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PHILADELPHIA NORTH AMERICAN. Advertisements and Subscriptions to the North American and United States Gazette, Philadelphia, received and forwarded from this office.

COMMERCIAL LIST AND PHILADELPHIA PRICE CURRENT. Subscriptions to this valuable paper will be received and forwarded from this office.

See next page for Telegraphic News. For Local Matters see next page.

SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

The appointment of Hon. Wm. M. Meredith, of Philadelphia, to the Treasury Department, has been received with universal pleasure in this State, where he is best known, and the country will equally esteem him on a more extended acquaintance.

True, there were gentlemen in the Western part of the State, whose claims were pressed for a seat in the new cabinet, but only one other who was urged for the Treasury—Hon. Andrew Stewart. Neither Mr. Mr. Loomis, or Mr. McKennan, would agree to accept of the Treasury. As this place in the administration was desired by Pennsylvania, and as the West had the Governor, and the middle counties had the Senator, it seemed but fair that the East should have the cabinet appointment. This arrangement has therefore been acquiesced in by the friends of all the gentlemen whose names have been mentioned as worthy of public confidence, and not more on account of the propriety of the arrangement, than from the high character of the gentleman who has been selected to fill so responsible a situation in the cabinet.

In the early part of his life, Mr. Meredith was a member of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, where he took a prominent part in organizing and promoting those great measures of internal improvement, which, although through subsequent extravagance and mismanagement they involved the Commonwealth in a heavy debt, have developed the internal wealth and vast resources of the State, and have added immeasurably to our population and business.

Leaving the Legislative Halls, Mr. Meredith applied himself to the duties of his profession of the law, until the people again required his services in the Convention to reform the Constitution of this Commonwealth. In that Convention, comprehending among its members much of the best talent in the State, he held a high and commanding position, equal to that of any of the distinguished gentlemen who participated in its deliberations, and established for himself a high character as an able and ready debater.

At the close of these duties, Mr. Meredith again applied himself to the labors of his profession, and has for many years stood in the highest rank of a bar equal to any in the country. As a *commercial* lawyer, especially, has he attained great eminence and in the practice of this branch of his duties, he has acquired a ripe knowlege of the commerce and financial affairs of the country, thus admirably fitting him for the distinguished position to which he has been called by the President.

Mr. Meredith is a Whig but moderate in political feelings, shunning party bitterness, and the fierceness of party strife. He is a warm friend to the home industry of the country, and is in favor of adequately protecting it against excessive foreign importation. In this he feels as every reflecting Pennsylvanian must, that we possess in our hills and mountains wealth superior to the gold mines of California, which only needs the fostering care of the Government to develope and scatter it among the people. Understanding, also, the wants of commerce and trade, we may rely with confidence, upon his disposition and his judgment, to conduct the operations of the Treasury without embarrassing the business of the country.

We cannot better conclude this notice, than by the following extract from the North American:—

In calling such a man from the retirement of private professional life to occupy so important a department as that of the Treasury, Gen. Taylor has paid the highest compliment to the State of Pennsylvania. The selection of this office to be filled by one of her sons, is a signal proof of his regard for her, and his desire to see her great interests properly protected; while it is equally an evidence of his keen appreciation of character and administrative capacity in individuals, as well as of his determination to act out his own rule of discarding mere politics from rule, and—we use his own words, as expressed to the Joint Committee of Congress on Monday last—of "assuging the fierceness of party." It was not for nothing that Gen. Taylor laid down the memorable platform of the Alison letter—the platform of the Constitution and the country—the platform of Washington, on which he now stands, surrounded by a galaxy of the most able and patriotic men in the whole country. And the whole country will feel that in such a brilliant Cabinet, no one better deserved to have, or can more advantageously for the republic occupy a seat, than our own fellow citizen of Philadelphia WILLIAM M. MEREDITH, of Pennsylvania.

The London correspondent of the New York Courier thus describes the ceremony of the opening of Parliament by the Queen in person

On Thursday, the 1st of February, the second session of the present Parliament of England was opened by the Queen in person. I had the good fortune to be present during the august ceremony, and to witness the whole proceedings. The spectacle was, if possible, more brilliant and more dignified this time than the last. The spacious area of the magnificent hall was crowded from end to end, with an array of beauty, rank and splendor certainly not now to be equalled in any other country of the world. The feminine portion of the assembly predominated greatly in the general *coup d'oeil* over the other sex. The Peeresses, and such other ladies as were fortunate enough to obtain Peeresses' tickets, occupied the main body of the hall, with the exception of the front seats, on which sat the Peers in their robes, the space allotted to the diplomatic corps, and the area around the throne, which was held by the great officers of state. The galleries were in like manner filled with elegantly dressed visitors, mostly ladies, and by foreigners of distinction. The Bishops and the Judges sat respectively on their proper benches in the body of the House. At a quarter before two o'clock, the approach of the Duke of Cambridge was announced by a flourish of trumpets, and that illustrious personage, with his usual condescension, bestowed cordial greetings upon all his acquaintance. At a quarter past two, a discharge of ordnance announced that the Queen had arrived at the royal entrance, and in a few minutes afterwards the royal procession entered the House, preceded as usual by the King at Arms, the Heralds and Pursuivants, and attended by the Marquis of Winchester, bearing the cap of maintenance—the Marquis of Lansdowne, bearing the crown on a cushion,—and the Duke of Wellington, who carried the sword of state. Prince Albert, in the full dress of a Field Marshal, handed the Queen to the throne, and then took his seat at Her Majesty's left hand. At the entrance of Her Majesty the whole gorgeous assembly rose simultaneously, and remained standing, until the Peers were motioned by her to be seated. The House of Commons being summoned to the bar, and the Lord Chancellor having handed to the Queen a copy of the royal speech, Her Majesty read the same, amid the the most profound silence, in a clear, sweet, and sonorous voice, which was distinctly audible at the furthest end of the spacious chamber.

Appointments by the President.

By and with the advice and consent of the Senate

Gustavus C. Cushman, of Maine, to be consul of the United States for the port of Chagres, in the republic of New Granada, in the place of Leonard Jones, declined.

A Hyatt Smith to be the attorney of the United States for the district of Wisconsin, in the place of I. W. Sutherland, resigned.

Marcius J. Gaines, of Virginia, to be consul of the United States for the city and kingdom of Tripoli.

James L. Edwards to be Commissioner of Pensions.

Roger C. Wightman to be major general of the militia of the District of Columbia, in the place of Walter Jones resigned.

John Mason jr to be brigadier general, vice Weightman, promoted.

Peter F. Wilson to be captain of infantry, militia, D. C.

LAND OFFICES.
Receivers.

Henry W. Palfrey New Orleans, vice Oliver B. Hill resigned.

Rufus Hewitt Winamac, Indiana, vice A. L. Wheeler resigned.

Abner Gilstrap, Milan, Missouri, new office

Register.

Jacamiah Seaman Milan Missouri, new office

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE D. C.

Peter M. Pearson, Franklin S. Myers, and Henry Haw, all of Washington.

CLASSICAL SCHOOL.—We take pleasure in directing the attention of those parents who wish to give their children a Classical education, to the advertisement of W. COPELAND, A. B., in another column. Mr. Copeland brings with him the very highest testimonials, both as to education and his capacity of a teacher. We have the utmost confidence that those who patronize his school will have reason to be entirely satisfied.

THE PLOUGH, THE LOOM AND THE ANVIL.—This admirable monthly work, edited by J. S. Skinner, so long and so favorably known for his exertions in behalf of agricultural science, is not as well supported in this section as it ought to be. We understand, J. R. Weldin, at Johnston & Stockton's Bookstore, is agent for the work, where we hope the friends of home industry and of agriculture will call and subscribe.

FROM NEW YORK.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

NEW YORK, March 3, 1849.

The stramer Crescent City, from Chagres, whence she sailed on the 17th ult, arrived last night, but brought little news of interest, as no communication had been had between Panama and San Francisco. All were well on the Isthmus, and the means of getting up the coast ample. The California took up three hundred passengers, which is equal to the estimate of *fifteen trips*. Twenty passengers were calculated upon by Messrs. Howland & Aspinwall, to make the ships pay, in addition to the bounty of the government, and it requires little mathematical skill to show that this enterprise will yield them a fortune. A Mr. Gilman has come by the Crescent City, from San Francisco, from whence he left on the 19th of December. Like Captain Phelps, he throws cold water upon the adventurers and advises all who are in decent business to remain here. Gold is abundant, but hard work must be expended to obtain it. Captain Spring of the Huntress, will soon be here, and show some $50,000 of gold, which he has in charge.

M. Walker, who shot his wife, has been committed by the coroner's jury, for murder. The concurrent testimony of the woman with whom they lived, and of the Rev. S. L. Southard, leave little doubt that the deed was wilfully committed. Let no one for a moment suppose that he will be executed, if, indeed, he can be convicted. To the disgrace of New York, it is a notorious fact, that none but the poor and friendless are hung for crime, no matter how atrocious. This murderer will get clear upon a quibble as to the admissability of his wife's dying declaration, whether she was in *articulo mortis*. Our criminal lawyers will prove that she was not, and her husband will go free.

There is a general feeling of gratification expressed by our merchants, at the close of the reign of the party whose political existence for present evil expires to-night. For twenty long years, political gamblers and tricksters have ruled the destinies of our country, paralyzing to a great degree, its energies, and subjecting its citizens to experiments that in no case have resulted in our gain. The administration of General Jackson ruined the best currency in the world, and exposed our commerce through suicidal reciprocity treaties, to a competition that has robbed us of millions. His successor, with equal ignorance of the true wants of the country, saddled us with a metallic currency, an experiment that has swept away the fortunes of thousands. The succeeding administration, is remembered too vividly, and the history of the last incumbent is of more primary interest. His administration will be remembered as the period when the best and the bravest of our countrymen fell by thousands, to gratify his lust of conquest, when our laborers were forced from their workshops in order that foreign labor might thrive. But a better day has dawned, and confidence has been restored. Honest men are to wield the destiny of a nation, of which to be a citizen, is the highest honor a man can know. We shall have protection to agriculture, manufactures and commerce, and a proper system of internal improvements. We shall have statesmen who understand the wants of the republic, and who will legislate for us rather than for the paupers of Europe. We shall no longer be robbed by free trade, but grow wealthy by keeping our resources at home. We shall have no more of that kind of patriotism which shows the miseries of American citizens to suffer and go to ruin, while an attempt is made to introduce that pet abortion of democracy—free trade.

Money closes easy, and Stocks buoyant with a feeling that the national debt will at once advance to the old mark of 105, when the resources of the country were protected. Good paper, four months to run, has been quoted at 7 per cent, with a good degree of liberality on the part of the banks which to-day have thrown out very little paper. The incoming administration has created a confidence not often witnessed, and one full of promise to all kinds of business.

On Change, business has not been very active. Ashes are 61 for pots, and 7 for pearls, which is a decline. Cotton is steady, with sales of 1200 bales. Flour is 12½ cents cheaper, and good State can be had at $5 50, favorite, $5 62½ and pure Genesee, $6. New Orleans, $5 37½@5 44. In Wheat, "that bushel Genesee," $1 30 @ $1 35, and the market dull. The opening of navigation will send prices down rapidly. No Corn here. Hemp has risen, $1 85. Tallow is scarce, and wanted. Pork is cheaper, and has sold at $10 37½@$10 50, for mess. No prime sold. Beef is dull, 200 in Brine, Cincinnati, "Permit" inspection, Cincinnati, at $42 50. Lard is dull at 6@6½. Whiskey 22½ for Ohio.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

HARRISBURGH, Mar. 2, 1849.

SENATE.

Mr Crabb, from the Committee on Banks, to whom was referred the bill returned from the House as amended, to incorporate the Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank of Philadelphia reported back the same, with sundry amendments.

On motion of Mr Fleming, the bill, together with the amendments, was postponed, and the latter ordered to be printed.

The bill to authorize the Auditor-General North Penn to settle and pay the claim of Edward T Tyson was taken up and passed.

The Speaker laid before the Senate a communication from the Auditor General, in answer to a resolution, asking for information relative to the provisions of the third section of the act regulating duties on the Attorney General, transmitting a tabular statement showing the amount of money received from sundry deputies, agreeably to the said provisions.

No moneys have been received from any Deputy Attorney General since 1842 nor does it appear from the records of the Auditor General's office that any are due on this account.

On motion of Mr Konigmacher, the communication and tabular statement were ordered to be printed.

Bills Read in Place.—By Mr Matthias, relative to the duties of the Treasurer of Philadelphia county, in respect to the appropriations for Public Schools.

By Mr Lewis, to incorporate the Perrysville and Zelienople Turnpike or Plank Road Co.

The Senate resumed the consideration on the third reading, of the further supplement to the act to incorporate the Pennsylvania Railroad Co.

The discussion was renewed by Messrs Crabb, King and Small, after which the bill was ordered to be prepared for a third reading—yeas 17, nays 13.

A communication was received from the Secretary of the Commonwealth, transmitting the information called for by the resolution of the last instant, viz A list of the Judicial Districts of the Commonwealth, the names and number of the Judges, together with the district their respective commissions. Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The bill to incorporate the Citizens' Insurance Company of Pittsburgh was passed.

The bill allowing the Philadelphia Mutual Insurance Company to wind up its affairs was passed —Adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The bill in relation to the Chester prison passed second reading.

The bill relating to damages in opening streets in Pittsburgh, passed in Committee of the Whole was negatived.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Alphabetical Bill Day.—Mr Biddle called up his bill changing the mode of granting tavern licenses, which passed Committee of the Whole.

On second reading, Mr Robb moved to strike out his bill on the same subject which was lost—72 to 17.

[Mr Biddle's bill is intended as a revenue measure, and will bring from Philadelphia a net revenue $25,000 to $30,000 per annum.]

The bill passed second reading without any material change from the form in which it was drawn up by Mr Biddle.

A motion to suspend the rule and read it a third time was agreed to—yeas 51, nays 17. The bill then passed final reading—yeas 71, nays 7. Messrs Beltz, D Evans, Henszey, Henry Hortz, John McRee, Pratt, Simonover, and N Thorn voting in the negative.

The bill to erect the new county of Monongahela, passed the Committee of the Whole.

The bill changing the manner of electing inspectors of the Chester County Prison, was discussed till 1 o'clock.

Gen. Taylor can say No.

The shortest letter which was probably ever written by a public man is recorded of General Taylor, and the occasion is thus related by a correspondent of the National Intelligencer

"I happened to hold a triple appointment from the quartermaster at Tampa Bay, there being no quartermaster with this division of the army—One of my duties was that of forage master, and my instructions were that if, during the march, (which lasted 14 days) I should not be able to obtain from the intermediate posts forage sufficient for all the animals during the whole march, I must proportion the forage to the exigencies of the case, and serve out half or even quarter rations, if it should become necessary. On arriving at Micanopy, having failed to get any forage either at this or any of the posts we had passed, I found it indispensable to curtail the forage one half. During this day, Gen. T's servant came as usual to draw the forage for the staff horses. I considered that the staff horses, being generally the best and strongest framed horses, could subsist on the half allowance quite as well, and probably better than the horses in the teams, and those on which the private soldiers were mounted. Gen Taylor's servant had gone but a few minutes when he returned with a message from the Adjutant General that the staff horses must have full rations. I immediately sent a message to the General as follows.

"Sir—In obedience to my instructions from the quartermaster at Tampa, I have put all the horses and mules upon half allowance, must the staff horses form an exception to this rule?"

The answer was promptly returned and here it is:

"No. Z. TAYLOR."

Could anything better demonstrate the unswerving integrity of this brave old man?

Our obligations are due to Hon. Simon Cameron, for valuable Public Documents.

We received, yesterday, neither papers nor letters from Washington.

THE LAST DAY OF THE THIRTIETH CONGRESS.

The following interesting account of the proceedings of the last day of the late Congress, we take from the Baltimore Sun

WASHINGTON, March, 3d.

SENATE.

Mr Bright presented the credentials of Governor Whitcomb, elected Senator from Indiana, for six years from the 4th inst, when the time of Mr. Hannegan will expire.

Mr. Dix, from the committee of commerce, reported without amendment, the House bill to extend the revenue laws over Upper California, and establish a collection district therein, and asked its immediate consideration. After debate, on motion of Mr. King the bill was laid on the table.

Mr. Atherton from the committee on finance, reported, with an amendment, bill authorizing the coinage at the Mint of gold dollars and double eagles. The amendment was agreed to, and the bill was then passed. [The House subsequently concurred in the amendment.]

On motion of Mr Jefferson Davis, the Senate insisted on their amendments to the Military Appropriation Bill, and a committee of conference was appointed. [by both Houses.]

Mr. Douglass, chairman of the committee on territories, reported back House bill to establish the territorial government of Upper California, and moved that the committee be discharged from its further consideration. He stated that he had found it impossible to get the committee together though he had several times notified them to meet.

Mr. D. subsequently moved to take up the bill, stating that it was his desire to make one more effort to give a territorial government to California. If the committee were not disposed to discharge their duty, that was no reason why the people of California should be deprived of a government.

After some further remarks by Messrs. Butler, Rusk and Hamlin, the motion to take up was negatived, by yeas and nays, 25 to 28.

Mr. Cameron introduced a joint resolution authorizing the Secretary of the Senate, Clerk of the House and Clerk of the joint Committee on Printing, to audit and settle the accounts of the public printers during the recess. Passed. [The House struck out the Clerk of the joint Committee on Printing, and then also passed the resolution.]

The amendment of the House to the supplementary act for the admission of Iowa and Florida into the Union, was agreed to, and so the bill stands passed.

Mr. Hannegan, from the committee on Foreign Affairs, reported back House amendment to the bill to carry into effect the 5th article of the treaty with Mexico, in reference to commissioner, and surveyor and other officers to run the boundary line, with a recommendation that the Senate non concur therein. [The amendment is that heretofore reported, requiring that these officers shall be appointed from the corps of Topographical Engineers, and thus nullifying the appointments already made and confirmed by the Senate.]

After debate by Messrs Baldwin and Allen, the bill on motion of the latter, was laid on the table, with the understanding that the salaries of these officers, provided for in the bill, should be provided for by an amendment to one of the appropriation bills.

Mr Breese, from the committee on Public Lands reported a resolution to authorize the employment of a suitable person to collect and compile the laws of Mexico up to the 13th May 1846, having a bearing on land claims in California and New Mexico. Agreed to.

Bill to incorporate the president, directors and company of the Oakfield Cemetery in the District of Columbia, was passed.

On motion of Mr. Hamlin, the Senate concurred in the amendments of the House to the light house bill, and so the bill stands passed.

The joint resolution from the House, defining the evidence which shall be necessary before the Commissioner of Pensions, in applications by widows of deceased soldiers for pensions, was passed.

The House bill to make arrangements for the taking of the seventh census, and constituting the Secretary of State, Secretary of Home Department and Postmaster General, a board thereon was passed, with an amendment proposed by Mr King, substituting the Attorney General for the Secretary of the Home Department.

Mr. Underwood moved to take up the bill from the House to establish a home department, when Mr Hunter from the finance committee, rose and reported back the bill from that committee, with a recommendation that it do not pass.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the bill, and Mr Hunter moved to amend the 14th section, by striking out the provision for an assistant Secretary, a Commissioner of Customs, and for the transfer of certain officers.

A debate ensued between Messrs. Allen, Hunter, Webster, Niles and Mason. The latter moved to lay the bill and amendments on the table, but it was, by yeas and nays, decided in the negative, 22 to 31.

The debate was continued by Messrs Calhoun Foote and Hunter. Without concluding, the latter gave way to enable Mr. Atherton, chairman of the finance committee, to move that the Senate concur in the amendments of the House to the fortification bill, which was agreed to—so that the bill stands passed.

Mr. Atherton further stated that the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Indian appropriation bill, had met, but could come to no agreement in relation to the amendment of the House providing for an additional issue of five millions treasury notes. He was prepared to state the position of the case, separately with a view to prove that this issue is not required, and to point out the manner in which the difficulty may be compromised, when the hour of four having arrived, the Senate took the usual recess until 6 o'clock P. M.

NIGHT SESSION

Mr. Hunter resumed and concluded his remarks on the bill to establish a Home Department of the Government.

He was followed by Mr Badger, when Mr Atherton moved to lay the bill on the table. Lost—19 to 32.

The vote was then taken, by yeas and nays, on Mr Hunter's motion made at the morning session, to strike out the 13th and 14th sections providing for a Comptroller of Customs and Assistant Secretary of the Treasury. The question being divided, the Senate refused to strike out the first—20 to 33, and the second 19 to 34.

Mr. Mason proposed to amend by striking out and inserting so as to provide simply for an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, without creating a new department.

Upon this amendment a protracted debate ensued, in which Messrs Mason, Foote, Calhoun, Webster, Jefferson Davis, Allen, Mangum, Berrien, Bowns, Niles, and Dickinson, participated, when the vote was taken by yeas and nays, and the amendment was rejected 24 to 32.

The bill as then read the third time and passed, 31 to 25.

Mr Badger made a report from the committee of conference on the naval appropriation bill, which was agreed to, on both Houses and so the bill stands passed.

Mr. Downs presented the credentials of Hon. Pierre Soule, elected a Senator from Louisiana, for six years from the 4th instant, in place of Mr. Johnson, whose term then expired.

Mr Jefferson Davis made a report from the conference committee on the army appropriation bill which was agreed to by both Houses, and so the bill stands passed.

Mr Atherton reported, from the committee of conference on the civil and diplomatic appropriation bill, that the committee could not agree in regard to Mr Walker's amendment, stricken out by the House. A similar report was made in the House.

Mr. Atherton, from the committee of conference on the Indian appropriation bill, reported that the committee could not agree in regard to the amendment of the Senate, appropriating $1,200,000 for the Cherokees, under treaty stipulations, and the amendment of the House providing for an additional issue of $5,000,000 Treasury Notes. He proposed that the Senate recede from its amendment, and that the House recede from theirs. The Senate receded accordingly, and the House subsequently receded from theirs. So the bill stands passed.

Mr. Walker, from the committee on contingent expenses, reported a resolution to pay the clerks, messengers, pages, &c., of the Senate extra pay, which was agreed to.

Mr Fitzgerald presented the credentials of Hon Lewis Cass, elected a Senator from Michigan to fill the vacancy occasioned by his own resignation, and he was qualified and took his seat.

Mr. Hannegan, from the committee on foreign relations, reported House amendments to the bill providing for a board of commissioners to examine and decide the claims of American citizens under the late treaty with Mexico, and the Senate concurred in the amendments. So the bill stands passed.

A great number of private bills, many of which had before passed the House, were taken up and passed.

To one of these, for the relief of Joseph Norris, Mr. Walker proposed an amendment appropriating $23,350, for the expenses of the new territorial government of Minnesota, which was agreed to, and the amendment was subsequently concurred in by the House.

House bill to extend the provisions of the act in relation to passenger vessels, was passed.

House bill providing for the recording of conveyances of vessels, and for other purposes, was taken up, and after some debate, was, on motion, laid on the table.

The Senate went into executive session at about half past eleven, and after some time passed thereto, the doors were again opened, when,

A message was received from the House, at about 12½ o'clock, communicating the action of that body in relation to the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the Civil and Diplomatic Appropriation bill.

The amendments of Mr Thompson, adopted by the House, as a substitute for Mr. Walker's was read.

It authorizes the President to hold and occupy all of California and New Mexico acquired by the treaty with Mexico—to employ such parts of the army and navy as may be necessary to preserve existing laws there to remain in force, and the civil and municipal authority to be exercised by such persons as the President shall appoint—the revenue laws of the United States, and laws relating to the public lands, applicable, to be extended to this territory—martial law not to be proclaimed except in the trial of persons belonging to the army and navy.

A protracted debate ensued, in which Messrs. Mason, Underwood, Foote, Hamlin, King, Douglass and Jefferson Davis, participated, and in the course of which various motions were made, but not decided—when it was proposed by Mr. Jefferson Davis that the Senate should insist upon its amendments, and ask a committee of conference. His object, he stated to be, that all that related to California and New Mexico might be stricken out, and the passage of the bill, so necessary to the operations of the government, secured.

The debate was further continued by Messrs. Foote, Hunter, Douglass and Westcott, when, at a quarter past 2, Mr Foote called Mr. Westcott to order, on the ground that the constitutional existence of the thirtieth Congress had terminated, and they were sitting there without a shadow of authority.

Mr. Westcott, however, was permitted to proceed, and concluded his remarks.

Mr. Yulee expressed his doubt as to the constitutionality of these present proceedings, and he therefore, at half past 2, moved that the Senate adjourn, *sine die*.

The yeas and nays were requested, and Mr Turney requested that the House might be called.

Mr Webster protested against any such course. They had no power to adjourn without the concurrence of the other House; and should the President come home, they would have the satisfaction of sending him the bill, if it were not until 10 o'clock to-morrow.

Mr. Mason moved to strike out that part which provides that the existing laws shall remain in force, &c.

Mr Berrien moved to amend, so as to leave the question as to whether the law of Mexico regulating slavery remains in force in a ceded territory, after the transfer, open, to be decided by the Supreme Court.

Mr. Butler would sooner lose the appropriation bill, than give his consent to the amendment of the House, though he was ready to strike all out relating to the territories, as suggested by the Senator from Mississippi.

Mr. Yulee insisted that the Senate could not now recede from their amendment as it had passed from their hands into the possession of the House.

Mr. Webster had resisted the introduction of this subject into this bill. It had no business here in the first place, but they could not now strike out without being had agreed to and the other House had agreed to, but they might amend it.

Mr. Foote asked the Senator from Massachusetts to yield the floor to him for a single remark.

Mr. Webster. Certainly, but for God's sake be short. (Laughter.)

Mr. Foote's remarks, in the confusion which succeeded, were not heard.

Mr. Webster proceeded. The question was whether this bill was to be lost. For one he was not disposed to blink—he was prepared to sit out, and rid his skirts of responsibility.

Mr. Berrien again addressed the Senate at some length, when he was called to order by Mr Cameron, as having spoken more than twice on the subject.

Mr. C had been explaining the point of order, and had taken his seat, when he was approached by Mr. Foote, who, with exclamations made some remarks, not heard in the reporter's gallery, but which Mr. Cameron, of course, considered offensive, and returned it with a blow in the face with his open hand. Mr. Foote attempted to retaliate in the same way, but Senators in the vicinity interfered. Mr. Cameron, who had risen, resumed his seat, and Mr. Foote returned to his.

Mr. Cass said he had been looking on as a spectator for two or three hours, but took no part, because he conceived that the constitutional term of the thirtieth Congress had expired. And he soon after left the Senate—it now being half past 3.

The vote was then taken by yeas and nays on Mr Mason's proposition, and modified by the acceptance of Mr. Berrien; and it was decided in the negative—21 to 27.

Mr Foote protested against any further legislation, on the constitutional ground, and moved an adjournment. The yeas and nays were ordered, when Mr. Foote raised the point that no person should vote whose constitutional term had expired but he was declared to be out of order.

The motion to adjourn was lost—7 to 41.

The question was about to be taken on a motion by Mr. Webster, to agree to the amendment of the House, when Mr Foote, after some very earnest remarks against the constitutionality of their proceedings, in which he stated his determination to spread the whole matter before the American people, again moved that those Senators, whose constitutional term had expired at midnight should not be permitted to vote. His motion was again ruled out of order.

Mr. Turney also, at considerable length argued that the constitutional existence, not only of the thirtieth Congress, but of the President of the last four years had terminated the President of the Senate being now *de facto* President of the United States.

Mr Webster was disposed to make one more effort. He was willing to withdraw his motion to concur, if gentlemen were then willing to make the motion to recede from his amendment. He had let the bill stand purely as an appropriation bill.

Mr. Atherton—Mr Webster's yielding the first—moved that the Senate disagree to the House amendment and then recede from their own amendment.

Mr. Hunter addressed the Senate in deprecation of incentive ordinary proceeding of the Senate during the past night. He had witnessed disorder, confusion revolution but never such order turned into such confusion—never had he witnessed scenes which he thought were more good than bad. The Senate and the Public Business was burning, and to prevent that they would recede, and do their duty to the country.

Mr. Walker insisted that their only course was to agree or disagree to the House amendment.

After some further remarks from Mr Dodge, the question was taken on Mr. Atherton's motion, by yeas and nays, and it was decided in the affirmative, 38 to 7. So the Senate disagreed to the House amendment, and receded from their own amendment, and the Civil and Diplomatic appropriation bill stands passed without further action by the House and without any provision in regard to California and New Mexico. Those territories are therefore to be left without other government than they now have, until the next Congress shall assemble. The bill was signed by the president pro tem. of the Senate and Speaker of the House, sent to President Polk, and received his signature.

The bill from the House, to extend the revenue laws over Upper California, and create a collection district therein, was, on motion of Mr. Dix, taken up and passed.

A resolution from the House to adjourn, was concurred in, and a joint committee appointed to wait on the President who subsequently reported that they had performed the duty, and then the Senate adjourned *sine die*.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Ashmun submitted a resolution providing that a marble bust of the late John Quincy Adams, by King, procured by the voluntary contributions of members of the House, shall be placed in a suitable position in the Speaker's Room, and that a sum not exceeding five hundred dollars be paid from the contingent fund, to defray the expense of transportation, &c., from Boston to Washington. Agreed to—142 to 14.

On motion of Mr. Talmadge, the bill to establish a branch mint in the city of New York was taken up and passed.

The House took up the amendments of the Senate to the naval appropriation bill concurred in some and disagreed in other.

A committee of conference was appointed on both Houses.

The House disagreed to some of the amendments of the Senate to the joint resolution of the Senate providing for a distribution to literary institutions in the several States of copies of the American Archives.

The House receded from its amendment to the Missouri territorial bill, fixing the 10th instant as the period when it shall go into effect and so the bill stands passed.

The Senate bill to provide for the running and marking of the northern boundary of Iowa was passed.

The House concurred in the 1st, 3d and 4th amendments of the Senate to the bill providing that all moneys collected from customs, &c., shall be paid directly into the Treasury, without deduction or abatement, and to the 2d with a further amendment, in which the Senate subsequently concurred, and so the bill stands passed.

Bill to establish improvement for debt in certain cases, was passed. It makes the laws approbate to the United States Courts, uniform to the state laws in this respect.

Senate bill to provide for the recording of registers of vessels, and for other purposes, was passed.

Also, Senate bill to reduce the price of mineral lands in the Lake Superior and Chippewa land districts.

A great number of enrolled bills were signed by the Speaker, returned to the Senate and there received also the signature of the President pro tem. of that body.

A great number of Senate bills, not of public interest, were read the third time and passed, without amendment, and we regret others such amendment, which were returned to the Senate for concurrence.

NIGHT SESSION.

The only business of importance transacted in the House, is noticed in the proceeding Senate report. The proceedings were chiefly occupied in the reports of the conference committees, and the passage of private bills.

A resolution was adopted, authorizing the Secretary of the Senate and Clerk of the House to contract for any engraving which may be required between this and the next session of Congress.

The House agreed to the report of the conference committee on the naval appropriation bill, which had been previously agreed to by the Senate, and so the bill stands passed.

Mr. Vinton made a report, similar to that made by Mr Atherton in the Senate from the conference of conference on the civil and diplomatic appropriation bill, viz that the committee were unable to agree, and the House again proceeded to the consideration of Mr. Walker's amendment, which constituted the principal subject of difficulty.

Mr. Ashmun moved that the House insist upon its amendment, but withdrew the motion.

Mr. McClernand moved that the House recede.

Mr. Wentworth moved to lay this motion on the table. Lost.

Mr. McClernand's motion was then decided in the affirmative—111 to 106.

Mr. Moorhead moved to strike out of Senate amendment the words "west of the Rio Grande," and add a proviso, that nothing therein shall be construed to affect the claim of Texas to a just and true boundary. Adopted, 106 to 20.

A long discussion ensued on a point of order, as to whether the only question was not on concurring in the Senate's amendment. The Chair decided against the point raised.

Mr. Bayley appealed, and Mr. Wentworth moved to lay the appeal on the table, when Mr Bayley withdrew it.

Mr. R. W. Thompson proposed a substitute, as a compromise, essentially the proposition of Mr. Walsde in the Senate, though somewhat modified.

Mr. Bayley raised the point that the amendment is not in order. The Chair overruled it, and Mr Bayley appealed.

Mr. Wentworth moved to lay the appeal on the table, and the yeas and nays were ordered.

The clerk was proceeding to call the roll, when there was considerable excitement in the area, a little to the right of the Speaker's chair. Some members appeared to be holding Mr. Meade, who was greatly agitated. The Sergeant-at-Arms appeared to be endeavoring to pacify him. Mr. Giddings was standing near the spot, on the opposite side of the area from where he usually sits, and not far from Mr. Meade's seat.

The Speaker called upon the members to take their seats.

Mr. Bayley insisted that the members should take their own seats, as a member had come over there to insult one of his colleagues.

Mr. Giddings retired to his own side of the house, and Mr. Meade to his seat.

A call of the House was refused, 13 to 193.

Mr. Cushing moved that the House adjourn, but the Chair decided the motion not to be in order without the concurrence of the other House.

Mr. Cushing appealed, but the Chair was sustained.

Mr Thompson's amendment was then adopted —111 to 105.

Mr Pettit moved to lay the bill, as amended, on the table. The Speaker ruled the motion out of order.

Mr. Pettit then moved to reconsider the last vote, and proceeded to debate, at some length the amendment, when Mr McClernand called him to order as speaking with a view to obstruct the business of the House.

The Speaker decided Mr Pettit to be in order, but the house over ruled the decision.

The question was the taken, by yeas and nays, on concurring in the Senate amendment as amended by the substitution of Mr Thompson's compromise, and it was decided in the affirmative, 110 to 104.

Mr. Pettit raised the point that the constitutional existence of the House had ended, it now being after 12 o'clock though the clock told but a quarter past 11 at which point it remained for the remainder of the night.

The Chair over ruled Mr Pettit's motion.

Mr Vinton rose and stated the absolute necessity for passing the bill, and moved that the House recede from all the other disagreeing amendments. The House receded accordingly, without a division.

Mr McDowell—Mr. Cobb temporarily occupying the Chair—offered the usual complimentary resolution to the Speaker, for the dignity and impartiality with which he had discharged the duties of the Chair.

Mr Andrew Johnson moved to amend the resolution so as to make it read "unidignified and partial in his conduct as a presiding officer," and proceeded to give his reasons for offering the amendment. His amendment was rejected, only 15 members voting for it, and the resolution was then agreed to without a division.

Some other business was disposed of, when a resolution was introduced to pay the clerks, assistant door keepers, messengers, pages, &c., the usual extra pay which, after amendment, was adopted.

While the latter was under consideration, Mr. John M. of Arkansas offered an amendment granting $2,000 to one of the door keepers, for his extraordinary services in taking home the body of Hon James A. Black. It was objected to and Mr J. made some angry remarks, and as I understand, subsequently accosted Mr Fickle of opposing his resolution. Mr F denied it, but Mr J. reiterated, persisted, and called him a d——d puppy. A scuffle ensued, and Mr Finger of Alabama, struck Mr F. with his cane over the forehead, causing blood to flow. When first noticed from the desk, Mr. Johnson was violently pushing Mr. Fickle over the seats, and both were striking and struggling. They were immediately surrounded and separated. Mr. Fickle's face bleeding freely, and he was led out into the Sergeant at arms room.

Mr Thompson of Miss., moved that the House adjourn *sine die* but the motion was negatived.

After some further business a resolution was agreed to that a message be sent to the Senate, informing that body that the House has disposed of the business before them, and were ready to adjourn *sine die*.

The Speaker delivered his address, and then the House adjourned.

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