

# Bradford

Free Soil, Free Speech, Free Men  
TOWANDA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 1851

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### Legislative.

The proceedings of the Legislature have been unusually uninteresting during the present week. The tariff resolutions of Mr. Walker have been adopted by a vote of 13 yeas, to 14 nays. Messrs. Frailey and Meyers voted in their favor.

### Horrible Murder in Oswego.

A most brutal and unusual murder was perpetrated at Oswego, on Friday evening last, by John M. Thurston, a cabinet-maker, killing his brother-in-law, Mr. Garrison, with an axe.

The following particulars are gathered from the witnesses given before the coroner's jury: It appears from the testimony of Mrs. Garrison, that there was difficulty between herself and the deceased, and that she had left his house the day before the murder. She had been in the house at the time the murder was committed, and she saw Garrison go down the stairs and enter the room where the murder was committed.

Mr. Garrison then went in and Thurston handed him a chair, and then passed through a door to a wood house adjoining. Garrison went down and called the child to him and took it in his lap. He had held it a few minutes, when Thurston came in from the wood house with an axe, and approaching Garrison from behind, struck him a blow with the edge of the axe.

The whole blade of the axe penetrated the brain. He then struck him another blow in the side of the face severing the upper and lower jaw, and making a ghastly wound. The child was still in Garrison's lap. He did not fall from his chair, but died instantly. Thurston, in reply to a question asked him by the coroner, why he had killed his brother-in-law, said he could not help it.

Mr. James Thurston being sworn, testified that he had been in the house of John M. Thurston about an hour before Garrison came in, that a few minutes before Garrison came in, John M. Thurston had been going down and bringing Mr. G. He had been gone about three minutes, when he came in again, and said Garrison was at the door and wished to see his child; the child would not go. Mr. Garrison told John M. Thurston to tell Mr. G. if he wanted to see the child he must come in. J. M. T. told him so; and he came in, and Thurston handed him a chair without saying a word, and went immediately out into the wood house. Garrison then took the child into his lap, and kissed it, and gave it an apple; did not see the door open; my attention was directed to Mr. Garrison; saw the blow struck, but the position of the door prevented my seeing who did it; could not say what it was done with. Finding up instantly and ran into the street. The child was in his lap at the time the blow was struck; did not see John M. Thurston after that. He was perfectly calm when he went into the wood house.

The coroner's jury returned a verdict of wilful and premeditated murder against Thurston for the killing of Garrison, and he was committed to jail to await his trial.

### Notes of the Week.

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