

not masons, soon ascertained that the lodge-going members of the fraternity in the village, were kept constantly informed of the proceedings of the committee, and of the information which they had collected. One of the masonic members of this committee, then a knight templar, stated at a lodge meeting, soon after the committee was appointed, "that he had no doubt that what had been done with Morgan was intended for the best, but it had turned out otherwise, and was an unfortunate business." That he did not wish to know any thing about it, he was on the committee, and cautioned them if they knew any thing about the business, to keep it to themselves, as he was in a delicate situation." The other members of the committee soon ascertained, that no assistance could be expected from freemasons in aid of the investigation, and felt themselves compelled to withdraw from them, and pursue their inquiries by themselves.

When the different committees had by great diligence succeeded in tracing Morgan to Lewiston, they appointed delegates from among their own members, to proceed to that place, and push their inquiries as to his final fate. They went there to the number of seventeen, in the month of January 1827. The members of the fraternity in that place and the vicinity, were obviously alarmed and excited, and collected from Lewiston, Niagara Falls, Youngstown, and other places in the vicinity, to the number of forty or fifty, some of them armed, exhibiting and expressing the utmost vindictiveness towards the convention on account of the purpose of their meeting. They heaped epithets of insult and reproach upon these quiet men, who had come from a great distance with no other purpose than the lawful investigation of an outrage against the laws. They came rudely into the room where they met and after insultingly taking the light and looking around into the faces of those who were there, extinguished it and left them in darkness. Their object evidently was to provoke the members of the convention to violence and resistance, and thus to bring on a general fight, which must have terminated in bloodshed. So disgraceful a result was only prevented by the moderation of the convention. A general conference was had between the two parties, when the district attorney of Niagara county then a royal arch mason, reproached them for coming into his county to investigate a crime which they could look after themselves, and lavished upon them the most vituperative language and vindictive abuse. It is almost needless to say that the convention were not deterred by this violent conduct from pursuing their inquiries.

Soon after the conviction of Chesebro and others at Canandaigua, and while the Lewiston convention were holding their meeting, Burrage Smith and John Whitney, of Rochester, privately left their places of residence. One of the Rochester committee, soon after saw Burrage Smith in Albany and informed Bowen Whiting Esq. district attorney of Ontario county, who was also there, of the fact. Mr. Whiting applied to John O. Cole, police justice of Albany, and an officer of the grand chapter of the state, for a warrant to arrest Smith for the conspiracy. The magistrate made out the warrant early in the morning of the 2d of February, 1827, and retained it, to place it in the hands of an officer for service. Though a constable came into his office soon after the warrant was made out, and was there again more than once in the forenoon, yet the warrant was not put into a constable's hands until the middle of the afternoon. The constable went immediately to the public house where he was directed to serve it, and was told by the barkeeper, to whom he stated that he had a warrant for Smith, that he was too late; Smith had escaped. It was soon afterwards ascertained that Smith and Whitney had both fled from the northern parts of the United States, and that money had been furnished to one of them from the funds of the grand chapter, to enable them to flee from their homes, as fugitives from justice.

In December, after the abduction, Colonel William King, left the State of New York, and procured the appointment of sutler at Cantonment Towson in the territory of Arkansas, whither he removed. In December, 1827, Messrs. Garlinghouse, Bates and Mead received requisitions from the governor of the state of New York, addressed to the governors of Louisiana and Arkansas, for the surrender of William King, charged with the murder, and Burrage Smith and John Whitney, charged with the abduction of William Morgan as fugitives from justice. They went to Arkansas, and obtained the necessary papers from Governor Izard, and proceeded to Cantonment Towson, which they reached February 14, 1828.

Mr. Garlinghouse went alone, and privately presented his papers to Captain R. B. Hyde, the commandant at the station, while his companions remained without the fort. He exhibited the order of the governor—a letter from the adjutant general under the direction of the secretary of war, and a letter from Colonel Arbuckle, commanding officer at Cantonment Gibson, and requested Captain Hyde, to give assistance in the arrest of William King, then sutler at the station. He refused to assist, or afford assistance, and refused to furnish a guard for his removal, but said he would send for Lieutenant Colquhoun to accompany him to King's store. He went out for that purpose, and was absent a short time. Soon after his return, a report was brought in that Lieutenant Colquhoun could not be found. Another officer was then sent for, with whom Garlinghouse went to King's store, but found he had gone away with

Lieutenant Colquhoun, and after diligent search he could not be found. Clark Sanders states, that Captain Hyde had a conversation with Lieutenant Colquhoun in his short absence to find a messenger to send for him, and that Lieutenant Colquhoun stated to Mr. Bates that he informed King that some one was in pursuit of him, and went with him into the woods, when he (the Lieutenant) came back and ascertained that King was to be arrested for the murder of William Morgan, and then directed King's clerk to take his (King's) horse, into the woods, which he did, and King rode off. It is understood that Captain Hyde, and Lieutenant Colquhoun were masons. King was not arrested, neither were Smith or Whitney, though they were heard of frequently.

Preparations were made in the winter of 1827, by the Batavia committee, to procure the arrest of Richard Howard, of Buffalo, for a supposed agency in setting fire to Col. Miller's office. He, however, fled before he was arrested, and from the affidavit of John Mann, taken in February of that year, there is reason to believe that he feared punishment for a higher crime than midnight arson. From another affidavit made by Avery Allen, in March, 1829, it would appear that this Richard Howard came to the city of New York, in February, or March, 1827, and attended a Masonic meeting at St. John's Hall, in that city, where he confessed in open lodge, that he assisted in putting Morgan to death, and that he was furnished with funds by the knight's companions, then present, to escape to Europe, and that after being secreted from pursuit by members of the fraternity, he did escape; certain it is, that no information has been received of this Howard since he absconded, and that the officers of justice have not been able to penetrate the veil of secrecy which concealed his flight.

One great difficulty that has been met with in the prosecution of the conspirators, is that of procuring the attendance of masonic witnesses. Witnesses who still belonged to the institution, were reluctant in their attendance at court, and frequently refused to obey the ordinary process of subpoena or evaded its service. This was so often the case, that it was frequently necessary to procure their arrest long before the courts, at which their attendance was wanted, should sit, and place them under heavy bonds to ensure their attendance. This unusual course was necessarily adopted in several instances, when the inefficiency of the ordinary process had been made most abundantly manifest. Difficulties never encountered in any other prosecution were here encountered at every court, and at every step. Witnesses have been secreted and sent off without the jurisdiction of the courts, and remained concealed for many months before any information could be obtained respecting them. These occurrences were so frequent, and of such a character as to forbid the belief that they were the result of individual effort alone. They evinced that extended combination, which almost irresistibly presses upon the mind the conviction, that they were the result of the secret and mystic agency of freemasonry, which alone from its peculiar organization possesses the means of such extensive and secret concert. Some facts under this head may illustrate this branch of the subject. In the summer of 1827, Elisha Adams, the same man to whom Giddins transferred the keys of the magazine, was served with a subpoena to attend a court at Canandaigua. He started in obedience to the process, and came as far as Rochester. From this place all trace of him was lost. He had disappeared, and was not heard of for months, though the most diligent inquiries were made respecting him, and even public inquiries in the newspapers were made for him throughout the country. In the spring of 1828, it was ascertained that he was residing in a secluded manner in the northern part of Vermont. Measures were taken for his arrest with such secrecy and despatch, that he was apprehended about 3 o'clock in the morning, and before he could be advised that his place of residence had become known. He expressed no surprise at his arrest, but said that he did expect to have been informed before any process could be served upon him. In the course of his journey to Rochester, he conversed freely and fully with the agent having him in charge, and frequently avowed his determination "to make a clean breast of it," when called upon as a witness, by telling the truth. As it was known that he was a reluctant agent of the conspirators, confidence was placed in his promises in this particular. He continued in this frame of mind until he arrived at Rochester, where he was at once surrounded by the counsel for the conspirators, and the guilty royal arch companions of that place, who soon succeeded in establishing their mysterious influence over his conscience, and subjecting him to that obligation of their peculiar code, which under the most fearful penalties enjoins the keeping of a companion's secret in all cases, "murder and treason not excepted." After his interview with these men, he manifested a determination not to testify, and from his declarations to an old friend, we are led to believe that he was deterred from telling the truth by threats of a fate as horrible as was that of Morgan.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

#### FROM THE HUDSON, N. Y. ENVOY. MASONRY'S LAST RESORT.

Masonry, after disturbing and violating the sacred ordinances of religion, contaminating the elective franchise, and corrupting the fountains of justice, has at last shown itself in several instances in the United States mails. Here the confidence of every man is jeopardized—no man can safely

trust any thing to this department, any longer, who is not a mason. In this article, it is not our intention to charge, indiscriminately the whole post-office department, for in our acquaintance there are many honorable exceptions; but it is a lamentable fact that many of the lately reformed in to office post masters have been guilty of overreaching the privileges granted them by their offices, and some are now suffering the punishments due to their crimes; and others stand convicted, in the eyes of the public, of misdemeanors, for which their offices should, and would, under a righteous administration, be taken from them.

Almost every mail brings news of something wrong, and not only ignorantly, but wilfully so. Private letters are opened, and papers kept from their subscribers, and in several instances false notices from the post masters have been given to editors that their papers were not taken from the office. Has it come to this that every department of state, must, with impunity, be ruled by this secret, corrupt and all corrupting bane of civil liberty, Freemasonry? If so, farewell to our liberties! The blood of our fathers cries to us in vain from Bunker's hallowed Mount, and the consecrated plains of Saratoga; and that blood will cry in vain so long as our electors neglect to use the privileges granted to them by the constitution, of punishing these abuses.

Since the above was in type the following article from the New York Gazette came to hand:

**The Post Offices.**—Every paper we open from places on the sea-board contains complaints of the irregularity of the Mails. In Boston the Merchants, Mechanics and Editors have held a meeting on this serious grievance, and our own Editors and Merchants are growing over the same subject. The veteran Editor of the Gazette, a close observer of the regular comings and goings of the Mail for many a past year, makes the following just remarks:

During the time that Mr. McLean was at the head of the Post Office Department, the most trifling complaint of irregularity which reached his ears was instantly inquired into and the evil promptly remedied. But now—a-days, one half of the newspapers in the country are finding fault with the gross negligence of the agents of the Post Office, and instead of any attention being paid to their just complaints, the irregularities in forwarding papers appear to increase. As a proof of the accuracy of our assertions, we have to state that on Monday none of the Washington papers were received, and that they did not even come to hand yesterday. We observe however by the Philadelphia papers, that they reached that city in due course of mail. The New-Orleans papers due here yesterday were among the missing, but they too reached Philadelphia. These things require looking into, and we hope the Post Master General will condescend to give the subject his attention.

#### GOING, GOING—WHO BIDS?

A MASONIC HALL FOR SALE.—The pretended follower of the wise Solomon, in Harrisburg, is now, tired of upholding the "handmaid of Religion," have authorized a committee to advertise and dispose of their "Masonic Hall." It is to be sold, Lodge, furniture and all, we suppose, consisting of squares, compasses, paper crowns, polls, blue ribbons, aprons, robes, canvass caps, red breeches, cow-ropes, skulls, skeletons, Aaron's rod, and all the paraphernalia of the order, to the highest bidder on the 17th of March next. Any man wishing to be "exalted" to a "high and bright" Mason, by purchasing Morgan's book, some of the Masonic clothing, and retiring to a garret, will be able to pass through the sublime ceremonies, and bring himself to light much more rapidly than if he were to travel to "Jerusalem" through a lodge room, and with shins less bruised.—*Lancaster Herald.*

#### ADVANCING BACKWARDS.

On the 27th day of December, 1824, Right Worshipful District Deputy Grand Master, William R. Smith, of Huntingdon, in a report made to the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania, says: "In Dauphin county, Lodge No. 21, Harrisburg, is correct in its work, and increasing in strength. Being located at the Seat of Government, during the winter session the lodge is well attended by visiting brethren, and extra meetings are often held, for the purpose of conferring degrees on brethren who wish to arrive at a seat in the Chapter, which is also here established under warrant No. 21." For two winters I have been a regular visitor in this lodge, and have much pleasure in bearing testimony to its good conduct." But now alas! its "increasing strength" has vanished; the lodge is no longer "well attended" by "visiting brethren"—none "wish to arrive at a seat in the Chapter," and like an old horse, no longer fit for use, as it can bestow no more offices on its followers, it is thrown into market to be sold to the highest bidder.—*Lan. Her.*

**The Pillar of Democracy** alias *Prop of Masonry*, recently established in this city to put down Anti-Masonry and uphold the order, has "breathed its last," after a frail existence of about six months. Its death was evidently caused by the tightness with which it was bound by the cable-tow. During its life it fulfilled all the duties of a Masonic Oracle with fidelity, of which lying and slander constituted a large portion.—The mourners will meet at the conclave of Lodge No. 43, next moon, at half past 7 o'clock precisely, with their flags tied on behind, and holding a sprig of Cassia in their left hand.—*Lan. Herald.*

#### TWENTY-FIRST CONGRESS. SECOND SESSION.

THURSDAY, Feb. 24.

In the Senate yesterday, sundry memorials were presented and referred. After the report of several local bills, the Vice President presented a message from the President of the United States relating to the intercourse law with the Indians of 1802, 3000 additional copies of which were ordered to be printed. Thirty seven bills from the House of Representatives were read the first and second time, and referred to appropriate committees. The Senate then took up the general appropriation bill, the amendment of Mr. Tazewell to strike out the appropriation for the payment of the Commissioners who negotiated the Turkish Treaty being under consideration. Mr. Livingston addressed the Senate in opposition to the amendment; and when he concluded, the Senate adjourned.

In the House of Representatives, there was some discussion on the subject of private bills, which were taken up for consideration.—There are several bills on the table which have a preference over others. The special orders are in number from 18 to 20; and by the time these shall have been acted on, but very little if any time will remain for action on the hundreds of claims which are waiting for equitable legislation, and the delay of which is a fruitful source of misery to many deserving individuals who have been annually knocking at the doors of Congress for several years—not soliciting the charity of the country—but simply demanding that justice which is their due, and which, in the ordinary transactions between man and man, no individual could deny, without placing his character for honor, honesty and humanity, in the most imminent danger.

The bill for the relief of Insolvent Debtors of the United States, was passed yesterday in the House of Representatives, by a vote 180 to 22.

FRIDAY, Feb. 25.

In the Senate, yesterday, a resolution was submitted by Mr. Webster, to authorize the Secretary of the Senate to subscribe for 100 copies of Mr. Stanberry's Report of Judge Peck's trial, before the High Court of Impeachment—provided the price do not exceed five dollars per copy. Numerous bills from the other House went through the preliminary stages and were referred. Among these the bill (introduced by Mr. Buchanan) for the relief of certain insolvent debtors of the United States was twice read and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. The bill from the House of Representatives for the relief of certain importers of foreign merchandise, having been reported by Mr. Smith, (Md.) Chairman of the Committee of Finance, was ordered to a third reading.

Mr. Tazewell's motion relative to the 6th amendment to the general appropriation bill was again the great subject of discussion. Mr. Tyler of Virginia was in possession of the floor, and supported the motion of Mr. Tazewell in a speech of great length, adopting the same views of the unconstitutionality of the President's conduct in withholding the appointment of the agents to the Sublime Porte from the Senate, and pursuing much the same line of argument as the latter gentleman.

Mr. Tyler on sitting down, handed in to the Chair an additional amendment (being the 3d amendment to the original amendment) in the following words—"Provided always that nothing in this act contained shall be construed as sanctioning or in any way approving of the appointment of these persons by the President alone, during the recess of the Senate, and without their advice or consent, as Commissioners to negotiate a treaty with the Ottoman Porte."

Mr. Brown followed and defended the conduct of the Executive. Mr. Tazewell explained parts of his former remarks, as did Mr. Livingston. It being then near 5 o'clock, Mr. Forsyth moved an adjournment, stating that it was his wish to express his sentiments on the subject, which the lateness of the hour then precluded him from accomplishing. The Senate then adjourned.

In the House of Representatives Mr. Everett, from the Committee on the Library, reported a Bill authorizing the subscription for 700 copies of the selection from the old Documents proposed to be published by Gales and Seaton, and moved its engrossment, after it had been read a first and second time. A motion was made to lay the Bill on the table by Mr. Lea, and decided in the affirmative.

The Bill for improving certain harbors and providing for surveys was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time to-day.

SATURDAY, Feb. 26.

In the Senate, yesterday, a resolution submitted by Mr. Livingston for the appointment of a select committee, to report by bill or otherwise on the subject of a legislative provision to prevent and punish the practice of duelling in the District of Columbia, was adopted, and Mr. Livingston, Mr. Hayne and Mr. Clayton, were appointed, by the Vice President. Mr. Benton submitted a series of resolutions "to regulate the foreign commerce of the United States;" they contain 16 different propositions on the subject.

The motion of Mr. Tazewell to strike out so much of the amendment to the General Appropriation Bill, as relates to the Commissioners employed at the Ottoman Porte, was again discussed. Mr. Forsyth argued at great length against the motion, and combated with much ingenuity the positions taken on the other side, by Mr. Tazewell and Mr. Tyler. Mr. Smith (of Md.) followed on the same side.

The question was then taken—first on the amendment, submitted after Mr. Tazewell's

motion, by Mr. Kane, and it was carried in the affirmative, by a vote of 22 to 21—then on the proviso proposed by Mr. Tyler, which was also carried by a vote of 25 to 18; and on this Mr. Tazewell withdrew his motion, conceiving that the proviso embraced the same object contemplated by his motion.

Thus the matter stands at present, but as this occurred in Committee of the Whole it is still open to be again canvassed in the Senate. Another amendment was afterward proposed by Mr. Webster, and carried by 37 to 7, which goes to appoint merely a Charge d'Affairs to the Sublime Porte, in lieu of a Minister Plenipotentiary, with a Secretary of Legation, Drogoman, &c. &c. as was at first contemplated.

In the House of Representatives, the bill making appropriations for carrying on certain works of Internal Improvement, and providing for Surveys, was passed, 107 to 57. The amendments of the Senate to the bill for the punishment of crimes within the District of Columbia, were concurred in—so the bill has finally passed both Houses.

The bills making appropriations for carrying into effect certain Indian Treaties, for improving certain harbors, and surveying certain rivers, &c. and for building light-houses, &c. severally passed through committee of the whole. The bill authorizing a subscription to a compilation and re-print of the Public Documents, destroyed in the burning of the Capitol, was discussed and ordered to a third reading, 63 to 92.

MONDAY, Feb. 28.

In the Senate, on Saturday, Mr. Haynes, from the select committee to whom was referred the several memorials of citizens of Philadelphia, praying for a reduction of the duty on foreign iron, made a report; which he moved be laid on the table and printed. Mr. Dickinson stated the wish of the minority of the committee to make a counter report. He moved to lay it on the table till Monday. This motion created an animated discussion of nearly two hours. The subject was finally laid on the table on the motion of Mr. Webster. After this was disposed of, the Senate was occupied in discussing the various amendments to the general appropriation bill. The amendment making an appropriation for the salary of a Charge d'Affairs and Drogoman, was adopted after striking out the provision of fifteen hundred dollars for the salary of a student of languages. The amendment appropriating fifteen thousand dollars for the compensation of the persons who negotiated the Turkish treaty, was also adopted, together with the provision, inserted on motion of Mr. Tyler, that nothing contained in the act shall be construed as sanctioning, or in any way approving of the appointment of the commissioners who negotiated the Turkish treaty, by the President alone, during the recess of the Senate, without their advice and consent. Before the adoption of this last mentioned amendment, an ineffectual motion was made by Mr. Bibb to strike out the proviso, and a substitute was offered by Mr. King, which was rejected. After inserting an amendment submitted by Mr. Grundy, providing compensation for certain extra clerks employed in the Post Office Department, the bill was ordered to a third reading.

In the House of Representatives, Mr. Richardson, from the Committee on Enrolled Bills, made a report accompanied with various bills. Mr. Hoffman introduced a bill from the Committee on Naval Affairs, on the subject of the best means of preserving live oak in Florida, the property of the public, and reserved for naval purposes; which was read twice, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading on this day. Several reports were made from the different committees, and motions made for the withdrawal of papers. The resolution submitted by Mr. Haynes, of Georgia, for the reduction of the duties on foreign sugar imported into the United States, was taken up and discussed by Mr. White, of Louisiana, in opposition to it. Mr. White had proceeded until the hour assigned to the consideration of resolutions expired; when upon a motion made by that gentleman, the rule was suspended, by a vote of 101 to 50, (two-thirds being necessary for the purpose,) and Mr. White continued his argument, contending that profits of the sugar planters in Louisiana were not any thing near the amount which they had been presented to be, and were almost nothing in comparison to those realized by the cultivators of land in Georgia and others of the southern States. He adverted to the miseries which followed the memorable Mississippi scheme, when so many deluded persons to whom Louisiana had been represented as an *El Dorado*—a perfect earthly paradise—had emigrated there—been met with nothing but disease, famine, and squalid misery, and fell unhappy victims of their own folly. Mr. White continued his remarks on the subject till half past one, the rule allotting one hour only, having been suspended. The bill reported by the Committee on the Library, authorizing a subscription by Congress for 700 copies of the compilation of public documents of the earliest Congresses, proposed to be published by Messrs. Gales & Seaton, was, after a long debate, in which Messrs. Speight, Polk, and Yancey, opposed, and Messrs. Drayton, Wayne, Bates, and Davis, of Mass., advocated the measure, passed by a vote, upon a call of Mr. Davenport for the yeas and nays, of 98 to 93. The various engrossed bills were then taken up and acted upon: the principal of them, in point of importance, being that for allowing to Natchez, Louisville, Cincinnati, St. Louis, and other ports on the great western rivers, the privilege of entering bonds at their own cities, for payment of duties on foreign merchandise imported there, instead of being, as at present, required to enter them at