

TO THE READER.

The great space occupied by our correspondence from Vandalia—which will be found highly interesting—has crowded out a summary notice of the proceedings of Congress, and sundry other articles intended for this paper. They will appear in our next.

THE SEASON.

We beg leave respectfully to tender the compliments of the season to our friends and customers—sincerely desiring that the first day of the ensuing year may find each and every one of them in the full and undisturbed enjoyment of all the blessings which health, peace, plenty, and "a conscience void of offense," can bestow.

PENNSYLVANIA.

In our last, we gave a concise, and so far as the information within our reach permitted, an impartial account of the disgraceful scenes enacted at the seat of government of this great State during the first week of the session of the Legislature. It appears by the intelligence since received, that the military force called into service in pursuance of the Governor's requisition, reached Harrisburgh on or before the 10th instant, and were stationed at the Arsenal, and different other parts of the City, with strict injunctions, however, not to appear in uniform within the walls of the State House yard. Their presence seems to have immediately restored order and tranquillity, at least to a considerable extent. A number of the leaders of the mob by whom the proceedings of the Legislature had been violently interrupted, were taken into custody by the civil authority; others hastened back to their respective homes in order to avoid capture; and if the spirit of insurrection was not entirely quelled it was so far subdued that it no longer dared to manifest itself in acts of open outrage.

The Senate resumed its regular sittings on the same day; when the Speaker, Mr. Penrose, briefly explained the causes of his absence from the chair for some days past, and was listened to with great attention. Mr. Fraley then offered a resolution, providing for the appointment of a select committee to inquire which of the two bodies claiming to be the House of Representatives, is legally constituted and organized, with power to send for persons and papers; which was laid on the table.—On the 11th, the Senate proceeded to examine the returns of the votes given for or against the proposed amendments to the Constitution; when it appeared that, out of 216,780 votes actually cast, exclusively of those of Philadelphia county, which were not counted, there was a majority of 1212 in favor of said amendments, which were consequently declared henceforth to form a part of the Constitution of the State. This was the day heretofore designated for the election of a Senator in Congress; but no steps were taken to effect this object in either branch, or section thereof. On the 12th, however, the Van Buren portion of the House sent up a message to the Senate, informing that body that they were then ready to proceed to the election of a Senator, and requesting their attendance; of which no other notice was taken than to lay the same on the table. The official returns of the votes polled for Governor were then counted by the Senate, in the presence of both sections of the House; when it appeared that DAVID R. PORTER had received 127,921 votes, and JOSEPH RITNER 122,325. The former was consequently declared duly elected; and is to be inaugurated on the third Tuesday in January next.—On the 13th, the resolution for the appointment of a select committee, to inquire which of the two bodies claiming to be the House of Representatives, is legally entitled to be considered such, was taken up, and agreed to, after an animated discussion.—On the 14th, Mr. FRALEY, from the said committee, made a report, in which was set forth in detail all that transpired in the House of Representatives on the first Tuesday of the session, accompanied by sundry depositions. The report and documents having been read, Mr. F. moved that the body over which THOMAS S. CUNNINGHAM presides, be recognized as the House of Representatives. This motion gave rise to some debate, which resulted in the re-commitment of the report; but no definite action had taken place thereon at our latest date.

THE GREAT DEFALCATIONS.

Recent accounts throw additional light on the defalcation of Mr. Price, the late U. S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and furnish a striking illustration of the practical results of the Sub-Treasury scheme. It is said that the amount of public money which this individual has appropriated to his own use, exceeds one million of dollars; and the impression generally prevails that he aided Mr. SWARTWORTH in defrauding the government, and that they divided the "spoils" between them.—Formerly, when the merchants' bonds were deposited in the Banks for collection, the proceeds did not pass through the hands of the Attorney. But, under the operation of the system now in force, this officer has it in his power, by colluding with the Collector, to dispose of it as he may choose; and, as in the case before us, to make good his escape out of the country so soon as he becomes apprehensive that the fraud can no longer be concealed.—Mr. Price was one of the acknowledged leaders of the Loco-focos, and, perhaps, the most distinguished advocate of Agrarianism. To hear him harangue his sans-culottes followers, on the pernicious tendency of wealth, one would have imagined he was as rigidly frugal as FABRIZIO, and as strictly honest as CARO. But when, after his flight to Europe, a seizure was made of his effects, his dwelling was discovered to be furnished in a style of more than princely magnificence and splendor. So it is generally with those who declaim the most loudly against what they are pleased to call "the aristocracy of wealth." Their chief object really is to pick the pockets of "the dear people," under pretense of laboring for the promotion of their interests.—Sundry other cases of defalcation are noticed in our exchange papers; among which that of Gen. GRANTON, of the Engineer Department, is perhaps the most conspicuous. He has been dismissed from the service by order of the President; but alleges that he is not a defaulter.

Illinois Legislature.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

VANDALIA, Ill., Dec. 19, 1833.

DEAR SIR—The following resolutions have been this day introduced into the Senate by Mr. Gatewood, and laid on the table, viz:

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Illinois, That we view with deep regret the partiality exercised by the General Government in causing the deposits of public moneys collected in the State of Illinois to be made in Banks without the same.

Resolved, That, as citizens of Illinois, and representatives of the People thereof, we have confidence in the solvency and safety of our own banking institutions.

Resolved, That while we deplore the distracted condition of the country in relation to the vexed questions of policy and law as to the proper mode of safe keeping of the revenues of the General Government, we cannot view with composure the continual drain upon our circulating medium, caused by the proceeds of sales of public lands being deposited in Banks of other States, thereby giving those Banks a decided advantage over our institutions and our citizens.

Resolved, That we have no hesitation in declaring, that the policy and practice of depositing the revenues of the General Government, collected in this State, in the Bank of Missouri, is at war with our best interests, more especially so since we see that the public moneys are still deposited in Banks, to some extent.

Resolved, That we consider submission on the part of our public functionaries, in and out of Congress, to the practice of withdrawing from our State the revenues collected here, and depositing them to the support of another banking institution in a neighboring State, as a humiliating surrender of the rights of our citizens and their claims to equal justice, protection and support.

Resolved, That while we accord most willingly and cheerfully whatever advantages may arise to other States from the deposit of revenue collected therein, we are not willing to yield to them the advantages derived from revenue collected in our own.

Resolved, That our Senators be instructed, and our Representatives be requested to use the influence which their station gives them, to change the present system of calling out of the State the revenues collected therein, no matter by what rule or regulation the same be countenanced and supported.

Yours, T.

VANDALIA, Dec. 24, 1833.

DEAR SIR—A considerable number of the members of both Houses of the Legislature obtained leave of absence for the week ending Saturday; yet both Houses had a quorum this morning, and at the close of the forenoon session, adjourned over to Wednesday.

On Saturday the House of Representatives appointed a committee of five to proceed to Alton and examine the Penitentiary.

Yours, T.

VANDALIA, Dec. 10, 1833.

DEAR SIR—Since my last, there has been considerable said and but little done in the Legislature. The House has spent four days in committee of the whole on resolutions relating to the revenue. Several excellent speeches were made on both sides, with some report of which I have furnished your readers; but I have, unfortunately for them, lost my notes. The debate however was confined to an examination of the constitutionality or the unconstitutionality of our present revenue law.

One side contended, that inasmuch as the Constitution required "that all taxation shall be by valuation," and as this law did not attempt a compliance with this provision, therefore it is unconstitutional; while the other side just as "simplistically" meant the term "valuation" simply meant the estimate formed of property. The Legislature had done so; and as the law had been in operation so long, and such an amount had been invested in lands under its operation, it would certainly be very injudicious now to attempt a declaration of its unconstitutionality.

All sides seemed to admit the necessity of a change in the revenue system of the State. Our Treasury is only sustained by the tax on

volunteers from Carlisle still remained in Harrisburgh at the latest date; and every thing was then tolerably quiet in that capital.

ALL SORTS OF THINGS GOING.

THE GREAT DEFALCATIONS.

Recent accounts throw additional light on the defalcation of Mr. Price, the late U. S. Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and furnish a striking illustration of the practical results of the Sub-Treasury scheme. It is said that the amount of public money which this individual has appropriated to his own use, exceeds one million of dollars; and the impression generally prevails that he aided Mr. SWARTWORTH in defrauding the government, and that they divided the "spoils" between them.—Formerly, when the merchants' bonds were deposited in the Banks for collection, the proceeds did not pass through the hands of the Attorney. But, under the operation of the system now in force, this officer has it in his power, by colluding with the Collector, to dispose of it as he may choose; and, as in the case before us, to make good his escape out of the country so soon as he becomes apprehensive that the fraud can no longer be concealed.—Mr. Price was one of the acknowledged leaders of the Loco-focos, and, perhaps, the most distinguished advocate of Agrarianism. To hear him harangue his sans-culottes followers, on the pernicious tendency of wealth, one would have imagined he was as rigidly frugal as FABRIZIO, and as strictly honest as CARO. But when, after his flight to Europe, a seizure was made of his effects, his dwelling was discovered to be furnished in a style of more than princely magnificence and splendor. So it is generally with those who declaim the most loudly against what they are pleased to call "the aristocracy of wealth." Their chief object really is to pick the pockets of "the dear people," under pretense of laboring for the promotion of their interests.—Sundry other cases of defalcation are noticed in our exchange papers; among which that of Gen. GRANTON, of the Engineer Department, is perhaps the most conspicuous. He has been dismissed from the service by order of the President; but alleges that he is not a defaulter.

Illinois Legislature.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

VANDALIA, Ill., Dec. 19, 1833.

DEAR SIR—The following resolutions have been this day introduced into the Senate by Mr. Gatewood, and laid on the table, viz:

Resolved, by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Illinois, That we view with deep regret the partiality exercised by the General Government in causing the deposits of public moneys collected in the State of Illinois to be made in Banks without the same.

Resolved, That, as citizens of Illinois, and representatives of the People thereof, we have confidence in the solvency and safety of our own banking institutions.

Resolved, That while we deplore the distracted condition of the country in relation to the vexed questions of policy and law as to the proper mode of safe keeping of the revenues of the General Government, we cannot view with composure the continual drain upon our circulating medium, caused by the proceeds of sales of public lands being deposited in Banks of other States, thereby giving those Banks a decided advantage over our institutions and our citizens.

Resolved, That we have no hesitation in declaring, that the policy and practice of depositing the revenues of the General Government, collected in this State, in the Bank of Missouri, is at war with our best interests, more especially so since we see that the public moneys are still deposited in Banks, to some extent.

Resolved, That we consider submission on the part of our public functionaries, in and out of Congress, to the practice of withdrawing from our State the revenues collected here, and depositing them to the support of another banking institution in a neighboring State, as a humiliating surrender of the rights of our citizens and their claims to equal justice, protection and support.

Resolved, That while we accord most willingly and cheerfully whatever advantages may arise to other States from the deposit of revenue collected therein, we are not willing to yield to them the advantages derived from revenue collected in our own.

Resolved, That our Senators be instructed, and our Representatives be requested to use the influence which their station gives them, to change the present system of calling out of the State the revenues collected therein, no matter by what rule or regulation the same be countenanced and supported.

Yours, T.

VANDALIA, Dec. 24, 1833.

DEAR SIR—A considerable number of the members of both Houses of the Legislature obtained leave of absence for the week ending Saturday; yet both Houses had a quorum this morning, and at the close of the forenoon session, adjourned over to Wednesday.

On Saturday the House of Representatives appointed a committee of five to proceed to Alton and examine the Penitentiary.

Yours, T.

VANDALIA, Dec. 10, 1833.

DEAR SIR—Since my last, there has been considerable said and but little done in the Legislature. The House has spent four days in committee of the whole on resolutions relating to the revenue. Several excellent speeches were made on both sides, with some report of which I have furnished your readers; but I have, unfortunately for them, lost my notes. The debate however was confined to an examination of the constitutionality or the unconstitutionality of our present revenue law.

One side contended, that inasmuch as the Constitution required "that all taxation shall be by valuation," and as this law did not attempt a compliance with this provision, therefore it is unconstitutional; while the other side just as "simplistically" meant the term "valuation" simply meant the estimate formed of property. The Legislature had done so; and as the law had been in operation so long, and such an amount had been invested in lands under its operation, it would certainly be very injudicious now to attempt a declaration of its unconstitutionality.

All sides seemed to admit the necessity of a change in the revenue system of the State. Our Treasury is only sustained by the tax on

"non-resident lands," which is annually decreasing, while the expenses of the State are annually increasing. It is also admitted that, however true the valuation might have been, when made it no longer represents the true estimate of the lands of Illinois. The revenue laws will be altered; a new mode of valuation will be adopted; a large portion will be taken into the State Treasury, which will thus be relieved from the incubus that hangs and has hung over it, and place us in a situation to sustain ourselves.

There was some debate on a preamble and resolutions introduced by Mr. Johnson, of Bond, to rescind the resolutions adopted the National Road. Mr. Johnson maintained that the continuation of this road was materially beneficial to his constituents. They were anxious to see it go to Alton in preference to any other point; they wished its continuation to that point, but if it could not go on until the restrictive resolutions are rescinded, he urged that this should be done, because his constituents ought not to suffer this loss, for the uncertain chance of its ultimate extension to Alton. Mr. J. displayed a very commendable zeal in this his first effort to make a speech in the House. Mr. R. Smith, Mr. G. Smith, and Mr. Otwell, of Madison, all urged the necessity of retaining those restrictions on the statute book; for if now removed, it would say to the Government, take this road now to St. Louis, and Illinois will be your humble servant. Gen. Ewing also, made a speech, the House being in committee of the whole; when a motion was made to strike out all after the word "Resolved," which motion carried, and the House sustained the decision. This morning, however, they reconsidered, and the resolutions were committed to a select committee.

A report was made by the committee on Finance by Mr. Williams, against the Sub-Treasury scheme. It is a very able document, and one that will do ample honor to the gentleman who made it. A counter report was made by the minority of the committee. By mutual understanding, both reports were ordered to lie on the table and be printed together; and it was agreed they should not be taken up until the House was full, and then by the consent of both sides. The report of the majority instructs our Senators to go against the Sub-Treasury scheme; and there is no doubt but the report will be adopted, and the instructions forwarded. But as it is expected that there will be an interesting debate on this subject, I shall defer making any remarks thereon at present.

The great effort now making is, to elect a Public Printer. Both parties are using every possible exertion to succeed. An attempt was made to bring on the election to-morrow. A resolution to this effect passed the House to-day, after several attempts to stave it off, and was sent up to the Senate, where it was also passed by the casting vote of the Speaker. In the afternoon, however, Major Butler moved to reconsider the vote, which was done; and after a long struggle the resolution was laid on the table until the second Monday in January.

The cause of to-day's delay was simply this. There were three Whigs necessarily absent—Mr. Marshall, who, though reproving, is still unable to attend; Mr. Kerr, whose family affliction still prevents his coming to the seat of Government; and Col. H. L. Webb, of Alexander, who has just received information of the death of one of his children, and the dangerous illness of another, which compelled him to return home. The leaders of "the party" conceived this then to be a favorable time to bring on the election, and hence the attempt of to-day. Col. Davidson made an appeal to the magnanimity of his political opponents on this subject; told them of the absence of these members; begged them to delay until all were in their places, and let there be a fair fight and clear course, and whoever won might then claim the victory. But they disregarded the appeal, until in the afternoon, the gentleman mentioned, took the praiseworthy resolution not to aid in any such underhand work, and the resolution was postponed until January.

Yours, T.

VANDALIA, Dec. 20th, 1833.

There was some debate in the House to-day of an interesting nature; and considerable warmth was displayed by some of the speakers. But in order to make you somewhat familiar with the question, I must premise a few remarks.

For some years past, the Legislature of Illinois has been wrestling from the Executive, little by little, all the appointing power, and concentrating it in themselves.—Formerly the Governor, "by and with the advice and consent of the Senate," appointed most of the officers of the Government. But this did not suit the wishes of the members. They passed a law making "State's Attorneys" elective by the Legislature; then Canal Commissioners, Internal Improvement Commissioners, and Pand Commissioners, Bank Directors, &c., &c. All these officers are now to be elected by the joint vote of the two Houses; while the only officers whom the Governor of Illinois can appoint are, Notaries Public, and two Directors for the State Bank, who are reserved for his appointment by the Charter of the institution. Thus you see that the Governor is stripped of patronage; yet, with the solitary exception of Judges of Probate, which under the name of "Probate Justices of the Peace," is given to the Legislature. It is the "Maelstrom," whose circles embrace nearly all the offices in the State, and engulf them in itself forever.

But it is not so much to the fact of the Legislature electing, that objection is made; but that the office is mostly filled by members of the Legislature. Men seek to become the People's Representatives; and in many cases as soon as elected, forgetting the sacred obligations they are under to their constituents, the necessity for devoting their whole time, and whole attention, to their interest, most of their time is taken up in seeking to use their elevation by the people as a means of personal aggrandizement, and pecuniary profit. Hence, the frequency of the remark, you need not oppose a member; for he has so many chances, to sell, to log-roll, &c. He may go for this measure, or against that; just as he can secure votes for the particular office he wants, whether that office be Judge, Circuit Attorney, ATTORNEY GENERAL, WARDEN OF THE PENITENTIARY, &c., &c.

The growth of this evil has been so rapid and extensive, that the people have turned their attention to it, so as if possible to obtain a remedy. They have seen members of the Legislature elected to office, by their own body, over men equally as competent, perhaps more so. They have seen these men again elected to the Legislature, and again candidates before that body for office; and this seeking to monopolize to themselves all the offices and honors of the country.

This subject was brought up yesterday by Mr. Williams, of Adams, who proposed for adoption a resolution, declaring in substance, that, in the opinion of the House of Representatives, the election of members of the Legislature, to office, by the General Assembly

is corrupting in its tendency, and calculated to lead members from the true course which they should pursue.

Although this was but a declaration of opinion, it was assailed with all the violence which would be expected to arise when some exciting party topic was presented. A motion was made to lay it on the table and neglect it. Sundry other motions were made with no better success; and said he presumed it was aimed at him; but he would resist the insinuation. Mr. Williams explained. He said he did not mean his friend from Shelby, nor indeed any gentleman in either House; he aimed only at the practice: it was grown too common and should be checked. Gen. Thornton resumed. He was glad the gentleman from Adams did not have a personal allusion. True, he had held an office, for several years—an office the most responsible, perhaps, of any in the State; yet he never solicited it; it was forced upon him; he was no object to him; and he did not again desire it. Although that office was important, and had immense patronage attached to it, yet he voluntarily resigned it, because his constituents desired him to come here, to vindicate their interests and to sustain that system of improvements in which they felt so deep a stake. But while the people of Shelby had requested him to serve them here, they had told him again and again they wished him to serve the State in his former capacity; yet he made no calculation on doing so. The emoluments of the office were not sufficient to justify his attention to it; and indeed he had made up his mind to retire from it entirely. But he did not wish to be disfranchised; and he thought the reason for bringing this resolution forward was disappointed ambition, &c., &c. Mr. Williams said, that disappointed ambition did not impel him to offer this resolution; his ambition had never been disappointed. He never sought office, from the people; he would not have it from the Legislature; he was himself a member of the Assembly that conferred it; he did not come here to seek office; he asked the people for their favors. They had conferred honor on him, and now his only ambition was to serve them. Nor did he introduce this resolution, because of any personal feeling toward any member. He meant not to insinuate against any one. His motive for introducing the matter was simply to check if possible a great and rapidly growing evil, and he hoped to see it remedied.

Mr. Happy, of Morgan, moved to amend the resolution by adding "or Directors in either of the Banks of this State." Mr. Williams assented to the amendment. Mr. Happy remarked that this was a resolution which had been for some time growing rapidly upon us; and he did wish to see it changed. It was high time that members of the Legislature should attend alone to the business the people sent them here to do. He thought this would be sufficient; but not content with doing so, one wanted this office, another that; and instead of inquiring—what will my constituents think of the measure?—how will it affect their interest? &c., the question too commonly asked is—If I go for this measure or against that, whose vote shall I gain or lose by it? What kind of legislation, he would ask, was this? Would it likely produce good or harm? For his part, he would oppose a practice, so dangerous, impolitic, and the fruitful source of evil.

Mr. Walker, of Vermilion, hoped members would not suffer themselves to be assailed in the way they had been; and wished the resolution would not pass—that they ought not to say by their votes they were corruptible. He would not say it; he did not believe it. If they were to use corruption in order to obtain office, he would not say they were corrupt; he would not say so on the journals. That vote would stand always; it would be a lasting monument to their opinion that men were corrupt. But he did not believe they were; and he would not say so, and he would not let gentlemen to believe they voted for that resolution.

Mr. Henderson, of Bureau, said that as long as he had been acquainted with man, he had always found him liable to do wrong. That almost the first action he had had of him, he was doing wrong; and soon after when they were comparatively few, God himself had said that men were very wicked, and he had no doubt if we could get another report now from the same source, it would tell us they had kept getting worse ever since.—He had not as good an opinion of men as the gentleman last up. He believed even members of the Legislature might be corrupted. At all events, he wished sincerely for every gentleman to pray that imitable prayer, "Lead us not into temptation," and let us know we do so, if we were always laying snares, &c., &c. In 1827, Gen. Jackson, he said, in a communication addressed to the Legislature of Tennessee resigned his seat in the U. S. Senate; and he (Mr. H.) would never forget one expression in it.—"If members of Congress (and by a parity of reasoning members of the Legislature) were appointed to office, during the time for which they have been elected, corruption will be the order of the day." He believed that sentiment then and now. The Constitution of Tennessee precluded members of the Legislature. He wished ours did so absolutely; and he did not think it would have been any time if the framers of it had had an idea, that out of this body every officer to be elected had to be taken, from the Supreme Judge down to the Warden of the Penitentiary.

What was to prevent corruption under such circumstances? He knew there was bargaining in the Legislature for the sake of getting office. He had seen enough of it; he was here during the last session; as saw when a member was a candidate it was almost impossible for any one else to be elected, but his qualifications what they may.

There were some twenty or more officers to be filled this session by the joint vote of the Legislature. There was one contingency in which he would vote for a gainst all filling them. And that contingency was, that no man could be found among the sixty thousand voters of Illinois, capable of filling them. Then he would seek among the one hundred and thirty members of the Legislature for competent men. But would gentlemen compliment their constituents, so highly as to say of these 60,000 men, there were not 20 capable of filling office, out of this Legislature? He would leave it with them; but believing as competent men could be found, as any here, he would vote for the resolution.

Mr. Murphy, of Vermilion, moved to amend the resolution, by precluding members of the Legislature from being employed by the Board of Public Works, which was adopted.

Mr. R. Smith, of Madison, said he should oppose the resolution; for he was opposed to disfranchising members. His constituents sent him here, because they had confidence in him; and he would vote in accordance with their sentiments. They did not want to trammel him; he knew them well, and he knew they would expect him to pursue such a course, as the majority of them would pursue if they were here. He presumed the resolution was aimed at him; but if

gentlemen thought that he would shrink from voting against it, because his name was mentioned for some of the offices to be filled this session, they were much mistaken. He would vote against the resolution; nor would the action of that House have any bearing upon him, as a candidate for the office with which his name had been connected. But he did hope the resolution would be rejected.

After sundry other remarks and motions, the question was taken on the adoption of the resolution as amended, which was adopted by Yeas 41, Nays 42.

Respectfully, yours, T.

VANDALIA, Dec. 21.

DEAR SIR—The exciting topic disposed of yesterday, of the election of members to office in their own gift, was again brought up to-day. Soon after the House met, Mr. Johnson, of Bond, said he had been requested to move the reconsideration of the vote taken yesterday on the resolution of the gentleman from Adams, precluding members of the Legislature from office, &c. The vote was reconsidered accordingly; when Mr. Murphy, of Perry, moved to lay the resolution on the table. He said the resolution was unconstitutional; that that instrument only contemplated the exclusion of members from offices which were created by themselves; and he saw no reason why they should not be elected to such offices. For his part he would not abide by any such decision as the House made yesterday; and he hoped the matter would be dropped.

Mr. Happy said, he would like to see gentlemen walk up to this question boldly, and meet it like men. Why wish to shrink from the responsibility of a direct vote on this question? Gentlemen knew very well how to dodge. The people were to be deceived, by these side way questions. Lay the resolution on the table, and what then? Why, the people could be told it was informal, or almost any thing else, to shield gentlemen. Surely, they were prepared to vote directly for or against the resolution. They would never have a better time. They had all kind of chances. All night they had had the opportunity of drilling members. They could secure the timid, encourage the wavering, and use all the power of numbers by appealing to the hopes of many. They have doubtless done their best to defeat this resolution. All their fine expectations of office, have impelled them to use every means to destroy a proposition, which seemed to be in their way. Now, let them come up, and vote like men—vote direct, so that the people might see their votes; but not try to ward it off by an indirect vote to lie on the table. For his part he could tell them, all their efforts had not changed his mind.

After several other remarks, by various members, the vote was taken on laying on the table, and decided in the negative—Yeas 41, Nays 43.—Mr. Webb, of Adams, then moved to refer the resolution to the committee on the Judiciary. He said his only object was, to have the matter investigated, by that committee; and if it could be done, he wished a bill reported which would cover the whole case. He approved of the objects of the resolution; but he would prefer a law which would remedy the evil; for an evil it was, and it was growing rapidly. Already he had no doubt almost every office was apportioned out among the members. He hoped they would be disappointed, and that the majority of this House would oppose the election of any member. But he believed it ought to be made the law of the land; and hence he moved the reference to the committee on the Judiciary.

Several amendments were proposed and voted down, when the House finally refused to refer. Other references were proposed, and several gentlemen's speeches made; but all failing, Mr. Lincoln moved its reference to the committee on Internal Improvements. Mr. Smith, of Wabash, and Mr. Thornton, both seemed to regard this as a direct attack on them. They were members of this committee, interested in the decision; and they would not allow the insinuation. They would hold the gentleman from Sangamon responsible, &c., &c. Mr. Lincoln replied, he did not make the reference with any such design as had been attributed to him. He had always been the friend of both the gentleman; and at the last extra session he had voted against such a proposition, because his friend from Wabash was personally interested in the decision, being at that time in the employ of the State. But he would now assure the gentlemen, that the proposition to refer did not originate with him. He was requested to make the motion by one of his special friends, and a member of the same committee, viz: the gentleman from Perry, (Mr. Murphy,) and to oblige him he had made the motion. But he was glad he had made it; the hydra was exposed; and all the talk about settling this matter at another time, and having no objection to it, if gentlemen insisted on it. He was always ready, and never shrink from responsibility. Mr. Barker said that this matter was assuming rather a serious character. He had opposed the resolution originally, because he was not satisfied of the extent of the evil. But the warmth of debate, and the anxiety shown to stifle the proposition in certain quarters, had satisfied him of the necessity of prompt action in the premises. As it was now late, however, he would move that the House adjourn, which was agreed to; and here, for the present, the matter rests.

There were some important resolutions introduced in the Senate to-day by Mr. Gatewood, of Gallatin, in relation to the deposit of public money collected in this State, in the Bank of Missouri, in preference to our own Banks—inquiring the reasons for such preference—and directing our Senators and Representatives to have the matter changed; which resolutions, on his motion, were laid on the table.

This is an important question, and I am gratified that it is attracting the attention of the Legislature. The whole of the public revenue collected in Illinois for several years has been transported out of the State, and contributed to sustain other Banks. Our institutions are as solvent as the State Bank of Missouri. Our Banks are in a better state than those of any other State; and as the State Bank is a creature of the people, circulating here, the money taken at the Land Offices in Illinois, is Illinois money. This is hurried off to St. Louis, placed on deposit there, and the Bank can either use it, re-issue it, or hoard it up, and drag from our Banks the specie for it, just as it suits them. Thus power is given the Missouri Bank, to cripple the operations of ours, and make a favorite as they please. Even now they boast of having seventy or eighty thousand dollars of the notes of the Bank of Illinois, received in this way, for which they will demand either specie or eastern exchanges. This evil should be remedied; and when the debate comes up, I will try to give you some account of it.

Yours, T.

VANDALIA, Dec. 21.

Extract of a letter from a gentleman at Vandalia, to his friend in this city, dated December 21.

Mr. Marshall, of Gallatin, and Mr. Kerr, of Pike, have not yet taken their seats. The former is said to be getting well, and it is expected that he will take his seat in a few

weeks. Mr. Kerr is detained by the sickness of his wife. Mr. H. L. Webb has gone home on account of sickness of his family. Senators Ross and Weatherford have not left of absence for ten days. Mr. Cloud, of Morgan, and Mr. McWilliams, of Pike, have also gone home.

The uncertain members may be said to hold the balance of power. It is understood that Mr. Burroughs goes against the Sub-Treasury; but he votes with the Vanities in elections. Mr. H. L. Webb goes against the Sub-Treasury; and in elections he sets up for himself, as you have seen. It is supposed by some that the Wabash member will not vote for the Vanite candidates, though he voted for Ewing for Speaker.

The appropriation for finishing and furnishing the new State House (\$25,800) has passed the Senate.—Candidates for Councils and Governor, are making their names known to the Board of Public Works—John Hogan, Robert Smith, Nathaniel Buckmaster. This is what rumor says—probably she is correct.

Members appear loth to meddle with the Internal Improvement system. The report of the Board of Commissioners is not yet made. Some modifications of Gen. Thornton's plan, so that the aggregate number of miles of Rail Roads might be a little reduced, will be apt to take.

Obituary.

DIED—On Wednesday evening last, after a short but severe illness, of the inflammatory complaint of Throat, W. D. BRALL, son of Mr. E. Brall, of this city, aged about 17.

M. B. DENMAN.

Commission & Produce Merchant, Phila.

RESPECTFULLY solicits consignments of Western Produce.

G. L. LAMB, Esq., Alton, will receive, forward, and make advance on consignments of produce destined for the Philadelphia, New York, and Boston markets.

Col. Thos. Maher, President State Bank of Ill., will receive, forward, and make advance on consignments of produce, at Springfield.

J. G. Lamb, Esq., Alton.

Collier & Pettis.

E. G. W. Kerr & Co., St. Louis.

Dec. 29, 1833.

New Store & New Goods.

THE subscriber would inform the public generally, that he has taken the Store formerly occupied by Mr. W. Webb, of Adams, and is now opening a large and well assorted stock of Dry Goods, Groceries, and other articles, at the old stand, at the corner of Adams and Main streets, to which he is respectfully invited.

Intending to devote his particular attention to his business, and to the variety of his stock, he will be enabled to offer GOODS as low as any other dealer in cash or country produce.

Alton, Dec. 29-31st.

F. D. TOPPING.

FOR SALE—A HOUSE AND LOT in Upper Alton.

Bringing about 1000 ft. front on the river, the subscriber will sell his House and Lot on the river. Apply on the premises near the Steamboat Landing, to W. WILKINSON.

N. B. The House is newly finished, one story, and suitable for a small family. Dec. 29-31st.