M. Duval cast down his eyes without a word.

"And he sleeps," the old man muttered while his eyes glowed with a fearful light; then with a desperate hand he grasped one of the pistols, and before the merchant could even move to interrupt his purpose, he lodged its contents into the brain of his guilty son.

"This is the crime upon which the court is engaged in passing judgment, and it is the result of the trial that we, and the crowds whom you have seen entering the hall are so anxiously awaiting."

Just then a multitude of people hurried down the staircase, and amid the confusion of voices that broke upon my ear, I heard frequently repeated the words "banishment for life."

J. G. W.

CONGRESS,

FRIDAY, Feb. 6.

In Senate—Mr. Preston from the committee on the Judiciary, to which the subject had been referred by a resolution of the Senate, reported the following bill, which was read and ordered to a second reading:

A BILL supplementary to the act, entitled "an act to amend the Judicial System of the U. S.

Sec. 1 Be it enacted, &c. That, hereafter the District of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, and Delaware, shall constitute the Third Circuit; the Districts of Virginia and N. Carolina shall constitute the Fourth Circuit; the Districts of S. Carolina, Georgia and Alabama shall constitute the Fifth Circuit; the Districts of Louisiana, Mississippi, Illinois, and Missouri, shall constitute the Sixth Circuit; and the Districts of Kentucky, East and West Tennessee, Ohio, and Indiana, shall constitute the Seventh circuit.

Sec. 2. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid.* That the sessions of said Circuit Courts shall be held once in each year in the following Districts, to wit: commencing in the District of Louisiana on the — day of —; in the District of Mississippi on the — day of —; in the District of Illinois on the — day of —; in the District of Missouri on the — day of —; in the District of Alabama on the — day of —; and in the District of Indiana on the — day of —; in each year, and in the District of Delaware on the — day —, and the — day of —annually; and in the District of Maryland on the — day of —, and the —day of — annually.

Sec. 3 *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That all acts and provisions inconsistent with this act, be and the same are hereby repealed.

Mr Tipton, from the Committee on Claims, to which had been referred the petitions of Wm. Mann and Thomas Mullins, reported unfavorably thereon, and the committee was discharged from the further consideration thereof.

The report of the Committee on the Judiciary, unfavorable to the petition of James Yaw, was concurred in.

On motion of Mr. Porter, the Senate took up the bill making appropriations for the completion of certain roads in the Territory of Arkansas; and the bill having been explained and advocated by Messrs. Hendricks and Porter, and opposed by Mr. Hill, and was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill to change the organization of the General Post Office.

The question being on the following amendment moved by Mr. Grundy—

"Sec. 16. *And be it further enacted,* That all the debts which may be owing by the Post Office Department on the 31st day of March, 1835, when ascertained and adjusted by the Commissioner, under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, according to the provisions of this act, shall be paid by the Treasury of the United States, out of any moneys not otherwise appropriated."

Mr. Grundy then spoke at length in reply to the remarks made yesterday by the Senator from Louisiana, stating that the Report of the Committee of the last session, which was sanctioned by the Senate, condemned the Postmaster-General for wasting money on a daily mail to New Orleans, and he had only acted in obedience to the sense of the Senate when he reduced it to a tri-weekly mail.

Mr. Ewing asked the Senator to point out any part of the report in which the Post Master General was condemned for sending a daily mail.

Mr Grundy admitted that the word "daily" was not mentioned, but every line and word, and letter, as he understood it, referred to a daily mail. He also defended the President against the statement made in reference to his conduct in replying to the application of the citizens of New Orleans. He went on to state that he had urged the Committee to report a bill for the relief of the Department.

Mr. Leigh asked the Senator if he did not in debate, at the last session, declare that no application would be made to Congress for an appropriation for the Post Office. Such was the impression on his memory.

Mr. Grundy said that he had urged the committee, as he would shew from the records but he could not recollect what he might have said in debate, at so distant a period.

He then proceeded to vindicate the Department against the charge of corruption. He condemned many of the acts of the Department, but he did not believe the head of the Department to be corrupt. He believed him to be incorrupt and incorruptible. There was not an hour, however, during the investigation, in which he did tremble for the Postmaster General. He feared perjury. The appointment of the Committee last session was an invitation to all persons to come forward before that Committee, and state all they could against that officer. To the honor of the country, as well as the officer, no one did so come forward. He wished the corrupt individual to be pointed out, if corruption really existed.—He took a distinction between corruption and a wasteful expenditure of the public money. It was only corruption when the individual was himself a participator in the money so wasted. *He* condemned the conduct of O. B. Brown in having an interest in Porter's contract. But denied that the public had lost any thing by the transaction. *He* adverted to other transactions as injudicious and improper. If corruption was to be found in the department, it was in others than the head of it.

In reply to the question of the Senator from New Jersey, (Mr. Southard) whether the people, seeing all they had seen, would be satisfied with the turning out of a single clerk, he could not tell what the people would think, but he was himself satisfied. He knew that the Senator would not be satisfied, nor would he be satisfied if every clerk and the head of the Department were turned out. Even if the president were to turn himself out, or to lay down his life to satisfy the Senator, he could not do it, because the gentleman who occupies [illegible] would turn himself in [illegible] that the President could, in no way, satisfy the Senator.

He afterwards made some observations on the necessity of making provision for debts of the Department.

Mr. Leigh said, that if the Postmaster General had unconstitutionally and unlawfully borrowed money from the Banks, the Government were not responsible for the debt. But if the money was fairly disbursed for the public service, the Government, from policy, should repay the loan to the Banks. *He* would be willing, in that case, to vote for an appropriation for that purpose. But he had understood the gentleman from Tennessee as declaring that no appropriation was or would be asked for.

In reference to the debts of the Department, he desired a schedule to be made out to the Senate, containing a statement how they were contracted, and a list of the persons to whom they are due. If he was satisfied with this schedule, he would vote the money to the creditors, and not to the Department, and he would then consent to a liberal appropriation.—As to the question whether there was corruption in the Department, he was not now called on to look into it, and he would not. He was disposed to judge favorably of all. He did—He did not think that Obadiah had tied all these knots, and therefore all the curses and anathemas ought not to be directed against him.

Mr. Ewing replied to what had fallen from the chairman of the Committee, (Mr. Grundy) denying that the report of the last session condemned the Postmaster General for sending a daily mail to New Orleans. The complaint was that the public competition had not been invited to the contracts, and that although the 40,000 dollars had been paid the contractor, according to his contract, there had been 150 failures in the course of the year. *He* instanced cases in which large sums had been paid where no service had been rendered.—He replied to the remark of the chairman that he feared perjury would be resorted to for the purpose of criminating the head of the Department. These fears were ill-grounded. It was certain that examinations had developed a worse state of things in the Department than had been represented in any oral or written communication. The difficulty the committee had to encounter was in wringing from the many persons dependent on the Department any information against the mass of power which supplied them with bread. He expressed his views on the conduct of Mr. Brown, indicating that the presumption was justifiable, that the public had suffered from his misconduct, and that it cast a moral taint upon him.

He then stated the facts concerning the application for relief, in order to shew that the committee had not any intention to force any appropriation on the Department. He shewed that the committee had authorised no step in reference to any appropriation further than giving permission to the Chairman to obtain from the Department an estimate of its responsibilities. He stated that the principal debts due before January 1834, were those of small contractors, who had been ruined by the withholding of their small quarterly pittance. These persons did not come here but merely communicated by letter. They would not be paid by the Department, which would take care, in the first place of the large contractors who presented themselves at the Department. Another character of debts was accepted drafts of contractors for services not yet performed, amounting on the 1st of April last to $160,000. How; then: could provision be made in this bill for the payment of all these debts. He hoped this amendment would be rejected, and he would then introduce an amendment providing for an appropriation by law for the legal debts of the Department.

Mr. Buchanan deprecated a protracted discussion, expressed his anxiety to pass the bill in time for action upon it in the other House. He thought it unnecessary and improper to go into a war upon the Department on this bill, but to reserve that for the discussion on the resolutions offered by a Senator from Connecticut. (Mr. Smith.) He hoped the bill would be discussed on its own merits, and suggested that it might be well to provide for the debts due to the small contractors before 1834.

Mr. Kane said he could not vote for this amendment as it stood. He moved to amend the amendment by inserting words making the provision more guarded against frauds.

Mr Grundy accepted the amendment as a modification of the original resolution.

Mr. Bibb said he would never vote for the payment of one of these debts out of the Treasury. They ought to be paid out of funds of the Post Office, as fast as they could be paid. He believed the Postmaster General to be honest and upright in heart, but he had not administered the department as he should have done. He had suffered himself to be preyed on by the vile miscreants who had fastened themselves upon him. *He* then moved to amend the amendment.

[The amendment provides for the payment of the debts due to contractors, giving to the smallest debts the preference, where there has been no fraud, or extra allowance, but where they shall be honestly due. It provides that the large debts shall be liquidated, but not paid out of funds of the Post Office, until report shall have been made of them to Congress.]

Mr. Southard objected to the amendment, on the ground of the impropriety of inserting an appropriation in a bill to organize a department. Nor did he think the appropriation necessary to be introduced. Should it become necessary before the close of the session, another bill could be passed. Nither the accepted amendment, nor the proposed one relieved him from another difficulty. The appropriation was to be made without knowing to what amount the debts extended.

He would vote for no appropriation until he knew the amount to be paid. *He* believed there was fraud, corruption, gross abuse, in many of the large debts to contractors, and he was not willing to appropriate for them without further information. *He* thought that this amendment would enable the Postmaster General to pay off all the claims. He wished the Department to say it was embarrassed and to ask for relief. He would compel the Department to retract its assertion, that a Committee of this *House* were liars, before he would vote the appropriation. It would be competent to the *Head* of the Department, in eight and forty hours, to give an estimate which would form the basis of an appropriation. *He* wished the organization to be completed before any thing else was done. In reply to the Senator from Tennessee, that he (Mr. S.) would not be satisfied with the turning out of a clerk, he said that he had heard of no turning out. He had heard, indeed, of a resignation, but there appeared to be nothing like compulsion on the face of it. He also remarked on the further comment made by the Senator on the same point.

Mr. Webster suggested that it would have been more wise if the Senator from Tennessee had made this point the subject of a distinct amendment. *He* thought the proper course was first to organize the Department, and afterwards to make an appropriation. Why then did the Senator, doubtless wishing the passage of the present bill, introduce this extraneous proposition? *He* agreed with the Senator from Pennsylvania that it would be better to postpone the discussion of the cabinet of the Department. He thought the Senator from Tennessee would do better if he withdrew the propositions involving appropriations, and then proceed to act on the organization. Feeling anxious as he did, to relieve that worthy class of citizens who are contractors, he asked if a list of them could not be immediately submitted. Congress had a right to know what were the debts they were called on to pay. Such an appropriation as that proposed was without precedent. All debts, good bad, or doubtful, were to be paid. They were all confounded in one common mass. He wished the organization to be, in the first place, adopted.

Mr. Grundy thought highly of the bill and wishing its passage, and relying on the promises of gentlemen on the other side to make appropriation in another form, withdrew his amendment.

The amendment was accordingly withdrawn.

The next amendment proposed by Mr Grundy was as follows.

"Sec. 17. *And be it further enacted,* That the books of the Treasury, so far as relates to the accounts of the General Post Office, shall be kept separate and distinct from all other accounts and every warrant for the payment of money, for demands against the General Post Office, shall [be signed by the Postmaster General and the Commissioner of the General Post Office, and shall] express upon its face that the same was issued on account of the General Post Office.

The words between brackets were moved as an amendment by Mr. Ewing, and accepted by Mr. Grundy.

The amendment was agreed to as amended.

The Senate then proceeded to the next amendment of Mr. Grundy, as follows.

"Sec. 18. *And be it further enacted,* That the Commissioner to be appointed under the provisions of this act shall have power to transfer debts due from Postmasters, [who do not make deposites in Banks,] by drafts, in favor of the contractors, in discharge of debts due such contracts, for services which may have been rendered prior to the time of drawing such drafts."

The words within brackets were inserted on motion of Mr. Knight, the amendment being accepted by Mr. Grundy.

The amendment as amended was then agreed to.

The Senate then proceeded to consider the next amendment, of Mr. Grundy, as follows:

"Sec. 19. *And be it further enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the Postmaster General to make to Congress, within the first ten days of each annual session thereof, the following several reports?

"First. A report of all the contracts made for the transportation of the mail within the preceding year, stating in each case its date and direction; the name of the contractor; the route or routes embraced in the contract, with the length of each; the mode of transportation contracted for, and the price stipulated to be paid by the department; also, a statement of all such land and water mails as may have been established and ordered by the department within the year preceding, other than those let by contract at the annual lettings of mail contracts, specifying in each case the route or water course on which the mail is established, the name of the person employed to transport it, the mode of transportation; the amount paid, or to be paid, and the duration of the order.

"Second. A report of all allowances made to contractors, within the year preceding, beyond the sums originally stipulated in their respective contracts, and the reasons for the same; and of all orders made by the Department whereby additional expense is to be incurred beyond the original contract price, on any land or water route, specifying in each case the route to which the order relates, the name of the contractor, the original service provided for by the contract and the original place, the date of the order for additional service, the additional service required, and the additional service therefor. Also, a report of all curtailments, of expenses effected by the Department within the year preceding, specifying in each case the same particulars as required in cases of additional allowance.

"Third. A report of all the incidental, expenses of the Department, for the year ending on the thirtieth of June preceeding, classifying the said expenses according, to their several objects, as for paper, printing, mail bags and portmanteaus, mail locks, keys; expenses incident to mail robberies and depredations, and shewing the sums paid under each head of expenditures, and the names of the persons to whom paid except only that the names of persons employed in detecting depredations on the mail, and other confidential agents are not to be disclosed in said report.

Fourth. The commissioner appointed by this act, shall, on the first day of November in each year, [communicate] to the Postmaster General, the condition of the finances of the General Post Office for the year ending on the thirtieth of June preceding, showing the whole amount of balances due to the Department at the beginning of the year from postmasters, and all others; the whole amount of postages that accrued within the year; the whole amount of the engagements and liabilities of the Department for mail transportation during the year; the amount actually paid during the year for and on account of mail transportation.

The amendment was agreed to.

The Senate then proceeded to the next amendment, as follows:

"Sec. 20 *And be it further enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the Postmaster-General to furnish to the Deputy Postmaster, at the termination of each route a schedule specifying the times of arrival and departure at his office; a copy of which the Deputy Postmaster shall cause to be posted up in some conspicuous place in his office; and that the Postmaster General shall in like manner, furnish a notice of any change or alteration in the arrivals and departures which may be ordered by him.

The amendment was agreed to.

The Senate then proceeded to the next amendment, as follows:

Sec. 21. *And be it further enacted,* That the postmaster whose office is situated at the termination of a mail route, or at any other place at which the Postmaster General shall have designated the times at which the mails should arrive in addition to the oaths or affirmations now required by law, shall take the following before some magistrate:

"I, (A. B.) do swear, or affirm, as the case may be, that I will truly and faithfully report to the General Post Office all and every failure to deliver the mail at my office at the time prescribed by the Postmaster General;" which oath, or affirmation, shall be subscribed by the Postmasters, respectively, who may be in office at the passing of this act, within six months thereafter, and by those hereafter appointed, before they enter upon their respective duties; and each Postmaster shall cause a certificate thereof to be filed in the General Post Office; and it shall be the duty of the Postmaster General, annually, to report to Congress each failure to deliver the mail, where the same may be conveyed in steamboats, coaches, or stages; and also state, in said report, the names of the contractors, on whose routes the failures, respectively, have occurred; also, what order or proceedings have been taken by him in each case thus reported,

The amendments having been gone through,

Mr. CALHOUN moved to amend the bill in the first section, by striking out the words providing for a commissioner, with the sum of four thousand dollars per annum salary, and insert the following as a substitute.

Be it further enacted, That the duties now performed by the Fifth Auditor of the Treasury Department, be and the same are hereby assigned to the Second Auditor of the Treasury, and those now assigned to the Second to the Third Auditor of the Treasury and that the fifth Auditor of the Treasury shall hereafter be known as the Commissioner of the General Post Office, and shall perform the duties herein assigned, or which may hereafter be assigned to said Commissioner.

The Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. Dickinson offered the following resolution, which under the rule, lies one day:

Resolved, That the Secretary of war be requested to communicate to this House the number of Cadets that have been educated at the Military Academy at West Point; the number that joined the Army and are now in its service; the sums of money that have been appropriated for its support each year since 1802, up to this time: also, the number of professors now employed at the Institution

The following resolution, offered by Mr. Denny, on the 26th of January, was this day taken up, read, considered, and agreed to.

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be and hereby is requested to communicate to this House a statement of the amount paid annually, and the price per pound during the last 5 years for the transportation of arms and all other military and public stores from Harper's Ferry, *Baltimore* and Washington Arsenal, and other posts or places in Virginia, Maryland, and district of Columbia, to Pittsburg, and other posts in the Western Country.

The bill prescribing punishment for consuls, commercial agents and others, in certain cases, was read a third time and passed.

On motion of Mr. Hubbard,

The *House* adjourned.

The following statement of a conversation held with Richard Lawrence by Doctors Causin & Sewell, two of the most intelligent physicians of Washington is copied from the Globe—the Globe says that "these gentlemen are of opposite political parties, and visited him for the double purpose of ascertaining how far his mind is affected and under what state of feeling he attempted to perpetrate the crime he contemplated."

Examination of Lawrence.

The undersigned, having been requested by the Marshal of the District of Columbia to visit Richard Lawrence, now confined in the jail of the county of Washington, for an attempt to assassinate the President of the United States, with a view to ascertain as far as practicable, the present condition of his bodily health and state of mind, and believing that a detail, of the examination will be more satisfactory than an abstract opinion upon the subject, we therefore give the following statement. On entering his room, we engaged in a free conversation with him in which he participated apparently in the most artless and unreserved manner. The first interrogatory propounded was as to his age—which question alone he sportively declined answering. We then inquired into the condition of his health, for several years past—to which he replied, that it had been uniformly good, and that he had never labored under any mental derangement; nor did he admit the existence of any of those symptoms of physical derangement which usually attend mental alienation. He said he was born in England and come to this country when twelve or thirteen years of age and that his father died in this District about six or or eight years since; that his father was a Protestant and his mother a Methodist, and that he was not a professor of any religion, but sometimes read the bible, and occasionally attended church. *He* stated that he was a painter by trade, and had followed that occupation to the present time; but, of late, could not find steady employment—which had caussed much pecuniary embarrassment with him; that he had been generally temperate in his habits, using ardent spirits moderately when at work; but, for the last three or four weeks, had not taken any; that he had never gambled, and, in other respects, had led a regular, sober life.

Upon being interrogated as to the circumstances connected with the attempted assassination, he said that he had been deliberating on it for some time past, and that he had called at the President's house about a week previous to the attempt, and being conducted to the *President's* apartment by the porter, found him in conversation with a member of Congress, whom he believed to have been Mr Sutherland, of Pennsylvania; that he stated to the President that he wanted money to take him to England, and that he must give him a check on the bank, and the President remarked, that he was too much engaged to attend to him—he must call another time, for Mr. Dibble was in waiting for an interview When asked about the pistols which he had used, he stated that his father left him a pair, but not being alike, about four years since he exchanged one for another, which exactly matched the best of the pair; these were both flint locks, which he recently had altered to to percussion locks by a Mr. Boteler, that he had been frequently in the habit of loading and firing these pistols at marks, and that he had never known them to fail going off on any other occasion, and that, at the distance of ten yards, the ball always passed through an inch plank He also stated, that he had loaded these pistols three or four days previous, with ordinary care, for the purpose attempted; but that he used a pencil instead of a ram rod, and that during that period, they were at all times carried in his pocket; and when asked why they failed to explode, he replied, he knew no cause. When asked why he went to the Capitol on that day, replied that he expected that the President would be there. He also stated, that he was in the Rotunda when the President arrived, and on being asked why he did not then attempt to shoot him, he replied that he did not wish to interfere with the funeral ceremony, and therefore waited till it was over. He also observed, that he did not enter the Hall, but looked through a window from the lobby, and saw the President seated with members of Congress, and he then returned to the Rotunda, and waited till the President again entered it. and then passed through and took his position in the east portico, about two yards from the door, drew his pistols from his inside coat pocket, cocked them, and held one in each hand, concealed by his coat, lest he should alarm the spectators—and states, that as soon as the one in the right hand missed fire, he immediately dropped or exchanged it, and attempted to fire the second, before he was seized; he further stated that he aimed each pistol at the President's heart, and intended, if the first pistol had gone, and the [illegible] dent had fallen, to have defended himself with the second, if defence had been necessary.

On being asked if he did not expect to have been killed on the spot, if he had killed the President, he replied he did not; and that he had no doubt but that he would have been protected by the spectators. He was frequently questioned whether he had any friends present, from whom he expected protection. To this he replied, that he never had mentioned his intention to any one, & that on one in particular knew his design; but that he presumed it was generally known that he intended to put the President out of the way. He further stated that when the President arrived at the door, near which he stood, finding him supported on the left by Mr. Woodbury, and observing many persons in his rear, and being himself rather to the right of the President, in order to avoid wounding Mr. Woodbury, and those in the rear, he stepped a little to his own right, so that should the ball pass through the body of the President, it would be received by the door frame, or stone wall. On being asked if he felt no trepidation during the attempt. He replied, not the slightest, until he found that the second pistol had missed fire. Then observing that the President was advancing upon him, with an uplifted cane, he feared it contained a sword, which might have been thrust through him before he could have been protected by the crowd. And when interrogated as to the motive which induced him to attempt the assassination of the President, he replied that he had been told that the President had caused his loss of occupation, & the consequent want of money, and he believed that to put him out of the way, was the only remedy for this evil: but to the interrogatory, who told you this? he could not identify any one, but remarked that his brother in law, Mr. Redfern told him that he would have no more business because he was opposed to the President—and he believed Redfern to be in league with the President against him. Again being questioned, whether he had often attended the debates in Congress, during the present session, and whether they had influenced him in making this attack on the person of the President, he replied that he had frequently attended the discussions in both branches of Congress, but that they had, in no degree, influenced his action.

Upon being asked if he expected to become the *President* of the United States if General Jackson had fallen, he replied no.

When asked whom he wished to be the President, his answer was, there were many persons in the House of Representatives. On being asked if there were no persons in the Senate, yes, several; and it was the Senate to which I alluded. Who, in your opinion, of the Senate, would make a good President?—*He* answered, Mr. Clay, Mr. Webster, Mr. Calhoun. What do you think of Col. Benton, Mr. Van Buren, or Judge White, for President? *He* thought they would do well. On being asked if he knew any member of either House of Congress, he replied that he did not—and never spoke to one in his life, or they to him. On being asked what benefit he expected to himself from the death of the President, he answered he could not rise unless the President fell, and that he expected thereby to recover his liberty, and that the mechanics would all be benefitted; that the mechanics would have plenty of work; and that money would be more plenty. On being asked why it would be more plenty, he replied, it would be more easily obtained from the Bank. On being asked what bank, he replied, the Bank of the United States. On being asked if he knew the President, Directors, or any officers of the Bank, or had ever held any intercourse with them, or knew how he could get money out of the Bank, he replied no—that he slightly knew Mr. Smith only.

On being asked with respect to the speeches which he had heard in Congress, and whether he was particularly pleased with those of Messrs. Calhoun, Clay, and Webster, he replied that he was, because they were on his side. He was then asked if he was well pleased with the speeches of Col. Benton and Judge White? He said he was, and thought Col. Benton highly talented.

When asked if he was friendly to General Jackson he replied, No. Why not? He answered, because he is a tyrant. Who told you he was a tyrant? He answered, it was a common talk with the people, and that he had read it in all the papers. He was asked if he could name any one who had told him so?—He replied, No. He was asked if he ever threatened to shoot Mr. Clay, Mr. Webster, or Mr. Calhoun, or whether he would shoot them if he had an opportunity? He replied, No. When asked if he would shoot Mr. Van Buren? He replied, that he once met with Mr. Van Buren in the rotunda and told him he was in want of money and must have it, and if he did not get it he (Mr. Van Buren) or General Jackson must fall. *He* was asked if any persons were present during this conversation? *He* replied, that there were several present, and when asked if he recollected any one of them, he replied that he did not. When asked if any one advised him to shoot General Jackson, or say that it ought to be done? he replied, I do not like to say. On being pressed upon this point, he said that no one in particular had advised him.

He further stated, that believing the President to be the source of all his difficulties, he was still fixed in his purpose to kill him, and if his successor pursued the same course, to put him out of the way also—and declared that no power in this country could punish him for having done so, because it would be resisted by the powers of Europe, as well as of this country. *He* also stated that he had been long in correspondence with the powers of Europe, and that his family had been wrongfully deprived of the crown of England, and that *he* should yet live to regain it—and that he considered the President of the United States nothing more than his Clerk.

We now think proper to add, that the young man appears perfectly tranquil and unconcerned, as to the final result, and seems to anticipate no punishment for what he has done. The above contains the leading, and literally expressed facts of the whole conversation we had with him, which continued at least two hours. The questions were frequently repeated at different stages of the examination; and presented in various forms.

NATH'L. P. CAUSIN, M. D.
Physician to the Jail of Washington.
THOMAS SEWLL, M. D.
Wednesday, 4th Feb. 1835.

From the National Intelligencer.

We have been politely favored with the following authentic statement made by a highly intelligent Magistrate of this city, who has taken the trouble personally to investigate the question of Lawrence's sanity:

WASHINGTON, 31st Jan. 1835.

I have made all the inquiries I could to-day in regard to the unhappy man (Lawrence) who made the attempt yesterday upon the life of Gen. Jackson, and the result has been a perfect conviction, upon my mind, of absolute insanity.

I went first to the house where he boarded. He had not been there long, but one of the boarders said he had been some time convinced that he was not of sane mind, and that he had previously mentioned it. He boarded at Mrs. Shields's, near the Unitarian Church, but did not keep his clothes, or any thing else there. Nothing was known there of his having had pistols.

2d. I went to Mr. R's in the West end of the city, who married a sister of Lawrence's. Both he and his wife told me that they had no doubt of Lawrence's mind being more or less unsettled for eighteen months passed. They gave as evidence of it, first, that about that time, he had left here, with the avowed intention of going to England, and had proceeded to New York, where he remained some time, and then returned, saying that the ship-owners had all entered into a combination against him, and had refused to give him a passage to England, that they knew he had a large fortune here, and that their object was to prevent his getting away, so that they might possess themselves of it.

Some time ago Lawrence attempted to kill his sister, (Mrs. R.) and her husband had him arrested and confined for a while in jail. He did not reside with them, and, indeed, he harbored such a resentment against Mr. R. that he did not speak with him. They did not know of his having pistols of late, but Mrs. R. says he formerly had a pair of small brass pistols, which had belonged to their father—they had flints, but she had heard that he wanted to get them altered to percussion lock. She thinks if she saw them she could say whether those he used were the same.

Lawrence had a shop where he did his painting, Mr. Drury had a room adjoining this, and the latter says that for a long time he has observed L. to be very solitary; taciturn in regard to his intercourse with others, but very much given to talking to himself. He has heard him declare that he should be Richard the Third, King of England, and King of America. These declarations were so well known that the boys were in the habit of calling him "King Richard," and of late this has annoyed him so much that he has threatened the boys, and even driven them out of his presence.

Drury says, that yesterday morning he was in his shop talking incoherently, and he heard him all at once, slam down the lid of a box, and exclaim in a very audible tone, "I'll be damned if I don't do it." This was a little while before the funeral.

To-day the sister of Lawrence called at the jail to see him, and to the inquiry why he had committed the rash act, he said "It was all right; General Jackson was his servant, but had not done as he wished, and ought to be punished."

I could mention many other circumstances, but these, I am sure, will carry conviction to your mind that the man committed the desperate act of yesterday, under the influence of mental derangement.

To this we append the following article, accounting for the pistols used by Lawrence missing fire, though the caps exploded:

Conversation between two gentlemen on the morning after the late attempt upon the life of the President.

L. I am not superstitious, I think; but really this looks like a miraculous intervention of the hand of Providence.

W. I am always slow to believe in superhuman agency in the affairs of men; because I have never known a *singular* occurrence that has not, or might not, be traced to a natural cause.

L. Then you think that the life of the President has been preserved on this occasion by natural causes.

W. Certainly I do. The ignorance of the assassin saved the life of the President. Ignorance of a peculiarity which all percussion pistols possess. I have a pair of them in my possession, which I have had for several years. For a week after I bought them, I could not make them go off: the percussion cap would explode, but the charge would not ignite.

L. Indeed!

W. True, I assure you: After reflecting for some time as to the cause, I discovered it. *The powder had not traversed the tube leading to the cap.* In order to be satisfied that I was right in this conjecture, I made repeated experiments. I poured the powder slowly into the barrel of the pistol: and, before ramming it down, *shook the barrel,* well, in order that the powder might penetrate through the small tube leading to the percussion cap. The charge never failed to ignite with this precaution; which I repeated several times.—I then loaded my pistol as I had formerly done: putting the powder and ball in together; ramming both down hard; but without shaking the barrel. The charge did not ignite more than twice in twenty trials.

L. Well, certainly you have accounted most rationally for this occurrence. With your leave I will ask you another question. Is this peculiarity of the percussion pistols generally known?

W. It is certainly well known by those in the habit of using these pistols; but I presume not generally known by others. It has evidently not been known by the infatuated individual in this case.

L. Your explanation, then, has satisfied my mind on another point: it proves, I think, beyond a doubt, that *the purpose of the assassin must have been all his own;* for, if there had been others concerned in the base attempt, some of them would have known of this peculiarity of the percussion pistol, and guarded against it.

W. Your conjecture is certainly plausible.

A Boston correspondent of the Essex (Salem) Register, of the 2d inst. says—

"The election of Governor Davis to the U. States Senate, has created much uneasiness among the Whigs, and the effect of loud remonstrances from various quarters, may be to induce the Senate to non-concur in the choice of the House, and to send back the name of Mr. Adams in his room. This is openly talked of. Gov. Davis is the favorite of the Legislature, as well as of the people—but he is wanted where he is: and however desirable it would be, under other circumstances, to place him in the Senate, it is thought by many, that to disturb the present happy state of things in the political affairs of the State, is most unwise and hazardous. The causes which produced a result so unexpected to a large portion of the people, can be stated in a few words.—That a large portion of the Whigs of the Legislature deemed it inexpedient to remove Gov. Davis from his present station, is apparent from the first ballot, when he had but 43 votes, but the probability of the success of Mr. Adams, who had the lead in three ballotings, induced many, who entertain, as I think, *unreasonable prejudices* against him, and others, who with the highest opinion of his talents and merits, thought he would be more serviceable in the House, or that his election to the Senate would be prejudicial to the Whig cause in his district,—to unite upon Gov. Davis—and their views were aided by reports industriously circulated, that he would be gratified by the choice, that he would shortly, at all events, decline serving as Governor, &c. The cunning Jackson men, too, seeing these indications, threw their strength into the scale, and contributed, in no small degree, to produce a result, as gratifying, almost, to them, as the e-

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