

POLITICAL

SACRILEGIOUS FRAUD.

From the Pennsylvania, we learn that the evidence given on Tuesday in the Third District contested election case, between Messrs. Ingersoll and Naylor, by M. W. G. Conrow, one of the Election Judges of Spring Garden, was of a very important and interesting character. He stated that the election officers of Spring Garden in 1838, instead of having the oath properly administered, were sworn not upon the bible, but upon either the Philadelphia Directory, or a book called "The Sufferings of a Shipwrecked Mariner"—that the oath thus taken had been arranged the night before between the magistrate and the British Whig Committee of Superintendence, and that it was in the following words—"You do swear or affirm that you will this day do justice to your party"—and that certificates of the regular swearing in of the different officers were duly made out and signed by them before the mock and irreverent oath was administered. It also appeared that the returns were not made out until several days after the election, and that it was then done in the parlor of one of the British Whig judges, some of the persons participating in the work not being election officers. It was likewise shown in the course of the examination, that the original certificate of return from Spring Garden—the document read at the meeting of the Return Judges, and from which the Ingersoll and Naylor vote was proclaimed and counted, is a paper without any signature whatever. This document is now on file among the papers in the possession of Commissioners appointed under the authority of Congress to investigate the case.

This, we believe, is the substance of Mr. Conrow's extraordinary developments as to the mode in which the election was conducted in Spring Garden, and it is such as requires no comment. Mr. Conrow is a member of the British Whig party, and is a man of standing and influence in his neighborhood. Surely the sober minded people of this country cannot longer place confidence in political demagogues who, professing as they do, all the Religion—violate truth and justice, with a recklessness unparalleled.

HARD TIMES.

The great oracle of the British Whig party in this country, Henry Clay, in a speech delivered March 31, 1824, depicts the pressure of that period with the hand of a master. This was before the removal of the deposits, the United States Bank was vetoed, or the Independent Treasury bill was brought forward. The United States Bank was in all its primitive glory. The pressure of that period had its origin in the same speculation caused by a ruinous expansion of paper money, and not by the Administration. But let us hear Mr. Clay.

"In casting our eyes around us, the most prominent circumstance which fixes our attention, and challenges our deepest regret, is the general distress which pervades the whole country. It is forced upon us by numerous facts of the most incontestable character. It is indicated by the diminished exports of native produce; by the depressed and reduced state of our foreign navigation; by our diminished commerce; by successive unthreshed crops of grain, perishing in our barns and barn yards for the want of a market—by the remarkable diminution of the circulating medium—by the numerous bankruptcies, not limited to the trading classes, but extending to all orders of society—by an universal complaint of the want of employment, and a consequent reduction of the price of labor—by the ravenous pursuit after public situations not for the sake of their honors and the performance of their public duties, but as a means of private subsistence—by the reluctant resort to the perilous use of paper money—by the intervention of legislation in the delicate relation between debtor and creditor, and above all, by the low and depressed state of the value of almost every description of the whole mass of the property of the nation, which has, on an average sunk not less than fifty per cent. within a few years.

"The truth is, no class of society suffers more in the present stagnation of business, than the laboring class. That is necessary effect of the depression of agriculture, the principal business of the community. The wages of able bodied men vary from five to eight dollars per month; and such has been the want of employment in some parts of the Union, that instances have not been unfrequent of men working merely for the means of present subsistence. If the wages for labor here and in England are compared they will be found not to be essentially different.

Hard Cider.—If there be any liquor more stupefying than another, it is "hard cider." It stupefies all the mental and moral faculties, and makes the drinker lazy, senseless, cross and stupid. It is ten times worse than rum or whiskey. The Indians are noted for becoming intoxicated with it, and hence the expressions, "cross as an Indian," "drunk as an Indian." Yet this, the Whigs admit, is General Harrison's favorite beverage, the liquor by which he is inspired. They are for a hard cider government—a cross, stupid, idle, lazy, obstinate, sleepy, stultified, administration.—Heaven defend us from such a Whig President.—Morning Post.

In Senate of the United States Mr. Buchanan made the following REPORT:

The Committee on Foreign Relations, to which were referred the several messages of the President of the U. S. communicating to Congress, at its present session, certain official correspondence in relation to the question of the territory in dispute with Great Britain in our northeastern frontier; and, also, certain resolutions of the Legislature of Maine on the same subject—report:

That they have had the same under consideration, and now deem it expedient to communicate to the Senate their reasons for not making, at the present moment, a general report upon the whole subject.—They feel that they will best perform this duty, by placing clearly and distinctly before the Senate the existing state and condition of the pending negotiation between the two Governments.

The President of the United States, in his annual message of December last, informed Congress that, "for the settlement of our northeastern boundary, the proposition promised by Great Britain, for a commission of exploration and survey, has been received, and a counter-project, including also a provision for the certain and final adjustment of the limits in dispute, is now before the British Government for its consideration." The President has not thought it advisable to communicate this counter-project to Congress; yet we have his assurance, on which the most confident reliance may be placed, that it is of such a character as will, should it be accepted, finally settle the question. This proposition was officially communicated to that Government during the last summer.

Mr. Fox, the British minister, in his note of the 24th January last, doubtless with a perfect knowledge of the nature of the project which had been submitted by the American Government to that of Great Britain, assures Mr. Forsyth "that he not only preserves the hope, but he entertains the firm belief, that if the duty of negotiation the boundary question be left in the hands of the two National Governments, to whom alone of right it belongs, the difficulty of conducting the negotiation to an amicable issue will not be found so great as has been by many persons apprehended." And in his subsequent note, of March 13, 1840, he states that he has been instructed to declare "that her majesty's Government are only waiting for the detailed report of the British commissioners recently employed to survey the disputed territory, which report, it was believed, would be completed and delivered to her Majesty's Government by the end of the present month, (March,) in order to transmit to the Government of the United States a reply to their last proposal upon the subject of the boundary negotiation."—Thus we may reasonably expect that this reply will be received by the President during the present month of April, or early in May.

While such is the condition of the principal negotiation, the committee have deemed it inexpedient, at this time, to report upon the subordinate, though important, question in relation to the temporary occupation of the disputed territory. They trust that the answer of the British Government may be of such a character as to render a report upon this latter subject unnecessary. In any event, they have every reason to believe that the state of suspense will be but of brief duration.

The committee, ever since this embarrassing and exciting question was first presented for their consideration, have been anxious that the Government of the United States should carefully preserve itself in the right; and hence this desire has been fully accomplished. The territorial rights of Maine have been uniformly asserted, and a firm determination to maintain them has been invariably avowed; though this has been done in a noble spirit. So far as the committee can exercise any influence over the subject, they are resolved that if war should be the result, (which they confidently hope may be avoided,) this war shall be rendered honorable by the conduct of the British Government. They have believed this to be the surest mode of uniting every American heart and every American arm in defence of the just rights of the country.

It is but justice to remark, that the Executive branch of the Government has, from the beginning, been uniformly guided by the same spirit, and has thus far pursued a firm, consistent, and prudent course, throughout the whole negotiation with Great Britain.

While the committee can perceive no adequate cause, at the present moment, for anticipating hostilities between the two countries, they would not be understood as expressing the opinion that this country should not be prepared to meet any emergency. The question of peace or war may in a great degree, depend upon the answer of the British Government, now speedily expected.

Hon. George W. Hopkins, the Conservative Representative from Virginia, has come out over his name, and declared that he can follow William C. Rives no longer, and that he shall support Van Buren.—Such are the signs in the Old Dominion.

The following is the best synopsis we have seen of a congressional proceeding which caused some noise in the world.—Both members if they have their deserts, should be expelled. The scene described took place on the 20th of April, 1840.

The Baltimore Post, says that Mr. HARRIS, of Virginia was replying to Mr. WISE, when their dispute between them was suddenly interrupted by a regular set-to of fist-cuffs between Mr. RICE GARLAND, the lately nominated calm and dispassionate presiding Judge of the Supreme Court of Louisiana, and Mr. BYNUM, of North Carolina. Such a sensation I never saw excited; a scene so indecent and so disgraceful, I had hoped never to see exhibited any where, much less among the right honorable of Congress, the congregated wisdom of the nation. When I speak of a fight, of a battle, of fist-cuffs, of hit and parry, scratching and throttling, I am not speaking figuratively—my language is perfectly literal. There was actually a regular fight with fists between Mr. Rice Garland—I beg his pardon, I mean Judge Garland—and Mr. Bynum. I was standing within four feet of them when the scuffle took place. Of the visible part of the fight, I can give a fair account on my own authority and my own responsibility. Of the causes of the onslaught, I can only furnish you with the probabilities, as I gathered them from balancing conflicting testimony.

I saw Mr. Bynum walking up the aisle in the vicinity of Mr. Garland's seat. He appeared to utter in a low tone a few words, apparently addressed to Mr. Banks; and in a moment after Mr. Garland leaped from his seat, struck him several blows, all which manoeuvres were returned with equal spirit. Mr. Banks seized Mr. Garland, and Mr. Evans caught hold of Mr. Bynum, while Mr. Connor, of North Carolina, a veteran member, who was near, ran from his seat, with much agitation expressed on his face; and authoritatively, as became him, interposed between the combatants. Mr. Evans and Mr. Banks also seemed much agitated. While the effort was making to effect the separation, much violence of language was used, at least by Mr. Bynum.

The cause of the fight, as I heard them, were as follows: When Mr. Bynum passed up the aisle, he observed to Mr. Banks, that manoeuvre (the spreading of the falsified documents, of which Mr. Wise was at that moment speaking in vindication) appears suspicious. You are a damn liar, said Judge Garland.

The profanity of language is not mine—it belongs to the honorable judge. You are a damn liar and a damn rascal, with imitative courtesy, responded Mr. Bynum.—The Judge collared and struck the congressman, who returned the blows with equal quickness. O righteous Judge! God help the poor folks, who may be tried by him!

I have endeavored to give you as accurate account, as I could possibly gather. Of the acts I was a witness; the words that passed, I did not hear. But I have been as careful as possible in my statement, giving you nothing but what seems well authenticated. A committee of investigation has been appointed, consisting of Messrs. Underwood, Butler, of Kentucky, Briggs, Cooper, of Georgia, and Clifford, whose report will correct my mis-statements, if I have made any. Messrs. Banks and Nesbitt were appointed; and Messrs. Butler and Cooper substituted for them. The committee, you may perceive, is a very fair one, consisting of two democrats, two whigs, and one nullifier—but all moderate and gentlemen.

Speeches were delivered by Messrs. Dromgoole, Underwood, Connor and Briggs. Mr. Connor made an address of great force, beauty and eloquence, guided by the wisdom of experience; he very seldom speaks; but when he does rise, he is always listened to with the attention which his talents, services, experience, and courtesy merits.

New York Town Elections.—The federalists manufactured much enthusiasm about these elections, with how much reason let the OFFICIAL returns from the Albany Argus tell:

THE TOWN ELECTIONS. Democratic nett gain is FIFTY-FOUR Towns since last fall.

The official returns of the general election in November 1839, showed that the democrats carried then 411 towns, and the federalists 467 towns. The actual returns of the town elections March and April; of 1840, show that the democrats have succeeded in 436 towns, and the federalists in 428.—Being a federal loss of 29 towns, and a democratic gain of 25 towns—and a nett democratic gain of fifty-four towns.

We do not call this going backwards.—Van Buren will carry New York.

An Item—for the Whigs.—General Root was elected to the Senate by a majority of one vote. At a criminal court in Troy last month, a man named Dunn was convicted of perjury in swearing in his vote at one of the ward polls, having previously voted the whig ticket in another ward.—It appeared on the trial, that Dunn swore in his vote, while in a state of intoxication, under the advice of his whig friends. General Root, therefore, holds his seat by a vote corruptly put into the ballot box. Dunn goes to the State Prison, while General Root remains in the Senate to declaim against the "corruption of the Democrat party!"—Mohawk Courier.

"Tis true 'tis pity, pity 'tis 'tis true."—Some of the whig prints are indignant at the presumptuous interference of Harrison's Thinking Committee of Three, who have muzzled the old gentleman, and put a gag in his mouth, to prevent him from disclosing his sentiments upon subjects of national importance. They are denounced as a pack of "impolitic asses," whose meddlesome intrusion will do more to cast ridicule upon the "great whig" candidate for president than the sarcasms of all the administration presses in the Union. "Tis true 'tis pity," that an aspirant for the highest office in the gift of a free people should be held in leading strings and treated like a lunatic or idiot by a self constituted committee; but if he is incapable of asserting his rights now, what kind of an automation will he make should he, by any adverse combination of circumstances, be called to occupy the presidential chair? He would prove a mere King Log, without any volition of his own, and subject to the caprices of a new committee of which Henry Clay would be the moving principle. It is an insult to the understanding of the people to ask them to confide the reins of government to such hands.—Ulster Repub.

WHIGGERY AND TRUTH.

Whiggery—Where is the forty millions of money that was in the treasury when Martin Van Buren came into power, is it not scattered to the four winds of heaven?

Truth—Not so fast Mr. Whiggery, the forty millions of which you speak only amounted to 36 or 37 millions, 29 millions of which have been deposited with the States of the people.

Whiggery—Well at any rate, there is eight or ten millions missing, where is that?

Truth—It was applied to the payment of the government debts, in order to extend lenity to the whig merchants of New York, and the whig banks that are unable to pay government to the amount of their indebtedness.

Whiggery—Is it possible?

Truth—It is not only possible, but it is absolutely true that the government held bonds against merchants at the East, to the amount of 7 millions of dollars, and had at the same time in deposit with the banks about five millions more, not a dollar of which could be collected.

Whiggery—I must be going.

Truth—Stop and hear the balance.

Whiggery—I hav'nt time now, I must be going.

Bank of the United States.—"Bicknell's [Philadelphia] Reporter says: "The Philadelphia banks continue the system of marking checks, although some of them pay out their own notes with more freedom than they did a fortnight ago. All checks except those on the Bank of the United States, are now received on deposit and in payments of debts, so that the system is not attended with so much inconvenience as formerly."

The above article should be remembered by every candid man who now is, or ever has been, in favor of the Bank of the United States. It is a pregnant commentary upon the great Regulator, both upon itself, and the banks in Philadelphia which have had the greatest share of its regulation. They are all now in the miserable condition of using unpaid checks as a circulating medium! And while this resource is mortifying and degrading enough to those who use it, yet the great Regulator is at too low an ebb itself to have its checks admitted into this class of circulation! Her unpaid checks though marked "good," are not receivable at any bank in Philadelphia! Yet this is the bank which has had the power to make two suspensions of specie payments in three years, and the audacity to charge the whole upon the Government. Checks on her are not now received in deposit at other Philadelphia banks, or in payment of debts! In other words, the Bank of the United States is outlawed in Philadelphia! Great will be the loss to the American stockholders. Globe.

BANK REFORM.

The last Richmond Whig, in an article urging the necessity of a reformation in the abuses of the banking system, holds the following strong language:—"All parties must ultimately concur in the propriety of remodeling the banking system as it exists in this country, of imposing further restrictions on their effect, and interposing additional safeguards against the power of opportunity and temptation. It is manifest that as things now are a corrupt Teller or Cashier may even where vigilance is exercised, any day half ruin the Bank, and inflict a heavy blow on the prosperity of the community. Unhappy was the day for America when Banks were introduced into the country. Speculation, debt, ruin, corruption of morals and misery have followed in their train. Much of the improvement which they are said to have accomplished, we believe to be no improvement at all; but if it be, improvement prematurely attempted and effected by the unusual expansion of the paper system, which again collapsing, as collapse it always will, after such an expansion, has scattered destruction through the land."

The Little Rock (Arkansas) Gazette says that "whiggery is at so low an ebb, in that State, that it is doubtful whether there will be even a Harrison electoral ticket nominated."

VARIOUS MATTERS.

A MUTINEER.

A paragraph is circulating in the newspapers to the effect that a seaman connected with the United States ship Vandalia, now lying at Pensacola, was hung from the yard arm on the 10th ult. on a charge of having assaulted one of his officers. A correspondent of the Army and Navy Chronicle, writing from Pensacola the 11th ult. corrects the mistake by stating that the man was not hung, although very nearly so.

"The scaffold was rigged—the grave dug and coffin made—in fact every preparation perfect. At the appointed time the yellow flag signal for execution was run up at the fore royal mast head of the frigate, a gun fired, the crews of all the ships mustered on deck, and a general order from the Commodore, relating to the melancholy spectacle, soon to take place, read to them. They were permitted to cluster upon the fore-castle and booms, to be able the better to witness the execution. The man dressed in white, having on the white cap, was observed, led out upon the scaffold, rope adjusted, and the chaplain attending with his prayer book, to ease the poor fellow off handsomely into the other world. The chaplain having finished, the marine officer was seen to advance and read what was supposed his death warrant, but which was soon known by signal from the frigate to be his pardon by the President, assigning for it the very good reason that Livingston's offence was only one instance of unbridled passion, and his punishment did not seem necessary for the preservation of the discipline of the squadron, as it appeared from the evidence that he called upon the boats' crew of the other ships, but called in vain.

"The yellow flag was then hauled down, and the performance of the morning ended. The man was tremendously frightened, as you may readily imagine, and was in fact so completely paralyzed that his pardon caused no more emotion, or perceptible change in his demeanor than the reading of his sentence, which was none at all. It was some moments after he was led below before he could speak, or even make a noise with his tongue, and his motion was to seize the bible, and kissing it, promised never to touch intoxicating drinks again."

Storm and Loss of Life at Pondicherry.—The Temple publishes accounts from Pondicherry of the 22d of January, and from Yanaon, a French factory about 250 miles along the coast from that city, up to the 7th of December, which contains numerous details of the dreadful hurricane and inundation of the sea on that coast. They coincide in stating the force of the wind to have been such as had never before been witnessed there, and the inroad of the sea as dreadful beyond description. Upwards of ten thousand corpses had been found, but many thousands more had, no doubt been washed away. So many bodies lying unburied had caused a pestilence and the condition of the survivors, who had lost most of their property, was exceedingly distressing. The British authorities and settlers had shown the greatest kindness to the French sufferers, but the factory and town of Yanaon, which alone had lost 1500 inhabitants, could not recover from such a calamity for a great many years. The Government chest and most of the public records had been preserved. As instances of the extensive scale on which his great natural calamity acted it is mentioned that at Talairiven one house, in which persons had taken refuge, was blown down and most of them killed; while at Mallavoram, a village on the English territory only 40 were saved out of 2000 inhabitants.

MALICE OUTWITTED.

The owner of a sawmill in the country, having a bitter enmity against a neighboring farmer, laid a plan to get him arraigned as a thief, convicted and sent to the penitentiary. But as the honesty of his neighbor afforded no just grounds of accusation, he resorted to the expedient of secretly conveying his own property upon his neighbor's premises, so that, being found there, they might be a proof of his guilt. For this purpose he took a thousand of boards, having his own mark on them, and at dead of night, dumped them in a field, near his neighbor's house. But the farmer was not so sound asleep as his enemy supposed.—He heard a noise, or thought he heard one, and getting up pretty soon after, to satisfy himself on the subject, by the help of a light, he found the load of boards, with the sawyer's mark thereon. How they came there, and why they came there, flashed upon his mind at once. His course was promptly taken. Allowing his enemy just time to get home and into bed, that the light of the burning pile might not be detected, he set fire to the boards, which, being well seasoned, were soon consumed.

Early in the morning, as the farmer had anticipated, the sawyer came with a constable, and a search-warrant, to search for his property.

"You are suspected," said the officer to him, "of having taken a thousand of boards from this man, and by virtue of the warrant I hold in my hand, I must search your premises."

"Very well," replied the farmer, "you are at liberty to search as much as you please; and if you find any boards, I'll engage to eat them for my breakfast!"