

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS

Three Arrivals From Europe

War Declared by England & France

ADVANCE IN BREADSTUFFS

Wednesday, April 12. A treaty with England is said to have been negotiated by Mr. Buchanan, securing respect for vessels carrying our flag during the approaching war and afterwards, and securing, also, the formal abandonment by Great Britain of the right of search.

The bill for the abolition of slavery in the Republic of Venezuela has passed the Congress of that country, and the meeting of anxiety on the behalf of manifestly intelligent managers of speculations are indulged as to how she may be detained, and not lost.

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Following are the letters of acceptance from the several Whig candidates, nominated by the Whig State Convention, on the 15th of March last. They breathe the true Whig spirit.

MILTON, March 24, 1854. GENTLEMEN—Your communication of the 15th inst., informing me officially of my nomination by the Whig Convention, as a candidate for the office of Governor of this Commonwealth, has been received.

Yours, very respectfully, JAS. POLLOCK. To John R. Edie, Rob't T. Potts, James Verner, Esq's, Committee.

SENATE CHAMBER, HARRISBURG, March 21, 1854. GENTLEMEN—Your note, informing me officially of my nomination, by the late Whig State Convention, for the office of Canal Commissioner, was received this morning.

I fully appreciate the confidence of the Convention, and frankly accept the nomination with the assurance that, if elected, I shall endeavor to discharge the duties of the office with fidelity and energy.

With great respect, yours truly, GEORGE DABBS. To Messrs. John R. Edie, Rob't T. Potts and James Verner.

Judge Smyser's letter details the reasons which govern him in accepting the nomination which he has this while judicial honor may be aspired at, but in the regard of well directed ambition, they should not be sought after or obtained through means which are generally considered legitimate in the pursuit of political preferment.

A REID CASE.—We take the following case from the report of Court proceedings in the last Perry County case.

Joseph Dewalt vs. James Galbraith. Action on a note for \$10, the price of a horse bought by defendant from plaintiff.

Defendant alleged defendant unknown to him, suppressed by vendor at time of sale. This was a very serious case, and counsel Court, jury and bystanders with laughter. Judge, the defendant, alleged in the opening, that the mare was worthless, that she could not eat or pass, and that, when she was sold, she was sufficiently signified to the purchaser.

War is at length formally declared. The Emperor of Russia has just issued a decree, in which he has declared that he will not recognize the Emperor of the French as the legitimate ruler of France.

THE GERMAN AND NEBRASKA. The West Pa. Staats Zeitung, the German Whig paper of Pittsburgh, and the Pittsburgh Courier, the organ of the Democracy, have united, and will hereafter occupy Whig ground, and support the Whig ticket.

THE MARYLAND LIQUOR LAW.—The Prohibitory Liquor Law was rejected by the Legislature of Maryland, and in its stead a stringent License law was adopted, which contains, among other provisions, the following:

"No accounts for spirituous or intoxicating liquors shall be recoverable by law, and no account against a deceased person's estate, any part of which is for spirituous or intoxicating liquors shall be passed by the orphan's court, or paid by an executor or administrator, unless the same be for medicinal, artistic, or agricultural purposes, or unless such liquors are purchased by one merchant from another as an article of Merchandise."

THE CHANCES OF WAR.—The Life Insurance Companies in England have calculated the chances of being killed or wounded in battle and fixed the rates of insurance. A party who is insured against death by accident or violence from any cause, including death in action, for \$2,000 on the 21st of January, and if he should die in the course of the year, he would be entitled to a payment in case of his death of half the sum insured, and payable on death \$2,500 per cent extra.

WISCONSIN.—At Racine the charter election, last week, resulted in the triumph of all the candidates of the anti-Nebraska caucus except two. The mayor elect is a democrat, who went to the anti-Nebraska meeting and declared himself as opposed to the measures of Mr. Donnell, and was elected by the caucus.

EDUCATION IN VIRGINIA.—The Richmond Whig argues the necessity for adopting a more efficient system of education in that State. It says: "Every decade exhibits a rapid and fearful increase of this ignorance. In 1840, the number of the illiterate in Virginia amounted to 60,000. In 1850 it exceeded 80,000. At this rate it will not require many centuries to extinguish all knowledge of letters in the State."

THE MASSACHUSETTS LEGISLATURE has passed a bill to contribute towards the erection of the proposed Independence monument in Philadelphia. But one more State is required to fill the number requisite to the commencement of operations. Delaware will, no doubt, soon set in the proper spirit, and thus ensure the erection of this great national monument.

The fees of the Counsel for the corporations of New Orleans and Baltimore, in the McDonough will case, amount to one hundred thousand dollars. This sum was made contingent upon their success in gaining the suit.

The Lancaster Independent, noticing the opposition to the sale of the public works, says that a Whig representative, who is known to be in favor of the measure, was offered a bribe of \$1000 if he would vote against it.

A Falsehood Nailed. The editor of the Union County Star, thoughtfully explodes the false and charging Judge Pollock with having voted, while in Congress, against increasing the pay of private soldiers. The editor of the Star says, we have carefully examined the Congressional Globe and Appendix, containing the proceedings of the 22d Session, of the 20th Congress, held during 1846 and '47. On pages 272 and 273, of the Globe, we find the proceedings of the House, on the bill to grant Bounty Land to the Army, in which Mr. Pollock took an active part, and offered two additional Sections to the bill, granting bounty lands to the officers and soldiers who served in the war against the Indians.

On motion of Mr. Phelps, a new bill was substituted, in place of the one reported by the select committee, the first section of which is as follows: "Be it enacted, &c., That from and after the first day of May next, the monthly pay of the non-commissioned officers, musicians, and privates, of the Army of the United States, and of the Cavalry and Artillery, and of the same, shall be increased three dollars per month, each."

The bill was agreed to, by a vote of 171 yeas to 18 nays. Mr. Pollock voting with the yeas. Will the Union be honest enough to correct? On page 130, of the appendix, we find Mr. Pollock's speech on Bounty Lands and the Mexican war, from which we make the following extracts:

"I have under consideration proposals for an increase of three dollars and more to the pay of the regulars and volunteers. The pay at present received is seven dollars per month. It is a small compensation for men who leave home and comfort behind, and go to endure the toil and privation of a camp—expose their health and lives in a foreign climate, and encounter the pestilential vapors and noxious exhalations of the swamp and malarious Mexico, a land where 'the pestilence walketh in darkness, and destruction wasteth at noonday.' The proposed increase, under these circumstances, is not a trifling matter. At home, but few would be willing to give a month's labor for that pitiful sum. I will, therefore, vote to increase their pay, and to the soldiers, adding, besides, the ordinary comforts of life, something that will relieve his wants, and cheer him in his onward course of duty and of danger."

And again, in concluding his speech he said: "I hope, sir, the provisions of the bill now under consideration, and the amendments I have proposed, may receive the favorable action of the House; and thus some poor fellow who has been driven to the camp—exposed to the pestilential vapors and noxious exhalations of the swamp and malarious Mexico, a land where 'the pestilence walketh in darkness, and destruction wasteth at noonday.' The proposed increase, under these circumstances, is not a trifling matter. At home, but few would be willing to give a month's labor for that pitiful sum. I will, therefore, vote to increase their pay, and to the soldiers, adding, besides, the ordinary comforts of life, something that will relieve his wants, and cheer him in his onward course of duty and of danger."

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