EUROPE.

BY THE CITY OF WASHINGTON.

THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords on the 24th, the proceedings were unimportant.

In the House of Commons a singular episode took place. Lord Palmerston stated that during the debate on the 21st ultimo, the Secretary for Ireland, Sir Robert Peel, had used expressions which The O'Donoghue had considered personally offensive and insulting to himself. The O'Donoghue took no notice of the expressions at the time, but he (Palmerston) was given to understand that results out of the House might ensue. As this would involve a breach of privilege, he wrote a letter to Sir Robert Peel, warning him of the impending trouble, and cautioning him against making himself a party to the breach of privilege. In the course of Saturday, the 22d, communications took place which led to a request that Sir Robert Peel would name a friend. At his (Palmerston's) request, he was that friend, but not, of course, with the design of arranging a hostile meeting. He was subsequently called upon by Major Gavin, the friend of The O'Donoghue, and explained to that gentleman that a breach of the privileges of the House could not be permitted, and that it was his intention to state the facts to the House and leave the question in its hands.

The Speaker called upon The O'Donoghue to express his regret for what had occurred.

Major Gavin explained his part in the transaction, and said that Sir Robert Peel had refused to retract anything that he had stated. The cause of offence was Sir Robert's allusion to the late meeting in the Rotunda at Dublin, got up by "mannikin traitors," and to which no one of respectability responded.

The O'Donoghue, after some little pressure from the Speaker, made the required apology to the House, but in doing so he uttered some insulting taunts toward Sir Robert Peel.

In the House of Commons, on the 25th ult., Mr. Horsfall gave notice that on the 11th of March he would move that the present state of international maritime law, as it concerns belligerents and neutrals, is undefined, unsatisfactory, and calls for the early attention of her Majesty's Government.

The frigate St. George, having on board Prince Alfred, arrived at Queenstown, on the 25th, and the Prince immediately started for Osborne.

The report of the Great Ship Company, preparatory to the general meeting, is published. It exhibits an excess of expenses over receipts of £5,660 (exclusive of the September voyage.) Her hull is pronounced perfectly sound, and she is being repaired with all speed—the intention being to send her to New York again, as soon as she can be got ready.

The general opinion at Paris appears to be that the tendency of the debates in the Senate is to consolidate the alliance between the Government and the Liberal or Republican party.

About 2,000 workmen proceeded to the Place de la Bastille on the 24th, but when attempting to march round the column of July were dispersed by the police. There was no resistance or outcry, and the men sought consolation in the wine shops.

The French Government had authorized the General Maritime Company to purchase steamers in England for the line between France and Mexico, about to be established.

The *Moniteur*, with Prince Napoleon's first speech, and an account of the tumultuous actions which it produced, had been posted on the walls at Paris, and extensively and eagerly read by the working classes.

The Bourse was very firm on the 25th. Three per cent. Rentes closed at 70f. 60c.; four-and-a-half per cent. Rentes rose to 100f. 40c.

BONAPARTISM AND REVOLUTION.

AN INTERESTING DEBATE IN THE FRENCH SENATE—SPEECH OF PRINCE NAPOLEON.

Correspondence of the London News.

PARIS, Sunday, February 23.—Yesterday in the Senate, M. Baroche, Minister without portfolio, replied to the attacks against the laws and the Government made by certain journals.

Prince Napoleon said he could not be silent after the speech of the Marquis de la Rochejacquelein. In this place, (said the Prince,) we all speak out before France and Europe. I consider the speech of the honorable Marquis as more than a discourse—it is the programme of the counter-revolution. Since, then, the revolution is attacked, it is my part to declare that I am its sincere defender. The Empire is founded on the principles of the revolution, correctly understood. Noticing the animadversions of the Marquis upon the Democratic Press, the Prince quoted as a set-off, a very violent article from the *Journal de Verone*, in which a war with the "*de facto* Government" of France was contemplated, and Austria put forward as the Power which was to suppress the revolution everywhere.

While making these references the Prince was interrupted by Count de Bourqueney, who observed that the Austrian Government did not exercise a preventive censure. He replied that the *Journal de Verone* was written by a mercenary Italian, who was lodged in a casemate, with a sentry over him to protect him from the vengeance of his countrymen. He added that the article was published while the Emperor Francis Joseph was at Verona. A sure instinct, said the Prince, impels you to attack M. de Persigny. You know him as the ardent and faithful defender of liberal and popular Napoleonism. The Prince then referred to the banquet given by the Democratic Press to M. Ratazzi, and explained the arrangement of the toasts, and honor of the Emperor," of that statesman words in

The but of the Emperor, he added, was in the room. But, said the speaker, do you know where they break the busts of the Emperor, and tread them under foot? It is in the army of the so-called soldiers of the Pope, commanded by M. de Merode. M. de la Rochejacquelein must needs be [illegible] formed by his friend, Gen. Goyon. [illegible] He knows what took place a French General and [illegible] aid-de-camp of the Emperor from a [illegible] sult offered to his sovereignty, that you must not in the French. The honorable Marquis has look for the principles of hereditary right. True, [illegible] government of France is hereditary; but it is [illegible] that it may apply the great principles of the revolution. It is not hereditary according to the principles of Divine right which you honor.

Here the Prince quoted the answer of Napoleon in 1804 to the Senate, which brought him the senatus-consulte declaring his dynasty hereditary: "I hope France will never be sorry for having surrounded my family with honors. In any case my spirit will be with my descendants no longer than they continue to deserve the love and confidence of this great nation." This is how the Emperor understood the hereditary succession. And what happened subsequently? When, after immense disasters, a ray of light seemed to break on France, and the Emperor returned from the Isle of Elba, to overthrow the Government of the Restoration, we know in what pathetic and eloquent words he threw himself upon the nation, and identified himself with its interests, its honor, its glory. And what cries did he hear as he advanced from the Mediterranean to Paris, carried on the arms of the people and the army? "Down with the nobles! Down with the emigrants! Down with the traitors!" (The latter word, "*traitres*," was generally mistaken for "*prêtres*.") Immense confusion followed these words, and several Senators called out, "We have had enough of the revolution!"

The Marquis de la Rochejacquelein—Bravo, bravo! we are now in full sail. This frankness will be useful.

Prince Napoleon—Yes; I defend the revolution; I glory in it. We are revolutionists—upright revolutionists.

A Senator—No upright revolutionist cries "down with society."

Another Senator—It is not revolutionism, it is demagogism.

The Marquis de la Rochejacquelein—It is instinctive; it will out.

Count Segur d'Aguesseau—Call him to order, M. le President.

The President—Monseigneur, you have called some sad scenes to mind, and I do not think your history is quite sound.

Numerous Voices—Order, order.

Prince Napoleon—I do not accept this call to order. In the Senate of France I am entitled to say that the return from Elba was not a sad remembrance, but a glory to our country.

The President—The return was glorious; the sad part of it was the manifestations with which, as you allege, it was accompanied.

The Duke de la Force—It is not true that the people and army in bringing Napoleon back clamored against all that makes the glory of modern society. He came back by desire of the whole nation—nobility, people, and clergy.

Baron de Lacrosse—Let an eye-witness just state the fact.

Prince Napoleon—I have stated a fact.

Several Voices—It is untrue; it is an insult to all the world.

Count de la Marre—I was there; nothing of the kind was said; the people shouted "*Vive l'Empereur.*"

Gen. Lawestine—I heard what people said at that time, and I protest—

Baron Lacrosse—I demand leave to bear my testimony. I was appointed to escort the Emperor on his triumphant march to Paris. The Emperor would never have allowed anybody to surround him with these anarchical, odious and anti-social cries. We cannot have the cry of "Down with the nobles—down with the priests!" raised here to-day, under the pretence of a historical citation.

Prince Napoleon—Do you pretend to deprive me of the right to continue my speech? I neither approve nor disapprove; I cite the testimony of many historians. In my opinion the Empire signifies the destruction of the treaties of 1815, within the limits of the force and the interest of France—it is the maintenance of the grand unity of Italy, in future our indispensable ally. At home, it is that order which has no more ardent defender than myself, combined with wise and serious liberties, foremost among them the liberty of the Press; it is peculiar instruction diffused without limits, but not given by religious congregations; it is the well-being of the masses; it is the destruction of the bigotry of the middle ages, which some would impose on us.

Cardinal Donnet—Pray do not use such expressions. Who thinks of imposing bigotry on you?

Prince Napoleon, resuming, read an extract from the works of Victor Cousin, in which that writer said that France was not fickle or difficult to govern, but fixed in its desires and very easy to govern, and that it wished merely the regular and peaceable development of the principles of the Revolution. The Prince said that those also were his opinions. Referring, then, to the Marquis de la Rochejacquelein, the Prince said the policy of the Marquis had for one of its consequences an alliance with Austria and the destruction of Italian unity, the reconstitution of the temporal power of the Pope, and the restoration of the deposed Princes. At home he would proscribe the whole Democratic and Liberal Press, from the *Siecle* to the *Debats*. This is the spectacle of society which the Hon. Marquis would prepare for us at home and abroad. We know his system; it is not new. It is *la terreur blanche*, supported by foreign bayonets. We will never endure it.

When you had made a clean sweep of what you call revolutionary principles, and the present Government had no rational ground to stand on, the Duke of Bordeaux would be called by the force of things to the throne of the Emperor. For my part, I say boldly that I have no fear for a Government which is rooted in the hearts of the people; and while it remains true to the principle of nationalities abroad, and to the liberal sentiments at home, it may defy all, even the agitation of the clergy. I tell the honorable Marquis that our principles are different. Neither of us is ashamed of his origin. Our antecedents, our families are different. Whereas, his honorable ancestors fell on the battle-fields of civil war under French arms, our fathers fell at Waterloo under English bullets. [Immense interruption.]

Count de Segur d'Aguesseau—M. le President, we shall be drawing the sword presently if you don't take care.

Prince Napoleon—I fear I have infused more animation than I desired into this debate. I may have expressed my conviction with too much energy. Permit me to appeal to your moderation.

Count de Segur d'Aguesseau—Our former moderation was *exploite*, and we can't be taken in a second time.

Prince Napoleon said he would read a short passage from Thiers, which exactly summed up his opinions: "I belong to the party of the revolution, as well in France as in Europe. I desire that the Government of France may remain in the hands of moderate men. I will do all that I can that it may continue there; but, although the Government should pass into the hands of men less moderate than myself—ardent men,—radicals—I would not abandon my course on that account; I should still be of the party of the revolution." [This discourse was succeeded by long agitation, and the suspension of the sitting.]

When the Senate resumed, the President said it was the turn of the Marquis de la Rochejacquelein to speak; but it was remarked that the Prince Napoleon had not returned. The Marquis commenced by saying that a great event had taken place; but the expression was objected to. He complained that when they had come there loyally and faithfully, upon the invitation of the Emperor, they should be accused of setting forth a programme of counter-revolution; that any one should say to them, "I am the revolution—you are the counter-revolution." The honorable Marquis continued his speech amidst the interruption of both friends and opponents, and great confusion ensued. The Duke de la Force exclaimed, "We are all attack d—we, and our fathers." The Senate loudly called for a termination of the debate.

M. Billault (Minister without portfolio) said it was not proper, under the circumstances, that the Government should remain silent and permit its character for moderation and foresight, and the respect which it always paid to whatever was worthy in the past, to be endangered. It was true the Empire was born of the revolution, but its duty was to direct and moderate it. Difficulties, he said, had been raised, and much disquietude had been produced. The Emperor knew, however, that one of the most powerful of the forces of society was religion, which he seconded, and neither violence nor injustice, nor alarms would make him forget that it is one of the great social bases on which civilization reposes. The Emperor would never deny the revolution, but it was the revolution conciliatory and honest, at once prudent and progressive, which he sought to maintain. M. Billault developed this principle at some length, and at the close of his speech the Senate rose.

[Reported for the Maryland News Sheet.]

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BALTIMORE CONFERENCE OF THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

SIXTH DAY.

Conference met at nine o'clock at Light Street Church, Bishop Janes presiding. The usual religious services were conducted by Rev. T. H. W. Monroe.

The Committee on the Bible Cause submitted their report, which was read and adopted.

Mr. Sewall stated that he had received a note from Rev. E. F. Busey, from the tone of which he felt authorized to ask that the word "withdrawn" be put opposite his name, for the same reasons assigned in the cases of John A. Williams, W. J. Perry and Thos. E. Carson.

Mr. Sewall called for the report of the Committee of Seven.

Mr. Lanahan, chairman of the committee, presented the following

REPORT.

The committee to whom was referred a paper signed by Wm. Krebs and six other brethren, having had the same under due consideration, beg leave respectfully to report, for the action of the Conference, the following resolutions:

RESOLVED, 1, That the presence of the above mentioned brethren, and their co-operation with us in Conference business, be and hereby is regarded by this Conference as sufficient acknowledgment of the jurisdiction of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and consequently

Resolved, 2, That there is no necessity for recording the paper presented by them on the Conference Journal.

JOHN LANAHAN,
W. B. EDWARDS,
WM. HIRST,
B. PEYTON BROWN,
MATHERNY GOREN,
E. P. PHELPS,
J. M. GREEN.

Mr. T. Myers moved that the vote be taken without debate.

After a brief discussion on the propriety of adopting Mr. Myers' suggestion, Mr. Cassidy was allowed to explain his object in putting his name to the paper, upon which the committee had reported. He very much regretted the absence of his brethren in Virginia; he recognized this Conference as constitutionally in session, and Bishop Janes as rightfully presiding. In coming here to receive an appointment he felt in honor bound to concede this will, and, what he said compromised the paper, as his reasons for putting his name to the paper were that he was uncompromisingly opposed to the "new chapter"—had acted last year in interpretation of the majority, and he was upon the paper to which he had signed his name.

Mr. Collins was not exactly clear on the report of the committee. He hoped it was not right, and that the Conference would be right; for, in the misfortunes of the body he expected to share. There were names signed to that paper by stand by which had been honored—even flattered; but notwithstanding his position to the Discipline of all that the Secessionists in the Conference. Cautious man; yet if he was in Richmond Christian could be an enemy of his could he would never have another.

Mr. N. J. B. Morgan called the speaker to order.

Mr. Gilbert desired to explain why his name was to the paper. He was surprised that there had been a misconstruction of it. He had signed it, because he deemed it a clear exposition of his position, and at this time, in view of the circumstances which had arisen since the last Annual Conference. He hoped that he would be accredited with more common sense than to come here to receive an appointment from a body to which his relations were hypothetical. He came here to seek the peace of the Church, and the freedom of the Church from dissensions; and if Conference would only take a conservative stand on the iniquitous "new chapter," these dissensions would all disappear.

Mr. N. J. B. Morgan said that the important point before the Conference was, whether the particular document, whatever is in it, should be committed to the journal. The committee report adversely; let's take the vote. He was gratified to see that there was no disposition to oppose the jurisdiction of the Conference as it now stands. He thought that, in due time, this question would be settled to the entire satisfaction of the brethren. He thought the way for a union of the people and of the preachers was fairly opened, and he hoped good feeling would be cultivated.

Mr. Blake remarked that in regard to that only point he had nothing to say. If Conference decides that a respectful declaration cannot be entered upon the journal, he didn't care.

The report was then adopted, after which Mr. Lanahan submitted the following as the

REPORT ON THE PAPER OF MR. MORGAN.

The committee to whom was referred the preamble and resolutions of N. J. B. Morgan, in relation to the attempts to sever this body from the jurisdiction of the Methodist Episcopal Church at its late session, beg leave to report, as follows:

WHEREAS, These brethren who have not seen proper to be present and to participate in the business of this Conference at its present session, nor in any way to communicate to it a desire to re-connect themselves therewith; and,

Whereas said brethren, in an adjourned form of organization, on the 23d of March, 1861, in Staunton, Va., made the following declaration, or what is known as the "Rev. M. Wilson's propositions," adopted by them conventionally, to wit: "We declare that the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church held at Buffalo, in May, 1860, by its unconstitutional action, has sundered the ecclesiastical relation which has hitherto bound us together as one Church, so far as any act of theirs could do so.—That we will not longer submit to the jurisdiction of said General Conference, but hereby declare ourselves separate and independent of it;" and whereas, in order to "set forth" the facts well as the "grounds and aims" of their separation, they appointed a committee to prepare a pastoral letter, in which they declare that their Secretary was "directed by a resolution to correspond with the Bishops, that they may have opportunity to avow or disavow the act of the late General Conference;" and whereas, the said pastoral letter referred declares that they "cannot submit longer to the oversight of the Bishops of the Methodist Episcopal Church, unless they disavow their allegiance to the late General Conference, and that the separation resolved upon by them was not made dependent on any condition precedent, but was positive and entire; and that they will enter into no conventions with other non-concurring Conferences for the organization of another General Conference, that may recognize the authority of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, "without certain guarantees stipulated by them;" therefore,

RESOLVED, 1st, That it is the judgment of this Conference that justice, as well courtesy, to said brethren, require that their action, as above set forth in their own language, be understood as a withdrawal from the jurisdiction of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and that the names be so returned on the journal and minutes; provided, nevertheless, that if any of the above named brethren be present and co-operate with us in the business of the Conference at its next session, or shall sooner signify to the Bishops their acknowledgment of the jurisdiction of the Church, this Conference will consider that their act of withdrawal is null and void.

The following resolutions were submitted by Mr. N. J. B. Morgan, as amendments to the report of the committee:

RESOLVED, That in taking the above action in regard to the proceedings of some brethren in March, 1861, we are not to be understood, by any means, as approving the "new chapter" on slavery. On the contrary, our protest tofore declared, we will use all prudent and constitutional means to secure its repeal or modification.

Resolved, That as we have heretofore recognized as claimants on the funds of the Conference persons who, technically, had no claim in our funds, but in the judgment of the Conference had a moral claim, we will recognize the claims of such superannuated ministers as may have joined in the act of separation.

Mr. Phelps asked that the report of the committee on the amendments be kept separate. He was a member of the committee, but if the vote was taken as a whole he would have to vote against it. He would say before the Conference, and the world, that he could not vote for the amended report, despite the odium and responsibility which might attach to such a course.

It was decided to take the vote as a whole.

Mr. Blake asked the Conference to pause before casting the vote upon this important matter. He hoped they would consider well before cutting off such a large and respectable portion of this body without a hearing. From eighty to one hundred were absent unintentionally and unavoidably, and he would not vote to cut them off without a hearing. He contended, that by the decision of Bishop Scott, at the last annual session of the Conference, these persons were still members of this body. He hoped the vote would be taken by ayes and nays.

Upon motion of Mr. Sewall, the vote by which it was decided to take the vote on the report as a whole was reconsidered, and it was decided to take it up *seriatim*.

Mr. Clemm asked the Bishop if he considered these brethren in Virginia as not having membership in this Conference?

The Bishop said that he would not like to answer an interrogatory unless put by the Conference.

It was then decided by the Conference that the interrogatory should be put.

Mr. Thomas then asked the Bishop if he considered the action of the majority at Staunton as valid.

The Bishop replied that Bishop Scott had already decided this question, and he could not therefore be expected to give a decision on the point.

Mr. Clemm—Then you regard it as officially disposed of. If that is so, then this report is extra-judicial and out of order.

Mr. Myers said that at the time that Bishop Scott decided that the action of the majority did not infract the body, it was true; but their subsequent course had been tantamount to withdrawal. Some brethren have run the blockade, but nothing had been heard from the main portion of these brethren.

Mr. Start denied that the majority had last year made any declaration that would indicate their withdrawal as members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. Sewall said that the only question to decide was, what did the majority do, or what did they intend to do? He then read their declaration of their intentions, as published with the minutes of the last session. He then read letters from Revs. John A. Williams, Thomas E. Carson, Ezra F. Busey and Samuel Regester, in which they indicated their refusal to recognize the jurisdiction of the Baltimore Conference. He said that these were commentaries which could not be misunderstood; and the men composing the majority last year were persons whose intelligence and moral character must be respected. He was pleased to see that the report left an open door for the return of these brethren when they feel so disposed. He hoped the time would come when we could wipe out one of the most unfortunate acts of an ecclesiastical body. He referred to the famous "new chapter." He expressed himself as forever opposed to "fed-mouthed secession and the black features of abolitionism." [Applause.]

Mr. Start said he was sorry that he had acted with the majority last year, and he believed that a great many more of his brethren would not have so acted had they foreseen the issues of this terrible national crisis. He never intended to separate himself from the Methodist Episcopal Church on any account.

Mr. Gilbert also argued that Bishop Scott had decided that the persons who voted with the majority last year did not forfeit their membership.—He certainly did not so intend, and he did not believe that he had. The very fact of appointments having been given to these brethren was of itself sufficient to settle the question.

Mr. Phelps contended that they had proclaimed to the Church and the world that they had withdrawn from the jurisdiction of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church. He cited resolutions which they had adopted, expressing in the most explicit terms their desire and intentions. He was willing, for the sake of peace, to let them go.

Mr. Davis said that he concluded from the premises which they laid down themselves, that they were not members of this Conference. He then said he was an anti-slavery man, and declared that he thought the sentiment of the public on the subject of slavery was undergoing such a change that these brethren might all be brought back at a future day. He said Virginia was not being subjugated—she was being liberated, and he hoped his brethren would be liberated.

Mr. Thomas interrupted him to say that if this body was here to discuss slavery and abolitionism, it had better dissolve. [Prolonged applause in the gallery and on the floor.]

After order had been secured—

Mr. Davis proceeded to reply to Mr. Thomas, by saying, "When such a man as"——

The Bishop called the speaker to order, reminding him that a personal remark was altogether out of place. Hisses were heard all over the house, and Mr. Davis said he would sit down now and listen to pro-slavery speeches all the rest of the session.

Cries of "that's wrong."

Mr. Ryan thought the body might get through the breakers. There was "nobody hurt." He desired to cultivate friendly relations with all the brethren.

Mr. Thomas spoke to the question of membership of the majority" of last session, and contended that they were members. He hoped the report would not be adopted. No good could result from it. Nothing would be lost by waiting until these brethren were here to speak for themselves.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, the session was extended by general consent.

Mr. N. J. B. Morgan spoke in favor of the adoption of the report, and concurred with the views taken by Messrs. Sewall, Phelps and others.

Mr. Lanahan, chairman of the committee, waived the right to speak on the question in order to get a vote at once.

The ayes and nays were called on the first resolution. The vote stood, at the conclusion of the call, ayes 34, nays 22.

On motion of Mr. Blake, members who came in after the call were to be allowed to record their vote on the final resolution. Eight were then adopted. The other portions of the report were adopted with the usual [illegible] and the Conference.

MEETING OF THE EAST BALTIMORE ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

The Conference assembled at nine o'clock. Religious services were conducted by Rev. John [illegible]

The resolutions of the Rev. S. A. Wilson, exonerating the Stewards of Exeter street and Strawbridge churches in the affair of missionary matters, was taken up and adopted.

Dr. A. A. Reese asked an explanation of certain language used by J. H. Dashiells, in the discussion of Monday, to the effect that "he proposed for his jailor a man of a more honest heart and better reputation."

Mr. Dashiells said that he had no other explanation to make than to say that the terms used were English, and he would stand by their fair interpretation, here and in eternity.

The reply created a sensation in the church.

Dr. Reese said he would arraign Mr. Dashiells for defamation.

Mr. Dashiells presented a report from the committee appointed to revise the course of study for young ministers, which was read and adopted.

Rev. J. R. Terrence presented an invitation from the Baltimore Conference, inviting this body to attend Light street church this afternoon, to hear a sermon on the death of the Rev. Joshua Wells. After a short tribute of respect, paid by the Rev. Dr. Slicer, the invitation was accepted.

Mr. Terrence presented a report on the Bible Cause, which elicited considerable discussion, but was finally passed.

Dr. Slicer asked permission to introduce a resolution, which he thought would meet the approbation of the Conference.

WHEREAS, Doubts have been entertained by some, and injurious reports have been circulated by others, impugning the fealty of some members of this Conference to the 23d Article of Religion, on page 26 of our Discipline, therefore be it, and it is hereby,

RESOLVED, by the East Baltimore Conference, in Conference assembled, That we hereby cordially re-affirm our full faith in, and strong adherence to, the said 23d Article of Religion, in the words following:

"The President, the Congress, the General Assemblies, the Governors, and Councils of State, as the delegates of the people, are the rulers of the United States of America, according to the division of power made to them by the constitutions of their respective States. And the said States are a sovereign and independent nation, and ought not to be subject to any foreign jurisdiction."

Dr. Slicer said that had such a paper been presented, at an early stage of its proceedings, to the Conference, it would have met the unanimous approbation of the body; but the action of the majority, on the first day of the session, was perceptible, and manifested not the slightest disposition to respect either the views or the feelings of the minority. It was rushed through under the spur, and he was determined that forced action should never place him in a false position.

Mr. Gere said that he objected to the adoption of the resolution because he did not think it necessary. If it was necessary to take an oath of allegiance, he was ready to do so. He would get out of bed at midnight to take the oath of allegiance, but he was not willing to reaffirm the 23d article of the Discipline, under the present circumstances; nor did he think it proper for the Conference to do so.

Dr. Sargent said that he had been a member of the Conference for thirty years, and the oldest members of the Conference would remember that he had never made a regular speech during that long period. The paper which Dr. Slicer had presented he had never seen until it was handed to him, as Secretary, to read. He considered it as eminently proper, and it should receive his support. He had met all questions which had been discussed by the Conference boldly, and the charge of dodging could not be laid against him. The 23d article was one of the most interesting in the Discipline. That best of apostolic men since apostolic days, John Wesley, when he sent the form of a Discipline across the water for the government of the Church in this country, there was not one word said in any of the articles relative to the States. When, in 1784, the General Conference of the Church met in this city, each of the Discipline articles sent over by Wesley were thoroughly and prayerfully considered, and the Conference adopted them all; and in addition thereto, that body determined to give expression to their feelings relative to State matters, and the 23d section was proposed and adopted. In it there are but two things proclaimed. First, a love and devotion to Republican Government, and second, the declaration that they should be free from foreign influence and interference. This was under the Confederation. For twenty years the article remained unchanged. In 1840, however, that sage, statesman and good man, Ezekiel Cooper, whose fine legal mind saw the propriety of an alteration of the words of an article, but not its spirit, prepared an amendment, and the word "Confederation" was stricken out, and the words "Constitution of the United States" were inserted instead thereof. In 1812 the article was declared an unchangeable one, and so it has remained to this day. Dr. Sargent had read from notes of Bishops Asbury and McKendree, which were to be found in the Discipline published in 1799, in which they advised a non-interference with political matters, but urged upon the membership a strict *obedience to the laws and powers under which they lived*. He said he subscribed to the doctrine of those good and eminent men, and as a consequence gave an earnest support to the resolution introduced by Dr. Slicer.

Dr. Sargent then read a very interesting extract from a tract written by John Wesley, in which the founder of Methodism warned the Church against interference with political subjects. The fruits of such interference were clearly set forth, and the deplorable results truthfully depicted.—Dr. said that there had been strife in the body, but he had used his best efforts to prevent it. Daily he humbled himself before God and asked forgiveness for his trespasses. He knew that he was a most unworthy servant, and also knew that during the past thirty years he had many times been unfit to occupy the position of a minister of God. When he made this confession to both God and his fellow-brethren he did not want to be understood as acknowledging that he had ever intentionally done what he knew to be wrong. But he could not be condemned unheard. If he had done wrong he was willing to die for it, but he must first have a hearing. He could say with a clear conscience that he had never defrauded, had never done a wrong to any man. It was not the manner of the Romans to condemn a man unheard, and until he had been heard no man should deliver him over.

Dr. Reese called for the reading of the resolutions which were passed on the first day of the session, when he offered a substitute for the resolution of Dr. Slicer, and made a few remarks in support of it.

Mr. S. A. Wilson said that while he approved of the resolutions of Wednesday last, he was not willing to press to the wall the brethren who differed with him. He hoped the Conference would exercise a Christian spirit, and thus allay the bitter feeling which has already been engendered.

Mr. Dashiells offered an amendment, to the effect that those who voted against the resolutions of Wednesday last, did not, by that vote, mean to ignore the 23d article of the Discipline.

Mr. Torrence moved to lay it on the table, but afterwards withdrew his motion.

Mr. Dashiells said the minority only desired to place themselves right before the public, and had no disposition to be factious. Hard terms had been referred to this morning, but he thought that on a previous day the word traitor had been used, which was a hundred times worse than any he had used.

The Bishop called the speaker to order.

Several other propositions were made, but finally the one offered by Mr. Dashiells prevailed unanimously.

Dr. Slicer then rose and explained. He said that from the beginning he had endeavored to avoid this question, because he knew that only injury to the Church could result from its discussion. But on Wednesday last, before the Conference had been properly organized, the resolutions had been introduced, and the advocates of them put down the screws and wanted to force every person who differed with them in the slightest into a false position, which he did not intend to submit to.

A Minister—Brother Slicer must not use such terms as "put down the screws."

Dr. Slicer—Well, I take back that expression, but every one knows that they were forced on their passage, and the vote was forced. I was tried to refer them to a committee, but that would not do. It was attempted to lay them over for one day, but that also failed; and, they were thus forced through.

Dr. Reese then explained the origin of the resolutions, and said that he did not intend to present them so early, but that he saw an effort on the part of a member to amend the rules to prevent their reception.

Mr. Dashiells here gave the substance of his proposed amendment to the rules, which was that all matter suggested by a member of the Conference should be laid over for one day, and in the meantime printed.

Dr. Reese continued his remarks, and said that the 23d rule could be adopted, just as well in Richmond as here.

Mr. Dashiells rose to an explanation. He said that he had introduced his resolution to prevent precipitate action on any new subject, and for no other purpose. After writing it he had shown it to one or two—Dr. Sargent and Rev. Thomas Sewall—neither of whom gave an opinion as to the propriety of its introduction. But when he showed it to Dr. Slicer, it met with his unqualified disapproval. In regard to the 23d article being appropriate for the Church at Richmond, according to the advice given in the notes attached to that article by Bishop Asbury and McKendree, and which were read by Dr. Sargent, the members of the Church are in duty bound to support the *Government existing there*.

Mr. George Hildt said that he was was not present on the first day of the session, when the resolutions were passed of fealty to the Government, and he now desired to record his vote. He was an American citizen, true to the Church and to the State. He would not use the word loyal, because there was no king here, and he was not a subject, but a sovereign. He objected to the resolutions on account of their being political, and he therefore voted "nay" on their passage, and desired to be so recorded.

Mr. John Bowen congratulated the Conference on the settlement of the vexed question which has so harassed the proceedings since the commencement of the session, and said that he hoped the Bishop would keep the body to its proper duties, and not allow extraneous matters to be introduced. He hoped the Bishop had sufficient nerve to do so, and I move that he does.

The Bishop—I second Brother Bowen's motion.

Mr. Gere put the motion and it was carried.

Mr. Gere then introduced a resolution as follows:

RESOLVED, That this Conference does not approve of the course of the Rev. Henry Slicer, in refusing to vote on the resolutions passed on Monday last, and that the instance shall not be considered a precedent.

There were cries of "Oh! don't,—don't do that."

S. A. Wilson got the floor and said that he hoped that the resolution would not pass. Dr. Slicer did not violate the rule. He picked up his hat and was willing to go out of the church, but his brethren all around him protested against his going into the street. He was to remain present and not vote. He hoped that no resolution affecting the character of this aged minister, who for forty years had been batching for the Church, would be passed. He could [illegible]

Mr. Gere—Brother, you must take back those two last words.

Mr. Wilson—I will take them back, but it looks much like [illegible]

Mr. Gere—You may take it back [illegible]

Mr. Wilson—Well, I take it all back.

Mr. Miller said he hoped the resolution of censure would not pass.

Mr. Gere—It is not a resolution of censure.

Mr. Slicer—It is such.

Mr. Gere—No, it is not.

Mr. Slicer—It is a resolution of censure, and nothing else; and now, Mr. Bishop, I hold that I did not violate the rule. When some who are in their efforts to divide the Church, I threw myself into the gap, solitary and alone. They are now very loyal; but I doubt loyalty to the Government which is false to the Church.

Mr. Gere urged the adoption of the resolution, to prevent it being taken as a precedent.

Mr. Crever moved to lay the whole subject on the table; and pending this motion the Conference adjourned.

Mr. Slicer stated that on to-morrow he would make a statement, and then withdraw his objection to the passage of the resolution relative to the character of R. D. Chambers.

Mr. Chambers said he would hear the statement of Dr. Slicer, and then meet him either as a brother of peace or of war.

MARYLAND LEGISLATURE.....REGULAR SESSION

SENATE.

ANNAPOLIS, March 10.—After our report closed this afternoon the bill to amend the charter of the Hagerstown Bank was read a third time and passed.

The bill making an appropriation to pay a portion of the 16th regiment performing guard duty was read a third time and passed.

The grain inspection bill was read a third time and passed.

The Senate then adjourned to half-past four.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Senate met at half-past four o'clock. The bill supplimentary to an act to provide for the erection of an Hospital for the Insane was read a third time and passed.

The bill appropriating five thousand dollars to aid the Union Relief Association of Baltimore was read a third time and passed.

The bill to compensate T. S. Alexander for legal services was read a third time and passed.

The bill relating to executions on judgments was read a third time and passed.

The bill for the relief of J. M. Brower, late reading clerk of the Senate, was read a third time and passed.

The bill relating to the duties of road supervisors was taken up, and the enacting clause stricken out.

The bill repealing an act passed in 1845, incorporating the Farmers and Merchants' Bank of Cecil county, was read a third time and passed.

The bill incorporating the Farmers and Merchants' Bank of Cecil county, was read a third time and passed.

The bill repealing all acts granting exemption from taxation except such as is exempted by the general revenue laws, was read a third time and passed.

The bill relating to the inspection of hay was taken up, and the enacting clause stricken out.

The bill relating to the inspection of guano, was read a first and second time.

The Senate then adjourned to 8 o'clock.

EVENING SESSION.

The Senate met at eight o'clock.

The bill prohibiting the sale of liquor to slaves was read a third time and passed.

The bill amending the school laws was read a third time and passed.

The bill relating to licensing property agents and brokers was read a third time and rejected.

The bill providing for the rapid organization of the militia was read a third time, and the enacting clause stricken out.

The bill relating to the payments into the Treasury by Clerks of Courts was read a third time and passed.

The bill authorizing the Governor to have certain flint-lock muskets altered was passed.

The bill relating to the office of Comptroller was read a third time and passed.

The bill relating to the issuing of licenses by the Clerks of Courts was read a third time and passed.

The bill relating to Sheriff's accounts was read a third time and rejected.

The bill amending the laws relating to the opening and closing of public roads was read a third time and rejected.

The bill prohibiting the sale of liquor to minors was read a third time and rejected.

The bill relating to the duties of State's Attorneys was read a third time and passed.

The bill prohibiting the sale of liquor near the polls on election days was read a third time and rejected.

The bill imposing a tax on the commissions of certain officers was read a third time and passed.

The bill dividing the State into Congressional districts was read a third time and passed.

The Flour Inspection bill was read a third time and passed.

The bill prohibiting the sale of liquor to free negroes was read a third time and passed.

The Passport bill before the Senate a communication from Dr. Lynch in reference to his late imprisonment by the Government, which was read and ordered to be printed.

The bill relating to pilots was read a first time.

A message was received from the House asking the Senate to recede from its amendment to the bill relating to exemption from taxation, and the Senate refused to recede from said amendment.

The bill for the relief of Sarah A. Donney was read three times under a suspension of the rules and passed.

The bill incorporating the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Easton was read a second and third time and passed.

The bill to make valid a deed from W. D. Cropper, of Accomac county, Va., was read three times and passed.

The bill to make valid the election of the Committee of the Presbyterian Church, at Snow Hill, was read a second and third time and passed.

The bill to incorporate the Elkridge Landing Bridge Company, was read a third time and passed.

The bill for the relief of Edward Hammond, former collector of taxes, was read by special order three times and passed.

The bill amending the charter of Annapolis, was amended, read a second and third time and passed.

The bill to incorporate the town of Oakland, Allegany county, was read a third time and passed.

The bill amending the school laws of Montgomery county, was read a third time and passed.

The bill for the relief of Levin T. H. Smith was read three times and passed.

The bill to amend the charter of the Baltimore and Washington Turnpike Company, was read a third time and passed.

The bill to prohibit the sale of liquor within two miles of Brookville, four miles of Emory Chapel and within the limits of the First Election District of Montgomery county, was read a third time and passed.

The hour of 12 having arrived the Senate adjourned *sine die*.

After the adjournment an informal meeting was held, Mr. Billingsley in the chair, and resolutions of thanks to the President and officers of the Senate passed.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The House met at four o'clock.

The bill authorizing the Governor to enforce the forfeitures against the Baltimore and Washington Turnpike Company, for failing to keep their road in repair, was read a third time and passed.

The bill relating to the granting of *nolle prosequi* by the Governor was read a third time and passed. [This bill provides that in cases where a *nolle prosequi* is granted by the Governor, on condition that the party shall leave the State, and he should fail to leave or afterwards return, he shall be liable to punishment as if such *nolle prosequi* had not been granted.

The bill amending the Pilot laws was read a third time and passed.

The bill relating to the challenge of jurors was laid on the table.

The bill to pay a sum of money to Ezra Ball was laid on the table.

The bill to incorporate the Potomac Improvement Company was laid on the table.

The bill authorizing the Comptroller to pay to the Commissioners of Howard county the usual appropriations for the schools and academies of that county was read a third time and passed.

The bill for the relief of Sarah A. Reynolds was read a third time and passed.

The bill relating to the public printing of Allegany county was read a third time and passed.

The bill authorizing the payment of a balance from an estate to Geo. H. Murdock, for the benefit of a slave, was read a third time and passed.

The bill authorizing the Commissioners of Anne Arundel and Prince George's counties to levy a sum of money to rebuild a bridge over the Patuxent river was read a third time and rejected.

The bill to compensate the members of the Peace Conference at Washington was read a third time and passed.

The bill to make valid the deed of Elizabeth Delautor was read a third time and passed.

The bill to authorize freenegroes to hold property and dispose of the same was read a third time and rejected.

The House then adjourned.

EVENING SESSION.

The House met at half-past se