

President's Message.

We publish this morning, a message from President Tyler, to the Congress of the United States, in the first place complaining of the delay of Congress. This step on the part of the President, however strange, is not astounding. Those who have kept a watch on the affairs at Washington, have perceived the tendency of things to that end. Whatever the Whigs have seen proper to propose, the Loco-focos, as a matter of principal, have opposed, and found auxiliaries in the hands of the body-guard in the lower House, the five or six noisy members, who are for the Executive, right or wrong, at least the latter. And as business has been delayed by these movements, outcries have been uttered from that portion of the vernal press of the country, which is kept in traces by "known means," against the delay of Congress; and other portions of the press, respectable in its character, have, at times when they thought proper, uttered wishes for action. These censures were intended by the first to create a hostile feeling towards the majority of the House of Representatives, and to provoke the people, justly irritated by the shocking condition in which all monetary affairs are placed to vent their feelings upon the House of Representatives, hence a meeting was called in New York for that purpose, and though it was nuzitized by the parties present, and the direction in which the resolutions were aimed, yet capital was made at a distance, from a misrepresentation of the constituency of the meeting, and the opinion of those who were present. These things, and some others, were precursors of the President's message of commotion. Men ought to be careful of the consequences to themselves, and their principles, when they undertake to condemn the conduct of the public servants of their own faith. The second portion of the message goes to recommend a repeal of the Land Bill; the great measure of the Whig administration, at the Extra Session, and one which has been approved by the Whigs, and violently opposed by the Loco-focos. Poor South Carolina, and its bob-tail Virginia, have voted not to receive their share of the proceeds of these lands. It was probably the vote of Virginia that had some influence in promoting this recommendation of the Executive. Good old Virginia, that could not even vote for her son to the Vice Presidency, but whose son, true to the virtues of his mother, and forgetful, or approving her silent censure, recommends obedience to her behests. But seriously, it is not now three months since some Loco-foco paper, with a view of offending the President and his party, hinted that the former would recommend a repeal of the "Land Distribution Bill." "Is thy servant a dog, that he should do this thing?" "Is it likely," said the inmate of the White House, "that the President of the United States will sign a bill to repeal a law which he signed only a few months back, and which has not yet had a fair test?" But let our citizens mark the course. The South has cried out for a repeal of the Distribution Bill, and against any duties beyond those for revenue. And the Distribution Bill is now denounced by the Executive, and duties to increase the revenue recommended; and if, incidentally, they are protective, then very well. The Whig party ask for protective duties, and a distribution of the proceeds of the public lands, and a confinement of each branch of Government to its proper sphere.—U. S. Gazette.

From the York Republican.

Our Relations with England. It seems to be the lot of the United States constantly to have pending with England some unadjusted differences in which people are prone to discern the specks of war. Just at present the number of these vexed questions is largely increased; and the new topics of the case of the Creole and the Right of Search, seem to have thrown for a time the North Eastern Boundary and Caroline case into the back ground. Touching the former, the reader will recollect that the brig Creole on its passage from Richmond to New Orleans was seized by the slaves, of whom there was a large number on board, and after some of them had slain a portion of the whites, was taken into the British Colony of Nassau, one of the Bermuda Islands, where the authorities refused to deliver up the negroes to the American Consul, and the British Government, with the assent of the judges, has decided that it has no power to surrender them to the United States. The questions that arise here, is a government, under which slavery does not exist, nor is recognized, bound to deliver up refugee slaves to the country of which their owners are citizens, and is one nation under obligations to surrender criminals who have escaped from the jurisdiction under which the crime was committed? We are inclined to answer both of these points in the negative. When a slave runs off from the South, and makes his way to Canada, it has never been pretended that he can be reclaimed by his master, and the obligation to deliver up refugees from justice is not found in the code of international law, but has been made the subject of treaty stipulations, and therefore only existed during the period through which the treaty ran. There was at one time such a mutual arrangement between England and the United States, but it expired some years ago and has never been renewed. The subject of the Right of Search

claimed by Great Britain in the African seas, is one of the arrogant pretensions of that nation to which it would be a sacrifice of national honor to submit. True, she does not claim the right to visit an American vessel as such, but only to discover whether the stars and stripes have been usurped by ships of another nation to shield them in carrying on the accursed traffic of slavery. Our reply is that we have no concern with alien ships which may usurp our flag, but our own vessels and sailors must not be searched. We too have declared the slave trade piracy, but we reserve to our own Navy the right of bringing our own violators of the law to justice. England, in order to strengthen herself on this point, negotiated a quintuple treaty to which she, France, Austria, Russia and Prussia were parties, allowing to each other a mutual Right of Search, expecting by this combination of European Power to deter the United States from maintaining her own independent stand. Gen. Cass, our minister at Paris, discerning her object, published a pamphlet in which he examined the whole question in a masterly style, and which produced such an effect as to induce the French Chambers to refuse to ratify the treaty.—He not only vindicated the position assumed by our government and showed that it was recognised as sound years ago by Lord Stowell, the great English Admiralty Judge; but went on to demonstrate that this claim of Great Britain, if recognized, would lead to a still greater outrage. He showed, by reference to the pretensions which she made previous to our last war with her, that she claimed, when having once been admitted on board of the ship of another nation, the right to seize any seaman born in her dominions, and press him into her service, although he had been fully naturalized and admitted a citizen of another country. This startled the French, and together with the other positions assumed in the pamphlet—a most able production, though hastily prepared, which we have read with great pleasure—turned the tables on the British, and exposed the ultimate object. The whole matter reflects the highest credit on Gen. Cass, while it has brought on him the fulminations of the English Tory press, and proves him to be a learned jurist—able and ready writer, and prompt to act wherever the interests and honor of his country are concerned. We should deeply regret a war with England, and hope that the special mission of Lord Ashburton, whose arrival is daily expected, and for whom has been prepared a splendid mansion at Washington, may result in the honorable adjustment of all questions at issue between two nations so closely allied in language, interest and blood; but the Ocean Queen must surrender her preposterous claim to impress seamen who have adopted and been admitted to the privileges of citizenship in this country, before she can induce us to give and take a mutual Right of Search.

Home Industry Convention. In accordance with the recommendation of the late Home Industry Convention of Pennsylvania, a STATE CONVENTION of Delegates from the several counties of the Commonwealth, favorable to such a discriminating tariff will promote the employment of American labor of every kind—protect the great coal, iron, agricultural and manufacturing interests of Pennsylvania, and establish the permanent prosperity and independence of the country, will be held at Harrisburg on **WEDNESDAY, THE 13th DAY OF APRIL 1842.** The present depressed condition of the public industry—the threatened total prostration of the manufacturing interests of the country—the derangement of the currency, and the prevailing want of confidence in the business community—call loudly for prompt and energetic action on the part of the people of Pennsylvania, who are so deeply interested in the proper adjustment of the great question now pending before the Congress of the nation. In view of these important considerations, the undersigned respectfully urge upon the citizens of the several counties throughout the Commonwealth, to send delegates to the proposed convention, without regard to number. All who feel an interest in the great questions involved are invited to attend and take seats in the convention.

FIRE.—We are sorry to learn that the dwelling house of Mr. William Mann, proprietor of the Axe Factory about four miles from Lewistown, was entirely consumed by fire on the morning of the 28th ult., together with the principal part of his furniture. It is believed that the fire originated from a stove pipe, passing through the roof of the building.—Lewistown Republican.

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- Henry K. Strong, Harrisburg.
Calvin Blythe, " "
James M. Porter, Easton.
Edward J. Etting, Philadelphia.
Geo. N. Eckert, Schuylkill county.
Samuel Alexander, Carlisle.
David Krause, Harrisburg.
Thomas C. Miller, Cumberland.
Henry K. Slaymaker, York county.
Lewis Wain, Philadelphia.
William Heister, Lancaster county.
Matthew Baldwin, Philadelphia.
Michael Doudel, York.
John T. Adams, Dauphin.
James S. Wallace, Harrisburg.
Hon. William Wilkins, Pittsburgh.
Dr. James Gardener, Chester.
State Central Committee.
March 29, 1842.



THE JOURNAL.

One country, one constitution one destiny

Huntingdon, April 6, 1842.

Henry Clay.

Since the 1st of the present month, this distinguished gentleman has withdrawn himself from the cares and toils of official station, and sought the retirement of private life. There has been, in Mr. Clay's political course, much to admire—much that has called forth the admiration of the American people—and made warm and enduring friends of those who have never had the gratification of seeing the man. For five and thirty years has he been the firm, straight-forward, ardent and zealous advocate of correct principles—never for a moment deviating from his purpose, or hesitating in his course. Of him it may be truly said, he has done the nation much service; and they know it.

The last labor of Mr. Clay in the United States Senate, was, as is well known, the introduction of a series of resolutions declaratory of the proper system of Finance, Retrenchment, and Protection of American Industry—supported by a great speech; such a one as could be made only by such a man, on such a subject.

Mr. Clay retires to his farm in Kentucky, bearing with him the gratitude and high esteem of his fellow countrymen. May he enjoy long life, health and happiness.

The Protector.

We have on our desk a prospectus and also a specimen number of a semi-monthly Magazine, published at Harrisburg, bearing the above title. It is edited by HENRY K. STRONG, Esq., and devoted exclusively to the coal, iron, manufacturing and agricultural interests of Pennsylvania. The number before us contains 32 royal octavo pages, is neatly executed, and contains sundry excellent original and selected articles.

Persons wishing to become subscribers to this publication can do so by leaving their names at this office, where they can also see the prospectus and first number. Terms, \$2 00 per annum, payable in advance.

Firemen and Militia Fines.

The present Legislature has passed a law which exempts all fire-engine and hose companies in the State from the payment of fines for the non-performance of military duty.—It is contained in the 5th section of an act relative to the Borough of Meadville, and relative to fire-engines and hose companies; which reads as follows:

Sec. 5. Each fire company now or hereafter organized within the borough of Meadville, agreeably to the act passed 9th of April, 1834, entitled "an act to erect, &c.," shall have all the power and privileges, and to be subject to the liabilities and restrictions of fire engine and hose companies, incorporated in pursuance of the 15th section of the act relative to orphans' courts, passed the 13th of October, 1840, and the members thereof, and fire engine and hose companies throughout the Commonwealth shall be exempt from the payment of fines for military duty, while they continue regular and punctual members of the same, agreeably to the rules and regulations of the company.

Examination.

The Examination at the Huntingdon Female Seminary is going on while we are writing this notice. We were, as a matter of course, present a few hours at the examination, and what we saw and heard there, satisfied us that the pupils are making rapid progress in the various branches of a liberal education.

There is something peculiarly interesting in the examination of those *blooming girls*—or perhaps more properly, *young ladies*—of the Seminary; and this notice might readily be extended to the length of a column in attempting to describe it—but for such a task we have not time—the paper is ready for the press, and to the press it must go while we go to see the girls through their trials.

Congressional.

Since our last the Senate has been engaged chiefly in the consideration of Mr. Clay's Retrenchment resolutions.

On the 25th ult. the President sent to both Houses of Congress a message relative to the condition of the Treasury, and recommending the repeal or postponement of the Distribution Act of the Extra Session. This message kept Congress in blast for a number of days; but on the 30th it was negatived in the Senate by a majority of 1, and in the House by a majority of 27. This Congress has declared that our laws are not enacted in one session merely to be repealed in the next.

The House had the Loan Bill under consideration for a number of days. It passed on Wednesday last.

The Commissioners of Locomotion county have notified the Collectors in the several townships in that county, that they are desired to take West Branch Bank notes at par in payment of taxes.

We learn by the last No. of the Watchman that the *ten-centists* intend holding a meeting in this borough on next Court week, to urge, in "tones of thunder," the claims of TEN CENT JIMMY Buchanan to the Presidency. Is he to be the "Workmen's" candidate, eh?

A large meeting in favor of Texas was held in the State House Yard at Philadelphia on Tuesday of last week. After a committee of thirteen was appointed to prepare resolutions to present at an adjourned meeting, the meeting adjourned to Saturday afternoon.

Ex GOVERNOR RITNER is said to have recovered his sight.

Borough officers elected in and for the Borough of Huntingdon, on Monday last, (4th inst.)

Chief Burgess:
DAVID SNYDER.
Assistant Burgess:
Jacob Hoffman and Peter Swoope.

Council:
William Snyder, John Simpson, James McCabe, David Black, John M. Cunningham, Andrew S. Harrison, and John Whittaker.

Clerk:
Dennis Buoy.
Supervisors:
Wm. K. Rahm and Michael Cloughbaugh.

High Constable:
William H. King.

Pennsylvania Legislature.

SENATE.

Friday, March 25. Mr. Ewing's bill to incorporate the Pennsylvania Canal and Rail Road Company from Philadelphia to Pittsburg, was taken up in order on final reading.

After some discussion the bill was postponed, on motion of Mr. Stewart until the 11th of June next.

The amendments made by the House to the Senate bill to prevent travel free of toll on the Columbia and Portage Railroads, were concurred in.

Saturday, March 26. The bill to authorize the Bank of Pennsylvania to make an assignment, came up in order.

An amendment offered by Mr. Gibbons on Thursday and passed, was reconsidered and negatived.

After some discussion on the first section, authorizing the bank to make an assignment, and appoint three trustees, it passed by the following vote—Yeas 16, Nays 14.

The other sections of the bill, providing for the manner of conducting the assignment, were passed by a similar vote, and the bill passed second reading.

Monday, March 28. The bill to authorize the Bank of Pennsylvania to make a general assignment for the benefit of its creditors, was taken up on third reading.

On the final passage of the bill, the yeas and nays were called, and were as follows—Yeas 17, Nays 10.

The following bills passed final readings: The bill incorporating the Erie and Northampton Railroad Company.

The resolutions from the House relative to witnesses brought before each branch of the Legislature, was, after some discussion, referred to the Judiciary Committee.

The bill to authorize the trustees of the Lutheran Congregation of Clover Creek, Huntingdon county, to sell and convey certain real estate, was severally read and passed.

Tuesday, March 29. The following Joint Resolution was then offered by Mr. Ewing:

Resolved, &c., That the Attorney General of this Commonwealth be and is hereby authorized and directed to enter a *nolle prosequi* in any criminal proceedings had or to be had in any court of this Commonwealth against George Handy, for or on account of any act or participation by him in obtaining or receiving any monies from the United States Bank of Pennsylvania, or conspiring with any other person or persons to influence the action of the Legislature or Executive, in the year 1840, in regard to the Banks of the Commonwealth.

Several amendments of an unimportant character were then offered and lost, when an amendment offered by Mr. Kidder pending, providing that George Handy shall testify before the *nolle prosequi* shall be entered.

Mr. Peniman moved to amend the amendment, by striking out and inserting: "Provided, That before the Attorney General shall enter a *nolle prosequi*, the said George Handy shall appear before either branch of the Legislature, or a joint committee by them properly constituted, and then and there testify all his knowledge in relation to said transaction."

After considerable debate on this amendment, the question was taken on agreeing to it, and the vote stood as follows:—Yeas 29, Nays 2.

The amendment, as amended, was then agreed to, and the resolution adopted.

A message was received from the Governor, nominating James Campbell, to be an associate judge for the county of Philadelphia, in the place of Archibald Randall, Esq. resigned.

Wednesday, March 30. Mr. Sullivan reported with amendment, the bill relative to witnesses who refuse to testify before the Legislature.

The nomination of Abraham S. Wilson to be President Judge of the district of Huntingdon, Union and Mifflin, was unanimously confirmed.

The nomination of Jeremiah Black, to be President Judge for the district of

Franklin, Bedford and Somerset was confirmed—Yeas 21, Nays 9.

Amendments to several private bills were considered.

The bill relative to witnesses who refuse to testify before the Legislature was then taken up, and was under discussion when the Senate adjourned.

In the afternoon session the Senate resumed the consideration of the bill relative to witnesses who refuse to testify.

The first section provides that in case of the refusal of a witness to be sworn or testify before either House, the Speaker of such House shall have power to issue his warrant to the Sergeant-at-arms to commit said witness to the Dauphin county prison.

After some debate this section was passed by the following vote:—Yeas 15, Nays 13.

The second section provides that if a witness after his imprisonment, still persists in his refusal to swear or testify, the House may make further order for the detention of said witness after the adjournment and until a subsequent Legislature shall take further order in the case.

This section was passed as follows:—Yeas 19, Nays 9.

The bill then passed final reading—Yeas 21, Nays 7.

Thursday, March 31. Mr. Fleming from the committee on the Judiciary to which had been referred sundry petitions for, and remonstrances against repealing the law establishing the Nicholson court of Pleas; made a lengthy report adverse to the abolition of said court; accompanied by a resolution that the committee be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

Mr. Kidder moved to postpone the subject for the present. After some debate between Messrs. Kidder, Huddleson and Fleming, the motion was amended so as to postpone until the extra session, and adopted.

Friday, April 1st. The amendment to the bill extending the time for winding up the affairs of the Lumberman's Bank of Warren, was also concurred in.

The bill from the House, to erect a new county out of a part of Luzerne, to be called Wyoming, was passed through Committee of the Whole, Mr. Bigler in the Chair, and taken up on second reading; passed; read a third time and passed.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. **Friday, March 25.** Mr. Stevens moved to reconsider the vote on the bill, exempting certain counties from the operation of the license law of 1841, which was agreed to and the bill was postponed.

The resolution for the appointment of a committee of 23 to district the State for members of Congress, was passed.

The bill to provide for the payment of the domestic creditors of the Commonwealth, was taken up on second reading.

The question recurring on an amendment of Mr. Deford to strike out the first section and insert another, authorizing the Governor to issue certificates of State stock, bearing an interest of 6 per cent. to the domestic creditors of the State, for work done and materials furnished on the Erie Extension, North Branch and Wisconsin canals, to the present time, when it was agreed to by the following vote:—Yeas 51, Nays 59.

Saturday, March 26. Mr. Sharswood, from the committee to investigate the charges of corruption against the United States Bank, reported that George Handy, Esq. of Philadelphia had been called before the committee as a witness, and refused to be sworn. The report was accompanied by a resolution that Mr. Handy be brought before the bar of the House at 9 o'clock on Monday morning, to show cause of refusal to answer.

The bill to provide for the payment of the domestic creditors of the Commonwealth was then taken up on second reading. Several amendments were proposed, and the bill was still under consideration when the House adjourned.

Monday, March 28. The Speaker announced that the Sergeant at Arms had made a return on the subpoena, directed against George Handy, and that he was now within the bar of the House.

Mr. Sharswood then offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Speaker be directed to call George Handy, and require him to be sworn or affirmed, "that the evidence touching any corrupt means, employed by the Banks or their agents, or any of them directly or indirectly, for the purpose of influencing the action of the Legislature, or any other Department of the Government of this Commonwealth, in regard to any legislation for their benefit, shall be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth."

Mr. Handy having been conducted before the Speaker's chair by the Sergeant at Arms, the oath above was tendered and declined by Mr. Handy for the following reasons:

To the Speaker and House of Representatives: I most respectfully beg leave to decline taking the oath proposed for the following reasons:

That criminal proceedings have been instituted against me, as well as a civil suit, for matters arising out of the subject of this inquiry, and my answers to the questions put by the House, might be given in evidence against me.

That although, I feel an entire consciousness of the whole truth of the case could be shown, I would be considered wholly innocent, yet under the excitement of these times, and the threatening circumstances that surround me, I am constrain-

ed to avail myself of the privilege secured to every citizen by our constitution and Laws, that no man "can be compelled to give evidence against himself." I beg leave further to give this House my most sincere assurance that this course has been taken under a sense of duty to myself, and without intending the slightest contempt or disrespect to this House or its Committee.

GEORGE HANDY.
March 28, 1842.

Mr. Sharswood then offered the following, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That George Handy be held by himself or his counsel at the Bar to show cause, if any he has, why he should not be committed for contempt in refusing to be sworn or affirmed, as required by order of the House.

Mr. McCormick counsel for Mr. Handy, said he was authorized by him, to say that he considered he was protected by a constitutional right, and declined to make any further answer than he had already done.

Mr. Sharswood offered the following preamble and resolution:

Whereas, George Handy has appeared at the Bar of this House, under a subpoena issued by its order, commanding him to appear, to testify his knowledge as to whether any corrupt means have been at any time employed by the Banks or their agents, or any of them, directly or indirectly, for the purpose of influencing the action of the Legislature, or any other department of the Government of this Commonwealth, in regard to any legislation for their benefit, and having been required to be sworn or affirmed, "that the evidence he should give touching the said subject of inquiry should be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth," has positively refused.

And whereas, the said George Handy has in the judgment of this House, thereby become guilty of a high contempt of its constitutional authority; Therefore,

Resolved, That George Handy be publicly reprimanded by the Speaker, and be and is hereby committed to the custody of the Sergeant at Arms, until the further order of the House.

The resolution, after being amended so as to confine Mr. Handy in the East Committee Room of the Capitol, was adopted by a vote of 56 yeas to 29 nays, and Mr. Handy delivered to the custody of the Sergeant at Arms.

Mr. Bonaill offered the following joint Resolution, which was read the second time, the rule being dispensed with;

Resolved, &c., That in case any witness, who may be summoned to testify, as to any facts, before either branch of the Legislature, shall refuse to be sworn or affirmed, or to testify, the Speaker of the House before whom such refusal shall be made, shall have power, by direction of said House, to issue a commitment directed to the sheriff of the county of Dauphin, for his detention, until discharged by order of said House; Provided, the expenses of such detention shall be defrayed out of any money in the State Treasury, not otherwise appropriated.

The Resolution was passed finally, and sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Tuesday, March 29. After considerable discussion, the 4th and 5th sections of the bill providing for the payment of domestic creditors were adopted on a second reading, as follows:

SECTION 4. That after the first day of July, next, not more than one engineer, except engineers on locomotive and stationary engines, shall be employed on the State Railroads or canals.

SECT. 5. The certificates of stock issued under the first section of this act, shall be in sums not less than one hundred dollars, payable the first day of August, 1852.

On the final passage of the bill, it was adopted as follows:—Yeas 52, Nays 32.

The House took up the resolution from the Senate, directing a *nolle prosequi* to be entered in certain criminal prosecutions against George Handy, which passed the Senate this morning.

After some conversation as to the propriety of negativing the proviso, the Resolution was adopted—57 to 15.

The House Bill to authorize Jacob Serrick and Michael Heirick, Trustees of the Lutheran Congregation at Clover Creek Huntingdon county to sell and convey real estate, was returned from the Senate with an amendment, incorporating the Locust Mountain Coal and Iron Company, which had formerly been rejected by a Committee of Conference. The amendment was not concurred in—41 to 37.

Wednesday, March 30. Resolutions were offered requiring George Handy to be again brought before the bar of the House to testify, by Mr. Deford which were subsequently withdrawn.

A similar resolution was then offered by Mr. Karns, which after some discussion was postponed until Friday, by a vote of 60 to 23.

Mr. Elton submitted a resolution of instructions, to the committee of Ways and Means to inquire into the expediency of bringing in a bill to tax the salaries of all officers—Executive, Legislative, or Judicial, which was passed.

Thursday, March 31. Mr. Rounfort submitted a joint resolution prohibiting collectors and treasurers from speculating upon the public funds by the receiving or purchasing relief notes, except in actual payment for taxes, which passed and was sent to the Senate.

Mr. Ebaugh submitted joint resolution for the purchase of State passenger cars on the rail roads of this Commonwealth, which was passed and sent to the Senate by a vote of 51 to 52.