TWENTY-FIFTH CONGRESS.

IN SENATE.

Monday, April 30.

Mr Clay presented a memorial asking Congress to use its exertions for the establishment of an International Congress, not to enforce the Treaty of New Echota

Mr. Clay also asked Mr. Wright, as Chairman of the Committee of Finance, if his Committee had before them any measure other than that already reported and acted on in reference to the currency—if not whether the committee, to his knowledge, intended to act upon any such measure.

Mr. Wright replied that the committee had nothing before them not reported upon in reference to the currency. Whether the President intended to make any report of reference to any such report, he could not say, and knew nothing more about it than the Senator from Kentucky.

That being the case, said Mr. Clay, and it being clear that the Executive intended nothing and would do nothing, and no proposition being before the Committee on Finance, he should move the following resolution:

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That no discrimination shall be made as to the currency or medium of payment, the several branches of the public revenue, or debts or dues to the Government—and that, until otherwise ordered by Congress, the notes of sound banks which are payable, and paid on demand in the legal currency of the United States, under suitable restrictions, to be forthwith prescribed and promulgated by the Secretary of the Treasury, shall be received in payment of the revenue and of debts and dues to the Government, and shall be subsequently disbursed in a course of public expenditure, to all public creditors who are willing to receive them.

Mr. Grundy said he was disposed to make no defence or opposition to the resolution before the Senate. He would suggest to the Senator whether the resolution ought not to restrict its operation to Banks in the vicinity of the places where the revenue was to be received.

Mr. Clay said the resolution did not intend that bank notes should be received without restrictions or without suitable regulations.—Power of descrimination was given to the Secretary of the Treasury. The discretion given to the Secretary of the Treasury would be amply sufficient to meet all cases. But this subject would come up with the resolution.

The resolution was ordered to be printed and to a second reading, and was laid upon the table for further consideration.

A bill to grant to the States and incorporated companies engaged in the construction of roads and canals, the right of way through the public lands of the United States, was before the Senate and ordered to a third reading.

The bill for the security and protection of the emigrant and Indians west of the States of Missouri and Arkansas, was before the Senate the remainder of the day.

The bill was finally ordered to be engrossed for a third reading; when

The Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Monday, April 30, 1838.

STEAMBOAT EXPLOSION.

Mr. Calhoun, of Massachusetts, expressed a hope that the House would consent to take up the bill from the Senate to authorise experiments to be made with a view to test the relative strength of steamboat boilers, and act upon it immediately.

Mr. Cushman expressed a similar wish.

Mr. E. Whittlesey suggested that the bill to provide for the safety of passengers in boats propelled wholly or in part by steam, ought also to be taken up, and that both would be included in the same motion.

Mr. Cambreleng said he was compelled to object, as there was other business which still more urgently demanded the attention of the House.

Mr. Calhoun moved to suspend the rules with a view to take up the bills; and the motion was lost.

IN SENATE.

Tuesday, May 1, 1838.

The Senate met and adjourned after reading the Journal. This is a race day.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Several petitions upon unimportant subjects was referred, and several resolutions of inquiry on leave were adopted.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of War, transmitting information in obedience to the resolution of the 16th, inst. relating to the selection of sites for military posts on the Western frontier of Arkansas and Missouri.

STATE OF THE TREASURY.

Mr. Cambreleng laid before the House a communication from the Treasury Department, stating what was the state of the Treasury yesterday, as to its available resources, viz:

[Amount of Treasury notes issued up to April 28th inclusive, per Treasurer's statement.

	$9,423,959 31
Will probably be issued 30th April, 1838,	135,000 00
	9,558,959 31
1838,	10,000,000 00
Not issued on May 1st about	$441,040 69

Treasury notes received for duties, lands, and in payment of debts to the United States, $5,150,000.

Other funds available and subject to draft, deducting $400,000 in the Mint, and $590,000 trust funds, (less than) $500,000

DUEL REPORT.

The house then resumed the unfinished business of yesterday, being the consideration of a motion to recommit the consideration of the report of the select committee on the late duel, with instructions to report only the facts of the case, and discharging them from the consideration of the question of a breach of privilege, and from the various petitions in relation to the subject.

After some discussion, the question was then taken on motion of Mr. Thomas, to strike out the latter part of the instructions; and decided by yeas and nays as follows:—yeas 96, 68.

So the House refused in effect to discharge the committee from further proceedings on the question of privilege.

The House continued in session until about three o'clock, taking the yeas and nays four times upon a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Toucy, by unanimous consent of the House, reported the Senate's bill for the suppression of duelling within the District of Columbia, with amendments, and it was referred to a Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Yell proposed that the present subject should be postponed untill to-morrow; and that the House meanwhile take up the army bill.

Mr. Graham at 3 o'clock moved an adjournment, which prevailed.

From the Richmond "Enquirer."

THE ELECTION IN VIRGINIA.

It is idle to despond; but we are beaten in Virginia--We have lost the house of Delegates. We still retain the Senate. After making every allowance for the exaggerated accounts which rumor has wafted to our ears; and after the most favorable estimates of all the remaining counties, we admit at once that the Whigs have carried the House by at least 10 or 12 majority—perhaps from 12 to 16.—They may even have as great a majority in the next House of delegates, as we had in the last.

They can already count up 48, and counting Franklin, 50 Delegates, which they have won, to 26 of our own.

Allowing the counties which are to come in, to be the same as they were last year, and we should get about 37 Delegates to their 21. This estimate would give them in the house 71—and the Republican party 63. But as some of the same causes may be fairly expected to operate upon the residuary counties, as have shed their malign influence upon the others, though not in the same proportion, we ought to allow a heavier majority to the Whigs, than the above estimate ascribes to them. We would now cheerfully compromise for a majority of 10 or 12

But who is dismayed and downcast at such a catastrophe? We confidently say, not we. We allow for the causes which have operated upon us —And if we are wise, all will be well again next Spring—with the exception only, that we may lose a Senator of the United States—and that one or two worthy men may feel the consequences of the Whig aspirations for the spoils of office.

We tell the Whigs to make the most of their victory. They will not enjoy it long. The Republicans will meet them at Phillippi and under more advantageous circumstances than have attended the recent campaign.—Few parties have ever gone into action, under more unfortunate auspices. The country is distressed; and the sole blame of it has been laid at the door of the Administration. Our party has been never more distracted—torn to pieces in many counties—wrangling with each other—unwilling to co operate—and many of them would not go to the polls. We have fought amid suspensions and shinplasters—& the discords of Sub Treasuries and Conservatives.—An extraordinary apathy has pervaded many of our counties—In several of them, no organization—two or three candidates running against each other, as if such a competition would mend the matter—whilst in one of the most Republican counties, not even a Republican candidate was in the field. There has probably never been so thin a turnout at the polls, in Virginia.—The Whigs, like all minorities, are generally the most active—The day too very bad; and the zeal of the party did not overcome the inclemency of the weather.

But there is a change coming upon us. The day of resumption of specie payments is probably at hand. The distresses of the people and the exhaustion of the Treasury will be relieved. The Bank of the United States will attract more and more the attention of the people. The transactions of the Bank Convention and Mr. Biddle's letter had not sufficient time to make that impression on the public mind, which they are so well calculated to produce. Before the next election can come upon us, the Democracy will be roused. Already the Whigs are crying out in the fulness of their exultation—That they must nominate Clay forthwith—already they are declaring, that they must have a Bank of the United States—and that Mr. Biddle must be at the head of it. These movements cannot much longer be disguised. Every day's developements will contribute to enlighten and arouse the people of Virginia. They will see, that the issue which we have so earnestly announced to them, is the true issue—Clay and the Bank, or Van Buren and no Bank,—and upon such an issue, what Republican can hesitate for a single moment? For one, we say explicitly, that we are prepared to sink or swim with Martin Van Buren.

From the Augusta Chronicle, April 28.

AWFUL FIRE IN CHARLESTON.—We learn with the deepest regret, by passengers from Charleston, who arrived here this evening, by the Carolina rail road, that the city of Charleston has been visited by one of the most awful and destructive fires that has ever visited any city in the U. States. ONE THIRD OF THR CITY WAS LAID IN ASHES, at the departure of the cars this morning at six o'clock, and the fire was raging as if it would consume at least one third more.

The fire broke out last night at a quarter past eight o'clock, in a paint store, on the western side of King street, corner of Beresford street. The wind blowing strongly from the southwest, blew the flames diagonally across King street, and at the time of the departure of the cars, the whole section of the city above Beresford street, up to Society st., and east of King street, to the Bay, was burnt down or burning. From Beresford to Society street are four streets—from King street to the bay about as many, or perhaps more.—The fire had also extended four or five blocks west of King street, and was still progressing with terrific rapidity up that street in the direction of Boundary street, when the cars left. Our informant believes it impossible to calculate what will be the ultimate extent of the fire, as it seemed in no way checked at 6 o'clock this morning.

Among the buildings consumed are a number of churches, the new theatre, the splendid new hotel recently erected, and the whole market, except the fish market. Nearly all the merchants in the center of business, on King street, were burnt out—among them, Parish, Wiley & Co., and G. H. Kelsey & Co., Boream & Co., and all in that neighborhood, and the large storehouse of Miller, Ripley & Co., on the corner of King and Society street, was catching the flames when our informant left. The Merchants' Hotel, formerly Miot's, had not caught, but it was believed to be impossible to save it. At Norris' Hotel, still higher up King street, and on the west side, they had removed all the furniture and bedding, in almost certain anticipation of being burnt out.

A large number of houses had been blown up, to no purpose. All the powder in the city was exhausted, and all the water in the pumps; the people, wearied with a whole night's incessant and unavailing toil, found themselves, this morning, able to make but a feeble resistance to the still raging and devouring flames. A number of persons had been killed by the blowing up of houses and throwing furniture into the streets. The steamboat Neptune, lying in the Bay, caught on fire, but it was fortunately extinguished.

The trunks directed to this office and to the Constitutionalist office, from the newspaper offices in Charleston, failed to come this evening, as we presume no papers were printed there last night; and as the regular mail was closed last night before the fire broke out, no other information has been received here than that from passengers, which is necessarily limited as to particulars.

This is indeed a mournful catastrophe! A flourishing city laid in ashes, her people burnt out of home and substance, and millions of property destroyed in a single night! The Insurance Companies of Charleston, we learn are of small capitals, and will all, no doubt, be ruined, and still be unable to make good but a small portion of the losses Hundreds of families must be utterly ruined by this general calamity. Years cannot make Charleston what she was.

P. S.—Since the above was written, we have been shown a letter from Charleston, closed at a little before 4 o'clock this morning, and brought up by a passenger, which confirms all the important facts stated above. It also states that the rigging of many of the vessels lying at the wharves had been burnt.

RETRIBUTIVE JUSTICE.—The judgment of heaven seldom fails to overtake those demons in human shape, who, to gratify a fiendish vengeance, would destroy alike the innocent and the guilty. This was strikingly exemplified in the horrid death of one of the victims of the explosion on board the Oronoko, at Princeton, Miss., on the 21st ult. He was a well known blackleg, and, in the agony of his last moments—his flesh being burnt to a cinder and falling from his bones—he confessed that he was the person who set fire to the Pinkard House, at Vicksburg, and that his motive for the act was that he might burn up the whole city, in revenge for the murder of his fellow gamblers. The New Orleans True American, from which we obtain the account does not mention his name.

CAMBRIDGE:

MONDAY, MAY 14, 1838.

The Orphans' Court of this county, will sit on Monday the 21st of May.

The Republican Convention, to nominate a candidate for Governor of this State, will meet in Baltimore, on Thursday the last day of this month.

The Hon. Mr. Lawler, member of Congress from the State of Alabama, died a few days since in Washington.

The Pennsylvania Bank of the United States, it is said has commenced paying out specie for all sums under one dollar, and the Baltimore Banks, for sums under fifty cents. This is a small business. Why not pay dollar for dollar, as the Banks in New York are doing? By the by, Biddle finds his non-resumption doctrine wont answer, and as it is not convenient for him to pay altogether in specie, he goes for payments on a small scale. The amount of one dollar paid in specie, may suit the state of his finances, much better than to *plank* down, his hundreds and thousands. It is certainly small food however, for so great a money monster as Biddle to feed upon.

We have some returns from the Mississippi election, but cannot, as yet, give any definite account of the result. The Whigs seem to think they have carried the State, and at all events that Prentiss, one of their candidates, is elected. We have our doubts whether they have elected either. We shall hear, however.

It seems that the opposition in Virginia have a majority in the lower House, and the Administration a majority in the Senate. It will be a close vote upon joint Ballot. Probably we shall have a majority. At all events, a good deal will depend upon the manner in which the *third* party—the State Right's, cast their votes: In regard to Banks and Slaughter in Patton's District, it is said, there has been some informality about the election, and that another contest may be expected. If this be the case, Banks, the Van Buren candidate will beat his opponent, we doubt not, much further than he did before.

MAINE.—Mr. Paris, a Van Buren man, has been elected to Congress by a considerable majority over his opponent, in the District lately represented by Mr. Carter, deceased.

Why should the freemen of Maryland support the whig party in this State? They have drained the Treasury, squandered the public money, and brought heavy taxes upon us, and a prospect of involving us still further. They have turned their opponents out of office with a vengeance, and have filled them, in many cases, with individuals who are perfectly unfit to perform the duties incumbent upon them.—Look in this county. Judges of the Orphans' court, Levy court, Trustees of the poor, Judges of election, Magistrates' courts, Commissioners of the Tax, Magistrates and Constables with few exceptions, (probably where none of their friends offered) are all composed of the immaculate whigs.—Where is the liberality that has actuated the whig party? Echo answers where? How differently we treat the whigs. In three of the Post Offices in this county, over which the General Government has a control, you find whigs.—We believe Mr. Price, of New Market, Mr. Higgins at the Big Mills, and Mr. Bowdle at Church Creek, who are Post Masters at those places, are whigs. It is true the Post Offices of the county are not very profitable, but yet they are as profitable as many of the offices of the county from which the Van Buren men are excluded.—We do not object to a party having a majority of their friends in office, but to turn all of your opponents out, indiscriminately, we think shews a proscriptive spirit unparalleled in the annals of this State and county, until these modern whigs adopted the practice.—They have even out of the forty school commissioners in the county, appointed but three Van Buren men. If any thing should be general in its application, it should be education. We hope if these new fangled Primary schools do go into operation, the children of Van Buren men will not be excluded from school.—*Nous verrons.*

ANOTHER FIRE AT VICKSBURG.—By a slip from the New Orleans Picayune, we learn that this illfated city was visited by another destructive conflagration on the 20th ult. The fire broke out about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, in the stable of Messrs. Ayre and Swain, on 1st East street, in the North Western extremity of the town. Nearly the whole square was destroyed, consuming property to the amount of $30,000—no insurance. The dwelling of Wm. H. Sims, Esq., the store and dwelling of Messrs. Ayre & Swain, and the Boarding House of Mrs. Fretwell, with all the out-houses, were destroyed. This is said to be the fifth attempt made within ten days, to fire that part of the city. The place is rife with incendiaries, and the inhabitants are considerably alarmed.—*Balt. Sun*

LAWS OF MARYLAND.

STATE DEPARTMENT,
Annapolis, April 14th, 1838.

In pursuance of authority contained in an order of the House of Delegates, I hereby direct the acts of Assembly passed at December session, 1836, entitled "an act to amend the Constitution and form of Government of Maryland," chapter 197, and the act, passed at the same session, entitled "an act providing for the appointment of Appeals for the Eastern and Western Shores, the Clerk of the Baltimore city Court, and the Register of Wills in the several counties of this State," chapter 224, and confirmed at the subsequent session, to be published once a week for three weeks successively in the following papers to wit:—

Republican and Gazette, Annapolis; Patriot, Chronicle, American, Transcript and Sun, Baltimore; and in all the papers published in the several counties of the State.

J. H. CULBERTH,
Secretary of State.

CHAPTER 224.

An act providing for the appointment of Clerks of the several County Courts, the Clerks of the Courts of Appeals for the the Eastern and Western Shores, the Clerk of Baltimore City Court, and the Registers of Wills in the several Counties of this State.

Section. 1 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That from and after the confirmation of this act, the Governor shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint the clerks of the several county courts the clerk of the court of appeals for the Western Shore, the clerk of the court of appeals for the Eastern Shore, the clerk of Baltimore city court, the register of the high court of Chanery. and the registers of wills throughout the State, and that the persons so appointed shall continue in office for and during the term of seven years, from the date of their respective appointments; provided nevertheless, that the person who shall respectively be in office at the time of the confirmation of this act as clerks of the several county courts, as clerks of the court of appeals, as clerks of the Baltimore city court, and as register of wills, shall not be subject in any respect to the operation of this act, until from and after the first day of February, and in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and forty five.

Sec. 2 And be it enacted, That if this act shall be confirmed by the General Assembly of Maryland after the next election of delegates, in the first session after such new election, as the constitution and form of Government directs, that in such case this act and the alterations therein contained shall be considered as a part of the said constitution and form of government, to all intents and purposes, any thing therein contained to the contrary notwithstanding.

CHAPTER 197.

An act to amend the Constitution and Form of Government of the State of Maryland.

Section. 1. Be it enacted by General Assembly of Maryland, That the term of office of the members of the present senate shall end and be determined whenever, and as soon as a new senate shall be elected as hereinafter provided, and a quorum of its members shall have qualified as directed by the constitution and laws of this State.

Sec. 2. And be it enacted, That at the December session of the General Assembly of Maryland for the year of our Lord, eighteen hundred and thirty-eight, and forever thereafter, the chosen as hereinafter provided, a majority of whom shall be a quorum for the transaction of business.

Sec. 3. And be it enacted, That at the time and place of holding elections in the several counties of this State, and in the city of Baltimore, for delegates, to the General Assembly for the December session of the year eighteen hundred and thirty-eight, and under the direction of the same judges by whom such elections for delegates shall be held, an election shall also be held in each of the several counties of this State and in the city of Baltimore respectively, for the purpose of choosing a senator of the State of Maryland for and from such county or said city, as the case may be, whose term of office shall commence on the day fixed by law for the commencement of the regular session of the General Assembly, next succeeding such election and continue for two, four or six years according to the classification of a quorum of its members; and at every such election for senators, every person qualified to vote at the place at which a delegates to the General Assembly shall be entitled to vote for one person as senator; and of the persons voted for as senators in each of the several counties and in said city, respectively, the person having the highest number of legal votes, and possessing the qualifications hereinafter mentioned, shall be declared and returned as duly elected for said county or said city, as may be; and in case two possessing the required qalifications shall be found on the final casting of the votes given, in any one of said counties or said city, to have an equal number of votes, there shall be a new election ordered as hereinafter mentioned; and immediately after the senate shall have convened in pursuance of their election under this act, the senators shall be divided in such manner as the senate shall prescribe, into three classes; the seats of the senators of the first clas shall be vacated at the expiration of the second year, of the second at the expiration of the fourth year, and of the third class at the expiration of the sixth year, so that one third thereof may be elected on the first Wednesday of October in every second year; and the elections shall be held in the several counties and city, from which the retiring senators came, to supply the vacancies as they may occur in consequence of this classification.

Sec. 4. And be it enacted, That such election for senators shall be conducted, and the returns thereof be made, with proper variations in the certificate to suit the case, in like manner as in cases of elections for delegates.

Sec. 5. And be it enatcted, That the qualifications necessary in a senator shall be the same as are required in a delegate to the General Assembly, with the additional qualification that he shall be above the age of twenty-five years, and shall have resided at least three years, next preceding his election, in the county or city in and for which he shall be chosen.

Sec. 6. And be it enacted, That in case any person who shall refuse to act, remove from the county or city, as the case may be for which he shall have been elected, die resign, or be removed for cause, or in case of a tie between two or more qualified persons in any one of the counties, or in the city of Baltimore, a warrant of election shall be issued by the President of the Senate for the time being, for the election of a senator to supply the vacancy, of which ten days notice at the least, excluding the day of notice and the day of election, shall be given.

Sec. 7. And be it enacted, That so much of the thirty seventh article of the constitution provides that no senator or delegate to the General Assembly, if he shall qualify as such, shall hold or execute any office of profit during the time for which he shall be elected, shall be and the same is hereby repealed.

Sec. 8. And be it enacted, That no senator or delegate to the General Assembly, shall during the time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil office under the constitution and laws of this State, which shall have been created, or the emoluments thereof shall have been increased during such time; and no senator or delegate, during the time he shall continue to act as such, shall be eligible to any civil office whatever.

Sec. 9. And be it enacted, That at the election for the delegates to the General Assembly, for the December session of the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and thirty-eight, and at each succeeding election for delegates until after the next census shall have been taken and officially promulged, five delegates shall be elected in and for Baltimore city, and one delegate in and for the city of Annapolis, until the promulging of the census for the year eighteen hundred and forty, when the city of Annapolis shall be deemed and taken as a part of Anne Arundel county, and her right to a separate delegation shall cease; five delegates in and for Baltimore county; five delegates in and for Frederick county, and four delegates in and for Aune Arundel county, and four delegates in and for each of the several counties respectively, herein after mentioned, to wit: Dorchester, Somerset, Worcester, Prince George's, Hartord, Montgomery, Carroll and Washington; and three delegates in and for each of the several counties respectively, herein after next mentioned, to wit: Cecil, Kent Queen Ann's, Caroline, Talbot, Saint Mary's, Charles, Calvert and Alleghany.

Sec. 10. And be it enacted, That from and after the period when the next census shall have been taken and officially promulged, and from and after the official promulgation of every second census thereafter, the representation in the House of Delagates from the several counties and fiom the city of Baltimore, shall be graduated and established on the following basis, that is to say, every county which shall have by the said census, a population of less than fifteen thousand souls, federal numbers, shall be entitled to elect three delegates; every county having a population by the said census of fifteen thousand souls, federal numbers, shall be entitled to elect four delegates; and every county having by the said census a population of twenty-five thousand souls, federal numbers, shall be entitled to elect five delegates; and every county having a population of upwards of thirty-five thousand souls, federal numbers, shall be entitled to eleet six delegates; and the city of Baltimore shall be entitled to elect as many delegates as the county which shall have the largest representation, on the basis aforesaid, may be entitled to elect; provided, and it is hereby enacted, that if any of the several counties herein before mentioned, shall not, after the said census for the year eighteen hundred and forty shall have been taken, be entitled by the graduation on the basis aforesaid to a representation in the House of Delegates equal to that allowed to such county by the ninth section of this act, at the election of delegates for the December session of the year eighteen hundred and thirty-eight, such county shall, nevertheless, after said census for the year eighteen hundred and forty, or any future census, and forever thereafter, be entitled to elect the number of delegates allowed by the provisions of said section for the said session, but nothing in the proviso contained, shall be construed to include in the representation of *Anne* Arundel county, the delegate allowed to the city of Annapolis in the said ninth section of this act.

Sec. 11 And be it enacted, That in all elections for senators, to be held after the election for delegates, for the December session eighteen hundred and thirty seven, the city of *Annapolis*, shall be deemed and taken as part of *Anne Arundel* county.

Sec. 12 *And* be it enacted, That the General assembly shall have power from time to time to regulate all matters relating to the judges, time, place and manner of holding elections for senators and delegates, and of making returns thereof; and to divide the several counties into election districts, for the more convenient holding of elections, not affecting their terms or tenure of office.

Sec. 13 *And* be it enacted, That so much of the constitution and form of government, as relates to the Council to the Governor, and to the clerk of the council, be abrogated, abolished and annulled, and that the whole executive power of the government of this state; shall be vested exclusively in the Governor, subject nevertheless to the checks, limitations and provisions herein after specified and mentioned.

Sec. 14. And be it enacted, That the governor shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the senate shall appoint all officers of the state whose officers are or may be created by law, and whose appointment shall not be otherwise provided for by the constitution and form of government, or by any laws consistent with the constitution