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See First Page for Miscellaneous News.

Editorial Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

## PLAIN TALK AND PLAIN TRUTH.

Washington, Jan. 12, 1848.

Mr. Stewart, in reviewing Mr. Walker's Report to Congress, said, never did an official paper emanate from any civilized Government in the world, which contained so many falsehoods,—falsehoods not in hundreds or thousands misstated, but falsehoods in millions and hundreds of millions of dollars. One of the misstatements was to the amount of $82,000,000, another of $165,000,000, another of 401,000,000, another of 423,000,000.

The facts demonstrated by Mr. Stewart's speech are, that the Tariff of 1846, instead of increasing the Revenue $8,000,000, as asserted, decreased the Revenue by the change, $7,202,657. Here is a blunder of more than $15,000,000. Last year there were ten and a half millions more imported than in 1845, but the Revenue was larger in 1845 than in 1844:

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| Revenue in 1845, | $27,528,112 |
| Revenue in 1844, | 23,747,561 |

The average duties under the Tariff of 1842 was 32 per cent., and the imports the last year under the Tariff of 1842, would have been $7,202,657 more than they were, if the Tariff had not been repealed.

"LOW DUTIES BRING LARGE REVENUE."

This is a favorite theory of the Secretary of the Treasury, but it is demolished by Mr. Stewart.—We cannot well condense this part of his speech, and therefore give it at length:

The next thing the learned Secretary attempts to prove is, that under low duties more revenue is always obtained than under high duties. To show this he selects ten year's income under a high tariff and ten years under a low one. He selects ten years, from 1832 to 1842, under the compromise bill, for his *low* tariff, and ten years, from 1824 to 1832, eight years under the high tariff of 1824 and 1828, with two years under the tariff of 1842, as the *high* tariff period. Now, I assert that, in the very years on which he relies, and which he has selected *for* the comparison, his own figures prove, not that he got less revenue under the high than under the low period, but it proves that he got *eighty-two* millions more under the high tariff than he did under the low. For the proof, I refer gentlemen and the Secretary to his own official report on the finances in 1845, page 956. Here you have his own report. Take it down, gentlemen; I desire you to take a minute of what I state; for what I say I can prove. I hope the chancellor of the exchequer that was (Mr. McKay) will pay special attention to these statements. I say, on Mr. Walker's own showing, that under the ten years of low tariff the receipts were $214,855,858, and that under the high tariff years the receipts were $297,842,916. The difference in favor of the high tariff is $82,986,058; $8,298,605 per year; and yet the Secretary and the President say that all experience proves that low tariffs gives the most revenue! Whether such statements proceeded from ignorance or design he would not say, but it was one or the other. I refer (said Mr. S.) to-day, to date, book, and page. Let them look at it. I want Mr. Walker himself to look at it.

And now for his positions on the subject of exports. The Secretary affirms that the balance of trade is always in our favor under a low tariff; that our exports exceed our imports, and that the exports of breadstuffs and provisions are especially increased. Now I say that, deducting the imports during the ten years of high tariffs, selected by the Secretary for comparison, from the imports during the ten years of low tariffs, and it would appear that the balance against the country under the low tariff was $101,976,076—equal to $10,197,607 a year; and, deducting during each period the goods re-exported, the balance against the country would be increased to the sum of $423,455,724. And how had it been paid? By two hundred millions of State bonds, sent to Europe to pay for goods; a mercantile debt of nearly an equal amount; resulting at the end of the low duty period, in 1840, '41, and '42, in repudiation and bankruptcy, State, national, and individual, throughout the land. Yet we are told by the President and Secretary that low duties produce prosperity, national and individual, and especially the prosperity of the farmers and laborers of the boiling millions!"

But this is not all. Take the exports from the imports during these ten years of low duties, and it will be found that the debt against the people of the United States in favor of foreigners is $176,166,212. What a sum of national prosperity is here exhibited!

Again: the Secretary asserts that low duties have always been accompanied by a greatly increased export of breadstuffs. And he attributes the sudden augmentation in the exports during the last season, not to the famine in Ireland and over the South of Europe; not at all; but solely to his model tariff of 1846! That is what has done it all. Low duties, not starvation, have induced the people of the old world suddenly to eat Indian meal and call out for American flour and American beef. But I wish to ask him—and I put the same question to Southern gentlemen in this House of this reduction of duties is the thing which has produced so large an export of breadstuffs, pray why had it not in this same degree increased the exports of cotton and tobacco? The export of cotton under this model tariff of our model President has been less by four millions of dollars than the average exports of ten years past, from 1835 to 1845.

What did this? What produced this falling off under this beautiful free-trade policy? Was that too, the fruit of the tariff of 1846? Why has there been no increased export of cotton? Southern gentlemen, cotton growers, how is this? And you, ye tobacco growers, how comes it that, under Mr. Walker's patent machine to increase exports, the export of tobacco has fallen of a million and a half? What say you to this? Was this the happy effect of the tariff of 1846? The Secretary tells us that the starvation in Europe had little or nothing to do with the consumption there of our breadstuffs, nothing whatever. Well, the starvation has ceased, breadstuffs are down, and now the redoubtable Mr. Secretary Walker is like to be caught in his own trap! I will tell you what is in a few weeks more the corn laws in England, sliding scale and all, will be in full operation. They were merely suspended, not repealed, during the famine; and now, when the famine is over, and Mr. Walker is caught in Sir Robert Peel's trap, the corn-laws go into full effect on the first day of March next, and then exports cease, the revenue falls off, and Mr. Walker will have to appeal to us to restore the tariff of 1842, to replenish his empty Subtreasury and feed the starving armies, civil and military, at home and abroad.

The Secretary asserts that under high tariffs the export of breadstuffs has always fallen off. The whole experience of the people, he says, establishes this general fact; and he wants our farmers to look at the fact. Now, I aver that for four years under the highest tariff we ever had—I mean the "bill of abominations," the tariff of 1828—we exported to Great Britain (England, Scotland, and Ireland) *a hundred times* as much breadstuffs as we did during four years from 1835 to 1839, under the low tariff or compromise bill of 1833. Yes, I repeat it; during four years of the operation of the "bill of abominations" our exports of breadstuffs (wheat, flour, corn, and corn meal) were one hundred times greater to England than during four years under the compromise bill. Yet the Secretary says the exports of breadstuffs have uniformly been less under a high than under a low tariff!

Here Mr. Holmes, of South Carolina, called for the proof of Mr. Stewart's position.

Mr. Stewart. The gentlemen shall have it I will give it to him.

In four years, from 1835 to 1839, under low duties, we imported from Great Britain $253,000,000 worth of goods, equal to $63,000,000 a year, and she took from us during this period of low duties $94,659 worth of breadstuffs, equal to $23,657 per year! Well, now for the high tariff of 1828, which lasted four years, from 1828 to 1833. During this time we took from Great Britain $142,000,000 worth of goods, equal to $35,000,000 a year; and she took from us, under this enormously high tariff, $9,504,241 worth of our breadstuffs, equal to $2,376,060 per year. We, under the high tariff, taking about one-half as much of her goods, and she taking one hundred times as much of our breadstuffs. Yet the Secretary and President say that low duties always have and always will increase the exportation of our breadstuffs! Yet the Secretary says that if we do not take more British goods in pay for our breadstuffs, "England will have to pay specie for our breadstuffs, and, not having it to spare, she will take less or pay less for our cotton."

Yes, let the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. HOLMES) put these amounts down and disprove them if he can. Let him take it to Mr. Walker—he does not. I will send it to him, and call upon him to vindicate himself from the charge of having given his official sanction and the weight of his high station to these gross mis-statements, calculated if not intended to deceive the people. He has stuffed every page almost of his report full of breadstuffs. But I am mistaken if he will not be sick of his breadstuffs before all is over. [A laugh.] In 1836 we imported eighty-six millions worth of British goods, and she took from us in breadstuffs the heavy amount of $1,654; that is, we take 360 dol. from her in her manufactures to every single cent she takes from us in the form of our breadstuffs. And let it not be forgotten that of those very manufactures more than one-eighth part of the whole value is made up of British breadstuffs consumed in the making of the goods. (When I say Britain, I mean England, Ireland, and Scotland, not her dependencies.)

The gentleman from Illinois (Mr. McClernand) congratulates himself very highly on the repeal of the tariff of 1842. Now, he probably forgets that his own district consumed, in 1838, 373,913 dolls. worth of British goods to every 732 dolls. she took of its agricultural products—assuming that his district consumes in proportion to all others. Yet we are congratulated on the great increase in the export of breadstuffs under low duties!

Again: the Secretary says another thing. He says that by the tariff of 1816 duties have been reduced from 100 and 200 per cent. down to 20 and 30 per cent.; that three-fifths of the duty has been taken off of iron; and more than one-half the duty off of coal; and yet he says the price of iron is higher than it was before, and of coal too. Well, sir, if the fact is so, who then is benefitted by the reduction of the duty? The foreigner, most clearly and the foreigner alone. American consumers pay more for their iron than they did before. The amount of the change is this, that the foreigner brings his iron into our market, and the Treasury loses three-fifths of the former duty. On such a state of things this model of a Secretary congratulates Pennsylvania, and alludes to the result of the late elections as speaking her approval of his financiering!

### THE WAR, &c.

Washington, Jan. 12—Wednesday night.

Mr. HAMPTON sought the floor to day, to be heard in Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union. I doubt not his speech will prove entirely satisfactory to his constituents, upon the War, the Tariff, the Internal Policy of the country, and upon the question of Territory. Had I not known that Mr. Hampton's opinions were Whig upon all these points,—that he condemned the whole Executive action in regard to the War, and was opposed to the acquisition of any territory unless it was free,—that he was both ready to stand by the "Wilmot Proviso," and even go beyond it, by making that law, which was otherwise but a declaratory opinion, I certainly should not have been a silent sentinel here. There were circumstances here, both in his own vote and Resolutions, which placed him in a false position, and hence the popular excitement at home. "Strike, but hear," if you will strike, and therefore I waited to hear, though regretting both the objectionable vote and the introduction of the Resolutions, which have been equally misconstrued, as they look only to the acquisition of *free* territory, after it shall have been decided that territory we must have, as a consequence of the war. But Mr. Hampton will speak for himself, and till then, no more of his opinions.

The Southern Whigs generally are taking the ground of no more territory,—and many, probably the large majority of Whigs from the free States, are with them. There is a general alarm at the natural consequences likely to follow from such a wholesale measure of annexation. Mr. Clayton, of Delaware, spoke of them to-day in most impressive terms, and a great deal more is felt by our ablest and most patriotic public men, than is said. Indeed it is difficult to appreciate the intense feeling with which the good and great men of the country contemplate the present state of the country, with a war unconstitutionally and unnecessarily brought on by the Executive, with the country in the midst of war, and with the Rulers divided as to the best policy to be pursued. The Executive has done that which a life time, though he lived to the age of Methusaleh, cannot answer for. Unfortunately the Whigs are not in power in both Houses of Congress. If they were, the country might well hold them responsible for the consequences of the continuance of the war. By another Congress, I doubt not a majority of Senators, as well as Representatives, will agree that the War ought to have been closed ere this, and that by our own action, either through a defensive line, or by the withdrawal of our troops to the East Bank of the Rio Grande.

One of the Senators from Florida (Mr. Yulee) introduced a series of Resolutions to-day, looking to the extension of Slavery in the conquered provinces, by declaring that all the States in common had a right to possess all the advantages of these conquered Provinces. When the territory is conquered, the line of 36-30 will be drawn. Every South-ern man will vote for it, and every Northern "dough face." The effect will be that *Mexico will not only be dismembered, but that the United States, with all her boasted freedom, will have planted the odious Institution of Slavery upon the frescoes of Mexico.*—The whole civilized world condemns the despotisms of Europe for just one-half such an offence as this,—but we are taking a leap even beyond despotism.

The President, in his Message, says he wishes "indemnity for the Past, and Security for the Future," which, being interpreted by an ingenious man, means that to get *indemnity* we are to steal one half of Mexico, and to obtain *security*, all that is left.

The memorials against the war are coming into Congress from all sections of the Union. The Women of the country from the Great Lakes and the heart of the great West to the St. Lawrence are calling upon Congress to close it. Numerous petitions were presented to-day from Indiana and Ohio, and one memorial, signed by the Unitarian Clergy and Laymen, extended over thirty-six yards. It was presented by Mr. H[illegible] with many thanks o the petitioners for entertaining him with their confidence. The War, too, was assailed in the House, and the principle of the amendment adopted the other day, defended by Mr. Lincoln, of Illinois, the successor of Hardin, and Baker, both of them Whigs, and one of whom died in the war, and the other of whom obtained a discharge after hard service.

A most important Report was laid before the House to-day from the Engineer Department, giving an account of the Commerce of the West. The information of the Lakes and Lake country is very valuable, but I did not see in the 113 manuscript pages, most of which I read, much of local interest beyond an account of the Canal from Harrisburgh to the Lakes. The Colonel of the Engineer Corps confesses that he is astounded by the magnitude Western Commerce, and so is every man who pauses long enough to learn anything of the Rivers and Lakes of the Mighty West. But to what end is all this information, when one man has the power and the will to destroy every effort to improve and make safe this Western Commerce? R. B.

Washington, Jan. 13, Thursday night.

Mr. HALE, of N. H., has introduced Resolutions into the Senate, designed to counteract those offered yesterday, by Mr. Yulee, of Florida, declaring that the fundamental law of all territory hereafter to be brought into the Union, should be the abolition of Slavery and involuntary servitude. "To this complexion we must come at last." No territory beyond the *Rio Grande*, or if any more, unless it be free. None is much better than the proposed compromise between the Free and Slave States, of restoring the Missouri Compromise. The question submitted now is one very unlike that submitted to our fathers, and besides we are three score years older as a Nation. The organization of a Union depended then upon a compromise of the Slave question, between the "Old Thirteen States," but now the very existence of the Union is threatened by the extension of Slavery. True to the old compact, we are bound to be, and the respect shown even for a grievous inequality, and a great public wrong, ought to convince the advocates of Slavery how much they hazard their own security by the repeated innovations both upon that ancient faith between the States, and the Constitution itself.—Besides in this enlightened age of the world, Slavery is an Institution upon which there can be no compromise. Men feel it to be wrong, and they are asked to do wrong to others, and to their own sense of right, whenever an appeal is made to them to encourage, protect, or give additional sufferance to the institution of Slavery. There must be no compromise at all, let Slavery not be extended to it in any form. We may be content with no more territory, but if it comes, in Heaven's name, let it be free.

BETWEEN THE NUECES AND THE RIO GRANDE.

Mr. Pearce answered his colleague, Mr. Johnson, the first part of whose speech has met with but little favor among his constituents. There was an amount of argument adduced to-day against any just claim to the country between the Nueces and the Rio Grande, either on the part of Texas or the United States, which it is not possible to answer fairly. This authority to give it the more force, was Democratic. The names of Calhoun, Benton and all who voted against the Annexation of Texas at the treaty before the Senate, were adduced to show that not one of those Senators regarded the country as ours. Even those who sustained the treaty, did not dream that the country of Santa Fe belonged to Texas. The act of annexation did not presume this; for nothing was said upon the subject of boundary,—whereas if our right had been clear and incontrovertible, the boundary would have been defined.

The names of Ellis, of Texas, Donaldson, the American Minister to Texas at the time of the negotiation, Ashley, C. J. Ingersoll,—all supporters of the Administration,—were quoted largely to show that Texas had no claim to the Rio Grande, that at most the "stupendous deserts" between the Rio Grande and the Nueces was the boundary. The truth, indeed, stamps all these claims as groundless. General Taylor, in his dispatches from Camp speaks of Mexicans flying. Flying from where, if the territory belonged to Texas. He says that he is encamped amidst the cotton and corn fields of the Mexicans,—that they fired the Custom House at Santiago. Now how came these cultivated fields,—this Custom House, all this Mexican authority between the Rio Grande and the Nueces, if Texas held undisputed away there, and how ridiculous to say that a prisoner of war like Santa Anna, or his retreating General, like Filasola, could make a binding treaty with the Generals of a conquered Army. Why, at the very time this treaty was signed, there were Texans themselves who denied its binding force, and among these were those who sat in judgment upon his life.

HIGH HANDED EXECUTIVE ACT.

The President of the United States refuses to respond to the Resolutions of the House, and today sent a message to that effect to the House of Representatives. It produced a marked sensation in the House, as you will observe by the report of proceedings. There was a feeling of disgust felt at the attempt made by the President to shield himself behind the name of Washington, and still more, that while citing the precedent, he omitted to mention the precedent which followed it in the act of the House,—a Democratic House, too,—which practically censured the act of even George Washington, declaring that the House had a right to call for the information which the President declined. There was a solemn deliberation of the proposition submitted in the House then, as there will be now, and Mr. Polk, without the excuse of Washington, will receive a rebuke, that will not give him an apology for the act. Why have not Congress a right to know the official acts of the President? Where does he get authority to provoke War and prosecute War, unadvised by Congress? What harm could possibly come of his communicating his instructions to Mr. Slidell,—his intrigues which led to the return of Santa Anna. If his conscience is clear and clean,—if his private official acts conform to his public protestations, why keep Congress in the dark,—Congress, which, by him, is called upon to vote the Peoples' money,—and the People themselves,—for the prosecution of this war. The majority in Congress and their constituents, I am sure, will do no such thing.

SUPREME COURT.

The Court decided the case of Mrs. General GAINES to-day, for many years pending in the Louisiana Courts, and in the Supreme Court of the United States. There was an immense concourse of persons present, drawn partly by the case, (Mrs. Gaines was present with a whole troupe of ladies, her particular friends,) and by the appearance of HENRY CLAY, who moved the admission of a young friend from New York, Mr. Hoxie, Judge Wayne, of Georgia, delivered the opinion of the Court, establishing the legitimacy of Mrs. Gaines, and of her parents *bona fide*, marriage in Philadelphia, which was more to her than gold,—and besides this, awarding her four-fifths of an estate, valued at from seventeen to twenty millions of dollars. Mrs. Gaines was deeply moved by the decision, and left the Court in tears, receiving, at the same moment the congratulations of hundreds of her friends. R. B.

### EXECUTIVE USURPATION.

The announcement published by telegraph on Friday morning, that the Trist correspondence had been refused, gives but a faint idea of the important action of Congress on Thursday, as will be seen by the following. Instead of the correspondence being given promptly by the Executive, who he asks *for* large supplies for the war in which he involved the country unconstitutionally, he seeks to hide the history of his famous "Master Stroke," by which Santa Anna was admitted into Mexico to give force to a people that otherwise could have made no head against us.

The Message of the President, who has assumed not only the war making power, but also the right of dictation to the House of Representatives is annexed.

**The Instructions to Mr. Slidell.**

The speaker laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States:

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12, 1848.

*To the House of Representatives of the United States:*

I have carefully considered the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 4th instant, requesting the President to communicate to that House "any instructions which may have been given to Slidell, or other persons, in regard to the return of President General Santa Anna, or any other Mexican, to the Republic of Mexico prior or subsequent to the order of the President to the Secretary of War, issued in January, 1846, for the march of his army from the Nueces river, across the stupendous deserts' which intervene, to the Rio Grande; that the date of all such instructions, orders, and correspondence be set forth, together with the instructions and orders issued to Mr. Slidell at any time prior or subsequent to his departure for Mexico as Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to that Republic," and requesting the President also to "communicate all the orders and correspondence of the Government in relation to the return of Gen. Paredes."

I transmit herewith reports from the Secretary of State, the Secretaryof War, and the Secretary of Navy, with the documents accompanying the same, which contain all the information in the possession of the Executive which it is deemed compatible with the public interests to communicate.

For further information relating to the return of Santa Anna to Mexico, I refer you to my annual message of December 8th, 1846. The facts and considerations stated in that message induced the order of the Secretary of the Navy to the commander of our squadron in the Gulf of Mexico, a copy of which is herewith communicated. This order was issued simultaneously with the order to blockade the coasts of Mexico, both bearing date the 13th of May, 1846, the day on which the existence of the war with Mexico was recognized by Congress. It was issued solely upon the views of policy presented in that message, and without any understanding on the subject, direct or indirect, with Santa Anna or any other person.

Gen. Paredes evaded the vigilance of our combined forces by land and sea, and made his way back to Mexico, from the exile into which he had been driven, landing at Vera Cruz after that city and the castle of San Juan de Ulloa were in our military occupation, as will appear from the accompanying reports and documents.

The resolution calls for the "instructions and orders issued to Mr. Slidell, at any time prior or subsequent to his departure for Mexico, as Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States to that Republic. The customary and usual reservation contained in calls of either House of Congress upon the Executive for information, relating to our intercourse with foreign nations, has been omitted in the resolution before me. The duty of the House is unconditional! It is, that the information requested be communicated, and thereby be made public, whether, in the opinion of the Executive, who is charged by the constitution with the duty of conducting negotiations with foreign Powers, such information when disclosed would be prejudicial to the public interest or not. It has been a subject of deliberate meditation with me whether I could consistently with my constitutional duty and my sense of the public interest involved and to be affected by it, violate an important principle, always heretofore held sacred by my predecessors, as I should do by a compliance with the request of the House. President Polk, in a message to the House of Representatives of the 30th of March, 1796, declined to comply with a request contained in a resolution of that body, to lay before them a "copy or the instructions to the Minister of the United States who negotiated the treaty with the King of Great Britian," together with the correspondence and other documents relative to the said treaty, excepting such of the said papers as any existing negotiation might render improper to be disclosed." In assigning his reasons for declining to comply with the call, he declared that "the nature of foreign negotiations requires caution, and their success must often depend on secrecy, and even when brought to a conclusion, a full disclosure of all the measures, demands, and even of concessions which may have been proposed or contemplated, would be extremely impolitic; for this might have a pernicious influence in future negotiations, or produce unnecessary inconveniences, perhaps danger and mischief, in relation to other Powers. The necessity of such caution and secrecy was one cogent reason for vesting the power of making treaties in the President, with the advice and consent of the Senate, the principles on which that body was formed confining it to a small number of members.—To admit then a right in the House of Representatives to demand, and to have, as a matter of course all the papers respecting a negotiation with a foreign Power, would be to establish a dangerous precedent." It would be to make the instructions and documents called for related to a treaty, after it has been concluded and ratified by the President and Senate, and the negotiations in relation to it had been terminated. There was an express reservation, too, in the resolution, of the call all such papers as related to "any existing negotiation" which might be improper to disclose. In that case President Washington deemed it to be a violation of an important principle, the establishment of a "dangerous precedent," and peculiarly applicable to the public interests to comply with the call of the House. Without deeming it to be necessary on the present occasion to examine or decide upon the other reasons assigned by him for his refusal to communicate the information requested by the House, the one which is herein recited in my judgment conclusive in the case under consideration.

Indeed, the objections to complying with the request of the House contained in the resolution before me are much stronger than those which existed in the case of the resolution of 1796. This resolution calls for "the instructions and orders" to the Minister of the United States to Mexico, which relate to negotiations which have not been terminated, and which may be resumed. The information called for respects negotiations which the United States offered to open with Mexico immediately preceding the commencement of the existing war. The instructions given to the Minister of the United States relate to the differences between the two countries out of which the war grew, and the terms of adjustment which we were prepared to offer to Mexico in our anxiety to prevent the war. These differences still remain unsettled, and to comply with the call of the House would be to make public, through that channel, and to communicate to Mexico, now a public enemy engaged in war, information which could not fail to produce serious embarrassment in any future negotiation between the two countries. I have heretofore communicated to Congress all the correspondence of the Minister of the United States to Mexico which is in the existing state of our relations with that Republic can, in my judgment, be at this time communicated without serious injury to the public interest.

Entertaining this conviction, and with a serious desire to furnish any information which may be in possession of the Executive Department, and which either House of Congress may at any time request, I regard it to be my constitutional right and my solemn duty, under the circumstances of this case, to decline a compliance with the request of the House contained in their resolution.

JAMES K. POLK.

After the excitement that followed the reading of that document had a little subsided, the Hon. Jno Quincy Adams rose and addressed the House.

MR. SPEAKER: The state of my voice is such that it is not in my power to make to this House the observations which I should otherwise have felt it my duty to make upon this case. I will state, sir, that the reason why I have felt it my duty to take this course is, that I consider it a novel thing, and a thing affecting the right of this House, and of the constituency of this House—the People of the United States. It denies, sir, as I understand it, the power, the constitutional power of this House to call for that information. I believe it is the first time in the history of this Union that it has been denied. In the case to which the President refers, when a call was made upon President Washington, there was (which the message omits to state) an exception for cases which he might think not proper to be inquired into at the time.

Now, sir, the President has not added what was the action of the House upon that; and the action of President Washington to their call. The House formally declared,—and I wish the Journal might be looked to to see—the House formally declared against President Washington their right to call for such information. That was their action; and, as far as I know—although the very memory of Washington, by every body in this country, at this time, (and by none more than myself,) is reverenced next to worship—the President was wrong in that particular instance, and went too far to deny the power of the House; and as to his reasons, I never thought they were sufficient in that case. And I have always been of the opinion, and most assuredly that has been the opinion of the Democratic party, to which I do not profess to belong, [a laugh] they have unanimously disapproved of that act of President Washington, as interfering with the rights of this House, and of their constituents, the people of the United States.

I say I cannot enter into an argument upon this subject; but I consider it of such importance that I am certainly indisposed to lay it upon the table. I desire it may be printed, that it may go to the whole country, that it may be decided upon by the people as well as by this House. Now, I should be perfectly satisfied to refer the Message to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, whatever my feelings may be in respect to their firmness in resisting this call put up on the part of the President of the United States.

If the Committee on Foreign Relations will take it, and will examine the constitution of the United States, its principles, the history of the administration, of the Government from that time to the present, and will make a report upon it, I shall be satisfied. As to a select committee, I shall be perfectly satisfied that a select committee should be appointed by the Speaker, instead of referring it to the Committee on Foreign Affairs. And as a mark of respect to the President of the United States, I should go for a select committee, provided I am not to be a member of it myself.

I therefore myself, in the first place hope that a select committee, of which I shall not be a member will be appointed; and if that is not in conformity with the opinion of a majority of this House, I shall be for referring it to the Committee on Foreign Affairs. All the messages of the President are usually referred.

I should say much more sir, had I the power.

**Pennsylvania Legislature.**

Harrisburgh, Jan. 11, 1848.

SENATE—Mr. Streeter, for the incorporation of the Brooklyn and Lenox Turnpike Co.

Mr. Darsie, on behalf, presented a memorial from the Pennsylvania Railroad Co., for an alteration in their charter.

Mr. Darsie offered a resolution, calling upon the Secretary of the Commonwealth for information, as to whether any money has been paid into the Treasury by defaulting public officers since their defalcation, and if so, by whom were such moneys paid, and the respective amounts.

Adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—Mr. Fernon, on leave, presented a petition, signed by 3,500 citizens of Philadelphia, for the passage of an act to shorten the hours of labor in this commonwealth to ten hours per day, and to prohibit children under a certain age from working in factories.

Mr. Myers, from the committee on Ways and Means, reported back the Senate bill, making an appropriation of $30,000 for extraordinary repairs on the public works, with amendments. [Afterwards taken up and passed.]

BILLS REPORTED.—Mr. Zeigler, from the Committee on Ways and Means, a bill to provide for the repair of the breaches upon the canals and railroads of this Commonwealth, and to place the same in order for navigation and transportation.

Mr. Fox, a joint resolution extending the provisions of the mechanics' lien to laborers on the Pennsylvania Railroads, and for materials on the same.

Bills were read the second time. Mr. Fernon, to secure to married women the use and enjoyment of their own property.

Mr. Baker, a supplement for the furtherance of justice between obligors, and other debtors and creditors.

Mr. Blair's resolution offered several days since, was adopted as follows: yeas 93, nays 3.

Resolved, By the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in General Assembly met, That the Senators and Members of the House of Representatives in the Congress of the United States, representing this State, be, and they are hereby requested, to vote for the immediate repeal of so much of the Act of Congress passed 3d March, 1847, as subjects newspapers circulating in the mail within thirty miles of the place of publication to postage, and requires the postage on transient newspapers to be prepaid, and to propose and vote for such other modification in the Post Office Laws as shall secure a cheap and uniform system of postage on letters and newspapers.

Resolved, That his Excellency the Governor be and he is hereby requested to cause a copy of the foregoing Resolution to be forwarded to each of the Senators and Representatives in Congress from Pennsylvania.

GEORGE VASHON.—The New York correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer says.—For the first time in the history of the State of New York, and if I am not wrong, for the first time in the history of the United States, a colored man was yesterday admitted, after due examination, as Attorney, Solicitor and Counsellor of the Supreme Court of this State. On his examination he evinced a perfect knowledge of the rudiments of the law, and a familiar acquaintance with Coke, Littleton, Blackstone and Kent.

George Vashon, (his name) does not, however, intend to practice his profession here; he merely took out his credentials from our Courts, and intends to practise in Foreign Powers, such is his powerful letter of recommendation, and where he can plead without being sneered at.

Mr. Vashon was born and studied his profession in Pittsburgh. His father is a very respectable, intelligent and industrious colored man, and one who spared no pains or expense in educating and preparing his son for the legal profession. The education of young Mr. Vashon was of the most liberal character,—such as to draw from his professors encomiums of praise. His qualifications for legal proficiency were certified to by our most eminent and erudite lawyers. Yet, under the present Constitution and organization of our Courts, he could not be permitted to pursue the profession for which he had labored so assiduously to prepare himself. New York has extended the courtesy due his merit, regardless of the complexion of he applicant.

*To the Editors of the Pittsburgh Gazette:*

I have read the explanation of our Representative, Hon. Moses Hampton in your paper of this city, and am surprised that a sano man, should write such a thing and call it an explanation, or wish his constituents to consider it as such, as if he had said, "I intend to vote against all amendments whatsoever, and in carrying out this intention, I must vote "that the war was necessarily and continuously commenced;" in other words, I will vote in favor of what I know to be a falsehood in order to be consistent with a previous resolution. For my part, I would let "the resolution go under such circumstances and vote for the "truth whether it had been should fall." I love truth at all times and under all circumstances, either at home, or abroad, in Pittsburgh or under the eye of power and patronage at Washington.

For fear I have been in common with my Whig fellow citizens of this district wounded very deeply by Mr. Hampton's vote, and that wound has been opened afresh by his letter to your Mr. Brooks, you will allow me to say further that Mr. Hampton's Mexican Resolutions are as repugnant to my feelings as the above vote, and I think I speak the sentiments of nine-tenths of the Whig party when I condemn both the vote now under consideration and the "Resolution" as Anti-American, and that they ought to be wiped up to their peace treaties with the United States in good faith and desire the continuance of the present relations.

A CONTRAST.—The crop of Tobacco grown in Virginia (deducting from the quantity inspected the portion made in North Carolina) is about 32,000 hhds, the value of which may be estimated at $1,650,000. The ascertained value of straw and palm leaf Hats and Bonnets made in Massachusetts, by female industry, is 1,640,000 dollars—about by three counties—Worcester, Hampshire and Franklin.—*Richmond Times.*

WHIG STATE CONVENTION IN KY.—The Whig members of the Legislature met at the Capitol on the 5th inst., and with great unanimity fixed the 22d of February as the day for holding the convention at Frankfort to nominate Whig candidates for the offices of Governor and Lieut. Governor.

According to a table from the Adjutant General's office, our loss in killed, in all the battles in Mexico, has been thus far 1,177, and our wounded 3,679. The Mexicans killed have been 12,560, and the wounded 13,600.

CLAY MEETING.—The Louisville Journal editors have received a letter from Nashville, which says that the friends of Mr. Clay will very soon hold a meeting in that city and nominate him for the Presidency.

TELEGRAPH.—Workmen are now busily employed in putting up the posts between Wilmington and New Castle, for the line to the Breakwater.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE MAYOR.—James S Richardson, of the 7th Ward, High Constable.

A T Bougher, of the 5th; H M Robb, of the 5th; and John Scott, of the 6th wards, City Constables.

A CHANGE.—The Liberals have triumphed in Canada in the late election.

☞ THE CLIMATE is strangely destructive to the human entire, (or skin) the sudden change from heat to cold, and the smoke causes yellow, dark, coarse complexions. Then it is regrettable that the pores of the skin should be kept open—that their mouths should be freed from impurity—was thus the ancient and most Roman Philosophers of the skin, than any other outlet of the body. If it is necessary, therefore, to keep the pores open, they must be dispelled from the skin from the pores, when they wash with Jones' Italian Chemical Soap. I have seen it cure the worst and oldest cases of Salt rheum, Erysipelas, Old Sores, Barber's Itch, Sore Head, Ringworm, when every other internal and external remedy had failed—its effect rendering the skin white, clear and soft, though it be yellow and coarse, is wonderful—it removes Freckles, Tan, Sunburn, Morphew, and disfigurement of the skin—but pure, healthy and delicate skin—look for Jones Soap—to be had in Pittsburgh at WM. JACKSON'S, sign of the Big Boot, 59 Liberty st. Price 50 cents. MOSES HAMPTON.

☞ TO STEAMBOAT MEN AND OTHERS—Connell's Magical Pain Extractor—It is now conceded by medical men that Connell's Magical Pain Extractor, manufactured by Comstock & Co. 21 Courtland st. N Y, is truly miraculous. All pains are removed from burns, scalds, &c., and all external sores, in a few minutes after its application; healing the same on the most delicate skin, leaving no scar. It is equally beneficial in all kinds of inflammatory diseases, such as sore Nipples and Eyes, Sprains, Rheumatism, White Swellings, Piles, Tic Doloreaux, &c. We might add as proof to use it is their practice, and hundreds of the clergy who praise it to their people. Kind parent keep it constantly on out it, but by its use all burns are subject to its control, and ask for Connell's Magical Pain Extractor, manufactured by Comstock & Co. N Y, and no other. Sold by WM. JACKSON, Agent for Pittsburgh, 59 Liberty st., head of Wood. nov19d&wly

☞ Yellow Teeth and putrid breath,
Spongy gums like rotten death,
Is repulsive and disgusting.
All could have teeth as white as pearl,
Sweet breath—hard gums—man or girl.
Way delay!—say, quickly haste
And use a box of Jones' Tooth Paste.

It costs but 25 cents, and is really a beautiful article. It gives the teeth a fine enamel. Sold in Pittsburgh at 59 Liberty st. nov19d&wly

☞ THE members of the Anti-Masonic and Whig committee of correspondence for Allegheny Co. will meet at the Spread Eagle Hotel; Liberty st. in the city of Pittsburgh on Saturday 22d inst. at 3 o'clock, P. M. A punctual and general attendance is desired. DANIEL MCCREDIT, Chairman.

The Cherokee Advocate asserts, in reply to the statement of the Fort Smith Herald, that the Seminoles were rendering aid and comfort to the people of New Mexico, that the Seminoles and all other Indian tribes on the frontier, from Red River to Fort Leavenworth, are acting up to their peace treaties with the United States in good faith and desire the continuance of the present relations.

MOST UNHEALTHY PLACE.—Matlogrosso, S. A., is considered the most unhealthy place in the world. Out of a population of 1,200, four only are whites—three of them being public functionaries. The rest are negroes or colored people, who only can support the climate.

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DEATH OF REV. WALTER M. LOWRIE.—Rev. Walter M. Lowrie, an American Missionary at Ningpo, a gentleman of eminent attainments, has been cruelly murdered in the Chinese seas by pirates. The reverend gentleman took his passage in a Chinese boat from Shanghai to Ningpo, and during the voyage was attacked by a piratical vessel. At first it would appear that the pirates only meditated robbery, but fearing that Mr. Lowrie might bring them to justice, they resolved to throw him overboard. Two of the ruffians seized him for that purpose, but not being able to accomplish it, a third joined in the murderous attack, and they succeeded in throwing him into the sea. As the waves ran high, though he was seen two or three times, he soon sank to rise no more. Mr. Sullivan, the English Consul at Ningpo, proffered every aid his official station enabled him to render, and steps were being taken to recover the remains, if possible.—*Wilmer & Smith, Dec. 4.*

WHIG AND TORY.—These names are said to have been first used as party appellations in the time of Charles II. The party that opposed the government was called Whig. The word means a sour whey. It was first applied to the Scotch Covenanters. The word Tory is from the Irish, and means a savage. It was applied by the Whigs to their oppressors, as a retort courteous.

☞ USE THE PROPER MEANS.—If you wish to be successful in any undertaking, you must always 'use the proper means.' Therefore, if you have a cough, use JAYNE'S EXPECTORANT and be cured; for it is the proper means. Have you Asthma or difficulty of breathing, Jayne's Expectorant, which will immediately overcome the spasm which contracts the diameter of the tubes, and loosens and brings up the mucus which clogs them up, and thus removes every obstruction to a free respiration, while at the same time all inflammation is subdued, and a cure is certain to be effected. Have you Bronchitis, Spitting of Blood, Pleurisy, or in fact any Pulmonary Affection, then use 'Jayne's Expectorant and relief is certain, and you will find that you have used the proper means.

For sale in Pittsburgh at the Pekin Tea Store, 72 4th street near Wood. jan17

☞ Does your hair fall off, does your hair turn gray is it harsh, is it dry, or dirty, I pray? If 'tis thus, you can make it soft, sil