

members of that fraternity, had made use of every possible device to prevent the discovery of a high handed offence, and to obstruct the administration of justice, and the due execution of the laws. The first, however extensive the combination may have been, was but a single outrage; and like hundreds of other fearful crimes, might have been punished and forgotten, and the public have felt secure in the protection of the laws, in witnessing the unobstructed execution of their penalties. The latter, by unbinding the whole administration of justice, would exhibit a state of facts deeply alarming to a community, who eminently repose upon the laws under which they live for protection, and rely undoubtingly upon their due and impartial administration.

When rumours of these outrages first became public, the citizens of the community, in which they were perpetrated, felt themselves called upon to investigate how it was that a peaceable citizen should be forcibly seized in a populous village, and transported against his will, one hundred and fifty miles, through a thickly settled country. As worthy of a free government, they deemed themselves bound to ascertain why, and by whom, a fellow citizen, enjoying the same privileges, was abstracted from the protection of the laws, under circumstances which created well grounded suspicions of a horrible fate. The inquiries for information in relation to Morgan, were answered by taunts, reproaches, and ridicule. At first, the members of the fraternity were bold enough, openly to declare, "That if Morgan had been put to death, his fate was no more than he deserved; he had forfeited his life." These declarations were made by perhaps hundreds of freemasons, within two months after the abduction, and there is scarce an individual, who at that early period took any interest in the investigation, but can call to mind distinctly, many such declarations, made by respectable and influential men.

When intimations were thrown out that an appeal would be made to the laws, more than one freemason has been heard to say, that the judges were masons, the sheriffs were masons, and the jurymen would be masons, and set at defiance the requirements of justice.

There seems to have been a determination on the part of the fraternity, not only to suppress all information in relation to the outrages, but even to repress inquiries and questionings, which might tend to elucidate it. Individuals who ventured to make remarks which such an infraction of the laws were calculated to elicit, were made the subjects of unreasonable abuse, and vindictive hostility, by the lodge-going member of the fraternity. The public press, which has, in almost every other instance of alarming crime, been made in some measure the means of its investigation, or at least of making public its details, was, in this instance with a single exception at first, awed into the most slavish silence, by the influence of freemasonry. The conductors of many of the public prints in western New York, were themselves masons, and the proprietors of others, who did not belong to the fraternity, were soon given to understand that it would be most fatal to their interests, to publish anything in relation to the ill fated Morgan. A single instance may illustrate this species of influence. In the month of October, or November, 1826, Elihu F. Marshall, a quaker and the conductor of a paper, called "The Album," published in the village of Rochester, ventured to say, in an editorial article, that the unlawful abduction of William Morgan ought to be the subject of investigation. The paper with an article of this import had no sooner appeared, than Edward Doyle, a knight templar, and treasurer of the Monroe Encampment, rushed into the office of the Album in a storm of rage, ordered his paper to be discontinued, and his advertisements stopped, and told Marshall if he did not cease publishing articles against the masonic fraternity, many others would take the same course; but that if he retracted the next week, all might yet be well. Doyle then went to the printing office of a royal arch mason, and boasted "that he had shut the quaker's mouth." We regret to add, that the timid editor quailed under the masonic threat, and in his next paper made a partial retraction of his previous article.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

TWENTY-FIRST CONGRESS. SECOND SESSION.

THURSDAY, Feb. 10.

In the Senate yesterday, Mr. Webster presented memorials from the "Prudential Committee of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions of Massachusetts," and from inhabitants of Brookfield in the same State, against the removal of the southern Indians. The debate on Mr. Grundy's resolution relative to the Post Office inquiry was resumed. Mr. Grundy being in possession of the floor, opened the debate. He was followed by Mr. Hendricks. Mr. Clayton succeeded in reply to the arguments of Mr. Grundy, and had not concluded when the Senate adjourned.

The House of Representatives was principally engaged yesterday in the discussion of a bill relative to the establishment of a Land Office in Indiana. The House subsequently took up the Appropriation Bill, and the question of the salary and outfit to Mr. Randolph. Mr. Archer spoke at some length in defence of the Administration, after which the previous question was demanded by Mr. Tucker, and seconded by a majority of members present—Ayes 73, Noes 68. The House then decided that the main question should be now put, which was the enactment of the Bill, excluding all the amendments on the subject of Mr. Randolph. Some amendments were made to get

amendments into the Bill, but they were defeated by a successful call for the previous question. The Bill was subsequently read a third time and passed.

FRIDAY, Feb. 11.

Nothing of importance transacted in the Senate. In the House of Representatives, yesterday, a bill, declaratory of the law concerning contempts of Court, was reported by Mr. Buchanan, from the Committee on the Judiciary. A report of a very important character was made by Mr. Hemphill, from the Committee on Roads and Canals, advocating the policy of Internal Improvement, and containing certain resolutions corresponding with that sentiment. It was committed to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed; and a motion, made by Mr. Vance, to print an additional number of 6000 copies, stands over until this day. The bill to authorize the construction of a Rail Road from Baltimore to the District of Columbia, and a number of other bills relating to the District of Columbia, were acted on in Committee, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

SATURDAY, Feb. 12.

In the Senate, yesterday, Mr. Ellis, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill granting a township of land for the use of Jefferson College, in Mississippi; which was read, and ordered to a second reading. The bill from the House of Representatives, making appropriations for the support of Government for the year 1831, was read, and referred to the Committee on Finance. Mr. Hayne, from the select committee to which had been referred the bill from the House of Representatives for the settlement of the accounts of James Monroe, reported the same with an amendment, striking out the words "for public services, losses and sacrifices." The Senate resumed, as unfinished business, the consideration of the resolution submitted by Mr. Grundy, prohibiting the select committee appointed to inquire into the condition of the Post Office Department, from calling before them the persons who have been dismissed from office, for the purpose of ascertaining the reasons or causes of their removal. Mr. Woodbury, who had the floor, then resumed his argument in favor of the resolution, and concluded at about two o'clock. Messrs. Sprague, Livingston, and Holmes, subsequently addressed the Senate. Mr. Livingston offered as an amendment, a substitute to part of the resolution, declaring that the committee shall not make inquiry into the reasons which have induced the Post-master General to make any removals of his deputies. Mr. Holmes then addressed the Senate in opposition to the amendment, for about half an hour, when he gave way to a motion to adjourn.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. White, of New York, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported a bill for the construction of naval hospitals at Charlestown, Massachusetts, Brooklyn, New York, and Pensacola; which was read twice, referred to a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and, together with the document, ordered to be printed. Various reports were made; among the number of which was one by Mr. Everett, of Mass., from the Committee on the Library, who reported a resolution, that the Clerk of the House cause to be prepared a digested index of the executive papers, reports, and other documents, from the commencement of the 18th Congress to the termination of the present one, and to have the same printed, for the use of the present Congress. The resolution was adopted.

Mr. Lecompte gave notice that he should, on Tuesday, move the House to take up the resolution offered by him in relation to the Judges of the Supreme Court. The SPEAKER laid before the House a number of communications from the Treasury, War, and Post Office Departments; which were severally read and laid on the table. The House, on motion of Mr. McDuffie, took up the bill, on a division by yeas and nays, by a vote of 102 to 82, for the relief of the widow of the lamented Commodore Decatur, and went into Committee upon it. Mr. Cambreleng in the chair. It was debated till five o'clock, by Messrs. Potter, Storrs, McDuffie, Hoffman, Craig, Carson, Whitteley, Barringer, Miller, Sutherland, Doddridge, Chilton, Crockett, and Polk. Various amendments were proposed; after which, the committee rose and reported.

MONDAY, Feb. 14.

In the Senate, on Saturday, a letter from the Secretary of War giving returns of the Militia force throughout the United States; and a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, with returns from the Mint of the amount of Gold and Silver coins struck off in the year 1830, were communicated by the Vice President. Sundry memorials were presented by Mr. Foot, Mr. Livingston and Mr. King. Together with some private bills—the several bills granting "a quantity of land for the erection of a public building at the seat of Government at Little Rock, Arkansas;" "to provide for the removal of certain Indian Tribes in Missouri;" and "to appoint a sub-Agent to the Winnebago Indians at Rock River;" were each read a third time and passed. The Senate then adjourned.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. Strong from the Committee on Territories reported a bill respecting the City of Detroit, in the Territory of Michigan, which was twice read, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading on this day. A few other reports on private bills were made; after which, the House, without taking up any further business, adjourned.

TUESDAY, Feb. 15.

In the Senate, yesterday, numerous memo-

rials were presented for the repeal of the last Session, relative to the removal of the south-western Indians. Two on the subject of Massachusetts, by Mr. Webster—one from Pittsburg, signed by upwards of 700 inhabitants, by Mr. Marks—one by Mr. Barnard, from Luzerne, Pennsylvania—and one from friends of the Administration at Hartwick, New York. Mr. Barnard presented a petition from Philadelphia, praying a modification of the Tariff law of 1828, in respect of duty on imported flax, and as it respected manufactures made from the same. Mr. Woodbury, from the Committee on Commerce, reported a bill for a drawback of duty on imported foreign Iron. The debate on Mr. Grundy's resolution relative to the Post Office Inquiry was not resumed, and it has, for the present, terminated. On the resolution being again taken up for consideration, Mr. Holmes stated that they had come to a conclusion on both sides, that the subject matter had undergone sufficient discussion, and that he was, therefore, induced to move that the resolution be laid on the table, with the understanding that the sense of the Senate be taken on its merits on the following day (this day) at 1 o'clock. This was agreed to; after which the Senate went into consideration of Executive business, and then adjourned.

The House of Representatives were yesterday exclusively occupied in the consideration of petitions. Mr. Edward Everett having succeeded in bringing on the discussion of which he gave notice on the preceding Monday, on the petition of the inhabitants of Berkshire, enforcing the necessity of preserving the sanctity of our treaties with the Indians. Great opposition was made to the taking up of the subject, and an attempt was made to prevent it by a demand of the question of consideration—which, after some discussion on a point of order, was agreed to—the vote being, ayes 101, noes 93. The House therefore agreed to go into the discussion of the question. Mr. Everett then spoke in defence of his motion, which is to refer the petition to the Committee on Indian Affairs, with instructions to report a bill making further provision for executing the laws of the United States on the subject of intercourse with the Indian tribes, and also for a faithful observance of the treaties between the United States and said tribes. Mr. Everett spoke at length. The House adjourned before he had concluded.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 16.

In the Senate, yesterday, various memorials were presented against the removal of the Southern Indians. Mr. Clayton introduced a bill to compensate the officers and soldiers at Fort Delaware for the losses and injuries they sustained by the late calamity at the Fort.

The sense of the Senate was taken on Mr. Grundy's resolution, as modified by the amendment of Mr. Livingston, which goes to declare that the Special Committee on Inquiry into the Post Office Department are not authorized to inquire into the causes why the Post-master General dismissed his Deputies; and the resolution was carried by a vote of 24 to 21.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. Buchanan reported a bill from the Committee on the Judiciary, to remove the Circuit and District Courts of the United States from Lexington, New Hampshire, to Concord, in the same State. Mr. Verplanck, from the Special Committee appointed on the subject, reported a bill to establish an Assay Office of the United States Mint in North Carolina and Georgia. The bill for the relief of Susan Decatur was taken up, on the motion of Mr. Doddridge, for the reconsideration of the former vote on the subject, and on the question of engrossment for a third reading, it was rejected by a vote of 99 to 90.

Pennsylvania Legislature.

MONDAY, Feb. 14.

A bill for the division of Mifflin county and the erection of a new county to be called Juniata county passed the House of Representatives this morning and was sent to the Senate for concurrence. This has been a question before the Legislature for many years.

TUESDAY, Feb. 15.

The bill to incorporate the York and Maryland line rail road company, came up on the second reading. Mr. Alexander addressed the house at some length in favor of the bill. Mr. Blair spoke against it; he said it was a Baltimore project, and addressed the house at length against the passage of the bill. Mr. M'Sherry observed, that it had been said it was a Baltimore—a Maryland project—admitting it to be a Baltimore project, if our own citizens were benefited by it it ought to be granted. He then brought into the view of the house an amendment, to prevent the commencement of the road until 1833; he thought that it would be an advantage, not only to the citizens of York, but to the State. He then went on at some length to show the advantages that would result from this rail road to the State. He said that the same objections had been urged against the Chesapeake and Delaware canal; that was stated to be a Baltimore project, yet it had proved a great advantage to Pennsylvania, and a great advantage to our metropolis. He thought the people ought to have a choice of markets. Mr. Alexander made some further remarks in favor of the bill, and in reply to Mr. Blair. Mr. Pettit spoke with great warmth in reply. The gentleman who had spoken in favor, he was fully satisfied, knew it was a Baltimore project, and was a bad project for Pennsylvania. Mr. M'Sherry made reply. Mr. Ashbridge spoke against the bill. The yeas and nays were called and the question de-

ecided in the negative—yeas 37, nays 53. So the bill was lost.

WEDNESDAY, Feb. 16.

On motion of Mr. Butz a resolution was read a second time to instruct the committee on Internal Improvement to bring in a bill, to repeal the law of last session relative to assessing damages done by the public works.

After some discussion, the resolution was carried, Yeas 72 Nays 19.

From the Reporter of Friday, Feb. 18.

THE IMPROVEMENT BILL.

The improvement bill has been under consideration in the Senate for the last two days. Yesterday, the question was on Mr. Miller's amendment, to strike out that part of the third section which relates to the rail road across the Allegheny mountain. Messrs. Wise and Burden spoke at some length in opposition to the motion, when it was negatived. Mr. Burden proposed to strike out that part of the section, which excludes a tunnel, so as to leave it discretionary with the canal commissioners to adopt the best mode and manner of crossing the mountain. Mr. Burden supported his amendment, which was opposed by Mr. Brown and negatived. Mr. King then moved to amend; so as to make the rail road commence at Huntingdon, instead of Hollidaysburg, and to reduce the appropriation to \$300,000. This amendment was supported by Mr. King and opposed with much warmth, by Messrs. Jackson, of Huntingdon, Brown and Burden, and was negatived. The section was then agreed to.—The fourth section appropriating \$125,000 to the Western turnpikes next came up. Mr. Scott thought this section a strange part of a canal bill, and wished to hear some good reasons for its passage. A spirited debate took place, in which Messrs. Ringland, Wise, Brown and Burden, supported the section, and Mr. King opposed it. Before the question was taken on the section, the Senate adjourned.

⊙ This morning the 4th section passed. The fifth next came up. On motion of Mr. Fullerton, the appropriation of \$25,000 to the cross cut between Lewisburg and the West Branch canal was stricken out. Mr. Drumheller then moved to increase the appropriation to the North Branch from \$100,000 to \$200,000, which was negatived.—The committee rose, and the Senate adjourned before the question was taken on the section.

THE REVENUE BILLS.

The bill to increase the county rates and levies, one mill in the dollar, for the use of the Commonwealth; the bill to lay a tax of one mill on the dollar, on personal property, bonds, stocks, &c. and the bill to authorize the canal commissioners to sell the surplus water of the canal for manufacturing purposes, were severally passed in committee of the whole in the House of Representatives on Wednesday, and on second reading yesterday. The bill taxing coal was not considered.

⊙ The education bill, and the bill to increase the county rates and levies, one mill in the dollar, for the use of the Commonwealth, both passed the House of Representatives, on a third reading, this morning.

Cobbett's Letter to France.

STATE OF ENGLAND A WARNING TO FRANCE.

To the Editor of La Revolution, at Paris. PRESENT STATE OF ENGLAND. LONDON, 26th Nov. 1830.

SIR.—You hear of great commotion in England, and particularly of the fires which are now blazing in twenty-six counties out of forty that England contains. These fires consume barns and other farm-buildings, and stacks, or ricks, of wheat, barley, oats, beans, peas, and hay; and sometimes the value of these in one single farm-yard, amounts to a hundred thousand francs or more. The country working people are causing this destruction, which is spreading into every part of England. You will be sure that this terrible state of things has not taken place without a cause; this cause I will explain to you, and in that explanation you will see the REAL STATE OF ENGLAND, all the causes of her feebleness, and of the slavery and misery of her once free and happy people.

The working people of England were, in all former times, better off, better fed, clothed and lodged, than any other working people in the world. Their rights and their happiness seem to have been the chief object of the laws of England in all former times. During the predominance of the Roman Catholic religion, the municipal laws so far interfered with the property of the church as to make it conducive to the relief of the Indigent. When that religion was put down, and the property of the church grasped by the aristocracy, a law was passed to cause provision to be made for all indigent persons. This famous law, passed in the 43d year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, appointed officers for each parish, to impose a tax on land and house, and thus to raise, without any limit, whatever money might be wanted for the relief and support of persons unable to provide a sufficiency for themselves. So that there can, if this law be duly enforced, be no person in England to suffer for want. This law is called the POOR-LAW; and I beg you to bear in mind the description that I have given of it.

The working people, especially the country working people, lived in the happiest state that can be imagined until the reign of George III. His war against our brethren in America, which added greatly to the taxes of the nation, made a great change for the worse; it made the people poorer than they had ever been before, but still

they lived tolerably well; much better than the working people of any other country in Europe. It was the long and expensive war against the Republic of France that brought them down to real poverty. Before the American war began, it was a rare thing that any one, even amongst the aged and the widows, had occasion to apply for aid from the poor-taxes; that war made this mark of wretchedness less rare; but now the rare thing is to know of a working man, single or married, who is not compelled to resort to the poor-taxes to keep himself from perishing with hunger. That the Debt and Government taxes have been the cause, and the sole cause, of the misery, is evident from the increase of the poor-taxes having kept an exact pace with the increase of the Debt and the Government taxes.—Nothing can controvert this conclusion: the facts are undeniable, and the conclusion is equally undeniable.

PERIODS.	Am't of a year's gov't tax for England.	Am't of a year's Inte. Debt.	Am't of a year's poor taxes.
In peace, soon after Geo. III came to the Throne.	£ 7,500,000	£ 4,200,000	£ 1,100,000
In peace after the American war.	15,500,000	9,800,000	2,300,000
In peace, in 1830.	60,000,000	30,500,000	7,500,000

Thus you see, sir how regularly the miseries of the working people have gone on increasing with the increase of the Government taxes and the increase of the Debt. The amount of the poor taxes is the measure of the miseries of the people; and here you see that they are seven times as miserable as their grandfathers were. Taxes make the people of the nation poor; poverty is the parent of crime; and accordingly the jails are seven times as capacious as they were when George III. mounted the throne.—Let France take care, then; for similar causes produce similar effects; and, if the funding system of France be suffered to exist for any length of time, misery will spread itself over France as it has done over England. When taxes are raised to be paid to fundholders, they create idle people; they cause a constant accumulation of the wealth of a country in a few hands; they create monopolies of all sorts; they cause Jews and loan jobbers to live in palaces and beggar all the industrious part of the community. Taxes, however applied, have naturally this tendency; but particularly when applied to create usurers, (now politely called "capitalists") who quickly absorb the whole of the fruits of a nation's industry.

As the working people have gone on getting poorer and poorer, they have become more and more immoral; and, indeed, it has been proven by witnesses before the committees of the House of Commons, that in innumerable instances men have committed crimes for the purpose of getting into jail; because the felons in the jail are better fed and better clad than the honest working people. As the working people have become poor, the laws relating to them have been made more and more severe; and the poor law, that famous law of Elizabeth, which was the greatest glory of England for ages, has by degrees been so much mutilated and nullified, that, at last, it is so far from being a protection to the working people, that it has, by its perversions, been made the means of reducing them to a state of wretchedness not to be described. The sole food of the greater part of them has been, for many years, bread or potatoes; and not half of these. They have eaten sheep or cattle that have died from illness; they have eaten garbage such as a lord or a loan jobber would not give to his children's dogs; have been seen stealing the food out of hog-troughs; thousands of them have died for the want of food; three men were found dead last May, lying under a hedge, and when opened by the surgeons, nothing but sour sorrel (oseille sauvage) was found in their stomachs; and this was within a few miles of a palace, which had cost millions of the public money! The spot on which these poor creatures expired was surrounded with villas of fund jobbers, living in luxury and in the midst of pleasure-gardens; all the means of which living they derived from the burdens laid on the working people.

Besides suffering from want, the working people have been made to endure insults and indignities such as even Negroes never were exposed to. They have been harnessed like horses or asses, and made to draw carts and wagons; they have been shut up in the pounds made to hold stray cattle; they have been made to work with bells round their necks, like cows put out to graze; they have been made to carry heavy stone backward and forward in fields or on the roads, and they have, in these cases, had drivers set over them, just as if they had been galley slaves; they have been sold by auction for certain times, as the Negroes are sold in the West Indies; the married men have been kept separated from their wives by force, to prevent them from breeding; and, in short, no human beings were ever before treated so unjustly, with so much insolence, and with such damnable barbarity, as the working people have been within this last century.

Such, sir, are the fruits and funds! Without it, industry and moral industry could have been brought down to the level of the beasts; but as every man from other causes, has its cess, so, at last, the cess comes, and it is, indeed, corner which I shall endeavor to my next letter.

I am, Sir, your most obedt WILLIAM C