ENOCH PRATT
BALTO.
FREE LIBRARY

MARYLAND LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

Monday, Feb 2d.—A bill from the House relative to the Union company and Cumberland coal mining company was slightly amended, and returned to the House. The amendments were concured in by the House, and the bill finally passed.

A bill from the House in relation to the Maryland Penitentiary, was also passed.

Tuesday.—A supplement to an act relating to free negroes and slaves, was passed.

Wednesday.—A bill incorporating the Potomac Transportation Company.

Thursday.—Nothing of importance done.

Friday.—A bill to change the terms of Charles County Court;

A supplement to the act abolishing the Levy Court of Charles county, and providing for the election of commissioners;

A bill extending the act of 1831, ch. 320, to free negroes from the District of Columbia and Territories; and

A bill supplemental to ch. 323 of 1831, relating to the holding of negro camp meetings; were passed.

A resolution was passed in favor of Wm. J. Belt, late a commander in the U. S. Navy.

Saturday.—The Senate did not sit to-day.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Monday, Feb. 2d.—Mr. Cox presented a memorial signed by Francis Gallagher and 104 other citizens of Baltimore, in favor of the abolition of capital punishment.

Also, a similar petition from citizens of the State at large.

Also, a memorial relative to the inspection of green hides and leather.

On motion of Mr. Allnut, of Calvert, the committee on the Constitution were directed to inquire into the propriety of limiting the period of the session to the 10th of February instead of the 10th of March.

A bill directing the Commissioners of Somerset county to publish a statement of the county expenses, was passed.

Tuesday.—Mr. Hollyday submitted a resolution providing for the appointment of commissioners to replace a stone marking the north-eastern corner of this State, where it intersects the States of Pennsylvania and Delaware. Referred to the committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. Johnson, from the committee on Ways and Means, reported a bill imposing a tax on commissions allowed trustees and receivers.

A bill authorizing an increase of the capital of the Western Bank of Baltimore city; and

A bill supplementary to an act imposing a tax on inheritances, collateral securities, &c.; were passed.

Wednesday.—Mr. Patterson, of Mont., obtained leave to report a bill abolishing imprisonment for debt.

Mr. McLane, from the committee on Militia, made an unfavorable report upon the proposition from the Military Convention, for reorganizing the militia of this State. Laid on the table.

A bill imposing a tax on lottery tickets; and

A bill from the Senate authorizing officers of the army and navy to bring and retain slaves in this State; were passed.

Thursday.—Mr. Bowie submitted a resolution, which was passed, directing that the resolutions passed by the Legislature in 1843 and '44, in favor of reinstating Wm. J. Belt, a commander in the U. S. Navy, be forwarded to the Senators from this State in Congress.

A message was received from the Executive, enclosing books from the Governor of Massachusetts, relative to primary school education.

Mr. Johnson, from the committee on Ways and Means, reported a bill supplementary to the act of 1841, ch. 23, providing a revaluation of the real and personal property of this State.

Mr. Patterson, of Montgomery, reported a bill abolishing imprisonment for debt.

A bill for building an additional tobacco warehouse in the city of Baltimore, was passed.

Friday.—Mr. Reeder obtained leave to report a bill to repeal, so far as regards Charles county, the 5th sec. of ch. 281 of 1831, which authorizes the Orphans' Court to grant permits to manumitted slaves, in certain cases, to remain in the counties where manumitted.

Mr. Bowie obtained leave to report a bill providing for a uniform system of public education in this State.

Mr. Hollyday, submitted an order directing the committee on Ways and Means to report a bill permitting persons to pay their *quota* of the direct taxes immediately into the Treasury. Laid on the table.

Saturday.—A debate arose upon the bill reported from the committee on Ways and Means for the appropriation of the school fund standing to the credit of Calvert county, to the payment of the taxes due by said county. Passed by a vote of 35 to 21.

Mr. Reeder obtained leave to report a bill to amend the primary school law of Charles county.

Mr. Morris obtained leave to report a bill to alter the Constitution so as to erect Howard District into a county.

Mr. Stephen obtained leave to report a bill supplemental to the act giving the Chancellor and county courts jurisdiction in cases of divorce.

Mr. Biser obtained leave to report a bill to make uniform throughout the State the publication to be made by applicants for the benefit of the insolvent laws, and to prescribe the form of said publication.

A report was received from the States' agents in joint stock companies of the proceedings of the stockholders of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company.

A supplement to chapter 245 of 1838, relating to the trial of facts in the counties of this State; and

A bill regulating writs of error and granting appeals to the Court of Appeals; were passed.

THE TIMES.

PORT TOBACCO, MD.

THURSDAY MORNING, FEB. 12, 1846.

Small Pox.—We regret to learn, says the Leonardtown Beacon, that this disease has made its appearance in Chaptico district. An individual of the name of McPherson, who has lately moved to the county, is said to be laboring under its effects. It is believed that he contracted the disease in Washington, the place of his former residence.

Decision of Charles County Court Reversed.—The Court of Appeals, at Annapolis, have reversed the judgment of Charles County Court in the case of Artemisa Budd *vs.* Walter T. Brooke and others. The opinion of the Court was delivered by Judge Dorsey.

The Senate, on the 6th instant, passed the supplement to the act abolishing the Levy Court of Charles County.

Also, the bill to change the common law terms of Charles County Court.

The following is a synopsis of the bill reported by Mr. Cook, of Queen Ann's county, Chairman of the Committee on Colored Population of the House, which we believe has passed both branches of the Legislature, entitled, "A supplement to an act relating to free negroes and slaves, passed December session, 1831." In the original bill it is made lawful for free negroes or slaves to attend all meetings intended for religious purposes, upon condition said meeting be conducted by a white licensed or ordained preacher, or some respectable white person. This supplement repeals so much of that bill as may be construed into authorizing the holding of negro camp meetings, as well as all other out-door meetings, and provides that the owner of the land upon which any such meeting is held, with his knowledge and consent, shall be amenable to a fine of one hundred dollars.

And further, that all meetings of negroes for religious purposes, except those held at regular and appointed places of worship, are unlawful; and that the owner of the house where any such meeting may be held, shall be subject to a like fine of one hundred dollars.

We have received the February No. of the American Farmer, which contains many interesting agricultural articles. The editor speaks of his having congratulated his brethren of the Plough, in his last number, upon the cheering prospects of good prices for the surplus products of their grain crops, and regrets that, since the more recent news from Europe, a cloud has come over the spirit of his dream. But adds: "From the best views we have been able to arrive at, we are inclined to the belief, that as the first rapid advance was without any just grounds, so is the present depression without reasonable cause, as we believe still that the crops in Europe, both of bread stuffs and potatoes, are greatly below the demands of consumption, and that the indisposition to buy in England—the inactivity in the market—arises out of the uncertainty existing there as to the action of the Government with regard to the Corn Laws. If we be right in this suggestion, we may be permitted to express the opinion that there is every prospect that those who have grain to sell will find a good market and fair prices for it before the occurrence of another harvest."

No insinivations, Sameval.—One of our exchanges observes, that a printer's money may often be found stowed away in his subscribers' pockets.

Who ever heard of such a thing? Why the fellow must surely wish persons to believe him.

We received per last mail an "Extra" from the office of the *Baltimore Visiter*, purporting to be addressed *to the lovers of truth and freedom.* The author of this address (our old *friend* the Doctor) proclaims to the world—meaning probably that portion of it extending from Pennsylvania to Canada—that a *crisis* has arrived in his public life. No doubt he wishes so, and is laboring to make his cohorts at the North believe such to be the case. We are of the opinion that the "Visiter" has for some time had in view, or has been anxious to bring about, something of this nature; and now that he has possibly obtained this long-hoped-for "crisis," we would advise him to take care lest it may prove to his sorrow. In God's name, does he suppose for an instant that the citizens of Maryland are to have their lives and property endangered, and not seek redress upon its author? We would advise the "Visiter" that discretion, in his case, may prove the better part of valor. If he is a colleague of Torry's, he may, in the nature of things, share a similar fate with that "lump of divinity." And why too, we should like to know, does he wish to drag a certain "Democratic paper" into the meshes of his "memorial," as he calls it, by laying it before the public? Perhaps as a shield to favor his designs. If an individual wishes to defend his "honor," would he for a moment reckon the "expense" attending upon his doing so? We think not. But, possibly, the "Visiter" may imagine himself a Sampson in the temple of the Philistines, and seeks but to destroy some of his enemies in a dying effort.

The House of Representativrs on Thursday last determined upon bringing the Oregan debate to a close on the following Monday. The *Intelligencer* says: Although the subject is important, and that able and interesting speeches may yet be delivered upon it was proved yesterday, yet the public as well as the House itself, has become weary of the length of the discussion and willing to see it ended, the more particularly since it seems to be generally understood that the Senate will oppose any action of the House that shall appear to be of a mischievous tendency.

It was ordered on that day that, until Tuesday, the House shall meet every day at 10 o'clock.

On Friday the House met according to the order of the preceding day, and until half past eight o'clock in the evening was engaged (a good part of the time not more than a third of the members being present) in hearing speeches upon the Oregon question. Already more than a third of the members of the House have taken their turn in the debate.

A bill recently passed the Legislature of Alabama, to relieve Mr. Yancy, a member of Congress from that State, of the disabilities he had incurred by accepting a challenge to fight a duel with Mr. Clingman, of North Carolina. Governor Martin vetoed the bill on the ground that the law imposing the disability was unconstitutional.

CHARLES COUNTY.

Appointments by the Governor, *by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.*

For Justices of the Orphans' Court—Josias Hawkins, Walter M. Millar, and Geo. P. Jenkins.

For County Surveyor—James Brawner, senior.

For Coroners—Absalom Tennison, Wm. Simmons, and George T. Smoot.

For Justices of the Magistrates' Courts—1st District—James D. Carpinter, Walter A. Haislip and George Taylor. 2d District—George Dent, Samuel Cox, Thomas A. Amery. 3d District—Thomas B. Berry, Henry A. Moore and Peter Dent. 4th District—Theodore Mudd, John A. Dyer and Benjamin Adams.

For Inspectors of Tobacco—At Pomonkey, John W. Guy; at Benedict, John W. Lamar; at Port Tobacco, James F. Stone.

For Justices of the Peace—Elijah W. Day, James McCormick, Thomas Milstead, John T. Maddox, Francis Robey, William E. Burtles, Stouton W. Dent, Henry H. Freeman, George T. Thompson, Thomas A. Millar, Edward Smith, Charles Robey, John M. Muschett, Robert A. Simpson, Ignatius Milstead, Hanson H. Robertson, Theodore Robey, Judson Huntt, John B. Norris, John R. Robertson, Edward W. Gardiner, Josias Hawkins, John W. Barker, Thomas A. Amery, John L. Lancaster, Charles I. Lancaster, James D. Carpinter, Walter A. Haislip, George Taylor, George Dent, Sam'l Cox, Thomas B. Berry, Henry A. Moore, Peter Dent, Theodore Mudd, John A. Dyer, Benjamin Adams, William Fergusson, Rob't L. Burch, Joshua Fendall, John Ware, William B. Marshall, Richard Price, and Edward Semmes.

On Saturday the President, in conformity with a resolution of the House of the 3d instant, submitted to Congress an important diplomatic correspondence, relative to the Oregon question, between the Secretary of State and our Minister at the Court of St. James, and also between the Government of Great Britain and that of the United States. This correspondence has occurred since the President's annual message to Congress, and will be read with much interest. Our limits will not allow us more than a brief synopsis of each letter. The first is a letter from Mr. Buchanan to the President, submitting the others.

The second is a letter from the same to Mr. McLane, our Minister to England, dated December 13th, instructing him to make inquiry touching the meaning of the warlike preparations making in that country.

The third is a letter, dated January 3d, from Mr. McLane to Mr. Buchanan, informing him that he had had an interview with Lord Aberdeen, who assured him that the war preparations of England had no reference to American affairs; believes Lord Aberdeen sincere—still thinks it possible that hostilities may come—in which England would be prepared to deal powerful blows against the United States, and would be likely to do so at the commencement.

In the fourth, dated December 27th, from Mr. Pakenham to Mr. Buchanan, the former, instructed by his Government, proposes to refer the Oregon question to some friendly sovereign or power, for arbitration, with a view to an equitable division of the territory and the preservation of peace between the two countries.

The fifth, dated January 3d, is from Mr. Buchanan to Mr. Pakenham, declining arbitration. The British proposition assumes that England has a title to a portion of Oregon, and thus takes for granted the very question in dispute; and to accept it would preclude the United States from pressing her claim to the whole before the arbitrator. This, even, if there were no others, would be a sufficient reason for declining; besides, he thinks that any attempt to refer the question to a third power, would only involve it in new difficulties; and cherishes the hope that the controversy may be amicably settled.

The sixth is from Mr. Pakenham to Mr. Buchanan, dated January 3rd, stating that he will send the answer of Mr. Polk, transmitted above by Mr. Buchanan, to the British Minister in London.

The seventh is from the same to the same, dated January 16th, in which he argues the question of arbitration, and controverting the President's objection to arbitration—declaring that England *has* rights in Oregon incompatible with the exclusive claim of the United States. He asks, whether the United States government is willing to submit to arbitration their claim of title *to the whole territory* of Oregon, on condition that if neither should be found to have a complete title to the whole the arbitrator should make just division of the territory between the two powers, in accordance with the value of their respective claims. He also mentions a mixed commission, and a board of civilians and jurists, as other modes by which the question might be settled.

The eighth and last is a letter from Mr. Buchanan to Mr. Pakenham, dated February 4th, declining the last proposition for arbitration. Its acceptance might, and probably would, be construed into an intimation, if not a direct invitation to the arbitrator to divide the territory. If he submitted to arbitration at all, the title alone is all the President could submit; he does not believe the territorial rights of this country to be a proper subject of arbitration, though under peculiar circumstances there might be an exception, a case in which there might be no insuperable objection. Mr. B. will not re-open the discussion of the title; the President still believes that the United States holds the best title in existence to the whole territory; and he thinks the two nations ought to be willing to do each other justice, without the interposition of any arbitrator.

The following are the particulars immediately following the duel between Mr. Jones and Dr. Johnson, as given by a correspondent of the Richmond Enquirer, and are believed to be correct:

After the parties concerned in the late fatal duel were taken to Upper Marlborough, at the request of the magistrates, who had refused to take bail, a Judge of the Superior Court of the State re-examined the case, and decided that, as killing in a duel was not a capital offence, according to the laws of Maryland, the parties under arrest were entitled to be admitted to bail; which was tendered and accepted, and they were discharged. The surgeons were discharged without bail on the first examination by magistrates, as there was no law to hold them. The second of the surviving combatant was arrested without sufficient authority, for there was no affidavit on which to base the warrant under which he was taken. And, after his discharge, while an affidavit and new warrent were being prepared on which to arrest him again, he made his escape. Last night (the 2d instant) the parties returned to Elizabeth city, North Carolina, where they reside, and the corpse of Dr. Johnson was at the same time taken to his friends.

An Express Across the Ocean.—The Baltimore Sun of Monday last says: Quite an excitement has been created in New York, on account of the announcement that a swift-sailing pilot boat, manned by a most experienced crew, is to sail at 12 o'clock to-day for Liverpool. The vessel alluded to is the pilot boat William J. Romer, which is considered one of the fastest vessels out of New York, and is strongly and ably manned. The voyage will be a trial of speed throughout, and it is reported she will make the shortest trip ever made between the two continents. It is surmised by some of the papers that she is to carry out despatches, though the object of her trip is kept a profound secret by those interested. She is to carry out letter bags from this government.

Re-Annexation.—On Tuesday, the 3d instant, say the Richmond papers, both Houses of the Virginia Legislature suspended their rules for the purpose of passing, unanimously, in both Houses, an act of retrocession, "Accepting by the State of Virginia the County of Alexandria, in the District of Columbia, whenever the same shall be receded by the Congress of the United States."

Distressing Cases of Small Pox.—We learn from the Upper Marlborough Gazette of Friday last, that a man having the small pox in its most violent form, and supposed to be idiotic or insane, found his way to that county a few days since. He remained in the village of Piscataway a short time, and when he left that place, he wandered about for several days and nights, without finding shelter. He has but one leg, and his sufferings must have been extreme. He was fortunately discovered by Dr. John H. Bayne, and carried in the doctor's cart, to the hospital near Washington.

We learn from the Patriot of Saturday last, that a man named Cook, resident of Baltimore, left his home some time ago in a state of mental derangement, caused by suffering from the small pox, with which he was dreadfully afflicted. He escaped in the night, and has not been heard of since by his friends, who fear that he has met an untimely end.

First of the Season.—We saw in market on Saturday, some bunches of fresh Herring, the first of the season. In a few days, if the present weather continues, we may look for that most delicious fish, the Shad.—*Sun of Monday last*

☞V. B. Palmer is authorized to procure and forward advertisements intended for insertion in this paper; and also for the collection of subscriptions. He has offices in the cities of Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore.

TEACHER WANTED.

THE Trustees of Primary School No. 2, of the First Election District of Charles County, wish to engage a Teacher for the present year to take charge of said school. No one need apply unless he can come well recommended as being of good moral character, and competent to instruct in all the branches of a common English education. It is desirable that the school be opened by the 23rd February.

W. SMITH, Sec'y of the Board.

Nanjemoy, Md., Feb. 4, 1846*

NOTICE.

ALL persons indebted on the books of the late firm of George W. Barnes & Co., are earnestly requested to close their several accounts, by note or otherwise, on or before the 2d day of March next, as no further indulgence beyond that time can be given to any person failing to comply with this notice.

R. BARNES,
Adm'r of G. W. Barnes.

feb 5—4t.

COPARTNERSHIP.

THE undersigned have this day formed a Copartnership under the firm J. B. & C. Fergusson, for the purpose of conducting the *Tobacco, Grain, and General Commission business.* They will also attend particularly to the purchase of goods, and hope by strict attention to the interest of the Farmer and Planter, to obtain a share of their patronage.

JNO. BEALE FERGUSSON,
CHARLES FERGUSSON.

Baltimore, Feb. 1, 1846.—2m.

[Beacon and Marlboro' Gazette 4 times.]

NOTICE.

THE Commissioners of Charles County will attend at the Court House in Port Tobacco, on MONDAY, the 16th day of March next, and will continue in session for six days, for the purpose of making changes and transfers in the assessable property of the county.

JNO. R. ROBERTSON,
Clerk,

jan 22—tm