



BLOOMSBURG:

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1839.

THE LEGISLATURE.

Since our last, the Legislature has been almost wholly engaged in receiving petitions, and conferring corporate privileges upon private companies for various purposes, with now and then a spirited sparring upon resolutions introduced for political effect. Among other petitions presented were two by Mr. Sturdevant, for a new county out of parts of Columbia, Luzerne and Lycoming, to be called Jackson. On the 14th, Mr. Ryan, from the committee on the Militia, to whom the subject had been referred, reported, "an act to pay the expenses of the volunteer troops lately called into the service of the state by the governor," which was made the order of the day for last Tuesday. On Monday, Mr. Snowden introduced a resolution appointing a committee to enquire into the cause of the troops having been called to Harrisburg by Gov. Ritner, with power to send for persons and papers. Mr. Ryan also submitted the following resolution:

Resolved—That a select committee be appointed to enquire into the alleged disturbances which took place on the 4th of December last, and also if any combination or conspiracy to organize the Legislature contrary to the constitution and the laws, existed prior to that date, and that the committee have power to send for persons and papers.

Mr. G. R. Smith moved that the committee be appointed by ballot. And Mr. Spackman moved further to amend by adding to this amendment the following:

And further to enquire whether any steps were taken by certain members of the legislature and other persons holding high offices in the gift of the general government, and of the state, to destroy the existing frame of government, and to establish for it a new one at the hazard of a civil war, and in total defiance of the laws of this commonwealth in relation to treason.

After a short discussion between Messrs. Spackman, Smith and Ryan, a motion to postpone was agreed to.

Mr. T. S. Smith submitted a resolution relative to the expediency of passing a law "that in addressing a jury in criminal trials the defendant or his counsel shall be entitled to the conclusion," which was adopted.

Serious Accident.—On Wednesday last, as Mr. Joseph Kisner, of Madison, was driving an ox team into this town, loaded with about a ton weight of timber, and when within half a mile of the village, his feet slipping, he fell, face downward, with his head towards the hind wheel of the wagon, which passed over his body diagonally, from the top of his left shoulder to his right side, without breaking a bone, though he was so seriously injured, that he remained helpless some 20 or 30 minutes before he was discovered, when he was conveyed to the house of Mr. G. Bomboy, where he now lays in a dangerous state, though strong hopes are entertained of his recovery.

With that recklessness of truth and candor which has always characterized the editorial course of the "Register" man, he says in his last paper, that we assert, that "an express bargain was made to abandon the local question, for which we were to have an office." Now were he not so well known for stating falsehoods that the truth from him would be considered a lie by nine tenths of the community, we might be induced to show from our article referred to by him, that it contains no such expression, nor can it even be tortured into such a meaning; but as it is, we leave the reader to draw his own conclusions.

Mr. Colt, our Representative in the Legislature; Mr. Petrikin, our Member of Congress, and the Hon. James Buchanan, of the U. S. Senate, will accept our thanks for numerous and valuable public documents.

The Legislature of Mississippi have elected a Mr. Henderson, Whig, to the Senate of the United States in the room of R. F. Walker resigned.

STORM AND EARTHQUAKE.
Great Loss of Life.

The intelligence of the last week has abounded with thrilling events and fearful tragedies. A reference to our foreign news will acquaint the reader with the details of the most terrific storm that has ever visited the English coast—a storm in which no less than three of our noble New York packets have been lost, many other vessels and a great number of lives. Indeed, the extent of the calamity is not yet known, and we much fear that its fury and desolation will be found greater than is now imagined. Yet even this distressing and alarming visitation of Providence, is light compared with the tremendous catastrophe we are about to record.

An Earthquake has shaken the fine French Island of Martinique in the West Indies to its foundation; and buried at least, FOUR HUNDRED of the inhabitants in the partial ruins of the towns of Port Royal and St. Pierre. This fearful and fatal news was brought to New Orleans by the brig Pauline, which sailed from St. Pierre, on the 12th of January. The earthquake took place on the preceding day. The town of St. Pierre has suffered greatly, but the destruction has been far greater at Port Royal, in which town the number of victims to this dreadful calamity is not less than FOUR HUNDRED. Hundreds of plantations on the island had been utterly destroyed, and intelligence of new disasters was continually pouring into town. A private letter says: Many of our houses have been overturned or shattered to pieces, among others two in the street in which we reside; two individuals have been buried beneath the ruins of the latter. At Port Royal the calamity is far more frightful; from the news received this morning, we learn that the number of victims already withdrawn from the ruins, amounts to more than three hundred. Nearly all the houses in that town are destroyed. In short it is said that this unfortunate city is nearly entirely overwhelmed and destroyed. To augment, if possible, this sad calamity, the yellow fever commits terrible ravages.—*Phil. Sat. Chron.*

Further particulars of the Earthquake at Martinique.—By the arrival of the brig Ponce at Charleston, S. C. from Point Petre, Gaudaloupe, the editors of the Courier have received the Journal Commercial of the 18th ult. which contains the following letter:—

St. Pierre, (Mart.) Jan. 12.
You have undoubtedly heard of the dreadful calamity which has befallen our unfortunate country, already so much to be pitied in every respect. The disasters of yesterday are incalculable. There is not a single house in St. Pierre that must not be rebuilt or entirely repaired. We have lost but two persons who were crushed under the ruins, and about twenty were wounded.—But Port Royal is completely laid even with the ground, as we have heard of in the history of Herclaneum, Pompeii and Messina. Not one-fourth of the city has yet been searched, and they have already found 522 dead bodies. The hospital at Port Royal is likewise destroyed, and all the sick therein perished.

According to other letters, and reports of different persons arrived at Pointe a Pitre from Martinique on the 13th and 14th Jan. it would appear that all the wooden houses had escaped the disaster. Nothing yet can be said of the fortifications at Port Royal, and of the other establishments of the government of which no mention is made in the letter of our correspondent; but from the reports collected from the adjacent country, we would infer that the sugar factories had suffered considerably. Already the known losses are estimated at ten millions of francs. On the 12th a vessel arrived at St. Pierre from St. Lucy, by which we heard that that island had felt but lightly the shock of the earthquake.

A Distressing Report.—The New York American mentions a distressing report, to the effect that the "centre of the Island of Guadalupe has sunk far below the tide level. This effect is supposed to have been produced by some volcanic action having a connection with the late earthquake at Martinique—Guadalupe is divided by a creek running nearly through the centre of the island, one side of which is a limestone formation, and the other volcanic. Some very celebrated plantations, with extensive buildings, once of great value, are said to be completely submerged."

Outrage on the Frontier.—We have the authority of the Montreal Gazette that a lawless incursion from Alburgh, Vermont, was made on the inhabitants of Caldwell's Manor, by about twenty citizens of the United States, who on the 26th ult. armed and disguised, broke into the house of a man named Vosburg, bound him and his son with cords, wounded the former so severely that his life is in danger, and then set fire to his house: The flames were extinguished by some of the neighbors from the American side of the line. But one of the persons engaged in this outrage was recognized by the Vosburg family.

Discoveries in Texas.—Two very interesting discoveries are said to have been made lately in Texas; one a remarkable salt spring in a prairie, surrounded by a dense forest; and the other is an extensive bed of bituminous coal from eight to ten feet thick, above the falls of Brassos river. This is a valuable article in a country so destitute of wood.

my guileless heart was made joyful by the fair Delia, on the banks of my native stream. This, my son is the outline of my history. I offer you my friendship and protection. You have inspired me with an interest in your welfare, and I would, if possible, repair some of my injury to others by benefiting you. But beware of mad ambition!"

[Concluded next week.]

HIGH HANDED ACT.

It will be seen by the following, that a citizen of the United States has been indicted by the authorities of Canada, and immured in prison for an act committed within the jurisdiction of the U. S. This high handed act should receive, from the proper authorities, immediate attention.—*Cleveland Advertiser.*

Outrage upon an American Citizen.

The following is an extract from a letter dated Sandwich, U. C., January 9th and published in the daily Advertiser:—

The petty tyrant of Sandwich, Prince, yesterday while presiding as Chairman of the Quarter Sessions, sentenced a citizen of Detroit to six months imprisonment for an assault committed in your city, and consequently out of the jurisdiction of our tribunals. His decision has excited the utmost surprise and indignation among our inhabitants. The only assignable reason, we can imagine, for this high handed violation of law and justice, is that the prosecutor swore that the prisoner has said in Detroit that he would give \$800, for the body of Prince, dead, and \$1000 if delivered alive. Such an offence was unpardonable and must be punished right or wrong.

It is hoped and expected that Governor Mason will promptly demand the surrender of the prisoner. An opportunity will be offered for making that demand immediately, as Gov. Arthur is expected to arrive here to day or to morrow.

We learn from the Detroit Post of the 12th ult. Gov. Mason has made a demand on Sir George Arthur for the release of the prisoner; and has also transmitted a history of the facts to the President of the United States. *Detroit Morning Post.*

ABOLITION IN DELAWARE.

The following report was made in the Legislature of Delaware, on the subject of Abolition. The report is not very lengthy, but is short and sweet.

"The committee to whom were referred the petition of 319 'women of the city of Wilmington and county of New Castle,' praying for the 'abolition of Slavery throughout this state,' beg leave to report: 'That they consider the petitioning of women to our National and State Legislatures (which they regret to see is becoming so general a practice) as derogatory from that refinement and delicacy which should, under all circumstances, accompany the female character, and as an unwarranted interference in subjects that should more properly belong to their fathers, husbands, or brothers.

"Your committee are also decidedly of the opinion that the petitioners whose names are affixed to the memorial under consideration, would confer more real benefit upon society, if they hereafter confined their attention to matters of a domestic nature, and would be more solicitous to mend the garments of their husbands and children, than to patch the breaches of the laws and Constitution."

Sanguinary event in Alabama.—We regret that it falls to our lot to record another sad and sanguinary instance of the effects of the passion of anger, which led to a resistance of the authority of the laws, and the murder of several citizens, while in the performance of a public duty. The scene of the tragedy was at Tuscaloosa, and it appears that Vance, Johnson, Gatewood, Ball, and Stockdale were sent as Deputy Marshals from Mobile to Tuscaloosa, to retake a levy which had been wrested from the Marshals on an execution against the Simontons of Tuscaloosa. In pursuance of the mandate they possessed themselves of the store of goods belonging to the Simontons. About dark of the same day they were attacked by armed party of twenty, consisting of the Simontons and their friends, and received a volley from the whole party. Gatewood fell and died on the spot. Johnson received a slight wound in the arm. Ball had one arm shot off and one arm broken. Stockdale was shot in the face. The fire was returned, but with what execution was not fully known; but one of the Simontons was in a dangerous state, and supposed to be dying. A jury of inquest was held on Gatewood, who brought in a verdict of death by violence from the Simonton party. *Chronicle.*

Canada.—Sir George Arthur returned to Toronto on the 23d ult. The Court Martial at London, closed its session on the 22d, having tried 45 prisoners. Woodman concluded his defence with a prayer that if convicted, he might be shot. The Western (U. C.) Herald states, that an officer of the United States army recently arrived there, bringing intelligence of an extensive organization of American citizens again to invade the Canadas. Their number is said to be from nine to twelve hundred. The Quebec Gazette of the 25th ult. mentions the arrest of seven persons, French Canadians, all of St. Francois Nouvelle Beance, remarking that these are the first arrests for political offences in the country parts of the Quebec district, which have heretofore maintained a peaceful character.

me I should never see you more. About sun set the same day, he intruded on my sorrows again, returned the trinkets I had given you, and delivered a message purporting to be from you."

Here his speech was interrupted by approaching voices, and the next instant they were surrounded by a party of servants, led on by Lucille's father, who dragged the fainting girl away.

"Boy!" said the rich man, as he followed those who bore away his insensible child. "Boy! let me not see you on my premises again, or, with a stone tied about your neck, you shall be thrown into your worshipped sea like a whining puppy! Beggar! think no more of my foolish daughter!"

"Stop—I entreat—I command!" exclaimed the hitherto silent statesman, who had been much affected by the preceding scene. But his intercession was too late; the rich man departed hastily, with a scornful frown on his brow.

Ferdinand ran to the summit of the mound, and strained his eyes at the retreating form of Lucille, as she was hurried away through the intricacies of the grove—he then knelt once more beside the grave, overcome with grief.

"Strange, unhappy youth, tell me the meaning of all this; I will be your friend, and my influence may serve you," said Mr. Dauntless, following to the enclosure.

"No—leave me! Mother, I come!" exclaimed the boy, possessed of his former frenzy, leaping up, and dashing towards his boat, with the intent of again seeking repose on the deep sea.

"Hold! I will not permit you to venture out again—it were madness! Be content—I say you shall not go!" exclaimed Mr. Dauntless, holding the youth firmly by the wrists, as he endeavored to launch the yawl from the sand where the giant wave had thrown it.

"Stranger, unhand me! I desire not your friendship; the sea is my friend. I have been cradled on it, and my best angels are in the storm; they beckon me from this sinful earth, to go and quench the fires of a crushed heart in their cool atmosphere! Away, and let me alone!"

"I will not—must not!" replied Mr. Dauntless. "But see," he continued, "the waves are sinking back, and the sun breaks forth in the west."

The youth started; he regarded for a moment the lulled waves, and the roseate tints of the gorgeous light which was bursting forth, and now rested like a sheet of gold on the tree tops. A subdued sigh came from him, and he sunk down unresisting on the side of the boat.

"Stranger," said the youth, mournfully, "there is no need of withholding me now; the spell is broken, and earth and sea are the same. But who art thou, that standest between me and my native element, and at whose dictation the tempest seemed to abate, as if shrinking from thy power? Why didst thou tread this beach in solitude?—Hast thou been scathed in the wicked world, and resorted to nature for peaceful relief?"

"Yes!" replied the great man, touched somewhat with the boy's passion, "I suffered, too, my lad, though I have often triumphed!"

"You have—I can see it in the marks upon thy brow, and we are friends, if thou wilt have it so." Saying which, Ferdinand pressed the extended hand of his companion.

"I would know thy history, my lad; and to show that I frankly repose confidence in thee, I will first give thee a sketch of my own. This is my native land—in thee I can recognize marks of foreign blood—and like thyself, I was an orphan and destitute of wealth. The scorn and taunts of the proud were heaped upon me; friends turned away, and what was worst of all,—which you have not experienced,—the loved one of my heart cast me off and wedded another! My dear young friend, well do I remember the time when, like yourself, my breast was racked with many passions; and though my locks are becoming gray, and success has repeatedly smiled on me in riper years, yet those early impressions are indelible, and have power even now to shake my manhood. Yes! Delia married my rich rival, and I was a penniless outcast! Yet nature had endowed me with the resources of mind, and implanted in my breast an all-absorbing ambition; I resolved to triumph over every obstacle, and thereby find my revenge. Every leisure moment I employed in unceasing thought, and I solemnly devoted my existence to the accomplishment of my plans. The abandoned boy studied for years in obscurity, preparatory for the time to seize on the prize which was ever kept before his eyes, whilst none dreamed of the object of his incessant musings. By degrees he obtained foothold in a powerful political party, and ever watchful and energetic, his advance was steadily onward, till he finally stood at the head of affairs. Ay! you see before you that person whose mere wish now is the law of the land. I am greeted every where by flattering smiles; unbounded wealth is mine, and those who jeered the powerless boy, are now my most servile suitors. My ambition has been amply gratified, and my revenge most sweet; but terrible remorse succeeds! When I think of the measures I sometimes used to compass my ends, and the ill-staged adversaries I found it necessary to crush in my path, the glory of triumph is much dimmed by harrowing regret! I have now an affectionate wife and happy children about me, but power fails to bring the bliss of early life, when