

them to increase the industry, wealth, and prosperity of the nation; and to afford to the government, in times of difficulty and distress, whatever it may require to support public credit, while maintaining the rights of the nation.

Providence, in bountifully placing within our reach, whatever can minister to happiness and comfort, indicates plainly to us our duty—and what we owe to ourselves. Our resources are abundant and inexhaustible.

The stand that Archimedes wanted, is given to the national and state governments—and laboursaving machinery renders the lever—the power of bringing those resources into use.

This power imparts incalculable advantages to a nation whose population is not full. The United States require the use of this power, because they do not abound in population.—The diminution of manual labor, by means of machinery, in the cotton manufacture in Great Britain, was, in the year 1810, two hundred to one.

Our manufactures have already availed themselves of this power, and have profited by it. A little more experience in making machines, and in managing them with skill, will enable our manufacturers to supply more fabrics than are necessary for the home demand.

Competition will make the prices of the articles low, and the extension of the cotton manufactures will produce that competition.

One striking and important advantage, which labor-saving machines bestow, is this, that in all their operations they require few men, as a reference to another part of this report will show. No apprehensions can then be seriously entertained, that agriculture will be in danger of having its efficient laborers withdrawn from its service.

On the contrary, the manufacturing establishments increasing the demand for raw materials, will give to agriculture new life and expansion.

The committee after having, with great deference and respect, presented to the House this important subject, in various points of view, feel themselves constrained, before concluding this report, to offer a few more observations, which they consider as being immediately connected with it, and not less so, with the present and future prosperity of this nation.

The prospects of an enlarged commerce, are not flattering.

Every nation in times of peace will supply its own wants from its own resources, or from those of other nations.

When supplies are drawn from foreign countries, the intercourse which will ensue, will furnish employment to the navigation only of the countries connected, by their reciprocal wants.

Our concern does not arise from, nor can it be increased by, the limitation which our navigation and trade will have prescribed to them, by the peace and apparent repose of Europe.

Our apprehensions arise from causes that cannot animate by their effects. Look wheresoever the eye can glance, and what are the objects that strike the vision. On the continent of Europe, industry, deprived of its motive and incitement, is paralyzed; the accumulated wealth of ages, seized by the hand of military despotism, is appropriated to and squandered on objects of ambition; the order of things unsettled, and confidence between man and man annihilated. Every moment is looked for, with tremulous, anxious, and increased solicitude; hope languishes; and commercial enterprise stiffens with fear. The political horizon appears to be calm, but many of no ordinary sagacity think they behold signs portentous of a change, the indications of a violent tempest which will again rage, and desolate that devoted region.

Should this prediction fail, no change for the better, under existing circumstances, can take place. Where despotism—military despotism reigns—silence and fearful stillness must prevail.

Such is the prospect which continental Europe exhibits, to the enterprise of American merchants.

Can it be possible for them to find in that region, sources which will supply them with more than seventeen millions of dollars, the balance due for British manufactures imported; this balance being over and above the value of all the exports to foreign countries from the United States. The view which is given of the dreary prospect of commercial advantages accruing to the United States by an intercourse with continental Europe, is believed to be just. The statement made of the great balance in favor of Great Britain due from the United States, is founded on matter of fact.

In the hands of Great Britain, are gathered together and held many powers, which they have not been accustomed hitherto to feel and to exercise.

No improper motives are intended to be imputed to that government.—But does not experience teach a lesson that should never be forgotten, that governments, like individuals, are apt to feel power and forget right? It is not inconsistent with national decorum, to become circumspect and prudent. May not the government of Great Britain be inclined, in analysing the basis of her political power, to consid-

er and regard the United States as her rival, and to indulge an improper jealousy, the enemy of peace and repose?

Can it be politic, in any point of view, to make the United States dependent on any nation for supplies absolutely necessary for defence, for comfort, and for accommodation?

Will not the strength, the political energies of this nation be materially impaired at any time, but fatally so in those of difficulty and distress, by such dependence?

Do not the suggestions of wisdom plainly show, that the security, the peace and the happiness of this nation depend on opening and enlarging all our resources, and drawing from them whatever shall be required for public use or private accommodation?

The committee, from the views which they have taken, consider the situation of the manufacturing establishments to be perilous. Some have decreased and others have suspended business. A liberal encouragement will put them again into operation with increased powers; but should it be withheld, they will be prostrated.—Thousands will be reduced to want and wretchedness. A capital of near sixty millions of dollars will become inactive, the greater part of which will be a dead loss to the manufacturers. Our improvidence may lead to fatal consequences: the powers, jealous of our growth and prosperity, will acquire the resources and strength which this government neglects to improve. It requires no prophet to foretell the use that foreign powers will make of them. The committee, from all the considerations which they have given to this subject, are deeply impressed with a conviction that the manufacturing establishments of cotton wool are of real utility to the agricultural interest, and that they contribute much to the prosperity of the Union. Under the influence of this conviction, the committee beg leave to tender, respectfully, with this report, the following resolution:

Resolved, That from and after the 30th day of June next, in lieu of the duties now authorized by law, there be laid, levied, and collected on cotton goods, imported into the U. States, and the Territories thereof, from any foreign country whatever, per centum ad valorem, being not less cents per square yard.

From the National Intelligencer.

### THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

The recurrence of the election of a President and Vice President of the United States, is an occasion calculated to awaken all the interest of which the minds of freemen are susceptible. It is their highest attribute; for on its judicious exercise mainly depends the color of their future political destiny. It is to them a pleasing duty; for it affords them the opportunity of bestowing the highest mark of their confidence on him, who has best deserved it at their hands. We cannot, therefore, but expect the Presidential Election to be an object of great anxiety with all the thinking men in the nation; of virtuous emulation with enlightened patriots; and, we may add, of speculation and intrigue with unprincipled or factious men. In these different views has this question always presented itself heretofore, when the election was likely to be contested. We propose to devote a few lines only to the exposition of our views of this interesting subject.

In opening this question, two general principles present themselves, the correctness of which, all will admit.—The office of President of the United States, is one which is of the highest moment to the nation should be properly filled; it ought to be given to him, then, who is competent, from his ability and experience in the affairs of government, to perform its functions with advantage to the nation; and who, moreover, can carry with him into office a tide of popularity calculated to bear him through his arduous duties. The office is the highest dignity in the nation—it is the largest bounty in the gift of the people; it ought to be bestowed on him, therefore who unites with ability and integrity the highest claims on the confidence, esteem and gratitude of his fellow-citizens.

Ability, experience, tried fidelity, and approved patriotism, then, are the qualifications which entitle a man to eminence and dignity among his fellow citizens; which authorize the friends of him who possesses them, to rank him among the candidates for the Presidency of the United States.

There are many citizens among us, no country ever contained within its bosom more, who may justly lay claim to all those attributes; and far be from us the desire to detract from their merits. One only, however, can be selected from the many for this elevation. One must be preferred to the rest.—Let the office be given to the most worthy. Our preference is founded on a knowledge of the virtues of the man, and of the popular opinion in his favor; and not on any disrespect for those who have been named as his competitors.

What citizen, then, has greatly merited the suffrage of his country by a series of public services and patriotic sacrifices from the age of adolescence

to the maturity of years and wisdom? Who is he, who at the age of sixteen took up arms to assert his country's independence; in his manhood aided in sustaining republican principles in the councils of the nation, and in his riper years bent all the powers of his mind to preserve unimpaired the independence he had fought for in his youth? Who is he who fleshed his maiden sword in 1776, and in 1814 displayed anew all the energy and spirit of his boyish days? Who is he, who, from youth to age, has been found the supporter of Republican principles, the true and disinterested friend of his country?—Who is the man whose unobtrusive merit, whose jealousy has not obscured, nor calumnious detraction depreciated in popular estimation? Upon whom, in a word, have the eyes of the people been long fixed, by the mere force of his known merit, as the Republican candidate for the highest office in their gift?

That man is JAMES MONROE.

But, it is said, this excellent man is a Virginian; and the two last Presidents having been derived from that state, Virginia has no claims to the Presidency. This is the only objection we have heard to Mr. Monroe from a republican quarter.

The argument of state claims has little weight with us; though, for the sake of unanimity in favor of him whom the people have pointedly preferred, we wish Mr. Monroe had been a native of any state that has a better claim than Virginia. The broad principle may be here laid down, that the only claim of a state on this occasion must arise from the superior political merit of the candidate whom she proposes; and this is the only ground on which such a claim ought to be supported. There are, no doubt, many honest prejudices on this head; but those who disclaim most loudly of state claims, & endeavor to rouse into action local feelings for or against a particular candidate for the Presidency, ought most commonly to be guarded with distrust. This clamor is too frequently the stalking horse, on which factious and interested men would ride into power and advance to honours, to which their own merits have not been able to elevate them.

But allowing to the argument of state claims its greatest weight, what say the Republicans of other states on this subject? What is the language of the mass of the democratic party? We are authorized to say that the Republicans of Massachusetts and New-Hampshire, with a noble magnanimity, have unanimously determined to support James Monroe for the Presidency. In other states, where there has been no delegated expression of the general will, the same sentiment is known to prevail; we name with confidence the states of Pennsylvania and Vermont, if not New-York, and might add many others. The preponderance of popular opinion in favor of Mr. Monroe cannot be questioned, even by those who are disposed to thwart it. The argument of state claims, therefore, of whatever weight it ought to be, can have no influence on this occasion, since it is generally disclaimed by those who alone have a shew of right to urge it.

Never having ourselves for a moment hesitated about preference of the person who should be called to this important trust, and confident of the coincidence of our views in this respect with the general sentiment, we have maintained silence so far; and should not now have departed from it, but for the inundation of the country with reports, in regard to movements at the seat of government on this subject, which were so secretly conducted, that the New-York papers gave us the first intimation of them. These are either false or true, wholly or in degree.—That they are essentially false, we have the satisfaction to believe. If they were true, we should be alarmed for that unity of the Republican party which alone constitutes its strength. But, these publications prove at least, if nothing else, that efforts are making to sow divisions and dissensions among the Republican party. Were we to suffer these rumours to pass unnoticed, our silence might be justly imputed to indifference on this subject, which we should be the last to feel. It is therefore we have hastily offered to our readers these few ideas.

We have purposely avoided speaking of the Vice-Presidency; not because we consider it unimportant; but because in that particular we have not formed an opinion, and are entirely willing to abide by the selection which shall be made by the Republican party, their will being therein clearly expressed.

The legislature of Virginia has passed, by large majorities in each house, an act to provide more effectually for the payment of specie by the several Banks of that Commonwealth. The Act is to take effect on the 15th November next, after which day judgment and execution may be obtained, before competent authority, against any Bank which "shall refuse to pay specie, any note, bill or check, justly due from the said Bank, when the same shall be presented for payment within the usual hours for doing business at such bank."

## CONGRESS.

### SENATE.

THURSDAY, FEB. 15.

On motion of Mr. Barry, a committee was appointed to enquire into the expediency of extending by law to the settlers on the public lands of the U. States who have settled thereon since the first day of Jan. 1808; the same privilege extended to each prior to that day, by the second section of the act of March, 1807.

On motion of Mr. Bibb, the Senate resolved to insist on their disagreement to the amendments to the bill concerning the convention of Commerce with Great Britain, and agreed to the conference, to which they appointed Messrs King, Barbour and Bibb on their part.

The joint resolution to indemnify the sureties of Com. Rodgers, was read the third time and passed, by yeas and nays—22 to 5.

Feb. 26.

The principal business of to-day, was to order to be engrossed for a third reading, a bill "making appropriations for the construction of roads and canals."

This bill is highly important in its provisions; proposing that dollars annually (the bill is proposed to be filled with six hundred thousand dollars) be appropriated for the purpose of constituting a fund for making artificial roads, and opening canals; which sum is to be set apart and inviolably pledged as a fund for that and no other purpose—the same to be placed under special charge and direction of the Secretary of the Treasury for the time being, &c.—suspendable during a state of war at the discretion of Congress; all monies subscribed by Congress to the stock of any companies incorporated for the purposes of internal improvement, to be paid out of this fund, &c. and all proceeds, interest and dividends of stock to accrue to it.

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

FRIDAY, FEB. 16.

Mr. Huger, after a short but impressive introduction, submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to examine into the proceedings of a former Congress, on the lamented death of the late George Washington, and to take into consideration what further measures it may be expedient to adopt at the present time, in relation to that sacred and interesting subject.

Mr. Root of N. York, said he was unwilling for one to agree to the consideration of the resolution, but did not desire to make any remarks against it. He knew, he said, that it was considered political heresy to oppose any thing plumed with the name of Washington, but on this occasion he should disregard that imputation. It had once been attempted to erect a mausoleum, an Egyptian pyramid to him, and he presumed such was the object of the resolution now offered. Such an enterprise he was unwilling to second; not because the fame and virtues of Washington had less effect on his mind than on others; but because he wished to protect that fame which he revered. Mr. R. said this resolution declared the fame of Washington perishable, if a monument of marble be not erected to perpetuate it. Sir, his fame fills the four quarters of the globe, and will survive long after you marble has crumbled to dust. *Arc herenius*—his fame is more durable than brass or marble. Let his remains slumber on their native plantation; for my part, said Mr. R. I would rather his name should live in history than in marble. Erect a monument to him, and it may at some future time be exposed to the insults of an enemy. We have had one enemy who would not respect an edifice erected to him, nor could his name protect it from destruction; but they cannot reach his fame—can never touch it.—By this resolution too, some may be deprived of the exercise of their political devotion. We know that professing devotees who now come here, must make a pilgrimage to Mount Vernon to shew their devotion. The expense likewise, said Mr. R. forms a serious objection to such a scheme, and every good and great man hereafter, will have a claim to a similar honor. Let us not establish the precedent.

Mr. Huger said in reply, that in one respect the gentleman was in an error; no expense was now proposed. He had endeavored so to word the resolution as to escape objection. He could not, he said, reconcile it to his mind, as a citizen of this country, longer to neglect those sacred remains. Whether that neglect was right or wrong, he had not said, nor did he intend now to pronounce; but this he could with propriety assert, that the U. States are bound to act on the subject in some shape or other, and the object of the resolution was simply to call on them to say what they are willing to do. He was a member of that Congress which gave to the nation a solemn pledge on this subject, and he wished them now to decide whether that pledge was to be redeemed or relinquished. He had not thought of a mausoleum, nor indeed had he contemplated any particular object of that kind. But because there may be some expense attending it, are Congress to do nothing in a case

where they are so sacredly pledged. Sir, said Mr. H. we are called to act on this subject—a great state solemnity called on us. Their majority may say, "our father is dead—we are satisfied; let his remains rest—but if such be the case, let Virginia at once have the honor and glory providing for them. Unwilling I am that any state should possess the venerated remains of Washington, if we decline it, let his native state them honor. Nothing has been said by me about a mausoleum or a monument. All I ask is a decision in one way or other; to redeem or reject the pledge given—in that I surely ask nothing wrong.

The resolution was then modified and agreed to by the House as follows, and a committee of seven appointed, the part of the house:

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to join such committee as may be appointed by the Senate, to examine into the proceedings of a former Congress on the lamented death of the late George Washington, and take into consideration what further measures it may be expedient to adopt at the present time in relation to that solemn and interesting subject.

### DREADFUL CONDITION OF SPAIN.

The distressed condition of Spain depicted in the following letter to a gentleman in Baltimore, is confirmed by other letters, and partially by the Madrid Gazette itself, which has announced that arrears due to troops will not be paid.

Extract of a letter dated Port Mahon (Island of Minorca) Dec. 4.

"If all Spain is in the same condition with the ports along this coast, it must be at a lower ebb, than she has been. The Governor of Algeciras has not a dollar to bless himself and receives no assistance from his government. The navy and army officers at Malaga, are allowed one dollar per week by government, which they do not receive. The Colonel commanding all the forces at Carthage, came on board of our squadron being sick, stating he had received no pay for three years; and the admiral of Port Mahon, apologized to Commodore Shaw, that he could not answer his salute on his arrival, there being no powder in the island, (he having three line of battle ships lying here though not manned)—and on inviting our officers to a party on shore, absolutely borrowed a loaf of white sugar on that occasion of Com. Shaw.

"In all those parts, the Spaniards freely confess they have been ruined and deluded by their 'faithful friends and allies' the English, who under the mask of fighting their battles for them, have supported with Spanish gold, only her army in Spain, but also her navy and army at home, and have now left the Spanish government without six-pence. They confess their eyes are opened but too late; that they see for the first time the deep schemes and depravity of the British cabinet, and that it is now their belief that it had been better for Spain to have fallen into the hands of Bonaparte, than to be in her present reduced situation, which is so low they have scarcely a hope of recovery."

FROM THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER, FEB. 27.

The difference which has existed between the Senate and House of Representatives on the subjects of the metes and bounds of the treaty making power, and the scope of the legislative power when coming in collision with it, is at length in a fair way of being satisfactorily adjusted. A bill has passed the House of Representatives respecting the Convention of Commerce with Great Britain, and will probably pass the Senate which though it does not settle the constitutional question, will settle, on principles of compromise and mutual accommodation, the present difference between the two branches of the legislature.—As it appears proper, having published so extensively the debate on the subject, that the grounds of the wise mate decision should be laid before the people, we shall shortly present to our readers the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes.

DIED—At his Lodging in this City on Thursday morning, the Hon. ELIJAH BRIGHAM, a Representative in Congress, from the state of Massachusetts.

The legislature of Maryland, at their late session, almost unanimously passed a resolution granting to Major General JAMES WILKINSON (late of the army of the United States) in consideration of his revolutionary services, the half pay of a Colonel of Dragoons for life. This is said to be as high a pension as was ever granted by the legislature.

The unhappy man who shot Dr. Ramsay at Charleston; S. C. has been tried. The jury found him insane. Upon hearing the verdict, he thanked the Jury for their lenity, but said he thought they had not done him justice. He is arrested upon another indictment.