

UNITED STATES.

[From the Providence Journal.]

THE LAW OF COPY RIGHT.—This seems to be exciting some attention abroad: and from the subjoined statement of the doings in the House of Representatives, on Monday last, there is a prospect of Congress being solicited to take some action on the subject. An extension of the privileges of the law so that all authors, whatsoever may be their nation, may equally enjoy its benefits, seems highly desirable; and Mr Adams, who is preparing to take the lead in the matter, is abundantly qualified to point out the equity of such extension, and the advantages that will result from it, not only to those who deserve encouragement and support, the writers of the works, but also to the reading community, and the public at large.

Measures are now being taken in England to call the attention of our National Legislature to the matter. The Department of Public Instruction in France, of which M. M. Villemain, Thouard and Arago, are Members, in consequence of a Memorial from the Parisian booksellers, and from a conviction of the injury this class has suffered by the publication abroad of works legally secured to them, have appointed a committee to inquire into the means of preventing this interference, either by legislation or negotiation with foreign powers.

In the House of Representatives, Mr Adams, on presenting a petition, said he was desirous to make the general enquiry whether any member of the house was charged with a petition from the authors of Great Britain to the Congress of the United States. If any gentleman was charged with such a petition, he (Mr A.) had nothing further to state; he did not know but that the Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means (Mr Cambreling) had such a petition in his hands.

Mr A. explained that his reason for making the inquiry was, that he had received a letter from a respectable person in England, Miss Harriet Martineau, enclosing a printed address or petition from certain authors of Great Britain to the Congress of the United States, and although the request was very distinct that he should favour the object of the petition, yet no positive request was made that he would present it. As the petition was merely a printed paper without any signature, he did not feel himself at liberty to present it, if as he presumed, there was in the possession of any other member of the House, who would present it, a petition regularly signed.

Mr Cambreling said he had no such paper in his possession.

And as it did not appear that any other member was charged with the presentation of the same, Mr A. said he would wait another week or two; and if a formal petition should not be presented by that time, he would present the one which had been forwarded to him.—*Providence Journal.*

From the Portland (Me) Eastern Argus.

(Private Correspondence.)

WASHINGTON, Jun. 3, 1837.

Your readers will be gratified to learn, that it is now understood here that the committee of Ways and Means have determined on an ultimate report to the House, so far as to settle the great fundamental propositions—

1st. That the revenue of the Government should be reduced to its ordinary wants.

2dly. That the Tariff should be reduced at least to the sum of seven millions of dollars.

It now remains to agree on the articles which shall bear this reduction. And here will be the field of antagonist interests. Even the

great articles of domestic produce and consumption—coal, iron, salt, &c.—will find parties for and against reduction. There will probably be an interest to effect only a pro rata reduction on all articles, to the amount required; and another interest that will resist this, and contend for a discriminating reduction, taking all, or nearly all duties off of some articles, less off of others, and none off of others. What these and other disagreements may result in, time only can establish.

Yours in haste,

In the United States Congress, petitions were presented from a number of cities and towns for a repeal of the coal duty. A motion was also made for an inquiry into the expediency of repealing the duty on grain.

The Steam packet Dolphin burst her boiler near Savannah on the 16th ult., and fifteen persons lost their lives. Nothing uncommon in the United States.

The subject of acknowledging the independence of Texas, and admitting it into the Union, has been brought under the consideration of Congress by a Special Message from the President. The conduct of the United States in this matter will be narrowly watched.

The Texas Congress has passed a law to contract a loan of five millions of dollars.

Advices from New Orleans dated a 20th ult. give the particulars of some military movements in Mexico against Texans.

Santa Anna has been set at liberty, and has gone to Washington to solicit the mediation of the United States Government, in a treaty in which he has promised to acknowledge the independence of Texas.

Gen. Santa Anna and his travelling companions, arrived at Louisville in the steam boat Adriatic on the 25th ultimo. They were to proceed to Washington forthwith.

From the Troy Budget, Extra, January 2.

DREADFUL CALAMITY—SEVERAL LIVES LOST.

—Early last summer, a large mass of clay burst from the hill on the east section of the first ward in this city (Troy U. S.), followed by a gushing stream of water, and doing no other injury than covering a large portion of ground at the base with the bowels of the hill. Last evening, about 7 o'clock, a similar occurrence took place, on the same spot, but we regret to say, greater in extent and exceedingly fatal in its consequences. An avalanche of clay came tumbling from an eminence of nearly 500 feet, moving down the base of the hill to level land, and then continued from the impulse it received, to the distance of about 800 feet, covering up acres of ground, accompanied with a cataract of water and sand, which kept up a terrible roar. The mass moved along with great rapidity, carrying along with it two stables and three dwelling houses, and crushing them and their contents into thousands of pieces. The stables and horses were moved to a distance of over 200 feet, into a hollow on the corner of Washington and Fourth streets.

The three dwelling houses destroyed, were of light structure, and one occupied by Mr J. Grace, another by Mrs Levensworth, and a third by Mrs Warner, the last of which was fortunately vacant at the time of the calamity. In Grace's house was himself and wife and a little boy—the two former were extricated from the ruins dead, and the latter was taken out alive, very little hurt, barefooted and bare-headed, the building having been shattered in a thousand pieces—which is undoubtedly one of the most singular escapes that ever came to our knowledge. There were four of Mrs Levensworth's family in her house, herself and 3 children. Two of the children were in bed at

the time, and probably asleep, and were afterwards taken from the midst of the wreck, dead, crushed almost to a jelly, and were undoubtedly thrown instantly from a natural sleep into a sleep of death. Mrs Levensworth was taken out shockingly bruised, and was barely alive when we last heard from her. Fortunately three of the family were at church at the time, and escaped awful deaths.

The stables were owned by Mr Gingham, in which were 22 horses, and all carried along with the mass together, with nine or ten dirt carts. Six horses were taken from the ruins alive—the other sixteen were killed.

We learn that the body of a person was found, name unknown, who was probably employed in the brick kiln or stables—which makes in all five dead bodies taken from the ruins last night. There are probably others buried among the ruins.

The avalanche passed over the public highway which leads to the mill and nail factory, and might have carried along with it some straggling traveller. The clay is piled up in masses to the depth of from ten to forty feet over a large surface. It must have moved with great rapidity, and it is fortunate that it had not happened at the time when the laborers were employed in digging from the hill.

AN HONOURABLE SQUABBLE AND SOME BLOODSHED.—We learn by a gentleman from New Haven that a most ludicrous scene occurred in the Court-house of that city on Wednesday last. A case was being tried in which his Honour Mr Flagg, mayor of the city, was engaged on one side, and—Mix, Esquire, was of the opposite counsel. Mr Mix having made some personal remark, which reflected rather too severely upon his Honour, Mr. Flagg, the latter suddenly sprang forward and gave him (Mix) several severe "digs" in the short ribs.—For this outrage, the Court ordered Mr Flagg into custody, and two officers were deputed to lock him up in prison for contempt of Court. On the parties leaving the Court room Mix's client, who felt highly indignant at the treatment his counsel had received at the hands of Mr Flagg, came forward, and after using some violent language, gave his Honour a most tremendous kick, *a posteriori*.

NOTICE.

AS the subscriber is called upon to leave the Province, all those due him either by Note of hand or Book accounts, are requested to pay the same on or before the 15th of April ensuing, to save further trouble.

He also offers for Sale, under the same date, his standing property at New Glasgow, and 200 ACRES OF LAND fronting on the road leading to the Garden of Eden, so called.

COLIN MCKAY.

New Glasgow, 23th Nov. 1836.

THE SUBSCRIBER

KEEPS constantly for SALE, a large assortment of

DRUGS AND MEDICINES.

Chemical preparations, Dye Stuffs, oil and water Colours, Apothecaries' Glassware, Perfumery, &c. Every article usually kept for sale by Druggists may be had at his shop, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL.

JAMES D. B. FRASER.

September 21. 18

Dung St.

THE NEW YORK ALBION, Commencing first January, 1837, for sale by JAMES DAWSON.

ALMANACS, FOR 1837, with an Appendix containing the Names of the MEMBERS OF THE NEW PARLIAMENT.

For sale by

J. DAWSON.

ONE SET MACHINE CARDS—for sale by JAMES DAWSON.