THE JOURNAL.

SPRINGFIELD, ILL.,

Saturday, January 19. 1839.

FOR PRESIDENT:
WILLIAM H. HARRISON.

MARTIN VAN BUREN AND NICHOLAS BIDDLE.

Every man in the United States is familiar with the character of that war which has so long existed between these personages. The hostility of Mr. Van Buren was summed up in these memorable words—"*Uncompromising hostility to the re-charter of the United States Bank.*" Mr. Biddle, in his turn, not to be cut done by Mr. Van Buren, summed up his hostility in that expressive sentence, in his letter to John Quincy Adams, that "the American Banks should do, in short, what the American army did at New Orleans—*stand fast behind their "cotton bags until the* ENEMY (the administration) *has left the country.*"

The papers in the confidence of the administration followed up its denunciations, and heaped upon Mr. Biddle all the vile epithets they could invent. *Monster, Money King, Bank aristocrats, Rag Barons, Biddle, Bank, Bank, Biddle, Privileged frauds and swindling monopolies,* were applied with all the changes that could be rung upon such choicely selected epithets.

Then, to ring the changes upon these epithets, was *a test of democracy.* They embodied the principles of Mr. Van Buren's *democratic party.* But a CHANGE has now "come over" Mr. Van Buren's democracy and that of his party. "Uncompromising hostility" to Mr. Biddle and his Bank, has now ceased to be the test of political orthodoxy. The party presses, if they have not altogether ceased their denunciations of the "Monster" and the "Money King," "roar gently as a sucking dove."

PRESIDENT BIDDLE AND PRESIDENT VAN BUREN are FRIENDS! This has been accomplished with the same facility that friendship between *Vice President Van Buren* and *Vice President Calhoun* was restored. All parties found it for their *interest.*

To accomplish this reconciliation between *President Biddle and President Van Buren,* mutual *concessions* were required. On the part of Mr. Van Buren, these were given in his last *message.* Those of President Biddle, will be found, in a letter of his, recently published, to John Quincy Adams.

These *explanations* and *concessions,* which we have found arranged to our wishes in the New York Times, are here given. They are a great *curiosity.*

Here they are:

Pres. Van Buren—The imprudent expansion of the bank credits, which was the natural result of the command of the revenues of the state, furnished the resources for unbounded license in every species of adventure, seduced industry from its regular and salutary occupations, by the hope of abundance without labor, and deranged the social state by tempting all trades and professions into the vortex of speculation on remote contingencies.

Pres. Biddle.—It was manifest too that the calamity had outgrown the *capacity of mere positions*—that the country must take care of itself, and rely upon itself, and as, in times of peril, the voice of the humblest citizen may sometimes be heard above the tumult, my own personal position *seemed* to justify the assumption of instant and deep responsibility. Accordingly, at the very moment when the *national misfortune* occurred immediate measures were adopted to mitigate and to repair it.

Pres. Van Buren—It is *thus* concentrated money power is tempted to become an active agent in *political affairs,* and all past experience has shown on which side that influence will be arrayed. We deceive ourselves if we suppose that it will *ever* be found asserting and supporting the rights of the community at large, in opposition to the claims of the few.

Pres. Biddle—These measures were essentially of a *temporary* nature—they were measures of *emergency,* adopted in the midst of a *public calamity,* and to be *discontinued* with the necessity which caused them. As soon, therefore, as the capital and industry of the country had time to subside into their accustomed channels these operations were relinquished, and now they have totally and finally ceased.

Pres. V. Buren—It is no more than *just* to the banks to say, that in the late emergency, most of them firmly resisted the strongest temptations to extend their paper issues, when apparently sustained in a suspension of specie payments by public opinion.

Pres. Biddle—In such a crisis it was evident that if resort was had to rigid curtailments, the ability to pay would be proportionably diminished—while the only true system was, to keep the country as much at ease as consistent with its safety, so as to enable the debtors to collect their resources for the discharge of their debts.

Pres. Van Buren—It is gratifying to find that the general business of the community, deeply affected as it has been, is reviving with additional vigor, chastened by the lessons of the past, and animated by the hopes of the future.

Pres. Biddle.—All these have done, and the troubles of the country have happily ceased.

Pres, Van Buren—Like other state establishments, the banks may be used or not in conducting the affairs of the government, as public policy and the general interests of the Union may seem to require.

Pres. Biddle—In the month of July the government agreed to receive an anticipated payment of the *bonds* of the bank to the amount of between four and *five million of dollars in a credit to the treasurer on the books of the bank,* and arrangements were made for the more distant public disbursements *in the notes of the bank.*

Pres. Van Buren.—When the government can accomplish a *financial operation better with the aid of the banks than without,* it should be at liberty to seek that aid.

Pres. Biddle.—These arrangements, as *honorable to the executive officers* as they were beneficial to the public service, brought the GOVERNMENT into efficient *co-operation for the* RE-ESTABLISHMENT *of the currency;* and opened the way to a resumption of specie payments.

Pres. Van Buren—By the HONORABLE application of all AVAILABLE means to the fulfilment of obligations, confidence has been restored both at home and abroad, and ease and facility secured to all the operations of trade.

Pres. Biddle.—The consequence is that the general credit of the country never stood higher than at this moment—for it has now earned a distinction entirely exclusive and characteristic—THAT WHILE THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES IS THE ONLY GOVERNMENT ON EARTH THAT HAS EVER PAID TO THE LAST CENT ITS NATIONAL DEBT, the people of the United States have discharged their PRIVATE ENGAGEMENTS with an unexampled fidelity—A CIVIL GLORY THIS, WORTH A THOUSAND VICTORIES.

Pres. Van Buren,—"It is not in the nature of things that hostility to Banks can spring from this source (the president) or any opposition to their course of business, except when they themselves DEPART FROM THE OBJECTS OF THEIR CREATION, and attempt to abuse powers not conferred upon them."

Pres. Biddle.—"Of the future it is difficult to speak: but in that FUTURE the Bank of the United States will no longer occupy its past position.

"In the midst of troubles the character of our institutions was threatened by a combination of POLITICIANS IN PENNSYLVANIA, who endeavored to establish as the basis of American legislation, that a CHARTER or other engagement made by any state legislature *was liable to be annulled by any subsequent legislature*—and still more effectually BY ANY POLITICAL MEETING CALLED A CONVENTION—which is only another form of extraordinary legislation—and an attempt was announced to carry that dogma into effect at a CONVENTION then approaching. The assertion of such a right by the state GOVERNMENT to annul all its engagements to foreigners, put forth at a moment when the country was laboring under a temporary inability to pay its debts, was calculated to destroy all confidence in the integrity of our American institutions, and I therefore said in my letter. "*This must not be.*"

Pres. Van Buren.—"Though always opposed to their CREATION in the form of EXCLUSIVE PRIVILEGES, and, as a state magistrate aiming by appropriate legislation to secure the community against the consequences of their occasional mismanagement, I HAVE YET EVER WISHED to see them protected in the exercise of rights conferred by law."

Pres. Biddle.—When the convention met, one of its most decided acts was the following resolution passed on the 21st of Nov. 1837.

Resolved, That it is the sense of this convention that a charter duly granted under an act of assembly, to a bank, or other private corporation, is when accepted, a contract with the parties to whom the grant is made: and if such charter be unduly granted, or subsequently misused, it may be avoided by the judgment of a court of justice, in due course of law, and no otherwise, unless in pursuance of a power expressly reserved in the charter."

Pres. Van Buren.—*The limited influence of a national bank in averting derangement in the* exchanges of the country, or in *compelling* the resumption of specie payments is now not less apparent that its tendency to increase *inordinate speculation* by sudden *expansions and contractions, its disposition to create* PANIC *and embarrassment for the promotion of its own designs, its interference with politics;* and its far greater power for EVILL than for GOOD, either in regard to the local institutions or the operations of government itself.—What was in these respects but *apprehension or opinion* when a NATIONAL BANK was first established *now* stand confirmed by *humiliating experience.* The scenes through which we have passed CONCLUSIVELY prove how little our commerce, agriculture, manufactures, require such an institution, and what dangers are attendant on its power—a power, I trust, never to be conferred by the American people upon their government, and still less upon individuals not responsible to them for its UNAVOIDABLE ABUSES.

Pres. Biddle.—The BANK OF THE UNITED STATES, had CEASED to be a national institution in 1836, and was preparing to occupy its new place as a state bank, when the troubles of 1837 forced it in some degree back into its old position; and it then devoted all its power to assist in carrying the country unhurt through its recent troubles. Having done this, its extraordinary duties ceased. For the future, it will not exert this involuntary power. It has no longer any responsibility to the Union. It has no longer any controversey with the government of the Union. It now desires only repose, and it will take its rank hereafter, as a simple state institution.

Pres Van Buren.—The banks have but to continue in the same safe course and be content in their appropriate sphere, to avoid all interference with the General Government, and to derive from it all the protection and benefits which it bestows on other state establishments, on the people of the states, and on the states themselves. In this, their true position, they cannot but secure the confidence and good will of the people and the government. Giving the preference to those who will serve it on the best terms.

Pres. Biddle.—With great regard, &c.

N. BIDDLE.

MR. VAN BUREN—U. S. BANK—AND THE STATE BANK.

The favor which Mr. Van Buren is now extending to the U. States Bank—an institution against which he had declared "uncompromising hostility,"—is as injurious to our State, as it was extraordinary and unexpected.

The administration have refused to make the State Bank of Illinois a depository of public monies collected in this State. This has been done on the ground, that the Bank, having paid out notes of a less denomination than five dollars, during the suspension of specie payments, was excluded by law from being made a government depository.

The same construction of the law referred to, if we mistake not, would prevent the reception of the notes of the State Bank, at the Land Offices, in payment for public lands. Government, however, has directed their reception at the Land Offices.

A large portion of the circulating medium in Illinois, Missouri, and in Iowa territory, is the notes of the State Bank of Illinois. The policy of the government causes these notes to be collected in large amounts at the Land Offices; and from thence they are carried to St. Louis and deposited in the Missouri State Bank.

A heavy amount of disbursements is made by the government, where these notes pass as readily as gold and silver. But these notes are not disbursed by the government. The government compels the State Bank of Illinois to redeem her notes collected in the Missouri Bank, by transferring funds and placing them to the credit of the government in the city of New York, at the cost of the Institution and the People of this State, of two per cent. on the amount.

We say at the cost of the People of this State—because a great portion of the stock of the Bank is owned by the State, and if the dividends on this stock are lessened by this policy of the government, the State will be compelled to resort to direct taxes to pay the interest of the money borrowed to carry on our Internal Improvements.

But, it will be asked, in what funds does the government make its disbursements in the West? The answer is at hand—*in the notes of the United States Bank!*

It does seem to us that if our delegation in Congress, and the people of this State, submit to this condition of things, without an effort to do themselves justice, they will evince a degree of pusillanimity and subserviency not very flattering to their character.

☞ London papers to the 25th November, represent American stocks as still in demand, and prices a shade higher. The same papers give alarming accounts of the dissatisfaction and distress in the agricultural districts. Incendiary burnings of agricultural property, such as hay ricks, etc. are said to be fearfully frequent. The immediate cause is said to be the high and increasing price of bread. A special meeting of the Chamber of Commerce had been held in Manchester, for the purpose of petitioning for a repeal of the corn laws.

NEW ORLEANS MARKET.

December 13.—Sugar, N. O. 6 1-4 a 7.- Molasses, on levee, 33 a 34 cts. Pork, clear, 27; mess, 22 a 26. Lard, 12 1-2 a 13, Beef, mess, 19. Flour, 9. Coffee, Havana, 12 1-2 a 13. Whiskey 62 a 65.

The Mississippi is rising slowly. Weather cloudy with occasional rains. *Missouri Republican, 15th.*

AN ENQUIRY AND AN ANSWER.

A writer in the Chicago Democrat, calling himself a "Whig," (but who is probably about as much a whig as we are a loco,) calls upon Governor DUNCAN to make good the following statement in his last message:—

"It is notorious that many of the subordinate collectors, who are active supporters of the party, have squandered the public money *with a perfect knowledge of the Executive.*"

As the writer would appear very desirous to receive some light upon the subject, we present him with annexed extracts from a late speech of Mr. PRENTISS, of Mississippi, in reference to certain defalcations; and we think we can promise him, if his loco foco brethren will permit the publication of a Report from the Secretary of the Treasury, embracing his correspondence with public defaulters, that he will find sufficient evidence to satisfy him upon the subject of his laudable enquiry.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, Dec. 27.

The question being on the reference of the President's Annual Message—

Mr. PRENTISS resumed his remarks. He said he thought the appointing power was responsible for defalcations—especially for the running away of the two defaulters at New York. He thought the President's selection of one of the greater defaulters there as but the *ruse* of the bear, which when pursued by the hunter drops one of her cubs, to save the rest by checking the pursuit. Mr. Prentiss said he should not stop by the way side, but go to the [illegible] and drag out the old she bear herself. The cubs that had escaped were less to be looked after than the mother of the cubs.

Mr. Prentiss began with the Secretary of the Treasury, exposing, first, the facts connected with the defalcations of John Spencer, a great defaulter to the government, and a Receiver of public monies in Indiana. He convicted Mr. Spencer of gross frauds, showing from reference to public documents, which were read, that the Secretary of the Treasury was cognizant of the fact of the defalcations. He showed too, that the defalcations were not exposed on account of the elections in the States where they were committed. He read eighteen letters, the object of which was to show that certain officers of the General Government were defaulters, and defaulters with the knowledge of the head of the Treasury Department, if not of the Executive. He then said that the Secretary of the Treasury had sworn that there were no defalcations, no longer since than February, 1837. In March, 1838, a public account of the defalcations was published. He then proved that the Secretary had knowledge of defalcations which begun in 1834. To sustain these broad assertions letters and circulars were read from Mr. Woodbury and his subordinate officers in different parts of the country.

He examined the defalcation of Mr. Harris, of Mississippi, two years and a half in office, and kept there a defaulter with the full knowledge of the Secretary of the Treasury that he was a defaulter. He quoted a correspondence—reading eighteen letters from Mr. Woodbury to Mr. Harris alone—for the purpose of showing that Mr. Woodbury did not speak the truth, when he said in 1837 he know nothing of defalcations.

All this correspondence took place within a period of 30 months. Mr. Harris, in the mean time, had been petted and excused, and had received all possible favor from the head of the Treasury Department. He had secured what public money he could, and had then resigned his place.

The letters of Mr. Harris, and the manner he had been dealt with by the President of the United States and the Secretary of the Treasury, showed a feudal system in the United States, Mr. Prentiss said, more remarkable than that which had distinguished Europe in the best days of feudalism. The feudatories in this administration had met with more favors than the feudatories of old. The land system was more grand and extensive, and the system was conducted upon a grander scale here, than it had been in any other section of the world. And now, said Mr. Prentiss, I should like to know why it was that Wm. D. Harris was continued in public office during the whole time he was known to be a public defaulter to the Government? Why did not the President remove him? Why?—Because he did not dare to do so. Mr. Harris was a man of great influence in Mississippi. He was a zealous and powerful minister, and therefore he was not removed, although he was known and well known to be a defaulter.

In view of the facts connected with Mr. Harris's defalcations, said Mr. Prentis, I cannot but mourn over the depravity of the times, and the deep disgrace in which the facts I have mentioned bring this country. I mourn especially over the depravity which has shown itself since Harris *resigned,* a defaulter to the government to the amount of $60,000. What followed? The appointment of another defaulter,—a Mr. Boyd—who became as bad and more a defaulter than Mr. Harris.

Mr. Prentiss then spoke of Mr. Boyd, who was proclaimed a defaulter—known to be so, and kept in office as a defaulter. He spoke too of a letter written by James Shea, begging forgiveness for this Mr. Boyd. Shea expressed his opinion that Boyd would go and sin no more. He felt sure he was a penitent and would not again be a transgressor. She said, "don't appoint another man, for Boyd is truly penitent, and if a third man is appointed, he will very likely to do as Harris and Boyd, his two predecessors have done before him—become a defaulter also." Mr. Shea's advice had its effect, and for a long time Mr. Boyd was kept in office.

The particulars of Boyd's defalcation, and others, were explained at length, and many important facts connected with them. Of the 250 letters referring to this subject in a special report, more than 200 of them complained of violations of duty on the part of public officers.

MR. VAN BUREN'S ECONOMY.—The Secretary of the Treasury, in his Report to Congress, says the expenditures of the three first quarters of 1838, amount to $28,427,218; and estimates those of the fourth quarter at $12,000,000—total for the year, $40,427,218!! This is about a fair specimen of the manner in which the affairs of government have been conducted for the last few years. It has prated of economy, and yet its expenses yearly are about four times as much as under the *extravagant* administration of Mr. Adams!

MARYLAND.—The Legislature met on the 1st inst. In the Senate, RICHARD THOMAS was elected President, 11 to 10. In the House, CHARLES STERRET RIDGELY was chosen Speaker, 30 to 32. The subordinate officers of both Houses are whigs. The votes for Governor had been counted by the Senate, and Mr. Grason's majority found to be 311.

ALABAMA.—The Legislature of Alabama convened on the 4th ult. In the Senate, JAMES M. CALHOUN, (L. F.) was elected President, by a vote of 14 to 7. In the House, JAMES W. McCLUNG, [whig,] was chosen Speaker, by a vote of 48 to 42. The election of Mr. McClung as Speaker, is proof conclusive that the lower House is decidedly anti-sub-treasury.

FRANCE AND MEXICO.

VERA CRUZ.—This Mexican fortress was captured by the French fleet under command of Admiral C. Baudin, on the 27th November. Previous to that day he had demanded its surrender; but the answer was "war to the blade, and from the blade to the hilt." During the morning the French squadron proceeded, with three double banked frigates, four sloops of war, as many brigs and bomb vessels, and took their position abreast of the castle, it about one mile distant, without interruption. At half past 2 P. M. the bombardment commenced—at five the French bombs had taken effect, and two tremendous explosions occurred in the castle. These explosions buried two hundred men and dismounted 170 pieces of artillery. During this fire, 400 men including 35 officers, were killed in the castle. The next morning the castle surrendered, and at 12 M. the French flag was hoisted upon it. It is said that during the bombardment, almost the whole interior of the castle was destroyed—a certain proof of the skill of the French gunners. This castle has heretofore been proved impregnable. Five thousand shot were fired from the squadron during the action, and 1700 from the castle.

A late arrival from Mexico announces that the Mexican government, not willing to sanction the treaty entered into between Admiral Baudin and the commander of the castle, had declared war against France. At the same time Gen. Santa Anna had, in violation of the treaty, entered the town of Vera Cruz, at the head of 5000 men. So soon as the French admiral ascertained this fact, he sent his boats filled with troops to spike the cannon on the batteries. The Mexican troops fell upon them and [illegible] Gen. Santa Ana in this contest, was so severely wounded as to require the amputation of a leg. At the last accounts the French Admiral was bombarding the town, with the view of driving Santa Ana's force out of it.

The rumor that Wm. May has abandoned his seat in Congress in consequence of late developements of fraud practiced by him upon the General Land Office at Washington and cleared for Texas, proves unfounded, as we supposed. At last dates he was in his seat. It is thought he will visit Illinois again before he leaves the U. S. Truett, it seems has already set out, and, with an eye to his father-in-law's promotion at another election in the new republic, took a whig along with him.

Chicago Democrat.

We copy the above to exhibit the *low* and *grovelling* spirit that governs the Chicago Democrat. Mr. MAY can well congratulate himself that he does not belong to a party of which the Democrat is the organ.

The editor of that paper mistakes the course which would ensure respectability to himself and his publication. Had he been at Vandalia the last few weeks, and heard his own political friends, disprove, in strong terms, the course of his paper, in its uncalled for and unjustifiable attacks upon individuals and communities—protesting against being held in any way responsible for its course in these particulars—he would, probably, then, have been able to appreciate the truth of our remarks.

THE OHIO V. BUREN ABOLITION SENATOR.

The election of BENJAMIN TAPPAN, a rank abolitionist, (we beg pardon for calling him *Lewis* Tappan—we are not as well acquainted with the family as our neighbor professes to be) as a U. S. Senator for Ohio, seems to give the patent democracy much trouble. At present, they are busily employed in attempting to WHITE-wash him, but the more they lay on with the brush the BLACKER he grows.—All the white-washing of the Globe, and the "leetle" globes, only serve to make DARKNESS more visible. The editor of the Cincinnati Gazette, who has had an acquaintance of forty years with Benjamin Tappan, says of him,

"Mr. Arthur Tappan, not Lewis Tappan, have either ever evinced a more settled scorn for the slave holder's pretensions on the subject of slavery, than BENJAMIN TAPPAN."

The Baltimore Patriot states, on the authority of a person who was present, that Benjamin Tappan delivered an anti-slavery address at an abolition meeting in Steubenville, in 1832. "In this," says the gentleman, "there is no mistake—as curiosity led me to be one of the auditors."

The Richmond Whig says that "it has been assured on unquestionable authority," that when Mr. Tappan, the newly elected Van Buren Senator of Ohio, was Judge, some years since, while holding court in his district, he (Judge Tappan,) was told that there was "*bad* news from Virginia—that an insurrection had taken place in Southampton county," &c. &c. He replied, that he considered that *good news*—that it was right for the slaves to rid themselves in any manner they chose, of their masters, and that "if his *son* were to go to assist in quelling the insurrection, he *would disinherit him.*"

We are still of the opinion that our loco foco neighbor should immediately put his paper into mourning on account of the election of the Abolition Senator. Unless this should be done soon, his readers will have a right to complain of his "lagging zeal" in the democratic cause.

We notice that the nominations of quite a number of Land Officers have been confirmed by the Senate; but among them we do not see the name of Gen. *Turney.* Is he to be punished?

The sub-treasury experiment in the case of Collector Swartwout, it is officially stated, cost the U. S. $1,374,119.

CANADA.—Montreal papers say that another attack upon Canada is in contemplation; and that a body of Canadians and Americans, with that object in view, are now at Swanton, well armed and organized for the purpose.

FOREIGN SUPPLIES.—The Liverpool packets, now arriving at N. York, bring large supplies of English goods, of almost every name and kind.

"DAILY CHICAGO AMERICAN."—Wm. Stewart, Esq. of the Chicago American, proposes to publish his paper daily, to commence on the 1st of March. The paper will be of the medium size; and the subscription price $6 per year.

FIRE AT RICHMOND.—A destructive Fire occurred in Richmond, Va. on the 29th—which consumed the Eagle Hotel and other property valued at 160,000 dollars—half of the amount of which was insured.

GEORGIA.—The Van Buren members of the Legislature of Georgia, have nominated Hon. JOHN FORSYTH for Vice President. It is reported that this and other demonstrations of the determination of the party, will probably induce Col. R. M. Johnson to decline being a candidate for re-election.

PENNSYLVANIA.—After the late severe freshet on the Juniata, which proved so destructive to the Pennsylvania Canal in that vicinity,—the State not being in possession of the requisite funds to complete the repairs—the Bank of the U. States promptly offered to advance the money, which was accepted by Gov. Ritner, and about 300,000 dollars drawn from the Bank to make the repairs.

The Legislature of Iowa Territ'ry has passed a law appointing Commissioners to select a situation in Johnson County, for the seat of government of that territory for three years. Until that time the public business will be transacted at Burlington.

ILLINOIS LEGISLATURE.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE JOURNAL.

VANDALIA, Jan. 4, 1838.

Mr. Gatewood's resolutions were called up in the Senate to-day for final disposition. Mr. Gatewood delivered a lengthy and able argument in their favor. He was followed by Mr. Hacker, who declared that the thing had assumed a party character, and that he and his party were comfortably *licked.* Mr. Hacker offered an amendment, which was to strike out all after the word "Illinois." Mr. Gatewood was opposed to the amendment—he was opposed to the mock policy of the government, which received the paper of our Banks for public dues, and then deposited it in Banks out of the State. Mr. Hacker's amendment was rejected.

Mr. Parrish wished to vote for some of the resolutions, and was opposed to others. He was against giving foreign Banks an advantage over our own. He therefore offered a substitute for all the resolutions. A question of order arose; and the Speaker pronounced the motion in order;—motion to substitute negatived. Mr. Hacker then proposed an amendment, and Mr. Peck another. Mr. Hacker stated that he had several other amendments yet to offer.—Mr. Davidson remarked, that from the indications in the Senate, he was convinced that the members were satisfied with the resolutions in their present form; and believing that the senate could be better employed than in discussing amendments which he was satisfied could not be adopted, he moved the previous question.

Mr. Herndon hoped the gag would not be applied; and Mr. Hacker said that this was not the first time that he had been gagged by the Senator from White. Mr. Davidson replied that Mr. Herndon, that there was no one in the senate he was more anxious to oblige than him: but that he was compelled by a sense of duty to take the course he had done. In reply to the remark of Mr. Hacker, he said, that the assertion made by him was not correct—that he had been sometime a member of that body, and that he believed he had now moved the previous question for the first time; but if the Senate chose a prolonged discussion they could reject his motion. The previous question was sustained—yeas 20, nays 18. The resolutions were then adopted by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Allen, Blackwell, Borough, Browning, Butler, Churchill, Davidson, Fithian, Fletcher, Gatewood, Greer, Hamlin, Harrison, Hunter, Little, Mills, Mitchell, Moore, Monroe, Murray, O'Rear, Ross, Servant, Thomas, Wood—25.

NAYS—Gaston, Hacker, Hackelton, Herndon, Johnson, Nunnally, Parrish, Peck, Richardson, Stadden, Turney, Weatherford, Witt—13.

In the House, to-day, the bill ordering the distribution of the School Fund among the counties was referred to the committee of the whole. Mr. Pace offered a resolution to increase the capital stock of the Bank of Illinois: agreed to. Mr. Smith of Wabash, offered resolutions concerning depositing the moneys collected by the General Government in Illinois, in foreign Banks, and urging our Senators and Representatives in Congress to procure a change OF THE LAWS of the United States on that subject, [The Secretary of the Treasury has decided that no change is necessary—he having selected Banks as depositories which were supposed to be excluded by law.] Mr. Walker, of Vermillion offered an amendment to Mr. Smith's resolution—all of which were laid on the table.

The Committee of Investigation are progressing in their duties. Mr. Brockenbrough, it is understood, will immediately proceed to Morgan county, for persons and papers.

VANDALIA, Jan. 5, 1839.

The Senate this day had under discussion a bill relating to landlords and tenants. Senator Thomas said, that at present it was difficult to understand what was law upon the subject—that as the matter now stood, the landlords possessed great and arbitrary power. Mr. Browning delivered a speech of some length upon, and in favor, of the proposed law. A motion of Mr. Hacker to strike all out after the enacting clause—rejected. Some amendments offered by Mr. Thomas were concurred in; and the bill ordered to be engrossed.

In the House, Mr. Fiske made a report upon certain correspondence transmitted by the Executive of Georgia, containing a refusal to give up a fugitive slave by the Governor of Maine, from that State, accompanied with resolutions disapproving of the conduct of the Governor of Maine. After a desultory debate the subject was postponed till Monday week.

Mr. Gatewood's resolutions from the Senate, were received and read. Mr. Calhoun offered a preamble and resolutions upon the subject of these resolutions, which were laid upon the table and made the order of the day for Monday next.

It is understood here that the United States Marshal is now on his way to Rock Island to remove the settlers upon that Island. Here is remarkable evidence of the kind feeling the government have for settlers upon the public lands. If it cannot be done otherwise the Military will be required to remove them. Many of these settlers have made improvements and have families, which are now to be turned into the prairies in the depth of winter.

VANDALIA, Jan. 8, 1839.

There was a little flurry in the Senate yesterday morning; but you know that "members are not answerable for words spoken in debate." Mr. Johnston offered a resolution, instructing the Committee on Internal Improvements to inquire into the expediency of amending the Internal Improvement law, so as to locate the Central Rail Road through Salem, Mount Vernon and Frankfort. Some conversation took place upon this resolution, after which Mr. Thomas offered an amendment, proposing to "purchase all the towns named in the resolution, and removing them to the road." Mr. Blackwell hoped the Senator from Morgan would withdraw his amendment, which he supposed was in jest. Mr. Thomas replied that he was sincere in offering his amendment. It would be cheaper for the State to buy out the towns, and lay out others upon the road, than to remove the road. Mr. Parish pronounced the remarks of Mr. Thomas to be "scurillous," and defended the resolution. The amendment of Mr. Thomas was laid on the table, and the resolution adopted.

The House was mostly occupied on Monday, with the "bill making an appropriation for completing the State House," Gen. Thornton in the chair. Mr. Ewing took the floor and moved to strike out all after the enacting clause of the bill, and insert an amendment, providing that Vandalia shall be the seat of Government until otherwise ordered. Mr. Ewing said that it was unconstitutional to legislate upon the subject till 1840, and that when the bill passed locating the seat of government at Springfield, it was supposed that fifty thousand dollars would cover all the expenses of erecting public buildings. It seemed that it would now require one hundred and twenty-eight thousand more. He then went into an examination of the fiscal concerns of the State, and declared that the State was now in debt six million and a half of dollars; and it was time members should pause and reflect in making appropriations. Mr. Lincoln said, he believed the majority would agree, that if the work was done at all, it should be well done; and he was willing to submit the question to the House without saying one word more. Mr. Ewing's amendment was rejected.

Mr. Ewing then proposed another amendment—that a Board of Commissioners should be appointed to locate the seat of government on vacant land; that they should lay out and sell the lots; and with the money build a State House. He thought that half a million might be realized by this measure. Mr. Baker replied that the gentleman in his former argument had stated that it was unconstitutional to legislate upon this subject till 1840. Mr. B. fully replied to Mr. Ewing's remarks, at length. Mr. Ficklin followed, and endeavored to show that the State was not pledged to make the appropriation—that the seat of government ought to remain at Vandalia—that the present capitol was good enough—and that the question of a location of the seat of government ought to be submitted to the people in 1840.—Mr. Lincoln said, that the people in 1840, would have no better right to decide the question, than the people of 1839. True, the Constitution had fixed the seat of government at Vandalia for twenty years, and if the people had made a hard bargain, they had a right to get out of it the best way they could. As to making money in locating state capitals, by selling lots, that matter could be settled by ascertaining how many state capitols had been built by the sale of lots in Vandalia: the idea that money can be made in this way was all illusion. Mr. Ewing then read a statement of the votes given by the people some years since in reference to the seat of government, by which it appeared that Vandalia had the second highest number. He said that Springfield could not accommodate the Legislature better than Vandalia now does, and would not probably for ten years to come. He wished to see Vandalia remain the seat of government until the interest of the country required its removal. Mr. Ewing's amendment was then rejected.

Mr. Ewing submitted another amendment—that the location should be again submitted to the people—that if there should be no choice, to return to the people the *five* places having the highest number of votes; if there should be no choice out of these, then the *three* highest should be submitted to be voted for the third time; if there then should be no choice, the election to be made between the two highest returned. The amendment was rejected. The Committee then rose and reported progress.

Mr. Ficklin proposed an amendment, that the State should lend the corporation of Springfield 128,000 dollars to complete the State House; and at the election in 1840 to submit to the people whether Springfield should remain the seat of government; and, if not, to compel the corporation to reimburse the money thus loaned. An amendment was offered to Mr. Ficklin's amendment by Mr. Carpenter; but both were rejected.

The House adjourned.

Both Houses met in the morning and adjourned—it being the *8th of January.*—In the afternoon, Mr. BAKER, of Sangamon, delivered an off-hand address—connected, in some measure with the incidents that led to the observance of the day as one of public festivity—before a large collection of ladies and gentlemen, in the legislative Hall. The company present was afterwards organized into a meeting, by the election of Col. MITCHELL of Tazewell, as its chairman; the thanks of the meeting voted to Mr. BAKER for his address; and a copy of the same solicited for publication.

VANDALIA, Jan. 10, 1838.

I have barely time to inform you that the bill making an appropriation for completing the State House, passed the House to-day—yeas 57, nays 26—nine members absent. If I can obtain a copy of the bill in time to send it to you by the bearer, I will do so. I learn that WM. HERNDON, Esq. is appointed by the Governor, in pursuance of a power given him in the law, to fill the place as Commissioner for the erection of public buildings, of Dr. THOMAS HOUGHAN, who declines to act.

The Senate have passed the bill giving Co. Commissioners the management of all roads, and sent it to the House.

The Senate refused to confirm the nomination of Col. M'CLERNAND, as Secretary of State—22 to 18—on the ground that there was no vacancy.

An act making an appropriation for completing the State House.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois represented in General Assembly, That the sum of one hundred and twenty-eight thousand and three hundred dollars, be, and the same is hereby appropriated, to defray the expenses of finishing the State House at Springfield and furnishing the same, and the offices attached thereto, with all the necessary furniture for the use of the said house and offices—said sum payable out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

Sec. 2. The Commissioners appointed to superintend the erection of the public buildings at Springfield, shall proceed, without delay to cause the said buildings to be completed in the manner, upon the plan, and with the materials heretofore agreed upon by said Commissioners.

Sec. 3. The appropriation hereby made shall be paid out in the manner and at the times hereinafter specified. The Commissioners shall upon the passage of this act, and quarterly thereafter, make a report to the Governor, stating to him the amount of money which will be required for use during the next three months, and the amount expended during the preceding three, and upon the reception of said report, the Governor shall make an order upon the auditor, requiring him to issue an order upon the Treasurer for the amount so required. The warrant shall be payable at the State Bank of Illinois to the order of the commissioners.

Sec. 4. The Commissioners shall deposite all orders issued in their favor in the State Bank, and the money shall be paid out by the Bank upon the orders of said Commissioners.

Sec. 5. The commissioners shall, instead of paying out money, make orders or checks upon the Bank, in favor of all persons to whom money may be due, and shall state on the face of such orders or checks, the consideration for which they were given, and shall be so written as that the signature of the payee upon the back shall make the order or check operate as a receipt from the payee to the State as well as to the Bank.

Sec. 6. In case any, or all the Commissioners appointed to superintend the erection of public buildings shall die, resign or refuse to act, the governor shall appoint a successor or successors.

The famous MacNab, Speaker of the Parliament of U. Canada, and who, we believe, was knighted on account of some murders committed under his direction, on board the American steamboat Caroline, was lately assassinated. He was shot through the temple, while riding on horseback, and died instantly. This is the second prominent actor in the Caroline massacre, who has died by the hands of the assassin.

FOREIGN...Liverpool dates to the 16th Nov. have been received in N. Y. War with Russia was the chief topic of political gossip in England. The tory papers are for war. They denounce Russia for preventing the ratification of a treaty made by the English government with the Porte. There will, however, be no war between England and Russia....The civil war in Spain is of the most bloody character; each party executing the prisoners taken of the other....Gossip was busy concerning changes in the English ministry, marriage of the Queen, &c....An attempt was made to assassinate the Duke of Normandy, who is now in England, and claims to be the son of the unfortunate Louis XVI. and Maria Antoinette. The duke was wounded in the arm by a pistol ball. A man by the name of Desires Rousselle was arrested as the author of the attempt....An English fleet had sailed for South America; but it was a perfectly amicable measure....The difficulties between Holland and Belgium were settled. The peace and quietude of despotism were felt in most parts of Europe.

CONGRESS.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE JOURNAL.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23, 1838.

Among the most extraordinary events that have for the last ten years engaged the attention of the American People, is the attitude in which the *President of the United States* and Mr. *Nicholas Biddle* at present stand towards each other, and the connexion of the Government with the Bank of the U. States, as its fiscal agent. If any thing were wanting to open the eyes of the people to the treachery, dishonesty and mal-practices of this administration, surely enough evidence is furnished in this foul coalition and conspiracy against the liberties of the People by the two great contracting parties, MARTIN VAN BUREN on the one hand, and NICHOLAS BIDDLE on the other. This connexion of the Executive with the United States Bank, is an instance of the most unblushing audacity ever exhibited to the eyes of the world, in any nation under heaven claiming to be civilized. The principal, if not the sole object, of General Jackson during the last four years of his administration was, to destroy the Bank of the United States.

The official organs of the party daily teemed with the most bitter denunciations against Mr. Biddle and his institutions.

He was then too stubborn to bow down before the throne, or to bend to the iron will of Gen. Jackson, and hence the motive for the "unqualified and uncompromising hostility to the Bank of the United States," as expressed by Mr. Van Buren.

But, although Mr. Biddle was too firm to be awed into submission, he has, it is apprehended, not been proof against the seductive wiles of Mr. Van Buren. Will it be believed by the honest supporters of this administration, that the Bank of the U. States is now the chief depository of the public money, and that by the direction of the Executive Department of the Government, its notes are now actually disbursed to the public creditors? But more—will the friends of the administration, who have been so long warring for the destruction of this institution, now turn round and sanction this meretricious connexion?

These are questions which time alone can determine; but I will indulge the hope that there are among them, at least some, who have independence enough to be consistent and honest, and who will characterise this nefarious transaction by its appropriate name.

It is now clearly apparent, that Mr. Van Buren is by no means hostile to banks, provided he can bring them to bow at his feet and do his bidding. He wishes to be left at liberty to employ them or not, without any of the trammels or restraints of law, so that if at any time they are disposed to be refractory, a removal from their vaults of the public money, would reduce them to a proper state of submission to his sovereign will.

The friends of freedom, on the other hand, are laboring to place the banks on a footing that will not render them dependant upon, and consequently subservient, to Executive will. It is only when Banks are used as instruments in the hands of the President, that they become too powerful for the people.

Great agitations prevail in the loco foco ranks at the decided course taken by Senator RIVES. This truly patriotic and high-minded statesman, has put himself in an attitude of decided hostility to executive abuses and usurpations, which have so long disquieted the country.—He was originally a warm and sincere friend of Mr. Van Buren, and, as a friend, he warned him against the fatal policy which he was determined to pursue. He did not relinquish the hope that Mr. Van Buren would return to the republican policy, until the events of the last few months fully revealed to him, and to all, the extent of the folly, duplicity and dishonesty, of the present party in power. He found that the President and Secretary, after making so many professions of nothing to the United States Bank, and holding it up as a bugbear; and after sending homilies to Congress against the employment of any banks, had made alliance with Nich. Biddle, and solicited and employed his monstrous and dangerous aid, in performing the fiscal duties of the government. He saw clearly, that though the President and the Secretary, in their statement to Congress at