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THE WASHINGTON WHIG

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Advertisements will be inserted at the usual rates.

Legislature of New-Jersey.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

WEDNESDAY, January 22.

A message was received from the governor, covering certain communications from the state of North Carolina, relative to amendments to the Constitution of the United States—referred to the committee on that subject.

Mr. Westcott, from committee, reported the bill for erecting the lower part of Sussex into a new county, with an amendment—which was read, and with the bill postponed to the next sitting of Legislature.

On motion of Mr. Parker, a resolution passed the house, directing the applicants for a new county from the county of Sussex, to present the house with a map of that part of the country.

The bill to sell the property of the state at Jersey city, was passed and sent to Council; and that from Council, authorizing the courts of common pleas to award a sales circumstantibus, was read a second time, and ordered a third reading.

Mr. Condit presented a bill to authorize the township of Orange to build or purchase a poor house—ordered a second reading.

A message from Council informed that they had passed the bill from the house to authorize the clearing out of the main branch of Rancocus Creek from Mount-Holly to the south branch, without amendment; that they had agreed to the amendment to the bill authorizing the administrators of B. Guild, dec. to fulfil a certain contract; and also that council had passed a bill to repeal the act making provision for carrying into effect the act for the punishment of crimes, to which they request the concurrence of the house.

Which bill was taken up and disagreed to by the house.

The bill from council to ensure the faithful execution of office, was taken up, considered, amended and ordered a third reading—Adjourned.

3 P. M. The house met. Mr. Sipp, from committee, reported on the petition from Bergen, praying for the modification of a certain act passed in 1811, respecting the enclosure of a tract of woodland, reported that the prayer of the petitioners ought not to be granted—Agreed to.

The bill for the sale of the government house and lot in Trenton, was read a second time, and committed to Mess. Coxe, Dow and Leake.

Mr. Sipp reported a bill supplementary to the act authorizing Michael Ortleby to cut a canal through Manasquan Beach—read and ordered a second reading.

Mr. Read moved for the appointment of committee to enquire whether alterations are necessary in the act relative to attachments against absconding and absent debtors—Agreed to, and Mess. Read, Condit and Stryker appointed.

The bill supplementary to the act concerning wills, was read a second time, considered by section and ordered to be engrossed. Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

TUESDAY, January 23.

Bills reported. Mr. S. Condit, a bill to prevent fraudulent confessions of judgment—by Mr. Williamson, a bill for the relief of creditors against corporations.

The bill supplementary to the act concerning wills, passed unanimously and was sent to council.—The bill supplementary to the act respecting a certain tract of woodland in New Barbadoes, Bergen county, and the bill for the sale of the government house and lot in Trenton, were considered by section, and ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Bidleman made an unfavorable report on the petition of the President and Directors of the Columbia Bridge Cornpa-

ny, but recommended that they be allowed to raise the sum of 4000 dollars by lottery, which was agreed to, and a bill authorized to be brought in for that purpose.

Mr. Nixon, from committee, made an unfavorable report on the petition of certain inhabitants of Bloomsbury and Mill-Hill, to be incorporated with the city in Trenton—laid on the table.

A message from Council informed that they had passed the bill authorizing aliens to hold real estate without amendments; and the bill supplementary to the act incorporating townships, with an amendment to which amendment the house agreed and ordered the bill re-engrossed.

The bill appointing commissioners to settle certain differences between this state and the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, was taken up, progressed in and postponed. Adjourned.

3 P. M. The house met. Both houses went into joint meeting for the appointment of a senator of the United States.

Bills reported. By Mr. Leake a bill to regulate the admission of attorneys. By Mr. Parker, a bill to confirm the report and survey of the commissioners named in the N. Germantown turnpike act—by Mr. Dow, a bill to secure mortgagors against unnecessary costs—read and ordered a second reading.

Mr. Williamson from the committee to whom was referred the proposed amendments to the constitution of the United States, from the states of North Carolina and Massachusetts, requiring the division of each state into districts, for the choice of representatives in Congress and electors of President, reported in favor thereof, and a resolution instructing the senators and represent lives of this state in Congress, to use their exertions in favor of the same—Read and agreed to by the house, and sent to Council for concurrence.

Ordered That Mess. Parker, Pine and Yanbrakle, be a committee to report a Tax Bill.

The resolution offered by Mr. Coxe for the appointment of a committee to enquire into the expediency of confining the elections in this state to one day, was taken up and disagreed to by the house—Adjourned to 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

FRIDAY, January 24.

M. S. Condit, presented a memorial from Cadwallader D. Colden and others, of New-York and New-Jersey, Stockholders of the York and Jersey Steamboat Ferry-Company, praying for an act of incorporation; which was read, and a bill for that purpose presented.

The bill supplementary to the act respecting woodland in New Barbadoes township, Bergen county, and the bill supplementary to the act incorporating townships, were read a third time, passed, and sent to council.

The bill respecting free negroes and mulattoes, was taken up and committed.

A message from council informed that they had passed the bill for the sale of the house and lot at Jersey city, belonging to the state, and that respecting certain meadows in the township of Woodbridge and Piscataway, without amendment.

And that council had passed a bill for the relief of infants, where persons die intestate—Read and ordered a second reading.

The bill to confirm the report of the commissioners named in the New Germantown turnpike act, was read a second time and postponed till Wednesday next. Adjourned to 3 P. M.

3 P. M. The house met. Mr. Williamson presented a petition from Henry Shepard, of Hope, in Sussex, praying to be divorced from his wife Mary—read and committed.

The bill from council supplementary to the small cause act, was taken up, considered and committed.

Message from council informed that they had passed a bill supplementary to the act relative to certain woodland in New Barbadoes, Bergen county, the bill from the house concerning wills, and the supplementary bill to the Trenton incorporation act, with amendment, to which amendment the house agreed.

The bill supplementary to the act relative to meadow on Repaupa creek, Gloucester county; and the bill to authorize the inhabitants of Orange, in the county of Essex, to build a poor house, were each read a second time, considered by section, and ordered to be engrossed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock, to-morrow morning.

SATURDAY, January 25.

Mr. Read, from committee, reported, with amendments, the bill supplementary to the small cause act—Ordered to be printed.

The engrossed bill relative to meadows on Repaupa creek, Gloucester county;—and the bill relative to the Orange poor-house, were read a third time and postponed.

Mr. Holcombe reported a bill supplementary to the act concerning divorce and alimony—ordered a second reading.

The bill appointing commissioners to settle certain differences between this state, and the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, wits taken up, further considered and postponed.

Adjourned to 10 o'clock on Monday morning.

MONDAY, January 27.

Mr. Mayhew, from committee, reported on the petition of certain inhabitants of Lower Pennsneck, for the repeal of a law passed 9th Feb. 1796, that the prayer of the petitioner ought not to be granted—Agreed to.

The bill for the relief of creditors against the corporations, was read a second time, progressed in and postponed.

Mr. Holliday proposed a resolution for committee to enquire into the expediency of authorizing sheriffs to take recognizances in criminal cases—Agreed to. Adjourned to 3 o'clock.

3 P. M. The house met. The bill supplementary to the small cause act, was taken up, gone through by section, and ordered a third reading.

A message from council informed that they had passed the bill supplementary to the act concerning wills, and that respecting a certain tract of woodland in the township of New Barbadoes, without amendment, and agreed to the amendment to file bill to ensure the faithful execution of office.

The bill for the relief of creditors against corporations, was taken up, gone through by section, and ordered to be engrossed.

The house resumed the consideration of the bill to prevent fraudulent confessions of judgment, and having gone through the same, it was ordered to be engrossed.—Adjourned till to-morrow.

TUESDAY, January 28.

Bills passed.—The bill respecting meadows on Repaupa creek; the bill to enable the inhabitants of Orange to build a poor-house; the supplement to the act to enable Michael Ortleby to cut a canal through Manasquan Beach; the bill for the relief of creditors against corporations; the bill to prevent fraudulent confessions of judgment; the bill supplementary to the act incorporating a part of the township of Trenton; and the additional supplement to the small cause act, with amendments, were severally read a third time, and passed the house.

The bill for the sale of the government house and lot in Trenton, was read a third time, and on the question of passing the same there not appearing a majority of the house in the affirmative, it was lost.

A message from council informed that they passed the bill to authorize William L. Earl and John Black, &c. to maintain a dam across a certain branch of Rancocus creek.

Mr. Annin presented a paper from inhabitants of Bernards in Somerset, in favour of Jacob Guerin, of that township—Read and committed.

Mr. Coxe presented a memorial from the meeting held at Trenton, respecting the colonization of the free blacks—Read and committed.

The bill supplementary to the act respecting the Bordentown and South All-boy turnpike, was read a second time, considered by section, and ordered to be engrossed.

Mr. Pearson offered a resolution to the appointment of a committee to enquire into the expediency of selling a part of the government lot in the city of Trenton—Agreed to—and Messrs. Pearson, Holcombe and Westcott appointed.

Mr. Smith presented memorials from inhabitants of the estate in favor of the colonization of free blacks. Referred to the committee on the subject. Adjourned.

3 P. M. The house met. Mr. Williamson presented a petition from Mary Hagan, praying for an act of divorce—committed.

Mr. Holcombe, from the committee on that subject, reported a bill for the relief of the commissioners of the

in the county of Monmouth—ordered a second reading.

The bill to incorporate the Newark Female Charitable Society, was read a second time, considered by section, and ordered to be engrossed.

The bill to regulate the admission of attorneys was taken up, the first section negatived, and the bill dismissed.

Mr. Williamson reported the bill respecting free negroes and mulattoes, with amendments—Read and ordered to lie on the table.

The house resumed the consideration of the bill to appoint commissioners to settle certain differences between this state and the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and having gone through the same, it was ordered to be engrossed. Adjourned till to-morrow.

WEDNESDAY, January 29.

The Speaker (C. Clark, esq.) being absent through indisposition, David Thompson, jr. Esq. was unanimously elected Speaker pro tem.

Mr. Annin presented a bill for the benefit of Jacob Guerin,—read and ordered to lie on the table.

The bill to incorporate the Newark Female Charitable Society was read a third time and negatived, 19 to 18.

The bill to appoint Commissioners to settle certain differences between this state and Pennsylvania, was passed and sent to Council; and the bill to enable William L. Earl and John Black, to erect a dam on a branch of Rancocus Creek, was considered by section, and ordered a third reading.

Petitions were presented for a Turnpike read from Monmouth Court-House to Middletown Point—From inhabitants of the state in favour of colonizing the free blacks, and from the President and Directors of the Newark and Morris Turnpike Company.—Adjourned to 3 o'clock.

The Female Tongue.—Lempriere, the physician who had free admission to the imperial harem of the Emperor of Morocco, says the ladies had great reluctance in showing him the tongue, which they considered to be very indecent. One of the Sultan's wives kept behind a curtain and had her pulse felt by putting her arm under the bottom; but it was with the greatest difficulty she could be prevailed on to show her tongue which, however, she at length protruded through a hole in the curtain! so different are the notions of delicacy in different nations!

Singular opinion respecting the fall of man.—Doctor Adam Clarke has advanced the new and singular opinion, that the animal designated in third chapter of Genesis, as having given to Eve the example or lesson, of forbidden indulgence, was not a Serpent, but an Ape. The fourteenth verse proves that it was some beast of the field, naturally erect; but for this, degraded into a Quadruped.

FOR SALE, AT PUBLIC VENDUE, ON THE PREMISES,

ON THURSDAY, the 20th March next, between the hours of 12 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon,

A PLANTATION,

SITUATE in Pittsgrove, Salem County, adjoining lands of Joseph Cook, Enos Fithian, Pole Tavern, and others, said to contain eighty-six Acres, about two-thirds cleared, of which a part may be converted into good Meadow, sufficient for the Plantation; the remainder WOODLAND, of the first quality. On the premises are a good two story FRAME HOUSE, a well of excellent water, and some Fruit Trees. The whole under cedar fence. It will be sold together, or in Lots, as it may best suit purchasers. Any person wishing to view the property, will be shown by applying to JOSEPH ATKINSON, on the premises.

The conditions will be made known on the day of sale, by the Trustees of the Baptist Congregation of Pittsgrove. An indisputable title, and immediate possession will be given. February 17—3t

FOR SALE,

A TRACT OF WOODLAND, situate in the township of Fair field, in the county of Cumberland, being part of a tract known by the name of the Henry Tract, containing twenty-five acres. The payments will be made to suit the convenience of the purchaser. Apply to JOHN HENRY, who resides near the premises; and who will show the property, or to WILLIAM HARVEY, Mannington, Salem county. December 30, 1816—6t

On the Causes of the Insufficiency of Religious Institutions to produce moral virtue among us.

"Why do men of taste and learning so often despise Religion?—Because it is frequently obtruded upon them in a garb unsuitable to its character; and, oftener because its lovely features are distorted;—its glorious doctrines perverted."

We have heretofore observed that the Christian Religion presents objects the most magnificent and interesting that can possibly occupy the attention of an immortal mind. And it is equally evident that we, in this land of civil and religious liberty, are placed in a more favourable situation for receiving and cherishing religious impressions, than those of any other country. We have the pure word of life in our houses, and in our hands. A variety of religious instructors spread through the country of different denominations;—and every person afforded the opportunity of examining for himself, and to exercise his own reflections on those important subjects which relate to his eternal welfare, and of declaring his sentiments to his fellow men, without the restraint of any civil power to make him afraid.

A number of institutions also are established throughout the country, for spreading the Holy Scriptures, and placing them in every family, and for affording other means of instruction in righteousness.

Blessed with such a pure and sublime religion, so infinitely important to the peace and happiness of every individual, and presented to our minds with so much clearness and brilliancy, must, one would think, arrest universal attention and concern. And that the moral virtues, like streams issuing from that sacred fountain, would meander through our streets, and into the recesses of every heart, producing their pleasant fruits in the lives and conversation of the inhabitants.

Yet amidst all these peculiar and inestimable privileges, we have said, and it is a lamentable fact, that profligacy and licentiousness abound in our country more than formerly. Under these awful circumstances, it may be profitable to enquire seriously into the causes of the inefficacy of those multiplied means which we enjoy of producing their desired effect? An habitual insensibility to sacred and unseen things, originating in the corruption and depravity of human nature, no doubt lies at the root of this evil: but as this depravity is universal, and operates at all times and in all places equally, some other cause must be sought for its present deleterious effects.

It is not improbable that the very institutions and means of enlightening and improving mankind, with regard to their most important concerns, may be so managed and handled as to produce the contrary effect to what they were intended. Then instead of presenting any barrier to vice, or check to immorality, they may afford them the most efficient auxiliaries. The only legitimate design of the religious institutions of a country, and the means of instruction, is to make mankind better citizens, by making them more honest and more virtuous. All religious experience, and exercises of the mind, which do not produce these effects, have not reached their ultimate ends. Whatever fanatic divines may say to the contrary, it is evident from the concurrent testimony of holy writ, that pure religion and pure morality are inseparably connected, and must be united to form the respectable character of a Christian. And all, who are conversant in history, know that when the practice of moral rectitude is in the wane, the pure and undefiled religion of Christ does not prevail. Among a people inflated with pride and selfishness, and occupied in the pursuit of wealth and eminence, we cannot look for the influence of religious opinions, or the exercise of disinterested benevolence. Nothing less than the power of God can call off men from these pursuits, to more noble and soul-animating objects. This power he can exercise when and where he pleases. He can convert to himself a people, yea, a nation, in a day, in an hour. All souls are in his hands. He can work without as well as by means; but he governs the natural world by established laws; and has appointed means for the improvement and government of intelligent beings. This all our divines allow, as on it they found the authority for preaching the word. Now, in order that this institution should be made effectual for the improvement of mankind, it is necessary that the truths of divine revelation should be set forth arrayed with all their intrinsic excellency, and beautiful attire, and that the moral virtues should be portrayed in all their glowing and captivating charms. Wisdom's ways are ways of pleasantness; and it should not be associated with frowns, nor clothed with the thunder of disputation. Nothing of envy, of jealousy,

of censoriousness, of satire, or of an irritable temper, should enter into the exhibition of her lovely features. She holds no converse with pride, selfishness or ostentation. She is adorned with meekness, humility and forbearance. All the doctrines of the gospel should be stated in a simple form, founded on the plainest and most explicit declarations contained in the oracles of divine truth.

The writer is not at variance with any member of the set of men. He views all denunciations of Christians as brethren, without prejudice or partiality for any. And he cannot wound the feelings of any without exciting a sympathetic pang in his own bosom. He sees something to admire and applaud, and something to disapprove and reject, in every religious society with which he is acquainted. It is with pleasure that he declares that the truth of God is laid as the foundation of all their creeds. They appear all to build on the sure foundation, Christ the rock of ages; but it would be happy for society if on this foundation no superstructure was erected, but what Christ and his apostles raised.

A careful attention to the doctrines sometimes laid down, cannot fail to impress on our minds the opinion that they are not derived from scripture, nor from a knowledge of human nature; and therefore not likely to meet with the divine blessing. Such as, that the posterity of Adam are guilty of, and stand condemned for his sin in transgressing the divine command; and as a corollary, that the believer is justified by the imputation of the righteousness of the divine redeemer to him. That the atonement made by Christ was for a chosen few, although he offered a propitiation for the sins of the whole world;—and yet that the condemnation of the non-elect will be aggravated by their not believing in that Saviour who did not make salvation possible for them.

That mankind are sinful, unholy and polluted beings, is a truth that comes home to the feelings of every contemplative mind. But the enlightened soul will not easily believe, that a righteous God can condemn him to perpetual woe for an act perpetrated many ages before he had existence. The truth, as deduced from a careful observation of the dispensations of Providence, and attention to the word of God, appears to be this.—Our first parents, by transgressing the command of God, became sinners; and as by the order of generation established by God, for wise purposes, like begets like, all their posterity come into the world corrupt, unholy and unclean; from hence proceeds their impure affections, their folly and their sinfulness. Men do not gather grapes of thorns, nor figs of thistles. A tiger does not produce a lamb, nor a serpent a dove; but all orders of beings partake of the nature of their progenitors. The penitent soul laments the depravity of his nature as producing unholy affections, and sinful propensities, but it is voluntary transgressions of the pure law of God, which fills him with the most pungent sorrow. "By the offence of one, many were made sinners"—hence "by the offence of one, judgment came upon all men to condemnation."

With respect to the doctrine of the atonement, we shall say but a few words at present. Christ is said to have offered himself a propitiatory sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. And we do not know any doctrine which is more clearly and frequently insisted upon the word of God, than the universality of the atonement.—The invitations to believe are made to all men, and who can believe that the God of truth would call upon any one to believe for whom Christ had not died to redeem. The advocates of a particular atonement rely much upon the argument that if Christ died for all, the end of his death would be frustrated in those who do not believe and obey the gospel. But this, we apprehend, proceeds from an incorrect notion of the nature of the atonement, and drawing an analogy between that and the payment of a debt; whereas propitiatory satisfaction does not give a criminal a right to claim his discharge, as the payment of a debt always does. It only opens the door for the exercise of mercy towards him, in consequence of the penalty of the law being satisfied by the propitiator.

The notion that true faith consists in believing that Christ died for one in particular, or in the knowledge of sins forgiven, is the most selfish doctrine that can be conceived. And it is proper for those who maintain it to cover it with the doctrine of falling from grace, as many who are firm in this belief soon get weary of well doing. But further remarks on this, and on the uncouth manner in which divine truths are presented to us, remain for a future essay.

Savannah, Jan. 30.

David Jordan was tried and convicted at the present term of the superior court, for forgery. He was yesterday sentenced to be hanged on the 28th of the ensuing month. The jury recommended him to mercy.

WASHINGTON WHIG.

BRIDGE-TOWN, FEBRUARY 17, 1817.

Appointments in Joint Meeting.

THURSDAY, Feb. 6.

- Governor—Isaac H. Williamson.
 Directors of Trenton Bank—Ellet Tucker, Peter Gordon, Charles Ewing.
 Law Reporter—Joseph C. Hornblower.
 HUNTERDON.—James Larison, Jacob Houseli, Commissioners.
 Wm Voorhees, Maj. 2d bat. 2d regt.
 Joseph Nitzer, Maj. 1st bat. 1st regt.
 James S. Manners, Maj. 2d bat. 4th regiment.
 SOMERSET.—Josiah Ferguson, Simon Haganan, Justices and Commissioners.—Wm. B. Gaston, James Vanduy, Abraham Vanarsdalen, Cornelius Vanhorn, Commissioners.—Peter D. Vroom, Justice.
 Henry Sloan, Maj. 1st bat. 2d regt.
 MIDDLESEX.—Ichabod Potter, William Tindall, Redford Jobs, John Gilman, Oliver Johnson, Samuel Ooms, Justices.—John Outcalt, Judge and Justice.—Freeman Cole, Wm. Tindall, Samuel R. Hamilton, Samuel Pitney, Commissioners.
 Obadiah Herbert, Colonel 4th regt.
 John T. McDowell, Maj. 1st bat. 4th regiment.
 John Mount, Maj. 2d bat. 4th regt.
 Samuel E. Johnea, Maj. 2d bat. 2d regt.
 Richard Lupardus, Alderman of the city of New Brunswick.
 BERGEN.—John D. Marring, Christian I. Zabriskie, Elias Brevoort, Judges and Justices.—John Van Voorhees, Dower R. Westervelt, John Outwater, Judges.—Wm. A. Paradise, Joshua Wells, Marcus B. Douglass, Justices.—Isaac Van Zaun, Cornelius Merseilles, Commissioners.
 John Schuyler, Brigadier General, vice Colfax, resigned.
 Peter Garrabrant, Lieut. Col. 1st regt.
 ESSEX.—Daniel S. Clark, Stephen Hays, jun. Simeon Craue, Rufus Harrison, Justices.—Samuel Parkhurst, Charles Clark, Commissioners.
 Jonathan Dayton, Alderman of the borough of Elizabeth.
 William Phyton, Maj. Essex squadron.
 Aaron Hand, Col. 2d regt.
 John Wade, Maj. 2d bat. 2d regt.
 GLOUCESTER.—James Matlack, Jehu Wilson, Judges.—Cornelius Tice, Moses Crane, Scoby Stewart, Justices.—Robert Leeds, Justice and Commissioner.—Thomas Redman, jun. Commissioner.
 John Cade, Maj. 2d bat. 2d regt.
 MONMOUTH.—William Brindley, Samuel Holmes, William Potts, Justices.
 Richard Borden, Col. 3d regt.
 Jacob Butler, Maj. 1st battalion.
 John Schenck, Col. 1st regt.
 Richard Beedle, Maj. 1st bat. 1st regt.
 James Hopping, Maj. 2d bat. 1st regt.
 Robert Conover, Maj. 1st bat. 2d regt.
 James Robinson, Maj. Monmouth squad.
 CAPE-MAY.—James T. Scott, Jacob G. Smith, Judges and Justices.—Elijah Townsend, Justice.
 SUSSEX.—Morris Robinson, Walter L. Shee, Judges and Justices.—John Somers, Judge.—Job Johnson, William Gibbs, Frederick Snover, jun. William Allen, Matthew Vanostrand, Zebulon Sutton, Isaac Everitt, Abraham Hunt, Jacob Ayres, Geo. Vandergrift, Justices.—David Ford, James Stoll, James Vankirk, James Egbert, Joseph Northrop, Commissioners.
 Thomas Teasdale, jun. Maj. 2d bat. 2d regt.
 Benjamin Decker, Maj. 1st bat. 2d regt.
 Vancleve Moor, Maj. 2d bat. 1st regt.
 David Read, Maj. 1st bat. 4th do.
 James Williamson, Col. 2d regt.
 Jonathan Robins, Maj. in 3d regt. vice Williamson promoted.
 CUMBERLAND.—Henry Sockwell, Nathaniel Foster, Charles Clark, Justices.
 John Sibley, Brigadier General.
 Maj. Henderson, Col. 1st regiment.
 Asa Smith, Maj. 1st bat. 1st regt.
 Joseph Lupton, Maj. 2d bat. 1st regt.
 David Lupton, Col. 2d regiment.
 Daniel Elmer, Maj. 2d bat. 2d regt.
 BURLINGTON.—Joseph Watson, (Wilmington) George French, Jonathan Johnson, Gershom Mott, Ralph H. Smith, Hugh M. Weed, Justices.—John Newbold, Commissioner.
 Thomas Nutt, Maj. 2d regt.
 MORRIS.—Eben. Coe, Benjamin Pierston, Jonathan Ogden, Commissioners. Silas Cook, Judge and Justice. David Miller, Daniel Horton, Thomas Logan, Stephen Dickenson, John Decamp, John Smith David Day, Abraham Cook, Justices.
 John Scott, Col. 3d regt. vice Jackson, resigned.
 Samuel S. Beach, Maj. 1st bat. 3d regt.
 Josiah Wins, Maj. 2d bat. 4th regt.
 Samuel Halliday, Maj. 2d bat. 1st do.
 SALEM.—Matthias Richman, Morris Hancock, Walker Beasley, Justices.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Extracts of letters to the Editor.

Washington, February 2.

"The following resolution, offered by Gen. Harrison, the house, by a small majority, agreed to consider:

Resolved That a committee be appointed to enquire whether any, and if any, what amendments are necessary to the constitution of the United States, to enable the government thereof to adopt such a system of military instruction and discipline for the militia, as to make it a safe and effectual nation defence.

After a few observations by Mr. Pickering, in opposition to the measure, and short reply of Mr. Harrison, the resolution was, on motion of Mr. Yancey, laid on the table.

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT.

The discussion on the bill for setting apart, and pledging the bonus, and United States' share of the dividends of the National Bank, for the purposes of internal improvement, has taken an extensive range, and been both animated and interesting. The constitutionality, as well as expediency of the measure, have been ably argued. The bill, as originally introduced by Mr. Calhoun, proposed to place the money at the disposal of the government, to be applied to the making of roads and canals, in whatever section of the United States the public interest should most require. It was afterwards amended, so as to distribute the same among the several states, in proportion to their representation in the most numerous branch of the national legislature, to be expended in each state respectively, with the consent of the legislature thereof, on such undertaking as the president of the U. States might approve, within the review of the act. Improvement of the navigation of rivers, was added to roads and canals, as an object to which the money might be applied. This is a vast subject—one, in my opinion, of primary and incalculable importance; and as my feelings are perhaps rather enthusiastically enlisted, I can scarcely trust myself with giving an impartial synopsis of the arguments employed on the occasion. The constitutional objections were those that have been often urged on this and other subjects, that what was not expressly conceded by the states to the general government, was of course withheld; and as the right of making roads and canals was not among the enumerated powers of congress in the constitution, it therefore did not exist; that implicative instructions of that instrument was at all times dangerous, and ought not to be countenanced, especially if a respectable minority expressed doubts on the subject. That there was danger of the general government usurping state rights, and that it became the duty of the states to check the first tendency thereto. On the other hand, it was contended, that general powers given by the constitution to congress, "to regulate commerce and provide for the general welfare," were a nullity, if the most obvious means of effecting this purpose were not afforded. To suppose that the power to regulate commerce, had a reference only to that of an external character, and was confined to intercourse with foreign nations, and among the states along the sea-board, was, it was said, narrowing the meaning of the term, and misconstruing the intention of the framers of the constitution. The importance of easy communication and facility of commercial intercourse, between different districts in the interior, and between the interior and sea coast, could certainly never have been overlooked at the time, and though the states might, ought, and had done much, yet there were objects of great magnitude in a national point of view, which they were either incompetent to accomplish, or had not, as states, sufficient inducements to undertake. It was asked, whence the right to erect light houses, piers, &c. was derived? It was replied that it was a necessary attendant of the general power, nothing more was required to establish the power in this case. Mr. Calhoun, in addition, reminded gentlemen in the opposition, that the constitution might be violated as well by neglecting to exercise those prerogatives, conferred by it, and important to the interests of the republic, as by transcending those powers. [This position must be received, I think, with some qualifications.] It was moreover said, that as the consent of the states must be obtained before the money was invested, the constitutional objections, if they had any force, were much lessened.

With respect to the expediency of now providing for the accomplishment of these great and splendid schemes, the importance of which, it was said by some, were overrated and fanciful—it was objected, that we had just come out of an expensive war, that the national debt had thereby been greatly accumulated, that many of the sufferers by it were yet unremunerated, that some of the internal taxes, obnoxious to the people, yet remained, taxes

Go, that were, at the time of their imposition, pledged to be taken off at the expiration of one year from the termination of the war, that it was much more becoming congress, under these circumstances, to apply the spare funds, if any, to the extinguishment of the public debt and the relief of the suffering citizens, many of whom were struggling with unprecedented privations and difficulties; at any rate, to disburthen them from an odious system of internal taxation, before you pledge a large fund for objects, the benefits of which would be partially felt; that there was a semblance of injustice at least, in applying means derived from a small portion of the citizens, those interested in the bank, who principally lived in the commercial towns, to objects remote from them, and in which they could have but a limited interest, and which would operate in some instances to the detriment of those very persons from whom the money was drawn.

In answer, it was acknowledged, that we had lately passed through an expensive war, necessarily so for the want of the very improvements contemplated by the bill. The whole experience of the war, went to prove the necessity and importance of the measure—a large proportion of the debt had arisen from the extraordinary charges attendant on the marching of men, and transportation of provisions and munitions over an extended country, destitute in too great a degree, of those facilities of conveyance, good roads and canals. It was asserted, that the heavy expenses incurred during the war, though short, on this account, would have gone far towards effecting the desired improvements;—that the old, yet sound maxim, in peace, prepare for war, was peculiarly applicable in this case. Though the national debt was swelled to an amount nominally much larger than at the conclusion of the revolution, yet with reference to the population, and ability of the people to pay, it was comparatively of much less consequence, that the finances of the government were prosperous, that the liberality evinced by the present congress towards the sufferers by the war, ought to silence all objections on that score.—Notwithstanding, it might be thought prudent to retain, for the present, some of the internal taxes, yet many of them had been abolished; and the land tax, perhaps most of all censured, was about to expire by its limitation, and the committee of ways and means had intimated that they should not ask for a revival of it.

As it respects the pledge spoken of, the terms used at the conclusion of the acts alluded to were, that they "should be and continue in force until the termination of the war, and for one year thereafter, and no longer." If these words imply a pledge, it must be a restricted one—meaning only, if the exigencies of the government would allow them to be dispensed with, that it should be the case, expire at the time stated they must; but as no concession was made by the people, (congress having, by express terms, the right of taxing them) no binding contract entered into, the right still remained of re-enacting those very laws, and the history of all governments show that it is often the case. The extinguishment of the public debt, was allowed to be desirable, and it was believed could be effected as speedily, as the most sanguine had contemplated, without the aid of this fund, or the imposition of any additional burthens on the people. A disposition was avowed to ameliorate the condition of the distressed, whenever fair opportunities offered, especially when those distresses were the effect of governmental measures;—but the presented distress, which had been represented in such glowing terms, it was said was the result of a direct visitation of Providence, in cutting short the fruits of the soil; that the pressure, it was hoped, would be temporary; and that before any part of the sum proposed to be set apart for the object specified in the bill, would be received, that the distress would be relieved by the intervention of a plentiful harvest.

With respect to the injustice of expending money in districts remote from those in which they were principally raised, it was remarked, as a set off, that the revenue arising from the sale of lands in the west, were received in the public coffers, and applied indiscriminately to any of the expenditures of the government. Members were warned against bringing with them to this question, local and state partialities, a more expanded view of the whole ground was recommended, with the indulgence of national feelings, remembering, that what benefitted a large part without hindrance to the remainder, was always desirable. Procrastination is the thief of time; if the thing was now postponed, similar causes, for further delay, might hereafter exist. Certain it was, if never commenced, it would never be finished; and as the means proposed to be employed, had not been directly drawn from the people, but rather adventitiously acquired, the present was considered, a more favorable period than would be likely soon again to

occur, for preparing for an object, the benefits accruing from the accomplishment of which, either with reference to military or commercial purposes, social intercourse, the increased value of lands and its productions, or its influence on the future union and integrity of the states, was expatiated in such way as to demonstrate to my mind the great interest the nation has in furthering the undertaking. Time will not permit me to dwell on these advantages; I must therefore desist, and will only add, that it is not intended at this time to designate the mode of applying the means set apart, leaving that for future regulation. It is not expected that the sum in question, estimated at 650,000 dollars per annum for twenty years, will, of itself, be sufficient to accomplish all that is desired, but a well grounded confidence is entertained that it will, in the several states, form a respectable nuclei, around which, state and individual contributions, in the shape of organized associations, will rally, and whose united energies will be competent to the purpose. As it relates to New Jersey, the only great object, at this time, thought of, that I know, is the canal from the Delaware to the Raritan.—The share of the bonus alone, which would fall to that state, if I have rightly calculated, will be near 50,000 dollars. It is presumed, that as New York anti Philadelphia would be vastly benefitted by the cutting of that canal, much stock for tire purpose would be subscribed by those cities. Among the most conspicuous advocates of the measure in the house, were Messrs. Calhoun, Pickering, Gold, Ross, Yates, Thomas Wilson, Harrison and Sheffield.—Those who spoke most in opposition, were Messrs. Barbour, King, Randolph, Hardin, Smith, of Ma. and Wright. The bill was finally passed by the house late this afternoon. Ayes 80—noes 84—(170 members voting) and sent to senate."

Washington, February 11.

Mr. Thomas Wilson, from the committee on roads and canals, has made a long report, embracing a general view of the subject, concluding with the following resolution:

Resolved, That the president of the U. States be required to take measures for making, as far as practicable, and report to this house, at the next and every subsequent session of congress, such roads, canals, and improvements in water courses, as are required in a general system of inland navigation and intercourse throughout the extent of the United States and the territories thereof, best adapted to facilitate the intercourse necessary for personal, commercial, and military purposes— which report was referred to a committee of the whole house.

A resolution offered by Mr. Dickens, proposing an enquiry into the expediency of repealing the existing duty on salt, was refused a consideration. Ayes 51—noes 56.

On motion of Mr. Johnson, of Ky. the judiciary committee were instructed to enquire into the expediency of authorizing the Secretary of the State to publish the laws of the United States in any number of papers he may think proper, not exceeding six in each state. [At present, the Secretary is allowed to select three papers in each state only.]

Mr. King, who opposed the internal improvement bill before noticed, with much vehemence, after that bill had been ordered to be engrossed, offered a resolution to the following effect:

That two millions of dollars be appropriated and distributed among the several states, in proportion to their population at the last census;—one million to be immediately applied to the relief of the poor, &c.; the other to be assigned to the legislatures of the several states, to the promotion of education, and the advancement of religion and morality; or in the aid of the funds of such Bible and Missionary Societies as might be selected. The house refused to consider the resolution.

Mr. Lowndes this morning reported on two resolutions, some time since referred to the committee of ways and means, as follows, viz:

Resolved, That it is inexpedient at this time to inake any alteration in the law imposing duties on licenses to retailers.

Resolved That it is not expedient to vary the law laying a tax on carriages.— Both of these resolutions, together with the accompanying reports, were ordered to be printed, and referred to a committee of the whole. On the subject of internal taxes, I take this opportunity to assert my opinion, that the land tax will not be revived, but that all the other internal duties will, for the present, be continued—perhaps without any modification.

Mr. Williams moved an enquiry into the propriety of repealing that part of the distillery tax law, which prohibited distillers from selling a less quantity of their manufacture than one gallon. Negatived.

Mr. Newton, from the committee of commerce and manufactures, reported a bill to increase the duty on the importa-

tion of foreign bar iron from 45 to 75 cents per cwt. Twice read and committed.— Several petitions from the manufacturers of that article in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and some of the other states, had been referred to this committee, stating their utter inability, under the present duty, to compete with the foreign importations. The ask for a much higher duty than that, proposed by the committee, alledging, that unless it is granted, many of those establishments must necessarily go down.

Several bills from the military committee, have been partially acted upon, but as no final decisions have been had, I omit, for the present, any further notice thereof.

Mr. Randolph, in the course of his long speech on the internal improvement bill, intimated that his political life was near a close, and made several observations which authorized a belief that he did not intend again to offer himself as a candidate for a seat in the legislature. At the close of his speech, he tendered the Speaker his affectionate farewell, so that it is probable he does not intend again to address the chair during the remainder of the present session.

Mr. Avery obtained leave of absence from Monday next to the end of the session."

TRIAL FOR MURDER.

The trial of John Gibson, a colored man, late cook on board the schooner *Mama*, charged with having mixed poison in a dish served up to the passengers and crew of that vessel on her passage from New-York to this port. (In consequence of which one of the passengers died, and the remainder with part of the crew, suffered very severely) came on before the United States Circuit Court, now sitting in this city, on Thursday last. After a patient investigation of the circumstances, the jury retired, and shortly after returned, with a verdict of Guilty. The evidence on which he was convicted, was altogether circumstantial. *Charleston Courier.*

Duelling.—The brave Dutch admiral Van Tromp, who was a large heavy man, was challenged by a slim French officer. We are not upon equal terms with rapiers, (said Van Tromp) but call upon me tomorrow morning, and I will adjust the affair better. When the Frenchman called, he found the Dutch admiral astride a barrel of gunpowder.—"I here is room enough for you, (said Van Tromp) at the other end of the barrel; sit down; there is the match; as you are the challenger, give fire." The Frenchman was thunderstruck at this terrible mode of fighting; but as the Admiral told him he would fight in no other way, terms of accommodation ensued.

FEMALE DUELLING!

We understand, that last week, 3 point of honor was decided between two ladies, near the South Carolina line. The details of this grand affair have not yet reached town. It is said that the cause of Quai-el, was the usual one in such cases, viz. Love. The object of the rival affections of these champions, was present on the field, as the mutual arbiter in the dreadful combat. He had the grief of beholding one of the suitors for his favor fall before his eyes.—She was wounded—but, we understand, not mortally.—The whole business was managed with all the inflexibility and decorum usually practised on such occasions. The conqueror is to be immediately married to the innocent second, conformably to the previous conditions of the duel.—*Fayetteville Pa.*

From the Belfast News Letter, of October 16.

SINGULAR CUSTOM.

On Whitsunday, at St. Briava's in Gloucestershire, several baskets full of bread and cheese, cut into small squares of about an inch each, are brought into the church and immediately after divine service is ended, the church wardens, or some other persons take them into the galleries, whence their contents are thrown among the congregation, who have a grand scramble for them in the body of the church. This occasions as great a tumult and uproar as the amusements of a village wake; the inhabitants being always extremely anxious to attend worship on this day. The custom is holden for the purpose of preserving, to the poor of Saint Briava's and Herwellsfield, the right of cutting and carrying away wood from 3000 awes of coppice land, in Hudknolls and the Meend; and for which every housekeeper is assessed 2d. to buy the bread and cheese which are given away.

NEWARK, Feb. 11.

Fire!—We have heard that a meeting house was burnt at Scotch Plains on Sabbath evening last, having taken fire by depositing ashes in a barrel and leaving it under the stairs. We expect it must be the Baptist Church in which the Rev,

Thomas Brown preaches. The light of the fire was distinctly seen at this place between the hours of 9 and 10 o'clock.

A newly married couple, Mr. and Mrs. Pickard, were passing through Clinton, in this state, on the 21st ult. A young man by the name of Crosby was, at the time, shooting at birds with a rifle, and Mrs. Pickard was so badly wounded by one of Crosby's discharges, that she died in a few hours after! *N. Y. Gaz.*

MARRIED.

On Wednesday evening last, by the Rev. Ethan Osborn, Mr. THEOPHILUS E. HARRIS, to the amiable Miss LYDIA DIXON, all of this place.

See yon festive troop advancing,
Pleasure sparkling in each eye,
Hope the lively sense entrancing,
Quells the joy dissolving sigh.

See the maiden coyly charming,
Panting, trembling, fill'd with fear,
In this scene of life alarming,
Beautifully sad appear.

She has no avow'd defender,
Unprotected see her stand,
Whilst her beauties, modest, tender,
Ask for some protecting hand.

See yon youth now fondly gazing,
Mark her countenance refined;
Hear him now with raptures praising
All her elegance of mind.

Cupid, little urchin moves him,
He concludes the work begun;
The maiden sees, the maiden loves him,
Marriage forms them into one.

The Brigade Board

OF the Cumberland Brigade of Militia, will meet at the Hotel in Bridgetown, on Monday, the 3d day of March next, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon.

LUCIUS Q. C. ELMER,
Judge Advocate.

February 17, 1817.—2t

Sheriff's Sale.

POSTPONEMENT.

THE sale of the property of John Westcott, jr. is adjourned until Thursday, the 20th inst. at the inn of Philip Souder, between the hours of 12 and 5 o'clock, when the following described lots will positively be sold.

- No. 1. A PLANTATION, adjoining Cohansey Creek, containing forty two and an half acres, with a FISHERY on the same.
- No. 2. A LOT of young growing WOODLAND, adjoining No. 1, containing fifteen acres, more or less.
- No. 3. A LOT of SALT MARSH in Bridgestick, adjoining lands of Jonathan Parvin, containing 18 acres, more or less.
- No. 4. A LOT of young growing WOODLAND, containing 6 acres and 90-100 of an acre, more or less, adjoining lands of the heirs of Jeremy Harris, deceased.
- No. 5. A LOT of young growing WOODLAND, adjoining lands late of Jeremiah Harris, deceased, and others, containing 14 acres, and 26-100 of an acre, more or less.
- No. 6. A HOUSE and LOT of LAND, adjoining lands of Daniel Parvin and others, containing one and an half acres, more or less.

DAN SIMKINS, Sheriff.
Bridgetown, Feb. 17.

For Sale, or to Rent, THE HOUSE, LOT AND SHOP,

At Sugar Hill, near Cedarville, where the Subscriber now lives.

IT would be a good stand for a Store—the Shop is suitable for the business. Possession will be given on the 25th day of March next.—For further particulars, enquire of the subscriber, on the premises.

Also, to Rent,

A HOUSE AND LOT,

At Cedarville, opposite the Tavern.—The House is two story, with a Cellar under it.

Robert Alderman,

Sugar Hill, Feb. 17—4t

TO LET, THE GREEN TREE INN,

Lately occupied by Wm. Merritt, deceased.
FOR TERMS, enquire of the subscriber, living on the premises.
Bridgetown, Feb. 17—3t ANN MERRITT.

