

Miscellaneous.

Among the western members of Congress there are many men, whose history would be as interesting as romance. Many of them are men who have endured poverty and hardship, in the most appalling forms, but an indomitable energy has carried them through it all.

Mr. Casey was born in Georgia, and raised in Tennessee. At the age of 17, he married. One year afterwards, with a small family consisting of a wife and one child, while Illinois was a territory, he set forth, with all he had of goods and chattels, stowed in a pack about as big as a two bushel basket, his wife by his side, his child in her arms, his pack on his back, and on his lips these words:—"Come, wife, I have forty-seven dollars in cash, and a stout heart; don't you be down in the mouth, for I am going to be somebody."

Twenty-three years ago he landed in the forest of Illinois, where he now resides.—He settled in Jefferson County, about half way between the Ohio and Mississippi rivers. There were then but five families within five miles of him. St. Louis, one hundred miles distant, was the nearest village where there was a store.

During the whole period of eight years, including one extra session of Congress, he has never been absent from the House but a day and a half, and that was for the purpose of going to New York, a journey which I (hearing with him at the time) persuaded him to make for his health.

Mr. Casey's influence in the House is equal to that of any other member. Corwin, of Ohio, Proft of Indiana, Cray, of Michigan, and many other Western Members are like Mr. Casey, self-made men.

LATE FROM FLORIDA.

By the steambot General Taylor, arrived yesterday morning from Florida, we have received the subjoined letter from our correspondent.

Florida, March 13, 1841.

Gentlemen.—In the first place I have to inform you that the scape goats continued to seek a shelter in General Armstrong's "city of refuge" Tampa Bay. Cosa Tus-te-nuggee, the Chief whom the General suffered to return on a parole of honor, to his hammock home, has returned bringing with him twelve Warriors. His return disapproved every one here, and the General's Secretary—Col. Worth has at length succeeded in opening a communication with our most indomitable foe Coacochee, who has expressed a wish to hold a talk with two of the Arkansas Delegation whom he named, in relation to the promised land beyond, not Jordan, but the Mississippi.—This was a step quite as important to the termination of the Florida War, and apparently obtained with as much difficulty, as the interview of the English authorities with his "Celestial Highness," during the Opium War; but I reckon in this case Coacochee will get the money.

Thirdly—Hos-pi-takee, a Southern Chief has sent to two Warriors to Col. Davenport at Sara-sota. I look upon this as a pretty important straw, showing which way the wind is blowing in that quarter.

Fourthly—Halleck Tus-te-nuggee, with about 100 Warriors, having been twice whipped by Lieut. Alburts, of which I gave you the particulars, was trailed to his Camp on the Ochlawaha, eight miles South of Fort Mackay by Captain Barnham, and again whipped and routed with considerable loss. Then came the sacking of the Camp, such a scramble you never saw.—There were bear-skins, coon-skins and deer-skins, pots, kettles, hoes, axes, mocassons and beads, fresh dressed venison and wild turkeys, coon, corn and bears oil, ladles, soplika-sifters, kneading-trays, &c. &c. I got for my share a string of beads, three soplika sieves, and a wooden spoon big enough to feed Mr. Blair! A pony from which Lieut. Alburts' express was killed, together with the clothing of the express and that of Corporal Lang was retaken. The frock coat worn by Lieut. Sherwood when killed, was also found amongst the plunder. The body of a fallen Warrior, probably mortally wounded by Lieut. Alburts had just been buried. He was however not "left alone in his glory," but was disinterred and found to have received a musket shot in his breast.

Captain Barnham had a Sergeant Pearson and Private Bower severely, the latter, I fear mortally wounded. Soon after the engagement he was joined by Captain Smith, 2d Infantry, and Lieut. Sibley, 2d Dragoons, each with a company, and Indian Billy for a guide, and they all set off in pursuit. In the mean time Captain Ker with his company of Dragoons, has taken the opposite side of the river, hoping to have the game flushed and driven into his hands.

General Tustenuggee will stand in need of all his skill to enable him to elude such a pursuit. I should not be surprised if he, having been beaten three times in as many days, should conclude he was doing a "loosing business, and take shelter under the olive branch at Tampa.

Do you not regret asking me to write "more extensively?" Very truly yours.

Correspondence of the Savannah Republican.

SAVANNAH, March 18.

FROM FLORIDA.

"PILATKA, March 14.—Capt. Ker, 2d Dragoons, a day or two since took twenty-one Indians with their chief, Koxa Tus-te-nuggee.

Twenty old Indians came in a few days ago at Fort Fauning, and gave themselves up.

Wild Cat has been in at Tampa and gone out to bring in his people, and letters to night say that ninety men were sent out on the 11th to escort ninety odd warriors on their way in.

About four hundred Indians are already at Tampa waiting to be shipped—in fact, every one writes that the war is over."

Still Later from Florida.—By the steamer Gen. Taylor, Capt. Peck, the above intelligence is confirmed.

Correspondence of the Charleston Courier.

WASHINGTON, March 15.

The affair between Mr. Clay and Mr. King has been kept open till now, though no one supposed that it would end otherwise than peacefully. It was announced in the Globe, on Friday evening last, that the matter was to be settled in such a way "as to leave no regrets on either side."

This was fortunately the event of the difficulty. Mr. Preston, this morning, after the Senate opened, made a statement to the effect that the difficulty had arisen from a misapprehension—that he was satisfied there was no intention on the part of Mr. King to insult Mr. Clay, &c.

Mr. Clay, after some remarks, retracted what he had said, and Mr. King disclaimed any intention to insult or disparage Mr. Clay. Mr. Clay advanced and met Mr. King, and as they shook hands, a tremendous applause arose from the galleries and lobbies.

The Senate went into executive business, and confirmed several Consuls. No very important nominations were sent in. The Senate sent a message to the President, informing him that they had acted on all the business before them, and the President, in reply, stated that he had no further communication to make, and that he wished the Senators a safe return to their families.

As to the subject of removals and appointments, you may be assured that few will be made until the new administration have become more familiar with their places; and that after all, there will be very little proscription. Harrison's mission is to expel the demon of party spirit.

We know just nothing at all in regard to the present state of the negotiation between Mr. Fox and Mr. Webster. Mr. Fox is still here, and there seems to be no great or immediate difficulty on the subject.

March 15.

"Blessed are the peace makers," and wherever they inhabit, Col. Preston of your State, must deserve a conspicuous place amongst them. The late unpleasant difficulty between Mr. Clay, of Kentucky, and Mr. King, of Alabama, was honorably settled, this morning, through the timely interposition of your distinguished Senator, for it was understood that a duel would certainly take place, unless the offensive expressions used by Mr. Clay, towards Mr. King were withdrawn in open Senate. But to the record.

Mr. Preston rose, this morning, and said that Senators must have a painful recollection of an unpleasant collision that took place a few days since, between the honorable Senators from Alabama and Kentucky, when an insult was offered to the branch of that parliamentary decorum and harmony for which the body was distinguished. It was to be the more regretted in the present case, from the long conspicuous standing of both the parties engaged in it; but he was satisfied that it must have been the result of mistake or accident, and for that reason, and in order to relieve the deep anxiety existing in the public mind, he hoped that harmony would be restored. The Senator from Kentucky had deened the remarks of the Senator from Alabama personally offensive, and feeling under them a deep sense of injury, had repelled them. In this view, however, the Senator was mistaken, and he (Mr. P.) felt convinced that the Senator from Alabama did not so intend them. As it was a misapprehension, therefore, he hoped that distinguished Senator, (Mr. Clay) would throw an difficulty in the way of an adjustment of the affair.

Mr. Clay shared in the regrets of his friend from South Carolina, and never wished to see any circumstances calculated to disturb the good feeling which had heretofore existed in the Senate, and he thanked him for his observations, as he knew that gentleman was influenced by the most high-minded motives. Mr. C. had a distinct recollection of the affair referred to, but had always deemed it a privilege in Congressional and Parliamentary debate, to speak with perfect freedom, and to denounce all in power as corrupt or tyrannical, when he considered them so. He had, however, felt it his duty to abstain from personalities, or imputing evil motives to any member of the Senate. Notwithstanding the ten years' abuse with which the senior editor of the Globe had attacked him (Mr. C.) he had never noticed that person until he was brought before that body for office, and he then felt it his right and duty to characterize him as an infamous libeller. From the tenor of the remarks of the Senator from Alabama, Mr. C. had thought that he intended deliberately and premeditatedly to insult him, but as he had information that such was not the case, he now, with infinite pleasure, withdrew every offensive remark he had applied to that gentleman.

Mr. King said that the Senator from Kentucky had not been misinformed in regard to his remarks, and that as he (Mr. Clay) had, with his usual frankness, withdrawn the injurious expressions he has applied to him, he (Mr. K.) felt himself at liberty to state that nothing was further from his design than to say any thing personally offensive to the character or standing of the Senator from Kentucky, as a gentleman. Mr. King made this avowal frankly, freely, and cheerfully, and due to himself and the Senate, and appealed with confidence to his brother Senators, whether he had not always kept himself strictly within the bounds of parliamentary decorum.

Mr. Preston then crossed over, and shook hands with Mr. King, and Mr. Clay followed his example. An enthusiastic burst of applause immediately came from the galleries, and the Senators appeared in a better humor than they had exhibited for a long time.

Executive session followed, and about 4

o'clock, the committee, appointed to wait on the President, reported that he had nothing more to communicate. On motion of Mr. Wright, the Senate adjourned sine die.

March 17.

Our difficulties with England will probably stimulate Congress at the extra session, to provide for the public defence. The public feeling would justify the imposition of heavy taxes, perhaps even the contraction of a national debt, in order to make suitable provision for the defence of our very extended and exposed sea board and inland borders.

I am convinced that the opposition of Mr. Webster was in favor of surrendering M'Leod, without trial, is incorrect. Neither he nor the President were in favor of acceding to this demand. We are not apprized of the course the administration intend to pursue; but we have full confidence that it will be such as to sustain the honor and dignity of the country.

General Scott and the Attorney General, (Mr. Crittenden) have both been despatched to Lockport, but without special object, is a matter of conjecture.

The excitement on this subject in the Southern and Western part of New York is so very great, that Governor Seward would not be supported in the release of M'Leod, on the application of the General Government. It is said that Mr. Pickens' report, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, has been extensively circulated in New York, and has increased the excitement against M'Leod, by painting, in so forcible a manner, the character of the aggression committed by those who destroyed the Caroline. Mr. Pickens' report has also had the effect to strengthen the opinion in New York, that the case of M'Leod is clearly within the exclusive jurisdiction of that State, and that an attempt, on the part of the Executive, to exercise any power over the matter, would be a usurpation.

There is also, in the State of New York, and the neighboring States, a numerous and zealous association of a somewhat secret character, the members of which are pledged to aid in the expulsion of all royal rule from the Canadas, and the influence of the men, if directed against the national administration, would be very powerful. They would not of course, tolerate the idea of M'Leod's release without trial. It is to be apprehended, indeed, that they will not assent to his release, even in case of his acquittal.

While General Harrison was delivering his Inaugural Address, it was noticed that, when he came to that part of it which relates to our foreign affairs, he called Mr. Preston to him and whispered something in his ear; whereupon Mr. Preston beckoned to Mr. Fox, who approached and was very attentive to the passage. Mr. Fox was, it is said, well pleased with the tone of the President on this subject. There can, therefore, be no ill feeling whatever between the new administration and the British Government, or its Minister here, and those who seek for peace, in a peaceful spirit, will not fail to secure it. It is not improbable that the late business will hasten the adjustment of all the difficulties between us and Great Britain.

You will have seen, by Lorenzo Drake's appointment as Consul to Paris, and not Mr. Martin, as was reported. The appointment is generally condemned. Washington Irving and Robert Walsh, both men of high literary and social character, were applicants for the situation.

March 18.

The proclamation for an extra session, on the 31st May, appeared in the official journal, this morning, I learn that there was much hesitation in the cabinet, on the subject, and that the measure was reluctantly adopted. The fact is the new administration must do something, even if they do wrong, in order to gratify the anxious desire of the public for a change of policy.

We are told, in the proclamation, that Congress is called in reference especially to the condition of the finances and revenue of the country. This is a sweeping reason, embracing every thing that can be desired by the friends of a national bank, of a land distribution, of an increased revenue from imports, and of a national debt.

The new Congress will embrace a majority of whigs, in both branches, but, on the measures of the administration it is apprehended that there will be some difference of opinion among the whigs. New parties are rising,—the old parties are dissolving into their original elements.

As to the distribution of the proceeds of the public lands, no one considers that as a very important measure—it is of very subordinate consideration.

The tariff and the bank—these are to be the great questions of the session—unless, indeed, our relations with England should demand the intervention of Congress, which is not probable.

It is thought that a national debt will be proposed—i. e. a loan of some twenty-five millions to begin with. The sum could be easily expended on the navy, which must be our great arm of defence in time of war. Indeed so thorough is this conviction on the part of our statesmen, that Mr. Calhoun, at the late session, said it would be a noble idea to devote the revenue from the lands to the support of the navy.

It cannot fail to be seen how essential the creation of a funded debt is to the establishment of a national bank. Without a funded debt, receivable in payment for shares in the bank, it would be impracticable to procure the funds wherewith to establish a bank—unless indeed, the Government should guarantee the stock.

Some few removals and appointments were announced to-day. Mr. Birchard, of Ohio, solicitor of the Treasury, was removed, and Mr. Penrose, of Pennsylvania is in his place. Mr. P. was a Jacksonian politician, but turned when the bank was chartered in Pennsylvania.

Mr. C. K. Gardner was removed from the office of auditor of the Post Office, and Mr. Eliaba Whitley, of Ohio appointed in his place. Mr. Whitley is well known to the American people, as the able and efficient Chairman of the Committee of Claims, for many years, in the House of Representatives.

We hear nothing of the state of our relations with Great Britain. But we shall soon hear of the result of the trial of McLeod. He will no doubt be acquitted. A

person went on to Lockport, from this city, with Mr. Crittenden, who can prove the alleged alibi. This will, perhaps, remove the difficulty for the present. But should the New-Yorkers get hold of McNab or Capt. Drew, they would have them at the risk of forty wars.

From the National Intelligencer, of March 9. CONGRESSIONAL REPORT.

THE U. STATES & GREAT BRITAIN.

The following is a fuller and more exact account than we have heretofore published of what Mr. Pickens (Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations) took occasion to say in the House of Representatives on Monday, (March 1.) in the discussion of the Fortification Bill:

Mr. Pickens rose for the purpose of disabusing the minds of the committee in relation to a rumor which he was astonished to find was in existence, in relation to the case of McLeod. When he came into the Hall, to his great astonishment, he found that a rumor was in circulation, and had been alluded to in debate, that an angry correspondence had taken place between Mr. Forsyth and Mr. Fox in relation to the imprisonment of McLeod. It was with pleasure, therefore, he stated that he had received information from the most authentic source that there was no foundation for such a rumor. There had been no correspondence calculated in any way to produce any more difficulty than previously existed. It was true that a correspondence had taken place, but was calculated to vary the position of the parties since the correspondence which had last been presented to the House. These false rumors had been alluded to from several quarters of the House, and were calculated to produce unsound legislation.

Mr. P. then proceeded to say that he hoped the bill reported by the Committee of Ways and Means would be adopted speedily.

The general system of fortification demanded by gentlemen required a practical knowledge before all its bearings could be known; and he would take occasion to say that, when the next administration came into power, let them propose a general system as a whole—a system of defence for all the points of the country; and if it should be a system that his judgment could approve, he would pledge himself that he would not stop to ask what was the miserable amount of revenue that might be derived from a tax of wines and silks, but he would cheerfully vote an amount equal to the whole proceeds of wines and silks imported, if the next administration should deem it requisite and proper for the country by any new contingency.

Mr. P. went on to contend that no system of fortification could possibly answer, unless it should be connected at various points with the Navy. It would be utterly impossible to protect our extensive coast, unless a proper connexion was had with a naval force. Take central and leading points which can protect and sustain your naval defences, suited to our extensive coast of 2,000 miles. It is steam-batteries and steam-ships that can give you defence suited to the improvements of the age.

Mr. P. contended that our present system of fortifications was utterly unsuited for the present wants of the country. The system had been partially brought from France, in 1816, and, since the introduction of steam power, was to a great extent inapplicable to our extensive territory and sparse population.

In answer to a question from Mr. Monroe, as to what was the system brought from France—

Mr. Pickens explained its nature, and said it was principally carried through by General Bernard, distinguished in France and in this country; and again urged that it was a system now, since the introduction of steam power, totally inapplicable for the defence of a country with such an extensive coast as ours. Mr. P. then said how he would connect the land fortifications with the naval force. He would, he said, establish points at the following places, where the forts could co-operate with the Navy. He would take a central point between the St. Croix and Cape Cod; and then New York and the mouth of the Chesapeake, between Cape Cod and Cape Hatteras; and then, between Hatteras and Cape Florida, he would fortify Charleston and the mouth of the Savannah river; and then, between Cape Florida and the Sabine, he would fortify Pensacola and the mouths of the Mississippi; he would have all these points well fortified to protect and sustain an efficient system of naval defences suited to your extensive seacoast and commerce. As to the interior points of fortification, and those of smaller grades, he would discard them; he looked upon them as behind the age.

But (said Mr. P.) any other system of fortification confined exclusively to land will prove a miserable failure.

In answer to another interrogatory, Mr. P. observed that it would be folly to think that England would ever think of invading us again from the Canadas. England could have no object in attempting a permanent invasion on that frontier. The case now and at the last war in 1812 was widely different. In 1812, that portion of the country on the lake frontier was thinly populated, and had but little connexion with the Atlantic cities. Owing to its defenceless position, the consequence was that the British formed their plan of invasion of the lake coast with a view to connect a military cordon through the interior to New Orleans, and cut off the Valley of the Mississippi from the Atlantic States. They had some prospects of succeeding at that period; hence the invasion was there. But now the case was widely different. That part of the country was now densely populated, and with a population, too, decidedly warlike and spirited to the highest degree; so that now it would be madness on the part of Great Britain to attempt an invasion in that quarter. She could gain nothing by it; but the danger would be the reverse, and the invasion would be from this country upon Canada if a rupture should take place, which he trusted would not occur, and he believed it would not. What I mean to say (continued Mr. P.) is, let the next administration, when it comes into power, propose a proper system of fortification—a system embracing the improvements of the age, and calculated to meet the wants of the coun-

try—and I will go with them to the utmost. I will not only go for a tax on wines and silks, but I will most cordially, when the proper time shall arrive, give them my support, if any serious difficulty should arise to call for it. I will then, at a proper time, vote for all they may want. But I hold that this is not the proper time, and I protest against this system of legislating by piecemeal, and without proper information, and unconnected with a system as a whole suited to the wants of the country. If any serious difficulty should arise between us and a foreign Power, (which he hoped would not be the case,) let the Administration call Congress together, and we will meet the issues as a free people ought. Let those who are to execute laws and conduct negotiations in the future, take that course that patriotism may dictate, and there can be no difficulty.

MR. STANLEY'S EXPLANATION.

We copy from the National Intelligencer, of the 22d ult., the explanation of the Hon. E. Stanley, of N. C., given at the Evening Session of the House of Representatives, on the 19th ult:

"Mr. Stanley said, if the House would indulge him for a few moments, he would answer the interrogatory of the gentleman from Maine. That gentleman has truly said, that he has had no consultation with me, or with any friend of mine, with my knowledge, relative to the motion or the remarks he now submits to the House.

"It will be remembered, Mr. Speaker, that, in the speech I made last night, I disclaimed, repeatedly, rather too often disclaimed, as I thought, all intimation or wish to indulge in personalities, or to wound the feelings of any honorable member on this floor. I did this, sir, with particular emphasis, because I am aware that, when excited in debate, I am apt to use forcible language, which is liable to be misunderstood. I said, as regards the members of S. Carolina on this floor, whose doctrines I had felt bound to oppose, I begged them all to understand I did so from no feeling of personal unkindness, but in opposition to their political principles, which I regarded as calculated to do much mischief if they should receive encouragement from any respectable portion of the country. Towards the gentleman himself (Mr. Pickens) I have always entertained feelings of personal kindness.

"After this full disclaimer, which every member will testify to who heard me, I was surprised to see the feeling manifested by several members from South Carolina. The gentleman from South Carolina, to whom I especially addressed my arguments, (Mr. Rhett,) had the floor to reply to me, when the debate should be resumed. And let me say, as to that honorable member (Mr. Rhett), I have understood he was a religious man; I honored him as such, and on that account, especially, I used towards him no other language than that of courtesy and kindness. I endeavored to deal with his obnoxious doctrines—direct taxation, disunion, &c.—and with his doctrines alone. You will remember, Mr. Speaker, that, immediately after the journal was read, the respectable gentleman from Charleston (Mr. Holmes) endeavored to reply to some remarks of mine, which he had not heard. I objected at once, for the reason I gave, that I had no idea of consenting to a partial debate, and that the gentleman could answer me in committee, where we both could be heard. As I made this remark, the colleague of the gentleman from Charleston (Mr. Campbell) on my right made use of offensive terms, to which I replied, and after this, the gentleman from South Carolina, (Mr. Pickens,) out of order, when another subject is under consideration—(a pension bill being under discussion)—went out of his way, as I thought, to attack me. It was under such circumstances, well calculated I think, after my previous explanations, to excite any man, that I replied to the remarks of the gentleman from South Carolina. (Mr. Pickens.) I understand that gentleman (Mr. Pickens) just now to say that he intended no insult to me in the remarks he made; he intended only to use "ridicule," which he thought "a fair parliamentary argument."

"If I understand this gentleman (Mr. Pickens) correctly, it is due to the House, it is due to that gentleman, and especially, it is due to myself, to state that I regret, that under the excitement which I felt, I used language stronger than was called for or was strictly parliamentary and proper. I intended the remarks in reply to what I deemed a personal attack. It seems so such an attack was intended; that I was wrong in putting that construction on the gentleman's remarks. I feel bound, therefore, to say, sir, that I wish my remarks to pass as "ridicule only," as the gentleman's remarks were "ridicule only." As he disclaims any wish to have his remarks received in a spirit of unkindness, I make the same disclaimer.

"I thought, sir, when the gentleman referred to the "valiant knight from North Carolina," as he called me—when he spoke of my "pigmy arm," and compared me to the sparrow "with his bow and arrow" shooting at Cock Robin—I thought his tone was one of contempt, and there was something sneering in his manner which was calculated to offend. I am glad, sir, that I was wrong in misunderstanding the gentleman. I only refer now to his tone and manner to justify myself for the warmth I exhibited.

"But, Mr. Speaker, if the House will indulge me a moment further, I wish to expressly understand that, when I spoke of the arrogance of South Carolina, or what I called the "legislative insolence" of South Carolina, I meant by "insolence" the haughtiness, mixed with contempt, evinced in the report to which I referred. I did not speak of the State of South Carolina or the people of South Carolina with disrespect. I cannot, under any circumstances, be forced to speak disrespectful of any sister State. I have too much self-respect to do so. I have too much respect for North Carolina, for my constituents, to do so, but, sir, I appeal not only to every North Carolinian—not only to every Southern gentleman, but to every American on this floor—to read the report, especially page 10, to which I referred, and to ask, if he respects the State of South Carolina as I do, if he will not feel indignant at the language there

applied, by her Legislature, to her sister States. Am I to sit here coolly, sir, and see a report from her Legislature, printed by order of this House, (without having been read, as it seems,) in which my own State is accused of having been influenced in her recent vote by the money power, and of having united herself with "abolitionists and federalists," and not say one word, either of defence or reproach? No reasonable man can expect it, sir. No Southern patriot would blame me for saying what I now repeat, that in justice to all the States of this Union, in justice to this House, in order to sustain our own dignity, that report ought not to have been received or entertained by the House.

"I beg pardon of the House for having trespassed on their time with personal matters. I beg pardon of the House, sir, if I violated any of its rules in the speech I made on yesterday or to day. I intended no such thing. I was fighting doctrines, as I believe, the most abominable that were ever entertained by American statesmen. I avoided personalities. I thought I said so too often. I will continue, in the discharge of my duty, an unrelenting warfare, a perpetual opposition to the odious opinions of direct taxation, disunion, &c., which are avowed by a talented portion of the friends of the departing Administration."

Mr. Evans said it was obvious there was no foundation for ill feelings growing out of debate, after these explanations and disclaimers, and he trusted whatever excitement had existed was now allayed.

The Advertiser.

EDGEFIELD C. H.

THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 1841.

The Court of Common Pleas, for this District, closed its session on Saturday the 27th ult.

Hon. J. C. Calhoun.—This distinguished Senator was 58 years of age on the 17th ult., which day he celebrated, as well as that of St. Patrick, in company with the Hibernian and St. Patrick Societies, at Charleston.

Extra Session.—By the Proclamation of the President, the Members of the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, are to convene on the 31st of May next.

Military.—The citizens had the gratification of viewing, in our village, on Saturday last, a parade, of that fine corps the Edgefield Hussars, under the command of Captain BONHAM, and were pleased to see they possessed within the bounds of their own district, so efficient a force, which in case of emergency, at a short notice, could be called into service. Their appearance and discipline, taking into consideration the opportunities which they have had, reflect great credit on their officers and themselves.

We refer our readers to another column of this days paper, for the remarks of the Hon. F. W. PICKENS, (Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Relations,) in the discussion of the Fortification Bill; which will be found, on perusal, to contain the real sentiments which every true American ought to cherish; his plan of, (in a measure) uniting the Army and Navy, so as to enable them to act in conjunction, by means of Fortifications on our seaboard, is one that would enable our government, at all times, to protect our shores from foreign assailants. The old maxim, "in time of peace, prepare for war," has never failed to prove true.

The English papers brought by the steamer Caledonia, at Boston, from Liverpool, gives an account of the total loss of the American ship Governor Fenner, with her passengers and crew, (except the captain and mate,) consisting of one hundred and twenty-two persons. The Gov. F., a few hours after leaving Liverpool for New York, ran foul of a steamer, in the night; the captain and mate both being on deck at the time, saved themselves by means of ropes thrown from the steamer, but the balance of those of the crew, on deck, were unable to save themselves, in consequence of the ship sinking so instantaneous; the passengers were at the time in their births, and were hurried into eternity, without a moments warning.

Negroes of the Armistad.—Those gentlemen says the Hartford Times, were immediately informed, of the decision of the "Great Court,"—as they understand it—and were given to understand that they were to be set at liberty. They received the information with great complacency, exhibiting no strong demonstration of joy, as they are still incapable of "defining their position." On being asked what they would do, if left to their own volition, their answer was, "Don't know." Will you go to work and get a living? "O no: work no good." Will you go to Africa? No tell. You go away till we talk with Cinquez."

Brother Jonathan.—We find by the last number, which we have received of this valuable Family Newspaper, the publishers are determined not to be outdone by any other publication of the kind in the Union. They have introduced, with the Tales from "Master Humphrey's Clock," by Boz, the engravings attached to them, thereby rendering them more complete,—this, no doubt, to those fond of light reading, will be a gratification, and should induce them to support the publishers in this expensive undertaking.