



**ILL**-Amongst the public documents laid before Congress at the commencement of the present session, is a very interesting Correspondence between Mr. Webster, our Secretary of State, and Mr. Fox, the British Minister, in relation to the arrest and detention of McLeod by the authorities of New York. This correspondence we have been anxious to spread before our readers, but have not yet been able to find room to gratify our wishes. Mr. Webster's letter is long, and contains the most powerful arguments in defense of the rights of the United States and the grounds taken upon this subject by the present Administration.

It is known that the State of New York has assumed jurisdiction over this question; and that it has already been acted upon by her Supreme Court; so far as involved the point of jurisdiction over it by her, but the decision has not yet been announced. Mr. Webster is clearly of the opinion that it is not a State question, since England has declared the burning of the Caroline to have been done by her orders. The affair has therefore assumed a National shape, and is established international law whether the State or individuals concerned in it responsible—England alone is now responsible, to the Federal Government alone—New York, however, still holds McLeod in custody, and it is not known whether she will release him under the jurisdiction assumed by the Federal Government. An interesting debate took place in the U. S. Senate, last week, on this subject. Mr. Rives and Mr. Choate, in long speeches, contend that Mr. Webster's view of the question was the only correct one.

**CIVIL**—A long and exciting debate took place in the House of Representatives, last week, upon a proposition of Mr. Adams to dispense with the 21st Rule of the last House, which prohibits the reception of Abolition petitions. Mr. Adams and Mr. Wise spoke at length—the latter in opposition to the expulsion of the Rule. The debate was moderated by the Presiding Chairman, and the House adjourned, Ayes 125, Nays 104. A Resolution offered by Mr. Wise, for the appointment of a Select Committee to revise all the Rules of the House, was then adopted, Ayes 125, Nays 51. The Committee has accordingly been appointed—and it is thought will report the 21st Rule again—if so, it may be adopted without awaiting its reception hereafter.

Upon this subject we agree with the intelligent editor of the Fredericksburg Arena, who says: "While we most sincerely deprecate the consumption of time of the House to such discussion, we are free to say that we have long questioned the policy of the Rule—believing that, by refusing to receive their petitions the South has been weakened in its position, and the strength of the Abolitionists apparently increased. Separated from this question of the right of petition, the Abolitionists constitute a new & querulous faction in the North. Whilst 115 members voted against the Rule, there are not five of that number, if indeed there be more than one (Blair) who would vote for the abolition of slavery in the District, & against the wishes of the people of the District and of the States of Virginia and Maryland."

**THE FAMILY OF THE LATE PRESIDENT.**—The resolution of Mr. Adams, in the House of Representatives, proposing to extend legislative relief to the widow of the late President, leaves a blank for the sum to be appropriated. We hope it will be filled liberally. Nothing short of one year's salary should be granted to his bereaved family. The question is not one of balancing items—but of national generosity.

**THE CHARLESTOWN ARTILLERY.**—Under the command of Capt. J. W. Rowan, paraded on Saturday last, for exercise; and rarely have we seen a more beautiful or better disciplined company. The uniform is neat, tidy, and showy; and the appearance and bearing of the men, that of soldiers. We looked upon their many exercises with much feeling of delight, and could not avoid drawing a contrast between such a company and one of raw, contemptible militia. The one, in our opinion, would be worth a regiment of the other, in the hour of trial. The Artillery, we are pleased to learn, now numbers upwards of fifty men, and still on the increase. As at present organized, the company is creditable to those who compose it, and to our village.

**COLONIZATION CONVENTION.**—A State Convention of Maryland assembled in Baltimore on the 23d inst.—was numerously attended, and participated by some of the most influential men of the State. One of the resolutions of the Convention states that the slaves "ought to be solemnly warned, that in the opinion of this Convention the day may arrive when circumstances shall render them unrestrained, and when, and which ever they may be, will derive them of the freedom of their persons, then, no alternative but removal." The establishment of a direct commercial intercourse with Cap. Palmer, by a regular packet to run between the two points, is also highly recommended.

**FEDERICKSBURG BANK ROBBERY.**—The Frederick Herald of Saturday says:—Nothing but a light reading, the robbing of the Bank of Frederick, A. M., is considered, however, still pretty that an enormous robbery cannot long continue to escape the public scrutiny. The officers of the Bank, at the mean time, are taking the most energetic and efficient measures to apprehend the犯人. We learn that a considerable amount of its notes have already been reported to the Board by those in whose possession they are—holders of notes and certificates of deposit are earnestly called upon to come forward and have them redined, after the 21st June, by a new issue.

**FRANCIS THOMAS, Esq.**—The Van Horne State Convention, which assembled in Baltimore on a few days ago, nominated Francis Thomas, Esq., as a suitable candidate to be supported for the next Governor of Maryland. The ballot of the Convention selected Mr. Francis Thomas (as he is called) J. T. H. Worthington 16; Charles Sowell 13; James W. Williams 4.

**ILL**—It is stated in the Philadelphia papers that the Directors of the United States Bank have entered a suit against Mr. Middle, late President of that institution, in the U. S. District Court.

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LADIES' FAIR.

We will be particularly gratified in doing this paper that the Ladies friendly to the Protestant cause in this town, design holding a Fair, previous to next, the 24th instant, and the 25th last. A great variety of rich, rare, and beautiful articles have been prepared for sale on this occasion. We have made specimens of the fine glassware which will be in sale, and can assure our readers that the present Fair will exceed any thing of the kind, for the variety and beauty of the articles that will be exhibited. We have arranged in our town, and we venture to say in the Valley of Virginia, a real amateur gathering of all that is useful, fanciful, and beautiful—something to suit all tastes, and please the most critical eye. The whole forming a delightful museum, full of attractions to all classes, the aged as well as young, the teacher as well as the student, the scholar, the married and the unmarried—the lawyer and the client, the judge and the juror, the doctor and his patient, the merchant, the citizen, and the man of business or pleasure. But there will be other attractions, greater than any yet alluded to, and of which we should like to give the reader a faint sketch, could we trust ourselves to attempt it. We will not allude to these, rather than to say that they are charming, lovely—the fairest of the Fair. To see them would be worth a thousand dollars.

A careful estimate of the power and resources of the two parties warrants the conclusion that the policy which Mr. Clay has, so long, and steadfastly supported, must ultimately be victorious.

**THE PRESS.**—The Philadelphia Inquirer makes an extract from the letter of a Washington correspondent, on the freedom and independence of slaveholders, particularly the gentlemen, who should never be without the sought and obtained one we had passed the years assigned to boyhood; and we are convinced that the man who can be insensible to such charming and at the same time useful objects, is only fit for treasons, stratagems, and

treachery. He writes:—One of our friends, who for a few weeks, would fail to partake of the joys, when such indulgences are presented! But, when such should be any pleased with the entertainments already listed at them, will be a variety of other fare, for the accommodation of persons from a distance, and of those at home, if they choose to partake of it. No pains have been spared by the fair managers (we have observed) to make every arrangement for convenience and comfort, and to afford an appropriate place for all who may favor them with a visit. If they have no taste for the fair arts, they can partake of those of a less refined character—a collision, composed of choice breads and meats; cakes and pies, &c. No one who may visit this fair, will favor bodily, and all who stay away (and bank in particular) deserve to, and most likely will, favor bodily all their days.

**THE POLICY AND JUSTICE OF REMOVING ALAS FROM OFFICE.**

**THE PLAN OF A BANK.**—The Plan of the Secretary of the Treasury for a Fiscal Agent of the Government, and Bank of the United States, will be found in today's paper. It proposes the establishment of the Bank in the District of Columbia, with a capital of thirty millions. The intelligence says it does not affect our plan to call this Plan a Cabinet measure, though it has no doubt of its having the approbation of a majority of the heads of departments. That it does not contain all the provisions which some would have wished, is very probable; but the objections to it, whatever they may be, are of a negligible kind.

**THE PUBLIC ARMORIES.**—On our first page will be found an extract from the late Report of the Secretary of War, in which he proposes to dispense with civil Superintendents at the U. S. Armories. We dissent from the views of the Secretary upon this subject, and take occasion, herafter, when we shall have more time and space, to point out our objections to the new arrangement.

**Death of Dr. Webb's Shepherd Chick.**

The death of this highly esteemed post and scholar is announced in the Philadelphia paper of Monday last. The American Sentinel, of that city says—

"It is our sad task to announce to our readers the death of our friend Mr. Webb, editor of the Philadelphia Gazette. He expired on Saturday night, a victim to pulmonary consumption, at the early age of 32. His death is a public loss, and will be especially lamented by his editorial brethren, by whom he was greatly respected and beloved. Mr. Webb knew him but to love him. His health had for a long time been failing, and he died several years ago, upon whom he died, with a passionate and rapid decline, his health failing him, and his life ebbing away. Now his intimate friends know the infirmities of that sad affliction upon his physical frame. To the last his heart yearned over the dust of that lovely woman. In his death chamber, her portrait stood always before him, a picture of infinite tenderness, and his last words were, 'I am ready to meet her in heaven.' The verse to her memory, by an author, written soon after her death, we consider of the richest poetical gems in the language, though very inadequately expressive of the intentions of the author's grief.

**The New York Express of Thursday** says that the memorial in favor of a Unionized State Bank will be one of the most extensively signed documents that ever went forth from that city. It is believed that already fifteen thousand persons have signed, and all of them persons who are interested in the mercantile concerns or men of business of that city.

**Mr. Webster's Resignation.**—Messrs. Botts and A. H. H. Stearn, members of Congress from Virginia, have severally published letters, explaining the reason of their voting for Mr. Adams' motion to rescind the 21st rule of the House, to be in desire to have the resolution passed, and to have it removed from the record.

**Mr. Francis Thomas.**—Mr. Washington McCaughey, of this place, was unfortunately drawn on Saturday last while bathing in Opecker Creek, about half a mile below town. The deceased was about 31 years of age, and was from Adams County, Pa., where his parents reside. The most sorrowful person present, we understand, one of whom made considerable exertions to save him, but unhappily failed. —*Maryland Gazette.*

**FAYAL DUEL.**—A duel was fought yesterday morning at Mandeville, between Messrs. Samuel Wright & S. W. Oakley, merchants of this city. The hostile feelings grew out of certain tales of the U. S. Consul, Seaman, grossly abusive of Mr. Oakley, and of which Mr. Wright is the report author. The combatants fought with rifles. The first shot proved ineffective. At the second Mr. Wright fell, having received his adversary's ball in the side. He lived scarcely a minute.

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MR. CLAY AND HIS MEASURES.

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He will carry this great measure which are the chief aim of his efforts and the scope of a large portion of the legislation he has in view. None has entered the Senate chamber during the last few days without being struck with the courtesy and frankness of his bearing, and the decisiveness which all pay to his suggestions. He is the focus of all eyes, and to him every one looks as the master spirit unerring in his judgment, every thing moves.

That he will carry this great measure

Twenty-Seventh COMPTON.

Washington, June 5, 1841.

U. S. SENATE.

Mr. Clay gave notice that he should move to lay the bill for the distribution of the proceeds of the Public Lands.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House succeeded on the seventh vote in electing Eleazer M. Townsend

Sergeant-at-Arms.

Whole number of votes, 102.

Necessary to a choice, 102.

Townsend received, 102.

Dowdy, 79.

Hove, 15.

The House then proceeded to the election of a Door-keeper:

Whole number of votes, 113.

Necessary to a choice, 113.

Joseph Follett received, 113.

Jesse E. Dow, 107.

John Follett, 16.

Bernard Hove, 6.

John Addison, 5.

A. B. Lindsey, 4.

J. W. Brannah, 15.

Craighead, 15.

For Assistant Door-keeper, the ballot

was as follows:—

John W. Hunter received, 149.

J. R. Cunningham, 10.

S. Cutts, 1.

W. J. McCormick, the present Post

Master, 1.

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