Presented by

Mr. Spencer, from sundry inhabitants of the town of Oxford in Talbot county, praying relief.

Mr. Cockey, from sundry citizens of Westminster, Frederick county, praying for a law to incorporate a company for the purpose of introducing a supply of water in said town.

Mr. Kennedy, from sundry citizens of Washington county, counter to the petition relative to the new road from Sharpsburg to Hager's town.

Mr. Turner, from the trustees of the Franklin academy, praying the donation may not be withdrawn from the same.

Mr. Wilson from Samuel Griffith.

Mr. Linthicum, from Harriet Hanlon for support.

Mr. Gantt, from Walter Gental for support.

Mr. Wilson from Herson Pritchet, of Montgomery county, for support.

Mr. Gantt, from Seth Warfield, Jr. of Anne Arundel county, praying relief.

Mr. Barnes, from sundry inhabitants of Frederick county, praying that the state will relinquish its portion of the escheat money on the estate of Wm. Traverse, an alien, deceased.

Mr. Boon, from sundry inhabitants of Kent county, praying for the sale of the alms house, and the purchase of a farm for the use of poor.

Mr. Speed, from Rebecca Hounton, for support.

Mr. Duvall, from sundry inhabitants of Vansville district, in Prince Georges county, praying for the support of the orphan children of Margaret Mitchell.

Mr. Speed, from Susanna Linham.

Mr. Eccleston, from sundry citizens of Dorchester and Caroline counties, praying a repeal of so much of the law imposing an additional tax of fifty dollars on billiard tables.

Mr. Harlan, from sundry citizens of Cecil county, praying that the incorporation of Port Deposit may be extended.

Mr. Farquhar, from Mary Whitehill, of Frederick county, praying for a divorce of mensa et thoro.

Mr. M'Culloh, from Joseph C. Cockey, brigade major and inspector of the 11th brigade of Maryland militia, praying an annual compensation may be allowed to him.

Mr. Howard, from William Deaver.

Bills reported. By

Mr. Cockey, an act to lay out and open a road from the town of Westminster, in Frederick county, to the city of Washington and Georgetown.

Mr. Duvall, a supplement to an act, entitled, an act for the distribution of a certain fund for the purpose of establishing free schools in the several counties therein mentioned.

Mr. Merrick, an act relating to illegitimate children.

Mr. Gantt, an act to authorise the levy court of Anne Arundel county to levy a sum of money on said county for the use of Jeremiah L. Boyd, of the city of Annapolis.

Mr. Howard, an act to authorise the guardian of Lambert Smith Norwood, to lease the real estate therein mentioned.

Mr. Cockey, an act to introduce a supply of water into the town of Westminster, in Frederick county.

Mr. Millard, an act for the relief of Mary Ebrecht, of Washington county.

Mr. Stevens, an act to change and alter the name of Freeborn Coppage Dodson, a minor of Queen Ann's county, to Freeborn Coppage.

Mr. Barnes, an act to authorise the appointment of a trustee or trustees with the power to mortgage certain real estate for the purposes therein mentioned.

Mr. Potter, a further additional supplement to an act, entitled, an act for the collection of officer's fees.

Mr. Keene, a supplement to an act entitled, an act relating to the public roads in Caroline county.

Mr. Williams, repealing such parts of the laws as authorises officer's fees to be collected by way of execution, as amended.

Mr. Chapman, an act to prevent the unnecessary accumulation of costs in civil suits.

Mr. Millard, an act to divorce George Lopperman, and Ann, his wife, of the city of Baltimore.

Mr. Millard, an act to divorce Horatio N. Sherwood, and Elizabeth his wife of the city of Baltimore.

Mr. Edelen, a supplement to the act, entitled an act to establish state warehouses for the inspection of tobacco in the city of Baltimore.

Mr. Worthington, a supplement to an act to ascertain the allowance of jurors in the several counties in this state.

Mr. Barnes, to provide for the purchase of the office papers formerly belonging to the surveyor's office of Frederick county.

Mr. Sadler, relative to the officers of auditor and adjutant general of this state.

Mr. Shower reports a bill, entitled, An act to elect the justices of the levy courts of the several counties of this State, by the people.

Mr. M'Culloh, supplement to an act to incorporate the trustees of the Franklin Academy.

Mr. Welch, a supplement to an act relating to a public landing and wharf at the Ship Yard, in Kent county.

LEAVES GRANTED.—To

Mr. Kennedy, an act to give the justices of the levy court of Washington county further powers in regard to roads and bridges.

Mr. Keen, a supplement to an act entitled, an act relating to the public roads in Caroline county.

Mr. Merrick, an act relating to illegitimate children.

Mr. Montgomery, an act to ascertain a standard for, and to regulate weights and measures in this state.

Mr. M'Culloh, an act to equalize the contribution for the support of government.

Mr. Landsdale, a further supplement to the act, entitled, a supplementary act to the act, entitled, an act for repairing the public roads in this state.

Mr. Estep, an act regulating the height of fences, and providing for trespass committed by horses, mules, black cattle, sheep and hogs, and for other purposes.

Mr. Barnes, an act to provide for the purchase of the office papers formerly belonging to the surveyor's office of Frederick county.

Mr. Kennedy an act to provide for the extinguishment of the stock held by stockholders in the Potomac company, and of the debts due to the creditors, of the said company.

Mr. Banning to alter the mode of keeping the public roads in repair in Talbot county.

RESOLUTIONS—passed both Houses.

In favor of Philemon B. Hopper.

To confirm certain acts of commissioners appointed by Somerset county court.

Relative to repairs of the state house.

Respecting Sutton I. Weems, esq.

Relative to the stay of execution against George Dashiell and his securities.

Appropriating two hundred dollars towards the Roman Catholic church in Annapolis, for reserving seats for the accomodation of the Legislature, Executive and Judiciary of the state.

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