

CONGRESS.

Since our last, the House has passed the Oregon Law Bill by a vote of 103 to 59. This bill provides for the extension of the laws of the U. S. over the Oregon territory.

The Senate "Notice Bill" was taken up and rejected, and a substitute, submitted by R. Dale Owens, adopted.

In the Senate resolutions, "the President is authorized, at his discretion," to give the notice.—The House resolutions read:—

"That the President of the United States cause to be given to the British Government the notice required by its said second article for the abrogation of the Convention of the 6th of August, 1827."

The resolutions were then sent to the Senate, and the Senate refused to concur in the amendment of the House. On the 21st inst. a committee of Conference was appointed in both Houses, to settle the differences between them.

In the Senate the Committee are Messrs. Berrien, Corwin and Haywood. These gentlemen all voted for the Senate resolutions.

The House appointed Messrs. C. J. Ingersoll, Owen and Hilliard. One of these gentlemen, Mr. Hilliard, is considered favorable to the Senate Resolutions, and it is supposed the Committee will recommend the House to recede.

A Message from the President. MR INGERSOLL'S CALL.

From the Washington correspondent of the Baltimore American.

The Committee rose, on motion of Mr. BAGBY, to receive a Message in writing from the President of the U. States.

The Message was read, beginning with a recital of the resolution calling for the items of the secret service fund. The President says that, with an anxious desire to furnish the information, if it were consistent to do it, he must decline. The foreign intercourse Act of 1810, in pursuance of which information was communicated, was stated.

The law required the public items to be given publicly, and the private items to be stated privately. The President's certificate was only required to be presented to the accounting officer to secure the payment of the same. Had the public items been called for they would have been communicated with great pleasure. But the secret expenditures cannot be made public without injury to the public interest. Some of his predecessors have not specified for what purpose the secret service fund was expended.

His predecessor had declared that the sum of \$5450 was expended for foreign intercourse. Mr. Polk says the question is whether the resolution can be answered at all with propriety. As a general rule, it should not be done, and whether it could be done under any circumstances or not is a subject for serious consideration. The President may keep the information in his own hands if he chooses, in which case the items do not become public records by being filed away. They are not seen by the accounting officer.

The provisions of the law of 1789 were then stated and explained, when Mr. Polk says that if called upon to answer this Resolution, he would be under the necessity of answering all such calls, whether under one administration or another, or whether in Peace or in War.—The President says that he is aware of the prejudices against keeping anything secret, but there are circumstances which may require it.

While in office, says Mr. Polk, I have had no account settled upon the President's certificate, and it would be an extreme case that would allow him to use his certificate. Still, if there was a necessity for this, he should most cheerfully take the responsibility of doing so. The House, as the grand inquest of the nation, have a right to investigate the conduct of all public officers, but it must always be by a committee. Such committee would have the right to demand the appearance of every public and private paper, but they would not communicate what was done to the injury of the public interest.

No communication is found upon the files of the Department, in reference to the special mission to England, says Mr. Polk, and therefore this part of the information is not given, as desired, by Mr. Polk. A public paper (and they cover forty or fifty pages) are communicated.

The message having been read, Mr. C. J. INGERSOLL said the Resolutions had been answered in a manner different from what he had expected.

Mr. I. said he had information in his possession by which he expected to prove the charge that Mr. Webster did make application to the Committee on Foreign Relations for a special mission to England through the gentleman from Massachusetts, Mr. Adams.

Mr. ADAMS said that the fact of the application of the Secretary of State to the Committee for a special mission to England was undoubtedly true. He recollected of no communication to him, and if there had been, he should have known it. He did not believe that any communication had been made for a special mission by letter to himself. He never thought, however, that there was any secrecy in such a communication, or any treason whatever in it.

Mr. INGERSOLL contended that the fact was sustained which he had asserted, and which was that Mr. Webster had asked for a special mission. In closing, Mr. I. said that the charges he had preferred were entirely true, and they were susceptible of proof, though it was not his intention to move any further in the consideration of the question.

Mr. KING, of Ga., replied with many interruptions upon points of order. He denied that the member from Pennsylvania had sustained a single one of all the charges which he had made. He was sur-

prised when they were made, but he was more amazed at the attempt to substantiate such charges, though not one scintilla of proof had been offered, and upon the head of the member who made the charges, all the responsibility would rest. The previous question was then moved and seconded, and the main question ordered 116 to 62. The papers were then ordered to be printed.

Correspondence of the Baltimore Patriot. APRIL 23, 1846.

Mr. Webster asked the Chairman of the Committee on Finance when the Sub-Treasury bill would be reported, and whether with amendments.

Mr. Lewis replied, in part. Could not tell when the committee would report the bill. They had other bills before them, which they would report first—among them two for Branch Mints at New York and Charleston.

Mr. Jarnagin then called up his resolution relative to the secret service money.

Mr. Webster rose and read a very strong and dignified denial of Mr. Ingersoll's charges against him. He covered the whole ground and pronounced the charges totally unfounded and false. His delamer had either seen or not seen the papers which had been referred to. If they sustained the charges, why did he not produce them. That they did not sustain him, is clear enough from their non-production.

Mr. Webster said he approved the course taken by Mr. Polk in the matter—complimented Mr. Tyler's prudence in public disbursements—and declared that not one dollar had been expended while he (Mr. W.) was Secretary of State, without the President's order.

As to this vile slander, he would leave him in the very worst company he knew of—to a communion with himself!

Mr. Jarnagin proposed to withdraw his resolutions, but there being objection, they were put to vote and voted down; ayes 1 (Mr. Turner), nays 44.

The Senate took up Mr. Clayton's bill relative to the French Spoliations, and Mr. Clayton took the floor, and as this report closes, he is speaking on it.

The House went at once into Committee of the Whole (Mr. Burt in the chair), and took up the bill relative to the Smithsonian Institute.

Messrs. Owen, J. R. Ingersoll and Stanton, addressed the committee—the last named now speaking.

From the Pennsylvania Inquirer. ARRIVAL OF THE STEAMER CALEDONIA.

SIXTEEN DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

The Caledonia steamer is in. She arrived at Boston on Monday the 20th inst. The news is most interesting. We are indebted to our attentive correspondent in New York, who furnished the news by Special Messenger—also to Adams & Co. for papers to the latest dates.

The Liverpool Times says:— "Since the despatch of our paper by the ' Unicorn,' our advices from Bombay inform us of two more great battles having been fought in India between the British and Sikh armies, both terminating in decisive victory to the former. The first was under the command of Sir H. Smith, and the latter Sir Hugh Gough, which was perhaps one of the most bloody on record. In Sir H. Smith's battle, the whole army of the enemy has been driven, ammunition and of grain—his all, in fact, wrested from him by the repeated charges of cavalry and infantry; and in that of Sir Hugh Gough's, the Sikhs lost 12,000 men and 65 pieces of artillery. The English had 300 men killed, 13 of whom were officers, and 2500 wounded, of whom 101 were officers. Her Majesty's 53rd and 62d regiments suffered enormously. General Dicke and Brigadier Taylor are among the dead.

The same paper says:— "According to present appearances, it would seem that extreme competition is to be the order of the day in the matter of intercourse, by steam vessels, between America and England; that the mighty ocean, dividing the two hemispheres, is to be navigated as a mere river, and that rich companies are to enter the lists, each under a belief of achieving some unheard of miracles, and at the same time, to pour millions of wealth to their several projects.

Our Bamberg correspondent, under date of the 28th ult., says, the emigration from Germany to the United States this year would have been very great, if it had not been that the Oregon question deters many from going, as they fear war. The uncertainty prevents goods from going forward, and will greatly lessen the receipts of duties in the United States for the first half of this year, so that the apprehension of war is almost as bad as war itself. There is a report that the Zollverein intend increasing considerably the duties on American tobacco, and it is very probable this increase will take place if the American Government refuses to ratify the Zollverein treaty. The price of wheat and grain of every kind is falling in Germany, as there is every prospect of large crops this season.

ITEMS. Mr. M'Lane—His Excellency the American Minister was prevented by indisposition from attending the Queen's Drawing room, on the 19th ult.; but Mrs. M'Lane, the lady of his Excellency, was present, and also the Secretary of Legation, Mr. Gansvoort Melville.

Visit of the Queen to the French Court.—Private letters mention that the preparations for the visit of her Majesty Queen Victoria to the King and Queen of the French were proceeding without intermission at the Tuilleries, Neuilly, St. Cloud, and Versailles, and particularly at the Trianon.

Death of Mr. Liston the Comedian.—Mr. Liston, who has long been in a declining state of health, expired on the 22nd ult., at half past ten o'clock at his residence at Hyde Park-corner, London.

As a performer of comic characters, his places were perhaps never adequately supplied. Warlike Preparations.—The greatest activity continues in all the dock yards in England, and the recruiting for the army is still going on with great spirit. Six thousand soldiers were ordered to India, three thousand of which were to proceed by the overland mail route. It is now stated that that order will be rescinded. There is a rumor current that an additional number will proceed to Canada.

THE JOURNAL.



HUNTINGDON:

Wednesday, April 29, 1846.

Democratic Whig Candidate For Canal Commissioner JAMES M. POWER, OF MERCER COUNTY.

See fourth page for a column of interesting reading matter.

Thanks to Hon. JOHN EWING, for a public document.

OUR HARRISBURG CORRESPONDENT.—In this number of the Journal our readers will find the farewell letter of our able correspondent, giving an account of the proceedings of the State Legislature up to its close. We think all will acknowledge, that we have presented to our readers during the past session, a more full and satisfactory account of the Legislative proceedings, than any of our country contemporaries. We have done this at considerable expense, having had the services of a gentleman, who is pronounced by a leading Philadelphia paper "one of the very best correspondents at the seat of Government." We have the gratification of knowing too, as far as we can learn, that his letters have given entire satisfaction to our readers. We therefore tender our thanks to friend "Phi" (we suppose a tender of a more substantial commodity would be preferable) for the very able and satisfactory reports he has furnished us, and hope that our patronage may increase in such a way as to enable us to secure his valuable services at the next Session of the Legislature.

On our first page the foreign news, brought by the Steamer Unicorn, which includes the views of the leading British statesmen on the Oregon question, is given. In another column will be found the news brought by the Caledonia, sixteen days later—the most important is given.

The New Officers.

The new borough officers were installed on Monday evening last; no nooner was the form of installation got through with, than a motion was made, and unanimously carried, to commence the work of improvement, and thereby carry out their pledges to the people previous to the election. Accordingly, on yesterday, we observed the Supervisors busily engaged in fixing the crossings in our streets and making other necessary repairs. Our anticipations in regard to the efficiency of our new borough Administration, we feel assured will be fully realized.

Complimentary.

The "Pledge and Standard," a Temperance paper published in Philadelphia, in speaking of the vote in the House on the bill to allow Chester and nineteen other counties the right to decide by ballot, on the license question, pays the following compliment to our representatives, who it appears dodged the question:—

"The two members from Huntingdon dodged. We looked for better things from Huntingdon, Cowards are not fit to represent that excellent county."

We invite the attention of all visiting the city to our Philadelphia advertisements. They will find that those who advertise, invariably sell the cheapest. M. Tracy it will be seen, offers an extensive assortment of ready made clothing to the public and we can say, from experience, that this establishment cannot be beat in Market street, for cheap and well made garments, of the latest and most beautiful style of goods.

ACCIDENT.—We regret to learn that Mr. Samuel Steel, an aged citizen of Henderson township, in this county, was badly injured a few days since, while engaged in blowing rocks. We learn that he was about drilling the hole, in which he had previously put powder, larger, when the powder ignited from the sparks occasioned by so doing, and a very serious injury to himself was the result.—Some fears are entertained of his recovery.

PETERSBURG HOTEL.—By reference to our advertising columns, it will be seen that JOSEPH FORSTER, formerly of the Warm Springs Hotel, has removed to Petersburg, and opened a public house of entertainment. We can safely recommend this house to all our friends fond of good living, that may have occasion to visit or pass through Petersburg.

ACQUITTAL OF POLLY BODINE.—The New York Herald of a late date says: "We are indebted to Mr. Barnet, of Newburgh, who arrived by the Albany boat this morning, for a copy of the Newburgh Courier of yesterday, containing the result of the trial of Polly Bodine on the charge of murder. The jury returned a verdict of not guilty."

The Baltimore Republican says that Capt. Sand, who arrived at that port on Friday night, in the fast sailing schooner Galena, seven days from Havana, reports that Santa Anna had been sent for by the Mexican Government, to come to Mexico immediately.

The editor of the Hollidaysburg Standard whines in his last paper like a whipped baby, on account of "both friend and foe" stating to their readers the fact of his having come out in opposition to Mr. Foster. "Ho blubbers out, that he 'is for Mr. Foster, so he is,' and that 'the Journal man lies, so he does,' for charging him with having 'kicked out of the traces.'" Well, well, little one, you are for Mr. Foster, then; we shall never again publish what you may say one week as any evidence of what your position will be next. Not us—

Next Governor.—Gen. James Irvin.

We have not, up to this time, been paying much attention to what has been said or done, in regard to who should be the next candidate of the Whig party of Pennsylvania for the gubernatorial Chair. We had no desire to say anything on the subject for the selfish purpose of being in the front rank of the friends of any particular gentleman; and we did not deem an early discussion of merits and claims necessary to the success of our favorite, or calculated to promote the harmony and united action of the Whig party throughout the State; which latter we deemed vastly more important.

Our attention, however, has been called to the subject recently by a communication in the Penn'a. Telegraph, which we give below. An attempt it will be observed was made by the writer of a former communication, for the same paper, to induce the belief that Lancaster county had committed herself against her former favorite—Gen. Irvin—and declared her preference for another distinguished Whig. The article which we give, sets this matter right, and fully explains itself.

We do not give place to this communication to disparage the claims of any one, but merely to keep our readers and the people of this section of the State correctly advised as to the true state of public opinion elsewhere. And for the information of our friends throughout the Commonwealth, we may as well here say, that the gentleman whose name heads this article, is the first choice of the entire Whig and Anti-masonic party in the county and section of State in which it is our fortune to be located, so far as we have been able to ascertain.—But we were still of opinion, that as other names had been brought forward in connection with the aforesaid article, it would be well to allow the people to take their own course, without the interference of the press, or any attempt on its part to forestall or manufacture public opinion for them, and merely record their wishes and opinions, when in their own good time they were pleased to express them. As this does not, as will be seen by the article to which we alluded, appear to be the determination of all, we conceive it to be nothing more than our duty to our patrons to speak out.

The favorite of the Whigs of the 17th Congressional District desires not to be the candidate of the Whig party, unless it appears to be clearly and unequivocally the wish of a majority of that party, that it should be so. Gen. JAMES IRVIN cares more for the success of Whig principles in Pennsylvania, and the ultimate redemption of our country from the blighting influence of Locofocoism, than for any political promotion of himself. There will be no occasion, therefore, for any bickering or heart burnings between the friends of the different candidates, as we are quite willing to accord the same amount of patriotism to the other gentleman named, that we claim for the favorite of our district, and believe all now before the people to be Whigs of the right stamp—willing either to bear the Standard, or to battle for the success of their principles, as private soldiers in the ranks. If, therefore, the different interests and divisions of the Whig army but act prudently, the most harmonious and auspicious nomination may be effected with ease, and the candidate, be he Irvin, Cooper, Markle, Stewart or Stormh, or any other good Whig, triumphantly elected.

The friends of IRVIN, it may be expected by all, will be moderate, yet firm and unwavering, in his support. They will stand by the man of their choice, and with becoming zeal support his nomination by the Convention, until they discover that there is a majority against them; but in that event, they will go in heart and hand to the support of any other gentleman that may be selected, with as much zeal and industry as if the choice had fallen upon their own favorite; provided he possess the indispensable qualifications—"honesty and capability." This has been their course upon a former occasion, and will be again, if those who differ from them but treat them honestly and fairly in the matter.

But to the article from the Telegraph, the introduction of which was our only purpose when we sat down, not intending to extend our remarks to so great a length.

[From the Pennsylvania Telegraph.]

Next Governor.

A communication appears in the last Telegraph over the signature of a "True Whig," in which it is asserted that the "Whig County Convention, recently held by the old guard of Lancaster county," passed resolutions, in favor of the Hon. JAMES COOPER as the next candidate for Governor. As this article, if suffered to pass uncontradicted, would convey an erroneous impression, it is due to truth and justice to say that no such resolutions were either passed or offered at any county convention ever held in this county. And it is also due to the Whigs of this county to say, that if any attempt had been made at the recent County Convention (called for the purpose of sending delegates to the late State Convention to nominate a Canal Commissioner) to commit the county in favor of any gubernatorial candidate, it would have been rebuked in a manner not soon to be forgotten.

The resolutions quoted by a "True Whig" as having been passed at a County Convention, were in reality adopted by a township meeting, at which some eight or more individuals were present, and cannot with propriety, be said to speak the sentiments of even that township.

At the last occasion on which this county was called upon to express its preference of a gubernatorial candidate, Gen. IRVIN was clearly the people's choice; and as our people are not given to changing their views without just cause, there is reason to believe the "popular Congressman" still the favorite of the county. But in due time old Lancaster will speak for herself.

Any attempt on the part of a "True Whig," or others, to make capital for their favorite by misrepresenting the feelings of this county, will benefit them but little in the long run.

LANCASTER COUNTY. April 20, 1846.

Senatorial Term.

The Senatorial term of the following gentlemen, have expired: Henry Chapman of Bucks; James D. Dunlap of Erie; Adam Elbaugh, of York; John Poulkrook, of Philadelphia county; Jefferson K. Heckman, of Northampton; Joseph F. Quay, of Clinton; George Hahn, of Schuylkill; John B. Sterigere, of Montgomery; Daniel L. Sherwood, of Tioga; Charles C. Sullivan, of Butler; Samuel Pegely, of Berks. Of the above named gentlemen, eight are Democrats and three Whigs.

Pennsylvania Legislature.

Correspondence of the Huntingdon Journal.

FINAL ADJOURNMENT OF THE LEGISLATURE.—TARIFF RESOLUTIONS.—"RIGHT OF WAY" SIGNED.—PASSAGE OF A NOMINAL REVENUE BILL.—REFLECTIONS ON HUMBUGS.—TRIAL OF M'COOK, &c.

HARRISBURG, April 22, 1846.

My Dear Captain:—

The Legislature adjourned sine die this day at a half past 11 o'clock A. M. with less disorder, than is usual on such occasions, which is owing in a great measure to the operation of a new Joint Rule of the two Houses, which prohibits the presenting of any Bill to the Governor after 8 o'clock in the morning of the day of final adjournment. To pass any Bills to-day, would therefore have been useless, as they could not have been presented to the Executive.

The Tariff Resolutions were, however, taken up this morning, and the Senate receded from its non-concurrence in the House amendments. The Joint Rules above alluded to, being suspended the Resolutions were sent to the Governor to be transmitted to Washington. They are the same which passed the House, viz: The Original Resolution of the Senate—passed unanimously—in favor of the Tariff of 1842, with Mr. Piollet's appendages in favor of the Sub-Treasury, and against a distribution of the proceeds of the Sales of the Public Lands, and against a National Bank. If the people do not learn from the conduct of the "Democrats" of our Legislature in regard to these Resolutions,—their trifling,—dodging,—trucking,—burthening,—and procrastinating, manœuvres, to weaken, if not utterly destroy, the influence they ought to have exerted in Congress—if they do not learn from all this, propensity to appreciate their "better tariff" professions, "neither would they be persuaded though one rose from the dead!" If there is a single friend of the protective system who yet clings to that party, it is time he would see to it, and learn to know his friends.

The Revenue Bill after having been killed in the Senate on third reading, was revived again, by a reconsideration on Tuesday, not, however, until a message had been received from the Governor informing the Legislature that unless some further measures were taken to replenish the Treasury, the loss which the Commonwealth had sustained by the late freshet, (estimated at \$250,000 viz: \$100,000 for Extraordinary repairs, and \$150,000 by delay in opening the navigation) would render the payment of the August interest wholly impracticable; and urging upon the Legislature the importance of doing something before they finally adjourned, to save the credit and honor of the Commonwealth. The Senate then struck out all of the House Bill but its title, and a substitute was returned to the House, in the shape of a "Senate amendment;" which was read by the Clerk of the House at the desk, and great confusion immediately after it was received, and the same was passed also by the House on a simple motion to concur—(Yeas 49, Nays 33)—being an entirely new Bill, upon which, the Speaker decided the vote could not be taken by sections, but must be swallowed whole.—You may guess how much a majority of the House knew of its provisions. It has however a very popular title, being called "a Bill to provide for the reduction of the Public Debt." It retains scarcely a vestige of the original Bill passed by the House. The tax on tonnage, and the tax on Coal is stricken out, and the most important feature in the Bill is a provision requiring every person to hand to the Assessor of his District, when called for, a statement of the amount of money at interest &c. which he has,—in default of which the assessor is to rate him as high as he thinks is right, to which the County Commissioners are authorized to add fifty per cent, as his assessment. Should any person give in a false statement; he is liable to a penalty of \$100 to be recovered in a qui tam action by any person who will sue for the same.

The Balt. & Ohio Rail Road Bill has passed finally, in both Houses, and been signed by the Governor, and is therefore a Law, as well as the Penn'a. Rail Road Bill. The Senate reconsidered their vote on the House amendments, and concurred in all of them, as I predicted. The Bill contains Mr. Kunkel's amendment, providing that if the Penn'a. Company shall have \$3000,000 of its stock subscribed, and \$1,000,000 paid in, and thirty miles of its Road put under Contract on or before the 30th of July 1847, then the "Right of Way" granted to the Balt. & Ohio Company, to be null and void. This provision seems to place these two companies on tolerably fair ground—or rather it gives the Eastern inhabitants of the State a chance to open an avenue for the Western Market through our State, whilst, at the same time, it affords to the West an opportunity to look out for a market somewhere, should the Central or Penn'a. route, not be available. And if nothing is done by the projectors of the Central road, by the meeting of the next Legislature, I predict that the cry of the West will not be easily hushed. They will demand and receive, the "right of way" almost on their own terms,—mark it!

The Speaker of the Senate, as is usual, at the close of the Session, resigned his station yesterday, in order that some one might be elected to that post whose Senatorial term does not expire until the next Session. Before leaving the Chair Mr. Sherwood delivered a very neat and appropriate valedictory to all his former Senators, which was kindly received by him, for Mr. S. was an attentive and gentlemanly officer. The Senate then proceeded to ballot for a successor. The Loco Focos had in caucus fixed upon Mr. Bigler as their candidate, and the first ballot resulted for Bigler 15—Mr. Darsie 12—Scattering 4; no choice. The balloting then continued throughout a great portion of the morning, the Whigs (except Mr. Crab) after some time falling in (together with Mr. Dimmick,) for Mr. Ross or LUZERN, who on the 28th ballot, was duly elected Speaker of the Senate, the vote being, for Ross 16—Bigler 11—Black 3—Sterigere 1. Mr. Crab voted for Mr. Ross on the last ballot—Mr. Gillis was absent, and Mr. Ross did not vote. Mr. Bigler's opposition to the "right of way" defeated him.

It will be seen by a reference to our Congressional news, that Charles J. Ingersoll, the man who admitted the other day in the American Congress, that he would have been a Tory had he lived in the days of the Revolution, has been most essentially used up, in his attempt to cast odium upon the fair fame of Daniel Webster. His own political friends refused to sustain him in his fiendish work of defamation and slander. The message of Mr. Polk, in relation to the disbursement of the Secret Service fund, during the time Mr. Webster was Secretary of State, was not satisfactory to Mr. I., because the President was unable to communicate any thing that would sustain him in his infamous attack. Mr. Webster, in referring to this subject a few days since, said he would now leave his slanderer (Mr. Ingersoll) in "the worst company party he could be found—to a communion with himself!" Poor Charley, he has fallen into a pit dug by his own hands, and is left to die, politically, "from the poison of his own nature."

The Potato Disease. The accounts of Irish distress in the papers are heart rending. The Evening Post gives the following extract of a letter from the Rev. W. R. Townsend, rector of Aghadda, diocese of Cloyne. The communication is addressed to a medical friend in N. Y. city:—"In this part of Ireland we are in a frightful state, the humbler class all living on the contaminated potato. The sides of the fields and gardens are literally covered with rotten ones, thrown away. The detail of destruction is endless. That employment should be wanted for the people, while one third of Ireland is as much a waste as the woods in Canada, and the rest badly cultivated, not affording half labor, is a strange anomaly."

The Auditor General on the 18th inst., destroyed forty thousand dollars of Relief Notes, which had been cancelled by the State Treasury.

A number of private bills were disposed of during the last few days of the Session, amongst them several extensions of Bank Charters, and a bill changing the Corporate powers and name of the Southern Insurance and Trust Company, to the Tradesmen's Bank of Philadelphia, which, however, it is said the Governor will veto. The bill to extend the jurisdiction of the District Court of Lancaster, to Dauphin county, where the business of the Common Pleas is about three years in arrear, received as an amendment, in the Senate, the bill to abolish the Mayor's Court of Lancaster, which, as I have said before, is of no earthly use, except to provide a sinecure post and handsome salary for a good Loco Foco Recorder. But the House refuse to concur and amongst hands the whole bill was allowed to fall. Many other meritorious bills upon which much time had been spent were permitted to die in like manner. Some got into the "right of way," whilst others were affected in another way.

Now, that the Legislature has adjourned, we may be permitted to recapitulate the amount of their services to the Commonwealth. They met on the 6th day of January, 1846 and adjourned on the 22nd of April, having been in session one hundred and six days—and what did they do?—Aye, there's the stumper! It is true they passed a great many bills—something like five hundred, perhaps,—but of these not more than half a dozen were of any good to the people at large, and these half dozen, might have all been disposed of in a month. It is necessary and proper that an appropriation bill should pass, and a decent Revenue bill ought to have been passed. It was right, moreover, that the Central Rail Road Company should receive a charter, and the consideration of the Right of Way could not well be dispensed with, but the enormous mass of private bills which occupies the time of the Legislature is a grievous infliction of expense upon the Commonwealth, and in nine cases out of ten, works direct injury to the rights of individuals, whose property is thus without their knowledge, much less their consent, specially dealt with. But let them go. As men, the great body of them do but parties, were respectable, and pleasant fellows.—The Speakers and officers of both Houses, were unassuming, courteous and gentlemanly in the discharge of their respective duties, and have my highest respect.

You will understand that all the matters heretofore noticed as having been agitated—such as Biennial Sessions of the Legislature—sixty and thirty days' Sessions, and a dollar a day for any longer period; and all such humbugs, got up for "Buncombe," having served the purpose of their mover, in a speech or newspaper paragraph, are permitted to sleep the Lethæan Sleep or have been consigned to the tombs of the capules.

The Court of Quarter Sessions meets in this county on Monday next. The most important matter which is expected to occupy its attention is the trial of M'Cook for the alleged attempt to bribe Col. Piollet in relation to the investigation entered into by the Legislature in reference to the Lehigh County Bank; which investigation has all ended in smoke—no action having ever been taken on the report of the Committee on Banks. Messrs. Burrell, Piollet, Galloway and other members of the Legislature, are remaining here to attend the trial. Some interesting proceedings are anticipated as Mr. Stevens and Mr. M'Conrick are concerned for the defendant, and if the matter comes to be canvassed before a Jury, the conduct of Col. Piollet in that singular confab and sequel which occurred between him and M'Cook, will be closely and severely scrutinized. I incline, however, to the opinion that the Court will quash the indictment, as it is very doubtful whether an indictment at Common Law (and there is no statute) will lie, for bribing a member of the Legislature.

Having now, my dear sir, given your readers all that was worth reading (and more too sometimes) of Legislative and other proceedings during the past Session, I now bid them and you good bye ("for a bit," at least) with the best wishes for the prosperity of all who patronize and encourage you in the arduous, but laudable cause in which you have embarked. I am much pleased with the able manner in which the "Journal" is conducted, and am also gratified with the evidences of success which appear thus far to have crowned your efforts to establish an energetic, dignified, and fearless Whig Journal, and an interesting literary newspaper. P.H.

It will be seen by a reference to our Congressional news, that Charles J. Ingersoll, the man who admitted the other day in the American Congress, that he would have been a Tory had he lived in the days of the Revolution, has been most essentially used up, in his attempt to cast odium upon the fair fame of Daniel Webster. His own political friends refused to sustain him in his fiendish work of defamation and slander. The message of Mr. Polk, in relation to the disbursement of the Secret Service fund, during the time Mr. Webster was Secretary of State, was not satisfactory to Mr. I., because the President was unable to communicate any thing that would sustain him in his infamous attack. Mr. Webster, in referring to this subject a few days since, said he would now leave his slanderer (Mr. Ingersoll) in "the worst company party he could be found—to a communion with himself!" Poor Charley, he has fallen into a pit dug by his own hands, and is left to die, politically, "from the poison of his own nature."

The Potato Disease. The accounts of Irish distress in the papers are heart rending. The Evening Post gives the following extract of a letter from the Rev. W. R. Townsend, rector of Aghadda, diocese of Cloyne. The communication is addressed to a medical friend in N. Y. city:—"In this part of Ireland we are in a frightful state, the humbler class all living on the contaminated potato. The sides of the fields and gardens are literally covered with rotten ones, thrown away. The detail of destruction is endless. That employment should be wanted for the people, while one third of Ireland is as much a waste as the woods in Canada, and the rest badly cultivated, not affording half labor, is a strange anomaly."