THE GAZETTE.

LITTLE ROCK, TUESDAY, NOV. 7, 1837.

THOMAS J. PEW, Editor.

Governor's Message.—We have delayed the publication of our paper for several hours, this morning, for the purpose of laying before our readers the Message of the Governor, which was this day delivered to both Houses of the General Assembly.

E. H. Foster, Esq., of Nashville, (whig), has been elected by the legislature of Tennessee to succeed the Hon. Mr. Grundy in the Senate of the U. S. Mr. G. has another year to serve.

The Louisville Journal says Col. W. Rector was not the government agent alluded to by that paper, as having purchased Mississippi paper at 25 per cent. discount, to pay the U. S. troops in Arkansas. Who did the Journal allude to?

The Hon. A. Yell, our Representative in Congress, arrived in Little Rock on Sunday last, from Washington—having left the day after adjournment. He will remain here a few days, and then retrace his steps to the extremities of the Union.

The Governor has issued a writ of election, addressed to the Sheriff of Pulaski county, requiring him to hold an election to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Dr. J. H. Cocke. The election is fixed by the Sheriff, for Monday, the 20th inst.

Fourche de Thomas Bridge. The traveling public is informed that the bridge over Fourche de Thomas, in Randolph county, has been rebuilt, and is now ready for the accommodation of travelers. It is an excellent bridge, and stronger and better than it ever was. It was built by subscriptions from Lawrence and Randolph counties.

The Democracy of Pennsylvania have achieved another victory. They have elected to the House of Representatives of that State 60 Van Buren men, and 40 of the opposition.

Western Bank Note Engraving Company.—We invite the attention of the public to an advertisement in another part of this paper, of *Woodruff & Mason*, of the bank note engraving company, Cincinnati. They have enclosed us some specimens of their workmanship, which can be seen at this office—and we look upon them as equal, in point of style and finish, to any work of the kind done in the country. Such an establishment was much needed, particularly in the west, and we trust that they will receive a liberal share of public patronage.

Green County.—An election was held, we understand, in Green county, for Congress, and that Judge Yell received an *unanimous vote!* It has not been returned yet, for the want of magistrates to open the polls.

THE ARKANSAS DELEGATION.

The first session of the twenty-fifth Congress has just closed, after a short sitting of great importance and intense excitement. It was with infinite satisfaction that we observed the harmony which prevailed in our own representation in the two houses. Our two Senators, the Hon. A. H. Sevier, and the Hon. Wm. S. Fulton, as well as our Representative, the Hon. A. Yell, have all voted invariably together on the great questions which have come before Congress.

The public opinion of Arkansas has been expressed on several occasions in the last year or two, and there can be no doubt that it is decidedly on the side of the administration of Mr. Van Buren. The constituents of Judge Yell have, within a few days, had an extra chance of pronouncing on his course as a public man, which resulted in an approval—by a vote of nearly two to one. It is nothing but fair, therefore, to say that they have only fulfilled the expectations of those who have called them to their high offices—for which they deserve the thanks and continued confidence of their friends and the people.

A post-office has been established at Rockport, Washita Crossings, Hot Spring county, and Dr. L. Gilson appointed Postmaster.

From New-Orleans.—We have accounts from this city to the 23d October, and from Natchez to the 24th. The fever had abated considerably in the former city—but was still very bad in the latter. Cotton was from 9 to 12 cents—business better.

The St. Louis papers contain a notice of the death of the Hon. David Barton, formerly a Senator in Congress from that State.

THE STATE LEGISLATURE.

In conformity with the proclamation of the Governor, the two houses of the General Assembly of Arkansas, convened yesterday in the capitol. At 11 o'clock, the Hon. S. C. Roane took the President's chair of the Senate, and the Hon. Jno. Wilson, the Speaker's chair of the House of Representatives.

D. J. Chapman, the Senator from the counties of Independence and Jackson, elected in the place of John Ringgold, resigned, appeared, was qualified, and took his seat.

The following new members, elected to fill vacancies in the House of Representatives, appeared, were qualified, and took their seats, to wit:

From Conway county.—Dudley D. Mason.
Phillips.—Wm. F. Moore.
Saline.—Wm. S. Lockert.
Crittenden.—Thomas M. Collins.
Hempstead.—Grandison D. Royston.
Chicot.—Peter Hanger.
Washington.—Wm. B. Woddy.
Pope.—John Bruton.
Carroll.—Beal Gaither.
Jackson.—Charles H. Moore.
St. Francis.—John W. Calvert.
Union.—Wm. L. Bradley.

After organizing, they proceeded to appoint committees to inform the Executive thereof. On the part of the Senate, W. D. Ferguson of Crittenden, and Rob't. Smith of Lawrence, were appointed—and Messrs Byrd, Whinnery, and Davies, on the part of the House of Representatives.

There was no other business transacted except an election for Assistant Clerk of the House of Representatives, to fill the vacancy of Alexander McKisick.

Mr Phillips nominated Jefferson Smith; Mr. Adams nominated James McCampbell; and Mr. Maxwell nominated John Widjery. On counting the votes, there appeared for

Jefferson Smith	31 votes
James McCampbell	14 "
John Widjery	4 "

THE CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION.

The following may be set down as not far from the correct vote on the Congressional election. They are all official, except those counties marked with the *

Counties.	Yell.	Ringgold.
Pulaski	98	158
Saline	151	50
Arkansas	26	106
Randolph	161	16
Marion	46	7
Pike	26	7
Clark	13	4
Johnson	32	22
Jackson	70	68
Sevier	2	5
Madison	92	13
St. Francis	235	15
Pope	118	60
Phillips	116	192
Lawrence	131	50
Conway	93	66
Independence	107	220
Monroe	7	52
Mississippi	9	45
Scott	27	00
Crittenden	40	63
Hot Spring	10	12
Van Buren	29	3
Carroll	256	62
Benton	136	9
Washington	470	30
* Hempstead		maj. 34
* Izard, maj.	80	
* Union	180	17
* Greene, maj.	60	
Lafayette	15	26
Chicot		maj. 151
* Jefferson		do. 4
	2836	1588
	1588	
Yell's Majority	1248	

THE ELECTION.—*Washington County.*

For Congress,

Judge Yell	470
J. Ringgold	30
	440 maj.

House of Representatives.

Col. W. B. Woddy	186
Jno. Alexander	171
W. W. McKnight	60
Thos. H. Tennant	56

Woddy elected.

CARROLL COUNTY.—(*To fill a vacancy in the House of Representatives.*)

Beal Gaither,	173 votes.
James Chaney,	146

ADJOURNMENT OF CONGRESS.

Both houses of Congress adjourned on Monday, the 16th of October, at 10 o'clock, to meet again on the first Monday in December. The following list comprises the acts passed during its short sitting:—

List of Acts passed at the first session of the twenty-fifth Congress.

An act to postpone the fourth instalment of deposits with the States.

An act authorizing a further postponement of payment upon duty bonds.

An act for adjusting the remaining claims upon the late deposite banks.

An act to regulate the fees of district attorneys in certain cases.

An act for the relief of D. P. Madison.

A bill to authorize the issuing of Treasury notes.

A bill making additional appropriations for the suppression of Indian hostilities for the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven.

A bill making additional appropriations for the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven.

A bill to continue in force certain laws to the close of the next session of Congress.

A bill to amend an act entitled "An act to provide for the payment of horses lost or destroyed in the military service of the United States," approved January 18, 1837.

Resolution directing the postage on letters sent by the express mail to be paid in advance.

A National Bank.—The project of establishing another National Bank is killed for the present at least, and probably for ever. The people of the United States solemnly pronounced against such an institution, by the election of Mr. Van Buren, and we now give the yeas and nays of the two houses of Congress, to show that the Representatives of the people have fixed the seal of *their* reprobation, on the scheme. The bank party could parade only *fifteen* Senators out of *forty-five*. We trust that the question will now be considered as settled—at all events, for many years to come. The following are the yeas and nays, for and against, a National Bank, in the Senate U. S. Col. Sevier was confined to his room, by illness, and was not present to vote:

Yeas—Messrs. Bayard, Black, Clay of Kentucky, Clayton, Crittenden, Davies, Kent, Knight, McKean, Prentiss, Preston, Robbins, Smith of Indiana, Swift, and Webster—15.

Nays—Messrs. Allen, Benton, Brown, Buchanan, Calhoun, Clay of Alabama, Fulton, Grundy, King of Georgia, Linn, Lyon, Morris, Nicholas, Niles, Norvel, Pierce, Rives, Roane, Robinson, Ruggles, Smith of Connecticut, Strange, Tallmadge, Tipton, Walker, Wall, White, Williams, Wright, and Young—30.

National Bank.—The following are the yeas and nays in the House of Representatives on the resolution reported by the committee of ways and means, declaring that it is inexpedient to charter a National Bank.

Yeas—Messrs. Anderson, Andrews, Atherton, Beatty, Beirne, Bicknell, Birdsal, Bouldin, Brodhead, Bruin, Buchanan, Bynum, Cambreleng, T. J. Carter, Casey, Chapman, Cilley, Claiborne, Clark, Cleveland, Clowney, Coles, Connor, Craig, Crary, Cushman, Dawson, Davee, Dromgoole, Dunkin, Edwards, Elmore, Fairfield, Isaac Fletcher, Fry, Gallup, Gholson, Glascock, Grantland, Gray, Griffin, Haley, Hammond, Hamer, Harrison, Hawkins, Haynes, (Holsey), Holt, Hopkins, Howard, Hubley, W. H. Hunter, Robert M. T. Hunter, Ingham, T. B. Jackson, J. Jackson, J. Johnson, Nathaniel Jones, J. W. Jones, Kilgore, Klingensmith, Legare, Leadbetter, Lewis, Logan, A. Loomis, Lyon, Mallory, J. M. Mason, Martin, McKay, A. McClellan, McClure, McKim, Miller, Montgomery, Moore, Morgan, M. Morris, Samuel W. Morris, Muhlenberg, Noble, Ogle, Owens, Palmer, Parmenter, Patton, Paynter, Pennybacker, Petrikan, Phelps, Pickens, Plummer, Potter, Pratt, Prentiss, Reily, Rhett, Rives, Robertson, Sheffer, Shields, Shepler, Smith, Snyder, Spencer, Stewart, Taliaferro, Taylor, Thomas, Thompson, Titus, Toucey, Towns, Turney, Vanderveer, Wagner, Webster, Thomas T. Whittlesey, J. W. Williams, Worthington, Yell—123.

Nays—Messrs. Adams, H. Allen, J. W. Allen, Aycrigg, Bell, Biddle, Bond, Borden, Calhoun, Calhoun, W. B. Campbell, Chambers, Cheatham, Childs, Corwin, Cranston, Crockett, Curtis, Cushing, Darlington, Davies, Deberry, Dennis, Dunn, Everett, Ewing, R. Fletcher, Fillmore, Rice Garland, Goode, J. Graham, W. Graham, Graves, Grennell, Hall, Halstead, Harlan, Harper, Hawes, Henry, Herod, Jenifer, Henry Johnson, W. C. Johnson, Lawler, Lincoln, A. W. Loomis, Marvin, S. Mason, Maury, May, Maxwell, McKennan, Menifee, Mercer, Milligan, C. Morris, Naylor, Paterson, Pearce, Peck, Phillips, Pope, Potts, Rariden, Randolph, Reed, Rencher, Ridgway, Rumsey, Russel, Sergeant, A. H. Shepperd, C. Shepard, Sibly, Slade, Southgate, Stanly, Stratton, Tillinghast, Toland, Underwood, A. S. White, J. White, E. Whittlesey, L. Williams, Sherrod Williams, C. H. Williams, Wise, and Yorke—91.

There were 28 members absent.

From the Grand Gulf Advertiser, of Oct. 14.

San Augustine, (Texas), Oct. 2d.

Gentlemen—Yesterday the 1st of October, was the day appointed for the opening of the land-office. *It has not been opened.* A called session of the Texian Congress met on the 25th ult. The President's message has not reached us. As soon as it is received I will furnish you a copy. Emigrants are coming into the country rapidly. All the hotels and boarding houses are filled to overflowing. The health of the country is good, peace and prosperity are universally prevailing. This town contains about one thousand souls, and is rapidly improving. A college is in contemplation at this place.—Two respectable schools (a male and female) are now in existence. There is also a flourishing Sunday school. There is preaching in the town almost every Sabbath. Your paper might obtain considerable circulation here, if the postage could be paid to the United States line.—Can't you make this arrangement? The crops are abundant in Texas this year, and provisions plenty. Four weekly newspapers are now published, and the fifth "*The State of Texas,*" is to be out soon. Yours, A TEXIAN.

Yellow Fever at Natchez.—We have been informed by a gentleman direct from Natchez, that on the 22d inst., when he left, the yellow fever was on the increase, as shown by the weekly report of the Medical Board. The corporate authorities had advised all who could, to leave the city. It was the prevailing sentiment that strangers ought not to visit the place, as they only serve as food for the disease. We should think it highly imprudent for persons to stop at Natchez, until its health is greatly improved. The disease must soon cease its ravages under the present state of the weather. A little delay will secure safety, while haste is hazardous in the extreme. [*Memphis Gaz.*

The United States ship of war Independence, lately put into Cronstadt, a port in Russia. While there an individual came on board attired as a private gentleman, and examined the vessel, her equipments, compliment of men, guns, &c., with minute and eager curiosity. He conversed with the seamen with perfect freedom, and sought in every possible manner to acquire information. Commodore Nicholson, however, upon making inquiries, was led to suppose that the individual was no other than the Emperor in disguise. As soon as he left, a salute of 40 guns was fired, which was returned from all the vessels of war in the harbor, leaving the fact of the Emperor's presence no longer doubtful.

We do not wonder at the desire of an intelligent and enterprizing ruler to become thoroughly acquainted with our naval system. The maritime force of the United States, though inferior in numbers to that of many European nations, is unrivalled in the admirable construction of its vessels, the superiority of its discipline, the naval skill of its commanders, and the union of obedience and intrepidity in its hardy and gallant crews. [*N. O. Bee.*

A contemporary says, the Union is composed of *single States*. Not exactly; one of the sisters is married—*Mrs. Sippi*.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

Fellow-Citizens of the Senate,
and House of Representatives:

By the constitution of the State of Arkansas, the Governor is authorized, on extraordinary occasions, to convene the General Assembly. I believed such an occasion had arisen, and caused proclamation to issue for your convocation. You have assembled; and as the general interests seem to require your attention, I shall, without restriction to the particular causes of your convention, proceed to give you information of the state of the government, and recommend to your consideration such measures as are deemed expedient.

Our constitution directs that no other or greater amount of revenue shall at any time be levied, than is required for the necessary expenses of the government, unless by a concurrence of two-thirds of both houses of the General Assembly. The act to provide for a permanent system of revenue for the State, does not appear to have passed both houses of the General Assembly by a concurrence of two-thirds, and yet, by it, a greater amount of revenue is levied than seems required for the necessary expenses of the government. It will be perceived, from the Auditor's report, that, at the present rate of taxation, the surplus produced up to the 1st inst. is upwards of eighteen thousand dollars.

The fact that our treasury is full to overflowing, is truly gratifying; it is a pleasing, a cheering event; it indicates a provident legislation, and a prosperous people. But our constitution providently restricts onerous assessments upon the people. Taxation beyond what is necessary for the legitimate wants of government, is oppressive and odious, and should never be imposed. Doubtless, subjects for expenditure of seeming importance to the general welfare, could be designated more than ample to exhaust the surplus in the treasury; but it ought not to be forgotten that Arkansas, though sovereign and independent, is yet young and weak in population, and that her people, though brave, industrious, and prosperous, still have to encounter many of the difficulties, inconveniences, and hardships, incident to the settlement, cultivation, and protection of a new country. Burthen them, then, as little as possible with governmental taxes; require of the people no more than is indispensable for the adequate support and healthy operation of government.

I therefore recommend to your wise consideration the propriety of reducing the taxes to the economical and legitimate demands of government. For a detailed statement of the fiscal affairs of the state, I refer you to the reports of the Auditor and Treasurer, which are herewith transmitted. The Auditor makes some suggestions relative to our revenue laws, well worthy of your consideration and action.

I feel a deep solicitude that Arkansas should, as soon as practicable, rid herself of the confused mass of fugitive laws by which she is now governed, and substitute in lieu thereof a systematic, wise, and independent code. I am much gratified, therefore, that the General Assembly, at their last session, made provision for their revision, amplification, and codification. It could not have been reasonably expected that a legislature upon whom devolved the important duties of organizing the state government, and of prescribing general rules for its operations, would be able, in a session of ordinary length, to provide for the State a new and appropriate code of laws. It was impossible, in the nature of things, for them to do so. It was wise and politic, under all the circumstances, for them not to attempt it. They understood their situation, and the urgent necessities of the country for a system of laws adapted to its new condition, and judiciously confided this important work to other hands, that it might progress in vacation. I am advised that the persons appointed to perform the task, are prepared to render to you their report. The duties of these commissioners have been grave, arduous, and responsible; but I hope, and feel assured, that they will have been discharged wisely, patiently, and faithfully. In anticipation of their report, I commend their labors to your wisdom.

It will be recollected that the General Assembly, at their last session, elected two Senators to represent Arkansas in the Senate of the United States. The regular senatorial term is six years; but under the federal constitution, that body is divided into three classes, and the seats of one-third of the Senators are vacated every two years. This term of two years is called a Congress. Each Congress is composed, usually, of two sessions. In legal contemplation, a Congress begins the fourth of March, biennially, computed from the termination of the first Congress. When a new State, therefore, appoints her Senators, the duration of their terms is necessarily decided and regulated by these rules of classification. It is determined by lot into which of these classes they shall devolve. By this political lottery, one of our Senators was thrown into that class whose term will expire on the third of March, eighteen hundred and forty-one; the other into that whose term closed on the third of March, eighteen hundred and thirty-seven. You will perceive a vacancy was thus produced in our federal representation. The constitution of the United States says, "If vacancies happen, by resignation or otherwise, during the recess of the legislature of any State, the Executive thereof may make temporary appointments until the next meeting of the legislature, which shall then fill such vacancies."

The President of the United States issued his proclamation convening the Senate on the fourth of March last. Deeming it important that Arkansas should be fully represented in that body, I thought proper to exercise the prerogative granted by the Constitution, and accordingly appointed Ambrose H. Sevier to supply said vacancy; and he now holds his seat by virtue of executive authority. It is therefore incumbent on you, at your present session, to elect a United States Senator for the term of six years from the third of March, eighteen hundred and thirty-seven. I would suggest the propriety of your early action on this subject, that the individual selected may have sufficient time to arrive at the seat of the national government by the first Monday in December next, when the twenty-fifth Congress begins its regular session.

The constitution of the United States, in reference to the House of Representatives of Congress, says—"When vacancies happen in the representation from any State, the executive authority thereof shall issue writs of election to fill such vacancies." The term for which our Representative was elected, in August, eighteen hundred and thirty six, expired on the third of March, eighteen hundred and thirty-seven. The President of the United States, in May following, issued a proclamation for convening Congress on the first Monday in last September. Agreeably to our existing laws, the regular Congressional election could not take place until the first Monday in October. I deemed a vacancy (in the meaning of the federal constitution) had happened in the representation from our State, and that it was my duty to issue writs of election to fill such vacancy. I accordingly caused them to be issued. An election was had, and Arkansas fully represented in the called session of the twenty-fifth Congress.

The individual elected by the General Assembly as judge of the sixth judicial circuit refused to act. Our State constitution says, "Vacancies that happen in offices, the election to which is vested in the General Assembly, shall be filled by the Governor during the recess of the General Assembly, by granting commissions which shall expire at the end of the next session." In obedience to this mandate of the constitution, in February, eighteen hundred and thirty seven, I commissioned Levin I. Handy, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the refusal referred to; and he is now the acting judge of the sixth judicial circuit.

The judge of the second judicial circuit has resigned his office. This resignation bears date the twenty-third of the past month. No commission has been granted to supply the vacancy thus created. I deemed it inexpedient to do so, as the General Assembly were to convene so soon, and would, in a few days, have an opportunity of filling the vacancy for the entire constitutional term.

The judges of the second, third, and fifth judicial circuits, certified to the Governor that they had been "of counsel" in causes depending in their courts. As they were, from this circumstance, constitutionally disqualified to preside on such cases, I, in accordance with my duty, commissioned specially, for each of said circuits, "a man of law knowledge," for their trial and determination. There is no law allowing compensation to special judges; but it is certainly nothing more than right that they should be paid for their services. I would recommend that provision be made for their fair remuneration.

In conformity with the act "authorizing the disposition of the five sections of land granted by the Congress of the United States to the State of Arkansas, for the purpose of completing the public buildings commenced in said State," a sale of the five sections was effected in January last, and the proceeds amounted, in the aggregate, to $34 460 60. Of this sum there has been paid (including interest on such amounts as have been received since the date of the sale,) $12,231 78½. There remains unpaid, (counting interest up to the 10th of October ultimo) $22,200, part of which is now due, and the residue will become due in January, eighteen hundred and thirty-eight. Of the amount paid, there is now on deposite in the Bank of the State of Arkansas, $10,000, and the sum of $3 231 78 has been expended for materials, labor performed, expenses of sale, &c. Under the authority of the sixth section of the act above recited, I appointed Elijah A. More, Esq. Commissioner of Public Buildings. I also constituted him agent of the Governor to settle with John Pope, ex-Governor of Arkansas, or any of his lawful agents, in all matters in relation to the State-house. His report, showing the progress he has made in his duties as Commissioner, and his statement, exhibiting the result of his labors as agent, are herewith transmitted.

One hundred and sixty acres of the one thousand donated by Congress to build a court-house and jail at Little Rock, was located on land adjoining the town, which it is believed had been previously otherwise appropriated. At all events, the location conflicts with other claims, and a law-suit would be necessary to establish its validity. As it is presumed this whole fund will be needed soon, I recommend to your consideration the expediency of such legislation on the subject as may be necessary to convert it into available means.

The duties imposed by a resolution of the General Assembly, requiring the Governor to select a site for a jail for the county of Pulaski, and, when selected, to notify Thomas Thorn thereof, were discharged in April or May last. The jail, however, has not been erected, nor does it appear that any materials have been procured with a view of its construction. In a former message to the General Assembly, I called their attention to the subject of common jails, and recommended such legislation in the matter as would insure the establishment of prisons of a quality to answer their object. The propriety of having such a building in every county of the State, is so evident, that I feel it a duty to renew the recommendation in an urgent manner, and earnestly to press the subject upon your consideration. And I would further again most respectfully suggest the policy of provision being made for the establishment of a Penitentiary, as soon as, in the wisdom of the General Assembly, the means necessary for its construction can be raised without oppressing the people.

The resolution of the General Assembly requiring the Governor to distribute the acts, &c. of their last session, has been complied with, through an agent appointed for that purpose.

In compliance with the requisition of the act for that object, a seal of State has been procured.

The west wing of the state-house has been covered, in accordance with the act passed at the last session of the General Assembly, authorizing it to be done.

The loan of $40,000, for which the Governor was authorized to negotiate, has not been effected, though diligent efforts were made to do so.

The commissioners appointed to select the twelve salt-springs, and the seventy-two sections of land adjoining them, granted the State by Congress, have not yet discharged their duties. At the threshold of their labors, they encountered an embarrassing difficulty. It seems that the greater portion of the lands adjacent to these springs, had been sold by the United States to individuals prior to the grant to Arkansas. This condition of things being unprovided for by the legislature, the Commissioners thought it advisable to defer the performance of their task, until suitable measures could be adopted on the subject by the proper authority, and they could have full instructions for their government in acting on a matter of so much importance to the interests of the State. I refer the subject to the representatives of the people, that they in their wisdom may devise and adopt means commensurate with the emergency.

The removal of the great raft in Red river has not yet been completed. The superintendent of the work ceased operations in May last, and in a correspondence with him on the subject, I am informed that the appropriation for that object is exhausted, and that the business cannot be resumed until another shall be made. On the receipt of this information, I called the attention of the Secretary at War to the subject, and urged the importance of his recommending to Congress, at the recent called session, the propriety of their making the necessary appropriation. He did so; and our representation in Congress were active to procure the desired appropriation, but failed in consequence (it is presumed) of Congress having determined to confine their action to the business which they had been convened to consider. I would recommend that the legislature memorialize Congress for an early appropriation of $50,000, that this very essential national undertaking may progress, and be consummated as soon as practicable. If Congress furnish the needed amount promptly, we may justly hope for the accomplishment of this great work in the course of the ensuing spring.

The appropriation made by Congress, last year, for the improvement of the Arkansas river, is now in progress of expenditure. Captain Cooper, the acting superintendent, has been for two or three months conducting the work. The river having continued too low for the use of the larger class of snag-boats, (which are necessary in the removal of formidable obstructions), operations have been confined to the use of small boats, and removing secondary snags, and cutting the timber from the margin of the river at points subject to cave. I am informed that in consequence of the desertion of many of the laborers employed, this improvement has been much retarded, and is not in very speedy progress.

The improvement of the navigation of the St. Francis, White, Black, and Washita rivers, is a subject of deep interest to the people of our State, and I hope the General Assembly will call the attention of Congress to the importance of the work, and ask for adequate means for its accomplishment.

I am happy to be able to state that the prospects of the early completion of the important national road from Memphis to Little Rock are most flattering. There are now employed in this work between two and three hundred laborers. This road forms the great land thoroughfare from the States east of the Mississippi river, to the seat of government of our State. The value of this road to the people of Arkansas, is beyond calculation. Though its establishment has been an expensive and herculean task, its performance will be creditable to the government, and honorable to the superintendents, and its benefits will amply reward for the labor and treasure it will have cost.

Through the politeness of Captain R. D. C. Collins, I have been furnished with a detailed statement (which I herewith transmit) showing that $127,000 will be required for the completion of roads commenced in our State by the United States, under his superintendence. They are—from Helena to the mouth of Cache, $15 000: from the south boundary of Missouri to Red river, $20,000; from Little Rock to St. Francis, $25 000; from Jackson, in Lawrence county, to Fort Smith, $20,000; from Little Rock to Chico, $25 000; and from Strong's, in St. Francis county, to Batesville, $22 000. I recommend that the General Assembly ask of Congress an appropriation covering these respective amounts, that these very important roads may be completed and rendered useful to the country.

The military roads from Little Rock to Fort Smith, and from Natchitoches, in Louisiana, to Fort Towson, are in a wretched condition, and should be repaired.—At least $50 000 ought to be appropriated by Congress for this object. The great importance of these roads in a military point of view alone, is a sufficient reason why the national government should make adequate appropriation for their reparation, and I recommend that you ask of them such an appropriation.

There are many valuable books belonging to the State, which are scattered about the town, without claimant or legal locality; and under present regulations, the public buildings and furniture are exposed to misuse and damage during the recess of the legislature. I would therefore recommend that you make some provision for the appointment of a person whose duty it should be to collect and arrange these books, and keep them and the Capitol and its furniture in good condition for legitimate uses.

Under the pretext of its being necessary for the convenience of change, numerous individuals, in different parts of the State, issue printed tickets, or promissory notes, of small denominations, in such quantities as to flood the country with this trash, and drive specie from circulation. I have no doubt but many solvent persons have made such issues, with good intentions; but it is a practice of bad precedent and evil tendency. The legislature should correct it, and guard against its repetition.

I have signed the one thousand State bonds authorized by the seventeenth section of the act to incorporate the Bank of the State of Arkansas, and I understand that $300,000 worth of these bonds has been sold to the Secretary at War of the United States. But it is believed improbable that the remainder of them can be disposed of, unless the legislature direct that they be sold at a discount. The money market is much depressed, and there are for sale many similar bonds of other States, bearing a higher interest than ours. Good policy therefore, seems to indicate the necessity of issuing new bonds, bearing an interest of six per centum, and I recommend the adoption of that policy, or some other, to insure the bank, the immediate realization of her whole capital. The mother bank commenced active business in August last, and the branches only delay operations for the receipt of the books and paper which they have ordered, and are expecting. The specie for them, required by the charter, is in the parent bank, ready at their call. The bank, though, from necessity, operating on a very small scale, has been of great advantage to the people and government, and is prosperous. She has discounted to about $220,000 and thus sustained our citizens, at a critical period, from distress, and furnished them with means to pay their taxes. Though the benefits of the bank are obvious, and have been sensibly felt, her present basis is entirely too limited to enable her to supply a sufficient currency to answer the necessary demands of our industrious community. But I think the legislature have it in their power, at the present session, to assist her much.

It will be perceived, from the Treasurer's report, that $286,751 49, (the portion of the United States surplus revenue to which Arkansas was entitled), and $28,725, (the five per centum on the nett amount of the sales of public lands in Arkansas), and $127 60, arising from the lease of the salt-springs, have been received by the Treasurer, and deposited in the State Bank to the credit of the State. You could permit this fund of $313 593 09 to remain in the bank as a business basis; and I would suggest the propriety of your doing so, until she can obtain her full capital by the sale of the State bonds.

I am advised by the Managers of the Real Estate Bank that the twenty-two thousand and five hundred shares authorized by the fifth section of the act to establish the Real Estate Bank of the State of Arkansas, have been subscribed for, and stock awarded to the whole amount of the capital of the bank. Directors for the mother bank and for the branches have been elected, and the directory of the branches have respectively elected their Presidents. The central board has been constituted, and the charter requires its first convention at Little Rock on this day. The two thousand bonds to which the institution requires the Governor to subscribe, have not been created. Nor is it believed worth while to issue five per cent bonds, with the expectation of their sale. A fair experiment has been made with such, by the Bank of the State of Arkansas, and resulted in almost entire failure. With the view that public expectation may realize the speedy and complete organization of the Real Estate Bank, and the community enjoy, at an early day, the benefits for which it was chartered, I recommend an increase of the rate of interest which the bonds are to bear, to six per cent.

The idea has occurred to me, that our two banks might be so consolidated as to prove profitable to both institutions, and beneficial to the best interests of the State. Without detailing any of the advantages which might result from such an identification, I barely suggest the idea for your consideration. If the event could be accomplished without injury to the interests of any, it would certainly be a desirable and happy union; and now, if ever, is the time to adopt the measure.

The General Assembly, at its last session, adopted a resolution instructing our Senators, and requesting our Representative, in Congress, to procure, if practicable, the passage of an act to authorize the Governor of Arkansas to change any (that he might deem proper) of the locations made of the seventy-two sections granted by Congress to the Territory of Arkansas for a seminary of learning. Congress have not passed such an act; and I, of course, have not changed any of the locations. If this benevolent grant be judiciously expended, its good effects will be long happily felt by our country. It is a deplorable fact, that we have not a single public institution of learning in our State, and are almost destitute of good common schools. The subject of education is one of deep interest and vital importance to our State. It should engage the serious consideration and wise action of the General Assembly. Let it not be postponed; the time is at hand when a public seminary should be commenced. Why delay it? We have the means and the best interests of the people demand its establishment. I recommend to the legislature, the adoption of such measures on this subject as will insure the speedy erection of our much-needed seminary.

In May last, I received information that the republic of Texas had, by legislative enactment, created a land district, including all that section of our State lying between the main Red river and the Sulphur Fork: that country comprises the entire county of Miller, and about half of the county of Lafayette. [illegible]

[illegible]

Little Rock, Nov. 6, 1837. J. S. CONWAY.

From the Natchez Courier and Journal.

Troubles at Alexandria, La.—Our city for some days has been rife with reports of servile troubles among the citizens of our neighboring state, Louisiana, at the town of Alexandria.

The steam boat Alpha, which arrived at this city from that place on the night before last, brings intelligence corroborative of the reports. The excitement is represented to be very great, and we give the particulars as derived from one of the officers of the boat. We still hope that rumor, as usual, has made the numbers engaged in this affair, larger than was really the case.

The statement is, that the boat left on the 10th inst., on which day eleven negroes were executed, and fourteen more were to share the same fate. Sixty-three remained in custody to undergo farther examination. Two white men were said to be implicated in the affair, who had made their escape, but were closely pursued.

Since we wrote the above, a gentleman of this city has furnished us with the following letter from a resident of Alexandria, formerly of this place, from which it will be seen that the above statements are in a great measure corroborated, making due allowance for the letter having been written at an earlier hour in the day than the time of the steamboat's departure. We regret too, to learn that that section of the country is severely scourged by sickness.

Alexandria, Oct. 10, 1837.

B. M. Stedman, Esq.—*Dear Sir*—I have but a moment to inform you of the state of affairs in this region. On Thursday night last, a plot was discovered, from information received from a negro, that an attempted insurrection was contemplated by the negroes generally throughout the parish, which proved to be a fact. The negro who informed, and who was one of the head men, informed his master that on that night there was to be a special meeting of the principal negroes in that part of the parish, at an old school house, where Mr. Cherry, the boy's master, with several others, repaired, and found his statement correct. They then secured two of the ringleaders, who confessed their whole arrangements. They were brought to town and hung on Saturday, and four others were hung this morning, and we have now in jail from thirty to forty more, most of whom will share the same fate. They were to have risen on Saturday night.

Your obedient servant,
R. DEMING.

P. S.—The fever is killing every one it attacks in this place.

IMPORTANT TO PRE-EMPTION CLAIMANTS.

We are indebted to the politeness of the Register and Receiver of the Land-office at this place, for a copy of the following Circular, which materially modifies some portions of former instructions in relation to the establishment and location of Pre-emption claims, and lay it before our readers for the information of those interested.

CIRCULAR TO REGISTERS AND RECEIVERS OF THE UNITED STATES LAND-OFFICES.

General Land-Office, Oct. 11, 1837.

Gentlemen—Any pre-emption claim arising under the act of Congress approved June 14, 1832, and June 19, 1834, is to be allowed, if duly proved, *without restriction as to the period of the commencement of the survey including such claim, and although such survey was or may not have been fully completed on or before the 19th June, 1836:* Provided, that application for such pre-emption right shall be, or shall have been, made within one year after the return of the *approved* plat of the survey, *including* such claim, to the proper district land-office; *and provided, also*, that the fact so claimed shall not have been entered in the mean time by a third party, in accordance with instructions which existed prior to the reception of this circular at your office.

The clause in my circular letter of the 9th June last, in these words, "to entitle the settler to the benefit of the law, it is requisite that the survey of the township wherein his claim lies, should have been in progress of execution in the field, during the term of the operation of the act of June 19, 1834," is hereby rescinded, but without prejudice to the intervening rights of any third party as above mentioned.

The President of the United States has directed that, until the farther action of Congress thereon, the rights of "pre-emption of eighty acres of land elsewhere," (usually called "*floating rights*,") granted by the second section of the act of Congress, approved May 29, 1830, which act was revived and continued by the act approved June 19, 1834, and which, also, as you were informed by my circular of June 9, 1837, is, for certain purposes therein stated, still in force, *shall be restricted in their location to unimproved and vacant public land.*

You are therefore instructed not to permit the entry, by virtue of a "floating right," of any tract on which there is a cultivation, improvement, settlement, or occupant, unless the owner of the float shall first produce to you the written consent thereto, of the person or persons claiming the same improvement, cultivation, settlement, or occupancy, attested by two witnesses.

You will require of every person applying to enter a tract by means of a float, previous to permitting the entry, to file his own affidavit that the same is vacant unimproved land; that there is not any cultivation, improvement, or occupancy thereon, which is claimed by any person whomsoever, or, if claimed by any other person or persons, that he has the written consent of all the persons having any such claim; which affidavit must also be corroborated, in all its allegations, by such substantial witnesses (who must state their means of information) as shall entirely satisfy you that the same is true in every particular; otherwise, you will refuse to permit the entry.

You will require the floating right to be entered at the same time with the original pre-emption, and will forward all the proofs and affidavits to this office as usual.

I have also to advise you that lands, which were not public lands on the 19th day of June, 1834, as well as those which, on that day, were reserved from sale for the use of the United States, or for any of the States or Territories, or which were reserved from sale "by act of Congress," or "by order of the President," or which were "appropriated for any purpose whatever," are not liable to be entered by authority of any provision of the pre-emption acts of 1830 and 1834, although the same land, since that time, may have been acquired by Indian treaty, surveyed and brought into market under other laws, or although the then existing reservation or appropriation may have been, since that date, repealed.

I am, very respectfully,
Gentlemen, your ob't serv't,
JAMES WHITCOMB, *Commissioner.*

The Register of the Land Office, and Receiver of Public Moneys, at Little Rock, Arkansas.

P. S. Those who proved claims to pre-emption prior to June, 1836, under the instructions of my predecessor, the surveys of which were then commenced and subsequently completed, and plats received at your office, are to be advised that it is now necessary for them to come forward and complete their payments. And from time to time hereafter, whenever plats are received at your office, [the date of such receipt to be noted on the face of the plat,] you are required to give public notice of the fact through the most convenient newspaper, and request claimants of pre-emption rights to file their testimony and complete their payments.

From the returns from Georgia, it seems the contest between Schley and Gilmer has been close. The latter may have been elected. Should such prove to be the case, it may be accounted for by the fact of the strong stand taken by Gilmer against the Bank of the United States, and to the circumstance that he has received the support of some of the strongest democrats in the State. The democratic majority in the Legislature, in joint ballot, will be about twenty-five.

Professor Boufils, late of the University of Alabama, has been elected Professor of Modern Languages and Literature in the Cincinnati College. [*Nash. Ban.*

The Josephs of New-York have been permitted to resume the management of their own estate. Their failure last spring was considered a very disastrous one, but from an exhibit read at a late meeting of their principal creditors, it appears that their assets exceed their liabilities $530,683 17. Their estate, consisting of stocks, city paper, southern bills and accounts, real estate, &c., amounts to $7,046,851 34. Their creditors, in their resolutions, express the utmost confidence in the integrity and skill of the Messrs. Josephs. [*ib.*

The Hon. Joseph M. White, late delegate in Congress from Florida, has located himself in the city of New-York, where he proposes to pursue the profession of law. [*ib.*

The Louisville Advertiser says, with reference to the population of Pittsburg, "Pittsburg has a queer population—composed of blue stockings, long faces, pretty lightly peppered with tricky fellows of all grades. It contains as many sectarian and local factions as any place of its size in the world."

—With regard to sectarianism and local factions, we are not willing to yield Pittsburg the palm. Cincinnati against the world, for variety and number of sects, clans, cliques, and societies of every description. [*Cin. Rep.*