

usurpation of power not granted by the Constitution. The resolution was referred to the committee on ways and means, and ordered to be printed.

The bill to prohibit the payment of extra compensation to public officers, was next taken up. Mr. Adams opposed the bill. He said if extra compensation for extra services were to be prohibited, then it would increase the Executive patronage to an alarming extent, by empowering him to create a regular office for all extra services required.

Mr. Holmes hoped the bill would be referred to a committee for investigation. The bill had been introduced by a single member, without any examination by a committee. Under these circumstances he trusted the House would not act without due deliberation on so important a matter.

Mr. Cushing took the same view. The debate was continued by Messrs. Gilmer, Tillinghast, Ingersoll and others. The bill was then passed by a vote of 161 to 35.

Mr. Arnold moved a reconsideration of the vote, with a view, should the motion prevail, of then moving to amend it by adding his bill of last session for reducing the pay of members of Congress. As the bill for denying extra compensation to public officers just passed, had met with such great favor, he thought members could do no less than to apply the principle of retrenchment to their dear selves. It was due to the character of the House to take a vote by yeas and nays on the subject.

The eye of the country was upon the House, and the incoherency of its members in refusing to bring themselves to the same level by which they tried others, was viewed with a keen eye. Mr. A. then alluded to the many times his bill had been evaded, when at the same time members were eager to retrench the compensation of all other servants of the government.

The continued refusal to have a vote upon this bill was disgraceful. The motion to reconsider was decided in its favor, only about half a dozen voting in its favor. The remainder of the day was devoted to the private calendar.

Late and interesting from Texas.

Fighting with the Mexicans.—The steam packet New York, arrived at New Orleans on the 11th inst., bringing very late dates from Texas. We subjoin interesting extracts from the New Orleans papers.

The principal news of interest is the account of the proceedings of the army of the other side of the Rio Grande. It appears the troops under Gen. Somervell took possession of Loredo, a small town on the Rio Grande, on the 10th of December. As the Mexicans approached the place, the few Texans stationed there, fled without making the least resistance. Gen. S. immediately addressed a note to the Alcalde for necessities, stating that if his requisition was complied with he would be respected. Upon this the citizens would be respected. Upon this the supplies were promptly furnished.

Notwithstanding the positive orders of the officers, some of the Texan soldiers afterwards commenced pillaging the citizens. Gen. Somervell then drew up a paper, the purport of which was that no one should molest the property of the Mexicans. This pledge was signed by between five and six hundred—the balance, numbering some hundred and fifty or two hundred, refused to put their names to it, and have returned home.

On the same day that Loredo was captured, the invading army pursued its route rapidly down the Mexican side of the Rio Grande towards Guerrero, where it was expected they would meet with some little resistance. The intention was then to march rapidly upon Mier, Comargo and Reinos, and capture them. By this time it is thought the invaders will be sufficiently reinforced to make a successful descent upon Matamoros. Cook, Howard, Hays, and other brave officers are with Somervell, and we shall anxiously wait for the next news from the frontier.

Galveston, Jan. 9, 1843.

The Houston boat has just arrived with dates to the 7th inst., which states that intelligence had been received at Washington of the capture of Guerrero, by our troops. It appears that the town was taken by surprise, the Mexicans having the impression that our army had returned to Texas from Loredo. It is stated that the Mexicans on the route have been well treated by our soldiers, who have been in return well received.

I am sorely disappointed in not hearing of any energetic efforts making in the interior to reinforce the invading army. I hope the next arrival will bring better news on this subject.

A rumor has reached here, which I can not trace to any authentic source, that the troops under Somervell are surrounded by 1700 Mexicans on the west and 1200 on the east, the latter between them and Texas. This is highly improbable, from all I can learn.

P. S. A man whom I do not know, but who has the air of a gentleman of veracity, came down on the Houston boat. He states that he has just left Judge Somervell's, (a brother of the General), on the Brazos, who had received a letter from the latter, and read it to my informant. It stated that Gen. Somervell was surrounded, between Guerrero and Mier, by 1600 of the enemy—defeated them—saw took 400 prisoners and four pieces of artillery, and is now on his return to Texas.

Houston, Jan. 7.

We learn from a gentleman who lately arrived from the Colorado, that a courier arrived at La Grange a few days since from the army, and brought news that our troops marched to Comargo, capturing one or two villages on the route; but when they reached Comargo, they encountered a detachment of the Mexican army, consisting of about 600 men, with foot field pieces. They immediately gave battle, and after a short but severe engagement, completely defeated the Mexicans, and took the four field pieces. Comargo surrendered immediately after the engagement, and the troops took possession of the town.

But little was doing in Congress of the least importance. The bill to remove the archives from Austin to Washington was postponed in the House on the 26th ult. by a vote of 14 to 13. Many of the Western members had returned to their seats.

Viscount de Camagel, Charge d'Affaires from France to Texas, has arrived at the seat of government.

Large numbers of French, Swiss and German emigrants have already arrived in Texas, and more are expected.

Harrisburg Correspondence.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 24, 1843.

Gentlemen:—A bill to divide the State into Congressional Districts was on Saturday reported to the House. The counties are arranged in the following order, viz: Districts 1, 2 and 3—Philadelphia city and county.

4. Bucks and Lehigh.
5. Montgomery and Delaware.
6. Chester.
7. Lancaster.
8. Berks.
9. Dauphin, Lebanon and Schuylkill.
10. Northampton, Monroe, Wayne and Pike.
11. Luzerne, Wyoming and Columbia.
12. Bradford, Susquehanna and Lycoming.
13. Lycoming, Northumberland, and Union.
14. Cumberland, Perry, Millin, and Juniata.
15. York and Adams.
16. Franklin and Bedford.
17. Huntingdon, Centre, Clinton and Clearfield.
18. Westmoreland and Fayette.
19. Washington and Greene.
20. Somerset, Cambria and Indiana.
21. Allegheny.
22. Armstrong, Clarion, Butler and Beaver.
23. Crawford, Mercer and Venango.
24. Erie, Warren, Jefferson, McKean and Potter.

This Bill, I mentioned in a former letter, passed in committee by a vote of 16 to 10. It was made the order of the day for Tuesday next, when the subject of appointing the State will be brought fairly before the Legislature.

The Governor this morning sent in a message informing the House that he had signed the Bill regulating the public printing.

This morning a petition was presented from inhabitants of Northampton County, charging Mr. Heckman, a Representative from that county, with procuring legislation favorable to the Lehigh Navigation and with having received a consideration therefor. Quite an exciting discussion arose upon a motion to appoint a committee to inquire into the truth of the charges contained in the petition. A committee was finally appointed and power given it to send for persons and papers.

Messrs. McKinley and Lescurer were this morning elected printers of the English Journal of the House; and J. H. Stock printer of the Bill; and H. M. Bigler printers of the German Journal. To Do.

Leasing Lead Mines.—It appears from a statement made by the Superintendent of Lead mines at Galena, that he had issued up to the 5th of January, 610 leases of Mineral land, averaging about 25 acres, and about five hands to each lease—making the quantity of land leased 15,000 acres, and the number of hands employed on them 3000. Returns has been made to the office of 5,354,561 pounds of mineral—on which there had been collected in cash upwards of \$1,700, and in lead 143,495 pounds—leaving a balance due on returns made, which can be collected by the Spring, of 126,617 pounds, of lead.

George B. Ogden, the missing president of the Canal Bank, New Orleans, was found drowned in the canal at that city, on the morning of the 12th inst. There appeared to be no wounds upon his person which would lead to the belief that he had been murdered. His drowning was either by his own will, or he was thrown from his horse into the water. His accounts with the bank are said to be all right.

The reported recall of Commodore Jones from the command of the Pacific squadron, which we published yesterday is not correct. It is not known yet what course the Mexican government may take, or what course our own government will pursue, in the matter.

Late from Valparaiso.

Advices have been received to the 16th of October at New Orleans. The news is important. Herodolis, a young general who has been some time since from Peru, had secretly returned with about 300 men, and in a battle with General Torrico, who had a much larger force, obtained a complete victory, destroying a great number of the enemy. He had possession, now, of all the northern province in Peru, with a large force under his command, which is increasing daily. Peru was never in so unsettled a state as it now is, and there are no prospects of peace for some time.

Chili is in a prosperous condition; there is no Republic in South America so well governed; the people are perfectly satisfied with the Constitution and incline to agriculture.

Bolivia is at present quiet, though temporarily. There is nothing of importance going on at Valparaiso. Mr. R. Hivers of Chili, son of General Hivers, came passenger in the Orpheus. Left on the coast the whale ships California, 100 barrels of oil; Spatan, with 1,700 bris. sperm oil; ship Cleonata, 2,500 do.; Philip, 2,500 do.; barque Emerald, with 1,500 do.; and a number of others.

Bankrupt Decision.—Judge Betts, of New York, has decided that a man who contracts large debts in foreign lands, and comes in this country and obtains residence, is entitled to the benefit of the Bankrupt Law against the suit of the foreign creditor. This decision will no doubt shortly bring to our shores a large number of "respectable" immigrants.

The Tippecanoe Case.

John Irons, for the use of Junny Lafferty, James Paul and A. Ferguson, vs. Wm. Eichbaum, Jno D Davis, Samuel W Black and W M Darlington.

This interesting trial, involving a question as to whether the coons who have violated all their political pledges to the people, are responsible for the payment of their dinner, came on before His Honor, Judge Shaler, of the District Court, on Tuesday.

Major Irons being sworn stated that on the 17th of Nov., 1840, a large assembly was called by the committee of whigs to give a free dinner for their victory. They called me into my dining room and read the proceedings of the meeting. The President, Mr. Eichbaum, read to me the proceedings which required me to furnish a dinner at Taffie's warehouse for 1000 persons. He said I had been selected by the Committee of Arrangements. On the 20th day of Nov., at 2 o'clock the dinner was set, and eaten. There were said to be about 4000 present. Maj Deeny was President with 12 Vice Presidents. Mr. Black was either a Vice President or a Secretary. Maj Deeny and Mr. Black addressed the meeting. The tables were pretty well cleared off. My bill was 1000 dollars. There were provisions for 1000 people. Did not see Mr. Davis or Mr. Darlington there. Some time after the dinner was over there was an effort made to collect some money.

Cross ex.—I received 103 dollars on account of this dinner. I was first paid by Mr. Wyle 33 dollars previous to the dinner. Next by Mr. Darlington in July, 20 dollars. On the 15th June, I was paid 55 dollars by Messrs Eichbaum and Davis. They were both present. I have called on both frequently for money. I made no charge of this dinner on my books—I gave it on the credit of the whig party (?), and the committee that employed me. These were the only persons I had to look to for pay. The committee were Darlington, Black, Eichbaum and Davis.

Larimer asked me (before the dinner) if I could not dispose of the money and things, or use them myself. I said I thought not. I asked him if he would buy them; he said no. I was then cooking the articles. This was on Thursday night—on Wednesday they had been taken to the cook. I was not requested before that I ought to get the dinner. I did not say that I had made great sacrifices for Gen. Harrison. I never supported Gen. Jackson. Maj Denny was ready to do a free dinner for me, and I understood that you took Mr. Denny's views. I think you told me that Maj Denny had said that if you would have a free dinner you would give 100 dollars himself. The meeting at which the proceedings were read to me, was on the 13th of Nov., and not on the 17th; it was my table for my pay. I know that there were committees appointed to collect money. I assigned this claim to the winter of 1841—2. The persons to whom I assigned it took it in payment of a claim they had against me. Mr. Lafferty was one of my bill, also Paul and Ferguson; Larimer's claim was levied on. I furnished all the materials for the dinner. I was paid for some and not for other, but you saw me giving the tables. I had assigned it to Simpson for McKeeben, but was re-assigned. I would nearly have paid Mr. McKeeben.

Plaintiff offered: Daily Advocate of Nov. 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 1840. Irons' Letter. Proceedings of Meeting, Nov. 13 Wm Eichbaum, Gazette Nov. 17th, 1840, Advocate, Nov. 23, 1840, offered and objected to.

Wm Larimer, sworn.—I was secretary of the meeting of the 20th Nov. The proceedings of the 13th of Nov. were made out by me, and published in the papers. I was at the dinner, there were some songs; Maj Denny made a speech at Mr. Forward. The company had got together. The resolution for a free dinner passed unanimously.

Cross ex.—Davis and Eichbaum were opposed reading the proceedings. No positive arrangement that Mr. Irons was to get the dinner at that stage; my impression was that after the meeting, organized, Mr. Irons was called in. I signed the president's name without authority—it was usual he made no objections at the time. He was assigned the dinner on account of the difficulty of raising money. The resolution passed unanimously; they must have withdrawn their objections. It was a slim mustering. I told Mr. Irons to give up the dinner, that he would never be paid for it. He said he would rather the dinner should go on though he never got paid for it. He said he had made some preparations. No contract was made by the committee with Irons about the pay. On the 13th when Irons came in Mr. Black asked him if he could provide a dinner for 1000 persons. The question of discussion was whether it would be a free dinner or not. The committee decided that it should be free. Davis was in favor of every man paying for his own dinner.

Jno Skipton, sworn.—These are the proceedings of the Tip. Club of the evening of the 14th Nov. in the Advocate 18th November. The proceedings were made and sent by me to the Gazette of Dec. Davis was President of that meeting. The resolutions of the meeting of the 13th at Irons was read; it was objected to. The proceedings were read; it was objected to. Davis did not express any dissent, but appeared to oppose it. When a summons was served on me I went to Mr. Davis. We were indignant, but concluded it was better to raise the money and pay it off and save the credit of the Whig party.—Eight of those who assisted, Messrs Black, Eichbaum, Davis and others met at Irons, we agreed to arrangements, and agreed to tax each committee so much.

Cross ex.—Davis and I were determined to read the debt first. I went to the meeting, not from any sense of obligation, but to read; I was taxed for 100 dollars. I raised some and paid 100 dollars. It was a mutual taxing of ourselves.

Harmer Denny, sworn.—I was at the dinner of the 20th Nov., was one of the officers. I was

greatly surprised to find the table so abundantly supplied with every thing. There was plenty of hard cider.

R. Errett, sworn.—I heard Denny announce the names of the officers; I saw Black and Darlington there, I was on a committee appointed at Irons' on the 10th Nov. I went to the meeting; something was said about abandoning the dinner. Irons said he had gone to too much expense in purchasing articles, and the dinner should be given.

J. M. Snowden jr. sworn.—I was at the dinner. There was a resolution of thanks passed to Maj. Irons, and Mr. Darlington favored us with a song.

Mr. McCandless read the proceedings of the Dinner jubilee, from the Daily Advocate of the 24th of Nov. It was an amusing narrative, and kept the Court and people in attendance in a continued roar of laughter.

Saml. Hubly, sworn.—I was at the dinner. Mr. Forward made a speech; I didn't eat any dinner because I couldn't get any. I think Messrs. Davis, Black, Eichbaum, and Darlington were there. I saw Mr. Davis there. I only went there to hear Mr. Forward. I didn't hear any song. There was nothing but boards on the tables when I saw them. The dinner was over and the speeches had commenced.

Cross Ex.—I can't say positively that I saw Mr. Davis there. I think he was walking about just like myself. I got nothing to eat, but I might have got a crust.

Direct resumed.—I have not a vivid recollection of the meetings of that campaign. I don't know who was there, but you ought all to have been there, (so Mr. Williams, and others present.)

James Mackerel, sworn.—I was at the dinner a few minutes. I think I saw Mr. Eichbaum there but can't recollect the precise place or time. I was not at the meeting of the 13th.

Cross Ex.—We were not satisfied with a private dinner, and some of us went to Irons' to break up the arrangements. We talked about roast beef, &c. and then adjourned, without coming to a conclusion.

Alex. Hay, sworn.—I was at some of the private meetings. I collected some of the money. I was opposed to the dinner, and had nothing to do with it. I collected \$93 in the North Ward, and paid it to S P Darlington, Treasurer. I don't know whether it was good eating or not. Mr. Eichbaum said at one time that he thought he had paid his share of the expenses of the campaign. I was not at the dinner.

Cross Ex.—Mr. Irons was in the room when I paid the money to Mr. S P Darlington.

Geo. Arnold sworn.—I was at a meeting for a dinner at Irons' Hotel. I don't recollect what was done except that there was to be a dinner. I was on a committee but never attended. There appeared to be much enthusiasm at the meeting. I don't know who spoke, every person seemed to have something to say. Plaintiff's testimony closed.

Mr. Black opened for the defence. He stated that they were prepared to show that Mr. Irons had ample time to stop the preparations for the dinner, after the committee of a portion of its members had discovered that it was impracticable to go on with it, without much loss. He, however, resolved to go on with it. The committee tried to collect money for defraying the expenses of the justification—they appointed sub-committees for each Ward. He urged that it was unjust to expect that four of the committee should suffer for the whole. To indemnify Mr. Irons from any loss, a private dinner was proposed. When the Major was asked by one of the committee to stop preparations he said 'I don't care, I will go on with the dinner, though I should suffer for it myself.' Mr. B. insinuated that Mr. Irons' object in going ahead with the dinner, was with a view of securing himself the office of Quarter Master.

Jno. Small sworn.—I was a member of the Committee of arrangements for preparing a dinner. The first meeting I was at was a public meeting; I think Davis was chairman. Mr. Black got up and stated that they ought to have a supper to give Mr. Irons a benefit. Mr. Davis said he thought it was imprudent as they had not yet heard the news from Pennsylvania. Mr. B. said he didn't care, as they knew that Harrison was elected. He didn't care about Penna. I think they agreed on having a supper at Mr. Irons'. It was to be paid, every man for himself. Some time afterwards I saw my name announced on the committee of arrangements, which was to meet at Irons' on Monday night at 7 o'clock. I went there, Mr. Larimer was there, Russell Errett, S P Darlington; Major Ili, I don't recollect of any others. Mr. Larimer asked Irons how far he had got on with the public dinner. He stated the number of tickets and

chickens, and had bargained with a butcher for the meats. Mr. Larimer wished it put off—at which Mr. Irons got mad. He seemed to take all the responsibility on himself. Maj. Ili then wanted to make a bargain about firing cannon. S P Darlington made arrangements with him to furnish fifty dollars for powder. I recollect of no offer being made to Mr. Irons to indemnify him for the expense he had already incurred. I can't speak for certain on this subject. The Committee wished to abandon the idea of a dinner that night. Mr. Larimer did—I don't recollect what the others said. Maj. Ili refused to fire the cannon without a guarantee, from S P Darlington for the pay. Mr. D. told him to call the next morning and he would give it to him.

Cross Ex.—I did not interfere in the arrangements. There was no resolution giving us power to abandon the dinner. The committee did not countermand the dinner as a body. The conversation was between Mr. Larimer and Mr. Irons. I was at the dinner. It was very good. I saw none of the defendants there but Black. I heard some songs. I don't know whether any of the present defendants is the author of 'Old Tip's big Broom.'

Hugh D. King, sworn.—I was present at a meeting of the Committee of Arrangements held a few days before the dinner. Mr. Davis presided. I offered a resolution myself that the club should not become responsible for the dinner. It was understood by me that the club was not to be bound for the expenses of that dinner. When I found that this was the understanding of the club, I was satisfied. Mr. Davis concurred with me, I don't mind the exact time of the meeting. Mr. Davis opposed the dinner in the club.

Cross ex.—I don't know that Mr. Davis opposed the dinner after I left. I was not on any of the committees. The club was composed of a majority of the citizens of Allegheny county. It composed the whole Harrison party nominally! I was not at the dinner.

Samuel Howard, sworn.—I was not at the dinner—I knew there was one at Taffie's warehouse; I was employed in the warehouse of Messrs. McCandless and Davis. At the time of the dinner Messrs. McCandless and Mr. Davis were a considerable time in the warehouse together. I think he was 2 1/2 or 3 hours in the warehouse with Mr. McCandless. The reason Mr. Davis was not at the dinner was that he was disappointed of it—so he said. Mr. D. said he had paid his share of the money of the dinner. I was not at the dinner.

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