



We invite attention to the remarks of P. F. Thomas, Esq. which will be found on the first page of to-day's paper.

The Twenty-second of February, the birthday of Washington, was celebrated by our citizens with more than usual interest. The 'Guards' paraded in the afternoon and gave earnest of a desire on their part to honor the memory of the illustrious man who stands emphatically the "first in the hearts of his countrymen." Dr. Cox delivered a very appropriate address in the evening before a large and respectable audience at the M. P. Church. At the conclusion of the exercises at the church, a number of citizens partook of a sumptuous supper prepared by the worthy host of the Union Hotel, and thus ended, to the gratification of all, the observance of the day, so far as it fell under our observation.

CONGRESSIONAL.—But little of interest has transpired in either House of Congress during the past week. In the Senate on Thursday, the most important subject considered was the resolution of Mr. Sempie directing the President of the United States to give notice to England for the termination of those stipulations of treaty allowing the joint occupation of the Oregon. Mr. Atchison opened the debate in favor of the resolution. He presented the strong views entertained by the vast population of the great Mississippi valley upon the question; which were, that the title of the United States to the territory of the Oregon was indisputable; and that one inch of the soil of that territory could not be yielded to the unjust demands of England, without dishonor; that one inch of it never would be yielded; that the claim of Great Britain was a mere pretence, without a shadow of right or justice to support it. The debate was continued throughout the day, and on the following day, when the Senate adjourned till Monday (yesterday.)

DEATH OF HON. JNO. LEEDS KERR. The Hon. JOHN LEEDS KERR died at his residence in this town on Wednesday evening last, after a lingering illness which he bore with composure and fortitude. His remains were interred on Saturday last in the family burying ground at Belleville in this county, the residence of the late Jno. Leeds Bozman.

We regret that circumstances compel us to abridge the remarks which we intended to make on this occasion. The subject of this obituary now slumbers in the quietude of the grave, and though our feeble tribute is to him as nothing, we pay it as a duty we owe to the memory of one of the oldest citizens that lived among us, and whose walks of life are familiar to us all. We are not disposed to indulge in the ordinary routine of eulogy, on the present occasion. That task we leave to able and more interested hands. Mr. Kerr was born on the 15th of January, 1780 near Annapolis in Anne Arundel county, and graduated at St. John's College in 1798 or 1799. He shortly afterwards commenced the practice of Law in this county (about the year 1801) and continued a citizen from that period to the day of his death. His standing at the Bar, we believe, has been conceded as of the highest order. If not an advocate, possessing the forensic display of some of his associates, he at least was fully equal to any in his legal knowledge and acquirements.

His political life has been chequered with steps of the politician. As early as 1816 he was chosen by the people to represent them in the Senatorial college of the State, and in the House of Representatives of the United States, and finally, in the Senate, where his term of office expired in March last. His declining health forbade him anticipating a reelection, which we believe he positively declined when it was ascertained that his party were in the ascendancy in the Legislature. He was one of the Presidential electors in 1840, and received a greater vote than any gentleman associated with him on the ticket. We have briefly said this much, and now the most pleasant part of our task remains. The private worth of Mr. Kerr is familiar to all who have ever had the pleasure of his acquaintance. Humanity's suppliant found in him a willing donor, and hospitality was a pre-eminent trait of his heart. The tear of suffering would he gladly wipe away, and wherever occasion offered, he cheerfully yielded his own convenience to the wishes of others.

His private character made him a man to be honored; and the community feel his loss in the many relations of life, in which he was a zealous and devoted participant. But he is gone—and though he has carried to the tomb an unblemished name, as a public man, he has left behind him an affection in the hearts of his surviving fellow-citizens which tribute but feebly expresses, and which those who know his private worth can never forget.

THE TAX BILL.—We have received a copy of this bill as it passed the House of Delegates; but as it is now pending before the Senate, we content ourselves, for the present, with laying before our readers the following synopsis of its provisions, which we hastily prepared for to-day's paper.

FOREIGN NEWS.

Arrival of the Hibernia.

NINETEEN DAYS LATER.

The Royal Steamship Hibernia, Capt. C. H. E. Judkins, was telegraphed early on Monday the 19th, and came to Boston (open) harbor in gallant style, and arrived at 5 o'clock, A. M., at her wharf in East Boston.

She brings nineteen days later news, making her passage in thirteen and a half days, one of the quickest that were ever made by this noble line of steamers. She met much ice during the latter part of the trip, but surmounted every difficulty triumphantly. Freight to the United States were improving.

Business continues to wear a smiling face. Cotton had advanced one farthing per pound, and the sales in six days reached the astonishing quantity of 109,000 bales! The great bulk was of course American, and more than half—55,000 bales were taken on speculation! The total sales of the last five weeks have reached the enormous extent of 355,000 bales against 127,000 during the corresponding period of last year!

The sales of Cotton during the present week have exceeded, in fact, any similar period since the first introduction of the Cotton trade. The extent to which speculation has been carried, and is still likely to be carried, may be inferred from the fact that one capitalist is in the market with £500,000 to invest in the staple! The Manchester spinners are seriously alarmed.

The Queen's Speech.—Parliament opened for the session on the 1st Feb. Her Majesty, accompanied by Prince Albert, in a clear and distinct tone of voice, read the speech which was handed to her by the Lord Chancellor with the usual ceremonies.

IRELAND.—The European Times has a comprehensive account of the State Trials, proportioned to the interest and importance of the subject. The Attorney General's opening shows that he merely led before the jury a chronological history of Ireland during the last nine months; the monster meetings, the burning speeches of O'Connell, the proceedings of the Repeal Association, the organization of the Repeal movement, the rent, and in that great national movement.

Montevideo.—Captain Wingate, of the bark Catharine, arrived at New York, in 51 days from Rio, reports that Montevideo had agreed to surrender in twenty days, having been sadly worsted in a number of severe skirmishes. All was quiet in the neighborhood of Rio, and business dull.

Senator Benton.—The Washington Whig Standard has a notice of Mr. Benton so just and liberal—so different from the usual tone of his press, that its eulogy is particularly deserving attention. It says: "We have entertained prejudices against him, believing him to be cold, austere, selfish, and destitute of the finer feelings of humanity; various circumstances, however, have of late led us to believe we have formed a wrong estimate of his character. As a politician he is firmly attached to his own principles, and inflexible in maintaining them; and yet fair and mild in his course towards his opponent, never seeking to gain his purpose by anything like unfair stratagem and scolding to take any undue and unmanly advantage. In his opposition he is open, frank, bold, and above board; pursuing his object, however 'with an eye that never sleeps, and an energy that never tires, he heeds no obstacles, listens to no remonstrance, fears no opposition, and sets at naught public opinion, content to attain his purpose, and, so he can accomplish that, caring, apparently, for nothing else."

John C. Legrand, Esq.—The Annapolis Republican, politically opposed to Mr. Legrand, in speaking of his nomination as Associate Judge of the Sixth Judicial District, says:—"We have had no opportunity of forming an opinion in regard to Mr. Legrand's legal attainments; but, however widely we may and do differ with him in political opinions he has so zealously espoused and advocated, we are free to say that his general intellectual powers are held in high estimation, and that we believe his private life to be without blemish."

Effects of Millerism.—The Norridge-wock, (Me.) Workingman says—"We are pained to learn that the wife of Mr. Solomon Luce, of New Vineyard, committed suicide last week, by taking laudanum, having become deranged by embracing the doctrine of Millerism. She was the daughter of David Pratt, Esq., and has left five or six small children to lament her melancholy end."

The Governor of Virginia has issued a proclamation for holding an election for two members of Congress, in the Districts lately represented by Messrs. GILMER and WISE, on the 4th day of April, the day of the State elections.

The Judgments.—The New York Commercial, says—"There is a letter in town from Washington, received this morning, stating that the vacant seat upon the bench of the Supreme Court, has been tendered to Senator Wright. The letter declares that the authority for the statement is unquestionable."

From the Madisonian of Wednesday evening.

LEAVE OF MR. FOX.—PRESENTATION OF MR. PAKENHAM.

At one o'clock to-day, the ceremony of taking official leave, on the part of Mr. Fox, late Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the British Government at Washington, and of the presentation of the Rt. Hon. Sir RICHARD PAKENHAM, the new Envoy and Minister, took place in the President's reception room. The President was attended by the members of his Cabinet, and Sir Richard by the gentlemen attached to the Mission.

The following is Mr. PAKENHAM'S ADDRESS. I have the honor to place in your excellency's hands the letter of the Queen, my sovereign, accrediting me as her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the United States.

Your Excellency is already aware of Her Majesty's earnest desire to cultivate and maintain the most friendly understanding with this country. Permit me, sir, to take this opportunity of assuring you that it will be the object of my highest ambition so to conduct my intercourse with your excellency's Government as to contribute, in as far as in me may lie, to the fulfilment of Her Majesty's friendly intention towards the Government and People of the United States.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPLY TO MR. PAKENHAM. It affords me great pleasure to receive the assurance which you give me of the friendly dispositions of her Britannic Majesty towards the Government and the People of the United States. And I indulge the hope that your residence near this Government may be attended by the establishment, on a firmer basis, of the relations of amity and peace which so happily exist between the two countries.

Legislative Proceedings.

FEBRUARY 20th.—In the House Mr. Stewart called up an order submitted by him on Friday last, directing the committee on grievances and courts of justice to report a bill providing for the better security of the public funds coming into the possession of the officers of the State—and to provide in case of defalcation or misdemeanor, the subjecting of such officer to fine and imprisonment, and to be removed from office at the pleasure of the Legislature.

Mr. Yellott objected to the instruction, upon the ground that the order pointed out what provisions the bill should contain, and left no discretion for the committee; also, that two similar orders had been passed and were then before the committee. [From this latter fact, the committee not having made a report thereon, we may infer they intended to make none.] The reason for such a course, we cannot divine, unless the astute young Whig who stands at the head of the committee, imagining that in case of success at the approaching gubernatorial election, he did not desire to leave the Executive appointments contingent upon the mere will of the Legislature.] The order was adopted.

Mr. Carey, as a member of the committee on ways and means, made an adverse report in relation to the speculative views of the majority of that committee, as contained in their report some days since in relation to the finances of the State. It was ordered that 1000 copies be printed.

Mr. Wooten reported a bill extending the time for the completion of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal. Mr. Pointry reported a bill to enable the people of this State to absolve themselves from direct taxation by paying the principal of the public debt.

The bill providing for the completion of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal was taken up, as the order of the day. Mr. Wooten submitted a substitute therefor, providing the Governor cause a survey to be made from Dam No. 6 to the mouth of Savage river, with a view to constructing a slack-water navigation by dams, locks or canal at that point; and if practicable, the Governor to direct the company to proceed with the work. The company to issue bonds to the amount of \$1,000,000, to be redeemed in not less than forty years, bearing an interest of six per cent. Seven thousand dollars of the revenue from the canal to be placed in a sinking fund annually for the redemption of the same. The substitute was ordered to be printed; and the whole subject laid over until to-day.

Mr. Hopkins submitted a resolution providing for the withholding of the State's commissions to such academicians, &c., as shall fail to report under existing laws—passed. Mr. McKaig submitted an order calling upon the President of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal company for a statement relative to the practicability of carrying into effect the substitute above mentioned—adopted.

Mr. Powder submitted an order calling upon the same officer for information relative to fees and salaries paid by the company, and whether any agent or agents are employed to attend upon the present Legislature, and what fees are paid for such services—adopted.

Canal Bill.—The bill providing for the completion of the Ches. & Ohio Canal, has occupied the greater portion of the time of the House since our last. The substitute offered by Mr. Wooten has not been acted upon—the original bill being up for amendment, or perfection. The only material change that has been effected, is the substitution of \$1,545,000, on the motion of Mr. Calvert, for \$2,000,000 of bonds, as provided for in the bill as originally reported. The question now pending, is the motion of Dr. Phelps, providing that the bonds shall not be sold for less than their par value. The amount as provided for under the amendment, is generally believed, if fully realised, will scarcely cover

HANNA, a sterling Democrat over Mr. A. G. CRAIG, Whig, by a majority of 62. At the August election, Mason, Whig was elected by a large majority. This election is an additional proof of the still advancing cause of Democracy in Kentucky."

JUDGE GASTON'S LAST WORDS.

The Clarion thus beautifully and impressively sketches the death-bed scene of this excellent man: "His last words were in admirable keeping with the purity and piety of his long life. Surrounded by a few of his chosen friends, who were at his bedside on the first intimation of a danger to which he was inescapable, he was relating with great playfulness, the particulars of a convivial party at Washington many years ago, and spoke of one who on that occasion avowed himself a 'free thinker' in religion. 'From that day,' said Judge Gaston, 'I always looked on that man with distrust. I do not say that a Free Thinker may not be an honorable man—that he may not be from high motives seem to do a mean act—but I dare not trust him. A belief in an over-ruling Divinity, who shapes our ends, whose eye is upon us, and who will reward us according to our deeds, is necessary. We must believe and feel that there is a God—all-wise—and raising himself and seeming to swell with the thought! Alas! there was a sudden rush of blood to the brain—he sank in the arms of his friends—and in five minutes his spirit was gone! Not a struggle betokened his flight. Not a groan pained the ear of his agonized friends. His body has gone to the dust—his spirit, we cannot doubt, now rests in the bosom of that God Almighty whose name was last on his lips, and to whom he had long given the homage of a pure and devout heart."

SHAMMING CRAZY, but soon found out. J. Augustus Greenough, the young highwayman and burglar, who, among other audacious deeds robbed the house of John A. Bolles, Esq., pretended to be insane in his cell the other night. He yelled and bellowed like a regular built madman—divested himself of the principal part of his clothing, tore his bedding to tatters, and broke his iron bedstead to pieces. As Mr. Holmes, the watchman, passed his light hole, Greenough threw at him a piece of the bed, and hit him in the head, but not hard enough to hurt him. He continued raving for some hours, but finding that the officers would not take any notice of him, (they being used to such tricks) he concluded to give up the plan about two on Friday morning. About breakfast time he indulged in a little gentle moaning, but had no more effect on the sensibilities of the officers than his previous fury had upon their terrors.

They quietly collected together near his cell, and one of them unlocked the door, and passed on his rounds. Soon after Greenough poked his head out, like a rat to reconnoitre, and seeing no one in the passage, he walked out, and was instantly enveloped in the muscular embraces of Mr. Holmes, who was composedly waiting for him by the door. He squirmed a little at first, but gave up when Mr. Coolidge, the jailor, told him that as soon as he came to his senses he would be treated like a sensible man. He has since behaved well. During his confinement, he has amused his leisure moments in a singular way, by drawing sketches of pirates and banditti engaged in the conflicts incident to their vocations. They are executed with a great deal of spirit, and prove that he has a decided genius for drawing. Before his arrest, he had also exhibited evidence of talent in sculpture. He did not come into the world under the sanction of the laws, and hence he has never experienced the fostering care of a father, and his fine natural talents have been thus lost to himself and the world.—Boston Post.

The Floods in Alabama have been almost unprecedented. Advice from Mobile of the 4th instant, state that the road from that city to Claiborne was inundated. The trees and house tops, where they were visible, were crowded with poultry, and ducks and geese were swimming through the windows. Fences had been carried away in all directions and many cattle swept off. The waters were, however, fast subsiding. Mr. Macready's baggage was supposed to have stuck in the mud somewhere between Griffin (Ga.) and Mobile. The Wetumpka Argus, of the 31st ultimo, says: "New accounts of loss and disaster by the late freshets are reaching the city every day. Many of the planters have lost considerable cotton and cattle by the flood. The loss of the latter cannot yet be enumerated; it must, however, be immense, and every day brought intelligence of cattle being drowned on the different river bottoms throughout the country. In Coosa county, nearly every mill impelled by water power has been swept away. The driver of the Tuscaloosa stage, between that city and Wetumpka, lost four beautiful horses in attempting to cross Mulberry Creek, and narrowly escaped with his own life."

Another Shower of Flesh and Blood.—An extraordinary sensation was created in Jersey City on Tuesday by the fall of a substance resembling bloody flesh, in pieces varying from the size of a dime to a twenty-five cent piece. The rumor of the mysterious shower soon spread around the city, and people gathered from all quarters to examine the substance. It appears that the shower fell upon a small space, probably not over eight hundred feet square, and the flakes resembled pieces of bloody flesh more closely than any thing to which they could be compared. Wherever the flakes fell on linen, the "blood" gradually spread over the cloth, leaving a thick, fleshy substance in the centre of the stain, which gave out an offensive, fetid smell. The clothes-lines within the bounds of the shower were almost all well stacked with newly washed garments, and the flakes fell so thick that even the smallest garments were stained, all having to be re-washed immediately.

tions of duty to our party and our country which have governed us, and to unite cordially and firmly with us in the course indicated for the maintenance and establishment of our common principles.

It is true that, for the present, we forego the high gratification of rendering the imperfect tribute of our suffrages to that distinguished statesman, John C. Calhoun; whose pre-eminence abilities, profound political sagacity, and enlarged experience, have extended the wisdom and illustrated the annals of his age, and the surpassing purity of whose life and character has exemplified, in happy union, the genius which exalts to fame, with the generous affections and gentle sympathies which subdue the soul to virtue. But to this his own magnanimous spirit has consented, and the necessities of an evil time, and of special circumstances, have constrained. Nor even in this are we unmindful of him whom it is our proud distinction to honor even and appreciate, since, from the merit of magnanimity kindred to his own, we may hope will result throughout the republican party a loftier conception of the elevation of his character and the purity of his principles, and a juster award in future of honor to his pre-eminent claims. We can also know and feel that whatever the sacrifice of personal preference, we shall, in the coming contest, be battling manfully for the preservation of those great principles of State rights, republican liberty, and southern interests, in his deep devotion to which, we recognise the affinities that most strongly bind him to our affections. Our consciousness, too, will be strong and consoling, that to our party and our country we are discharging a high and solemn duty.

The spectres of those monsters of partial and unconstitutional legislation, which engendered from the foul embraces of monopolizing and corrupting interests, enjoyed a brief existence during the period of whig domination in 1840, have not yet wholly disappeared from the halls of Congress, nor vanished from the eyes of the nation. They await but the vivifying breath of a whig majority to be reanimated into a yet more frightful existence, and with its encouragement to fasten like harpies on the best interests of the national bank, to buy up the moneyed interests of the country, and to control, for the furtherance of avarice or power, the property and labor of all; a tariff to build up and sustain, at the expense of gross oppressions and exactions on all, but especially us of the South, grand manufacturing monopolies, on which the government may rest the maintenance of its own abuses, and the perpetuation of its assumed powers; a gigantic scheme to make the sovereign States stipendiaries of federal bounty, and with funds abstracted from the public revenues to bribe them to their own betrayed abasement; and, finally, a daring design to cast down with ruthless hands the most valuable conservative bearer of the constitution, that on its ruins may be reared that Moloch of party, the unguarded will of a mere numerical majority. These, fellow-republicans of the State rights school, are the measures and designs, affixed in nature, and banded in unholy alliance to subvert the liberties and outrage the constitutional rights of the people and the States, against which you are invoked to strive and war. To them, each and all, upon full, deep, and intimate conviction, you and we are, and ever will be, utterly hostile. Aid them we know you cannot—duty, honor, principle, all forbid. But to oppose them warmly, energetically in concert with the entire party, are you not likewise bound, since passiveness may be construed into submission, and your neutrality may ensure their triumph. The decision is now with you, and made in a noble spirit, we admit not a doubt it will be worthy of you as republicans—as Virginians—as consistent admirers of the greatest living champion of the constitution and the rights of the States.

- LEWIS E. HARRIS, of Amelia, Cl'n.
- R. M. T. HUNTER, of Essex,
- JAS. A. SELDON, of Richmond,
- WM. O. GOODE, of Mecklenburg,
- WASHINGTON GREENHOW,
- ROBT. G. SCOTT, of Richmond,
- WM. F. GORDON, of Albemarle.

Movements in Ohio.—The abolitionists of Ohio held a State Convention at Columbus on the 6th and 7th inst. The Statesman says it was unanimously and respectably attended.

The resolution nominating James G. Birney of Michigan, for President, Thomas Morris of Ohio, for Vice-President, and Lewis King for Governor, were adopted unanimously and with three rounds of applause.

A full ticket of Presidential Electors was nominated by the convention. Daniel O'Connell was eulogized as "the great agitator of free principles."

The Statesman says the speakers in the convention denounced the democrats with much bitterness, as having taken a bold and manly ground against the schemes of the abolitionists, while the Clay whigs were scathed for their double dealing. During this scene "the Clay whigs present looked white as death on a pale horse."

The convention may be regarded as a movement of importance. It is now probable that the abolitionists will vote their whole ticket in Ohio. If so, this diversion of a large body of electors who voted for Harrison in 1840, will give but a faint hope for Mr. Clay in that state.

OLD KENTUCKY.—The contest for Governor in Kentucky, is waxing quite warm, the candidates have taken the stump, and the Democracy are in the finest spirits of this State since the Clay races. Old Tennessee is wide awake and he and his friends are pushing ahead the Democratic principles with the greatest vigor. The following is something of a sign:—The special election in Carroll and Gallata counties to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Mr. Mason, has resulted in the choice of Dr. P. P.