

THE SUMMER BANNER
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BY W. J. FRANCIS.

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Journal of the Senate
OF SOUTH CAROLINA.
TUESDAY, Nov. 23, 1851.

The Senate met at 12 o'clock, pursuant to adjournment.

The Clerk read the proceedings of yesterday.

Additional Senators.
The following Senators appeared in their places in the Senate Chamber, viz:

Hon. W. Izard Bull, St. Andrew; J. L. Manning, Clarence; A. Mazyck, St. James; Sanice; John F. Townsend, St. John's; Colleton; Wm. Williams, Prince; Williams; John Willson, St. James; Goose Creek; J. T. Goodwyn, St. Matthews.

Mr. Whitherspoon presented the memorial of the King's Mountain Railroad Company, praying aid in the construction of that road; which was referred to the Committee on Finance and Banks.

Mr. Hibben presented the returns of the Commissioners of Free Schools, for Christ Church Parish, for the year 1851; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Religion.

Mr. Adams gave notice that to-morrow he will ask leave to introduce a bill to renew the charters of the private banks, and to provide for the re-chartering of new Banks, under certain restrictions and provisions.

Mr. Adams also presented the petition of the Commercial Bank of Columbia, for re-charter, which was referred to the Committee on Finance and Banks.

Mr. Adams also presented the report of the Regents of the Lunatic Asylum and Medical Accounts, and was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Adams also presented the petition of the Theological Seminary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, praying a renewal of charter; which referred to the Committee on Incorporations and Engrossed Acts.

Mr. Moses presented the petition of T. J. Dinkins, praying for a writ of habeas corpus, rendered the Senate, in serving writs of election; which was referred to the Committee on Claims and Grievances.

Mr. Moses also presented the return of the Commissioners of Free Schools for Lancaster, for 1851; which was referred to the Committee on the College, Education and Religion.

Mr. Moses also presented the account of W. J. Francis, for printing done for the State; which was referred to the Committee on Claims and Grievances.

Mr. Barnes presented the return of the Commissioners of Free Schools, for Lancaster, for the year 1851; which was referred to the Committee on the College, Education and Religion.

Mr. Barnes also submitted the presentment of the Grand Jury of Lancaster District, Fall Term, 1851; which was read, and so much thereof as refers to Free Schools was referred to the Committee on the College, Education and Religion; and all the other matters embraced therein were referred to the Committee on Finance and Banks.

Mr. Townsend offered the following resolution, which was ordered for immediate consideration, and was agreed to:

Resolved, That the screen be replaced within the door of this Chamber, and that the desks be arranged in the same order in which they were at the last session.

Mr. Quattlebaum presented the petition of sundry citizens of that part of Orange Parish lying within the Judicial District of Lexington, praying the passage of an Act to amend the Constitution so as to change the name of Saxe Gotha to that of Lexington, and to extend its boundaries to its present judicial limits; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. Quattlebaum also gave notice that, on to-morrow, he will ask leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Constitution so as to change the name of the election District of Saxe Gotha to that of Lexington, and to extend its boundaries to its present judicial limits.

Mr. G. B. Allison presented the return of the Commissioners of Free Schools of St. Luke's Parish for the year 1851; which was referred to the Committee on the College, Education and Religion.

Mr. Lawton presented the return of the Commissioners of Free Schools for St. Peter's Parish for the year 1851; which was referred to the same committee.

Mr. Lawton also presented the petition of Edmund Martin, praying that the Hudson's Ferry Road be changed; and that the counter petition of certain citizens of St. Peter's Parish against the proposed change; which were referred to the Committee on Roads and Buildings.

Mr. Carn presented the return of the Commissioners of Free Schools for St. Bartholomew's Parish, for the year 1851; which was referred to the Committee on the College, Education and Religion.

Mr. Carn submitted the presentment of the Grand Jury for Colleton District, Fall Term, 1851; which was read and was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. J. J. Wilson presented the petition of certain citizens of Barnwell, for the incorporation of "The Church of the Holy Apostles," which was referred to the Committee on Incorporations and Engrossed Acts.

Mr. J. J. Wilson also presented the petition of Mrs. Elizabeth R. Whately, for the renewal of the Charter of a Ferry over Savannah River, known as the Southbar or Watlyon Ferry; which was referred to the Committee on Roads and Buildings.

Mr. Granbiling presented the return of the Commissioners of Free Schools for Orange Parish, for the year 1851; which was referred to the Committee on the College, Education and Religion.

Mr. Granbiling also presented the account of G. D. Keit, Sheriff of Orange District, for serving writs of election for Senator for Orange Parish; which was referred to the Committee on Claims and Grievances.

Mr. Ware presented the return of the Commissioners of Free Schools for Greenville District, for the year 1851; which was referred to the Committee on the College, Education and Religion.

Mr. Skpper presented the return of the Commissioners of Free Schools for Horry District, for the year 1851; which was referred to the same Committee.

Mr. Witherspoon gave notice that to-morrow he will introduce a bill to amend the Constitution of the State, in relation to the King's Mountain Railroad.

Mr. Gause presented the petition of the Commissioners of Public Buildings, for Marion District, for an appropriation for a new Court House; which was referred to the Committee on Roads and Buildings.

Mr. Barker presented the return of the Commissioners of Free Schools of St. John's Berkeley, for the year 1851; which was referred to the Committee on the College, Education and Religion.

Mr. Dudley presented the petition of Lewis Taylor and wife, praying for a grant to them of certain property liable to escheat; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and also

The petition of Joseph J. Rowe, praying compensation for attending Court, as a witness in behalf of the State; which was referred to the Committee on Claims and Grievances.

Mr. Porter presented the petition of the South Carolina Building and Loan Association, for an act of incorporation; which was referred to the Committee on Incorporations and Engrossed Acts; and also

The return of the Commissioners of Free Schools for the parishes of St. Philip and St. Michael's, for the year 1851; which was referred to the Committee on the College, Education and Religion; and also

The petition of Marion Fire Engine Company, praying that a debt due by them to the Commissioners of Cross Roads may be relinquished; which was referred to the Committee on Finance and Banks; and also

The petition of Ephraim Wilson, a free person of color, praying the release of a slave of a lot of land in the city of Charleston; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary; and also

The petition of Marx E. Cohen, praying for a writ of habeas corpus; which was referred to the Committee on Finance and Banks; and also

The petition of the Grand Jury, for Charleston District, for October Term, 1851; which was read, and was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary; and also

The petition of the Washington Fire Engine Company, praying that a debt due by them to the Commissioners of Cross Roads may be relinquished; which was referred to the Committee on Finance and Banks.

Mr. Porter also presented the memorial of the City Council of Charleston, praying that the Powder Magazine may not be located at the Citadel, or within the limits of the city; which was referred to the Committee on the Military Pensions; and also

The memorial of the City Council of Charleston, praying that the payment of a poll tax on other tax, be made the qualification of voters at the election for Mayor and Aldermen; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary; and also

The memorial of the Union Bank of South Carolina, praying a recharter; which was referred to the Committee on Finance and Banks; and also

The abstract of the number of persons admitted into the poor house of Charleston from September 1st 1850, to August 31st, 1851; which was referred to the Committee on Finance and Banks.

Mr. Egan presented the return of the Commissioners of Free Schools for Anderson District, for the year 1851; which was referred to the Committee on the College, Education and Religion.

Mr. Griffin presented the petition of M. W. Lykes and others, praying that the escheated estates of John B. Logan and Charles Logan may be vested in the petitioners and others named in the petition; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary; and also

The petition of James Tompkins and others, praying that the title of the State to certain escheated property may be vested in M. W. Lykes, and others; which referred to the same committee.

Mr. Porter presented the petition of the President and directors of the Planters' and Mechanics' Bank, for re-charter; which was referred to the Committee on Finance and Banks.

The President announced the following appointments upon the standing committees of the Senate, viz:

On Federal Relations, Mr. James H. Adams, on Finance and Banks, Mr. James H. Adams, on Incorporations and Engrossed Acts, Mr. Andrew Hasell, on Agriculture and Internal Improvements, Mr. Thos. E. Power, on Roads and Buildings, Mr. Michael Granbiling, on the Lunatic Asylum and Medical Accounts, Mr. Thomas E. Power and Mr. Andrew Hasell.

Mr. Hasell presented the petition of Mrs. Frances P. Cox, praying recharter of a Ferry, known as Cox's Ferry, on the Vacant Roads, which was referred to the Committee on Roads and Buildings.

Mr. John Wilson presented the petition of W. A. Browning, praying compensation for services rendered the State as a special constable; which was referred to the Committee on Claims and Grievances; and also the petition of W. Salisbury, praying compensation for services rendered the State as a special constable; which was referred to the same committee.

At the hour of 1 o'clock P. M., Message No. 1, of His Excellency the Governor, was communicated to the Senate. The message was read, and on motion of Mr. Carn, it was made the special order of the day for Thursday next at 1 P. M., and 500 copies were ordered to be printed.

On motion of Mr. Moses, it was ordered that when the Senate adjourns, it should adjourn to meet to-morrow at 10 o'clock.

On motion of Mr. Lawton, the Senate adjourned, at 23 minutes past 1 o'clock P. M.

Legislature of South Carolina.
WEDNESDAY, Nov. 26, 1851.

In the House, the morning hour was occupied in the presentation of petitions, presentments of grand juries, &c. After which, on motion of Mr. Robertson, the special order of the day, the Governor's Message, was taken up; and, on motion of Mr. Lykes, the following references were ordered to be made:

So much as relates to the financial condition of the State, and to the Bank of the State, and to the proceeds of public lands, to be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

So much as relates to the College, Asylum for the Deaf and Dumb, collecting and arranging the records of the Colonial and Revolutionary history of the State, to the Committee on Education.

So much as relates to the Military Academy, Brigade Encampments and to Board of Ordnance, to the Committee on the Military.

So much as relates to the publication of Mr. Calloway's work, and the works presented by M. Vattermark, to the Committee on Legislative Library.

So much as relates to certain resolutions on a Bureau of Agriculture to the Committee on Agriculture.

So much as relates to the resolutions of the Legislature of Conventions of New Hampshire and Maryland on the subject of the Constitution, together with so much as relates to Federal Relations, to the Committee on Federal Relations.

So much as relates to the monuments to be erected to the memory of John C. Calhoun and Col. P. M. Butler, to be referred to a special Committee of five from this House, and that a message be sent to the Senate requesting the appointment of a similar Committee from that body.

In pursuance of notice, Mr. Robertson introduced a bill to incorporate a bank in Wimsboro; which was read the first time and referred.

Mr. Keit, in pursuance of notice, introduced a bill to change the name of the election District of Saxe Gotha to Lexington.

Mr. Phillips gave notice that he would ask leave to introduce a bill to amend the tenth section of the first article of the constitution of South Carolina.

Mr. Lykes gave notice that he would ask leave to introduce a bill to prohibit the introduction into this State of slaves, or of free persons of color, from any State north or westward of South Carolina.

Mr. Torre, from the Committee on Vacant Offices, reported the offices of Commissioners of Equity for the following Districts to be vacant, viz: Greenville, Barnwell, Charleston, Fairfield, Kershaw, York, Sumter, and Edgefield; and, on his motion, after some discussion, it was ordered that an election to fill these offices be held to-morrow, at 2 o'clock, and that a message be sent to the Senate to this effect.

Mr. Dorgan offered a resolution to the effect that a joint Committee, to consist of one member from each judicial District, be appointed, to which should be referred the whole subject of incorporating Banks.

Mr. Torre gave notice that he would ask leave to introduce a bill for the temporary recharter of certain Banks.

Mr. Tupper, in pursuance of notice, introduced a bill to increase the amount of property exempt from taxes and sale, and to incorporate the Wofford College. Read the first time and referred.

Mr. Sumner gave notice that he would ask leave to introduce a bill for the punishment of persons laying obstructions on railroad tracks, &c.

On motion of the same gentleman, the delegates to the State Convention, were granted the privileges of the House.

Mr. Hunt gave notice that he would ask leave to introduce a bill to recharter the Bank of the State; also a bill for the better security of funds in the hands of Masters in Equity.

On motion of Mr. Smith, the House adjourned to 12 o'clock to-morrow.

In the Senate, N. R. Eaves and John S. Palmer appeared to-day.

Mr. E. H. Miller, Senator elect from Williamsburg, appeared and was qualified. After the presentation of petitions, free school returns, and notices of bills.

Mr. Mazyck, from the special committee of the last session on the communications of the British Consul on the subject of the laws of this State in reference to colored seamen, made a report; which was ordered for consideration on Monday next.

Mr. Adams presented the report of the Town Council of Columbia; in reference to State lots, which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary; and also

The memorial of the Town Council of Columbia, praying amendment of charter, and taking increasing allowance for the use of the Town water at the public buildings.

Further notices of bills were presented, after which the Senate adjourned to 12 o'clock to-morrow.

COLUMBIA, Nov. 28.—In the House, the bill to give the election of President and Vice Presidents to the people, was made the special order, in Committee of the Whole, for Tuesday next. The motion for reference, submitted by Mr. Perry, occasioned a warm discussion, which indicated an exciting debate on the bill.

MISSISSIPPI WITHOUT A GOVERNOR.—The offices of Governor, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives, having become vacant, the Secretary of the State of Mississippi has issued his proclamation calling the Senate together on the 21st instant, that a President thereof may be chosen to exercise the office of Governor until the first day of January. Messengers thus present the singular spectacle of being without a Governor till the Senate shall meet on the 21st, and elect a President.

THE NATIONAL REVENUE.—The Journal of Commerce publishes the following statement as authentic, of the public revenue for the last fiscal year:

Customs, \$40,000,000
Public Lands, 2,000,000

\$42,000,000

Eight millions of the public debt have been extinguished in the same period, by the purchase here of securities to that amount, at market rates.

For the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1850, the receipts from customs were \$30,068,636

From Public Lands, 1,859,894

Total, \$31,928,530

The excess of revenue from Customs and Lands, for year ending the 30th of June last, over the preceding year, is therefore nine and a half millions.

THE SPEAKERSHIP.—We learn from the Washington Union that the Hon. A. Burt is favorably spoken of as a gentleman eminently fitted for this post.

THE SUMMER BANNER.
Sumterville, So. Ca.

JOHN T. GREEN, EDITOR.
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1851.

Messrs. A. WATKINS & Co., are Agents for the Banner at Sumterville.

OUR PRINCIPLES.
There is one point on which there can be no diversity of opinion in the South among those who are true to her, or who have made up their minds not to be slaves; that if we should be forced to choose between violence and submission we should take resistance at all hazards.—CALHOUN.

To do that, concert of action must be necessary, not to save the Union for it would then be too late, to save ourselves. This in my view, is the only one which is safe.—CALHOUN.

What is the remedy I answer secession, united secession of the wholeholding States, or a large number of them. Nothing else will be wise—nothing else will be practicable.—CHURCH.

We acknowledge the receipt of a present from our venerable friend Mr. HUCH WILSON, it came in the shape of a half bushel of the finest Potatoes we have ever seen.

Commissioners in Equity.
MR. W. F. B. HASSWORTH has been elected Commissioner in Equity for this District.

Congress.
Congress assembled yesterday, being the first Monday in December. There is a full attendance of the members.

The Governors Message.
This document we are able to lay before our readers in the present issue. It is among the briefest of our State papers of this character and expresses its suggestions in a plain and impressive style. It is particularly brief upon the subject of Federal Relations. We are happy to find one so high in authority, and one whose opinion should have so much weight in the Legislature, expressing his opinions against "Brigade encampments," and suggesting the repeal of the Law in relation to the same. It has long been our opinion that "they cost more than they come to," and beside, are an oppression upon the poor who are called out upon such service. We hope that the suggestion in the Message will be carried out at the present session of the Legislature.

Chirography.
MR. JENKES who is now giving instructions in the art of writing, has exhibited to us in our office, a most beautiful Silver Cup presented to him, by his pupils in Savannah, Georgia, and also a Silver Medal presented to him by his pupils in Richmond, Virginia, as a testimonial of esteem and appreciation of his mastery PENMANSHIP. We consider Mr. J. as highly meriting such a compliment to his skill. But we are constrained to say, that nothing but actual inspection of his writing will give a correct idea of the beauty and perfection to which the art can be carried.

His writing is equal to the best engraving we have ever seen, one can look at it without being assured that to write well is one of the most beautiful and useful accomplishments which a gentleman or Lady can have and that this is in the power of any one who will be governed by the instruction of such a writer. MR. JENKES, is the best Penman we have ever seen.

Correspondence of the Summer Banner.
NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 21, 1851.

The current news, the past week, has been pretty smooth as well as copious. The fore-gone steamer which arrived yesterday, brings us no intelligence of a startling character, though the news is generally interesting. Kossuth has been making more speeches in England, and their effect here is decidedly in his favor, though there is certainly an undertone of hostility in some points of the meridian against his tide of popularity.

In his opposition to Kossuth, the Freeman's Journal takes a bold lead, and in the forum, Bishop HENNING, who has just been made a Cardinal by the Pope, is bitter in his denunciation of the Hungarian Patriot. We do not pretend to give a reason for this, and as it appears to be linked in, somehow, with religious sectarianism, we shall not attempt to make an explanation.

The two men, SULLIVAN and CLARK, condemned to be hung here on to-morrow for murder, have obtained a sort of respite through a "Writ of Error" taken before the Supreme Court. The Governor has declined, however, to interpose the Executive clemency in their behalf, and so their fate is sealed. Little pity is felt for them, however, for the one cheerfully killed a man who was endeavoring to keep him from beating his wife, and the other just as coolly dashed out the brains of a policeman, and boasted of it as an act of meritorious valor.

As a matter of gossip, we may mention that a very beautiful bank Note of the denomination of \$3 and \$5 has just appeared in the streets from the firm of DAWSON, BARD & Co., that attracts much attention. They are issued by the Piquette Bank, of which the celebrated P. T. BARNUM is President, (BARNUM'S BANK as they call it) and have a capital likeness of Mr. B. upon one side of them, and an equally excellent likeness of JENNY LIND on the other, while a sweet picture of BRANSTON, BARNUM'S Turkish villa, fills up the centre.

This world is full of curiosity, and you may imagine so when we tell you that so many people to get hold of these Notes merely to obtain BARNUM'S autograph, that few of them are left in circulation, and what is worse, some actually cut the portraits off, on account of these rare perfumers, though the Bank we hear refuses to redeem the Notes thus shorn of their fair proportions, and hence this practice cannot long continue.

The Temperance lecturer, Mr. LLOYD, a "Friend" or Quaker, is doing a promising business; we have never had a Temperance lecturer of that denomination, and the novelty as well as his earnest eloquence, proves a great attraction. Temperance, we are sorry to say, has not been so successful here, lately, as it used to be. Father MATHEW gave the cause a new impetus, but since his departure it has begun to retrograde again. Mr. LLOYD comes, therefore in a good time.

Talking of Temperance, we need some uncommon sensation of the kind, for crimes arising from drunkenness, are becoming, with us, positively alarming in their character, and frequency. A woman has just been sent to prison for murdering her husband, while under the influence of liquor. Another woman has been arrested for taking two husbands, who gave inebriety as a reason for her offence. A man was convicted of murder on Wednesday, whose guilt may be traced to the same source, and five others are waiting their trial for capital crimes attributable to intoxication. By and bye, we shall want a Maine Law to stay this torrent of wickedness.

Considerable anxiety exists here in relation to newspaper postage. The present Law is most ridiculous and most unequal, and we are making great exertions for its modification. We think that one cent postage is quite a tax enough on knowledge of this kind, and we feel confident of being able to accomplish something like this amendment, for the current Law is really obnoxious. Of course you feel interested in this amendment.

We forget whether we told you or not about the men moving in "Respectable Society," who were arrested with us the other day as part of a band of forgers. It turns out that they have abstracted some \$100,000 from the Banks. Two more were captured yesterday, and they have told some extraordinary and romantic stories involving some rather distinguished men. Yet, it may be a hoax.

The Society for the prosecution of Rail Road Companies on which accidents occur, have commenced a suit, they say, against the Harlem Rail Road, for killing a man on Monday. This Road kills about a dozen a week, and exemplary damages may teach them a valuable lesson.

The weather is mild and charming, and Broadway is overflowing with human angels.

Yours, as ever, ASTOR.

The Late Christian Riot.
PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 24, 1851.

Commencement of the Trials.—The United States Circuit Court, this morning, commenced the trial of the Christiana treason cases. Judges Grier and Kane were in attendance, and the Philadelphia bar was fully represented. The Court room being of limited capacity, it was found necessary to exclude many who sought admittance, for which purpose officers were stationed at the foot of the stairway leading to the Court room.

The following counsel appeared for the government: District Attorney John H. Ashmead, James R. Ludlow, and George L. Q. Ashford. For the State of Maryland—Robert J. Brent and James Cooper. The counsel for the prisoners were, John M. Reed, Theodore Cuyler, of this city, Thaddeus Stevens, and Joseph Lewis, of Lancaster.

At 11 o'clock the Court was opened in due form, after which the Clerk proceeded to call the list of jurors. There was a large attendance of the panel.

The Court directed all the absentees to be fined \$100 each. A large number of applications were made to be excused from serving, and some ten or twelve were excused. The Court next asked if the government were ready to proceed; to which J. W. Ashmead said, as at present advised, he should be prepared to take up the case of Castner Hanaway at the opening of the Court to-morrow. He, however, wished it understood that no arrangement might suggest to-day would be allowed to interfere with any preliminaries he saw proper to adopt to-morrow.

In answer to a question from Judge Grier, he said he proposed to arraign each defendant as he was called upon for trial.

Judge Grier said, that while he did not desire to urge unnecessary haste, considering the importance of the cases, yet he desired to be in Washington in two weeks time.

Mr. Stevens hoped it would not require two weeks to try one case. In his county they try a man in two weeks.

Some conversation then took place as to the sessions of the Court—whether evening sessions should be held, &c.

It was finally determined to hold no evening sessions for a few days.

Judge Grier asked the counsel on either side if they had any suggestions to make respecting the ordering of the testimony during the continuance of the trial.

Mr. Ashmead on behalf of the Government, said he should offer no objections whatever.

Judge Kane said that if the testimony was published from day, and the trials continued for a long period, it might be difficult to get jurors.

Mr. Stevens for the defence, said that if testimony was allowed to be published from day to day, it could do no harm, for its exclusion would not deprive the writers from giving its substance, and perhaps garbled statements of what actually took place.

Judge Grier remarked that it rested with the counsel to decide, as the Court would not interfere to prevent its publication, but at the instance of gentlemen on either side.

By common consent, the testimony will, therefore, be published.

The Court adjourned to meet to-morrow at 10 o'clock, when the case of Castner Hanaway, will be taken up.

EXCITEMENT IN SUMTER COUNTY ALA.—There have been quite a number of outrages committed recently near Sumterville, in Sumter County, Ala. Among others, a Mr. Ormand was waylaid and shot at, and severely wounded, his gun-house and corn-crisps were burned, and the gin house of Mr. G. A. Brown was also burned. These acts are all believed to have been committed by one person. In consequence, a public meeting was held at Sumterville, on the 8th inst, at which several resolves, amounting to \$1,000, were subscribed and offered for the perpetrators or perpetrators of these acts.—Mobile Herald.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22, 1851.
The Spanish difficulty is definitely settled, at last—the negotiations having been concluded this morning. The settlement is substantially, as has already been stated in the Herald. The Spanish Consul will go to New Orleans in a Spanish national vessel, and his flag is to be formally saluted. Judge Sharkey is to go in Havany in a national vessel, and his flag is also to be saluted.

The President will recommend to Congress to make good all damages sustained by the Spanish Consul. As for the loss sustained by the Spanish residents, they will seek their remedies in the courts, and it is promised that the government will afford them every proper assistance.

The subject of the execution and punishment of the prisoners was not brought up; neither did Spain make a demand for reimbursements for the expenses attending the suppression of the invasion. Having treated the prisoners as pirates or buccaniers, she precluded herself from demanding damages from this government, which the unfortunate individuals expected had already paid with their lives. To have adopted a different course would have been to confess that she had violated her treaty stipulations by summarily trying our citizens, and thus inextricably have involved the difficulty by executing them as she did.

She held that they had forfeited their citizenship, and were themselves alone responsible for their conduct.

Will Mr. Webster resign? Who knows? One day he says he will; the next day he is all adrift again. His most intimate friends now deny that he will, unless some contingency, not now known, should arise.

Members of Congress are now flocking in. The contest for Speaker will probably be a hot one, shadowing forth the harmony of the Presidential contest. Lynn Boyd of Kentucky, as the Southern prominent candidate, it is believed will be elected.

General Houston has taken two elegant parlors in Browne's magnificent Hotel, and will do the thing up in grand style.

There was sixty-five thousand one hundred dollars' worth of United States stock issued from the Treasury department during the past week. The transfer books closed on the first, and will remain closed for a month, so as to declare the dividend. The Texas bonds is all prepared, and ready to be issued as soon as the Legislature of that enterprising State authorizes some person to receive it.—Corr. N. Y. Herald.

From a special reporter of the New Orleans Picayune, who was despatched for the purpose of procuring some reliable information on the subject, the following account was received which we extract from that paper:

Brownsville, Nov. 15, 1851.—Very much to the astonishment of all here who had watched the progress of events across the river, General Carvajal raised the siege of Matamoros on the 30th ult., and retreated up the river. He had proceeded about twelve miles when his rear guard, commanded by Captain Walker, was attacked by about 100 Mexican cavalry, led by Col. Fortilla, and after several sharp conflicts the latter was repulsed. While this was going on, a regular stampede took place in Carvajal's main body, and for a time his troops dispersed in all directions. Most of them, however, reformed, and are now said to be stationed at Turrellisa, a ranch about 20 miles from Brownsville, during the winter, Capt. Wheeler's regiment will throw the six pound gun into the river, which he did. The stampede is said to have been occasioned by a report that spread among the troops that Gen. Avales had received large reinforcements of men and heavy artillery, and that he was marching to surround them. It is certain that Carvajal is still at the head of a tolerably strong force, and that he is only awaiting reinforcements of men and artillery to recommence the attack on Matamoros.

Col. Ford is reported to have gone on to San Antonio for the purpose of raising men, and various other officers of Carvajal's force are said to be recruiting at different points. I was informed yesterday that news had been received in Matamoros that Carvajal either had or was about to issue a declaration of independence, but it was stated that much of the country was to be embraced in that document.