

VIRGINIA FREEPRESS.

THURSDAY MORNING. January 7, 1847.

THE VOLUNTEERS UNDER COMMAND OF CAPT. ROWAN LEFT THEIR QUARTERS AT CAPT. SAPPINGTON'S HOTEL ON MONDAY MORNING LAST, IN THE CAR FOR WASHINGTON...

It will be seen in another column that through the kindness and christian liberality of some of the Ladies of our county, each volunteer under the command of Capt. Rowan has been put in possession of a copy of the Bible.

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MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT.

A message was received from the President of the U. States in both Houses on Monday, recommending the passage of the "5th Regiment bill," and the appointment by law of a Superior Officer to take the command of all the forces.

This bill has been read and discussed in the House, and it is further said that Col. Benton is to be the superior officer who will take command under the title of Lieutenant General.

THE ANTI-SLAVERY DUEL. It appears that the difficulty between Messrs. Bayne and Davis has been amicably settled.

This was done by Mr. B. by a brief recital of the circumstances which took place in the house growing out of Mr. B.'s speech upon the President's Message and the unpleasant remarks between the two members.

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RICHMOND CORRESPONDENCE.

THE LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS OF THE WEEK has not been of much interest. There have not been more than 70 members present, and therefore nothing but local matters have been acted upon.

On Monday and Tuesday, numerous petitions were presented, and various resolutions of inquiry adopted, but no bill of importance was acted upon. Mr. Castleman presented a petition from citizens near the Shenandoah River for an act to authorize the construction of a Railroad from Little's Falls to intersect the Baltimore and Winchester Roads.

On Wednesday, very few members were present, and the Military being out to receive Col. Hamtramck, the commander of the Volunteers, no business was attempted and the House adjourned.

On Thursday, a letter was received from WILLIAM O. GOODE, Esq. resigning his office as Speaker, in consequence of ill-health.

On Friday, Mr. Thompson of Jefferson said, that being a new member, he was but little acquainted with the usages in such cases, but he thought that some response should have been given yesterday to the letter of the late Speaker, and in accordance with his own feelings he submitted the following, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That this House do receive with unfading regret the letter of William O. Goode, Esq., late Speaker, announcing his resignation of the office which he has filled with so much dignity, courtesy and ability; that we extend to him our heartfelt sympathy, accompanied by our prayer that he may be speedily restored to health and usefulness.

A resolution of inquiry was introduced by Mr. Haymond, into the expediency of reducing the number of terms of the Monthly and Quarterly Courts; and one by Mr. Floyd, in reference to the responsibilities of constables and their securities.

Among the petitions presented, was one by Mr. Harrison of Loudoun, from Samuel M. Janney and others, members of the Education Society of Loudoun, for the passage of an act amending the act of the 6th day of March, 1846, for the establishment of District Schools in the county of Loudoun.

Some amendments to the School Laws are under consideration by the committee of Schools and Colleges, and will probably be disposed of at an early day.

Mr. Bocock reported a bill establishing District Courts, dividing the State into seven judicial districts, each of which to be composed of three contiguous circuits.

On Saturday, little else than preliminary business was transacted. Among the bills read the first time, was one amending the charter of the Hardy and Winchester Turnpike Road and applying the authority of \$5,000 from the Winchester Road, for a few years, to the completion of the Turnpike.

On Monday, when the House will be nearly full, a speaker will be chosen for the remainder of the session. Mr. Jones will be continued, if he should be willing to fill the place.

THE RECEPTION. The reception of Col. Hamtramck, on Wednesday, was a very neat and imposing affair, and must have been one of the most gratifying, though trying events of his life.

Mr. Morse of Louisiana, in announcing the death of Senator Barrow, in the House of Representatives, says— "The death of ALEXANDER BARROW is the fourth that has occurred, within the brief space of four years, in the small delegation from Louisiana; and true it is 'death loves a shining mark.'" PORTER, BOSSIER, DAWSON, BARROW!

Extraordinary Developments.

We regret to learn, from the St. Louis Republican, that the anxiety of the Locofocos to elect U. S. Senators in Iowa has induced them to resort to bribery and corruption, to effect their object.

On the 10th inst. Mr. King, a whig member, stated to the House, in his place, that, from the second day of the session, Mr. Marshall, a lawyer from Lee county, had been endeavoring to induce him to vote for Gov. Dodge as U. S. Senator—that his first offer was \$100 in cash and a suit of clothes, which was increased, as he held off, to the promise of a d-d fat office, and as much money as he wished.

He stated also that Marshall told him "there was six thousand dollars there to secure Dodge's election"—and that on the Tuesday preceding Marshall had given him fifteen dollars "to bind the bargain"—which he (King) by the advice of his friends, took.

When King took his seat, Messrs. Clifton and Coulee, stated that they, too, could "take unfold" whenever interrogated.

The House at once raised a committee to investigate the facts, and Marshall was committed to the custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms.

The requisition for a second regiment of Pennsylvania volunteers has been filled up, and the troops are ready to march before the first regiment from any of our sister States has been mustered into service.

In addition to these 20 companies that have been accepted into the service from this State, there are 20 other companies which have tendered their services to Gov. Shunk, making in all forty companies, or four regiments, that have volunteered their services from the Keystone State during the war with Mexico.—Harrisburg Union.

We regret to learn that the Governor's offer to raise an additional battalion has been declined by the War Department. An apparent delay in the organization of the Regiment called for, has been owing to the large extent of our territory and the sparseness of our population.

The Regiment, however, will be a fine one, and composed chiefly of the bone and sinew of the State.

The Legislature of North Carolina has passed a charter to continue the railroad from Raleigh through Fayetteville, to the South Carolina line, and the Legislature of South Carolina has passed a charter for a railroad from that point to join the railroad at Camden, in South Carolina, thus forming a great metropolitan highway.

Here is a field for capitalists; and the nation is deeply concerned in these roads being speedily commenced and completed.

JONATHAN THOMPSON, formerly for many years Collector of the port of New York, and lately President of the Manhattan Company, died in that city on Wednesday week, at an advanced age. He was a man of great probity and universally respected.

SENATOR BARROW. The scene presented in the Senate yesterday, says the National Intelligencer, on the announcement of the death of Mr. BARROW, was more affecting than any similar occasion ever drew forth in either House of Congress.

The deep emotion under which each successive Senator paid the earnest tribute of affection and admiration to the shining and winning virtues of the deceased, gave to the eloquence of speech all the touching eloquence of the heart, and moved many an eye to tears; but when at length he who stood amongst the nearest in private friendship to the deceased, and amongst the highest in esteem and attraction (Mr. Crittenden) himself, and to whose eloquent lips every face turned in deepened anticipation—when he rose, and, with moistened eyes, essayed to speak, but found his own firm heart overpowered and utterance denied to him, every heart melted in painful sympathy.

GENERAL SCOTT.

This distinguished officer left New Orleans on the 23d ultimo for the seat of war. In noticing his departure, the "Delta" remarks that he goes to Mexico with full powers to control the operations of our army there.

If negotiations are opened with Santa Anna, the hero of Lundy's Lane will undertake the more difficult duties of the diplomatist. We trust that in this latter sphere he will be more successful than our previous negotiators. General SCOTT will proceed to Camargo and organize the forces there, and about the 15th January he will depart for Tampico, and with such forces as can be drawn from the Rio Grande, and with such of the new levies as can reach him by that time.

From Tampico he will take up the line of march to San Luis, and effecting a junction with Taylor's force, he will commence the siege of San Luis with a force of fifteen or twenty thousand men.

If SANTA ANNA is disposed to peace, the terms will there be agreed upon; if he is determined to fight, then there will be a considerable explosion of "vilicious saltpetre" and about the walls of San Luis.

THE AUGUSTA VOLUNTEERS. The Richmond Whig of Wednesday last, says that the fine volunteer company from Augusta, upwards of 100 strong, commanded by the chivalric Kenton Harper of Staunton, reached that city yesterday afternoon, about 4 o'clock, and marched to the Governor's House, by whom, after a few remarks from Capt. Harper, they were welcomed to the city in a brief and eloquent address.

The other volunteer companies in the city met their brethren in arms, and escorted them to their quarters. The Augusta company is made up of fine material—being, with few exceptions, robust and powerful men, in the vigor of life.

NEW YEAR'S DAY.—A friend has furnished us with the following state of the Thermometer on New Year's Day:—"At twelve o'clock, in the house, with the windows open and the fire nearly out, it stood at 60 degrees; at one o'clock, in the sun, it was 83 degrees; at two o'clock, in the shade, it was at 73 degrees; and at four o'clock, in the shade, at 68 degrees."

WAR EXPENSES FOR TEN DAYS.—It is said that the actual amount of money paid out of the Treasury on account of the war with Mexico, is the sum little aggregate from the 5th to the 15th December (ult.), of \$2,335,000 two million three hundred and thirty-five thousand dollars.

DEATH OF THE HON. ALEXANDER BARROW. The Hon. Alexander Barrow, U. S. Senator from the State of Louisiana, died at Benign's Hotel, Tuesday morning the 29th ult., at 5 o'clock.

He arrived in Baltimore, on a visit, a few days since, in apparently good health. He was attacked on Friday night with a violent cold, to which rapidly succeeded other symptoms of an alarming character. He was attended from the first, by his friend, Dr. Smith, member of Congress from the West, and also by Drs. Mackenzie and Buckley, of Baltimore, and Drs. McClellan and Chapman, of Philadelphia, but in spite of the skill of these eminent physicians, his disease continued to baffle all remedies.

As a last effort, Dr. G. B. Smith was called to administer the galvanic battery, but it was without any favorable effect, and he continued to grow worse until death came to relieve him from pain.

We understand that a post mortem examination was held when it was discovered that the immediate cause of death was an organic disease of long standing, which had been aggravated by the severe cold with which the deceased had been seized.—Balt. Sun.

PRINCETON COLLEGE. At the last stated meeting of the Trustees of Princeton College, Professor HENRY announced to the Trustees of the College his acceptance of the Secretaryship of the Smithsonian Institute, and resigned his Professorship. At the same meeting the Rev. JOHN FORSTNER, D. D., was elected Professor of Latin and Lecturer on History; the Rev. LEAMAN COLMAN Professor of German; and Mr. G. W. OSBORN adjunct Professor of Greek.

The Board has also made arrangements for the celebration of the first centennial anniversary on the last Tuesday of June next. On that occasion Gov. McDOWELL, of Virginia, one of the Alumni, will deliver an Oration; and the Rev. JAMES W. ALEXANDER pronounce a discourse on the History of the College.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

THE SENATE, Dec. 29, adjourned immediately on being informed of the death of the Hon. Alexander Barrow. In the House of Representatives, little or nothing was done during the day, except the re-consideration of the joint resolution which was adopted on Monday, authorizing the War Department to furnish the volunteers with clothing.

It was then referred to the committee on military affairs. Mr. HARRISON, from the committee on military affairs, reported a bill for the raising of ten additional regiments of the regular army, to serve during the war. The Senate Chamber on Wednesday, was the scene of the most touching, interesting and solemn character. As soon as the Vice President had taken the chair, and a prayer, had been offered by the Minister.

Mr. JOHNSON, of Louisiana, rose and announced the death of his colleague, the Hon. ALEXANDER BARROW. He read an appropriate and feeling eulogy on the character of the deceased.

Mr. BEXTON followed in a speech full of feeling, and rich in praise of the admirable qualities possessed by the deceased, whose honored father was his (Mr. Benton's) near friend.

Mr. BREESE, of Illinois, next read a glowing tribute to the public and private worth of the lamented dead. Mr. HANNEGAN next addressed the Senate in an impassioned address, which stirred the hearts of all who heard it.

His tribute to the virtues of the deceased, was one of the most beautiful and touching eulogies ever pronounced—and the Senators and numerous spectators present, were moved to tears.

Mr. CRITTENDEN then essayed to speak; but was overpowered by his feelings, and sunk, all unmanned, into his seat. Mr. MANGUM then rose and offered the customary resolutions for mourning, &c. The resolutions were handed to Mr. DICKENS, the Secretary, and he attempted to read them; but could not suffice to master his feelings to do so.

They were then handed to the Assistant Secretary, who read them. They were unanimously adopted. And the Senate adjourned.

On Wednesday, in the House, Mr. BAKER asked and obtained leave to make some remarks in reply to the speech made yesterday by Mr. SZARKWEATHER, upon moving a re-consideration of the resolution of Mr. B. that had been adopted on Monday.

Mr. B. said he would not descend to personal recrimination. He felt that it was very proper for him to explain to the House, that he had come to Washington, to take his seat for a few days—his resignation not taking effect till the 15th of January—the earnest solicitation of numerous officers of the Army, to make known, as he could, from his personal experience, the wants of the Army.

He had for this course of his, the example of Col. R. M. JOHNSON. Mr. SCHENCK rose and proposed a resolution to appoint a Committee to inquire whether Mr. BAKER was rightly entitled to a seat in the House as a member.

Mr. BAKER said he would save all trouble on the subject, by resigning his seat at once, which he did. The Military Committee reported the resolution of Mr. BAKER, which had been referred to them. It was proposed to amend it in regard to taking security for clothing, and the amendment being agreed to, the resolution was passed.

Mr. MORSE, of Louisiana, then rose, and announced the death of Senator BARROW, and pronounced an eloquent eulogy on him. He offered the customary resolutions of mourning, which were unanimously adopted. And the House adjourned.

There was nothing done in either House of Congress on Thursday, but the funeral ceremonies usual on the death of a member of Congress. The coffin containing the body of the lamented Senator BARROW, was brought into the Senate chamber. Mr. SUGER, Chaplain of the House, preached an appropriate sermon. The President and the Cabinet, the Judges of the Supreme Court, the Foreign Ministers, and the members of the House, were present in the Senate.

The House adjourned over till Saturday, and the Senate till Monday. Senate not in session, having on Thursday adjourned over to Monday. In the House, the resolution to prevent members from making excuses for not voting, was passed, by yeas and nays—85 to 73.

The States were then called in order for resolutions, and a great number were offered, among others: Of inquiry into the expediency of setting apart a tract of land in Oregon, to be held in perpetuity by the Indians, and securing to them rights independent of the United States.

Into the expediency of establishing the duties on the articles in the present tariff at their revenue standard.

Into the expediency of reducing the pay of members of Congress, and others, twenty-five per cent. during the continuance of the war.

Of inquiry, whether the money bequeathed by James Smithson was in the Treasury on the 1st January, 1847, &c. Into the expediency of imposing an ad valorem tax on gold and silver plate, &c. &c.

Calling on the Secretary of the Treasury for information as to whether secret travelling agents are or have been employed by the department, and paid from the Treasury.

Calling on the Secretary of War to report how many regiments have been employed near the mouth of the Rio Grande since the commencement of the War, the number of deaths, the number discharged, &c.

Mr. Wentworth offered a resolution declaring that it is inexpedient to levy a duty on tea and coffee. Mr. Payne moved to lay the resolution on the table. Lost—Yeas 49, nays 160. The resolution was then adopted by yeas and nays, 115 to 48.

Mr. Sims, of Missouri, offered a resolution, declaring that the people of the United States are too patriotic to refuse any necessary tax in time of war. Mr. Ballou moved to lay the resolution on the table. Lost—Yeas 22, nays 107. The resolution was then adopted—Yeas 126, nays none.

Several resolutions, not of general interest, were offered, and then the House adjourned.

[We do not see the name of our Representative (Mr. Sedgwick) in the year and nays, upon Mr. Wentworth's Resolution. Did he dodge the vote, or was he accidentally absent?]

In both the Senate and House, on Monday, a Message was received from the President, advising the passage of the "ten regiment bill." In the Senate it was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs—in the House it was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

In the House, mutual explanations were made by Messrs. Bailey and Davis, and certain offensive remarks were withdrawn, in consequence of misapprehensions of language used. So that this affair is amicably settled.

The State Convention in Wisconsin, now engaged in framing a State Constitution, has inserted in that instrument, by a vote of 63 to 46, a clause, conferring the right of suffrage on free negroes!

AN AWFUL PROPOSITION.

The Washington Union quotes with approbation a proposition of an Ohio Editor by which he expects to punish the Whig traitors who dare to doubt the infallible wisdom and immaculate patriotism of Mr. J. K. Polk. It is nothing less than to collect the sentiments of those who doubt the justice of the present war, in some permanent shape which may be transmitted to posterity, so that after ages may read, and wonder as they read, the evidences of the depravity of the present era.

As the law does not permit men to be hung, who have committed no crime; of treason, the Ohio man wishes to hang up these moral traitors before the eyes of posterity, so that their names may become infamous forever. We should be glad to see the suggestion of this patriot adopted.

We seem to be fast progressing to a period when all power will be absorbed in the hands of one man; and it will afford invaluable assistance to the future historian of our country to have in his hands some record by which he can trace the gradual change from republican monarchy to monarchy, as exhibited in the systematic effort to brand as traitors men who dare to differ from the Executive, and who, honestly differing, have the courage to express their conscientious convictions.

The Ohio Editor may possibly be mistaken in the estimate which he places upon the good sense of posterity. It may be that some respect for many independence will exist in the world even after the Buckeye patriot has been gathered to his fathers.—Rich Rep.

THE BERTHELY VOLUNTEERS.

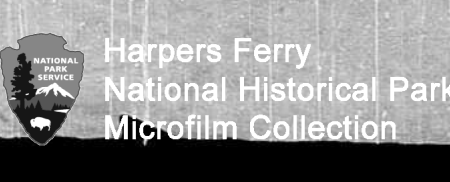
This fine company, under the command of Capt. Albertus, and Lieuts. Harrison, Grey, and Chambers, was presented to the Governor yesterday at 10 o'clock. The Governor welcomed them in a cordial manner, and expressed his great satisfaction at the promptitude with which they had rallied into the public service. After inculcating upon the members of the company the importance of subordination and the fullest confidence in their commanding officer, the Governor assured them that every want should be attended to during their sojourn in the city—and they would depart with the best wishes of every Virginian for their triumphant return to their families and friends.

Capt. Albertus responded in a soldier's language. He said he had come to enter his country's service, and to do their duty under whatever circumstances they might be placed—and he would guaranty that every man under his command would discharge that duty faithfully.—Rich Republic.

An accident of a very singular character occurred a few days ago at the Machine Shop of Mr. Wm. Hall, in this place, by which a young man named Mendenhall, from Pennsylvania, came near losing his life. He was engaged at a turning lathe moved by horse power, when the ends of his neckbandkerchief by some means caught upon the revolving bar of iron upon which he was at work, and in an instant he was drawn down to the lathe and the handkerchief drawn so tight about his neck as to instantly deprive him of his consciousness.

At the moment he was caught, however, as if by instinct he called at his friend, who very fortunately stopped at this time and only called the young man was able to make. When discovered he was apparently dead, and upon being released fell to the earth and remained unconscious for some minutes. In a few hours however he returned to his work. One minute more in his perilous situation would have served to snuff the tender thread of life and usher him into the presence of his Maker. "Verily in the midst of life we are in death."—Hagerstown News.

THE VIRGINIA RECRUITS.—The fifty volunteers so promptly obtained by Capt. SARGENT BAXTERMAN in Philadelphia, the Virginia Volunteers, have all gone to their place of destination in Virginia. Part of them left on Monday afternoon, and the remainder on Tuesday afternoon.—Phil. Chronicle.



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