

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8, 1850.

Senate.—At the usual hour, the Senate was called to order by the Vice President...

Mr. Underwood, of Kentucky, presented a memorial from citizens of Kentucky, setting forth the evils of war, and asking Congress to take measures for the establishment of a Congress of nations...

Numerous other memorials were presented. Mr. Upham, of Vermont, presented a series of resolutions on the subject of slavery...

Mr. Mangum, of North Carolina, moved that the motion to receive the resolutions be laid upon the table.

Mr. Hale, of New Hampshire, called for the yeas and nays. Mr. Upham expressed a hope that the Senate would not depart from the usual custom of receiving and printing all resolutions coming from legislatures of sovereign States.

Mr. King, of Alabama, contended that the usual course, upon the presentation of resolutions of this character, was to receive them and lay them upon the table.

Mr. Mangum here agreeing with the suggestion of Mr. King, withdrew his objection, and the resolutions were received.

The question recurring on a motion to print, Mr. Ule, of Florida, rose and said, that although the Senate might receive the resolutions, he would not, by voting to print, consent to give dignity to a document containing language opprobrious, offensive and insulting to the people whom he had the honor of representing...

Mr. Phelps, of Vermont, said that during the ten years he had been a member of this body, he had generally avoided this troublesome question. He had met it once or twice, but it was in a spirit of conciliation, and he would never meet it in any other. This was a subject upon which a people was at liberty to express their views. It was a great question of moral principles. The State of Vermont was at liberty to express her views of it no less than the gentleman from Florida. He had deprecated and avoided all irritating discussion, and regretted that this question could not be met in a calm, conciliatory, and friendly spirit.

It was a mere question of policy to be settled by Congress at its discretion. If they found the institution right, they would let it alone. If otherwise, in the District of Columbia, it was their duty to abolish it. The sentiments expressed by the State of Vermont were the sentiments of the civilized world, and should not be met with terms of reproach. They called upon Congress to perform its duty where they possess the power, and not to interfere with internal policy of the State, but to act where it has the right to do so; to do their duty when it is made plain to them; and when the question should be raised, whether this institution shall be co-extensive with our territory, he would act in accordance with his judgment, and say—let it be where it is in the States, but don't extend it where it is not already established.

Mr. Berrien, of Georgia, could not agree with the Senator from South Carolina, that it was proper to print these resolutions for the purpose of letting the south understand the progress of sentiment at the North. He could not agree either, that the opinion of the legislature of Vermont is that of the civilized world, and could not be tempted to enter into the consideration of the great question upon collateral issues, even upon the reiteration of the Senator's opinion, which, if true, placed the citizens of the slave states beyond the pale of civilization. He could not consent to publish to the world the private instruction given to senators and representatives from the north, by their legislatures. Although he would at all times show all proper respect to communications made to Congress by legislatures of sovereign States, he would not consent to sanction the presentation here of the mere instructions given for the private guidance of the senators and representatives of those States.

Mr. Upham, said his resolutions were similar in language and wording to many others which have been and are daily presented, received and printed, by order of the Senate. They are the same as those presented a day or two since from Missouri.

The composite in sentiment, the resolutions which have been presented to the Senate, are, in fact, nothing more than a new arrangement of the same old language, and under such circumstances, he would not extend courtesy in return for terms of opprobrium and disgrace.

The resolutions declared not so unfortunate as to be mistaken—but calls us criminal; not only that, but they read, the slaveholding community out of the pale of civilization. Not only did they cast opprobrium and insult upon them but stated in broad terms that the south were holding their property in violation of the spirit of the constitution; and yet these resolutions should be reconciled! Indeed! He should despise himself, if he could stand here cool, calm, and unexcited on this subject, and under such circumstances.

Mr. Chase of Ohio, obtained the floor, but gave way to a motion to pass the subject over informally, for the present, which was agreed to.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the resolution, inquiring into the expediency of suspending diplomatic intercourse with Austria.

Mr. Foot, of Mississippi, having the floor, proceeded to address the Senate. He said that it seemed to him that the question under discussion had either been greatly misunderstood, or had been in the hurry of debate, commented upon by gentlemen opposed to it, in a manner wholly unauthorized by its terms. The question was merely whether the committee on Foreign Relations was to be instructed to enquire into the expediency of suspending diplomatic relations with Austria.

It was not a question of war or peace, nor yet a question of aggression upon the rights of a foreign nation. It was not connected, ever so remotely, with the question of peace or war between this country and Austria. Yet, as such as it had been discussed, the distinguished gentlemen who had opposed the question had exhibited their strong opinion, upon the ground of the probability of disturbing the relations between this country and Austria.

Mr. Hale, of New Hampshire, said that with one single exception, on the 9th of January, 1839, the course of the Senate had been directly opposite to that stated by those who opposed the motion to print. On that occasion there were twenty-nine yeas and eight nays for laying a similar resolution on the table. With that single exception, all resolutions of this kind, and no matter how offensive to gentlemen who differed with him on this subject, have been read and printed without objection.

He thought these resolutions very harmless things, after all. The fact was, that there had been a small band of fanatics, cast out, and so much noise had been made about them lately, that folks began to think that there were more of them than there really were; and as fanatics had voted there, some of our people, it was thought of some consequence by politicians, that they should be secured. With this view, these resolutions had been passed. They were intended entirely for home use, and that was the reason that no instructions had been given to their senators and representatives in Congress.

Mr. Phelps said he did not know but that the Senator from New Hampshire was a son of his own country, and that he should be as good as dead if he did not know that he had the honor of representing the people of Vermont. He would never meet it in any other. This was a subject upon which a people was at liberty to express their views. It was a great question of moral principles. The State of Vermont was at liberty to express her views of it no less than the gentleman from Florida.

Mr. Rusk, of Texas, moved that the resolutions be laid upon the table. Mr. Foot having concluded, the Senate, at 4 o'clock, adjourned.

From Chagres and Panama. The steamboat Alabama, Capt. Wright, from Chagres the 28th ult., arrived at New Orleans on the 2d inst.

The steamship Cherokee arrived at Chagres on the 23d ult., in eight days and four hours from New York. The Alabama brought \$50,000 in gold dust on her freight, and there was \$200,000 in gold dust, among her passengers.

The Panama Echo says it is a positive fact, that a gold mine has been discovered in the province of Veracruz, on the Isthmus. Some Americans had resolved to go and dig there instead of proceeding to California. In its number of the 14th ult. the Echo says—It is no longer a matter of doubt, that gold can be procured in the mines of the Isthmus, within a day's travel of Panama. Judge Shattuck, of Mississippi, a gentleman of high character and standing, and Dr. Cullen, a gentleman acquainted with the mining operations in California, have been prospecting, and give it as their opinion, that the "dust" exists in particles sufficiently large, and of a quality to justify extended operations.

We have seen some of the dust procured by these gentlemen, and have no hesitation in asserting it to be the real stuff. Jewelers and dealers in the precious metals, pronounce it fully equal to the productions of California. We take from the Echo, of the 19th ult. the following items: The rise in the Chagres river caused the steamer Gen. Herran to break loose from her moorings, and after floating down some distance, struck a tree and capsized. It is conjectured she will be a total loss.

The Chagres river rose some twenty feet a few days since; and was as high as within two feet of reaching the French Hotel in Cruces.

The Circassian sailed from Pernambuco, for San Francisco, on the 19th ult., and the large class ship Charleston, six hundred tons burthen, was to leave thence for the same destination, on the 22d ult. According to a law enacted by the Republic of New Grenada, free trade will prevail on the Isthmus, on and after the 1st of January, 1850.

Gen. Mosquera, ex-President of New Grenada, is now residing at Panama. The Panama Star, of the 19th ult., says that Hon. Balie Peyton, U. S. minister to Chili, had changed his residence from the French Hotel, Panama, to premises in the vicinity of the Governor's house.

Set a thief to catch a thief.

Editorial Convention. At a Convention of Editors held at Buelter's Hotel, on Tuesday the 1st of Jan., 1850, the Hon. NIMROD STRICKLAND was chosen PRESIDENT, ISAAC G. M'KENNEY and H. A. MISH SECRETARIES. Messrs: Hunter, M'Clure, Walters, Smith, Worth and M'Keever, were appointed a committee to prepare resolutions for the action of the Convention: who presented the following, which were unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That the Editors in the different counties of the State, be requested to have the memorials adopted by this Convention, to the Legislature of this State and Congress of the United States, circulated and signed, and forwarded to the respective bodies for which they are intended.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Convention that papers should be allowed to circulate free of postage within the Congressional Districts, in which they are respectively published; and that such a law would meet the almost unanimous approbation of the people, and tend to disseminate intelligence among them.

Resolved, That we respectfully request the members of Congress from our State to use their influence for the passage of a law in conformity with the above resolution.

Resolved, That in States where the laws of the Legislature are published in the papers of the State, it is found not materially to increase the cost of their publication, but it most effectually spreads the laws before the whole people, and gives them the knowledge thereof, which they otherwise remain ignorant.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Convention, the Legislature of Pennsylvania would be conferring a great benefit upon the people of this State, by passing a law which would authorize the publication of general laws in the papers of the whole Commonwealth, and those of local bearing, in the papers circulating in the district to which the law is intended to apply.

Resolved, That a violation of the law is no excuse against its violation, the law-makers owe it to the law-governed, to provide the most effectual means to allow every citizen to become acquainted with the rules laid down for his observance. Resolved, In the language of the Vermont Editorial Convention, "That as Representatives of the Press of Pennsylvania, we disapprove and will discontinue influential personalities in editorial intercourse; that we discern and rejoice in a gradual improvement, by observing strictly in our editorial allusions the amenities and courtesies which should mark the intercourse of gentlemen."

Resolved, That we recommend to the Editors of this State, to refuse to accept advertisements sent them by city agents, upon any other than regular terms. Resolved, That our State Legislature be requested to pass resolutions urging upon our Senators and Representatives in Congress, to urge the passage of a bill in relation to the free circulation of newspapers within each Congressional District.

The following memorials to the Legislature and to Congress, were adopted by the Convention, and the committee appointed, authorized to affix their names thereto, in behalf of the Convention: To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of Pennsylvania:

Resolved, That the undersigned, appointed a committee by an Editorial State Convention, held at Harrisburg, on the 1st of January, 1850, beg leave respectfully to request your attention to the propriety of publishing all laws of a general character, in the English and German papers throughout the Commonwealth, at the expense of the State; and also, that of requiring laws of a local nature, to be published in the newspapers in the vicinity interested therein, at the expense of the county or parties concerned. This is now the law in several of our sister States, including New York, New Jersey and Ohio; and as it is the only method by which the people of the State can be generally informed of the character of our laws, we would think its adoption judicious and proper.

We are aware that objections may be urged against this proposition, on the grounds of the expense that must necessarily attend it. This objection, however, could, and we think should be deviated.

A large sum is annually expended in the publication of our laws, and journals in German—of which few, if any copies are sold in the year. The amount of currency that could be saved to the State, by curtailing the German publications as far as practicable, and some of the other expenses of the government that can be done without detriment to the public interest, would nearly defray the expenses of the publication referred to.

Your serious attention is respectfully, but earnestly requested to the subject. The laws by which the people must be governed, should be universally made known. It is alike due to those who govern, and to the governed; and we are fully persuaded that if carried into effect, with a proper observance of economy, it will meet the hearty approval of your constituents.

(Signed by the Committee.) To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress Assembled:

At a Convention of the Editors of Pennsylvania, held at Harrisburg, on the 1st inst., the undersigned were appointed a committee to prepare resolutions for the adoption of the passage of an act permitting the free circulation of newspapers within the Congressional District where they are printed. The passage of such an act is asked by the people of every section of the Commonwealth. Under existing laws, taxing newspapers for any distance, however short, and allowing the editors to be held and distributed gratuitously outside of the mails, the citizens resident in the interior of the State are subjected to an onerous taxation, and the country Press is seriously injured. Such a general dissemination of useful & general intelligence should not be suffered to exist. No undue advantage should be extended to one portion of the public press at the expense of another. The general education of the people, being one of the chief aims of our institutions, the postage law of our country should be framed upon a liberal and enlightened basis, and believing that this object cannot be accomplished under existing laws, and that the present system of postage is unjust in the extreme, we respectfully petition your honorable body, for the passage of a law...

A touching scene. The New York Tribune records the following beautiful incident connected with the Hungarian refugees.—"On Monday morning, three Germans, evidently workmen, went to the Astor House and asked to see the Hungarians. They were immediately introduced and remained some time in conversation with Gov. Ujhazi and family. Finally two of them withdrew, and left the third, who continued to talk but seemed to have something to say which he could not get out. At last, addressing Mlle. Clam, the daughter of Mr. Ujhazi, he said that as exiles who were remote from country and whose property had been confiscated in consequence of their devotion to freedom and people's rights, they must be in an embarrassed condition. Then drawing from his pocket bank note he said "Fraulein, this is but little for I am a poor man, and have only what I can earn, but I could not refrain from giving the tribute of my mite to you. Receive this, I beg of you, as the heart offering of a workman to his defenders of liberty." Mlle. Ujhazi, who had not expected anything of this kind, and was rather embarrassed, replied in a tone of emotion that she was deeply grateful for such kindness, but that they were not in a condition to ask it, when her father said:—"Take it, my daughter, and feel thyself and all more honored than if a monarch had bestowed millions upon thee!"—at the same time warmly pressing the hand of the noble laborer, and assuring him that they could never forget him.—We leave our readers to imagine the scene."

THE LATE HOMICIDE.—A hearing in the case of Thomas Boyle, charged with the murder of his brother-in-law, William McArthur, on Wednesday last, took place before Mayor Wilkinson, of the Northern Liberties, on Saturday. The only witnesses examined were the widow of the deceased, Mary Rody, and Bridget Barry. In substance, they testified that Boyle came home on Wednesday morning about five or six o'clock, that he proceeded to his room in the garret, and afterwards came down to the door of McArthur's chamber, where he knocked and called for his children who were in this apartment. He was told by the deceased, to go away.—The prisoner then returned to his garret, when, continuing the noise, McArthur got out of bed and took a candle, and ascended to the room above. Boyle then made an attack upon him. The witnesses heard the scuffle, rushed into the room and saw the deceased prostrate upon the floor, and Boyle on top of him, plunging the knife with great rapidity into his body.—The parties were separated with great difficulty by the witnesses, and the deceased walked down to his room, holding his entrails, which had protruded in consequence of the wounds received. A physician was immediately sent for, and the wounded man was afterwards conveyed to the Hospital, at which institution he died in consequence of his injuries. The Mayor then committed him to prison on the charge of murder.—Pennsylvania, Jan. 5.

Ship Building in Pittsburg.—During the year 1849, the number of steamboats built at Pittsburg was fifty-one. During the period elapsed since 1840, six iron steamers for lake and ocean navigation, and one for the coal trade have also been built. Two of the six were United States war steamers—the Michigan and the Allegheny, and the others were iron cutters. With the advantages of natural wealth which she possesses and the daring and enterprising spirit which her citizens continue to manifest, Pittsburg firmly maintains the appellation of the Birmingham of America.

Down on the Bigonist.—A good looking young woman called at the office of the Rochester American last week, to consult the published marines in that paper. She was married on the 31st ult., and finding that her faithless husband had two other wives living besides herself, she expressed her full determination to send him to State's Prison. Her object was to find the date of his marriage with her predecessor. It was December 10, just three weeks before he married her. As this is the rascal's second offence, we suppose nothing can save him.

Dreadful Death.—The Wheeling Gazette says a man named James Carl was found on Monday morning among the fragments of rock at the base of one of the steepest precipices of the stone quarries near that city. He had fallen the preceding night in a state of intoxication, over the precipice, a distance of about forty feet, and though none of his bones were broken, he was frightfully bruised and otherwise injured, internally, it was thought, sufficiently to produce death. He had commenced slipping at the summit of the hill, some fifty feet from the cliff from whence he finally fell; the marks of his struggling hands and feet were plainly traced in the snow.

A NEW ARTICLE OF DIET.—A short time since a found in the western part of this county person buried in the sand a nest of eggs. Supposing them to be turtles' eggs, and being passionately fond of that article, he carried them home, had them properly cooked, and commenced his luxurious repast. After eating fourteen, he was seized by vomiting and purging, and upon opening one of those left, he found a small blue fever beautifully colored therein. He then placed yourself in his condition, and then you may know his feelings.—Oakland Gazette.

A weak mind sinks under prosperity as well as under adversity. A strong and deep mind has two highest ideas—when the moon is at the full, and when there is no moon.