at the Court of Great Britain, until he should learn how the British Government received the *insult* offered them by the Senate in the rejection of Mr. Van-Buren. In what writer on national law the President has found it laid down, that for the Senate to reject the nomination of a minister to a Foreign Government, is an insult to that government I do not know. It may possibly be found in the writings of *Baron Munchausen.*

It is but recently that the President told a gentleman, who communicated it to the writer of this, that if such an insult as the one above alluded to "had been given to the British government a century ago, a declaration of war from that government would have immediately followed." 'Tis well for us that the British government has lost some of its former chivalry.

From the N. Y. Sentinel.

Marriage of Robert Dale Owen and Francis Wright.—We find the following as a note by A. G. one of the editors, in the Free Enquirer published this day:

Robert Dale Owen who has returned to this city in good health, stept into my boarding house a few days since, and asked me to accompany him to his marriage, which was to take place in half an hour I declined going, on the principle of objection to wedding parties. He obviated the objection by stating that legal formalities required some evidence, and that two or three friends would be present on that account, and closed by saying "there has been and will be no fuss of any kind about it that would be offensive to quaker simplicity." I went with him, and I would defy any person unacquainted with the company, from the arrangement or the dresses, to designate the bridegroom or the bride; indeed, had the case recorded in ancient times been taken as a precedent, the apartment would have been completely vacated, their not being an individual present, I believe, who had "on a wedding garment;" that is, a garment that was prepared, or perhaps, put on for the occasion.

In a short time the parties placed their signatures to the following marriage contract, and we who were present, attested by affixing our names.

"We, Robert Dale Owen, of New Harmony, State of Indiana, aged thirty years, and Mary Jane Robinson, of New York, aged nineteen years, and daughter of Mr. Samuel Robinson, being well acquainted with each other, and believing that our union in marriage, according to the laws of New York, will conduce to our welfare, do hereby enter into an agreement to that effect. I the said Robert Dale Owen, in consideration that she, the said Mary Jane Robinson, hereby consents to live with me as my wife according to the said laws, and to share my prosperity, and adversity, do hereby undertake to become her protector & husband according to said laws, & by signing this instrument, do constitute her my wife. And I, the said Mary Jane Robinson, in consideration that the said Robert Dale Owen hereby undertakes to devote himself to my happiness, as my husband, according to said laws, do hereby agree to become his wife, as aforesaid, and by signing this instrument, do constitute him my husband as aforesaid."

When it is known that while the bridegroom was collecting witnesses to legalize a previous contract, the bride was employed in preparing refreshments for them, it will be conceded that it was an improvement on "quaker simplicity." I advert to it as an instance of plainness, which, were it carried out into all the transactions of life, would greatly lighten labor, and by its easy informality greatly conduce to comfort,—an approximation to a state which, if ever attained, must be begun by individuals who have sufficient independence to follow the dictates of common sense, careless of common opinion.

I have not heard the particulars, but suppose Frances Wright has given another such example, in her marriage with William Sylvin Cassimir Phiquepal Darusmont.

A letter to the editor of the New York Daily Advertiser contains the following notice of a part of the debate on Governor Houston's case:

Mr. Fitzgerald of Tenn. went at large into an argument against retaining Mr. H. in custody, and spoke in high terms of the accused.

'Do gentlemen recollect,' said he 'who Samuel Houston is? Some have denominated him a ruffian. He has done service to his country! he bore the burthen of a musket in her defence, rose to the highest grade by his merit, and was solaced in the office of governor by the people of Tennessee. Mr. Arnold in a spirited manner, and with some appearance of excitement, said he "had intended to take no part in this discussion; and now only rose to vindicate the character of Tennessee. My colleague has undertaken to call up circumstances which Tennessee will ever deplore, which she would sit in dust and ashes to recall—that she ever had such a man to preside over her." (Mr. Wickliffe called him to order, which Mr. Clay of Alabama, then temporarily in the chair, would not sustain, he was allowed to proceed.) "My only apology to this house and the world is, that I am called upon, by the remarks of my colleague, to vindicate the character of Tennessee; I feel imperiously called upon, as a representative from Tennessee to wipe off the stigma that has been cast upon her, by affirming that she made choice of such a governor. I will do it in few words. At that time we laboured under peculiar circumstances——

He was known to be the peculiar favorite of the present Chief Magistrate of the U. States he laid hold of his skirts, and was carried into office. [Called to order.] I did not want to give my opinion of this individual: but I have been called to remove a stigma from Tennessee and Tennesseeans. I know Gov. H-o-u-s-t-o-n as well as that gentleman does. I have measured arms with him in public debate. I know him, to use a Western phrase, from A to Izzard. [Called to order.] The Speaker, who had resumed the chair, permitted him to proceed. An appeal was made from the decision of the chair, but afterwards, the high eulogiums bestowed on Samuel Houston were an approbrium on Tennessee. Whatever opinion I may have of the veriest wretch in the land, I can still do him justice if falsely accused. I have expressed no opinion of the case now before the House. As to the election of Gov. Houston, I can tell the House that soon the scowl of public opinion began to settle upon him, so that he was hardly warm in his seat before he abdicated it, and made his escape to the Indian Nation."

CONGRESS.

THURSDAY April 26.

In the Senate, yesterday, Mr. Grundy intimated that, if the Senate should sit on Saturday, he would move that the day be devoted to the consideration of the bill to establish certain Post Roads, and to discontinue others. Mr. Kane, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, reported a bill from the House without amendment. Mr. Hayne, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, made an unfavorable report on a petition for compensation for loss of timber, by a contract with the Navy Department. Mr. Chambers, from the Committee on the District of Columbia, reported a bill from the House relating to the Penitentiary, with an amendment, and a bill from the House for the improvement of Pennsylvania avenue without an amendment. Mr. Chambers, also, from the same committee, to whom was referred the petition of the association of Clerks, reported a bill in conformity with the prayer of that petition, which was read a first time, and ordered to a second reading. The General Appropriation Bill, and the bill to extend the benefits of vacination among the Indians, were read a third time and passed.

On motion of Mr. Webster, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the Apportionment bill. Mr. Webster explained the amendment reported in blank by the select Committee, and indicated his desire to take the question on striking out the bill from the House, and inserting the bill of the Committee, in order to adopt or reject the principle of the amendment, leaving the question as to numbers to be afterwards decided. The Senate was then addressed by Mr. Dallas Mr. Clayton, Mr. Dickerson, and Mr. Hill, when the question was taken on the amendment of the Committee, and decided as follows:

Yeas.—Messrs Bell, Benton, Buckner, Chambers, Clayton, Dickerson, Ewing, Foot, Hayne, Holmes, Johnston, Knight, Miller, Moore, Prentiss, Robbins, Seymour, Silsbee, Smith, Sprague, Waggaman, Webster—22.

Nays—Messrs. Brown, Clay, Dallas, Dudley, Ellis, Forsyth, Frelinghuysen, Grundy, Hendricks, Hill, Kane, King, Mangum, Marcy, Robinson, Tazewell, Tipton, Tomlinson, Troup, Tyler, White, Wilkins—22.

The numbers being equal, the Vice President stated that, after having paid the utmost attention to the debate, he had come to the conclusion that the bill, as it came from the House, was unconstitutional, and he should therefore feel constrained, under a sense of the deep responsibility of his situation, to give his vote in favor of the amendment. The amendment was therefore decided in the affirmative by the casting vote of the Chair.

The question was then taken on filling the blank for the number of Representatives with 256, and decided in the negative—Ayes 19, Noes 22. The question was then taken on filling the blank with 251, and decided in the affirmative—Ayes 27, Noes 14. Mr. Webster then moved to fill the other blanks, as follows:

Maine	8	North Carolina	13
New Hampshire	6	South Carolina	10
Massachusetts	13	Georgia	9
Rhode Island	2	Kentucky	13
Connecticut	6	Tennessee	13
Vermont	6	Ohio	20
New York	40	Louisiana	4
New Jersey	7	Indiana	7
Pennsylvania	28	Alabama	6
Delaware	2	Missouri	3
Maryland	9	Mississippi	2
Virginia	21	Illinois	3

The motion was agreed to. The bill was then reported to the Senate, and ordered to be read a third time by a vote of 23 to 20. Mr. Poindexter introduced a joint resolution authorizing the President to have executed a full length statue of Gen. Washington.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. Doddridge reported a bill to declare the assent of Congress to an act of the Legislature of Maryland, passed at their last Session, to amend the Charter of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company; and on motion of Mr. White, of Florida, the Committee on Commerce was instructed to inquire into the expediency of extending the right of debenture to merchandize imported into Key West, Florida, from other foreign ports, but entitled at the time of importation, to debenture.

The case of Samuel Houston, brought to the Bar of the House on a charge of breach of its privilege, again came on, and consumed the whole day. Previous to the examination of witnesses, Mr. Doddridge having moved to postpone the further hearing of this case to Friday next, in connection with a motion for printing the testimony, Mr. Stanbery took occasion to state that there was testimony, material to his character, yet behind; testimony which would go to contradict the testimony already given by Mr. Buckner, in all the circumstances of it which were calculated to injure his character or cast ridicule upon him; and that testimony he was prepared now to introduce. Upon which Mr. Doddridge withdrew for the present his motion for postponment. Mr. Jonathan Elliot, Jr. who saw the rencontre, was then examined, and after him Mr. Blair, a Member of that House from Tennessee. Mr. Stanberythen called to the stand as a witness Mr. Duff Green, of this city, who being sworn. Mr. Stanbery proposed to the witness the following interrogatory: "What knowledge "have you of the late Secretary of War "attempting to give to Governor Hous-"ton a contract for the supply of Indian rations in 1830?"

This question, being objected to, gave rise to a wide debate.

Mr. Stanbery then modified it so as to read "Do you know of an attempt on the "part of Gov. Houston fraudulently to "obtain from the late Secretary of War a "contract, &c?" The question on putting this interrogatory was finally determined in the Negative, by Yeas and Nays, 124 to 49.

Mr. Stanbery then said he considered this vote as an indication of the indisposition of the House to pursue any further the enquiry into the alleged attempted fraud, and he should therefore put no further questions to this witness, and desired the subpœnas which he had asked for to be countermanded.

Some further examinations took place; when, at 5 o'clock, the further hearing of the case was postponed to this day at 11 o'clock.

FRIDAY April 27.

In the Senate yesterday Mr. Smith, from the Committee on Finance, reported a bill from the House to remit the duties on articles imported in the brig ——, without amendment. Mr. Benton presented the memorial of certain citizens of Pittsburgh against the re-chartering of the U. States Bank. Mr. Smith gave notice that he should, on Friday, call up the bill to authorise subscription to the stock of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail road. Mr Frelinghuysen laid on the table a resolution referring it to the Committee on the Library, relative to the purchase of Peale's original portrait of Gen. Washington, to be placed in the Senate chamber. The resolution offered by Mr. Dickerson on the previous day, relative to frauds in sugar, in its introduction in the shape of syrups, was agreed to. The apportionment bill was then taken up for its third reading. The yeas and nays being called for by Mr. Tazewell, there appeared, yeas 20, nays 18—so the bill was passed. The Senate then on motion of Marcy, proceeded to the consideration of Executive business.

In the house of Representatives, on motion of Mr. Root, the Committee of the Whole was discharged from the further consideration of the resolutions proposing amendments of the Constitution of the United States in relation to the election of President and Vice President of the United States, and they were referred to a Select Committee.

After some other minor business—

Mr. Ashley, of Missouri, submitted the following resolution for adoption:

"William Stanberry, a Member of the House from the State of Ohio, having, on yesterday, (when not giving evidence) declared to this House that the most of the testimony given by the Hon. Alex. Buckner, Senator from Missouri, (who had given testimony in the case of the trial against Samuel Houston.) was destitute of truth, and infamous; which declaration of said Stanberry is indecorous, and disrespectful to this House, the witness, and the Senate, of which he is a member;

"Therefore Resolved, That the Speaker of this House call upon the said Stanbery in his place, to retract the indignity and disrespect which he has offered, by an apology to this House: and that he be reprimanded by the Speaker."

In explaining the object of the resolution Mr. Ashly observed, that in offering this resolution to the House of Representatives, he did it in no spirit of unkind feeling towards Mr. Stanberry. His feeling towards him and towards the accused in this unfortunate trial, were the same. The object he had in view was to do justice not to the Senator from Missouri merely, but also to the State. The remarks of Mr. Stanberry, as he apprehended, in striking at the Senator, struck at the character of the State of Missouri.

Mr. Taylor, of New York, demanded the question of consideration, which on the motion of Mr. Speight was decided by yeas and nays; and the House determined now to consider the same, by a large majority—147 to 11.

Mr J. Q. Adams said, that he wished to ask a question of the Speaker relating to a point of order, viz:—Whether according to parliamentary usage, words spoken by a member in Debate can be made subject to the action of the House after one day shall have elapsed since they were spoken.

The Speaker said that, whatever might be the precedent in the case, that was a point for the House to determine; and the House had just voted that it would now consider the subject of the resolution.

Mr Stanbery having obtained the floor, said that he wished to get the floor to say that no member of the House could possibly be more sensible than he himself was of the indecorum, in a parliamentary view of the expressions which he had yesterday used in reference to Mr. Buckner. And even before he had consulted with his friends on the subject, he had of himself determined, on reflection, to apologize to the House for that indecorum, committed under the influence of highly excited feelings.—He might be allowed, he presumed, to state some of the circumstances of provocation which induced him to believe that Mr. Buckner entertained a prejudiced feeling against him. They were, that Mr. Buckner was, as appeared by his own evidence, present during the whole time of the assault upon him; that he knew that an assault would take place before it did; that he was silent during the whole transaction; and, though he thought that he (Mr. S.) was killed, or nearly so, permitted Houston to proceed with the assault. That it had been told to him (Mr. S.) that immediately after the assault, he (Mr. B.) had seized every opportunity to relate the occurrence, with such coloring as to cast ridicule or reflect discredit upon him; that he had observed, yesterday, that Mr. Buckner seemed to take pleasure in adding circumstances and expressions still further tending that way. In what he said yesterday, he (Mr. S.) had not intended to deny the truth of the greater part of the facts and circumstances narrated by Mr. B. for they coincided with his own, and even made the assault more violent than he (Mr. S.) had supposed it. But, as he was a Member of the Senate, Mr. S. now regretted that he had used the expressions which he did towards Mr. Buckner, and felt it to be his duty to apologize to the House, to the gentleman from Missouri, to the Senate, and even to Mr. Buckner himself, for having used them.

Upon this Mr. Ashley, apparently considering the apology as sufficient, withdrew the resolution.

Mr Cave Johnson then said, that he considered it due to Mr Buckner, that Mr. Benton should yet be examined, to see if he would give that character to Mr Buckner for veracity, which had been implied by Mr. Stanbery's allusion to him.

Mr. Ashley said, he had in his hand a paper, signed by Mr. Benton, in reference to that matter, which he wished to have read.

Mr. Kerr objected to the reception of such a paper, as being informal, and contrary to all the principles of law, justice and reason.

Mr. Thompson of Georgia, expressed his hope that the gentleman from Tennessee would insist on his motion to have Mr. Benton examined.

Mr. Johnson did insist upon the motion.

Mr. Stanbery explained, that he had now no wish to call upon Mr. Benton to testify against the other Senator from Missouri.

After some further observations from Mr Johnson and Mr. Wilde, the question being upon receiving the paper, the reading of it was called for, and the House determined that it should be read. And it was then read as follows:

"Mr. Stanbery's reference to me, as a witness who would discredit Mr. Buckner, was made without my knowledge, and was not warranted by any sentiment ever entertained or expressed by me.

THOS. H. BENTON."

Mr. Stanbery said, that he did not pretend to say that there ever had been any such expression on the part of Mr. Benton, nor did he know what the evidence of Mr. Benton would be when he signified his intention to have him summoned. What he said on that subject was said under the influence of the same excitement as that under which he had made the other remarks concerning Mr. Buckner.

Mr. C. Johnson, considering the reading of the paper as superseding the examination of Col Benton, withdrew the motion to have him called as a witness.

The evidence then was closed.

F. S. Key, Esq. the Counsel for the accused opened the defence in an eloquent and impressive manner, and spoke about two hours, when he suspended his argument, at the request of Mr. Patton, on whose motion further proceedings were postponed to to-morrow; and the House adjourned.

SATURDAY, April 28.

In the Senate, yesterday, leave of absence for one week, from Monday next, was granted to Mr. Webster, on motion of Mr. Silsbee. Mr. Frelinghuysen, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported the bill supplementary to the act for the punishment of crimes, with an amendment. Mr. King from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill for the relief of certain friendly Creek Indians. Mr. King also introduced a resolution, authorizing the payment to the State of Alabama of two per cent on the sales of public lands in that State. A motion was made by Mr. Grundy, that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Executive business; and another by Mr. Foot, to take up the bill supplementary to the act for the relief of the surviving officers and soldiers of the revolution The motion to go into Executive business was lost the votes being, ayes 18, noes 19 The Pension bill was then discussed, but there was no question taken, when a motion to adjourn was put and carried. The Senate then adjourned to Monday.

In the house of Representatives Mr. Polk, after leave being given, moved that the Apportionment bill, with the several amendments of the Senate, should be referred to a select committee with a view that they would expedite the passing of the bill and examine into the several changes made therein by the amendments of the Senate. After some discussion and a motion of Mr. Adams, to postpone the motion until Monday next also a motion, made by Mr. Speight, to refer the bill to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, were severally lost, the motion of Mr. Polk prevalled, and a Committee of seven was appointed, to whom the bill was referred.

The Speaker directed Governor Houston to be brought to the Bar of the House. After which, he informed the House that he had received a letter from Mr Key the Counsel for the accused in which he stated that he was prevented by serious indisposition from concluding the arguments he had intended to urge in his behalf. Mr. Cave Johnson thereupon moved that the further proceedings in the case should be postponed until 11 o'clock, A. M on Saturday which was agreed to.

The House then on motion of Mr. McDuffie, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and took up the consideration of the General Appropriation bill, with the several amendments returned therewith by the Senate. The amendments making increased appropriations for pay and compensation &c to the Clerks in the Land Office, the Surveyor General's Office, and in the Treasury, were severally rejected.

The appropriation of $9,000 for the District Attorney of the Territory of Florida, was after some explanation from Mr. White reduced to $7,500.

The amendment increasing the amount to be paid for the bust of Jefferson, from $4,000 to $5 000 was not concurred in.

Upon the amendment to strike out the appropriation of $9 000 for an outfit of a Minister to France, an animated and lengthened discussion arose, in which Messrs. McDuffie, Archer, Wilde, E. Everett, Ingersoll, Barringer, Wayne, Adams, Barbour, Clayton, Burges, Drayton, and Burd, participated; when the question on the concurrence, being taken by yeas and nays, stood as follows: yeas 81, nays 93. So the amendment was not concurred in.

MONDAY April 30.

The Senate did not sit on Saturday.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. Doddridge asked leave to introduce a resolution for the appointment of a Committee to inquire into the expediency of changing the time of meeting of the next session of Congress, to an earlier period than the first Monday in December. The leave was objected to, and a motion to suspend the rule, was negatived, Yeas 83, Nays 51—two thirds being required. In consequence of the continued indisposition of the counsel, (Mr. Key,) the trial of General Houston was further postponed until this day half past 11 o'clock. The bill making appropriations for the support of government, for the year 1832, was taken up. A long and animated debate arose upon the proposition to concur with the Committee of the Whole, in their disagreement to the amendment of the Senate striking from the bill $9,000 for an outfit for a Minister to France. Messrs. McDuffie, Wickliffe, E. Everett, Ingersoll, and Doddridge, supported the amendment proposed by the Senate, and it was opposed by Messrs. Archer, Wayne, Drayton and Adams. The latter gentleman called for the Yeas and Nays upon the question of concurring in the disagreement of the Committee of the Whole to said amendment, which was ordered, and were, Yeas 102 Nays 77. So the amendment proposed by the Senate was rejected. Without disposing of some other amendments to the bill, adopted by the Senate the House, at five o'clock, adjourned.

AWFUL CALAMITY.

Louisville, Ky. April 17, 1832.

The news of this morning is distressing. The loss of the Steamboat Brandywine, by fire, (on her way to this place from New Orleans) and about 70 or 80 of her passengers. The news reached here last night by mail from Nashville—the number is not exactly known, but I have seen a passenger this morning who says there cannot be less than 80.

The report which we noticed yesterday, relative to the burning of the steamboat Brandywine, in the Mississippi, and the loss of the lives of a great number of the passengers, is but too well confirmed. Yesterday's western mail brought us proof slips from the offices of the Cincinnatti American and Daily Advertiser, which contain the following melancholy details of this afflicting event.

CINCINNATI, April 19.

Awful Calamity.—It is indeed a painful duty to be obliged so often to record such serious disasters in our steamboat navigation. The following letter from the Nashville Republican, written by a gentleman in Memphis, under date of April the 10th, leaves no room to doubt its correctness.

Capt. Hamilton has arrived here from the wreck of the steamboat Brandywine, and reports that at 8 o'clock last evening, 25 miles above this place, wind blowing fresh, his boat was discovered to have taken fire on the upper deck—in one minute her whole decks were wrapped in flames; and before it was possible to run her ashore between fifty and seventy of the passengers and crew precipitated themselves into the river, and were drowned or burnt to death.

The light was very perceptible here and upon the coast opposite for 10 miles into the country.

A number of the passengers arrived in the Robert Fulton, yesterday from Louisville, who furnish the following particulars. The Hudson and Brandywine left New Orleans to make a trial of speed.—The latter, previous to the accident, had been obliged to lay to an hour for repairs.

A considerable quantity of rosin was thrown in to make a quick fire when starting The sparks set fire to some straw, in which a number of carriage wheels were wrapt. The wind was blowing fresh, and spread the flames with awful rapidity. The yawl was sunk by the boat, which they endeavoured to run ashore, but she grounded at some distance in nine feet water. The mate, who deserves honorable mention, took a line in his mouth, and succeeded in reaching the shore, rescuing by his timely aid a number from a watery grave.

The whole number of passengers is variously estimated from 200 to 230. The number lost cannot be correctly ascertained, as we understand a number floated down the stream for a considerable distance, and were finally rescued. The number on the Island the next morning alive (several had died of exhaustion after having reached it in safety) was but *seventy five!* It is said not a woman or child was saved—nine were on board.

The Brandywine burnt to the water's edge, was loaded with full freight for Louisville and Cincinnati, and partly insured.

The dreadful accident occurred on Monday evening at half past seven o'clock, at the *Twelve Outlets.*

The Rocky Mountain Expedition.—Since our last publication, we have been amply confirmed in the opinion then expressed in regard to the Rocky mountain story, copied from a Marietta paper. Our memorials being poor, did not extend back, like those of some of our cotemporaries, to the passing of the Act setting the expedition on foot,—and many particulars were embraced in the narrative, altogether above our comprehension. We can now state that "Scipio Hasler a native of France, or rather Geneva, who is stated to have accompanied the expedition has a snug birth in the Custom house of this city, where although he discovers no mines of pure gold, he helps Uncle Sam, in connexion with his associates, to some 15,000,000 or $20,000,000 per annum. In 1819 he was engaged in some public business on the frontiers, for a short period but is not aware of having shared in the "hair breadth 'scapes" of the glorious 42. Col. Henry Leavensworth (now Brigadier General by brevet,) has for many years been an active officer in our army, and cannot have accompanied the expedition, unless he was in two or more places, thousands of miles asunder at one and the same time. The story is in some respects an ingenious one, & probably accomplished the object intended. Few men would be so hard-hearted as to deny the hospitality of their tables and purses to one who had just returned from a scene of so much peril and suffering.—*N. Y. Even. Jour.*

©Maryland State Archives, msa_sc2940_scm11030-0255.jpg