

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

To the General Assembly of Virginia.

My friends, I have the honor to present to you the annual report of the Governor and Council, and to submit to you the annual report of the Auditor General.

It is with unalloyed satisfaction that I am able to congratulate you upon the auspicious circumstances under which this session of the General Assembly is convened. We are blessed with unusual health; our granaries were emptied during the past year to feed the starving millions of foreign lands, but have been again replenished by our abundant harvest; our revenues are ample; our laws are justly and equitably enforced; our industry is increasing, our commerce is improving, and the whole aspect of our State, and all the arts and comforts of civilized life are multiplying among every class and condition of the people.

It is under such circumstances that you commence your annual official duties, and I am confident that you will be able to discharge them with the same success and honor as you have done in the past. I have the honor to acknowledge the many valuable suggestions and recommendations which you have made in your report, and to assure you that they will be carefully considered by the Executive Department.

On the 15th of October, 1846, the balance in the Treasury was \$137,433. After meeting all demands upon the Treasury, many of which were entirely contingent in character, and of large amount, there was a balance of \$157,142. This sum and the ordinary receipts into the Treasury during the present fiscal year, will pay all ordinary demands thereon, including 274,343 75, the interest on the public debt, \$9,381 66, on account of the Southwest and other public roads, and still leave an estimate surplus of about 148,000, a sum which it is presumed, when appropriated, will enable the Board of Public Works to meet all demands upon them during the present fiscal year, without resorting to loans—a resort which cannot be too cautiously made, especially as a large part of the State debt is now due, and the Legislature to be made to the James River and Kanawha Company.

The Legislature at their last session passed acts which will increase the liabilities of the State to the sum of \$2,397,500. Of this sum about one fifth has been actually paid, and the remainder will have to be incurred. In addition to this large amount, there was paid from the Treasury during the present fiscal year, \$78,614 84, and there will be paid during the present one, under appropriations heretofore made, the sum of \$95,381 03, in addition to the sum of \$1,000,000, which is now due on account of the James River and Kanawha Company. I respectfully refer you to the second and third reports, in which you may at a glance see the amount of our existing and prospective liabilities. When to these shall be added those which you may direct at your present session, it manifestly shows a moderate enlargement of our revenue may be necessary to maintain our public credit, in that high estimation in which it has for years been held.

It has long been a mooted point whether the living generation has a right to create a debt and leave it to posterity to pay. However this may be, it is a question which has been often exercised; and certainly objections can be urged with less force to that which may be incurred for internal improvement than to any other in the whole list of public expenditure. Debts thus created and invested, enhance the value of property. They are repaid by the increase of commerce, and the consequent increase of taxes, and are not to be repaid, as is often said, by the increase of taxes, but by the increase of the value of property, which is the result of the increase of commerce and industry.

It may safely be assumed, as the fixed determination of Virginia is to create a debt, and to leave it to posterity to pay, that the Legislature should be authorized to create a debt, and to leave it to posterity to pay, in such a manner as to be repaid by the increase of commerce and industry, and not by the increase of taxes. It is a question which has been often exercised, and certainly objections can be urged with less force to that which may be incurred for internal improvement than to any other in the whole list of public expenditure.

In support of these views, I regard it as one of the greatest imperatives of your session, to examine the annual report of the Auditor General, and to determine the limit of expenditure, by which the second annual report shall be regulated and controlled, and which your appropriations shall, under no circumstances, transcend. Such a regulation would satisfy the prudent and thoughtful friends of internal improvement, and would be a great benefit to the State. I am aware that the regulation suggested will not impose a legal restraint, even upon yourselves, and, of course, not upon your successors; but I am fully satisfied that the high moral obligation it will create will command general respect, and ensure for it scrupulous and honorable observance.

What is the limit we shall prescribe, nor will I neither unreasonably burden ourselves nor our posterity, and yet accomplish within a reasonable time the great enterprises we have in view? I have given to this subject the most careful consideration, and I have arrived at the conclusion, that we can and ought annually to expend, within the views I have presented, the sum of six hundred thousand dollars.

I look to the Treasury for one moiety, and to loans for the other moiety of this amount. The Treasury can be easily put in a condition to meet this demand, and before stated, the probable surplus in the Treasury on the 1st of October next, will be \$145,000, and for the appropriation to the Southwest and other roads and bridges, it would be upwards of \$340,000, leaving only the sum of \$60,000 to be provided by new and additional taxation. It is an inconsiderable amount, and will be a great benefit to the State, and will be a great benefit to the State, and will be a great benefit to the State.

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Devoted to News, Politics, Agriculture, General Miscellany and Commercial Intelligence.

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1847 988,678 passengers within the past year, an increase of 8410 within a single year. If such be the magnitude of its operations in its present unfinished state, it will be difficult to estimate it when it shall reach the Ohio. And yet we have a more favorable view, with the immense advantage of reaching that river at a more Southern point.

As to the route to be selected, that is of great but not of secondary importance. In illustration of this subject, I respectfully submit for your consideration, Doc. No. 17, embracing several different routes from this city to the falls of Kinawha, compiled from actual surveys and other data, in the substantial accuracy of which confidence may be reposed.

It will not, gentlemen, escape your observation, that the three first named routes pass up the valley of James river to Patuxent. What is your great duty promptly to begin and vigorously prosecute our connection with the Ohio river, it is equally our duty to secure all local advantages not inconsistent with that design. In locating this route, we ought to have an eye to the country it will develop, and a bound up every consideration of public duty to give that preference which will secure to our State the largest benefit.

The James River valley has long been regarded as the natural channel of connection with the West. In its prosecution by the design we have been engaged 63 years, and have expended already \$8,000,000. The canal has been completed to Lynchburg, and soon will be to Patuxent, affording to this noble valley and the contiguous country an immense and unsurpassable benefit and safety. Still, then, additional millions are expended in the construction of a railroad along the valley? Should other sections of the State, now languishing for facilities be overlooked, and their wants disregarded? Would it be just, or wise or politic? For these important considerations, I respectfully refer you to the report of the Board of Public Works, which is a most judicious and able exposition of the subject.

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that they had no authority of law to make the required subscription. In relation to this subject, I respectfully refer you to the report of the Board of Public Works, wherein will be found, if I do not greatly err, a full and complete vindication of that body against unjust aspersions as well as ample evidence of a firm and faithful adherence to their trust and duties.

As to myself, I have long felt a deep interest in the extension of the Louisa Railroad on the line indicated in its charter. When in the Senate of Virginia, I aided in the legislation in furtherance of this object; and when honored with the Chief Magistracy of my State, adhering to this policy, I endeavored to secure the opportunity to press it out into effect. I could not but be grieved, when I perceived that the efforts were being made to pervert the law, and to sink one of the most important enterprises of the State into a mere local improvement, and I felt bound to exert all my influence to prevent this design, and to continue the execution of the law, and to continue the execution of the law, and to continue the execution of the law.

The Board of Public Works was created by law for the purpose of carrying out the views of the General Assembly, and whenever a difference of opinion existed, the views of the majority should be respected. It is the duty of the Board to execute the law, and to continue the execution of the law, and to continue the execution of the law, and to continue the execution of the law, and to continue the execution of the law.

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against a white man, to intermarry with whites, to vote, and to teach the word of God to his own race in public assemblies? It is, because long experience has taught us that they are evil disposed and degraded idlers, vagabonds, and persons. In 1831 or '32, the citizens of Northampton county petitioned the Legislature for leave to remove their free negroes, and that body passed the requisite law, preceded by a preamble, in which it is recited, 'That it is the duty of the Government of this State, to take care for the peace and safety of their slaves, but also to the peace and safety of their citizens, and that the free people of color should be promptly removed from this country.' Can then the right, I repeat, the right to deport our free negroes, be questioned? Is it not based on the universal law, fully recognized by the Constitution, not only to the Government of their slaves, but also to the peace and safety of their citizens, and that the free people of color should be promptly removed from this country? Can then the right, I repeat, the right to deport our free negroes, be questioned? Is it not based on the universal law, fully recognized by the Constitution, not only to the Government of their slaves, but also to the peace and safety of their citizens, and that the free people of color should be promptly removed from this country?

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I trust, also, that you will not omit to direct the sale of a large amount of public arms, useless at present and daily deteriorating. They are not needed for any public use, and should be disposed of without delay.

I herewith communicate the resignation of Brigadier General J. R. Wallace of the fifth brigade of the militia of this State. (Doc. No. 31.)

I also communicate the report of our vaccine agent. (Doc. No. 31.)

I herewith communicate the letters of Major Gen. Zachary Taylor and Drevet Col. M. M. Payne of the United States Army, acknowledging the receipt of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of Virginia on the 20th March, 1847, directing a sword to be presented to the officers for their gallant services on the 8th and 9th of May, 1846. This resolution also embraced Lieutenant Colonel Garland, from whom I have received no reply. The sword has not yet been prepared.

The condition of the Literary fund will be fully presented to you in the report of that valuable officer, the Second Auditor. The various suggestions which accompany his report are the result of long experience, and are entitled to, and will, I trust, receive your favorable consideration. I entirely agree with him as to the impolicy of so many different systems of primary instruction. Existing laws must create much confusion and impose great additional labor upon this officer without any adequate advantages. Satisfied myself thoroughly of the great superiority of an uniform district system, sustained by the revenues of the Literary fund and county taxation, and convinced that all objections would disappear before the practical working thereof, I cannot too earnestly recommend it to your favorable consideration. The county of Norfolk was the first which has prevailed in this enlightened liberality, and proves most conclusively that the system adopted by her, not only accomplishes the great and benevolent purpose of giving to every child within her limits the blessing of education, but effects it at a rate of tuition much below that which has heretofore prevailed in any other county of the State. The county of Norfolk has the particularity exhibited in the school returns from the town of Portsmouth and the county of Charlotte, she will in all respects be a model for the rest of the towns and counties in our State. (See Doc. No. 4.)

It will be seen from the report of the auditor that he has been apprised by the treasurer of Emory and Henry College, that the further payment of the interest on the loan to that institution "is impossible." This determination involves a grave and important question; for you will not determine whether you will "forgive," to use the language of the treasurer, all the loans that have been made to our various literary institutions, and make similar donations to others, or coerce the payment of all loans when in default. If you release one of these loans, justice will require the release of all, and it will be necessary to determine whether you will "forgive," to use the language of the treasurer, all the loans that have been made to our various literary institutions, and make similar donations to others, or coerce the payment of all loans when in default. If you release one of these loans, justice will require the release of all, and it will be necessary to determine whether you will "forgive," to use the language of the treasurer, all the loans that have been made to our various literary institutions, and make similar donations to others, or coerce the payment of all loans when in default.

I visited the University of Virginia at her late anniversary, and witnessed the most interesting and beautiful ceremonies and performances. To the various circumstances which have recently threatened her stability, was added during the past summer, the offers made to several of the professors to take chairs in other institutions. These offers, however, have been happily and circumstantially adverted to have ceased to operate; and I can now confidently congratulate you that our noble university has commenced a new and brilliant career of usefulness and will yet nobly resist the anxious expectations of our commonwealth, and the warm wishes of our patriotic illustrious Jefferson. (See Doc. No. 5.)

The Lexington Institute is diligently and successfully engaged in its useful and benevolent duties. In its confined and restricted sphere it is unsurpassed for valuable acquisitions, and I commend it to your favor and ask a careful examination of its various reports.

The Lunatic Asylum seem to be well conducted, effecting no doubt, a large amount of relief to the afflicted.

The reports of the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind are highly interesting and most grateful to every benevolent heart. They illustrate, in a most striking manner, the art of man and the wonders of education. The deprivation of some of the most important senses and organs so happily supplied by the aid of Science, as to relieve those afflicted of all that would otherwise be a burden to make them useful, happy, and frequently most interesting members of society. The bounty of the State is ample, and has been, I have no doubt, wisely and judiciously expended. (See Doc. No. 7.)

The condition of the Banks of this Commonwealth will be found in their various reports, to which your attention will, of course, be directed. The acts authorizing a branch of the Farmers' Bank, and also of the Exchange Bank in the town of Alexandria, and of the Valley Bank in the town of Staunton, have been executed, and the banks commenced operations in the places stated in successful operation. The act passed at your last session to establish the Bank of Martinsburg in Virginia, is, I believe, yet wholly unexecuted, and will, I trust, be repealed. The policy of scattering small banking institutions over the country, is, in my judgment, unwise, and ought to be abandoned. The establishment of banks in commercial cities, is sustained by many plausible reasons; but their establishment in the country is repugnant to the soundest principles of political economy, and injurious to the best interests of society. I hope the day will not arrive when the free negroes, organized by law, shall become the ruling interests in this good old Commonwealth.

The practice of the banks, to which I called the attention of the Assembly in my last message, still continues. I am surprised at it, because I can see no necessary advantage in it. The whole character and business of the State an injury I have no doubt, and that it should be persevered in by our banks, sound and healthy as they undoubtedly are, and under the administration of gentlemen of superior intelligence, is to me a source of unfeigned astonishment and regret. The remedy is in your hands, and I trust will not be voluntarily abandoned, will, I trust, be applied.

I have had suggestions from highly respectable quarters, proposing that the law allowing proxies be repealed, as it is found that practically it places the Bank under the control of a few individuals. It has also been suggested that the quarterly Bank returns should embrace a return from each branch as well as the general returns required by law. As these suggestions are from gentlemen of high intelligence, I submit them to your consideration. (See Docs. Nos. 25, 26, 27 and 28.)

I herewith communicate certain resolutions of the Legislature of the State of Maine, approved June 15th, 1847, relative to a railroad, from Lake Michigan to the Pacific coast; and also similar resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut, passed May 20th, 1847, relative to the same subject. I also communicate a preamble and resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of Connecticut, expressive of their opinion, that if any territory should hereafter be acquired from the Mexican republic, the treaty of acquisition should contain a great and noble fundamental article or provision, "that the Southern people with their slaves should not be allowed to settle therein." (See Docs. Nos. 30 and 31.)

It is difficult to subdue our feelings sufficiently to reason with such a proposition as this. Virginia, a co-equal partner in our great confederacy, entitled to all the rights of property, migration and settlement possessed by any of her sister States, is gravely told that future acquisitions of territory, even if won and molested by her blood, are not open to her occupation.

Mr. Justice Story, in the case to which I have previously referred, in delivering the opinion of the court, says: "It is historically well known, that the object of the clause in the Constitution of the United States, relating to persons owning or holding slaves in one State, and escaping into

other States, was to secure to the citizens of the slaveholding States the complete right and title of ownership in their slaves, as property, in every State in the Union into which they might escape from the State where they were held in servitude.

The full recognition of this right and title was indispensable to the security of this species of property in all the slaveholding States, and to the interests and institutions, that it cannot be doubted that it constituted a fundamental article, without the adoption of which the Union could not have been formed. Its true design was to guard against the doctrines prevailing in the non-slaveholding States, by preventing them from interfering with or obstructing or abolishing the rights of the owners of slaves." And yet this institution thus protected, without which the Union could not have been formed, and intended to shield against the "intermeddling" of the non-slaveholding States, is to be crushed and the rights of the master annihilated, in disregard of reason, humanity, the constitution, and all the considerations which teach us the value of Union. It is generally admitted that slavery within the slaveholding States, cannot be constitutionally distributed, and beyond these limits, the institution should not and shall not extend; that the non-slaveholding States cannot aid in the perpetuation of slavery, submit to the increase of its political power, or allow the acquisition of territory from which their citizens are to be excluded, which has characterized slavery in the non-slaveholding States. "We know otherwise; for the citizens of the non-slaveholding States are to be found in every county in this Commonwealth on every soil, and in every climate of the habitable globe; and it is as clear as the sun that the extension of slavery into territory not occupied by it, involves the exclusion of the citizens of the non-slaveholding States. We know otherwise; for the acquisition of new territory involves only a change of residence. Nor is it seen how slave representation is to be increased, if the territory to be added is to be divided into counties, and the representation in the Senate of the United States, of new States which may be occupied in part by slaves and their owners, is not a representation of numbers, but of sovereignty.

It is, it is wholly denied that the extension of slavery into territory not occupied by it, involves the exclusion of the citizens of the non-slaveholding States. "We know otherwise; for the acquisition of new territory involves only a change of residence. Nor is it seen how slave representation is to be increased, if the territory to be added is to be divided into counties, and the representation in the Senate of the United States, of new States which may be occupied in part by slaves and their owners, is not a representation of numbers, but of sovereignty.

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THE SPEAKER'S REPORT.

The South may well be startled at the inroads which are being made upon her just rights. The North seems determined to humble her pride, and it is possible drive us to that point which submission would be pusillanimous, and resistance fatal to the peace and security of the Union. As one link in the chain of events, which is fast tending to crush our hopes, and destroy our rights, the elevation of Mr. WINTHROP to the Speaker's Chair of the House of Representatives, is not the least important.

CHARLESTOWN.

Friday Morning, December 17, 1847.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.
Most of our space to-day, is devoted to the publication of Governor Sumner's admirable Message. In composition, it is creditable—in enlarged, liberal and statesmanlike views, on all the great questions of National concern, it is commendable—and in its exposition of the condition of our State, and its various recommendations as to the future policy of the Commonwealth, it is, we venture to say, without a rival. What the Governor is satisfied is right, he has the boldness to assert. We, as well as others, may dissent to some of his recommendations, yet in the main, he has marked out that line of policy which will serve to awaken the good old Commonwealth from her lethargy, and put her in that track which will soon lead her to glory and to greatness.

We hope every reader will give to this Document, that calm, careful consideration, which it so justly merits.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.
From all parts of the Country our exchanges come teeming with commendation of this bold, masterly and patriotic Document. The National Intelligencer, almost alone, even among the Whig press, has made a desperate, though futile effort, to break the force of the President's position. It will not do, however. The people, almost with one accord, will stand by the President, indifferent as to the carplings and quibblings of its Anti-American press.

From among the Neutral papers, that have spoken out in favor of the Message, we take the following extract from the New York Sun: "It is a noble and profound document—bold, vigorous and patriotic, and will be read and read by the American people and by the intelligent of all civilized nations with the highest admiration. No state paper has emanated from an American Executive since the formation of the republic, calculated to create so deep a sensation throughout the world as this. We are not disappointed! The Message meets our highest anticipations, and is alike worthy of the man whose guidance has led the nation to prosperity at home and triumph abroad, and an honor to the nation which elected him to preside over its destinies. From beginning to end, it is truly, purely and admirably American, and will meet with the response of millions who have heretofore regarded its author with indifference. It lies before our readers, and we will not mutilate it by any attempt at analysis. Every line is infused with interests dear to the country, and in defence of those interests a manlier, nobler blow was never struck."

GEN. TAYLOR.
His Arrival and Reception at New Orleans.
As heretofore anticipated, the gallant old soldier arrived at New Orleans on the 31st inst., on the steamer Mary Kingland, direct from the Rio Grande. The New Orleans papers are filled with accounts of the welcome which was extended to the "Captain" of so many glorious and brilliant exploits. The Proclamation, the Mayor's Address and the response, by Gen. Taylor, the Te Deum at the Cathedral, the Dinner at the St. Charles, the presentation of a Sword by the Governor, the brilliant illumination, &c., of the City, would be all matters of interest to our readers, had we the space to lay a full description before them. After being duly honored by the City in mass, the old General again started for his home in Mississippi, the second day after his arrival in the Crescent City.

LONG DOCUMENTS.
At this season of the year, the country press experiences great inconvenience, from the necessary accumulation of important Documents. We have now on hand, the Reports of the various Departments of the General Government, a list of the members of the Senate and House of Representatives of the U. S., as well as a list of the members of the Va. Legislature, and the Report of the Auditor, which we will lay before our readers as early as a day as it is possible. We had hoped to have published the proceedings of the recent Democratic Meeting in Frederick County in this number, but we find by the last "Virginia" that they occupy near five columns of that paper. We shall publish a full account of the meeting, embracing its resolutions, speeches, &c., next week, if possible.

CONGRESS.
The two Houses of Congress are now but faintly getting under way. The Committees have been appointed, and each member his particular duty assigned. After the appointment of the Committees in the Senate had been made on Tuesday, Mr. Dickinson of New York, submitted the following resolutions, which will not doubt elicit considerable discussion, and the course of the Senate in relation thereto, be watched with great interest.

RESOLVED, That true policy requires the government of the United States to strengthen its political and commercial relations upon this continent, by the annexation of such contiguous territory as may conduce to that end, and can be justly obtained, and that neither in such acquisitions nor in the territorial organization thereof, can any conditions be constitutionally imposed, or institutions be provided for or established inconsistent with the right of the people thereof, to form a free sovereign State, with the powers and privileges of the original members of the confederacy.

RESOLVED, That in organizing a territorial government in territory belonging to the United States the principles of self-government, upon which our federal system rests, will be best promoted; and that Congress upon a territorial bill, should not be asked to assume the responsibility of organizing a territorial government, but to leave all questions concerning the domestic policy therein to the legislatures chosen by the people thereof.

The election of Chaplain was the only matter of interest in the House on Tuesday. The Rev. ROYAL R. GURLEY, Presbyterian, was elected. His most formidable opponent was the Rev. Mr. Cushman of the Baptist Church. The Rev. Messrs. Dowe, McIlhenny and Reese, were also candidates for the office.

THE PHILADELPHIA ART UNION.
We desire to call the particular attention of our readers to the Advertisement of the Art Union, of Philadelphia, to be found in another column.—The object of this institution is one of truly a national character—the promotion of the Art of Design, and the encouragement of Artists in our country—and as such appeals to the pride and patriotism of every American in language more eloquent than words can convey. It is a great misfortune, that while we have in our countrymen all the mind, the energy, the ingenuity and perseverance requisite to the attainment of the highest excellence in every branch of human pursuit, so little of the public attention and interest has hitherto been directed to the Arts of our country. Notwithstanding this negligence, American genius has not been kept down. Who among us does not feel proud of the name of a Powers, the greatest living Artist, and a son of the Far West? Who can gaze upon his Eve, that happy blending of womanly passion and intellect, without feeling his cheek glow with pride, not to be diminished even by comparison with the Venus de Medici? And the Wild Indian of Clevering, and the Ruth of Brown—are they not enduring monuments of American genius?

Our Artists have every stimulant, save encouragement alone, which is the object of the Art Union to extend to them,—to high exertion. If we have no classic grounds, speaking to us from the Mists of Ages, we at least can boast of them, teeming with associations of more modern, but not less noble and chivalric deeds. Has Nature not, done as much for us as any other people? Have we not as bright a sky spread over our heads and glowing with as many speaking beauties, as that which looks down upon Italy or Greece?—Have we not as rich a profusion of beautiful landscapes, as noble rivers, as lofty mountains and as wild and imposing waterfalls, as ever inspired the pen or pencil of Poet or Artist in any other country? Why should we not seek then in this respect, to establish a national character of our own? We have too long depended on the old world for our works of Art and our Literature.

In England a similar institution has been found to produce the most happy results. In New York too, the "American Art Union" has been in operation since 1840, and has rendered great benefit to American Art. That of Philadelphia was established in 1844, and conducted as it is by men of the distinguished reputation of those who have its management, having no interest in the matter save what should be common to each of its subscribers,—to elevate the standard and promote the cause of the Arts of our country—and appealing as it does to the pride of the American people, we doubt not its good effects will and must be felt throughout the entire Union.

Our townsman, BARR. F. WASHINGTON, Esq., has been appointed a "Corresponding Secretary" of the Philadelphia Art Union, and will be happy to receive and attend to any communications relative to the same.

AMOUNT VERNON.
An effort is now being made by a number of patriotic gentlemen to induce Congress to purchase Mount Vernon from its present proprietor, Mrs. JANE C. WASHINGTON, of this county, who has signified her willingness to dispose of one hundred and fifty acres of the estate, including the buildings, grounds and tomb of the "Father of his Country," to the Government, on certain conditions, for the sum of \$100,000.

A memorial on the subject, addressed to both Houses of Congress, is about to be circulated throughout the entire Union, and as the desire is universal that the mansion and grounds occupied by WASHINGTON in his life time, and the tomb that now holds his sacred ashes, should be kept in a state of preservation, and be free to visitors, the memorial will doubtless receive the names of a very large majority of our countrymen.

A CORROBORATION.
We are requested to state that a letter has been received from a member of the Jefferson Company of Volunteers, correcting a report which was in circulation in our town a short time since, prejudicial to the character of JOHN SHEETS, a member of the same company. The letter states that notwithstanding young Sheets had been arrested for crying "Bah!" at the famous Col. Payne of the N. C. Regiment, as the Col. was passing the tents of the Va. Volunteers, he was not, as reported, placed in irons, and when tried for the offence charged, was honorably and fully acquitted. The letter further states that he is a good soldier, faithful and efficient in the discharge of his duties, and attentive and respectful to the commands of his superior officers.

ANOTHER FLOOD.
The rains of last week once again considerable injury along the Potomac. It rose to a great height, and so rapidly that every thing within its reach was carried off. Great destruction was also done along the lines of the Allegheny and Monongahela. The Pittsburg papers contain full details of the loss by the flood in that section.

SUICIDE!
We are pained to learn that Mr. WILLIAM ABLE, a highly worthy and respectable citizen of Martinsburg, committed suicide on Sunday last, by hanging himself. No reason can be assigned for this rash act, so far as the public can conjecture. He was believed, and such doubtless was the case, to be laboring under a state of partial derangement. He leaves a large family to lament his untimely end.

AN ACCIDENT.
A worthy laborer of this vicinity, old Mr. SNOW, was very seriously injured on Tuesday evening last, by the premature explosion of a blast. He was engaged in getting rock on the farm of Mr. KERRY near town, and whilst igniting the match, the blast went off, doing him great, if not serious injury. Dr. J. GAZON GIBSON was soon in attendance, and rendered him such service as professional skill could accomplish.

Our citizens should give some attention to this poor old man. He is in quite indigent circumstances, and now being unable to work, may actually suffer for the necessities of life.

DROWNED.
CHARLES L. CARTER, Esq., a venerable and respected citizen of Fauquier county, Va., was drowned on the 4th inst., in Goose creek, by the falling of his horse. Mr. Carter was about seventy years old. The Loudoun Chronicle states that he and one brother once held joint ownership of fourteen thousand acres of land, on the borders of Fauquier and Loudoun. He had been for many years a Magistrate of Fauquier, and had once been High Sheriff of that county.

PROCEEDINGS OF CONGRESS.

The proceedings of Congress last week were necessarily of an uninteresting character, except to those immediately concerned. The House of Representatives was fully organized on Tuesday and Wednesday by the election of—

THOMAS J. CAMPBELL, a former Member of Congress from Tennessee, as Clerk.

NATHAN SARGENT, formerly connected with the Philadelphia press, to the office of Sergeant-at-Arms.

ROBERT F. HOWARD, also a member of the Editorial fraternity from New Jersey, to the office of Doorkeeper; and

JOHN M. JOHNSON, the former incumbent, to the office of Postmaster.

In the Senate, the bill for the relief of the heirs of John Paul Jones, has been promptly passed. This bill, it will be remembered, received the sanction of both Houses at the last session, but, owing to an accident, did not receive the signature of the President in time to make it a law.

Mr. Dickinson, of New York, in the Senate, and Mr. Broadhead, of Pa., in the House, have proposed certain modifications of the post office law, on newspapers, the first to repeal the present law, and the second, to allow the free circulation of newspapers, through the mail, within 30 miles of the place of publication.

In the Senate, on Thursday, Mr. Niles announced, in an appropriate manner, the death of his colleague, Mr. Huntington, of Conn.

In the House of Representatives the election of its officers has been highly exciting. The Whigs succeeded in electing all their candidates for the respective stations, the former—that of the Postmaster—Mr. Johnson, the former incumbent, having received sufficient support from the Whig members, was continued in office by a majority of one. The House also appointed a committee to report rules for the present Congress, and it seems doubtful whether the highly salutary "one hour rule," will be attached to them.

In the Senate on Monday, the Chairman of the several Standing Committees were named. Mr. Mason is at the head of the Committee on Claims, and Mr. Hunter of the Committee on Public Buildings.

All the officers of the body are all re-elected, as was expected, and they will keep all quiet in the subordinate places.

The Rev. Mr. Slicer, was made Chaplain of the Senate, for the fifth time in which he has been honored with an election.

The Speaker of the House announced the several Standing Committees. The Chairman of the most important are as follows, viz: Mr. R. W. Thompson, of Indiana, of the committee of Election.

Mr. T. Vinton, of Ohio, of the Ways and Means.

Mr. Rockwell, of Connecticut, of Claims.

Mr. W. Hunt, of New York, of Commerce.

Mr. Collamer, of Vermont, of Public Lands.

Mr. Goggin, of Virginia, of Post Office and Post Roads.

Mr. J. G. Chapman, of Maryland, of District of Columbia.

Mr. J. R. Ingersoll, of Pa., of the Judiciary.

Mr. King, of Mass., of Revolutionary Claims.

Mr. Gayle, of Alabama, of Private Land Claims.

Mr. Stewart, of Pa., of Manufactures.

Mr. High White, of New York, of Agriculture.

Mr. Gentry, of Tennessee, of Indian Affairs.

Mr. Bots, of Virginia, of Military Affairs.

Mr. Thompson, of Kentucky, of Militia.

Mr. T. B. King, of Georgia, of Naval Affairs.

Mr. T. Smith, of C., of Foreign Affairs.

Mr. C. B. Smith, of Indiana, of Territories.

Mr. Schenck, of Ohio, of Roads and Canals.

A message was received from the Senate announcing the decease of the Hon. James W. Huntington, of Connecticut, and a Senator at the time of his death, in November last.

VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.
Correspondence of the "Virginia Free Press."
Richmond, Dec. 17, 1847.

On Tuesday, in the Senate, resolutions of respect to the memory of the late Carter M. Braxton, Senator from the King William district, in this session, were unanimously passed.

In the House the Senate committees were announced by the Speaker.

Mr. Sheffey offered a resolution, which was adopted, inquiring into the expediency of re-appointing representation in the two Houses.

Several other resolutions of inquiry were adopted.

Eleven petitions were presented—among them, one by Mr. Hiatt, from the counties of Clarke and Warren, asking a renewal of the act of 1839, for a survey and subdivision by the state of the stock of the New Shenandoah Company.

On Wednesday, the Senate had no business before it.

In the House, the select committee was announced on Mr. Sheffey's resolution for re-appointment, as follows: Messrs. Sheffey, Stephenson, Mobey, Tomlin, Thomson of Jefferson, Whitte, McGinnis, Cook, Scott of Fauquier, Price, Yerby, Cowper, and Floyd.

On motion of Mr. Wall.

Resolved, That the Committee on Banks be instructed to inquire into the expediency of permitting the Banks of this Commonwealth to issue notes, to a limited extent, of a smaller denomination than five dollars.

On motion of the same.

Resolved, That the Committee of Roads and Internal Navigation be instructed to inquire into the expediency of reviving an act entitled, "an act to incorporate the Winchester and Berry Ferry Turnpike Company, passed April 1839."

On motion of Mr. Stovall, the Committee of Courts of Justice were instructed to inquire into the expediency of reorganizing the Judicial Circuit of the State.

On motion of the same, an inquiry was ordered into the expediency of authorizing the School Commissioners of the several counties to make levies for the education of the poor.

Various petitions were presented—among which was one by Mr. Wood, from the clergy of Winchester, praying that *colporteurs* may be exempted from the payment of pedlar's license.

By Mr. McMurrin, from citizens of Shepherdstown, for a charter to construct a Bridge across the Potomac at said town.

By Mr. Thomson, from members of St. Thomas' Division No. 7, of Sons of Temperance, for an act authorizing them to hold fairs or lectures, in a Hall for their own use, take bond for their officers, &c. Also, petition of Samuel and William Foster, for a private law authorizing them to dispose of certain real property of an idiot brother, in Clarke county.

A bill was passed, refunding to Lieut. W. A. Scott, of Amelia, certain expenses incurred in organizing a volunteer company for Mexico.

Several petitions for divorces have been presented.

There are two cases of contested election, in addition to the one already noticed—John S. Duncan contests the seat of Joseph Johnson, as delegate from Harrison—and Mr. Ship of Madison contests the seat of T. J. Terryman.

On Thursday, the two

The Speaker laid before the House a statement from the Auditor, in reference to the white, slave and colored population of the State—also, the amount of land and property tax, tithables, &c.

On Friday, the Senate had no business to transact. In the House, petitions and resolutions were the order of the day. It will be seen that the committee has been prompt in its action upon the resolution of Mr. Wall in reference to Berry's Ferry Turnpike. Mr. Stephenson, from the committee on Roads and Internal Navigation, reported.

A bill to revise the act incorporating the Winchester and Berry's Ferry Turnpike Company. Among the resolutions of inquiry were the following:

On motion of Mr. SYKE, Resolved, That the Committee of Courts of Justice, enquire into the expediency of providing by law that any President or Professor of any College or incorporated Literary Institution in the Commonwealth, who shall, while in office, send, receive or bear a challenge to fight a duel, shall be no longer competent to hold such office.

On motion of Mr. MORRISON, Resolved, That so much of the Governor's message as relates to the removal of free negroes from the Commonwealth, be referred to the committee on Colored People.

On motion of Mr. MORRISON, Resolved, That the committee of Finance inquire into the expediency of reporting a tax bill, as near as may be, on the ad valorem principle.

Among the petitions, the following only are of interest to your readers:

By Mr. HAYES, a citizen of the County of Hampshire, for the incorporation of a company with a capital of \$50,000, to construct a bridge across the North Branch of the Potomac, where the Ocean and North Branch crosses the same.

The Senate will probably take a recess about the 15th, to await the preparation of business by the House.

By Mr. THOMSON, of Jefferson, of the President and Directors of the Smithfield and Harper's Ferry Turnpike Company, asking to be exempted from keeping in repair that part of their road which passes through the town of Charlestown; and that the name of their Company be changed to the Harper's Ferry Turnpike Company.

The Senate will probably take a recess about the 15th, to await the preparation of business by the House.

I omitted to state that the subject of differences between the Loudoun and Fairfax Companies and the Board of Public Works, is under consideration by the committee of Courts of Justice.

The committee in the case of the Alexandria and Fairfax contest, are ready to report in favor of allowing both members to take their seats.

On Saturday, the 11th, 1847, The only business transacted in the Senate, on Saturday, was to receive a report from the committee of privilege and elections, as to the returns of the new members taking their seats, at the present session—and the passage of a resolution, proposing a recess of the Senate from the 15th of December to the 6th of January.

In the House, the prominent business was the report of the select committee, on the Alexandria and Fairfax case—which was in favor of the admission of both the claimants—Fairfax under the Constitution, and Alexandria under her inherent right to representation.

Mr. Mayo, the chairman of the committee, supported the report in a brief but cogent speech. Mr. Wood of Frederick opposed the report, in a neat and ingenious effort.

Mr. Manure of Stafford made a speech of great power, in support of the conclusions of the committee, and of the undoubted right of Alexandria, as a community of freemen, not to be transferred, as a whole, to the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Lanier followed, on the opposite side, and the House adjourned without coming to any decision.

The subject will occupy several days to come, and being one of minor importance, it is probable that the best talent of the House, The principal point seems to be, whether one branch of the Legislature alone can assign representation to newly acquired territory. The prevalent opinion is, that Fairfax cannot by Legislation be deprived of her constitutional rights; and therefore I have no doubt Mr. Thomas will be allowed to retain his seat. I hope the contest may result in bringing about what ought to have been done last winter—namely a distinct representation for Alexandria.

FOREIGN ITEMS. The steamer Britannia, from Liverpool arrived at Boston on Wednesday, but brings no intelligence of any importance. The markets appear to have undergone no material change since the last advices. The Cotton Market continues dull, and more failures noted. The money market is said however to be improved. On the 13th of November the Liverpool corn market stood: Best Western Canada Flour 92s to 93s per barrel; Richmond and Alexandria 92s to 93s 6d; Philadelphia and Baltimore 92s to 93s 6d; New Orleans and Ohio 92s to 97s; United States and Canada, sour, 91s to 92s.

Indian Corn, per quarter, 33s to 39s. Indian Meal, per bushel, 15s 6d to 16s 6d. Wheat, United States and Canadian, white and mixed, per 70 lbs. 7s 6d to 9s; red, 6s to 8s. Oats, per 40 lbs. 2s 6d to 3s.

DEATH OF CHANCELLOR KENT. A Telegraphic dispatch in the Baltimore Sun, from New York, dated 13th inst., conveys the melancholy intelligence of the death of the eminent jurist, Chancellor Kent.

THE RAIL ROAD WEST.—We made a statement a short time since, in relation to the difficulty of passing Nobley Mountain, for the correctness of which, it will be remembered, we did not vouch. We have since received the following correction from a source entitled to confidence:

The grade going West is not more than 80 feet per mile, or 15 feet per thousand; and coming East, not more than 53 feet per mile, or 10 feet per thousand. The route is entirely practicable, and encounters no greater difficulties than are usually met with on mountain routes, and not as great as those surmounted by the Mt. Savage Rail Road, or Maryland Mining Company's Rail Road in this country.

It is proper to state that when speaking of the Virginia route, we mean the route surveyed through that State for a short distance, alternative to a route extended from Cumberland, and not the route through Virginia terminating at Wheeling in contradistinction to the Pittsburg and Connellsville Road—Cumberland City.

Captain Samuel Hamilton Walker, who was recently killed in Mexico, was born near Vanville, Prince Georges county, Maryland, and at the time of his death was in his thirtieth year.

Senator Henry, U. S. Senator, has written a letter to a gentleman in Tusculum, in favor of the annexation of all Mexico to the United States.

ODD FELLOWS PROCESSION. We understand that Evergreen Lodge, No. 51 at Waterford, Loudoun county, will have a Grand Procession on Saturday, Dec. 18th, 1847. A public Address on Odd Fellowship will be delivered, and all those in good standing are invited to be present on the occasion.

TRAVELERS REPORT. No synopsis, which the limits of our paper will allow us to make, can do justice to this admirable State paper—the very best, we hesitate not to say, that we have ever read from any head of that Department. Its luminous, comprehensive, and in the highest degree beautiful and convincing. It sets forth, in the most satisfactory manner, the admirable results of the policy which has been pursued by the Treasury Department since Mr. Walker has had control of it, and the beneficial effects of Free Trade, and the Warehouse System and of the Constitutional Treasury, are such as must elicit admiration and commendation from all who are not absolutely blinded by the madness of party zeal. The beautiful and prosperous condition of every branch of industry, of every source of wealth in our happy country, is exhibited with that clearness and conscientiousness for which all Mr. Walker's writings are so distinguished, and they are referred to with the feeling of a patriot, and the wisdom of a profound Statesman. How paltry and insignificant, how like the whimpers of enraged pigmies, do the predictions, the prophecies, the forebodings, carplings and grumbings of the abject Whig leaders and Presses appear, when compared with this masterly exposition of our Country's greatness and prosperity? No one can rise from the perusal of this Report without feeling his heart glow with pride and patriotism, and gratitude to the great Ruler of Nations, for the privileges and blessings which he has bestowed upon this favored land. For ourselves, we have experienced nothing in our political career, more invigorating and refreshing than its effect upon us, after such a continued series of complaints, profligation and abuse, which the Whig Party has for the last twelve months been pouring out upon the Administration, the Democratic party, and even upon their country itself! We sincerely wish every crowned-head in the world, and every Whig in this country, would give this Report one calm and dispassionate reading. We verily believe the result would be more beneficial to mankind, than all the homilies in behalf of the "Divine right" of Kings, or all the essays that Protectionists and Monopolists could produce in a thousand years.

We are sorry that we have not space sufficient at this time to present our readers with more of the details of this able document. But, without presenting them with the Report as a whole, it may not be amiss to call their attention particularly to certain of its more prominent and important features.

The Whig predictions of the embarrassment and ruin which were to follow the adoption of the Sub-Treasury, are of too recent date to have been forgotten by our readers. Let us see how the forebodings of these crackers have been verified. Mr. Walker says "the receipts and disbursements of the Government in specie during the last eleven months, have amounted, together, to the sum of \$90,834,402 49, and not a dollar has been lent to the Treasury, or any injury inflicted upon any branch of commerce or business. The Constitutional Treasury has been tried during a period of war, when it was necessary to negotiate very large loans, when our expenditures were increased, and when transfers unprecedented in amount, were required to distant points for disbursement. During the last eleven months the Government has received, transferred and disbursed more specie than during the whole aggregate period of fifty-seven years preceding since the adoption of the Constitution." And yet not a dollar has been lost, no derangement of the currency has ensued, no Banks have been crushed or broken. "One currency for the Government, and another for the people" has not been the result, nor has one solitary prediction of Whiggery, regarding this unjustifiable change in the financial system of the country, been verified. But its operation has been as was predicted and foreseen by all who had actually studied the subject, and discarded the dictates of passion and prejudice, beneficial in the highest degree. The only effect it has had upon the Banks has been to deter and restrain them from flooding the country with irredeemable paper, and to confine them within proper limits and to proper issues. What unprejudiced mind doubts that the present destructive crisis which is agitating the English Monetary community, would long since have been felt in this country, had it not been for the divorce between the Government and Banks which the independent Treasury has occasioned. "The Government is now," continues the Report, "disconnected from Banks, and yet its stock and notes are at par, although we have been constrained to continual heavy loans, and to keep larger armies in the field, than at any former period. But during the last war when the Government was connected with Banks, its six per cent. stock and Treasury notes were depreciated twenty-five per cent., payable in Bank paper twenty per cent. below par, thus amounting to a loss of forty-five cents in every dollar upon the operations of the Government."

The remarks which Mr. Walker makes upon the recommended duty upon Tea and Coffee as a "War Tax" are sound, reasonable and just, and it is clear that in making the recommendation he is actuated only by the purest motives and the most patriotic wishes for the welfare, prosperity and honor of his country. We will not suffer ourselves to doubt that Congress, at least that a member of that body who shall desire henceforth to be esteemed and called a Democrat, will hesitate to vote the amount of duty recommended (25 per cent. ad valorem) upon those two articles of import. We have too much confidence in the patriotism and intelligence of the people to believe they will object to such a tax, when they know it is to sustain the credit and honor of their country. Three millions of revenue, it is estimated, will be raised from the imposition of a duty of 25 per cent. upon these articles, and the American people are too intelligent not to know that it is more to their interest to raise that amount of money annually by such means than to borrow it, and be compelled to repay it by taxes which will ultimately fall much more onerously upon them, than a duty of 25 per cent. upon Tea and Coffee can possibly be at present.

Having explained the admirable effects of the Constitutional Treasury, the Report proceeds to set forth the results of the Tariff of 1846, an Act which we do not hesitate to say, has done more for the commerce and general prosperity of the country, than any other that has been passed since the foundation of the Government. And its operations have more signally belied the prediction of our opponents than our most sanguine hopes had ever led us to believe. The Whigs predicted

that it would not produce sufficient revenue for the wants of the Government, but the "net revenue" from duties, during the twelve months ending 1st Dec. 1847, under the new tariff, is \$31,600,000; being \$9,538,996 more than was received during the twelve months preceding, under the tariff of 1845." They said it would crush and prostrate our manufacturers. Directly the reverse has been the case. By the increased market which it has afforded them, our manufacturers have thriven beyond all precedent, and almost every hour brings us information of additional capital and labour invested in that branch of industry. They said it would ruin our Farmers by reducing the price of their produce. How this has been verified the Farmer need not be told! Even the Iron and Coal Regions of Pennsylvania and elsewhere have felt its beneficial influence, in the increased demand for those articles, (and we presume it will hardly be contended even by the Whigs, that that demand has been produced by the Irish Famine!) One more quotation from the Report, every line of which teems with beauty and wisdom, and we have done for the present:

"With such results already from our efforts, we have every motive to persevere, until the Free Trade doctrines of Great Britain and America, the two great nations of kindred blood and language, shall open the ports and disenthral the commerce of the world. What may we not hope from our efforts with other nations, if we have succeeded in Great Britain? That country, so long the bulwark of protection, applying it by a sliding scale to the manufactures of her colonies, to the utmost point of human endurance, has at length overcome the errors of ages. One of her own great Statesmen, the most able and efficient champion of the Protective Policy, at length lifts his eyes to the light of truth, and with that moral firmness and integrity which is the highest evidence of greatness, abandons the error of his life, only because he found it to be injurious to his country, and unites in the support of commercial freedom, with his truly illustrious but untitled countryman, who has earned for himself the highest of all earthly distinctions, that of benefactor of his country and of mankind."

We may hereafter, when space is more at our command, continue our remarks upon this subject. At present, we must take leave of it, with the earnest recommendation to our readers, not only to read but to study, if possible, this greatest Document of the age.

The energetic editors of the Baltimore Sun, have prepared a Synopsis of this Report, which we shall lay before our readers in our next paper.

Since the above was in type, we have met with the following corroborative testimony as to the efficiency of the Sub-Treasury, and the merit of praise which is due to the Secretary of the Treasury, for the judicious manner in which he has put into operation its various provisions. The extract is taken from the Money Article of the New York Herald:

"The most important feature in the admirable report of Mr. Walker, is that relative to the operation of the independent treasury system. There is no doubt but that it was adopted at a most opportune moment, and that its specific provisions, strictly enforced, have saved this country from a financial revolution, and a catastrophe which would have overturned Great Britain. The large importation of specie enabled the government to collect its revenue in gold and silver, more easily, and without embarrassing the commercial classes or deranging the money markets to that extent, which would have been experienced under other circumstances, and the system has become permanently established, in a much more limited period than generally expected. The divorce of bank and State took place at a very fortunate period. Had the specie imported during the past year gone into the hands of the banks, and had such an effect as anticipated, or such an effect as would have been experienced had there been at first an inflation. In this particular the independent Treasury Act has had a very important conservative influence upon the financial and commercial affairs of the country at large. This is a more important matter, than the mere effect of the independent Treasury upon public affairs. It regulates every interest else, and places more protection upon every thing of the country, than any other public measure ever adopted."

Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun. WASHINGTON, Dec. 13, 1847.

The two parties in Congress are preparing for one of the most exciting sessions in the history of the government. What increases the interest and anxiety is the fact that each party has its subdivisions, entertaining different views upon the questions of war, acquisition of territory, and anti-slavery restrictions, apart is evident, that very many of the Whigs, even from the North and West, will not, in their course, govern themselves by the line of policy marked out by Mr. Clay in his Lexington speech. The Democrats, on the war question, will be as one man against the policy of Mr. Clay, and the first demonstration by the Whigs, on the floor of Congress, in favor of peace without indemnity and the withdrawal of our army, will be the signal of attack. It is however, entirely improbable that a policy so much opposed to the national honor and interest, can obtain the sanction of the House of Representatives. Among the Northern Whigs who will stand by the country in a vigorous prosecution of the war, with the view of securing an honorable peace, is the Hon. F. A. Tallmadge, of New York city. He is one among others I know, who will pursue the same course.

The celebrated Catholic divine, Bishop Hughes, officiates to-morrow in the House of Representatives, by invitation of some of our most distinguished statesmen. Messrs. Calhoun, Crittenden, Clayton, Dickinson, Dix, &c., united in a request soliciting him to preach. There will be undoubtedly, from the high reputation of the bishop, a full attendance. It is said that the visit of Bishop Hughes to the Capitol has some connection with the contemplated mission to Rome, which is highly approved by persons of all parties and denominations. Pope Pius is properly regarded as the great reformer of the age, and the friends of civil and religious freedom, all over the world, feel deeply for the success of the great movements he has suggested. Col. John Rowan, of Kentucky, son of the late distinguished Senator Rowan, is spoken of as Charge to the Papal Dominions. He is a gentleman every way qualified for the position.

TALMAGE.—A Liverpool letter of the latest date, Nov. 19, says that within the last week or two the potato rot had appeared again with greater violence than ever. Some kinds which were never before affected had been attacked. The same letter states that the accounts from Ireland are most frightful, and adds, "the starvation will be much worse this year than last."

A postscript to a Dublin letter, written on the 18th of November, says that the deficiency of food in Ireland this year will be equal to the production of one million of acres of potatoes.

The Cumberland Civilian states that the damage to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal is not so extensive as was at first apprehended, and that the Canal will probably be in navigable order this week.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.—Some portion of the best talents and abilities of new members of the Legislature, to which we referred a few days since, was developed on Saturday, in the interesting debate upon the Committee's report, giving a seat to each of the contesting claimants from the counties of Fairfax and Alexandria. Mr. Wood, of Frederick, made an excellent speech, which was much admired for its views and the fine manner in which they were presented. We can refer to only one of his points, viz: that both branches of the Legislature alone could give the right of a delegate to any county—that if the House of Delegates only, by resolution, admit five or ten, or any greater number—that in that mode the whole nature of the Legislature might be changed—and that the proper mode would be to reject the present Delegate from Alexandria, elected under an unconstitutional act, by which Fairfax was deprived of a constitutional right, and pass a law by the Senate and House of Delegates together, giving to Fairfax a separate Delegate, and then issue a writ of election under that law, and not admit a Delegate by resolution of the House of Delegates alone. (Richmond Enquirer.

IOWA.—Gov. Briggs, of Iowa, has called an extra session of the Legislature of that State. As the Democrats have a majority in both houses, two Democratic Senators will be elected at once, and take their seats at Washington.

MAJOR GIDDINGS.—This gallant officer of the 1st Ohio Regiment is now stopping at the City Hotel, and will leave in a few days for Florida, where he designs spending the winter. (City Signal, Dec. 10.

THE FARE ON THE WASHINGTON BRANCH OF THE BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAIL-ROAD has been increased \$100 per mile, and is now a great imposition.

BALTIMORE MARKET.—Reported weekly for the "Spirit of Jefferson," by WALTER & CO., Flour and Commission Merchants and General Produce Dealers, Baltimore.

BALTIMORE, TUESDAY MORNING, Dec. 14, 1847.

WHEAT.—The market is quiet, and the price of wheat is 1 1/2 to 1 3/4. The market is quiet, and the price of wheat is 1 1/2 to 1 3/4.

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ART UNION, PHILADELPHIA.—For the Promotion of the Fine Arts in the United States—Incorporated in 1844. Officers for 1847—9. James McMurtrie, President; Joseph Hill, Vice President; Wm. T. Underhill, Treasurer; James S. Walker, Corresponding Secretary; Thomas F. Adams, Recording Secretary.

COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT.—Rev. Henry J. Morton, D. D., Rev. Wm. H. Furness, D. D., Charles Tappan, John Towne, Hon. Wm. D. Kellogg, John Sartain, H. B. Wallace, Chas. Caldwell, John Norton, Geo. R. Graham, Geo. M. Keim, J. Schofield, Henry C. Baird.

The object of this institution is to advance the cause of the Fine Arts in the United States, to cultivate and improve public taste, and to afford additional patronage to our American Artists by the purchase of their works.

Every subscriber of five dollars per annum becomes a member of the Institution. The funds thus received, after deducting necessary expenses, are appropriated first towards the production of a large and costly original Engraving, for distribution among the subscribers; the residue of the funds is divided into certificates for different sums, and distributed by lot, amongst the members, (at the annual meeting on the first Monday in May of each year) for the purchase of Paintings, Drawings, &c., by National Artists, from any accredited Exhibition in the Union.

Thus, for the small sum of five dollars, each member has the certainty of receiving an engraving of a good picture, in the highest style of the art, worth in itself the amount of his subscription, and the chance, besides, of drawing a certificate for a considerable sum, to be expended in the purchase of a Work of Art.

The Engraving for this year will be from Leutze's fine painting of "John Knox Rebuking Mary Queen of Scots," size, 20 inches in height, and of proportional width.

The Engraving will be managed by gentlemen who have no privileges beyond other members, and no compensation, except the satisfaction of serving the cause of Art; they therefore with confidence appeal to the growing taste and patriotic pride of their fellow-citizens, to lend their aid, (it is but lending,) to a cause which smites so much public good with private gratification, at so little individual expense.

Persons wishing to subscribe, will please call on B. F. Washington, Esq., at his office in Charlestown. Dec. 17, 1847.

WAR NOTICE. LEUT. LAWRENCE B. WASHINGTON is authorized by the War Department to receive any number of recruits for service, during the expedition to Vera Cruz, Mexico. Persons wishing to enroll will do well to make immediate application to him in person or by letter in Charlestown, or by letter in Virginia. Dec. 17, 1847.

PLANK FOR SALE. WE HAVE a lot of Pine Plank for sale at 25 cents per M. Terms Cash. Dec. 17, 1847. T. H. WILLS.

Corporation Tax. THE citizens of Charlestown will take notice, that the Tax for 1847 is now due. It will be prepared to pay when I call, as I have but little time to collect; and those that are in arrears for 1845 and 1846, will please pay up. CHARLES G. BRAGG, Collector. Dec. 17, 1847.

FOR THE HOLIDAYS. WE receive during the present week a large assortment of Books and Fancy Stationery, containing the Annuals and Elegant bound Books for the season, with an extensive assortment of new and interesting Books for Children. Also many new and beautiful Fancy Articles, to which we invite the attention of the public. Dec. 17, 1847. MILLER & BRO.

FOR CHRISTMAS. A LARGE supply of French Perfumery, Soap, Extracts, Fancy Boxes, Card Cases, and an endless variety of beautiful articles suitable for Presents during the approaching Holidays. We invite all to call and examine. Dec. 17, 1847. MILLER & BRO.

FOR CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR. MANY very pretty and nice things are to be had by calling at T. M. FLINT'S Drug Store; such as Prunes in convenient boxes, very nice and pretty; Figs, Nuts of all kinds, Candies, Raisins, Oranges and Lemons, Gards, dried Carrots, Citron, and many fancy articles suitable for presents on such occasions. Dec. 17, 1847.

Dr. A. C. Thompson's Medicines. MEDICATED Syrup of Castor Oil, very pleasant to take without the usual disagreeable Vegetable Worm Syrup, celebrated remedy, scarcely ever known to fail; Vegetable Pills, an excellent article for Costiveness, Dyspepsia, &c., &c. Dec. 17, 1847. T. M. FLINT.

Alexander's Tropicope. IMPROVEMENT of 1846—a new and extraordinary recovery, being a Liquid Hair Dye which changes the color of the hair immediately to a beautiful brown or black, without injury to the skin or hair, for sale by T. M. FLINT. Dec. 17, 1847.

Groceries. I HAVE in Store a fine lot of Groceries among which may be found Crushed Loaf and Brown Sugars, Rio, St. Domingo and old Java Coffee, Sugar House and New Orleans Molasses, Gunpowder, Imported Young Lion and Black Tea, Spices, &c., which will be sold low for cash. Dec. 17, 1847. THOS. RAWLINS.

Music. I HAVE in Store a number of Flutes, Pipes, Violins, Accordions, &c., with note Books to suit, that I will sell at Bargain for cash. Dec. 17, 1847. THOS. RAWLINS.

SELLING CHEAP.—Blankets, Hats, Caps, Boots, Shoes, &c. Those who are not supplied will be well to give us a call. Dec. 17, 1847. MILLER & BRO.

JUBILEE PASTE.—An excellent article for Coughs, colds, &c.; very pleasant to take, and fresh at all times. Dec. 17, 1847. T. M. FLINT'S.

EXTRACT of Vanilla Concentrated, for Flavoring Tea, Jellies, Custards, &c., or any other such articles which are generally used at this season of the year, for sale by T. M. FLINT. Dec. 17, 1847.

AUSTRAL Hair Restorative, for cleansing, beautifying, preservation and growth of Hair, to be had at the Drug Store of T. M. FLINT. Dec. 17, 1847.

PLUMBS AND LEVELS.—Just received a few Spirit Levels and Levels, also Patent CROWS for Coopers, which will be sold low for cash. Dec. 17, 1847. THOS. RAWLINS.

COOK STOVE.—Atwood's Empire Cooking Stove, the best now in use; also a middle sized 9 Pipe Stove, for sale low. Dec. 17, 1847. THOS. RAWLINS.

RAZORS.—I have a few of those prim Razors left, made to order by Wade & Butcher, and warranted to please, which I will sell low for cash. Dec. 17, 1847. THOS. RAWLINS.

SILVER SAND.—For sale by T. M. FLINT. Dec. 17, 1847.

COCOA NUTS.—A fresh lot for sale by T. M. FLINT. Dec. 17, 1847.

NOTICE. THE Stockholders of the Harper's Ferry and Shenandoah Manufacturing Company are requested to pay \$3 per centum, on their subscription and stock of said Company, on or before the first Monday in January next, payable at the Office of Discount and Deposit of the Bank of the Valley at Charlestown: At the Farmer's and Mechanics' Bank of Frederick County, Md., and to George Massey, Treasurer. JAMES GIDDINGS, Presd. Charlestown, Dec. 10, 1847.

N. B. The above notice is to those Stockholders who have subscribed for stock on the new subscription list, dated May last. J. G.

