Bradford Reporter.

Free Soil, Free Speech, Free Men!

Freedom for Free Territory.

E. O. GOODRICH, EDITOR.

Towanda, Saturday, March 8, 1851.

Terms of The Reporter.

$1 50 per annum—if paid within the year 50 cents will be deducted—for cash paid actually in advance $1 00 will be deducted. No paper sent over two years, unless paid for.

Advertisements, per square of ten lines, 50 cents for the first, and 25 cents for each subsequent insertion.

☞ Office in the "Union Block," north side of the Public Square, next door to the Bradford Hotel. Entrance between Messrs. Adams' and Elwell's law offices.

Meeting of the Democratic Standing Committee.

A MEETING of the *Democratic Standing Committee* will be held at the house of J. B. Cross, in this borough, on Saturday, the 8th day of March next, at 1 o'clock, P. M. The following gentlemen compose said Committee:—Joseph K. Smith, James H. Webb, Nathan Edmonster, P. E. Maynard, W. H. Vandyke, H. Lawrence Scott, Joseph Menardi, John H. Black, E. O. Oliver.

February 18, 1851. J. K. SMITH, *Chairman.*

☞ The name of the author—E. Mason, Esq., of Monroeton—was inadvertently omitted from the poetical contribution on our first page.

End of Thirty-First Congress.

Congress, after being in session all night adjourned on Tuesday last, at noon *sine die*. We give a full report of its proceedings.

The joint resolution, which passed the House giving Ritchie from one to two hundred thousand of dollars was laid on the table in the Senate. We trust it may lay there, forever.

The cheap postage law reduces the rates of postage, materially. With regard to letter postage, it provides "that from and after June 30, 1851, in lieu of the rates of postage now established by law, there shall be charged the following rates, to wit: For every single letter in manuscript, or paper of any kind upon which information shall be asked, &c., conveyed in the mail, for any distance between places within the United States not exceeding 3,000 miles, three cents, when the postage shall have been prepaid; and for any distance exceeding 3000 miles, double those rates; for every such single letter, when conveyed wholly or in part by sea, and and to or from a foreign country, for any distance over 2,500 miles, twenty cents; and for any distance under 2,500 miles, ten cents; double and treble letters pay double and treble these rates.

The rates of postage on newspapers may be stated thus: All newspapers, not exceeding three ounces in weight, sent to actual subscribers from the office of publication, shall be charged as follows: Weekly papers, within the county where published, free; for any distance not exceeding fifty and not more than three hundred miles, ten cts. per quarter; over three hundred and not exceeding one thousand miles fifteen cents per quarter; over one thousand and not exceeding two thousand miles, twenty cents per quarter; over two thousand and not exceeding four thousand, twenty-five cents per quarter; and for any greater distance, thirty cents per quarter; semi-weekly papers to pay double, tri-weekly treble, and papers issued oftener than tri-weekly, five times these rates.

The House passed the following Bills and Resolutions, viz: The Navy Appropriation bill; the bill making appropriations to Light Houses; the Senate's bill to prevent Constructive Mileage; the bill Limiting the Liabilities of American Ship Owners; the bill to ascertain and settle Private Land Claims in California; the Senate's Joint Resolution authorizing the President to send a Government ship to the Mediterranian to bring Kossuth and his companions to the United States. The Senate's amendments to the House Resolution extending to the widows of Revolutionary Soldiers the benefit of the Acts of 1811, '13 and '14. The Senate bill providing an Asylum for aged and disabled Soldiers. The Senate bill regulating the Appraisement of Imported Merchandize, and providing for the appointment of four Appraisers at large; the Joint Resolution providing for the distribution of the forthcoming Census returns among the members. The House refused to suspend the rules to take up the French Spoliation bill which had passed the Senate and passed a Resolution giving to each of the employees of that body. Doorkeepers, pages, &c., &c. $250 extra pay.

Among those defeated were the French Spoliations bill, the River and Harbor Appropriation bill, the Joint Resolution making the new Land Warrants assignable; the Joint Resolution annulling Mr. Ritchie's Printing Contract, and the Resolution creating the grade of Lieutenant General in the Army. Defeated. The amendment to the Navy Appropriation bill, increasing the compensation of the Collin's Line of Steamers for carrying the Mails between New-York and Liverpool, was lost.

CONSUL TO BELFAST.—The President has tendered to the Hon. H. Jones Brooke, Pennsylvania, State Senator from Delaware county, the appointment of consul to Belfast.

Mr. B. was the member who introduced the Webster resolutions into the Legislature. His reward has been very promptly given

SOUTH CAROLINA U. S. SENATORS.—It is stated that Rhett has expressed his determination to resign his seat, and that Mr. Butler, his colleague, has also stated that he will not come back any more. By the census just taken, it appears, too, that South Carolina will lose two members of Congress—That can't be set down to Northern injustice certainly.

ILLNESS OF JUDGE BURNSIDE.—We learn from the *Ledger* that Hon. THOMAS BURNSIDE, of the Supreme Court of this State, is lying ill at the residence of his son-in-law, in Germantown.

The Hon. R. P. LETCHER, Minister of the United States to the republic of Mexico, is at present in Washington.

Major Noah, the New York Tribune says, has been suffering for the week past, from a stroke of paralysis. Sorry to hear it.

SENATOR BENTON, who was suffering from illness at Washington, was reported considerable better on Sunday.

IGNATIUS MUDD, Esq., Commissioner of Public Buildings died in Washington on the 1st inst.

News of the Week by the Telegraph.

Anti-Fugitive Slave Law Meeting in Lycoming County.

BOSTON, Sunday, March 2—A very large Anti Fugitive Slave Law meeting of the citizens of Boston, without respect of party, was held in this city last evening. Mayor Healy presided, and made a speech, in which he said, "he considered the law unjust, inhuman, and not fit to be obeyed." He solemnly pledged himself never to lift a finger in the work of returning a fellow man to Slavery; neither would he use his official power to protect Slave catchers.

A series of strong resolutions were passed one of which is as follows:

Resolved, That the citizens of Lynn, living free themselves, will never assist in enslaving others.

A meeting in opposition to the law is to be holden this evening in Beverly, and another in Springfield to-morrow night.

Affairs in Washington.

WASHINGTON, March 2—Mr. Ignatius Mudd, Commissioner of the Public Buildings, died this morning.

Senator Benton, who has been very ill during the past few days, is rapidly recovering.

Wm. L. Jones, a printer of this city, was robbed of $1500, which he had saved and put away in a box. One hundred dollars reward is offered for the recovery of the money.

Destructive Fire in Middletown, Conn.

MIDDLETOWN, Conn., March 3—A destructive fire occurred here yesterday morning, which broke out in the store of Mr. Parmelee, destroying that, together with the stores of J. C. Booty, H. & W. Johnson, A. Putnam, and Grant's barber shop.—The office of Bain's telegraph, and the *Sentinel* newspaper office were also destroyed. The loss is about $20,000, partially covered by insurance.

Railroad Depot Burnt.

MEREDITH BRIDGE, N. H. Feb. 28th.—The large freight depot of the Boston, Concord and Montreal Railroad, at this place, was entirely consumed by fire this morning.

Another Murder at Buffalo.

BUFFALO, March 1, 1851.—There was another murder committed here night before last. In a drunken row, a man named Camp struck Patrick McCormick with an axe and broke his skull. McCormick died last night, and the Coroner held an inquest this morning, when Camp was committed on the charge of murder.

Attack on a Street Preacher.

CINCINNATI, Monday, March 3—A street Preacher, named Kirkland, while speaking in the market space yesterday, was attacked for having said something against Catholic Religion. He escaped into the Dennison House, where he was with difficulty preserved from the mob.

DISTRESSING ACCIDENT.—HORRIBLE EXPOSURE.—On Thursday, December 17, 1850, Samuel Brown, a young man, aged 22, left the village of Quasqueton, Buchanan county, Iowa, on horse back, to transact some business at a grove some twelve miles distant, between the Wapsipinicon and Cedar rivers. On his return, when about four miles from Quasqueton, while riding over a strip of ice, the horse fell, and precipitating Brown on his right side, and his foot remaining tight in the stirrup, which was a small one. The horse regained his foot before Mr Brown recovered himself, and ran off at full speed. To preserve his head from injury, he clapped both hands about his right thigh, thus in part sustaining his body, whilst his left leg swung immediately behind the horse's heels. Incredible as it may seem, in this horrible position he was dragged three miles. The horse, in the meantime, by repeated kicks, had fractured both bones of his leg, about four inches above the ankle, and bruised the leg from the knee down, into a perfect jelly. At the end of three miles, the horse becoming fatigued, abated his speed, and by severe efforts, the young man succeeded in extricating his foot from the boot, the latter remaining in the stirrup. He was dropped upon the open prairie, three miles from any house, and a mile and a half from a road, and in such a mutilated, bruised and sprained state, that he entirely unable either to walk or crawl.

In this situation, lying flat upon his back, he remained from Thursday afternoon, December 17, till Saturday afternoon, December 21, the ground being hard and frozen, and the weather the coldest we have had this Winter, with snow upon the ground which was increased to five or six inches in depth by the storm on Wednesday, December 18. He took off his overcoat and wrapped it round his broken leg to prevent its freezing, but without success, his left leg being frozen above the knee when he was found, as also his right foot, hands and ears.

During the four days and nights, he neither ate, nor drank anything also except snow, nor closed his eyes in sleep. The small prarie wolves hovered around him at night, but without molesting him, though they approached within a few yards. During the day, he could see teams and men passing on the public road, a mile and a half distant. He exerted himself to the utmost of strength, to make himself heard by those teamsters, but without bringing any of them to his assistance. It was in this way that he was heard on Saturday, by those who were hunting for him, at the distance of two miles, and by this means he was found. His efforts at hallooing had set his lungs to bleeding, and when found he had crimsoned the snow for several feet around him with blood. He was brought back Quasqueton, and two weeks after the accident, (but not until mortification had taken place,) his friends succeeded, after unsuccessful efforts, in getting a surgeon to amputate the limb. He was still living, at last accounts, but with little hopes of recovery.—*Miner's (Dubuque) Express, 30 ult.*

A DOUBLE ELOPEMENT.—One of the most singular cases of desertion and elopement on record occurred in this city on Thursday last. A man named Peter McGovern, residing in Exeter street, who had been married about five weeks, suddenly disappeared on Thursday afternoon last, and about the same time the wife of Mr. Joseph Mitchell, who had been married about eight weeks, residing on Fell's Point, likewise disappeared. On enquiry it was ascertained that the missing parties had been seen together at the Philadelphia steamboat wharf on that afternoon, and as Peter had courted her in days gone by, and she had rejected his suit, there seems to be no doubt that they have re-kindled the old flame and traveled off together. Mrs. McGovern, the deserted wife, is very young and fine looking woman, and the deserted husband, Mr Mitchell, is a worthy and industrious man, having gone to house keeping with every comfort around him. His wife was only between fifteen and sixteen years of age. It is now thought they went together to Cumberland.—*Balt. Sun.*

SCUFFLE OF ONE EYED THOMPSON.—The New York Tribune of yesterday contains the following:

We are informed by Capt. W. B. Bradford, of the Tenth Ward Police, that Wm. H. Thompson better known as "One Eyed Thompson," arrested on Saturday on a charge of passing counterfeit money, and confined in Essex Market Prison, committed suicide last evening, by taking 32 grains of morphine. Groans were heard from his cell at about 9½ o'clock, when the officers entered and found Thompson in an almost insensible condition. Drs. Wells and Belcher were immediately sent for, who applied the stomach pump. At 12 o'clock he was still alive, but there was no chance of recovery.—He left a letter for his wife, and also one for the coroner, stating that his death was caused by taking 32 grains of morphine, and entering into a history of his life to some extent. He also left a note addressed to Mr. Oliver, the keeper of the Prison, requesting him to notify his wife of his death. In his cell was a tract entitled, "Can you Die Happy?" on the margin of which he had written, "What a strange coincidence that a tract of that kind should be placed in his hands! He could answer affirmatively, for he had been for the last half hour under the influence of a deadly drug."

Proceedings of the XXXIst Congress.

SECOND SESSION.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.

On the commencement of the evening session last night, it was resolved that the appropriation bill, under consideration by the committee of the whole, should be proceeded with, in the regular order of all debate." The result was that very considerable progress was made in the passage of the bill.

An attempt was made in the committee to change the locality of the Mint from Philadelphia to New York, an amendment having been submitted by Mr. Pennix, of that State, to this effect that whenever a suitable building shall have been erected at New York, to be surrendered to the General Government to be used as a Mint, the establishment should then be removed from Philadelphia to that city.

The chairman ruled the amendment to be out of order, and his decision having been appealed from, it was sustained—ayes 73, noes 44.

The House then resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the state of the Union, when the remaining items of the civil and diplomatic bill were proceeded with, and several amendments were passed, which had been recommended by the committee of ways and means.

A number of other amendments were proposed by members, individually, which were either ruled to be out of order by the chairman, or were rejected, when votes were taken. Among these were two in favor of a high tariff, submitted by Mr. Stevens, of Pennsylvania, and Mr Grinnell, of Massachusetts, which were decided to be out of order.

The various clauses of the bill having been disposed of, the committee rose, the chairman reported the bill as agreed to, and it was subsequently read by the clerk; those clauses to which objections were made being reserved for future decision.

The sense of the house having been taken severally on these, they were sustained by the house, and the yeas and nays being taken on the passage of the bill, it was agreed to, yeas 127 nays 55.

Mr. Bayly moved to refer back the Indian bill, and recommended that the amendments, proposed by the Senate be adopted, which was agreed to.

He also reported back the Military Academy bill, with a recommendation that the amendment of the Senate be not agreed to, and that the bill be again referred to the committee of the whole on the state of the Union.

The House then resolved itself into a committee of the whole, and proceeded to the consideration of the military academy bill; when an amendment, providing for the expense of a building for a riding school at West Point, was taken up.

The hour for recess having arrived, the committee adjourned till six o'clock.

At the evening session the Military Academy Bill was passed without amendment.

The indemnity bill was then discussed, and the Secretary of State charged with receiving pecuniary compensation before consenting to take the office.

Mr. Allen, of Massachusetts, during his speech, after speaking to the question immediately at issue, broadly charged the Secretary of State with having accepted $50 000 from the moneyed interests of Wall-street, in New York, and State street, Boston, to relieve him from pecuniary embarrassments, previous to his accepting office.

The House then adjourned, at 10½ o'clock.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 26.

The House went into a discussion on the dry dock in California—a resolution being on the Speaker's table for instructing the Sec. of War to modify the existing contract for a dry dock, so as to limit it to a floating dock, without a basin and railway.—The morning hour having elapsed, the House proceeded to pass a bill, which had been reported, for establishing post roads.

The reading of this bill was called for, it having been only read by its title; but this was opposed, and the bill finally passed.

On motion of Mr. Bayly, the house then resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the state of the Union, and the Mexican indemnity bill again came up for consideration, which produced a repetition of what occurred last evening, Mr Allen reiterating his assertion, and Mr. Ashmun replying with much warmth and personal remark; during which he said he was authorised to contradict the statement alluded to in the most unqualified manner.

The committee here rose, and a motion was made and lost, to suspend the rules, for the purpose of cutting off the five minutes debate.

The House again resolved itself into committee. Half-past three o'clock having arrived, the committee took a recess.

The House met again at 8 P. M. The discussion was on the Mexican Intalement bill, and it was finally passed.

The Army bill was taken up in committee, and a debate ensued, during which Mr. Levin said he was in favor of increasing the army to meet and keep in proper bounds demagogues at home, and for sustaining the law.

Mr Giddings got the floor, and made a speech against slavery, after which the committee rose, and, at a quarter before nine o'clock, the House adjourned until to morrow.

THURSDAY, Feb. 27.

The house at an early hour resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the state of the Union, and proceeded with the consideration of the army bill.

Mr. Howard, of Texas, addressed the committee, and gave a very interesting account of the original settlement of the Indian tribes by the Spanish government, which had in view their conversion to Christianity.

Mr. Toombs, of Georgia, was in favor of a reduction of the army, the existence of which in time of peace is uncalled for, and injurious to the public interests by withdrawing able bodied men from the pursuits of useful labor.

Mr. Burt, of South Carolina, as chairman of the committee on military affairs, was in favor of the maintenance of the present establishment, and with reference to the increased expense of the Quarter master General's department, to which allusion had been made, stated that it is attributable to the increased line of frontier of the United States and the distant military posts to which supplies of ammunition, clothing, &c., have to be forwarded.

Mr. Bayly concluded the debate, and defended the course pursued by the committee of ways and means, in recommending a reduction in the army estimates.

The question was then taken upon the motion of Mr. Giddings to strike out the clause appropriating $56,000 for enlistments; and negatived without a division.

Other sections were taken up and contested until the hour for a recess had arrived, when the committee rose.

During the evening session the consideration of the army bill was continued in committee of the whole. The appropriation of $100,000 for armament of fortifications was stricken out, and other reductions made.

The navy appropriation bill it is thought will be passed to-night. The House still in session.

WASHINGTON, March, 28.

SENATE.—Mr. Wales presented the credentials of Mr. Bayard, of Delaware.

Mr. Pierce, called up the Bill Abolishing the constructive Mileage of Senators. Passed.

HOUSE.—M. McWILLIE (from the Committee on Printing,) made a report for the relief of Ritchie on account of the losses he is alleged to have sustained in executing the Congressional printing. He (Mr Mc W.) had ascertained that Ritchie was a loser to a great amount, and performed the contract faithfully on an average. After further proceedings,

Mr. WILMOT moved to lay the subject on the table. (Disagreed—Yeas 84; Nays 111. The Joint Resolution which relieves Mr. Ritchie from the terms of his contract, and in lieu gives him one-half the proceeds fixed by the law of 1819, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading by three majority, and was read a third time. A struggle followed between the opponents and friends of the resolution.

Mr. OLIN moved to lay it on the table; not carried. The Resolution then passed Yeas 100, Nays 101.—Three hours were thus consumed.

The House then laid on the table the separate motions to reconsider the votes by which the Canada reciprocity bill and the land grant to the Illinois were taken to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union.

Mr JULIAN asked, but did not obtain, leave to introduce a resolution for the appointment of a committe to investigate the charges of corruption made by Mr. Allen against Mr. Webster, and to have power to send for persons and papers.

The Army Appropriation Bill was passed, and a recess taken.

After this the Senate bill appropriating ten millions of acres of public lands for distribution among the States, for the relief and the support of the Indigent Insane, was taken up. Various efforts were made to kill the bill; and after a two hours' and a half struggle, without coming to a direct vote on it, the House went into Committe of the Whole on the State of the Union on the Navy Appropriation bill.

Mr. MEADE spoke in favor of increasing the mail steamers, as did Mr. Stanton of Tenn.

Mr. JULIAN asked leave to introduce his resolution for an inquiry into Mr. Allen's charges against Mr. Webster. Objection being made, he moved to suspend the rules, pending which the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, March 3.

SENATE.—The routine having been got through with, the River and Harbor Bill was then taken up.

Mr. Foote offered an amendment appropriating $50,000 each for improvement of Tennessee and Illinois rivers. Rejected. Debate. Voted down.

Several amendments came up in order, and were severally voted down.

Mr. Bradbury moved an amendment that the appropriations made by the bill shall not be expended until there is a surplus in the Treasury, after paying all the other expenses of Government. He spoke at length in support of the amendment, and went into a thorough examination of the condition of the Treasury. He said that if the bill passed it would plunge the country into debt, unless money was actually in the Treasury to meet the demands made upon it.

Mr. Foote moved to go into Executive Session. Not agreed to.

After some further debate, the question was taken and Mr. Bradbury's amendment voted down.

Mr. Berrien moved an amendment striking out the appropriation of $25,000 for the removal of obstructions on the Rio Grande.

He spoke in defence of his amendment, and said that this part of the appropriation made in the bill was not applied within the limits of the United States.

Mr. Cass offered an amendment, but subsequently withdrew it, that all other appropriations made by this bill, shall take effect upon, and authorize the expenditure of only such surplus as shall remain in the Treasury after deducting from the revenues the appropriations made by Congress from the revenues.

Mr. Rusk wanted to take up the Postage Bill.—Objected to.

Mr. Hale, amidst much merriment, wanted to take up a series of resolutions sustaining the Compromise Act. Objected to.

Mr. Bradbury then offered the amendment withdrawn by Mr. Cass.

Mr Ewing said that it was nothing but a ruse to defeat the bill, and wished to call the parties to an count, and make them take the responsibility for it. He thought amidst the noise and confusion, he could point his finger to the spot where the responsibility rested.

Mr. Cass wanted facts distinctly and correctly stated, so that he could answer.

Mr. Ewing said that he could not be misunderstood.

Some confusion ensued, and the Speaker ordered Mr. Ewing to take his seat.

Mr. Cass said that he did not, though he intended to offer the resolution.

Mr. Ewing having become composed, said that the amendment was calculated to defeat the bill.—He did not want to fight around the bush.

Mr. Foote followed and restored the Senate for the time being, to good humor.

After considerable debate the question was taken on the Cass resolution, and it was lost by a tie vote.

Several other amendments were made and shared a like fate.

Three or four ineffectual attempts were made to take a recess.

Mr. Hunter wanted to save other appropriation bills, and moved that the Harbor bill be laid on the table. Lost.

Mr. Soule moved an amendment appropriating $160,000 for deepening the mouth of the Mississippi. After a long debate, a lengthy report was read on the subject.

Mr. Phelps said he had listened to the reading of the report with much composure, and as the thought it was likely to put every body to sleep, he would move that its further reading be dispensed with—more particularly as the session was so near a close, when all the Senators wanted to keep their eyes open.

Mr. Foote was anxious to hear the whole report read, and raised a question of order.

The Speaker decided the motion to be in order.

A lengthy debate took place on Parliamentary rules, when the question was stated on the motion made by Mr. Phelps.

Mr. Pearce, in order to take up the Appropriation Bill, moved that the River and Harbor bill be laid on the table. Lost—yeas 23, nays 32.

The question was then taken on Mr. Phelps's motion, and the further reading of the report was dispensed with.

Mr. Soule continued the debate in favor of his amendment.

Two or three unsuccessful attempts were made to lay the Harbor Bill on the table.

Mr. Downs advocated the amendment offered by Mr. Soule.

The galleries are now densely crowded with people.

The debate was continued at length, when the Harbor Bill was laid aside for a short time, and the Postage Bill and the Post Office Appropriation Bill were taken up and passed.

The Senate then resumed the consideration of the River and Harbor Bill.

The Senate is still in session on the Harbor bill, Mr. Soule's amendment has been rejected.

HOUSE.—The House took up the Post Office Appropriation Bill as amended by the Senate.

After considerable discussion, the House refused to concur in several of the amendments made by the Senate, and the bill was therefore sent back.

The bill directing two of the Regiments of Infantry to be converted into mounted riflemen was taken up, slightly amended and passed.

The Patent Office Report was received, and 140,000 copies ordered to be printed.

The Senate bill to ascertain and settle private Land Claims in California, was taken up, debated and passed.

The Joint Resolution (already passed by the Senate,) requesting the President to bring Kossuth and his companions in a national vessel to this country was passed.

Several ineffectual attempts were made to take up Senate bill appropriating 10,000 acres of land for the relief of Indigent Insane, and to create the office of Lieutenant General.

The bill limiting the liabilities of ship owners was taken up and passed.

The bill against the constructive mileage of members of Congress was passed.

The House then took a recess.

Evening Session.—Much excitement prevails.—A large crowd is assembled in the galleries. Mr Clingman and Mr. Stanley, in order to vary the scene, had a set-to at fisticuffs. Neither was much hurt. The confusion is so great that I cannot find what it was about.

Members are continually popping up with cries of order. "Speaker!" "Order!" "order!"

It is now 8 o'clock, and the noise is so great that I can scarcely keep the run of what is being done.

The Senate's amendment to the resolution extending the benefit of the acts of 1843 and 1844 to the widows of Revolutionary soldiers was agreed to.

The bill changing the term of the Circuit Courts of the Eastern and Western Districts of Pennsylvania was passed.

Various Senate bills of no general importance were passed.

The resolution of last Session putting off the election of Door-keeper and House Postmaster to to-day, was indefinitely postponed.

The bill providing an Asylum for infirm and disabled soldiers was passed.

The Senate bill regulating the appraisement of merchandise was passed.

Mr. Buel moved a suspension of the rules to take up the Senate French Spoliation Bill. Not agreed to. Yeas 104, nays 75; it required a two third vote.

The Senate bill refunding to the American Colonization Society, money for expenses incurred in supporting recaptured Africans was passed.

Mr. Winton moved, and a resolution was unanimously adopted, voting thanks to Mr. Howell Cobb for the impartial and able manner in which he discharged the duties of Speaker.

A resolution was agreed to voting extra compensation to the employees of the House.

Mr. Otis made a personal explanation as to the charge of Mr Allen against Hon. Daniel Webster, and said that if Colonel Greeley had told about the matter exactly as it was, all trouble would have been avoided.

The members are popping in and out of the anteroom, where a substantial treat is provided.

Messages are continually passing to and from the House and the Senate.

Some of the members are getting very merry and exceedingly talkative. The utmost good feeling prevails.

11 o'clock—Mr. Boyd has just moved to take a recess for eight hours. The question was taken and the motion voted down.

A variety of business not particularly important has been got through with.

A message has been sent to the Senate that the House is now ready to adjourn.

Mr. Stephens of Georgia, at 12 o'clock, moved an adjournment *sine die*. Lost.

Mr. Boyd moved to take a recess for eight hours. Rejected.

Several ineffectual motions were made to suspend the rules for various unimportant propositions.

1 o'clock—The House is likely to be in session till twelve o'clock on Tuesday.

2 o'clock—The members are getting sleepy. The refreshments in the anteroom are giving out. The crowd has to a great extent disappeared from the galleries.

The President has signed several bills during the night.

WASHINGTON, March 4.

SENATE.—The three large appropriation bills not signed by the Chair.

The Joint Resolution passed; Yeas 37, Nays 10.

Mr. FOOTE moved to postpone all other business to take up the Joint Resolution for the relief of Thomas Ritchie.

Mr. CLAY—I second the motion.

Mr. HAMLIN said the Light House bill was on the table and ought to be acted on. This Joint Resolution could not pass this day.

Mr. FOOTE—I call the Senator to order. It is not in order to use such language.

Mr. PEARCE said he had materials before him for a speech on this subject, and a speech which cannot be made in the time of the session now left.

Mr. SEWARD called for the Yeas and Nays on the motion, and they were ordered.

The motion to take up was agreed to—Yeas 28, Nays 22.

Mr. HALE called for the reading of the resolution, which was read, and occupied the time till 20 minutes before 12.

Mr. FOOTE briefly explained the resolution.

Mr. PEARCE spoke for some time, when Mr. Foote said if no vote could be had, it were better to devote the remaining ten minutes to useful business.

Mr. PEARCE yielded, and the joint resolution was laid on the table.

The Civil and Diplomatic Appropriation bill and the Post Route bill were signed by the Chair.

The Light House bill was taken up and passed.

The Naval Appropriation bill was signed by the Chair. The Light House bill was enrolled and signed by the Chair.

The resolution allowing extra allowance to the employees of the Senate was taken up.

Mr. WHITCOMB commenced a speech against it.

Mr. CRITTENDEN, from the Committee to wait on the President, reported that he informed them he had nothing further to communicate to them of a legislative character.

Mr. BENNER offered a resolution of thanks to Mr King, the presiding officer—unanimously adopted.

The CHAIR then responded, but in such a low tone we could not hear a word. He then pronounced the Senate adjourned *sine die*.

After an interval of twenty minutes, the Senate was called to order. Messrs. Bright, Bayard, Cass, Jeff Davis, Hamlin, Mason, Pratt, Rusk and Dodge of Wisconsin, Senators elect, appeared and were qualified. Resolutions appointing Committees, to inform the President that a quorum was present were adopted.

The Senate then adjourned.

HOUSE.—Mr. MEADE asked to offer a resolution that the true construction of the contract for the public printing be referred to the Attorney General. Objected to.

Mr. THOMPSON of Miss. moved that a Committee be appointed to wait on the President and say to him that if he has no further communication to make, Congress is ready to adjourn *sine die*.

During calling the roll, on laying a bill on the able, the members were standing all over the hall, a question was raised that it was after 12 o'clock.

The speaker said we must allow a few moments for variation of time.

Mr. THOMPSON, of Miss. reported that the President has nothing further to communicate. On motion of Mr. Stephens, the House adjourned.

The Speaker arose and said:

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: Our labors are now over. We were summoned to our posts from which we are now about to retire, at an exciting and important period of our history, and while they may very properly exist a diversity of opinion, as to the various measures which we have adopted, we may at least in this closing scene, unite in the partial hope that the future happiness and prosperity of our common country will illustrate the wisdom of our acts. Gentlemen, I return you my sincere thanks for the flattering manner in which you were pleased to speak of my official conduct. When I first took this chair, I ventured to offer you the pledge of an honest effort, firmly, faithfully and impartially to discharge its duties. I have endeavored in good faith to redeem that pledge, and now, as I retire, from this position, I feel unconscious of ever having done intentional injustice to any Member of this House. It remains for me only, gentlemen, to perform my last official duty, by declaring that this House stands adjourned, *sine die*.

Loud applause succeeded, and in a few moments the Hall was empty.

DESTRUCTION OF ST. THOMAS' CHURCH, N. Y.—On Sunday morning, about a quarter to one o'clock, one of the Fifteenth Ward Police discovered St. Thomas' Church, corner of Broadway and Houston street, New York, to be on fire, and immediately gave the alarm:

The flames when discovered, were breaking way up the ceiling, behind the altar, to the roof, and in about five minutes the interior of the edifice was a sheet of fire. Some cushions, books and other small moveable articles were all that were saved. About ten minutes after the fire was first discovered, the roof fell in with a terrible crash, and there appeared to be no possible chance of saving any portion of the sacred edifice from destruction. About half past one o'clock the fire was extinguished, but not until it had destroyed all but the stone walls, which remain standing. The origin of the fire could not be ascertained, but it is supposed that it was caused by some defect in the furnace or heaters, a fire having been made but a few hours previous, to heat the church for service on Sunday. This building was erected about thirty years ago.

News from all Nations.

At Lewiston, Maine, last week, James Roberts of Webster was brought before Justice Smith and Coolidge, on a charge of causing the death of Margaret Hamilton, an idiotic pauper, whom he supported on contract. She died on the 1st of February, and on the 8th the body was exhumed and examined. A jury of inquest found that she died in consequence of cruel treatment, and exposure to cold, and want of suitable and sufficient food, while resident in Mr. R.'s family.

The Dutch Government have effected a sale of £600,000 out of the £2,800,000 of gold which they have to dispose of. The sum they offered at a fixed price was £340,000, and a bid for £000,000 at a quarter per cent. below what they had named having been made, it has been accepted. Several houses joined in the purchase, and the greater part of the whole of the amount will go to Paris.

The Hon. George Winchester (says the Vicksburg Whig of the 15th of February) died at his residence in Natchez on the 1st inst. Judge Winchester has been a resident of Mississippi for the past thirty-two years; stood very high in the legal profession, and was highly esteemed as a citizen.

The Keokuk (Indiana) Register says the Iowa Legislature, following in the footsteps of Wisconsin, has abrogated all usury laws, and permits parties to make their own contracts for the use of money. We trust that Wisconsin, having set a good example, will "take no steps backward."

The Astor House was discovered to be on fire in the upper part, on Saturday, at noon. The Journal of Commerce says, occasioning considerable alarm. A large volume of smoke escaped, but the fire was extinguished without the aid of the fire department and without serious loss.

In the Isle of Wight, such is the uncommon mildness of the season, that the trees are bursting buds and blossoms, the banks are covered with primroses, the turnips are running up to seed, and the birds are full of song; the daises deck the lawns, and the fields look as gay as May.

The Duke of Wellington once left his umbrella by accident, on the stall of a lady of rank, at a fair. On returning to look for it, he was told that the umbrella had just been sold for twenty-five guineas by the lady, who could not resist the temptation of disposing of so valuable a relic for charitable purposes.

The Hessian fly was introduced into this country, it is supposed, by the foreign mercenaries in 1777, on Long Island, from their baggage, or in the forage for their horses. It has proved the greatest pest on this continent, with, perhaps, the exception of the weevil.

The Free Banking Law, which lately passed the Legislature of Illinois, in opposition to the Governor's veto, has now according to the constitution of that State, to be referred to the people in November next.

The Portland Advertiser says—"We understand that one or more fugitive slaves passed through this city this week. They stopped long enough to raise some funds to help them onward. They intend to reach the British Provinces."

Two men, names unknown, supposed to Irish, were drowned on the 27th in crossing the Connecticut river, on the ice, just above the dam at Holyoke. The ice had gone from the river except that spot.

The Louisville Courier of Feb. 19, states that the steamer Magnolia has been chartered for the sum of $10,000, to carry Jenny Lind and troupe, some eighty in number to St. Louis.

A day nursery, where the children of factory operatives will be taken care of during the time the mother is at work, has been established at Manchester.

A certain space in the Glass Palace at London has been appropriated to the Bible Society, for the purpose of exhibiting specimens of the Holy Scriptures in one hundred and fifty different languages.

The Rajah of Travancore, Magdras Presidency, has presented her Majesty, Queen Victoria with a throne, or chair of state, composed of polished ivory, and inlaid or set with abundance of precious stones.

In Birmingham alone, out of £5,000 subscribed by workingmen for the purchase of freeholds, not less than £20 000, it is calculated, has been saved from the taverns and beershops.

Pennsylvania has kept her rank in the Union better than any other State. She was the second State in 1790, and she still holds the same position, while all around her have been changing.

Two young men at Brandon, Vt., discovered a bear frozen into his den, the water having run down and formed bars in front of him. They fired eight balls into him before killing him.

The cedar or cherry bird, was first noticed west of the Genesee river, in 1828; and now, it is so great a pest as to induce many to give up the cultivation of cherries, especially if near the wood.

TOAST.—At the celebration of the 22d at Martinsburg, Va, the following was one of the regular toasts:—

"THE RIGHT OF SECESSION.—If it takes two to make a bargain—it takes two to break it."

A petition has been signed by over 200 citizens of Sussex, Delaware, asking their delegates in the Legislature to come home.

The Vienna papers state that an Austrian army of observation of 40,000 men is being concentrated along the western frontier of Lombardy.

An injunction has been granted against Cradinal Wiseman not to draw £7000 under a disposed will without leave of the Chancellor.

Mr. Benton has told Mr. John C. Rives that he will not be a candidate for the Presidency.

The Duke of Bordeaux is said to be dangerously ill at Venice.

The Pope has elected three new Sees in the West Indian Colonies of France.

A colored man died on the 17th inst., at Carlisle, Pa., at the advanced age of one hundred and six years. He had been for many years a slave in Virginia, but by dint of strict industry and economy, succeeded in purchasing the freedom of himself and wife for $3,500.

Mr. Thomas Rankin, a respectable and wealthy citizen of Uniontown, Pa., while laboring under a fit of mental aberration, cut his throat with a razor, from the effects of which he died. A daughter, who was lying ill at the time, and saw him commit the horrid deed, has since died.

The Rochester (N. Y.) Advertiser hoists at the head of its columns the following ticket for President: Gen. Samuel Houston, of Texas; for Vice President, Horatio Seymour, of New York.

The Legislature of Iowa has passed a law prohibiting the immigration of negroes, and requiring them to leave the State upon three days' notice of the law under certain penalties.

While Parodi was singing in Romeo and Juliet, on Monday night, at Boston, she fell into a fainting fit, and had to be carried from the stage. The performances were immediately suspended for the night.

John J. Clendenin, Esq., formerly of Harrisburg, was recently re-elected Attorney General of Arkansas, by a majority of 700.

The man who has never taken a newspaper was seen in Cinnatti lately. He was inquiring the way to the poor house.

To ascertain the weight of a horse, put your toe under his foot.

The Boston Post accounts for the recent cold weather, by supposing that Sir John Franklin in going through the north west passage, forgot to shut the door after him.