TWENTY-SIXTH CONGRESS.

Second Session.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26, 1841.

IN SENATE.

Mr. Smith of Indiana presented a memorial of citizens of Indiana, praying Congress to take measures for the recognition of the Independence of Hayti, and the establishment of commercial relations with that Republic.

Mr. Merrick presented a petition from citizens of Washington, protesting against the passage of the bill before the Senate, giving the right of suffrage to all persons who shall have resided twelve months in that city.

Mr. Merrick presented the memorial of a number of citizens of Prince George's county Maryland engaged in the planting and cultivation of tobacco, praying the adoption of measures by the General Government for the purpose of relieving their staple from the burdensome duties imposed in foreign countries.

The Permament Prospective Pre-emption Law, was taken up, and Mr. Mangum addressed the Senate at much length in opposition to the bill.

He took upon himself to defend the cause of his friend, Mr. Webster, in his vote in resisting the proposition to raise an appropriation for the defence of the country, introduced here some years since. An allusion had been made to what Mr. Webster had *then* said about his intentions—*that he would sooner see the enemy of his country battering down the walls of the Capitol than give his vote for such an appropriation*; and Mr. Mangum, in alluding to the *reasons* then operating in his own mind of a similar character, expressed his great regret that the declaration thus made had soon after been repeated and denounced in the other end of the Capitol, and that it had also been unfortunately introduced into this debate.

Mr. Benton replied in a powerful matter-of-fact speech. He referred to the very dangerous, the threatening, the increasing, and alarming influences of British stock-jobbers, and other bankers, over the entire business affairs of this American Republic.—He read from a book recently published in London. He called it the *Doomsday Book*, being the survey by a London banker of all the property, all the stocks, and all the moneys, means, and effects of the American people, to show how eagerly, watchfully, artfully, and cautiously British capitalists and money brokers had fixed their inquiring and scrutinizing eye upon every moneyed movement on this side of the water.

Mr. Benton also read a private letter from a London banker to the directors of the Bank of Missouri; and, also, various extracts from the London journals, showing, and most clearly demonstrating, the wanton and ridiculous interference of British bankers and London money agents in the politics and business of the people of this American Union. These disclosures are truly startling.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

After the morning business had been gone through with, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, and took up the "*Treasury Note Bill*," when

Mr. Duncan resumed his remarks on the subject. He took a view of the corrupt transactions of the U. States Bank, and showed how far its supporters were qualified to act as judges against the present party in power.

In the course of his remarks, Mr. D. intimated that by way of illustrating his arguments in relation to the Whigs, he had taken the liberty of calling upon the poet.

Severel members desired that the poetry might be read.

Mr. Duncan said no, it would not do; for were he to attempt to read it there he would be called to order. Besides, the poetry was to be sung.

A member desired to know if it would be in order to have the poetry sung. If so, he should desire it.

Mr. Duncan could not oblige the gentleman; but they would see, the poetry in print, when his remarks were published. But he had no objection to inform them that the poetry was set to the tune of Roslin Castle.

Before concluding, Mr. D. adverted to a letter from Mr. Kelly, which appeared in the National Intelligencer some time ago, denying that General Harrison had refused to give pledges, etc. Mr. D. produced evidence from an authentic source, showing that the statements of said letter were not true, all which will be given when the speech shall be published in full.

When Mr. Duncan had finished his remakrs, he read from the Intelligencer the following, as reported in that paper.

"Mr. W. C. Johnson submitted to the Chair whether it was in order for an individual to charge General Harrison with cowardice, who had himself been branded as a coward on this floor?"

This paper was put in his hand a moment before he commenced speaking. He had deferred saying any thing on the subject until he should finish his remarks, expecting that some denial would be made, or some correction of the report ordered. But that not being done, he denounced its author (pointing to Mr. Wm. Cost Johnson,) a base liar, a contemptible puppy a scoundrel, and an infamous coward.—Now, sir, said Mr. D. I heard no part of the matter so reported, as applied to myself, and I ask the chairman, who was nearer to Mr. Johnson; whether or not he heard the member so express himself?

The Chairman [Mr. Campbell] responded that he heard no such remark.

Then, said Mr. D. if said at all, it must have been muttered, and not intended to be heard.

Mr. Johnson rose and said he was correctly reported. He had made the remark, and justified it. He read a part of a speech which purported to have been introduced to expel Mr. D. for the publication of certain letters, posting certain members therein named. Mr. J. made some other remarks in justification.

Mr. Duncan said that resolution and its support was founded in the base cowardice. It was manufactured as he was informed, and had reason to believe, in a caucus; and the object was to relieve the members posted in the said letters from disgrace, which they had not the courage to relieve themselves from. When the resolution was introduced, it was intimated that the publication of these letters was postponed until after the passage of the law against duelling. As soon as that intimation was uttered, Mr. D. said he pronounced the man who imputed such a motive to him, a base scoundrel & a liar. The member from Kentucky, [Mr. Manifee] intimated the same; he, too, said Mr. D. I pointed out instantly, and pronounced a contemptible scoundrel, and told him that the duelling law only operated over ten miles square; and in ten or twelve short days we would be out of these ten miles square, and any gentleman who felt himself aggrieved, might call on him: he should be met, and have such redress as he might have the courage to ask. Mr. D. disclaimed having charged General Harrison with cowardice, in any remark he had made, he had presented no fact or statement but what the political history of the country and of the last war warranted and sustained. Those who heard him, and those who might read him, could draw their own conclusion. And to conclude, once for all, said Mr. D. I repeat and fix upon the member [M. Johnson] the charge, I made upon him. He is welcome to make the best of it.

CONGRESSIONAL ANALYSIS.

THURSDAY, Jan. 28, 1841.

Pending the progress of the morning business in the Senate, Mr. PIERCE of New Hampshire introduced a resolution instructing the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads to inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill to strike off all postage on newspapers when sent less than 30 miles in the mail from the place where published; and he followed the introduction of the resolution by a general reference to the revenue of the Post Office Department, the deep interest felt for some provision of the kind embodied in the resolution, and of its promised advantages in the general spread of intelligence among the mass of the people of this country.

When Mr. Pierce resumed his seat,

Mr. Wright renewed his argument against the amendment of Mr. Crittenden to the pre-emption bill, proposing Mr. Clay's land bill as a substitute; and, surely, if any thing further was needed to exhibit the baseless foundation upon which the amendment was made to rest, and to prove the policy of its adoption both dangerous and impracticable, it might be seen and known in the very clear and lucid exposition made by Mr. Wright in the triumphant close of his masterly reply. He repudiated the idea of taking upon himself the burden of discussing or even attempting to discuss the point whether it might be either constitutional or expedient to distribute the general revenue of the country, accumulated by taxes upon the people, and through other sources, among the several States of the Union. That was a plain matter of constitutional authority that needed no other definition than what might be found in the very nature of the Government itself. He went on to define the power of levying taxes for Government purposes; and if the principle of distribution, as contended for there, was authorized by the Constitution, and by the deeds of cession, the tax-levying and the tax-paying power of the nation would be confined in its operation to the walls of that Capitol. Mr. Wright drew many happy comparisons between the natural operation of our present system and the very dangerous theory which a distribution of the nett proceeds of the public lands would introduce, should any such nett proceeds remain in the Treasury subject to such distributions; and, at the conclusion of his remarks Mr. Clay proceeded to respond. He preferred, he said, to have remained silent in regard to this disputed subject of distribution, and should not, at this session, have moved his bill but for the wretched state and condition of the currency of the country.

He felt called upon to seek out some mode of relief to the Treasury. This was his mode of supplying a deficit in the revenue.

He regretted that his friend from New York had condemned the measure in advance. He had hoped that the opponents of General Harrison were disposed to give the new administration a fair trial.

Mr. Clay went on to define his position in supporting the distribution bill. He had been its friend for the last ten years. He referred to the subject of taxation; was for putting a duty upon luxuries—upon silks and wines—and, in allusion to the consumption of the latter article, he paid a merited compliment to the *wine drinkers* of a single hotel in New York, by stating that there was more champagne drank in the Astor House in New York, than in any one State South of the Potomac.

As was anticipated in yesterday's Analysis, Mr. Clay scarcely touched the sound and unanswerable argument of Mr. Wright.

With his usual bland and easy address, and those sweet and musical intonations of which he is so perfect a master, he feebly attempted to smooth down the rough edge of Mr. Wright's clear and forcible demonstrations, the better to ward off a blow which would be fatal to his theory, and destructive to his favorite measure. Well might he avoid that grapple of legal intelligence and discrimination, that wrestle of genius and of mind, which a master intellect alone is capable of encountering; and although Mr. Clay retains the floor to morrow, to conclude his reply, it may little be expected that he will even attempt a refutation of the able and overwhelming speech of Silas Wright.

Mr, Wise occupied the time of the House to day, upon the Treasury note bill, and has the floor for to-morrow. Mr. Wise is opposed to the distribution bill—to the taxation upon silks and wines—to an increase of the revenue by an increase of the tariff—in fact he is found in open array and conflict with most of the great leading doctrines and measures of his party. He stands upon his own independence, ready to do battle upon his own way. He spoke at much length to day, in full elucidation of his views and opinions upon the subject of the public finances, of a revenue, and the great sources of national industry and wealth upon which this Government must rely for its support. He will probably follow up the position he occupies more in a detail and at length to-morrow.

THE NEW OFFICE HOLDERS.

Before the election, the hired agents of Federalism renounced public office as an aim entirely beneath them. They looked upon office seekers with still greater abhorrence than office holders. But now it seems that the announcement of the Express, that "*the best business of business men was the business of electioneering*," was nothing but a political advertisement, assuring the busy-bodies of the canvass that public employments would be distributed among them—the most important to be bestowed on the most active and unscrupulous.

The Governor of New York, who has just got a willing Senate at his heels, has begun the work of *distribution* upon this principle, and it seems to strike those who consider themselves the better sort of his party with amazement.

We gave, on Thursday, from the New York Opposition press, the comments called forth by Gov. Seward's partisan nominations. According to the New York Herald's account, this is but a foretaste of what is expected of General Harrison; and certainly, if as a public functionary he believes that he owes his being to the vilest of the Dalgetta tribe, he is bound by a grateful sense of obligation, to reward them with the places which they put at his disposal. At all events, they have settled on their merits and demands. The New York Herald says:

"The politicians and office-beggars are in motion from one end of the country to the other. They are already licking their lips, and feasting their immagination upon the "spoils of victory." In this city all the editors and attaches of the Wall street corrupt press, are in active motion—quarrelling about the offices—attacking, abusing, libelling each other in all sorts of ways, merely for the distributions of a few offices in the hands of the Governor. Charles King attacks M. M. Noah—J. W. Webb attacks King—William B. Townsend, Booby Brooks, David Hale, William L. Stone, John O'Sargeant, are all candidates, and all quarrelling with each other publicly and privately.

"If such scenes are exhibited on the distribution of a few dirty loaves and fishes here, how much more will they quarrel when the new President shall have reached Washington, and begins the work of reform?"

Again, says the Herald:

"No sooner was the election closed than these *cliques* that had opposed him up to the last moment, began to select the new cabinet, appoint themselves to all the lucrative offices, and to establish the rules of removal and appointment. This discussion was kept up in the Courier and Enquirer, and papers of that ilk, without any regard to the feelings of the new President. But this was not enough. As soon as Gongress met, leading statesmen, rival candidates to the Presidency, Henry Clay, Daniel Webster, and others, could not restrain their ardor, but began to make speeches and to develope the measures of the new Administration, before its head had taken the reins, or had been consulted in the least. Certain measures and certain principles were shadowed forth, affecting equally removals and appointments to office, as well as the great interests of the country, without ever saying to General Harrison, "by your leave, sir." It was triumphantly announced in the Senate by the Hon Henry Clay, that if a single man was left in office by General Harrison, he (Mr. Clay) had mistaken his man, (General Harrison.")

We have the following specifications:

Editorial applicauts for office.—This list for New York would embrace all the newspapers of Wall street. The following is a sample:

James (Booby) Brooks,	of the Express,	Surveyor.
Charles King,	" American,	Postmaster
James W. Webb,	" Cour. & Enq.	"
Wm. B. Townsend,	" Express	$50.000 contract for twine and blanks
William L. Stone,	" Commercial,	Any office.
John O'Sargeant,	" Courier,	See Legation
M. M. Noah, ex-editor,	Star,	Consul at Havre.
N. T. Eldridge,	" Times & Star,	Cust. House

These are only a few of the rapacious applicants who are too lazy, indolent, and incompetent, to get a living by their regular business, and therefore want to be quartered upon the public Treasury. The case of Watson Webb is peculiarly impudent."

Pigeon Express.—The New York Star states that a carrier pigeon was caught in Exchange street, in that city, on Sunday afternoon, having a note attached to it, of which the following is a copy:

Cincinnati, Jan. 15, 1841.

Broadway Hotel, ¼ past 9 A. M.

Dear D.—General Harrison has just left here in a private carriage for Washington. He will probably arrive there about the 25th.

Yours respectfully, J.

That is very like a hoax—but it would be well enough for the fifty thousand office seekers to be in readiness.

The National Intelligencer of the 26th inst. says.—In conformity to usage, we learn that the SENATE of the United States has been summoned by the Executive to meet in this city on the 4th of March next, for the transaction of business (being, of course, of an Executive character, connected with the commencement of a new Administration, the formation of a new Cabinet &c.)

THE WHIG.

EASTON, MD

TUESDAY MORNING, FEB. 2, 1841.

☞The Communication of "A Whig" shall receive attention next week,

☞The Farmer's Branch Bank of Maryland of this place having resumed specie payments, we have been requested by the Directors to state, that notes of a less denomination than five dollars will not be received.

☞The impression appears very general among the letter writers at Washington, that there will be an extra session of Congress, and that probably at an early day.

☞The Delaware Gazette states, that Duff Green's paper, the Pilot, suddenly gave up the ghost last week, without a goan.

☞Alexander Barrow, has been elected U. S. Senator by the Legislature of Louisiana, for six years from the 4th of March next, when Mr. Nicholas' term will expire.

☞The Legislature of Massachusetts has by a vote of 144 to 92, make it legal for whites and blacks to intermarry. Pennsylvania is about to follow suit.

RESUMPTION.—Yesterday was the day fixed on by the Maryland and Virginia Banks to resume specie payments. Whether the resumption will be permanent or not, we are unable to foresee. But of one fact we feel assured, that the people after ridding themselves of the use of shinplasters will very reluctantly again consent to bear the evil of such a circulation, if it be possible to avert it. A magnanimous acquiescence on the part of the people towards the course pursued by the Banks in suspending, will, we feel confident, cause those institutions to use every means to sustain the payment of their issues in specie, when demanded, as a matter of justice to the public, as well as the fulfilment of their obligations to the State.

STATE TAX—*Report of the Committee of Ways and Means.*—We have received the report of the Committee of Ways & Means, and regret we cannot spread it in full before our readers to day. Taxation is the burden of its song. The large indebtedness of the State is no longer a matter of concealment, and no attempt is made to show the Treasury in any other but its true condition—absolute bankruptcy. But it is useless to lament over that which the people have been so frequently forewarned would be the inevitable consequence of a system of Legislation to which they gave their sanction. We rather suspect the truth of admonition long since given will flash conviction upon the minds of many who were lead to believe that the cry of "direct taxation" was a mere party trap. They will now find, when it is too late, which party set the trap and which party is likely to carry off most of the game. But to the extract. It will be seen that the amount required is large, and it should be remembered this amount is only intended to pay the interest on the debt, without contributing a cent to reduce the principal.

In regard to the necessity for a resort to taxation, some diversity of opinion exists among the members of your committee; but the majority believe that the necessities of the treasury demand it, and it ought, in their opinion, to be provided for and collected, as far as can be done, during the present year. If any diversity of opinion should exist as to the less important question of modes of taxation, it should yield to the greater object of sustaining the public faith.

It is well known, that a very small portion of the taxes raised for county purposes, is paid over within the first year after they are laid, and it would not be reasonable to expect that much greater despatch would be exercised in the collection of a tax for the purposes of the State. The tax to be raised during the current year, under an act of the present legislature for that purpose, would not be available to any considerable extent until the year 1842. If therefore, such a law should be passed, it would still be necessary to resort to a more summary proceeding for supplying the estimated deficit in the means of the treasury for the present year, which, as stated in the treasurer's report amounts to 471,034 40

and ought to be increased by the amount of interest on the public debt, payable 1st January and 1st of Arpil, 1842, say	315,000 00
Making a total of	786,034 40
Or in round numbers	800,000 00
If the tax should be delayed for another year, it will be necessary to add to the above the estimated annual deficiency of	600,000 00
Making a total to be raised by the next legislature by some extraordinary means other than taxation and exclusive of interest on these sums if they be raised by loan, of say	1,400,000 00

If a bill should be passed at the present session for collecting a tax with the necessary dispatch, the determination which this measure would evidence on the part of the public functionaries, to place the State's credit beyond the possibility of dishonor, would, doubtless, enhance the value of her securities, and facilitate greatly the negotiation of temporary loans for the service of the current year. But your committee greatly apprehend that the postponement of a tax to a future day, under any pretext whatever, would, considering the unpropitious circumstances which have combined at this moment to depress the credit of the American States, be calculated to increase the difficulties which are now experienced in raising money upon the State's securities.

The sense of our obligation to mantain the public faith, is to be tested by our willingness or unwillingniss to resort to direct taxation, and your committee cannot refrain from expressing the fear that any delay in adopting this measure of immediate necessity, would not only render it difficult to borrow the means which are required for payment of interest on the public debt, during the current year, but likewise affect the sales of the State's Bonds now in the hands of our Internal Improvement Companies, whenever it becomes necessary to throw them into the market.

Upon consideration of this whole subject, your committee are of opinion, that provisions ought at once to be made for levying a tax, not exceeding the nett sum of $600,000 a year, so long as the necessities of the State may require it—and as the tax cannot be made available by collection to meet the demands on the Treasury during the present year, your committee would further propose, that authority be conferred on the Treasurer of the Western Shore, to contract such temporary loans, not exceeding $600,000 on the security of said tax, at a rate of interest not exceeding six per centum, as may be required for the use of the Treasury, but as that sum will be expended by the first of January 1842, and it is the purpose of your committee to relieve the Treasury to the first of April in that year, they would further recommend that the said Treasurer be empowered to borrow, at the same rate of interest, $200,000 more on a pledge of so much of the Bank Stock of the State, as may be necessary to raise that sum, unless, in his judgment, the interest of the State will be better promoted by selling such portion of said stock as will realise to the Treasury the same amount, in which case it is proposed that he be authorised to sell. This will place the Treasury one quarter in advance of all the demands that can be made upon it, and by a prudent application of the avails of the tax as the same shall be received at the Treasury, it is believed that, after the current year, there can be no necessity to borrow in any one year, on the security of the tax more than $350,000 to pay the interest on the existing public debt; and even that, your committee cannot believe will continue very long.

FROM ANNAPOLIS.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR OF THE WHIG,

Annapolis, Jan. 28, 1841.

The report of the Committee on Ways and Means has been presented to the House, and made the order of the day for the 4th of February. Mr. Martin of Talbot (one of the Committee) dissented both from the report and the resolution attached to the report and it was ordered to be so entered on the journal. Consternation is visible in the phizes of the Whig Solomons of the House, and I really believe to extricate themselves from the difficulties that surround them they would "*dis*-qualify," and go home, if it were possible to leave the half-filled "rack" from which they get their per diem allowance. It would really amuse you to witness the Bombastes Furioso style of some of the great orators of the Legislature, (for I include the grave and reverend Senators!) who vainly suppose by hammering away upon their desks, and spouting out denunciatory language against the Democratic party they are rivaling Demosthenes himself, and biting off the very nose of Locofocoism We expect some of them in the phrenzy of their eloquence, to seize the mace, rush from the House, fly to the Severn, and Canute-like bid its waves be quiet. There would be just as much philosophy in that as is their attempt to hush the voice of Democracy in its fearless advocacy of truth.

It has been ordered that the Committee on Ways and Means be instructed to enquire into the expediency of imposing a tax on the Clerks and Registers, and all other public officers in the State who are paid by fees of office or commissions. Apart from the subject of taxation, the session is dull and uninteresting. The Governor's appointments for the city of Baltimore have, at length, been confirmed by the Senate

Yours.

ATTEMPT TO MURDER.—The Globe of the 23d inst. contains the following letter, which details the particulars of one of the most dastardly attacks of which a set of cowards were ever guilty of undertaking.

NASHVILLE, (Tenn.) Jan. 12.

On yesterday evening, as our friend Colonel J. G. Harris (Editor of the Nashville Union) entered the public room, at the Nashville Inn, on his way to his supper, he was shot with a pistol by R. C. Foster (Colonel E. H. Foster's son) without giving any notice to Harris of his intentions. He and his brother, with pistols cocked, and a number of strikers stationed at assigned points and places in the room had been in waiting for Harris. The Fosters were concealed by the inside doorway, being on the right of it, from Harris's sight as he went in, T. Kizer entered with and before Harris without seeing them. Harris stopped a moment at the counter of the bar to drink water. As he did so, Foster rose from his place, and said, with a loud voice, that he had an enunciation or denunciation to make; and as he uttered the words, (Harris, who was neither addressed or named by him, being in the act of turning towards the speaker,) fired his pistol before the last word was out of his mouth. Harris did not know that it was Foster who spoke. The pistol was fired at ten or twelve feet distance. One ball entered Harris's breast, and another passed through his arm. After he fell, or was in the act of falling the other Foster attempted to shoot him, and was prevented by Kizer and the bar keeper Barnes. The strikers were so located, that if Harris hed seen Foster, or had drawn a weapon, they could and would have seized him.—All in all, such a dastardly, base, cowardly attempt at a cold blooded assination, never took place in any civilized country.

The ball that entered Harris's breast has not been found. It is supposed to have just passed through the breast bone, and dropt down in the cavity without materially injuring the lungs. Hopes are entertained of his life. I saw him an hour ago. He is calm and collected, and ready to meet his fate. He had no expectation of being attacked, although he had been admonished that he was threatened. Some days before, at the Inn, young Foster had been abusing and slandering General Jackson, and charging him with having been a curse to this country. His remarks were addressed to a company of whom Harris was one, sitting around the fire in the public room. Harris had remarked that if any man were to address such charges against Gen. Jackson to him (Harris) personally, he should feel constrained to tell him it was false. Foster disclaimed intending to abuse General Jackson, personally, saying it was his measures, alone, of which he spoke. Harris said he had a right to condemn and criticise measures, but not to abuse personally a venerable patriot, now a private citizen. This matter then passed off. But others took it up afterwards, and set Foster on to demand further explanations next day of Harris, who refused to give any except what he had given. The whole matter, however, on the evening of the attack, was supposed to have been dropped. But it was not so with those behind the curtain. They made it the occasion of the cowardly attack, which was made nearly as I have hastily stated.

LATE FROM FLORIDA.

It gives us pleasure to publish the following intelligence of affairs in Florida, which is the latest that has been received:

Extract of a letter from an officer of the Pay Department, dated

FORT BROOKE, Jan. 5, 1841.

"An express has just arrived from Taracota, 60 miles south of this place, advising the Commanding General that eleven warriors had come into that place.

A warrior had just come in here with a white flag, who says that "Tiger-tail," with a large band of his people and relations, will be in to-morrow.

Accounts from Onathliga hammock say that twelve or fifteen Indians have recently come in, and a number have also recently given themselves up at Major Belnap's post No 4."

The following extract from the Savannah Republican of the 18th instant. cofirms the above, and contains additional news:

Savannah, January 18.

FROM FLORIDA.—The news from Florida continues cheering. Appearances now decidedly justify the expectation that the enemy will ere long surrender. The task of the Commanding General is a delicate one. We shall soon know how far he will trust to the existing manifestations of friendly feeling on the part of the enemy. The presence of the Seminoles from Arkansas in the enemy's camps, may and probably will be productive of happy results.

Our last information is from Pilatka, dated January 14th. Our correspondent says that the news from the West continues to be gratifying. A letter had been received there from Col. Loomis, dated at Fort Clinch, stating that thirty-three Indians had come in at that post.

Tiger Tail had also come in and was going to Tampa. It is thought that in all about six hundred Indians have presented themselves at various posts along the coast on the Gulf side.

A party of the enemy lately attacked Fort Walker, killing two or three negroes and wounding one white woman. Fort Walker is between Micanopee and Newnansville.—Republican.

Correspondence of the American.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 16th, 1841.

TEXAS.—By the arrival last evening of the steamship Savannah, in 32 hours from Galveston, Texas papers to the 13th inst. were received.

Later inteligence from the Mexican frontier rendered it quite probable that Arista, the commander-in-chief of the Mexican Central forces, would attempt an invasion of Texas. He was awaiting reinforcements, in order to cross the boundary line, and pour his hordes of semi-barbarians upon the plains of Texas.—The young Republic will, however, probably anticipate him in his hostile intent. A joint resolution had been introduced into Congress to adopt measures for an offensive war against Mexico. It passed its first reading, and will doubtless be adopted, as on a motion to suspend the rules and pass it to a second reading, there was a large majority—though not twothirds—in its favour.

SLAVERY IN RHODE ISLAND.

We gave recently a brief outline of the manner in which American citizens are treated in the *British province* of Rhode Island, under her kingly charter. We have since found the following extract from the Providence Herald, which throws still more light upon the subject. It portrays the manner in which the people of that colony enjoy the rights and immunities of a Republican government. Will the fanatics prate about *southern* slavery after a glance at this picture of degredation at their own doors?

Few subjects attract more attention at the present time, than that of slavery. The discussion of no question is productive of more excited feeling. Yet with this, as with most other subjects which engage the attention of philanthropists, the evil, where it exists in the greatest magnitude, is permitted entirely to obscure, and keep out of sight, its lesser portions. Binding men by forms of government and laws, is one principle of slavery, because it divests man of a part of his natural freedom. This however becomes necessary for the protection, safety and happiness of all. So far therefore as all are permitted to exercise voluntary action in this matter, none have reason to complain.

But when one man, or one family, or one order of men, by the force of wealth, or arms, or any other species of influence of coercion, assume authority to frame governments, and to enact laws for others, and carry their measures into effect, without designing to consult those on whom those measures are to operate, the latter are hereby deprived of the exercise of every natural right which can ensure safety and protection, and reduced completely to a state of political slavery.

What avails it to say a man is free, when the only advantage he possesses over the slave, is that he can neither be bought, sold nor held in personal bondage, and compelled to labor as one born to involuntary servitude? Is this the boasted freedom that the friends of human rights have landed to the skies? And yet, this is about the only privilege which three-fifths of the citizens of Rhode Island can call their own under the present mode of government. Have the three-fifths had any voice in the adoption of the government? No. Can three-fifths have any voice in the election of their rulers and law-makers? No. Can the three-fifths act as jurors? No. Can