Saxon system; and accordingly, in the first year of his reign, granted a charter, whereby he gave up the greater grievances, but still reserved the fiction of feudal tenure, for the same military purposes which engaged his father to introduce it. But this charter was gradually broke through, and the former grievances were revived and aggravated, by himself and succeeding princes; till, in the reign of King John, they became so intolerable, that they occasioned his barons, or principal feudatories, to rise up in arms against him: which at length produced the famous great charter at Running-mead, which, with some alterations, was confirmed by his son Henry III. And though its immunities (especially as altered on its last edition by his son) are very greatly short of those granted by Henry I., it was justly esteemed at the time a vast acquisition to English liberty. Indeed, by the further alteration of tenures, that has since happened, many of these immunities may now appear, to a common observer, of much less consequence than they really were when granted: but this, properly considered, will shew, not that the acquisitions under John were small, but that those under Charles were greater. And from hence also arises another inference; that the liberties of Englishmen are not (as some arbitrary writers would represent them) mere infringements of the king's prerogative, extorted from our princes by taking advantage of their weakness; but a restoration of that ancient constitution, of which our ancestors had been defrauded by the art and finesse of the Norman lawyers, rather than deprived by the force of the Norman arms.—*Blackstone's Commentaries.*

CONGRESSIONAL.

Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot.

Washington, Jan. 30.—This has deen rather a dull day. Friday and Saturday are always dull days in Washington. The Senate does not sit, and the House are engaged in the discussion of private bills.

To-day, Mr. White of Florida, has been advocating, and successfully, measures of relief for the Florida sufferers. A resolution has passed, authorising the President to issue orders that rations be provided for those who have been deprived of their houses and property until they are restored to them.

There is some conversation in the political circles here as to the *doubtful* complexion of the Senate at present. Mr. Ewing* of Illinois, is said to be an Anti Van Buren man, though a friend to the present administration. But allowing this to be true,—the elections in Mississippi and Louisiana gave the *coup de grace* to the Senate of the United States. The whole government is now in the hands of Andrew Jackson, beyond the shadow of a doubt: the Senate, the House of Representatives, and the Executive, "*tria juncta in uno*,"—all in one man,—and that man is endeavoring to appoint his successor. O.

*Mr. Ewing has avowed himself also to be for Mr. Van Buren.—*Ed. Patriot.*

February 1.—Congress has been interesting. In the Senate, Mr. Buchanan made an off hand, able speech upon Mr. Benton's resolutions. He did not undertake so much to fasten upon the Senate the responsibility of losing the Fortification Bill of last year, as he did to establish the constitutional right to make the three millions amendment to that bill, and to have passed it. Mr. Buchanan is certainly an agreeable, entertaining speaker, and stands next to Wright and Grundy among the leaders of the administration in the Senate. Although a distinguished lady, whose opinion was once asked of him here in Washington, said "Mr. Bachelor Buchanan looked like a calf brought up on two cows' milk," yet he is a very gentlemanly man.

In the House, it was petition day. The question came up on the petition offered by Mr. Cushing on Monday last, and his motion that it be received. Mr. Hammond of South Carolina, had the floor. He commenced by saying that he had read the speech of the honorable gentleman who presented the petition, with a great deal of pleasure. He said that every sentiment of that speech met with his cordial approbation; but that speech he said, did not put the subject upon its true issue. It went to defend the right of petition. He was as much for the right of petition as any man upon that floor. This was not the question. The true question was, shall these incendiary and inflammatory petitions be countenanced or received by Congress? Shall the abolitionists, who openly avow their preference of disunion to union with slavery in existence at the South, be suffered to inundate Congress with these works of theirs solely with a view to get up and keep up an excitement in Congress upon that dangerous subject? He said that some gentlemen said that there were but few abolitionists at the North, while one gentleman (Mr. Slade of Vermont,) had declared upon that floor that their power was tremendous.* Now as all these opinions were conflicting, it was necessary to go further for the information desired. Mr. Hammond then went into a statement of all the abolition petitions which had thus far been sent into Congress, as well as the number of names attached to them. I believe he said there had been upwards of fifty petitions already presented, some with a hundred or two names upon each of them and others with ten or fifteen hundred. He said there had already been more than three hundred of these petitions forwarded to this city. Mr. Hammond next unfolded a large collection of abolition tracts, reports, newspapers, letters, circulars, primers, almanacks, etc., etc., and from them he read and got the Clerk of the House to read, many passages of the most artful, incendiary and infamous character, in which the plans, operations and designs of the abolitionists were fully exposed and developed. Upon these he commented with great severity and force. He took up Dr. Channing's recent work upon slavery and took the occasion to pay the learned Doctor a few vollies of no very flattering epithets. Upon the subject treated of in his pamphlet, he said, he manifested the grossest ignorance, and his charges were base and calumnious.

Mr. Hammond continued, and grew more animated as he advanced. He read an extract from a letter written in the interior of New York, to some gentleman in this city, in which the rapid strides of the abolitionists were enlarged upon at length. The writer declared it as his belief that at the next elections in that State, the contests would turn upon the abolition question, and that unless Congress should take some decisive step before it adjourns, a dissolution of the Union will be the inevitable consequence.

Mr. H. gave a history of the condition of the slaves at the South, and said they had enough for their comforts, and were contented and happy. He said the society at the South was the best and most social of any in the world. He advocated Southern aristocracy and said it must and ought to exist and be kept up. He ridiculed the idea of equality and said it was all empty vapouring. He went into a calculation of the sum it would require to buy up and emancipate the slaves of the South. The amount was hundreds of millions, and to pay only for the increase of the slaves, at $400 a piece, he said it would require thirty millions of dollars annually! That moment, he said, that a proposition to legislate upon the subject of slavery in this District, and as these petitions pray for, he would leave his seat and go home to preach disunion and civil war. He would not stop even to record his vote upon the subject.

Mr. Hammond made a very eloquent and impressive speech, and wound up in a brilliant flight of oratory. POTOMAC.

Feb. 2.—We have had a speech to day from John J. Crittenden. He made his maiden speech in the Senate to-day. Fortunate indeed I consider myself in happening to be present. With the exception of Mr. Webster's great speech, perhaps, it was the happiest and most eloquent display that has been made in Congress during the present session. I have before spoken to you of Mr. Crittenden's reputation as a statesman and orator. He more than fulfilled all expectations to day. He had not a note, nor a scrip; but spoke throughout like one thoroughly master of his subject, and who knows how, when and where to speak, and to speak effectively and to the point.

Would you know how Mr. Crittenden speaks? how his voice sounds, &c.? I will tell you as nearly as I can. At times, he is rapid, and strikes out bold, prominent points and distinctions, and with precisely such a vigorous, clear and healthy voice as Calhoun, and anon his voice expands and comes out in the full, rich, melodious tones of Clay. Sometimes, if I had not known that he was speaking and had heard him, I would have risked any wager that Calhoun was upon the floor; so exactly were his voice, enunciation and intonation like that great and remarkable man. At another time, had I not seen, or known who was speaking only by the sound of the orator's voice, I should have said at once it was Clay, for his voice had all the expansion and music in it which characterize that of his great colleague's above that of any other man's voice who speaks the English language. * * * *

But I must go back. I have been wandering. The debate in the Senate was opened upon Mr. Benton's resolutions, by Mr. Buchanan, who spoke for about an hour and a quarter, in which time he concluded the speech he commenced yesterday. His point to-day was to establish the bad faith of the French Government throughout the whole negotiation touching the twenty-five millions of francs due us. * * *

Mr. Crittenden continued. He bore down upon Mr. Buchanan with great force and power, for his strong, belligerent war-speech at the very time he himself had acknowledged his belief that the mediation of England would amicably settle the difficulties. He asked if this was the time and occasion to be trying to prejudice our people against France? He also rebuked him for openly impugning the good faith of Louis Philippe.

Mr. Crittenden concluded his speech in a most brilliant, spirit stirring strain of oratory. Mr. Mangum moved an adjournment, which was carried.

As soon as Mr. Crittenden had concluded, almost all the members of the Senate flocked around him to shake hands and to congratulate him. It was a most interesting spectacle. Kentucky, Massachusetts and South Carolina, forever!

The House was engaged all day in discussing an appropriation bill relative to pay of members, &c. So I was told; I was not there. POTOMAC.

Feb. 3.—Mr. Mangum has been making one of the best speeches of the session, upon the subject of Benton's resolutions. He was very severe on the party course pursued towards the Senate by the friends of the Administration, and gave his vindication of that body in a strong, sensible, and satisfactory manner. He has not yet finished; but resumes the subject to-morrow. Mr. Mangum is one of the southern school of speakers, and infuses into all he utters a spirit and a force which I cannot better describe than by the mention of the fact, that he always commands and fixes the attention of the Senate, while speaking.

In the House we have had a talking day. The bill reported by Mr. Calhoun, as to the tenure of office, came from the Senate, passed. It proposes the repeal of an act of 1820, fixing the time of duration of certain offices, and the enactment of another, that those offices shall be more directly regulated by the Senate, as the co appointing power, than hitherto: and for this purpose providing that the fact of every removal from office, with the reasons therefor, be in every case given to the Senate by the President. You may judge that this was a question to stir the waters of strife from their lowest depths. It was made a party question of great moment, at the time of its first falling upon the Speaker's table: and *John Quincy Adams* was the first to lead off bitterly against it. Did it not come from the Senate,—the insolent, "adhering" message—sending, Daniel Webster—containing Senate? This was reason enough for the "gentleman from Massachusetts," and he denounced the bill, *in limine*, as proposing "a vital alteration of the Constitution!"

"Oh, Lucifer! son of the morning! how art thou fallen!"

Mr. Bell moved to commit the bill to a select committee, and Mr. Mann, of New York, the party cartman in the House, moved its reference to Beardsley and Thomas's Committee, the Judiciary. On these two motions there was much fire, and more smoke, and after "much ado about nothing," the House adjourned till to morrow, without taking the question. Of this debate, and some questions which it has given rise to, I will be more diffuse to morrow. O.

Feb 4.—When the time came round for taking up Benton's resolutions, Mr. Mangum rose and said, that having yesterday presented pretty much all the views he intended, he would not now occupy the time of the Senate by submitting any further remarks.

Mr. Clayton now took the floor. He said he would not occupy much of the time of the Senate; still he wished to make a few remarks before the Senate passed upon the resolutions under consideration. He would like to have them amended still more than they have been so as to have them read the *revenue* instead of the *surplus revenue* of the country. He seemed to take ground directly in opposition to Mr. Crittenden. He thought that the Senator from Missouri *was right* in declaring that our country was in a 'defenceless, naked and wretched condition.' He cited the situation of his own State—said that five years ago Fort Delaware was burnt down—that the country was pledged to keep a fort in existence and repairs there—and yet that Fort had not been rebuilt.—Other Senators, he said, might state what was the condition of the country in those parts of it from whence they came.

He thought there was no better way of getting clear of our fast accumulating revenue than to expend it in fitting up our Navy and Fortifications, &c.

In regard to our difficulties with France, he thought it not so very improbable as he could wish that we were to have no war.—He said he had never been the supporter of the Administration or the Executive, and he expected he never should be ranked on his side. But, upon this question, he had but one opinion. He did not consider the 25,000,000 francs which France had promised to pay as an indemnity for the American property that nation had destroyed, by any means. It was not more than half of what was actually our due.

As regarded the apology or explanation exacted of us, he said that although he did not belong to the President's party, yet he never would consent that any apology or explanation should be given. (Here Benton sung out so loud as to be heard in the galleries, "*that's good!*") He said he would carefully guard against the President's rashly getting us into a war, but when once in, he would not stop to see how we got there, but would support his country to the last in maintaining and prosecuting it.

As it respected the offer of mediation, on the part of Great Britain, he said that by no means settled the point that there would be no war: for if England should say that the President ought to make an explanation, it would never be done, he trusted. It was not due and ought not to be made to France.

Mr. Clayton spoke with much candor and calmness, and urged his arguments with his accustomed force and ability. POTOMAC.

The House have been most industrious to day in bringing about nothing at all. O.

February 5.—There was just nothing at all of interest to the general reader done in the House or Senate to day.

Mr. Clayton did not go on with his speech to day, in the Senate, that body being occupied to a late hour in unfinished business.

Both Houses adjourned until Monday.—There is nothing new to-day. O.

"*Sympathy*.—It is said that Mr. Rice has acted Jim Crow so long, that he begins to turn black."

From the National Intelligencer.

THE DEPOSITE BANKS.

If we mistake not, the incident to which we are about to ask the attention of our readers, will turn out to be of no mean consequence in the history of the domestic relations of the United States, as the pioneer to more extensive developments!

Before we relate the incident, we think it best to go back a few weeks, for the purpose of placing the reader in the possession of some precedent facts, which it is proper he should know, if he be not already acquainted with them. On the 3d day of December, the official paper in this city, in the course of a reply to certain allegations of the Washington correspondent of the New York Star, made the following quotation from a letter of that correspondent, which we had not read until we met with it in the Globe:

"One part of the statement of this mischievous letter-writer we think proper to notice; not that we attach importance to his stories, but it is good to expose wilful misstatements which are propagated by others of some repute upon the same subject. The writer of the letter says:

"'As Mr. Taney will be nominated for the Chief Justiceship, it is due to the character of the Senate, as well as the cause of sound principles, to inquire whether that individual, as acting Secretary of the Treasury, did not withhold certain information called for by that body. It appears that about the latter end of the session of 1833, on motion of Mr. Webster, it was resolved that the Secretary of the Treasury should inform the Senate whether any officer has been appointed by the Administration, whose duties were connected with the deposite banks, the nature of the duties, the compensation, by whom appointed, and under what authority. To which Mr. Taney, in substance, answered, no such appointment had been made, and no person was employed having authority to interfere with the business of the deposite banks, except Mr. S. McKean, a clerk in the Treasury Department, who, for years back, has had some important duties assigned to him in this respect.'

"He then charges Mr. Taney with having 'withheld certain information called for' by the Senate, and says, 'at the time Mr. Webster called for the information, R. M. Whitney held, and still holds, authority from the President to impose on the deposite banks,' &c."

After some sharp strictures on this charge, which the official journal termed "infamous," the Editor remarked as follows:

"In regard to the use made of Mr. Whitney's name, we are authorized to state, the assertion that he held, and still holds, authority from the President, &c., in any way relating to the deposite banks, is destitute of truth; and, furthermore, it is untrue, that, at the time referred to, he was in any wise employed by any one of the deposite banks.

"If any or all of the deposite banks think proper to employ Mr. Whitney, or any one else, to reside in Washington or elsewhere, as their agent, we presume they have a perfect right to do so. Every thing connected therewith is a matter resting entirely between such banks and the agent or agents which they may think proper to employ."

This statement arrested our attention at the time, as comprising the first admission we had seen, on official authority, of the possibility that Mr. Whitney was employed, and received compensation in any shape, as an Agent between the Treasury, and what we will call (for the sake of brevity) *the Pet Banks*. We copied the two above paragraphs into this paper, and remarked upon them, that, *if* Mr. W. was an agent at all, and *if* he received any compensation for such agency, it now appeared that it was paid by the Deposite Banks. If we qualified our statement by *ifs*, we added, it was because we had nothing more than *ifs* for our authority.

Now for the new incident. By the last mail from the West, we received the Missouri Republican of the 19th of January, containing the following:

"*Important Disclosures.*—We understand from Vandalia, that the Illinois Senate was, last week, through a committee appointed for the purpose, engaged in an examination of witnesses and papers touching the relations and correspondence of the State Bank of Illinois with the Treasury Department of the Government, pending its application to be made a depository of the public moneys. It was established, we have understood, by the evidence of gentlemen on the ground, and from the letters of *Reuben M. Whitney*, (the Agent of the Pet Banks *near the Treasury*,) that the principal objection on the part of the Government to granting the application arose from a belief *that the Bank could not be used to aid the election of Martin Van Buren to the Presidency.* Whitney, in his correspondence with a Director of the Bank, cited the election of Senators in Sangamon, shortly after the establishment of the Bank at Springfield, and Gov. *Duncan's* letter about that time, as evidence that the Bank had used its influence *against* the Administration, and, therefore, he would not sanction the application until the Bank exonerated itself from the charges. Col. Mathers, President of the Bank, Judge Smith, Samuel Wiggins, Esq., and others, were examined; and, on Saturday, the sergeant at arms was despatched for R. Tilson, Esq. The report of the committee will of course be printed, with the examinations and so much of the correspondence as can be obtained."

[The *italics* in this paragraph are those of the journal from which we copy it.]

Now, we are not going to affirm the exact truth of the above statement, because there may have been error in the information which the editor of the Republican has received. It may, by possibility, be all false. But this we must observe, in regard to the journal in which we find it: that it is a journal discreetly conducted, not prone to violence, and not given to misrepresentation. We must suppose, therefore, until it is contradicted by evidence, that the statement which it makes is substantially true, and will be borne out by the testimony which it appears has been taken before a committee of the Senate of Illinois, and is to be published by its authority.

We must, as now viewed, consider this as the first evidence, accidentally arrived at, of a system of political corruption by means of the control exercised by the Executive of the United States over the public treasure; the existence of which has been suspected by many, and asserted by some, but which, until this moment, we have not been thoroughly convinced of. We cannot doubt, with the evidence now before us, that, through the instrumentality of *the Pet Banks*, the public money is deliberately used, (not spent, observe, but used,) to the amount of the twenty millions of dollars now in the Treasury, with the direct view of procuring the election to the Presidency of him whom the President is known to prefer as his successor.

What say THE EXPUNGERS to all this?

THIRD TERM.—We have, within a few weeks, heard considerable talk of the probability that General Jackson would be a candidate for re election to the Presidency, with a view of being the first President to be called a third time to the Executive chair; and our recollection of these hints was awakened by reading, in the Washington Telegraph, the following remarks:

"The Editor of the Richmond Enquirer hoots at the idea of General Jackson offering for a third term. This is all affectation.—Ritchie knows as well as we do, that such a project is in contemplation. He knows that to it may be attributed the whole of the difficulty with France. He knows further, that it is a subject of common conversation with the underlings that flock around Kendall, Blair & Co., and he well knows that such conversations would not be held, were it not pleasing to those individuals, and what is pleasing to them, is of course pleasing to the General. The Editor of the Enquirer knows all this, but he wishes to seem not to know it. It is neither for his own interests nor those of Mr. Van Buren, nor of the Virginia politicians of the Van Buren school, that General Jackson should offer for a third term. It endangers, if it does not completely destroy the succession. Mr. Ritchie knows that *he* has nothing to hope from General Jackson, however disposed Mr. Van Buren may be to reward his services. He knows that General Jackson will never let pass from his mind, his election a "curse to the country," and he cannot forget the compliment paid him in return by the General, that "Ritchie was the greatest scoundrel in America." All these things combined, explain why the Editor of the Enquirer scouts the idea of a third term."

Startling as is the idea of a third term to the minds of the people generally, still it should be borne in mind that there is, in the Constitution, no prohibition of the measure; nothing is said of it in the laws; and only the *practice* of General Washington, and Messrs. Jefferson, Madison and Monroe, is to be cited against it. General Jackson has not shown himself to be entirely under the influence of the custom of his predecessors, and as he prefers *making* to *following* examples, we ought not to be surprised if it should appear that he was regarding, with complacency, the probability of such a conjuncture as would lead any considerable number of his friends to invite him to accept a nomination for a third term. We may do injustice to the President by such surmises as the above, but we are very certain that some of his warm political friends are looking upon the French difficulties and Florida troubles, as favorable to their desire—not indeed that they are pleased with the cruelties committed, or the injuries sustained, but that, coming at the present time, they are pleased that there are some to encourage them to call for a third term.—*Philad. U. S. Gaz., 6th inst.*

Pun Military.—A young ensign, complaining of the smallness of his apartments at the barracks, after many attempts at a simile, compared them to a *nutshell*. On which, a friend congratulated him, as, by dwelling in a *nutshell*, he had attained the rank of *kernel*.

THE HORRORS OF WAR.

The first great obstacle, my friends, to the extinction of war, is the way in which the heart of man is carried off from its barbarities and its horrors by the splendor of its deceitful accompaniments. There is a feeling of the sublime in contemplating the shock of armies, just as there is in contemplating the devouring energy of a tempest; and this elevates and engrosses the whole man, till his eye is blind to the tears of bereaved parents, and his ear is deaf to the piteous moan of the dying and the shriek of their desolate families. There is a gracefulness in the picture of a youthful warrior, burning for distinction on the field, and lured by the generous aspiration to the deepest of the animated throng, where, in the fell work of death, the opposing sons of valor struggle for a remembrance and a name; and this side of the picture is so much the exclusive object of our regard as to disguise from our view the mangled carcasses of the fallen and the writhing agony of the hundreds and hundreds more, who have been laid on the cold ground, where they have been left to languish and to die. There no eye pities them. No sister is there to weep over them. There no gentle hand is present to ease the dying posture, or bind up the wounds which in the maddening fury of the combat have been given and received by the children of one common father. There death spreads its pale ensigns over every countenance, and when night comes on, and the darkness around them, how many a despairing wretch must take up with the bloody field as the untented bed of his last sufferings, without one friend to bear the message of tenderness to his distant home—without one companion to close his eyes! On every side of me I see causes at work which go to spread a more delusive coloring over war, and to remove its shocking barbarities to the back ground of our contemplations altogether. I see it in the history which tells me of the superior appearance of the troops, and the brilliant of their successive charges. I see it in the poetry which lends the magic of its numbers to the narrative of blood, and transports its many admirers, as by its images, and its figures, and its nodding plumes of chivalry, it throws its treacherous embellishments over a scene of legalized slaughter. I see it in the music which represents the progress of the battle; and where, after being inspired by the trumpet-notes of preparation, the whole beauty and tenderness of a drawing room are seen to bend over the sentimental entertainment: nor do I now hear the utterance of a single sigh to interrupt the death-tones of the thickening contest, and the moans of the wounded men, as they fade away upon the ear, and sink into lifeless silence. Ah, all goes to prove what strange and half-sighted creatures we are. Were it not so, we could never have been seen in any other aspect than that of unmingled hatefulness; and I can look to nothing but the progress of Christian sentiment upon earth to arrest the strong current of its popular and prevailing partiality for war.

THE TITHE SYSTEM OF IRELAND.

The following is a spirited picture, by O'Connell, in a recent speech, of the manner in which the Irish Tithes are *not* paid. The enthusiastic patriotism which can thus still the impulses of avarice, and deaden the sense of interest, cannot but challenge the admiration and praise of a liberal people. It is highly characteristic of the warm-hearted sons of Erin; and affords an admirable proof of the policy, as well as the injustice and oppression, of the system which now grinds that noble people to the dust.—*Phil. Inq.*

"Paddy," says the parson, "you owe me £1 17s. 6d." "And what may it be for, your *Riverince?*" says Pat. [Laughter.]—"Tithes." "Arrah? thin I suppose your *Riverence* gave me some value forenint I was born, for devil a bit have I ever seen since. [Roars of laughter.] But your *Riverince*, I suppose, has law for it. Bless the law! your Honor, and I wouldn't be after going to disobey it; but, plase your *Riverince*, I have no money." "Ah, Pat, but you've a cow there." "Yes, your *Riverince*, that's the cow that gives food to Nory and the 14 childer." "Well, Paddy, then I must distrain that cow." "If your honor has law for it, to be sure you will." Well, what does Paddy do? He stamps the word "TITHES" upon her side, and the parson can't find a soul to take the cow. So he gets a regiment and a half, by way of brokers, [much laughter,] fourteen or fifteen companies, with those amiable young gentlemen their officers at their head, who march seventeen or eighteen miles across the Bog of Allen to take this cow to Carlow. When they get there, they find a crowd assembled; the parson rubs his hands with glee. "Plenty of customers for the cow," quoth he to himself. The cow is put up at £2—no bidder; £1—no bidder; 10s.—5s.—9d.—4d.—[Cheers] not a soul will bid, and back goes the cow to Nory and the 14 childer. [Continued cheers.] But the Irish parsons, poor fellows, must not lose their Tithes; so they apply to the English Parliament for £60,000—and when they find they can't get the cow from Paddy, they make a milch cow of John Bull. [Hear, hear!] Let them look at the history of Whigs. Let them resolve not to be humbugged, and return to Parliament men who will take equal care of John Bull's purse and person, as his friends in Ireland took care of Paddy Bull's cow.

Happy Pun.—A gentleman who was blessed with a mouth of unusual dimensions, was once asked by a friend if he had a *loan* of that mouth of his. "No," good humoredly rejoined the other, "I have it only from *year to year*."

CAMBRIDGE:

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1836.

☞The Orphans' Court of this county will sit on Monday week, 22d instant.

THE MEDIATION.—The truth of the Intelligence, given in our last, that Great Britain, with the consent of France, had offered to act as mediator between the latter and the United States, in order to restore their friendly relations, and that her kindly services had been accepted by the President, is placed beyond all doubt by the papers received on the nights of Tuesday and yesterday. Therefore, our affairs with France, lately so perplexed, so gloomy, so ominous of evil, have materially changed, and now present an aspect which promises an amicable, if not speedy, termination of the controversy in which the two countries have been involved. Indeed, we consider the difficulty, as we stated last week, as virtually at an end, though, it need not be disguised, contingencies may arise to prolong and increase it, and even give to it a result far different from the one now confidently anticipated. The following message from the President communicated to Congress on Monday, officially announcing the proffer and acceptance of the mediation of the British government, will be read with much interest; and while it shows that in this instance wisdom has prevailed in the Cabinet at Washington, it will tend essentially to remove the general apprehension of a rupture with our "ancient ally."

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

The government of Great Britain has offered its mediation for the adjustment of the dispute between the United States and France, carefully guarding that point in the controversy, which, as it involves our honor and independence, admits of no compromise. I have cheerfully accepted the offer. It will be obviously improper to resort even to the mildest measures of a compulsory character, until it is ascertained whether France has declined or accepted the mediation. I therefore recommend a suspension of all proceedings on that part of my special message of the 15th of January last, which proposes a partial non-intercourse with France. While we cannot too highly appreciate the elevated and disinterested motives of the offer of Great Britain, and have a just reliance on the great influence of that power to restore the relations of ancient friendship between the United States and France, and know, too, that our own pacific policy will be strictly adhered to; until the national honor compels us to depart from it, we should be insensible to the exposed condition of our country and forget the lessons of experience, if we did not efficiently and sedulously prepare for an adverse result. The peace of a nation does not depend exclusively upon its own will, but upon the beneficial policy of neighboring powers, and that nation which shall be found totally unprepared for the exigency and dangers of war, although it come without giving warning of its approach, is criminally negligent of its honor and its duty. I cannot too strongly repeat the recommendation already made, to place the seaboard in a proper state of defence, and promptly to provide the measures for amply protecting our commerce.

ANDREW JACKSON.

Washington, Feb. 8, 1836.

The bill to charter the Bank of the United States, which has already passed the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania, is still before the Senate of that State, which it will doubtless also pass.

The French frigate Dido has arrived at Martinique, from Brest. She is the only vessel of war that had left France, at our latest dates, for the West India station, the report of the arrival of a French fleet at Gaudaloupe to the contrary notwithstanding.

LEGISLATURE OF MARYLAND.

The bill to alter and change the name of Thomas Dawson, of Dorchester county, to that of Thomas McKenzie; the bill to incorporate the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Buck Town, in Dorchester county; the bill supplementary to the act entitled an act to incorporate the town of Vienna, in Dorchester county; and the resolution for erecting Light Houses and placing Buoys in the waters of the Chesapeake Bay, have passed both Houses.

The bill entitled an additional supplement to the act entitled an act to provide for the public instruction of youth in primary schools throughout this State; the bill entitled an additional supplement to the act entitled an act for erecting a bridge over Choptank river, at Dover Ferry, passed at December session, 1810, chapter 112; the bill entitled an act relating to pensions by county assessment; the bill entitled an additional supplement to an act entitled an act to encourage internal improvement; and the bill to alter and amend the constitution and form of government, so as to require the assent of two thirds of each branch of the Legislature to annul a marriage contract, have passed the House of Delegates.

Vienna Academy.—In the House of Delegates, on the 30th, Mr. Bayly, chairman of the Committee on Education, reported favorably on Mr. Travers's resolution, requiring the treasurer of the W. S. to pay annually to the trustees of this institution, the sum of one hundred dollars as a donation from the State.

[This resolution, we presume, will supersede the proposition previously made by Mr. T., seeking to aid the Academy at Vienna, by a division of the fund at present accruing from the State to the Cambridge and New-Market Academies.]

The Free Colored Population.—An order has passed the House of Delegates, by a vote of 37 to 13, instructing the committee on the colored population to inquire into the expediency of compelling the free people of color to emigrate from this state, within a given period.

Nanticoke Bridge.—In the House of Delegates, on the 2d, Mr. Travers, from the select committee to whom the subject had been referred, submitted a resolution, proposing that the State relinquish, to aid in repair of this bridge, the dividends now due and that may, by the 1st of July 1837, be-

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