

In the third column, fourth page, of last week's Gazette, for "Regions of Snow," read "Regions of Sorrow," in the second quotation in said column.

Christmas-day falling on Thursday, (our regular day of publication) we have thought proper to issue the Gazette this day.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Legislature of Maryland. HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Tuesday, Dec. 16.

PETITIONS

From sundry inhabitants of Baltimore, to extend Chesnut-street. From Lewis C. Hunt, to confirm the will of Lewis Cockey. Several referred.

Mr. Semmes delivers a report favourable to the petition of Nathaniel Downing. Read.

The clerk of the senate delivers the following bills passed by that body: authorising certain alterations in Baltimore County and City Court rooms—and the additional supplement to the act making several turnpike roads through Baltimore county—Ordered to be engrossed.

On motion of Mr. Stevens, the following order was adopted.

Ordered, That the executive of the state furnish this house with the names of such persons as have been appointed for the purpose of collecting the arms which were distributed among the militia during the late war, and the number which have been collected by each person, and the sum of money paid, or to be paid, to each, under the authority of the resolutions of the legislature of 1815 and 1816.

Adjourned.

Wednesday, Dec. 17.

PETITIONS

From Samuel Lucas, of Caroline, to sell a lot of ground. From sundry inhabitants of Frederick, confirming the bed of an old road. From Levin Craig, of Dorchester, to convey certain land. From the inspectors of the Maryland penitentiary, to be relieved from the responsibility incurred by them in repairing the building after the late fire took place. Severally referred.

Mr. Kell delivers a bill to alter such parts of the constitution as relate to the representation of the city of Baltimore, and to allow two additional delegates from that city. Read.

The bill to establish a bank under the name of The Centreville Bank of Maryland, was read the second time and passed—yeas 38, nays 26.

The clerk of the senate delivers the bill to authorise Henry Ashton to sell certain slaves. The bill to repeal part of the act for the destruction of crows, as relates to Kent county. The bill confirming the act relating to the division of P. George's into election districts—severally passed by that body. Ordered to be engrossed. The bill authorising a lottery for the purpose therein mentioned; the bill to authorise the trustees of the poor of Queen-Anne's county to convey certain land, and the bill to authorise Robert C. Baynard to convey land—will not pass.

A message was sent to senate, proposing to adjourn from Friday next to 29th instant.

On motion of Mr. Lecompte, Leave to bring in a bill to repeal all that part of the constitution as relates to the time of the session of the general assembly.

On motion of Mr. Pearce, Leave to bring in a bill to alter an act, for the relief of the poor of Cecil county, and the several supplements.

Mr. Estep reported favourably on the petition of John Smith.—Read.

[For election of state directors see proceedings of senate, Dec. 19]

Saturday, Dec. 20.

The house met and adjourned till Monday the 29th instant.

Baltimore, for new hay scales, in Old-Town, From G. W. T. Wright, and others, of Queen-Anne's; for the appointment of commissioners to ascertain the division of a certain tract of land. From James Sewell, a revolutionary soldier. From Wm. J. Turner, of Frederick. Severally referred.

The bill for extending Chesnut-street in Baltimore, the bill authorising a lottery to complete Severn Church, were passed.

On motion of Mr. Woodyear, Leave to bring in a bill supplementary to the act reducing into system the laws and regulations concerning last wills and testaments, &c

Mr. Kell delivers a resolution authorising the treasurer to negotiate for and obtain from such banks as may be willing to loan, a sum not exceeding 40,000 dollars, for the purpose of discharging debts incurred by inspectors of penitentiary, for damages sustained by the late fire.

The bill from the senate for the improvement of the Baltimore Museum, was passed.

On motion, Leave to bring in a bill further supplementary to an act respecting bringing slaves from the District of Columbia into this state.

The bill respecting the Susquehanna Canal was passed.

On motion of Mr. Blakistone, the following resolution was read and adopted.

Resolved, That the governor and council be and they are hereby requested, to inquire into the probable expense that would be requisite to carry into effect the method proposed by the Rev. Neale H. Snow in his address to the legislature, for ascertaining the regular variation of the magnetic needle, in the erection of the necessary structures, the purchase of instruments, and the annual salary of a person competent to make the observations; and also to select the place which, in their opinion, would be the most proper for the object contemplated, and report thereon to the next general assembly.

On motion of Mr. Griffith, Leave to bring in a bill to confirm an act repealing all that part of the constitution as relates to the division of Dorchester into three separate election districts.

Mr. Snowden reported favourably on the petition of James Sewell. Read.

A deputation from the senate acquaint the speaker that the governor is attending to qualify; and requests the attendance of the house for that purpose. The speaker, attended by the members, repaired to the senate chamber, where his excellency Charles Ridgely, of Hampton, qualified as Governor in the manner directed by the constitution.

The speaker, with the members, returned and adjourned.

Friday, Dec. 19.

Mr. Stephen delivers a report favourable to the petition of the heirs of Gen. John Davidson.

PETITIONS

From Christopher Hughes, of the city of Baltimore, to compel the filling of Quay-street. From sundry inhabitants of Charles, for a road. From sundry inhabitants of Montgomery, to extend a turnpike road. From John Shotts, a revolutionary soldier. From Robert Haikerston, of Charles, a revolutionary officer. From Christian Orndorff, a revolutionary soldier. Severally referred.

The clerk of the council delivers a communication from the executive, relative to the collection of arms. Read.

Mr. Downey delivers a report favourable to the petition of John Shotts. Mr. Scott reported favourably on the petition of John Newmire. Severally read.

On motion of Mr. Pearce, Leave to bring in a bill to alter an act, for the relief of the poor of Cecil county, and the several supplements.

Mr. Estep reported favourably on the petition of John Smith.—Read.

[For election of state directors see proceedings of senate, Dec. 19]

Saturday, Dec. 20.

The house met and adjourned till Monday the 29th instant.

SENATE.

Wednesday, Dec. 10.

Mr. Wirger reported a bill for the improvement of the Baltimore Museum. Read.

Thursday, Dec. 11.

Several bills of minor importance were reported and read, and several positions referred.

The bill for the improvement of the Baltimore Museum, was read the second time and passed.

Friday, Dec. 12.

Mr. Maxcy appeared, qualified, and took his seat. The president laid before the senate a letter from Joseph E. Muse, resigning his seat in the senate.

On motion of Mr. Winchester, leave to bring in a bill to regulate lotteries in the city of Baltimore.

Saturday, Dec. 13.

Mr. Jackson appeared, qualified, and took his seat. Mr. Dorsey reported a bill to confirm an act to alter and change all and every part of the constitution and form of government as relates to the attorney general.

The senate proceeded to the election of a member in the place of Joseph E. Muse, Esq. resigned. Upon examining the ballots, it appeared that Stephen Purnell was elected.

Monday, Dec. 15.

Mr. Dorsey delivered the following report:

The Subscribers, Commissioners appointed by a resolution of the General Assembly, passed 5th February, 1817, to examine the River Susquehanna, as far as might be deemed necessary, and to consider and report to the next General Assembly upon the means, in their opinion, best calculated to improve the navigation of that River, with authority to confer with such Commissioners as might be appointed on behalf of the State of Pennsylvania.

BEG LEAVE TO STATE.

That having understood commissioners had been appointed on the part of the State of Pennsylvania, to co-operate with us in an examination of the River Susquehanna, we, by appointment, met at Havre-de-Grace on the 2d of July, with a view of proceeding on our tour of investigation. At that time all the Commissioners, appointed by said resolution, except Mr. Robert Morgan, who appears to have declined acting, were present, as also the five gentlemen delegated by Pennsylvania. The river, unfortunately however, proved so high as to render an ascent utterly impracticable, and an examination futile. The Commissioners, on behalf of both States, adjourned to meet at the same place on the eleventh of August. The memorable deluge at Baltimore, and which affected the country for many miles around the City, occurred at this period. The Pennsylvania Commissioners however arrived; and the subscribers, tho' deprived of the assistance of their colleagues, owing to the indisposition in the family of one, losses by the flood of another, and most important professional avocations of the third, considered it most advisable to accompany the gentlemen from our sister State; and they here beg leave to report—

Owing to the high water in the River, we proceeded from Port Deposit to near the Pennsylvania line, thro' the Susquehanna Canal, a work which renders both the ascending & descending navigation at all times safe and practicable, and which in our opinion, obviates the necessity of any very expensive improvements on the bed of the River, along its side, though certainly some expenditure and improvement would be advisable. From the head of the Canal we ascended the river, keeping altogether on the Eastern or Lancaster shore, and met with no obstacle of moment until we reached Neal's Point, opposite the lower end of the Bear Islands, a distance of eight or ten miles. Between the head of the Canal, and Neal's Point, there are three or four projecting rocks which ought to be removed, and there are some places, particularly Rodgers' Bottom, which require deepening, but the whole may be called a gentle & steady current, and is pretty good boating both up and down, when the water is at a medium height. At Neal's Point the river assumes a different appearance, and becomes wild in the extreme for the distance of a mile, to the foot of Colley's Falls; for though there is no fall, yet, being much narrower than below, and a great portion of its bed being occupied by those rugged clumps of rocks called the Bear Islands, the water becomes very deep, and whirls about in every direction; added to this, the

shores bounded by rocks nearly perpendicular, and in many places, from 20 to 150 feet high, prevented us from either pulling or towing with effect, and our ascent was both slow and dangerous.

Colley's Falls may be considered among the greatest obstructions to the ascending navigation between the Maryland line and Columbia: They are about 400 or 500 yards long, extremely rapid, with great regularity in the current, and would require lock improvements for ascending. From the head of Colley's Falls, to nearly opposite the Indian Steps, there is little or no fall, tho' from the deepness of the river, and perpendicular rocks along the shores, which prevent either pulling or towing, the ascent is difficult, and a towing path must necessarily be made for the ascending navigation. At the head of Anctum's Island, opposite the Indian Steps, there is an obstruction of large rocks, which will necessarily require the blowing of a channel of 100 or 150 yards in length, and 40 or 50 feet in width.

For a mile and half, or two miles, from this place, the navigation is good, wanting only towing paths. At that distance we come to the House, or Jerry's Rock; a place remarkable as the one where there is more property lost than all the rest of the way between Columbia and tide. The channel above the rocks on the Eastern or Lancaster shore, but a short distance above that rock they have, in descending, to cross the river, so as to run down the Indian Steps through its good channel; the current sets directly on the House Rock, and it requires considerable skill and attention to avoid that Rock; if, however, the pilots should work so far over as to escape the House (or as called by Mr. Latrobe Jerry's) Rock, they are then in danger from the Goose Rock, which lies in a south west direction from the House Rock, and is almost as difficult to be avoided. The blowing of these rocks (for they are both large) will require a considerable sum of money, but the property lost in two or three years would perhaps fully compensate for any expense that might be incurred. The shore still continues to be steep and rocky, and in many places the rocks project into the river with perpendicular points of immense height, and are almost inaccessible; but we met with no falls until we came to the Point Falls, above Fulton's Ferry; they are, however, not very bad; but the shore is rough, and very difficult to tow up. From the head of Point Falls to the head of Moore's Eddy, there is little or no fall, and only one ledge of rocks which would require removal, to wit, the Hessians; but both Burkhalter's and Moore's Eddies will require deepening in several places, and lowering dams to throw water in the rafting course. At the head of Moore's Eddy we meet with the most difficult place of ascending any where between the head of the Canal and Columbia, called Escheleman's Sluice; the fall here is very great for about 200 yards, perhaps equal to 7 or 8 feet; at this place a Canal will be necessary if ever an ascending navigation is contemplated.

From Escheleman's Sluice to the foot of Turkey Hill Falls, the descent in the river is no where great, though there is a small fall called "Wheeling's Falls," but the shores are so rough and inaccessible generally, as any we had passed, and it is almost impossible to ascend without a good towing path. Turkey Hill Falls require some improvement for descending, and considerable for ascending; but whether a canal, or towing paths, would be a matter of opinion. From the head of Turkey Hill Falls to Columbia, the boating is good both up and down, as we easily pulled at the rate of 2 miles an hour; but in low water there are a few shallow places which would require deepening, and wing dams. From this sketch, will appear, that for the ascending navigation, the river may be made perfectly good by towing-paths and chains and ring bolts for almost the whole distance, but different falls, occupying altogether a distance not exceeding a mile and an half or two miles, will require improvements of a different kind. The same deepening of channel, by blowing of rocks, and by wing dams, or otherwise, that will be necessary for the ascending navigation, will be most advantageous for descending the river; nor are we aware of any place where the one may be improved without benefiting the other, except the blowing of the House, or Jerry's Rock, and the Goose Rock; both of which, though detrimental to descending, are too far from the

shores to improve. The probable expense of improvements of this nature, we believe that 250,000 dollars, would be expended, if we could descend the river in that manner. In conclusion, we have only to mark, that we deem it unnecessary to dwell upon the importance of improvement of the navigation of this great river, not only on a local point of view, but particularly to Maryland, and more especially to Baltimore, and that portion of the State which is contiguous to the shores.

Whether it would be most advisable to accomplish this object by expenditure of public funds, or authorising public spirited individuals, on such terms as will afford a sufficient stimulus to enterprise, without unduly burthening those who use the navigation of the river, submit to the wisdom of the General Assembly. We are led to believe that the State of Pennsylvania concur in passing a law, founded on reasonable principles, in concurrence with this State, for the accomplishment of this great object.

LEVIN GALE, JOSEPH COUDON.

Tuesday, Dec. 16.

Mr. Calvert, appeared, qualified and took his seat.

Mr. Winchester presented a memorial from the mayor and council of Baltimore. Referred.

Mr. Winchester reported a bill to provide for the opening and extension of Pratt-street.

Mr. Dorsey reported a bill authorising a lottery for the benefit of the Charlotte Hall School.

Wednesday, Dec. 17.

Mr. Magruder presented a memorial on behalf of the Society Friends.

Mr. Winchester the memorial the inspectors of the Maryland Penitentiary.

Mr. Winchester reported a bill entitled, A bill relating to the city of Baltimore.

Thursday, Dec. 18.

The clerk of the House of Delegates delivers a message proposing the appointment of a joint committee for the purpose of examining the state of the Public Offices, as nominating, on their part, Messrs. Clagett, Garner, Holbrook, Down and Hynson.

Charles Ridgely of Hampton, qualified in the Senate chamber, in the presence of the members, as Governor of the State Maryland for the ensuing year.

Friday, Dec. 19.

On motion of Mr. Winder, Leave to bring in a bill relative to state directors in the several banks in this state.

The bill to establish a bank under the name of The Farmers Bank of Leonard-Town, was passed yeas 7, nays 5.

A message was received from the House of Delegates proposing, this day, to the election of directors on the part of the state in the several banks; to which position the senate acceded.

On motion of Mr. Dorsey, Leave to bring in a bill to provide for a better administration of justice in this state.

Mr. George Robertson was imouly elected a director, on the part of the state, in the Bank of Baltimore, for the ensuing year.

The following persons were elected directors in the several banks: Tayler and Richard K. Heath, in the Union Bank of Maryland; John Harry and Jonathan Meredith, in the Mechanics Bank of Baltimore; Stephen H. Ford, for the Commercial and Farmers Bank of Baltimore; Thomas H. Bowie, and Daniel M. Rice, for the Farmers Bank of Maryland; and, at Annapolis, French Taylor and James Price, for the Bank at Easton. John Harry, George C. Smoot, for the Bank at town Bank. William Alexander, the Elkton Bank of Maryland. Adjourned.

Saturday, Dec. 20.

The bill for relief of Elizabeth Snyder, of the city of Baltimore, was passed.

Adjourned till Monday the 29th instant.

An Algerine Squadron of 6 sail passed through the straits a few days ago, they have the plague-board, and no doubt are cruising off the coast of Lisbon. They are at war with the Prussians, with Ham-burg and the House Towns. Great apprehensions are entertained that they will spread the plague in Europe, by boarding merchant vessels.

Norfolk, (Vir.) Dec. 14.

SHOCKING VORACITY.

On Friday night last a negro man in this town, about 40 years of age, met his death by a voracious hen, which he had just killed. He was in the act of making this dainty meal he drank off a jug of water of the capacity of a gallon at one draught, and washed down the goose and chicken with a pint of spirits, and another jug of water!—He was immediately after seized with a spasmodic fit in which he expired. It is believed that he was a little deranged in his mind when he committed this beastly debauch.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Address delivered by Wm. Findlay, Esq. to both Houses of the Legislature, on his inauguration, Dec. 16, 1817.

Friends and Fellow-citizens, In entering upon the discharge of those duties to which I have been called by the voice of the people, I avail myself of the opportunity now presented to return to them, thro' you, my acknowledgments for this distinguished mark of their favour and confidence. Sensible as I am, of the arduous duties and high responsibilities imposed by the constitution and laws on the executive magistrate of our state, I shall not expect to discharge them without having occasion to rely on the continuance of that favour and confidence, and to solicit indulgence for such imperfections as may occur. An exemption from error, it were preposterous to expect; but whatever can be effected by an ardent attachment to our republican institutions, by a zeal in the performance of duty, strengthened by those solemn sanctions which you have just witnessed, and from an entire devotion to my best abilities and untiring industry to the public welfare, I may confidently promise. With the extension of these aided by your wisdom, patriotism and friendly dispositions, a kind Providence, I humbly trust, will continue to dispense to our beloved country, those blessings by which it has hitherto been so pre-eminently distinguished.

I cannot but felicitate myself, when I reflect on the auspiciousness of the period, at which the task of administering these duties has been assigned to me. I am rejoiced by the recollection, that I shall have the advantage of the example of my distinguished predecessor, who has filled the chair of state for the constitutional term, with signal fidelity and success. Through a period of uncommon national difficulty & embarrassment, terminating at length in war, this state has fulfilled her duty to the nation, free from the influence of sectional prejudice & local jealousy; while in her interior, the march of improvement has been both steady and rapid. In the meantime, the general government has been so wisely constructed, and so advanced the interests and eminently secured the confidence of the citizens. It is at peace at home and abroad, and its character respected by all nations.

These results furnish new proofs of the efficiency of a republican government. Founded on the popular will, and administered by agents of the people's choice, it has ceased to be a matter of experiment, but has proved itself competent to the demands of peace, and the exigencies of war—to the preservation of the private wealth, and to the diffusion of general happiness.

Thanks to the wisdom, patriotism, and the valour of our ancestors, it is not left to us, fellow-citizens, to purchase our liberties at the price of our blood. To them, and to the guidance of the Great Father of nations, we are indebted for manifold blessings; yet there remains to us a wide field of useful and demanding the employment of our best faculties. Pennsylvania, well from her locality, as from population and resources, forms an important member of the union.

Her measures thence derive a beneficial influence. It becomes us, in a spirit of conciliation and concord, with harmony of de-

Extract of a letter from a gentleman at Fort to the editor, dated Dec. 2. States arrived here this in seven days from Fort S. brings letters from Gen. G. announcing a second skirmish with the Indians. The detachment of 300 men, under the command of Col. Arbuckle. They were about twelve miles from Scott by a party of Fowl-T. Osonthee Indians, supposed about 100, and had one man two wounded, one dangerous. The Indian loss was supposed 8 or 10.

They captured some cattle, the flight, which were in the town lying about from Fort Scott. The detachment retreated 4 miles, and up breast works. The force at Fort Scott is about 1000 men. No doubt is entertained of the hostile intention of the Indians. Capt. Stallings is 20 miles at least from her Scott. All this through a ren; and mostly new roads hap none at all.

From the Savannah Republic December 9.

By a gentleman just arrived St. Mary's which place he Friday evening last, we learned that Colonel Bankhead with the States troops have arrived at Petre. The object of the expedition of troops at that place appears to be aware of; only waiting for vessels to when he and his black men evacuate the Island of Amelia also learn, that Woodbine arrived at Pensacola, from New Providence, with an expedition out from the latter place, as he had enlisted in his cause a number of Indians and —. I hope that Macgregor is with him that not. The United States Saracac took possession of on Thursday last, going into Florida will be taken possession of by the United States, as soon as the frigate John-bright Prometheus and Ensign and schooner Lynx, arrived which were expected daily was a rumour at Amelia that a fish expedition was fitting some of the West-India Islands the purpose of taking possession of the Floridas. At Amelia the shameful outrages have been committed by Aury's troops, murders were perpetrated with impunity. Another li-

signs and utility of religion, your tender and religious care, high trust, to which called, and of the continuation of our country, by being in a disinterested manner, and by cultivating care those means we possess, the general interest. To accelerate the progress of improvement, and unite the whole state in a common bond of interest; in all our energy, the interdependence of our country, the rights of every citizen, commonwealth; to maintain the sovereignty of the one hand, whilst, on the other, we perform with fidelity our obligations; to provide for the dissemination of knowledge, the prosperity of agriculture, manufactures and commerce, they fall within the pale of legislation; to render the action of justice easy, expedient and satisfactory; to establish a militia system; to encourage arts, to supply & assist in the rights of the religion of the state, the only steadfast bastion of morality on which reputation; and to transmit, unimpaired and undiminished, to our children, those sacred principles and equal rights which descended from our fathers—these of the labors that remain to perform, and that our country right to expect at our hands.

I renew to you, fellow-citizens, my solemn pledge of a devotedness to the public good, and afford, to the full extent of executive powers, a ready and prompt measure calculated to promote the peace, happiness and liberty of our constituents.

WILLIAM FINDLAY, Harrisburg, Dec. 16, 1817.

GENERAL GAINES AND INDIANS. Office Millidgeville, Dec. 16, 1817.

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