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TERMS.

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☞ As this paper is not sent to any new subscriber, unless paid for in advance, the reception of it will be a sufficient notice.

☞ All communications relating to the *business matters* of the paper, &c., and particularly the names of subscribers, remittances, &c., should be addressed to L. P. Noble, Publisher.

☞ Agents and others, in sending names, are requested to be very particular, and have each letter distinctly written, the name of the *Post Office*, the *County*, and the *State*.

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☞ Any clergyman who will procure four subscribers, and send us eight dollars, may have a fifth copy gratis, for one year.

☞ Accounts are kept with *each subscriber*, and when we receive money from him on his subscription, it is immediately passed to his credit.

☞ Agents will notice that we keep an account with each subscriber. Hence no accounts will be kept with the agents; and in transmitting money on which they are entitled to a commission, they will retain the amount of their commission, and, *in all cases*, forward the money with the names, so as to make the account even at each remittance.

☞ Agents and others who wish to send us fractional parts of a dollar, can now do so without increasing the postage, by remitting *pre-paid post office stamps*, which can now be obtained at any post office.

☞ Agents or others having funds to forward are desired, if the amount be considerable, to purchase of some bank a draft on New York, Philadelphia, or Baltimore. Smaller amounts may be transmitted by mail, observing, when convenient, to send large bills on New England, New York, Philadelphia, or Baltimore banks. Do not send certificates of deposite.

☞ Mr. W. B. Palmer, at his newspaper agency, New York, Philadelphia, Boston, and Baltimore, is duly authorized to procure advertisements for this paper.

☞ Within the last week we have received two or three requests to have the direction of papers changed, without informing us what post office, county, or State, the papers have heretofore been sent. Without these, we cannot change the direction.

☞ We invite the attention of those who are remitting moneys to the publisher of this paper to the following table, showing the rate of discount on current money in this city. We earnestly hope that those who send money will endeavor to send such bank bills as are at the lowest discount:

Washington, D. C. -	-	Par.
Baltimore -	-	Par.
Philadelphia -	-	Par.
New York city -	-	Par.
New York State -	-	¾ per ct. dis.
New England -	-	⅞ do.
New Jersey -	-	⅞ do.
Eastern Pennsylvania	-	¾ do.
Western Pennsylvania	-	1¼ do.
Maryland -	-	⅞ do.
Virginia -	-	⅞ do.
Western Virginia -	-	1¼ do.
Ohio -	-	2¼ do.
Indiana -	-	2¼ do.
Kentucky -	-	2¼ do.
Tennessee -	-	3¼ do.
Michigan -	-	3 do.
Canada -	-	2 do.

L. P. NOBLE, *Publisher.*

THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 13, 1847.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE ERA.

THINGS IN PHILADELPHIA.

PHILADELPHIA, *December* 1, 1847.

DEAR SIR: This evening, the friends of Mr. Dallas hold a meeting, to present his claims upon the people for their highest gift. A large two-horse wagon has been driven through the streets all day, filled with musicians, to attract attention, and on the sides and curtains of the wagon were pasted handbills, announcing in huge letters the call to the meeting. This evening, also, cannons have been fired, for the purpose of directing attention to the movement.

We have another Mr. Dallas here, in the district called Moyamensing, who stands a fairer chance of promotion than the worthy Vice President. Thomas Dallas has been a ward constable of Moyamensing; but, owing to a recent development, he, with some other officers, have been in another constable's hands, and now have a fair prospect of tasting the charms of solitude in the large state room to which they have introduced so many others aforetime.

Philadelphia and the adjoining districts have been notorious for several years, on account of the character of the public officers. At one time we had a drunken gambler for Mayor, who quelled riotous disturbances by bidding the rioters "good night for the night." His short speeches were listened to attentively, and at their conclusion three cheers were given for the Mayor, and the rioters took new courage for the work of destruction. But I will not waste time with facts known abroad as well as at home.

Our worthy aldermen also deserve a passing notice. Those functionaries are paid according to the number of cases tried by them. In other words, they do not receive a fixed salary, but in every trial there are fees for the officers, and the one who loses the suit, and a part of these costs is the fee of the alderman. You see immediately that peculiar temptations accompany this office. It is said that, in order to induce persons to bring suits before them, a part of the fees of the aldermen usually decide in favor of the plaintiff.

A few years ago, it was said that one of the Moyamensing aldermen resorted to a new method of raising suits for costs. He would call out, "Is there a nigger?" The constable, being of like character, goes out, and seizing the first colored person he can command, brings him before the magistrate, charges him before the alderman as a disturber of the peace or a vagrant. The alderman decides according to the statements of the constable, and the innocent colored person must go to prison—or—pay two dollars; on which condition, the alderman graciously says he will forego a commitment at this time. The money of course is paid, and the poor negro goes away, glad enough to escape the prison. "Now, constable, here is a dollar for you, and a dollar for me; and this will serve us for market money to-day!"

It has been said, also, that some of the police officers and constables are in the employ of that most contemptible of all professional men, the Philadelphia attorney of the slaveholders and slave-traders. They find out, by spies, from what part of the country the unfortunate persons have come, and whether or not they were slaves, and the names of their masters. Then said attorney is informed of all this, and he writes to the slaveholder, to know whether a slave ran away about such a time, and intimating that he has a clew to the whereabouts of the runaway. Another mode of procedure is the following. When said attorney receives a letter of inquiry respecting a runaway, or when he sees one advertised in some Southern paper, he gives the description to the *officers* referred to, and they hunt up some negro that will answer the description tolerably well. Then they seize him as a slave, or for some illegal misdemeanor, and have the black in their hands for a time. He is not confined in the walls of Moyamensing prison, but is carried clandestinely to the South, and made a slave for life. Thus many a free person has no doubt been converted into a slave, to drag out a miserable existence, just to furnish our attorney and his subordinates with a few base dollars.

But to return to Mr. Dallas, of Moyamensing, and his coparteners, Rudolf Fields, police officer; and George Fields, constable—all officers of Moyamensing. These gentlemen have been officially busy of late, spying to imprison an innocent person, James Winters, with a view to extort money from him. Will the affair be true, as has been stated in the newspapers, as follows:

"On Saturday, the 2d of last January, James Winters, the prosecutor, was at his home in Small street; and, besides his own family, there were two other females in the house, who had come in to warm themselves. The four officers passed the door, and one of them, Rudolf Fields, came back and entered, and was followed by the others. Shultz said, "Let's take the head of the house." Winters said, "No; we'll take them all." Winters and three others were then taken before Alderman McCaulley, who committed them to prison, on the charge of maintaining a disorderly house. Winters was kept in confinement until Tuesday following, when he was taken out of prison by the officers, and it was proposed to setting at liberty, on the payment of ten dollars, George Fields acting as spokesman. The sum finally agreed to make up the sum demanded by the following day, when he paid eight dollars, all that he could raise to Shultz, in the presence of the two Fields. The two dollars which remained to be paid were collected by Rudolf Fields at different periods, two dollars one week, and the wife of the prosecutor testified that she was compelled to pawn a shawl to make up some of the money."

In the charge given by the court to the jury, the conduct of the accused was commented upon with great severity. The jury, after an absence of about two hours, returned with a verdict of "Guilty" against all the defendants, who were then sent to prison to await sentence. Thomas Dallas was put in a new trap; but at a sitting of the court, a few days after, his counsel asked leave to withdraw one of the reasons for a new trial, alleging therefor his conviction of his own error. Says the Ledger:

"As this was understood to be the principal reason urged for the granting of a new trial, the withdrawal of it destroys every vestige of hope which the wrong-doers may have entertained, and seals their fate irrevocably. The Judge, in some remarks upon the case, took occasion to relate a fact which was known within his own knowledge, and which still further strengthened the case against the prisoners. He stated, that when he occupied the post of District Attorney for Kensington, he was frequently waited upon by the Messrs. Fields and Richard Shultz, to obtain his sanction to discharge from the prison of persons committed for breaches of the peace—the court having directed that such should be released on a magistrates' discharge. He had reasoned to have been called upon, on occasion, and signed the discharge for a man who was represented as being too poor to pay the costs, and having a family dependent upon him. His offence was a violation of a breach of the peace. During the trial of the officers, the Attorney General sent for the discharge of James Winters, the prosecutor, and the case against Fields and others, and he (the Judge) had found his own signature upon the back of it, fully satisfying him that it was the discharge obtained for the poor man with the family, &c. to which allusion had made above. This was further proof to him, that the Attorney General's name had been used to extort money from the unfortunate, and necessary in obtaining his discharge—the alderman having that power—he being only committed for a further term, and not for the charge of keeping a disorderly house. The Judge referred, in his remarks, to other officers of Moyamensing, as being equally guilty and deserving of punishment as the Fields & Co., one of whom was then in court. He reiterated his determination to bring all the offenders to justice."

With such officers, officers, who can wonder that riots have prevailed for some years past, and that vice and immorality, poverty and misery, have abounded, especially in the section where these officers reside. Shame upon the people, for putting such men in office! If we wish to have a moral, peaceable, and industrious community, we must go to the primary meetings, at which officers are nominated, and see to it that no man is placed upon the ticket who is not known to be honest, industrious, and upright. Yours, &c.

GOLD PEN.

P. S. I will probably send you a short letter every week. G. P.

SKETCHES AND ESSAYS.

For the National Era.

RECOLLECTIONS OF COUNTRY LIFE.

BY PATTY LEE.

AMBITION.

CHAPTER IX.

The other evening, as I was taking my last "Recollection" to the office, I overtook a young man, "very much dressed, from his hat to his groom," and mounted on what my father would call a nearly chunk of a colt, evidently "the richest thing on the road." I thought, moreover, a fairer chance of promotion than the worthy Vice President. Thomas Dallas has been a ward constable of Moyamensing; but, owing to a recent development, he, with some other officers, have been in another constable's hands, and now have a fair prospect of tasting the charms of solitude in the large state room to which they have introduced so many others aforetime.

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There is a kind of Boswell ambition which I don't fancy much, though I can forgive the Boswell of a Johnson; but the drop of my mantle of charity are not ample enough for the Boswell of a Boswell.

Illustration of this last ambition occurs to my mind. Some years ago, a family of some pretensions came to reside in our neighborhood of Somerville, and in the Alderman had been, in his palmiest days, a city goods merchant in one of the sea-port cities, their pretensions were readily admitted. Moreover, they brought with them some smuggled remnants of better days among which were some casts in plaster—a Cupid, as I think, and a mutilated Venus. It was also reported that their cellars were mahogany, and that they used silver knives and forks *every day.* In addition to all this, they boasted relationship to a family which had attained the eminence in New York—had most of Harper's Family Library, few lady making literary pretensions—such, however, as come within the compass of an album or a lady's boudoir. The Alderman's daughter, Ella, previously known as the old Henderson place, was quite metamorphosed. The apple-trees were trimmed and whitewashed, the briers cleared away, and the garden enlarged and interspersed with a variety of walks, which were bordered by a variety of ornamental shrubbery. The house, originally of a small cast, was enriched out with wings and a piazza, and the whole dignified by the appellation of Morton Lodge. A colored boy about the stable, and two kitchen maids, added not a little, in the estimation of our more democratic villagers, to the importance of the establishment. No wonder people said, eyeing the improvements curiously, "What don't look much like the old Henderson place?"

But the first cells—what shall I say of them? All the old fashioned sitters and sighs of long years brought into requisition among the women folks for a *debut* at the Lodge; and many a timid rap was heard at the door, before it was gloomy enough to visit the domestics, and none of our Somerville folks were admitted on terms of social equality by their employers; however, Mrs. Morton sometimes came out and talked patronizingly, and what more could be reasonably desired?

"I must say I have been delicious in my heart," but I once had the temerity to ring the bell, and was *actually* admitted into the parlor! But I can give no description of Mrs. Morton, as I was not satisfied in my own mind, at the time, whether I beheld a woman or an angel.

Mr. Morton, who was "lively and gossiping," was more sociably popular, and is to this day the model man of most of our village beaux—one of them, whom I have in my eye, apes every stoppage of speech, and with considerable success, and gives Mr. Morton's opinions on all occasions, as "proof strong as Holy Writ."

All the new dresses in the neighborhood, whether of silks or muslins, or old ones, were made after the fashion of Mrs. Morton's morning wrappers, and all the folks that wanted to be like anybody, trickled off their dogs with collars, after the style of him of the Lodge. Well, it would be a hard task to enumerate the friends which Dogberry hath made himself in consequence of the Morton mansion.

Another very singular species of ambition, which suggests itself, is "bodied forth" in a branch of my genealogical tree—George Washington Lee. It is that of maintaining a dignified gravity on all trying occasions. I am never afraid to "talk as funny as I can" in his presence. There is no danger of his "bursting three buttons off and tumbling in a fit," not the least. Why? I don't suppose the man has laughed outright for fifteen years; not since the beginning of his collegiate course, when, by mistaken Millie, who sits at my elbow, says she once heard him laugh; but then there were many mollifying circumstances. It was the night, and in a close carriage; and, moreover, in a very secluded district; and the witticism which provoked it, and which, by the way, was his own, was very funny. I think I may safely venture this, as the only instance in which he has broken through the barrier of decorous gravity in the term of years specified.

By the merest casualty in the world, I obtained the clew to this singular consecration of himself to dignity. It was the period of his earliest devotions. Now, I had a habit in childhood, and, I own the truth, I have it yet, of laughing heartily at funny things. And I shall never forget how sharply I was rebuked for this indecorous propriety, when George Washington came home the first vacation time, fresh from academic shades. "They did not think it funny."

Henry the First was not more changed after the death of Prince William, than was he after the breaking in upon his brain of this information.

Before him passed the young and fair,
In pleasure's paths to lead a thousand hearts;
But thoughts of college days were there—
He never laughed again.

True, he "made his simple mother think that she had borne a man;" but he was always "Wash" to me, despite of his awful solemnity. Whatever honors he may attain, his crown of glory will always seem "not a crown neither, but one of these coronets."

George used to take quite an interest in me. I remember he once concluded a "love-letter" with

"My pen is poor, my ink is pale,
My love is strong and warm."

which he slipped under my sprun when he came to the master's desk with his pen; but that was before he could parse "John ran through the house in a hurry." I think, when he returned from college, his early admiration had cooled somewhat, but he still retained a kind of casualty regard, which he demonstrated by offering to second me in persuading Millie to graduating at dress, if I would not laugh aloud for five years! But I laughed so heartily at the proposal, that he gave up in despair. Spring, his heart ached to see one who was just entering upon the vanity propensities of womanhood so frivolous! This serious look of his, and a habit of sitting with closed eyes during a sermon, gave the impression of quite an enviable reputation for piety; but the latter habit was forced upon him by the intense pain with which he, poor fellow, always sighed about the time of washing sheep and dropping corn, in the spring. Poor fellow! I have taken his place in the furrow, often. But I forfeited the last remnant of his esteem by my inhuman mirth on seeing him fall into his pew. He had closed his eyes too soon, and, happening to catch his foot in the carpet, came down in rather an unaggravated manner; and, though I hit my lips almost to bleeding, and brought my fan into requisition, it was all in vain.

Laughter broke from at last like rain,
George held his breath in awe!
For he had never seen by the church train,
And I reeked not that they saw!

I must beg the reader's pardon for this parody of the sublime; but George Washington Lee, it's no use to ask his forgiveness; if his eye sees this, I shall have to brave his everlasting frown. However, I don't think he will see it, for he is a prodigious man, and could not be hired to read the *Era.*

From the Wellsburg (Va.) Herald.

ADDRESS TO THE PEOPLE OF WESTERN VIRGINIA,

Showing that slavery is injurious to the public welfare, and that it may be gradually abolished, without detriment to the rights and interests of slaveholders.

BY A SLAVEHOLDER OF WEST VIRGINIA.

* * * *

(CONTINUED.)

There are certain drugs, of which large doses are poisonous, and even small ones are not even salutary. Slavery is not of this kind. Large doses of it kill, it is true; but smaller doses, mix them as you will, are sure to sicken and debilitate the body politic. This can be abundantly proved by examples. For one, let us take the rich and beautiful State of Kentucky, separated from us by a mere ditch, called a river. The slaves of Kentucky have composed less than a fourth part of her population. But mark their effect upon the comparative growth of the State. In the year 1800, Kentucky contained 221,000 inhabitants, and Ohio, 45,000. In 1840, the population of Kentucky had risen to 780,000; that of Ohio, to 1,519,000. This wonderful difference could not arising to any natural superiority of the Ohio country. Kentucky is nearly as large, nearly as fertile, and quite equal in other gifts of nature. She had greatly the advantage, too, in the outset, of a full forty years start of Ohio. She started with 5½ inhabitants to the square mile, and came out with 20; Ohio started with nine inhabitants to the square mile, and came out with 38. Kentucky had full possession of her territory at the beginning. Much of Ohio was then, and for a long time afterwards, in possession of the Indians. Ohio is by this time considerably more than twice as thickly peopled as Kentucky; yet she still gains, both by natural increase and by the influx of immigrants; while Kentucky has for twenty years been receiving much fewer immigrants than Ohio, and multitudes of her sons have been yearly moving off to newer and yet newer countries.

In Tennessee, the proportion of slaves is above the mean, and the effects are about the same, as in Kentucky. Missouri has come to a country to afford instruction on this subject; but her physical advantages have drawn such a multitude of free immigrants into her territory, that her small amount of slavery must, ere long, give way and vanish before "the genius of universal emancipation."

Maryland has comparatively few slaves, and these are found chiefly near the Atlantic and water shores, where, like the locusts, they have eaten up nearly every green thing. On the whole, the Slave Land has been receiving more than seven a fourth and a fifth part of her population. Her progress, under this dead weight, has been much slower than that of her neighbor, Pennsylvania, and would be completely crushed, if the free neighbor did not send a vivifying influence into her upper counties and her city of Baltimore.

Our own Old Virginia furnishes conclusive evidence, that slavery, in all quantities and degrees, has a pernicious influence on the public welfare.

We have now seen how slavery, when in full operation, first checks, and then stops, the growth of population, and finally turns it into a decline. We have seen, also, how slavery, when in partial operation, or mixed with a large proportion of free labor, hangs like a dead weight upon a country, and makes it drag heavily onward in the march of population.

Increase of population depends upon increase of the means of living. Whenever the three great branches of productive industry, Agriculture, Manufactures, and Commerce, or any of them, are in a thriving condition, the population will increase at the same rate, because then industry produces a surplus beyond the present wants of the people, and more families can be supported. This is the general rule. The only exceptions to it are partial and temporary in their occurrence. Population may increase to a small degree, when the country products of industry are stationary; but then it can be only by allowing to each individual a reduced share of produce. In this case, poverty and misery increase with the population, instead of going on in progress. In this country, where emigration to new territories is so easy, the people are sure to relieve themselves from poverty, whenever the means of living begin to fail in their native place. Without some pressure of this sort, attachment to their native place is ordinarily sufficient to prevent men from emigrating. Some may emigrate without any feeling of necessity; but as many, if not more, will not emigrate, until want pinches them sorely.

We may now see why it does not generally happen, that the quantity of emigration from a State is a pretty accurate index of its comparative prosperity. If it does so, it is because the State of its industry is thriving—sufficiently so to supply the natural increase of its population, and to make nearly all contented at home. But, if a large and perpetual stream of emigration is flowing out of it, in search of better fortune elsewhere, it is an infallible symptom of one or two things—either that the country has no more natural sources from which industry may draw profitable products, or that the people are deficient in enterprise and skill to improve the resources of their country.

Let us apply this rule to Virginia, and how will she appear? We take it for granted, that the people of Virginia generally are, in fact, naturally, as the people of other States—that is, at the rate of 33½ per cent. in ten years; so that, if none emigrated, the number would be increased by one-third in that period of time.

Compare this natural increase with the census returns, and it appears that in the ten years, from 1830 to 1840, Virginia lost by emigration no fewer than 375,000 of her people, of whom East Virginia lost 304,000, and West Virginia 71,000. At this rate, Virginia supplies the West every ten years with a population equal in number to the population of the State of Mississippi in 1840.

Some Virginia politicians proudly—yes, *proudly*, I fear—contrast our old Commonwealth with *the Mother of States!* These *enlightened* patriots might pay her a still higher compliment, by calling her the *Grandmother* of States. For our part, we are grieved and mortified to think of the lean and haggard condition of our venerable mother. Her black children have sucked her so dry, that now, for a long time past, she has not milk enough for her offspring, either black or white.

But, seriously, fellow-citizens, we esteem it a sad, a humiliating fact, which should penetrate the heart of every Virginian, that, from the year 1790 to this time, Virginia has lost more people by emigration than all the old thirteen States together. Up to 1840, when the last census was taken, she had lost more by nearly 300,000. She has sent—or, we should rather say, she has driven from her soil—at least one-third of all the emigrants who have gone from the old States. More than another third have gone from the other old slave States, leaving only three multitudes, who have left the slave States, to be shunned by the regions of slavery, and settled in the free countries of the West. These were generally industrious and enterprising men, who, from their skill and experience, that a country of slaves was not the country for them. It is a truth, a certain truth, that *slavery drives free laborers—farmers, mechanics, and all, and some of the best of them, to out of the country, and fills their places with negroes.*

What is it but slavery that makes Marylanders, Carolinians, and especially old Virginians and new Virginians, fly their country as such a rate? Some go because they dislike slavery, and desire to get away from it; others, because they have glorious forebodings of what is to be the fate of slave States, and wish to leave their families in a country of happier prospects; others, because they cannot get employment among free laborers; others, because they are industrious and high spirited working men, will not stay in a country where slavery degrades the working man; others go because they see that their country, for a long time, has not prospered, and that other countries, not far off, are prospering, and will afford better hopes of prosperity to themselves; others, a numerous class, who are slaveholders, and cannot live without slaves, finding they cannot live longer with them on their worn-out soils, go to seek better lands and more profitable employment, where labor may yet for a while enable them and their children to live.

But you know well, fellow-citizens, that this perpetual drain of our population does not arise from a failure of natural resources for living in Virginia. How could it, while so much good soil is yet a wilderness, and so much old soil could be fertilized, and while such resources for manufactures and commerce lie neglected?

Had Virginia retained her natural increase, or received as many emigrants as she sent away, from the year 1790 to the present time, she would have had three times her actual population; and, have all such prosperity, which is being voluntarily, and for his own benefit, all could have prospered in her wide and richly gifted territory.

The true cause of this unexampled emigration is, that no branch of industry flourishes or can flourish among us, so long as slavery is established by law, and the labor of the country is chiefly by men, who can gain nothing by assiduity, by skill, or by economy. All the old slaveholding States have proved this by sad experience.

* * * *

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

The widows of three of the signers of the Declaration of Independence are still alive—Mrs. Benjamin Rush, in Philadelphia; Mrs. Judge Chase, in Baltimore; and Mrs. Elbridge Gerry, in New Haven, Conn.

The receipts of the American Board of Foreign Missions in October amounted to $26,279.18, and those for the two preceding months $32,882.19.

GENERAL NEWS.

From the Baltimore Sun of Dec. 9.

FIFTEEN DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

The steamer Britannia was telegraphed at Boston yesterday afternoon, at two o'clock; but it was not announced here until ten o'clock last night.

The Britannia left Liverpool on the 19th ultimo, and we consequently anticipate a fair passage. She brings dates from Liverpool fifteen days later than those previously received. The following despatch from our Liverpool correspondent was forwarded to us from Boston between twelve and two o'clock this morning:

LIVERPOOL, *November* 19, 1847.

Best Western Canal flour, 29s. to 30s. per barrel; Richmond and Alexandria, 28s. to 28s. 6d.; Philadelphia and Baltimore, 28s. to 28s. 6d.; New Orleans and Ohio, 26s. to 27s.; United States and Canada, sour, 21s. to 23s.

Indian corn, per quarter, 33s. to 39s.; Indian meal, per barrel, 15s. 6d. to 16s. 6d.

Wheat, United States and Canadian, white and mixed, per 70 pounds, 7s. 6d. to 9s.; red, 6s. 6d.

Oats, per 45 pounds, 2s. 6d. to 3s. Barley, per 60 pounds, 3s. to 4s. Peas, per 504 pounds, 30s. to 40s.

Although this market has shown no positive tendency to advance since your last advices, it has been characterized by sustained and increasing firmness.

Indian corn, particularly, has been extraordinarily active, and is steady at present quotations. Wheat is rather in retailing at 40s.

Indian meal, for Irish consumption, is also very brisk in London. The market is by no means so active as in Liverpool, and throughout the provinces generally.

On Wednesday, the attendance of buyers at Mark Lane was very small, and the transactions were exceedingly limited. Quotations, however, had not receded.

Cotton Market.—Mobile, ordinary to middling, 3¾d. to 4½d.; fair to good fair, 4¾d. to 5d.; good to fine, 5½d. to 5¾d. New Orleans, ordinary to middling, 3½d. to 4½d.; fair to good, 5d. to 5½d.; good to fine, 5¾d. to 6½d. Alabama and Tennessee, ordinary to middling, 3¾d. to 4½d.; fair to good fair, not quoted. Upland Georgia, ordinary to middling, 3¾d. to 4½d.; fair to good fair, 5½d. to 5¾d.; good to fine, 5½d. to 5¾d. Texas, ordinary to middling, 3¾d. to 4½d.

The sales of the week ending the 12th instant amounted to about 26,000 bales, of which 4,000 were for export, and 1,000 on speculation. The business for five days, to yesterday evening, may be estimated at 5,000 bales, of which exporters have taken 2,000; but speculation was without effect. An improved tone, indicating an advance of ⅛d. to ¼d. from the lowest point, became perceptible in this market for about a week after the departure of the last steamer; but this was generally dispelled by the Cambria's advices, which bore so favorably upon the coming crops. From the receipt of those advices up to last evening, the market has become extremely languid, and the improvement is wholly lost.

Provision Market.—Beef, prime mess, per tierce of 200 pounds, 90s. to 95s.; prime, 70s. to 80s.; old, not quoted. Mess, per barrel, 200 pounds, 40s. to 42s.; ordinary, 36s. to 42s.; prime, 32s. to 34s.; extra, new, family, per tierce, 336 pounds, 95s. to 100s.

Pork, prime mess, new, per barrel, 200 pounds, 55s. to 64s.; old, 40s. to 45s.; mess, 62s. to 68s.; prime, 40s. to 45s.; cargo, fine, per tierce, cut smoked, old, per cwt., 30s. to 40s.; long and short middles, 32s. to 36s.; shoulders, 20s. to 30s.; hams, smoked or dried, in canvass, duty paid, 51s. to 51s.; in casks and salt, not smoked, duty free, 35s. to 35s.

Tongues, oz. in pickle, duty paid, per dozen, 12s. to 18s.; tongues, per cwt., 26s. to 36s.

Butter, United States, not quoted. Irish in fair demand, at 90s. to 91s. as the top price; Canadian, 85s. to 90s.

Cheese, fine, duty paid, per cwt., 46s. to 50s.; middling, 42s. to 45s.; ordinary, 35s. to 40s.

Lard, duty free, fine leaf, in kegs, per cwt., 55s. to 58s.; do. in barrels, 54s. to 56s.; ordinary to middling, 48s. to 50s.; inferior and grease, 29s. to 32s.

Rice, duty free, Carolina, dressed, first quality, 18s. 6d. to 21s.; second quality, 16s. to 18s. 6d.

Commercial and Financial.—Contrasting the operations of trade, and the general aspect of monetary affairs, with those of a week or fortnight ago, with those of the preceding, it is gratifying to observe that a slight, but still a perceptible improvement has taken place, retarded by the stoppage of Freeman & Cook, and other, under circumstances the most appaling that the imagination can possibly conceive. Mistating the light on Rock Island, near Cape Fear, on the south coast of Ireland, on the night of the 13th, they continued her course, to make Cork harbor, but, in less than a quarter of an hour, with a suddenness which defied all human effort to avert her fate, she came broadside on a rock called the West Cliff, about four miles inside the cape, and, in less than ten minutes after striking, was shattered to atoms, leaving only a few of her unfortunate passengers, 10 only, of 110, surviving, who succeeded in clambering up the face of the cliff, from a wretched island, containing three fishermen's huts.

From the Baltimore Sun.

ARRIVAL OF GENERAL TAYLOR.

The last mail we received from the South brought New Orleans papers of the 30th ult., but last night the mail failed to bring us any papers from New Orleans.

Our "Pony Express," however, came through, bringing us the New Orleans Delta of the 2d instant, two days in advance of our dates by mail.

General Taylor arrived below New Orleans on the 1st instant, which is thus announced by the New Orleans Delta:

The arrival of the gallant old hero in the neighborhood of our city has created general animation and interest, which are perceptible in the face of every man, woman, and child, we have met in the streets. Though yesterday was a dark, rainy, and dismal day, it could not dampen or restrain the ardent enthusiasm and affection which pervaded our whole population for the valiant old man, who has done so much to brighten the annals of our country, and elevate the name and renown of our Republic.

The people of the Crescent city have never been backward in displaying their gratitude and patriotism. Those who have witnessed popular applause and thanks, by great deeds of heroic courage and self-sacrificing patriotism, will always find here a reception full of cordiality and warmth and sincerity. No form in which popular feeling can be expressed will here be unthought of. So it was when Lafayette, so it was when Jackson, visited our city, and so it will be when Taylor is our honored guest.

But let us restrain our grateful impulses within the bounds of good taste and propriety. Let no unrepublican excesses mar the simplicity and earnestness of our gratitude.

Let the Republican General of our people's army be met without the ostentation and gorgeous display beseeming the subjects of loyalty. Let the man in whose bearing and character modesty and simplicity are blended in being united with the heroic virtues, be received with the heartiness and genuine good will of a people whose grateful feelings require not the excitements of a great public display.

The Delta of the 2d instant also makes the following reference to the preparations for his reception:

The triumphant entry of General Taylor in the city will take place to-morrow. The steamer Mary Kingsland, with the committee of arrangements, the members of the General and Municipal Councils, and Major Gally's battalion of artillery, will proceed to the barracks at 9 o'clock, to-morrow, to accompany the General and staff to the city.

The Mary Kingsland, on her return, will land opposite the Place d'Armes, at 11 o'clock, whereu a triumphal arch is erected. The procession will then be formed, under the direction of Colonel Lebaum, Grand Marshal of the day, as set forth in the published programme. On Saturday, at 10 o'clock, the ceremony of presenting the magnificent sword, presented by the State, will take place in the reception room of the St. Charles Hotel.

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.

The Washington Union publishes a communication from a mechanical engineer, who was requested by the Secretary of the Treasury to examine into the operation of, and report upon, the utility of an apparatus for supplying fresh water to boilers in steam navigation. The communication, after giving the results of the experiment, says:

"With the *ordinary method*, the level of the water in a boiler is constantly varying from one or both of the following causes, viz.: the quantity of water in the boiler, at the particular extent of opening of the feed valve, while the effective operation of the feed pump and neglect of the blow-off valve, involves the burning or an explosion of the boiler.

"With the *new method*, these operations are set aside; thus, blowing off is unnecessary, and the supply to the boiler is entirely cut off from it, the transit being immediate and the communication incapable of restriction, (for if the condensed water were cut off, the pump, if it feed pump, the condenser would choke and become inoperative) there can be no decrease in the level of the water other than that arising from leaks of water and steam. Further, the use of fresh water in a boiler will extend the term of its duration from three to five years to seven and nine."

The communication concludes, that the Legare be sent on a distant cruise, for the purpose of developing the advantages of the apparatus by continued and extended use.

REDUCED.

There are papers in the slaveholding States which are beginning to rebuke this disorganizing spirit. The Alexandria (Va.) Gazette has the following:

"TEMPER OF THE PRESS.

"The Baltimore American, in commenting upon General Thompson's speech at Greenville, upon the Wilmot Proviso, says:

"'The sides of the Union of the Union, which General Thompson allows himself to urge, as an actual thing to be resorted to in the event of a certain contingency, have not so often announced in South Carolina, on small provocation, that it is not likely now to have much influence beyond that State in the way of coercion or intimidation. The South may be reminded, perhaps, that the policy of extension towards the Southwest had its origin within her own limits. She is now alarmed, and we regret to see, that her sensitiveness has grown, involved in the issue, are of her own making. To avoid them in the way suggested by General Thompson would be to precipitate a crisis for a time—yet, we fear, only for a time.'"

The *Delaware Republican*, of Wilmington, Delaware, says:

"There is much unnecessary apprehension and much unprovoked ill feeling manifested in the slave States, against the Wilmot Proviso, and, on this subject, if every question were taken from before the people of the free States, save that of slavery, and they were left free to pass such sentence upon it, that sentence would be, to admit no more slave territory—to leave the people of the South to remedy their own evils, for they alone have the right and power to do so. Nine-tenths of the people of the North would concur in this judgment. Therefore, then, so much alarm—so much fear of Northern influence! If the North has no right to object to the acquisition of slave territory, she has no right to do anything; and if the acquisition of such territory, and the extension of sectional influence, is to be the end and object of all legislation, then it will require more than one press to sustain the South in such measures."

We close our review with some remarks, by the *Louisville (Ky.) Journal*, upon the disunion resolutions of some of the meetings in South Carolina:

"We do not know whether the authors of this resolution were aware of the absurdity in recommending so unwise a course. Probably they only wished to browbeat their Northern brethren. The Wilmot Proviso, whether a just or unjust measure, is not a matter of such great practical importance that it should set the Union, or even so small a portion of it as is comprised within the limits of South Carolina, in convulsion. The Wilmot Proviso is simply a measure which it is proposed to apply to any future territory that may be brought into our Confederacy, leaving all that present in the condition in which it now is. The authors of it say that it is strictly within the competency of Congress to pass such a provision. We have never entertained a doubt of such power, and that, as the slaveholding States were strengthened by, and had the exclusive benefit of, the annexation of Texas, it is but just that the free States shall have the benefit of the next extension of our boundaries.

"The Wilmot Proviso proposes to accomplish nothing more nor less than was accomplished by the celebrated ordinance of 1787, which forever prohibited the existence of slavery or involuntary servitude, even as a punishment for crime, in all the vast Northwestern Territory. In the case of the Missouri Compromise, which declared that slavery should never be permitted to exist north of 36 deg. 30 min., Congress resolved that it had the power to limit the institution of slavery within certain

ing by wearing crape on the left arm for thirty days.

Resolved, unanimously, That, as an additional mark of respect for the memory of the Hon. Mr. Huntington, the Senate do now adjourn.

The Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—Mr. Pillsbury, from Texas, appeared and took his seat.

Resolved, That when the House adjourn, it will adjourn till Monday.

The resolution pending, for a Joint Committee on the Library, was agreed to.

Mr. Brodhead gave notice of a bill to repeal so much of the Post Office laws as authorizes the imposition of postage on newspapers conveyed within thirty miles of their place of publication.

Mr. Pollock introduced the usual resolution for the appointment of Chaplains.

Mr. Pettit opposed it strenuously, in a speech of some length. He was not opposed to Chaplains—the House might undoubtedly need them—but he was opposed to the mode of appointing them. He did not believe it was constitutional. He moved to strike out the words, "different denominations," and add the proviso, that "such Chaplains shall be paid by the members of the respective Houses, and the United States shall not be liable for their salaries, or any part thereof." The yeas and nays were demanded, and the resolution of Mr. Pollock was adopted.

Mr. Henley offered the following:

Resolved, That the standing committees of this House be now appointed.

In reply to a question by Mr. Vinton, the Speaker said the existing rules of the House were operative till the third Monday of the present month.

Mr. Vinton thought the duties of the Committee on Commerce should be divided; and he offered a series of resolutions, proposing to constitute a Committee on Foreign Commerce, and a Committee on Commerce among the States.

Mr. Cobb, of Georgia, objected. He did not think the resolution in order.

The Speaker said, if there were any objection, the resolutions of Mr. Vinton must lie over.

Mr. Vinton said very briefly, then, he moved the resolution of Mr. Henley, by adding, "except the Committee on Commerce," and a provision to limit the appointment of the committee to the present session.

Mr. Henley accepted the latter part of the amendment.

In answer to a question of C. J. Ingersoll, the Speaker said it was simply proposed to give the Chair power to appoint the usual committees.

Mr. Ingersoll inquired whether the Speaker had the power already under the rules.

Mr. Stanton inquired whether the amendment of Mr. Vinton were now in order?

The Speaker answered affirmatively.

Mr. Vinton spoke of the extent and value of our internal commerce, in which he included the coasting trade. A committee on the subject was necessary, to ascertain and present well-digested statistics concerning it.

Mr. Collamer, without desiring to defeat the object of the gentleman, suggested that it would be better to give the Speaker power directly to appoint two committees, on Home and Foreign Commerce. He moved an amendment to this effect.

As this could only be considered by general consent, Mr. Rhett objected.

Mr. Hudson said he understand his colleague as objecting to the resolution of the gentleman from Illinois, on the ground of time and manner of introducing it. Mr. H. favored the proposition of Mr. Vinton, and he hoped it would be considered now.

Mr. Rhett said he did not favor the proposition. It was but a variant of a proposition of Federalism in the time of Alexander Hamilton. The primary object was, to bring within the control of the United States the subject of internal improvements. This was unconstitutional. And there might be another object. By internal commerce between the States, it might be intended to increase the power of this Government over, and to regulate such things as any man with his views of the Constitution would be forever opposed to. He thought he was a Democrat in addition to it.

Mr. Holmes interposed to ask, by what means a division of power was to increase power. The proposition was to divide the Committee.

Mr. Rhett considered it as tending to consolidate the power of the Government over the States.

Mr. McClelland, of Michigan, thought the proposition had been misapprehended. It was to constitute a Committee, not for the purpose of exercising power over the subject of internal trade, but collecting facts concerning it. He desired the Committee, as already constituted, competent for that. He was not sure, however, that he might not go for the proposition, if brought up at another time.

Mr. Schenck referred to the divisions of the Committees on Military and Naval Affairs, on Public and Private Lands, to show that there was nothing new or strange in this proposition.

Mr. Vinton concluded to withdraw his resolution, for the present, giving notice that on Monday next he would again bring it forward. He disclaimed any purpose of Abolitionism in it. He had no reference to the slave trade between the States. He had never, on that floor, made any proposition which he intended to have any bearing on that subject in any way. Several communications from some of the Departments were laid before the House.

Mr. White introduced the following resolution, which was referred to the Select Committee on Rules:

Resolved, That the Rules of this House be amended by adding one to the committees, to consist of nine members, which shall be entitled a Committee on the Smithsonian Institution. It shall be the duty of the said committee to supervise the proceedings of the Board of Regents, examine into and report the condition of the funds of the institution, suggest such alterations or amendments of the law under which the institution was established as may be deemed necessary, and report to the House, from time to time, as the interest of the institution may require.

On motion of C. J. Ingersoll, the Clerk was directed to procure the Rulers for the session such papers as they may order, provided the expense did not exceed thirty dollars for each member.

Pending a motion introduced by Mr. Fries, that a select committee be appointed to inquire whether the health of members does not require the removal of the gas apparatus, the House adjourned.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13.

SENATE.—Mr. Bell, of Tennessee, and Mr. Yulee, of Florida, appeared, and took their seats.

The Vice President laid before the Senate the annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury; 50,000 copies of which were ordered to be printed.

Several communications from the Treasury and War Departments were submitted.

Resolutions of the Legislature of Maine, in favor of a railroad to the Pacific, were presented by Mr. Bradbury.

The Committee on Commerce was instructed to inquire into the expediency of appropriating to remove the obstructions to the navigation of the Sabine river.

It was ordered that the Committees on Military and Naval Affairs should each consist of seven members during the present session.

The old officers of the Senate were re-elected, Mr. Dickins, Secretary, by 41 ayes to 6 noes; Mr. Beall, Sergeant-at-Arms, by 37 out of 49; Mr. Holland, Doorkeeper, by 49.

Mr. Henry Shleer, having received 31 votes out of 46, was elected duly qualified Chaplain.

The following chairmen of Committees were chosen by the Senate:

For. Relations, Mr. Berrien. Judiciary, Mr. Ashley
Finance, Mr. Atherton. Post Office, Mr. Niles
Commerce, Mr. Hale. Roads & Can. Mr. Hannegan
Manufactures, Mr. Johnson Pensions, Mr. Johnson, La.
Agriculture, Mr. Sturgeon Dist. of Col. Mr. Cameron
Mil. Affairs, Mr. Cass Patents & Pa.
Militia, Mr. Rusk Indian Affairs, Mr. Westcott
Naval Affairs, Mr. Fairfield Revolu. Claims, Mr. Turney
Public Lands, Mr. Breese Territories, Mr. Douglass
Priv. Land Claims, Mr. Yulee Pub. Build., Mr. Hunter
Indian Affairs, Mr. Atchison Con. Ex. Sen. Mr. Felch
Claims, Mr. Bright Senate Printing, Mr. Bradbury
Rev. Claims, Mr. Bright Library, Mr. Pearce

The Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.—The Standing Committees were announced.

A message was received from the Senate, announcing the death of Judge Huntington. Mr. Rockwell, of Connecticut, made a few appropriate remarks, the customary resolutions were passed, and the House adjourned.

The following Committees were appointed:

Committee of Elections.—Messrs. Richard W. Thompson, Joseph Grinnell, Lucien Chauncey, Thomas J. D. Fuller, Thomas Butler King, Thaddeus Stevens, Richard Brodhead, Harvey Putnam, John Jameson, Alexander Evans, W. R. W. Cobb.

On the Post Office and Post Roads.—Messrs. William L. Dayton, James M. Root, Charles Brown, Daniel B. St. John, John S. Phelps, Elisha Embree, George W. Jones, Abraham Lincoln, David S. Kaufman.

For the District of Columbia.—Messrs. John G. Chapman, F. A. Tallmadge, James McDowell, Washington Barrow, O. S. Fitch, Hugh Maxwell, Thomas J. Rusk, Thomas B. Edwards, Benjamin B. Thurston.

On Ways and Means.—Messrs. Joseph R. Ingersoll, George Ashmun, John Pettit, Nathan K. Hall, John H. Lumpkin, James Dixon, Richard French, John L. Taylor, Richard K. Meade.

On Revolutionary Claims.—Messrs. Daniel P. King, Chester Butler, Franklin W. Bowdon, Robert L. Rose, Alfred Vernon, David Outlaw, Jonathan D. Morris, William A. Newell, E. E. Stuart.

On Public Expenditures.—Messrs. Thomas L. Clingman, John Strohm, Henry Hedinger, Artemas Hale, W. T. Hall, John W. Jones, Emile La Sere, Franklin Clarke, H. S. Conger.

On Private Land Claims.—Messrs. John Gayle, J. E. Brady, J. R. Ewing, W. W. Wick, Daniel Tilney, Jno. J. H. Harmanson, P. W. Tompkins, R. S. Canby, Andrew Johnson.

On Manufactures.—Messrs. Andrew Stewart, Amos Batts, Joseph R. Underwood, John W. Houston, Joseph M. Seal, Rinaldo Sherrill, William G. Brown, John W. Crisfield, James H. Johnson.

On Agriculture.—Messrs. Hugh White, A. H. Shepperd, William Sawyer, John G. Palfrey, Simeon W. Harris, William Rockwell, Horace Mann, William Thomas, Joseph P. Hillard.

On Indian Affairs.—Messrs. M. P. Gentry, D. M. Barringer, Jacob Thompson, A. R. McIlvaine, C. W. Cathcart, Joshua R. Giddings, Jacob Brinkerhoff, Thos. Ewing, W. Johnson.

On Military Affairs.—Messrs. John M. Botts, Armistead Burt, James Wilson, H. A. Harmon, John Dickey, Linn Boyd, Dudley Marvin, William T. Hamlett, David Fisher.

On the Militia.—Messrs. Alfred Ely, Charles Thompson, John Black, John Blanchard, Robert M. McLane, John M. Holley, Charles E. Brooke, R. T. Jones, Gil. R. Pomeroy, Isaac Davis, Dickinson.

On Naval Affairs.—Messrs. Thomas Butler King, Isaac E. Holmes, R. C. Schenck, Hugh White, Thomas H. Bayly, Lewis G. Leeds, Francis Wilder, Jacob Brinkerhoff, Hendrick B. Wright, Sidney Lawrence.

On Revolutionary Pensions.—Messrs. Henry Nes, A. S. Felton, George Fries, W. T. Lawrence, A. W. Venable, R. A. Thompson, George N. Eckert, J. S. Wiley, George Perkins.

On Revolutionary Claims.—Messrs. Daniel Wentworth, E. B. Holmes, Robert Smith, Alexander Irvin, A. W. H. Clapp, Cornelius Darnell, Nathan Ryan, Jas. L. Seward, William Sawyer, Job Mann.

On Public Lands.—Messrs. John W. Richardson, Asher Carter, Thomas J. Henley, John W. Jones, John K. Miller.

On Public Buildings and Grounds.—Messrs. John W. Houston, William H. Preston, James J. Faran, Robert M. McLane, Gideon Reynolds.

On Rules.—Messrs. Ashmun, Schenck, Sawyer, A. W. Hornbeck, J. W. Lord, Ardenas Hale, Thomas J. Turner, R. L. W. Hall.

On Accounts.—Messrs. Linn Boyd, D. S. Gregory, G. A. Trowbridge, Thomas Ross, Jacob Thompson, Jas. Thompson.

On Mileage.—Messrs. Horace Belcher, Thomas Hickey, Cornelius Darnell, Wm. Wright, Wm. Richardson, Amos Tuck.

On Engraving.—Messrs. Lewis C. Levin, Henry C. Murphy, Henry Grider.

On the Library of Congress on the part of the House.—Messrs. John Quincy Adams, William H. Preston, Henry C. Murphy.

The following Committees appointed at the first session stand through the Congress, viz:

Committee on Expenditures in the Navy Department.—Messrs. Joseph M. Root, R. S. Donnell, A. Birdsall, A. Buckner, W. Johnson.

On Expenditures in the War Department.—Messrs. John R. Ewing, E. Ross, Thomas Butler King, Jacob Thompson, Jas. L. Seward, Jas. L. Johnson.

On Expenditures in the Navy Department.—Messrs. P. W. Tompkins, Nathaniel Boyden, William H. Mosley, B. I. Clark, Amos Batts.

On Expenditures in the Post Office Department.—Messrs. Jesse Wilson, Orlando Kellogg, C. E. Stuart, S. Leffler, John G. Thompson.

On Expenditures on the Public Buildings.—Messrs. E. Carrington Cabell, Joseph G. Hampton, William Sawyer, Silas B. Holmes, W. A. Richardson.

On Revolutionary Claims.—Messrs. James G. Hampton, J. L. Robinson.

The following members compose the Select Committee appointed on Monday last to revise the Rules of the House:

Messrs. C. J. Ingersoll, Truman Smith, Howell Cobb, C. S. Smith, R. M. T. Hunter, and Robert McClelland, J. G. Chapman, M. P. Gentry, T. Jenkins.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14.

SENATE.—The Senate filled up the committees, the chairmen of which were appointed yesterday; and the subjects of the President's Message were referred to appropriate committees. Mr. Hale, at his own request, was excused from serving on any committee. The committees are as follows:

Committee on Foreign Relations.—Mr. Sevier, chairman; Messrs. Benton, Webster, Hannegan, and Mangum.

On Finance.—Mr. Atherton, chairman; Messrs. Dickinson, Bright, Dodge, and Jones, of Iowa.

On Commerce.—Mr. Dix, chairman; Messrs. Breese, Cameron, Johnson of Maryland, and John Davis.

On Manufactures.—Mr. Dickinson, chairman; Messrs. Ashley, Butler, Upham, and Clarke.

On Agriculture.—Mr. Sturgeon, chairman; Messrs. Turney, Atherton, Spruance, and Corwin.

On Military Affairs.—Mr. Cass, chairman; Messrs. Bradbury, Jefferson Davis, Badger, and Crittenden, Dix, and Rusk.

On Naval Affairs.—Mr. Fairfield, chairman; Messrs. Yulee, Bright, Cameron, Miller, Johnson of Maryland, and Hale.

On the Militia.—Mr. Rusk, chairman; Messrs. Atchison, Fairfield, Greene, and Underwood.

On Public Lands.—Mr. Breese, chairman; Messrs. Ashley, Felch, Corwin, and Underwood.

On Private Land Claims.—Mr. Yulee, chairman; Messrs. Foote, Downs, Johnson of Louisiana, and Berrien.

On Indian Affairs.—Mr. Atchison, chairman; Messrs. Sevier, Downs, Phelps, and Bell.

On Claims.—Mr. Mason, chairman; Messrs. Westcott, Bradbury, Underwood, and Baldwin.

On Revolutionary Claims.—Mr. Bright, chairman; Messrs. Bradbury, Rusk, Upham, and Johnson of Louisiana.

On the Judiciary.—Mr. Ashley, chairman; Messrs. Butler, Westcott, Berrien, and Dayton.

On the Post Office and Post Roads.—Mr. Niles, chairman; Messrs. Sturgeon, Rusk, Pearce, and Corwin.

On Roads and Canals.—Mr. Hannegan, chairman; Messrs. Foote, Sturgeon, Clarke, and Spruance.

On Pensions.—Mr. Johnson of Louisiana, chairman; Messrs. Felch, Jefferson Davis, Phelps, and Baldwin.

On the District of Columbia.—Mr. Cameron, chairman; Messrs. Hunter, Foote, Miller, and Greene.

On Patents and the Patent Office.—Mr. Westcott, chairman; Messrs. Turney, Dickinson, John Davis, and Baldwin.

On Retrenchment.—Mr. Turney, chairman; Messrs. Douglass, Niles, Mangum, and Clarke.

On Mileage.—Messrs. Dawson, Spruance, and Mangum.

On Engrossed Bills.—Messrs. Downs, chairman; Messrs. Mason and Underwood.

Joint Committee on the Library.—Mr. Pearce, chairman; Messrs. Jefferson Davis and Mason.

On Enrolled Bills.—Messrs. Rusk and Upham.

HOUSE.—A personal explanation was made by Mr. Chandler, in relation to certain attacks made upon him in the North American and National Whig, for his vote in the election of Speaker. We were unable to procure a copy of his remarks in time for publication.

The House then went into an election for Chaplain. On the first ballot, the following gentlemen were voted for: Messrs. Gurley, Cushman, McJilton, Dewey, and Pise. No candidate having received a majority of the whole number, a second ballot was had, the name of Mr. McJilton having been withdrawn. No candidate still receiving a majority of the whole number, Mr. Dewey's name was withdrawn, and a third ballot became necessary. Mr. Gurley, receiving 102 votes of the 202 cast, was elected Chaplain.

Mr. Fries withdrew his motion for a committee to inquire into the influence of the gas upon the health of members.

The annual report of the commerce and navigation of the United States was submitted, laid on the table, and ordered to be printed.

Several reports were submitted from the Departments, and properly disposed of.

Mr. Vinton then introduced the resolution, of which he had given notice, respecting the appointment of a Committee on Home Commerce. A discussion being threatened, the House adjourned.

SUPREME COURT.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7.

Present as yesterday, and Justice Nelson.

No. 5. John M. Bee et al. plaintiffs in error, vs. Henry Hollingsworth, Mayor of Nashville, et al. Error from the Supreme Court of Tennessee. The plaintiff in error failing to appear, it was ordered by the Court that the writ of error be dismissed.

No. 8. Benjamin G. Sims, plaintiff in error, vs. Thomas Hunter et al. Argued by Mr. Bibb for the plaintiff in error.

No. 9. William M. Gwin et al., plaintiffs in error, vs. C. T. and A. Barton. Argued by Mr. Bibb for the plaintiffs in error, and by Mr. Johnson for the defendants in error.

No. 63. John C. Sheppard et al., plaintiffs in error, vs. John Mason et al. The argument was commenced by Mr. C. Cox for the plaintiffs in error.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8.

George Ashmun and John P. Healy, Esqrs., of Massachusetts, were admitted Attorneys and Counsellors of Court.

No. 63. John C. Sheppard et al., plaintiffs, vs. John Wilson. The argument was continued by Mr. Grant for the defendant in error, and concluded by Mr. C. Cox for the plaintiffs in error.

No. 12. The United States, plaintiffs in error, vs. Henry Hollingsworth, Mayor of Nashville, et al. Error from the Supreme Court of Tennessee. The plaintiff in error failing to appear, it was ordered by the Court that the writ of error be dismissed.

No. 5. Benjamin G. Sims, plaintiff in error, vs. Thomas Hunter et al. Argued by Mr. Bibb for the plaintiff in error.

No. 9. William M. Gwin et al., plaintiffs in error, vs. C. T. and A. Barton. Argued by Mr. Bibb for the plaintiffs in error, and by Mr. Johnson for the defendants in error.

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George Ashmun and John P. Healy, Esqrs., of Massachusetts, were admitted Attorneys and Counsellors of Court.

No. 63. John C. Sheppard et al., plaintiffs, vs. John Wilson. The argument was continued by Mr. Grant for the defendant in error, and concluded by Mr. C. Cox for the plaintiffs in error.

No. 12. The United States, plaintiffs in error, vs. Henry Hollingsworth, Mayor of Nashville, et al. Error from the Supreme Court of Tennessee. The plaintiff in error failing to appear, it was ordered by the Court that the writ of error be dismissed.

No. 8. Benjamin G. Sims, plaintiff in error, vs. Thomas Hunter et al. Argued by Mr. Bibb for the plaintiff in error.

No. 9. William M. Gwin et al., plaintiffs in error, vs. C. T. and A. Barton. Argued by Mr. Bibb for the plaintiffs in error, and by Mr. Johnson for the defendants in error.

No. 63. John C. Sheppard et al., plaintiffs in error, vs. John Mason et al. The argument was commenced by Mr. C. Cox for the plaintiffs in error.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9.

Henry Nicoll, Esq., of New York, was admitted an Attorney and Counsellor of this Court.

No. 13. Lewis A. Collier, plaintiff in error, vs. Jonah Stanbrough. Argued by Mr. Bibb for the plaintiff in error.

No. 19. Jose Argote Villalobos et al., appellants, vs. United States. The motion to dismiss this cause was argued by Mr. Attorney General in support thereof.

No. 20. The United States, plaintiffs, vs. Henry Wells. Argued by Mr. Attorney General for the plaintiff.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10.

P. W. Bishop, Esq., of New York, and James S. Green, Esq., of Missouri, were admitted Attorneys and Counsellors of this Court.

No. 24. William Bailey, plaintiff in error, vs. William B. Dozier. Argued by Mr. Bibb for the plaintiff in error, and by Mr. Crittenden for the defendant in error.

No. 26. Bank of the United States, plaintiff in error, vs. Henry K. Moss et al. Argued by Messrs. Wharton and Sargeant for the plaintiff in error.

Adjourned till Monday, 11 o'clock.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13.

W. S. Featherston and P. W. Tompkins, Esqs., of Mississippi; W. Bradbury, Esq., of Maine; Alpheus Felch, Esq., of Michigan; John Gayle and Samuel W. Inge, Esqs., of Alabama, were admitted Attorneys and Counsellors of this Court.

No. 26. Bank of the United States, plaintiff, vs. M. Heath. The argument commenced by Mr. Crittenden for the appellants, and continued by Mr. Bradley for the appellee.

Adjourned.

THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 16, 1847.

☞ We welcome Miss Alice Carey again to our columns.

☞ On the first page, the reader will be pleased to find some more of Patty Lee's delightful "Recollections."

☞ We must again beg the indulgence of the author of the highly valuable "Notes on Illinois." Number four will appear next week: the reader can learn much of the early history of the West by this series of papers.

☞ The "Battle between the Indians and the Emigrants" will come upper.

☞ A Poem, by Dugannie, is in the hands of the printer. Dugannie is a great favorite with our exchanges.

☞ In a week or two, we hope we shall be able to furnish our readers with a Portrait from John Smith the Younger, and a story by Mrs. Southworth. We have contributions of much merit are on hand. So much for our Miscellaneous and Literary Department.

Several important Anti-Slavery questions, we shall present in one or two weeks, we got rid of official reports and other heavy matter.

☞ NOTICE.

☞ Two numbers more will complete this volume. Subscribers to the Cincinnati Weekly Herald and Philanthropist who shall not have paid up all arrears, will be omitted from the list of the *Era*. We cannot think that many of our readers will be brought napping in such a crisis—when the proceedings of Congress are assuming an aspect of so much interest.

☞ REPORTS OF CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

As probably not much business of importance will be transacted in Congress for two or three weeks, our reports will close each week with Tuesday's proceedings, until the holydays be over. After that, each number of the paper will contain the proceedings up to the day of its publication.

MR. LEVIN.

We are sorry we did injustice to this gentleman last week, in recording him as having voted for Mr. Boyd. Amid the confusion of tongues, prevalent in the House, we misapprehended his vote.

CREDIT.

The article on the 4th page of the last number of the *Era*, entitled "Endurance," should have been credited to the Charter Oak, where it appeared as editorial.

VERMONT CHRONICLE.

We cheerfully accept the explanation of the *Vermont Chronicle*, and, while we regret that we misconstrued its language, we are still pleased to know that the fault was rather in our wrong interpretation than its wrong intention.

THE REPORTS.

The reports of the various Departments crowd our paper. Those of the Secretaries of War and the Navy are in no respect extraordinary. They are plain, business documents, in very plain style. The report of the Postmaster General is far more interesting to us, owing to the nature of the subjects of it, the testimony it bears to the inalienable benefits of the Postage, and the hope it holds out of still further reduction. The vast reduction Mr. Johnson has made in the expenditures is highly creditable to his management. Grasping monopolies and soulless corporations owe him no good will.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury is very able, evinching great research, embodying a large amount of valuable statistical information, and sustaining by strong argument some doctrines essentially connected with the welfare of all nations. Of course, we can sympathize with some of his recommendations and suggestions in relation to the African War, for the simple reason that we regard it as all wrong from beginning to end.

OUR PAPER.

We shall continue to be crowded for two or three weeks with important public documents and matters relating to the organization of the various State Legislatures. Many delays upon our paper alone for these things, and we cannot disappoint them. Besides, it adds to its value as a permanent record of events.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury we present entire in this and the next number of the Era. That of the Postmaster General will also be inserted. It is a document of great and general interest. Of the reports of the War and Navy Departments, embodying for the most part facts which have already been published, we present mere abstracts.

Meantime, correspondents must be patient. We have on hand many communications, (some necessarily very interesting,) which, we hope, our friends will appear so soon as we shall have disposed of the matters referred to. The communication from Mr. Birney, and the requests of the new Presbyterian General Assembly of the West, will be attended to in season.

GENERAL TAYLOR

Was received with great enthusiasm, by the citizens of New Orleans, last Friday week. He left there in a day or two after, for his plantation.

THE NATIONAL ERA.

* * * * * * * *

The Era will perceive by our examination of Mr. Clay's speech, that there is no substantial difference between us on that subject. But if we have locked with more favor upon his effort than some of our friends, it is because we attach great distinction between the positions of the two gentlemen. Mr. Clay is, or has been, a slave owner, imbued with all the prejudices and passions prevailing in an atmosphere of slavery. Every concession made by him is a sacrifice. Mr. Webster, on the contrary, was born and bred in a region which knows nothing of slavery. For him to sustain freedom should constitute no claim to merit. It is a mere performance of a plain duty. His failing to sustain it has been, at least in our estimation, a Rightful fault. We must say in addition, that although Mr. Webster has substantially concurred in the new view generally taken of the rights of the Wilmot Proviso, he has not been securely so frank and explicit in the expression of his opinion as Mr. Clay—so far from it, that he has not hesitated to cast imputations upon those who have been more zealous to uphold the true principles, at the very same time that he assumed the appearance of advocating them himself. Under such circumstances, we can the less wonder that we were cold in our commendation? We are not accustomed to believe that persons whose *hearts* are in a cause, are ever disposed to reject or disparage the efforts of even the humblest of its friends—*Boston Whig*.

The statement of the *Whig* is entirely satisfactory. Indeed, its comments upon the speech of Mr. Clay, subsequent to the appearance of the paragraph we quoted, showed that there was no substantial difference between us. The fidelity of the Boston *Whig* to the great interests of the country, especially to the cause of Human Freedom, must give it great weight with truth-loving men.

For the National Era.

SONGS OF LABOR.

THE HUSKERS.

It was late in mild October, and the long autumnal rain
Had left the summer harvest fields all green with grass again;
The little sharp frosts had fallen, leaving all the meadows gay
With the hues of summer's rainbow or the meadow flowers of May.

Through a thin dry mist that morning the sun rose broad and red,
At first a mighty disc of fire, it brightened as it sped;
And, even its noontide glory fell shadowed and subdued
On the corn-field and the orchards and softly pictured wood.

And all that quiet afternoon, slow sloping to the night,
It wore with golden shoulder the hazes with yellow light;
Slipping through purpled beeches, or climbing the green hill,
And beneath it pond and meadow lay brighter, greener still.

And shouting boys in woodland haunts caught glimpses of that sky,
Flecked by the many-tinted leaves, and laughed they knew not why.

The sunny grapes were ripened; the stubble fields lay dry;
Mingled the glow of autumn with the sunshine of sweet looks.

From spire and barn looked westerly the patient weathercocks,
But, even the birches on the hills stood motionless as rocks;
No sound was in the woodlands, save the squirrel's stealthy shelling,
And the yellow leaves among the boughs, low rustling as they fell.

The summer grains were harvested; the stubble fields lay dry.
Where lone winds rolled in light and shade the pale-green waves of rye;
But, still, on sheltered hill-slopes, in valleys fringed with wood,
Ungathered, bleaching in the sun, the heavy corn crop stood.

Bent low by autumn's wind and rain, through husks that dry and sere
Unfolded from their ripened charge, shone out the yellow ears
Beneath the tarnish lay concealed in many a verdant fold,
And glistened in the slanting light the pumpkin's sphere of gold.

There wrought the busy harvesters, and many a creaking wain
Bore slowly to the long barn-floor its load of husk and grain;
Till, rayless as he rose that morn, sank down at last the sun,
Ending the day of dreamy light and warmth and it begun.

And lo! as through the western pines, on meadow, stream, and pond,
Flamed the red radiance of a sky, set all afire beyond,
Slowly o'er the Eastern sea-bluffs a mellier glory shone,
And on the eyes of all assembled the moon mingled hues in one!

As thus into the quiet night the sunset passed away,
And deeper in the brightening moon the tranquil shadows lay,
From many a brown old farm-house and hamlet without name,
Their milking and their home-tasks done, the merry huskers came.

Swung o'er the heaped-up harvest, from pitchforks in the mow,
Shone dimly down the lanterns on the pleasant scene below;
The growing pile of husks behind, the golden ears before,
And laughing lips and busy hands and brown cheeks glistening merry o'er.

Half hidden in a quiet nook, serene of look and heart,
Talking their old times o'er, the old men sat apart,
While, up and down the unhusked pile, or nestling in its shade,
As hide-and-seek, with husk and snout, the happy children played.

Urged by the good host's daughter, a maiden young and fair,
Lifting to light her sweet blue eyes and pride of soft brown hair,
The master of the village school, sleek of hair and smooth of tongue,
To the quaint tune of some old psalm a husking ballad sung:

Heap high the farmer's wintry board!
Heap high the golden corn!
No richer gift has Autumn poured
From out her lavish horn!

Let other lands, exulting, glean
The apple from the pine,
The orange from its glossy green,
The cluster from the vine.

We better love the hardy gift
Our rocky coasts give forth,
To cheer us when the storm shall drift
Our harvest fields with snow.

When spring time came with flower and bud,
And grassies green and young,
And merry birds hymned in the wood,
Like mad musicians sung,

We dropped the seed o'er hill and plain,
Beneath the sun of May,
And frightened from our sprouting grain
The crow's black array.

All through the long, bright days of June
Its leaves grew green and fair,
And waved in hot midsummer's noon
Its tall and yellow hair.

And now with Autumn's mellow eve
Its harvest time has come,
We pluck away the frosted leaves,
And hear the treasure home.

There, richer than the fabled gift
Of Ind to Persian king,
Fair hands the broken grain shall sift,
And knead its meal of gold.

Let vapid idlers loll in silk
Around their costly board,
Give us the hearty food of husks and milk
By home-spun beauty poured.

Where'er the wide old Bible kindled
Sends up its smoky incense,
Who will not thank the Father for daily earth,
And bless our corn-fed girls!

Then shame on all the proud and vain,
Whose folly laughs to scorn
The blessing of the Yankee's grain,
His wealth of golden corn.

Let earth withhold her goodly root,
Let mildew blight the rye,
Give to the worm the orchard's fruit,
The wheat-field to the fly:

But, let the good old crop adorn
The hills our fathers trod;
Still let us for His golden corn
Send up our thanks to God!

J. G. W.

For the National Era.

THE NATIONAL ADDRESS.

DR. BAILEY: When the "Address to the People of the United States" was published by the "Southern and Western Committee of Congress," held at Cincinnati, in 1845, I felt that it was a document of great merit, and that its wide circulation would do much good to our cause. Accordingly, after preparing, and having printed, 5,000 copies at my own expense, a series of statistical notes as proofs of its assertions, I had it stereotyped at my own expense, that it might be sold at the actual cost of printing and paper—$10 a thousand.

About 18,000 have now been sold, but before the next election 300,000 more will be ready to be distributed by Liberty men everywhere. Will they not do it? Certainly, if they can get a better or a cheaper document!—a pamphlet of sixteen large octavo pages, containing 24 columns.

Orders for it, at $10 a thousand, or for a hundred at $12 per hundred, enclosed through your mail, may be addressed to me, permanently, at this city, and they will be promptly attended to.

This address is as good now as it was when first published, and will continue so for as long as slavery exists—and after. There is nothing local in it, except, that it might be sold at the actual cost of printing and paper—$10 a thousand.

About 18,000 have now been sold, but before the next election 300,000 more will be ready to be distributed by Liberty men everywhere. Will they not do it? Certainly, if they can get a better or a cheaper document!—a pamphlet of sixteen large octavo pages, containing 24 columns.

Orders for it, at $10 a thousand, or for a hundred at $12 per hundred, enclosed through your mail, may be addressed to me, permanently, at this city, and they will be promptly attended to.

This address is as good now as it was when first published, and will continue so for as long as slavery exists—and after. There is nothing local in it, except, that it might be sold at the actual cost of printing and paper—$10 a thousand.

Philadelphia, November 8, 1847. C. D. CLEVELAND.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Various propositions have been introduced into the South Carolina Legislature respecting the Wilmot Proviso. In addition to those noticed in the *Era* of last week, we copy from the *South Carolinian* the following, moved by Mr. Boyce, in the House of Representatives of that State:

"1. *Resolved*, That the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina have seen with profound regret, the settled spirit of hostility manifested by the free States towards the institutions of the South—a spirit which, if persisted in, must inevitably lead to the most disastrous consequences to this Confederacy.

"2. *Resolved*, That the recent developments in the free States, and especially the attempt known as the 'Wilmot Proviso,' to prohibit the Southern States from enjoying the common territory of the Union, raise the issue of startling importance, which requires on the part of the South firm, energetic, and united action.

"3. *Resolved*, That this State is willing and anxious to carry out her determination of opinion, and make common cause with the other Southern States, in the most energetic manner possible, to maintain her common rights.

"4. *Resolved*, That the State of South Carolina will regard the passage of any act by the General Government upon the subject of slavery, in violation of the letter of the Constitution, making the obligations of the Federal Compact; and upon the passage of such act she will consider herself at liberty to form a new, separate, and distinct Government.

"5. *Resolved*, That the Governor be requested to forward copies of these Resolutions to the Governors and Legislatures of the Slaveholding States, and enter into correspondence with and send special Envoys if necessary to them, to bring about concert of action among such States in the present crisis of our affairs."

The last resolution proposes to send Envoys to the several Southern States, so as to bring about concert of action among them, before the emergency shall arise, contemplated in the foregoing resolutions. By the Constitution, one State is expressly forbidden to enter into any agreement or compact with another State. So long as South Carolina shall profess to recognise the obligations of the Union, in what light must we regard this attempt to do the very thing most explicitly prohibited?

The *South Carolinian*, of Columbia, (S. C.,) is in favor of the resolutions, especially the one asserting, in a certain contingency, a dissolution of the Union; and its principal reason is thus stated:

"The people of the Northern States are eminently a practical people; they come to the ones before they act, and when they are brought to count the cost of Abolition as being the loss of a Union in which they are the great gainers, they will take time to ponder. What if that Union transformed the barren wilds of New England into a rich garden, her bleak hills into the abodes of luxurious ease, and her ice-bound coast into a South. Let these people know that they will, in a certain event, lose their best customers, and the idea of fanaticism will be shorn of its attractions. The Fanatics are willing to be at the expense of fanatics, provided they can be so at the expense of others. Let them understand that they can only be so at their own expense, and their fanaticism notions will no longer be 'Yankee notions.' But, independent of any idea of checking the career of fanaticism by such a declaration, what is the loss of Southern trade, in comparison of the gain of being correct in the matter of the Wilmot Proviso, when the question is, whether we are to be slaves or freemen? Suppose this should fail? Suppose there should be principle and firmness enough in the free States to resist to the last every attempt of the General Government to involve them in the responsibility of extending slavery, what then? What then? Has South Carolina weighed all consequences? Her politicians know a great deal more of the *politicians* than of the *people* of the sections of the Union. We have no doubt that a large majority in our State are in favor of the doctrine hinted at by Mr. Dallas—that of confining slavery to the limits fixed by the Constitution.

"The Wilmot Proviso has been made the question in New York, and the result of the election will be that the people will look upon the doctrines. We believe the sentiment of our own State to be nearly the same as in New York, and whenever the question shall be put, it will be so decided. Mr. Wilmot was an ardent Shunk man, and the vote in his section of country, if it shows anything upon the subject, is strongly in support of the doctrine of Free Soil. We have alluded in all his speeches during the canvass. We know that the friends of Governor Shunk, in this section of country, are in favor of Free Soil, and that they were opposed to its being made a question in his election, fearing the result."

An intelligent correspondent, writing to us from the same State, remarks:

"We have hardly passed through an election. Some have claimed that the voice of the people, as spoken at the ballot-box, was in favor of extending and perpetuating American slavery, but they misrepresent the people of the Old Keystone State.

"Had it been understood by the people that the question to be voted on was Slavery or no Slavery or Freedom, or that either of the candidates were in favor of Slavery, a vast majority would have been found in favor of Freedom. They would have been rejected with just indignation, as unworthy to govern a free people."

If the *Union* is anxious to see the Democratic party disorganized in Pennsylvania, as it has been in New York, it can be gratified by prevailing on the Democratic party of Pennsylvania, in a State Convention, to repudiate the Proviso. Whatever may be the views of a few Southern politicians, the people of the South will feel under no special obligations to those who mislead them as to the public sentiment of the free States.

ALBERT GALLATIN AGAINST THE WAR.

The venerable ALBERT GALLATIN, now in the eighty-fourth year of his age, a member of the cabinet of Mr. Madison's Cabinet, long distinguished among the most eminent Democratic statesmen of the country, proclaims his opposition to the present war, in an article which is attracting general attention. His thoughts are arranged under the following heads:

The Law of Nations.
Independence of the Colonies of the United States.
Annexation of Texas.
Negotiations and War.
The Claims of Texas to the Rio del Norte.
Recapitulation.
The Mission of the United States.
Terms of Peace.

After adverting to the remarkable successes which have crowned American arms in Mexico, he asks, on what terms is peace to be made? It must be an *honorable* peace; but what is that? No terms should be exacted but such as are conformed to justice. The true law of nations is strict conformity to justice—to the sublime morality of the Holy Scriptures. But the acts and duties of our Government towards M

and, while opposed to the extension of slavery, he is equally opposed to making it a test question. Need we further explanation of the course of Mr. Palfrey? He knew that the competitor of Mr. Winthrop (Mr. Boyd, of Kentucky) could not be elected. He could not sustain Mr. Winthrop, who, as Speaker, would have the entire construction of committees under his sole control, without voting power into the hands of one radically opposed to him on two vital questions, as he considered them—and, by casting his vote independently, he might secure the defeat of the party and let the party to concentrate on Caleb Smith, whose opinions on those questions were in harmony with his own.

Is such a man, acting out his convictions nobly, at such a crisis, to be denounced and vilified? Would to God that American politicians were oftener characterized by that fidelity to truth which has marred the fortunes of such men as Palfrey, Giddings, Tuck, Hale, and Corwin! We need such men at the North. The late revolution in the Democracy of New York is the herald, we trust, of at least a partial regeneration of the political world. The South furnishes many examples of this individual freedom, which Northern men might emulate. The attribute in Mr. Calhoun we have always admired, is, his complete self-reliance. He may act *with* a party, or *control* it—but over himself he asserts solo mastership. It bespeaks little for the American People, that they have so few Representatives in the National Legislature who are brave enough to vindicate their manhood against the Tyranny of Party.

LITERARY NOTICES.

We have room for little more than the mere titles of several new publications we have lately received. Some we shall notice more at length hereafter.

THE PEOPLE'S JOURNAL. Edited by John Saunder. London: John Bennett; Boston, Crosby & Nichols.

The engravings (six in number) are admirable. Much attention is bestowed on this part of the work, and the best artistical talent secured.

We know of no periodical which more faithfully represents the character and embodies the spirit of the literature of the day.

The number before us is composed of original papers entirely—essays, sketches, tales, travels, and poetry—some of them invaluable. Another chapter on the Holy Land, furnished by Miss Martineau.

LITTELL'S LIVING AGE. Boston: E. Littell & Co.

The last two numbers of this periodical have been exceedingly rich. The article from the Edinburgh Review on Macgregor's Statistics of America, for breadth of view, liberality of sentiment, and vigor and beauty of style, has seldom been equaled.

L'ABOLITIONISTE FRANÇAIS. Paris: AU BUREAU DU Publiciste, RUE TARANNE, 12, 1847.

This work is published by the French Society for the Abolition of Slavery, in numbers, issued at irregular periods, but so as to form a volume of nearly 500 pages, every year. We are indebted to our friends for a dozen of numbers, containing much valuable information, concerning slavery in the French Colonies, and the Anti-Slavery movements in the French Chambers. In addition to this, we observe extended notices of the movements of the friends of freedom in other countries, and especially in the United States—extracts being given from the *Era*, concerning the recent decision of the religious instruction of slaves in South Carolina, the sale of slaves in that place on a claim of the Government of the United States, the slave trade in this District, &c. It republishes, also, Whittier's "Triumvirate," extracts from Judge Jay's Letter to Bishop Ives, and the Obituary of the Rev. A. A. Phelps. Our readers will learn from this the deep interest with which the Europeans are looking beginning to regard the movements on the subject of slavery in this country. We may notice this valuable publication further, at another time.

THE PLAYMATE; A PLEASANT COMPANION FOR SMALL HOURS. Boston, William Crosby and H. P. Nichols; Baltimore, William Taylor.

Whoever may get up this little periodical understands well the tastes and capacities of young folk. Its prose, poetry, pictures, even its size and form, are exactly adapted to awaken the profound interest of the whole world of little people. The contents of Part IV, are—

Historical Sketches. With two engravings.
The Cottager and his Landlord.
Natural History of Birds. Vultures. With an engraving.
Sudder Miller's Wendol. By Mary Howitt. With three engravings.
The Mirror Crack'd.
The Church Style. With a large engraving.
Natural History of Birds, No. 2. Eagles. With an engraving.
Tarso and his Sister.
The month of August. With a large engraving.
Our Cats. With an engraving.
The Generous Pedlar.

It is published on the first of every month, with 32, sometimes 40, pages, at $1 a year, in advance.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE ORGANIZATION OF THE ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES; with Biographies of Distinguished Officers, of all Grades. By Fayette Robinson, late an officer of the army. With a large and accurate Portrait, in two volumes. Philadelphia: Published by E. H. Butler & Co. For sale by FRANCK TAYLOR, Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D. C.

We supposed at first that this was one of the flash books of the army, designed to catch a few pennies from the sons of fashion by mere military glare and glory, just now so prevalent. But, on looking into the work, we were disappointed. The leading objects of the author seem to be, the enlightenment of the Public, respecting the organization of the Army, and a condensed, clear record, for their benefit, of the substantial services of men distinguished in the military history of our Republic. The most valuable feature in the book is, a description of the separate arms of the line and corps of the staff. This, though the writer sometimes forgets that the uninitiated cannot understand all the mysteries of the military craft, without the benefit of elementary definitions, will prove very interesting at this time, when, by a most mischievous policy, the army, which should be regarded merely as a national police establishment, is magnified beyond all measure, in the public estimation.

The biographical notices are not only brief, but, so far as we have examined them, they have one negative merit of great value—being free from that fulsome, indiscriminate praise generally offered up to military gentlemen by their adoring worshippers.

The portraits add greatly to the value of the work. Beside those of distinguished American officers, we have those of Santa Anna, Paredes, and Arista.

Members of Congress, as they will probably be under the necessity of talking and acting on military affairs, may derive much instruction from these volumes.

A COMPENDIUM OF ENGLISH LITERATURE, chronologically arranged, from Sir John Mandeville to William Cowper. By Charles Dexter Cleveland. Philadelphia: E. C. & J. Biddle.

The estimable author, long and well known as the teacher of a school for young ladies, in Philadelphia, frankly avows in his preface, that this work is, perhaps, as much the offspring of necessity, as of a love of the subject.

Soon after he opened his school in 1834, he felt the necessity of a book for his first or "finishing" class, which should introduce it to a general knowledge of the standard English authors, in Prose and Poetry, from the beginning of English Literature, chronologically arranged, and accompanied by brief biographical sketches, and critical notices. No such work being extant, he was obliged himself to prepare one. The plan must strike every mind at once as highly praiseworthy, and, were we ignorant of the industry, experience, research, and pure taste of Mr. Cleveland, a little attention to the mode in which this plan has been executed, would convince us that few could so well have carried it out. It is, indeed, a most valuable book, both for the general reader and the scholar, enabling them to comprehend, almost at one view, many of the important and curious changes which English Literature underwent during a period of five centuries.

The volume is handsomely got up, in a compact style, and forms about 700 pages.

MASSACHUSETTS QUARTERLY REVIEW. No. 1. December, 1847. Boston: Published by Cushing & Wiley.

A new American Quarterly, to be conducted by such men as R. W. Emerson, Theodore Parker, and J. M. Cabot, is an event not to be passed over lightly. We shall notice the work at some length next week, only remarking now that it takes the highest stand, both in point of intellect and moral tone.

BLACKWOOD'S EDINBURGH MAGAZINE. November. New York: Leonard Scott & Co. For sale by W. Adam, Rockville, Pennsylvania avenue, near Fourteenth-street, Washington.

Two articles in this number treat of American subjects—one, on American copyright; the other, on the American Library. The first, from the pen of the New York correspondent of this magazine, is piquant, pert, shrewd, contributory, and, in the main, strongly in favor of the author. It is a keen critique on that portion of American Literature which is represented in Wiley & Putnam's American Library. Hawthorne and Poe are handsomely served up; but Mr. Simms and Mrs. Fuller are terribly "used up."

EDINBURGH REVIEW. October, 1847. New York: Leonard Scott & Co. For sale by W. Adam, Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington.

We have already referred to one of the articles in this number—American Commerce and Statistics. It is an invaluable paper, full of great views and generous feelings. The other articles are generally excellent, their subjects being—the Navigation Laws, Antiquarianism in England and Germany, Study of Christian Evidences, Rural Industry and Drainage in Holland, Napier's Florentine History, Celtic Clearings, Prevention of Crime, and Popular Education.

THE MORNING STAR FOR THE NEW JERUSALEM CHURCH. Containing the Essentials of all the Scriptures on Record; being a Guide for Man in all his Duty to himself, his fellow man, and his neighbor. By J. Cramer Ott. Baltimore: Sherwood & Co.

This pamphlet, if it contain all that its title import, has achieved the wonderful task of giving all that is essential in the Scriptures, and all that is necessary for men to know, in the space of 98 pages!

HERKIMER CONVENTION: THE VOICE OF NEW YORK.

We have received from the office of the Albany Atlas, a pamphlet containing a full report of the proceedings at the Herkimer Convention, with the speeches of Wilmot, Cambreleng, Van Buren, and others. It is intended for general circulation, and orders may be sent to the Atlas office.

AMERICAN PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL. O. S. Fowler, Editor. Philadelphia: Fowlers & Wells. December.

This number closes the 9th volume of an entertaining periodical. Its present circulation is stated to be, twenty thousand. It is indefatigable and highly ingenious in its advocacy of Phrenology. The terms are—$1, for a single copy; $4, for five copies. We commend it to those who want to become acquainted with phrenological facts and reasonings.

HERALD OF TRUTH. L. A. Hine, Editor. Cincinnati: December, 1847.

Contents of this number.—Social Reform; To the Ohio River; The Tides of the Ocean; The Captive Slave; The Better Land; Politics—Parties; Hope, a Poem; A Few Lines in the Chair; The West; The Destiny and Deity of Man, a Story; Communism and Reform; The Gospel of To-Day; Editor's Place, &c.

THE OBERLIN QUARTERLY REVIEW. Edited by President J. Mahan and Professor H. Cowles. Turney. November, 1847. Oberlin, O.: James M. Fitch.

Contents.—The Confession of Faith, the Law of Right, Christian Experience, Simplicity of Moral Action, Reflections on National Literature, Liberty and Labor, Notices of New Works.

This table shows the quality of the fare. We are pleased to see that its contents are more diversified than usual.

THE ALBATROSS. C. P. Shiras. Pittsburg.

We are sorry to note the discontinuance of this paper. It was well conducted, and deserved liberal support.

THE HOME JOURNAL.

We noticed this journal once out of pure good will. It requires us to insert or notice its new prospectus. We will do so, when it shall manifest a disposition to reciprocate favors, by noticing or inserting our new prospectus, which its attention has been called.

THE CHARTER OAK. W. H. Burleigh. Hartford, Connecticut.

The Charter Oak, one of the best Liberty papers on our exchange list, is about commencing a new volume. Mr. Burleigh is a fine literary writer, as well as steadfast philanthropist; and his paper has attractions both for men of thought and men of taste.

TRUE WESLEYAN. New York: Edited by Luther Lee.

This journal, the well conducted organ of the True Wesleyans, has appeared in a new dress, highly creditable to the proprietor.

DELAWARE ABOLITIONIST. Wilmington, Delaware: J. B. Brooke, Editor.

This is the title of a new Abolition paper, just received from Wilmington, Delaware. Its spirit is excellent. It advocates thorough emancipation in Delaware.

NORTHERN ADVOCATE. Manchester, New Hampshire.

A new Liberty journal, well printed and well edited, devoted to the support of Hale and King.

THE UNION MAGAZINE OF LITERATURE AND ART, edited by Mrs. C. M. Kirkland, and published in New York, by Messrs. Leet, Stettinius & Holt. Twenty-first volume, year, in advance, $3; one copy, two years, $5; five copies, one year, $10.

The December number of this popular Magazine is equal to its predecessors, both as to matter and manner. It contains, illustrations, two finely executed mezzotint engravings—"My Child; Give Me but My Child!" and "Steps to Ruin, No. 2"—*Fashion plate*, four figures, and half a dozen excellent wood engravings, illustrating various subjects. The contents, all original, are from the best writers in the country. Altogether, it is one of the *cleverest* published. *

INTOLERANCE.

Political intolerance is as abhorrent as sectarian. The following extract from the Washington correspondent of the *Philadelphia North American*, is far more discreditable to its author than to the subjects of his denunciation:

"In these various ballots, but in different stages, Mr. Giddings of Ohio, and Mr. Tuck, cast their votes for Gen. Wilson; Mr. Palfrey gave his for Mr. Hudson, and Mr. Palfrey of Cincinnati, and Mr. Tompkins of Mississippi, voted at random, the first of the last two finally uniting with his party. It here may be not inappropriate to note the latter gentleman, from extreme sectional feelings, and from pledges rashly given, before any positive ideas was entertained of the nomination of Mr. Winthrop; but for his ability, he is a fair representative of Mr. Tuck, who is not so distinctly connected with party obligations, I can discover no sort of justification, excuse or palliation, for Giddings, which recognizes neither reason nor duty. Whether a madness with so much method as that exhibited today, can be justified at all, is a matter of doubt. My personal wrongs, I can bear against it, and, in all candor, I cannot perceive in the dogged obstinacy of these actors anything else than a purpose to gratify personal hostility and to acquire a species of notoriety, the enjoyment of which no honest man, vouched as a Whig, will envy them."

Mr. Palfrey is a Whig of established character, and a man of unquestioned abilities. We have no personal acquaintance with him, but have formed our opinion of him from his writings and his public movements. Mr. Giddings is a Whig, whose fidelity to his party has been too often proved to be doubted. From both, so far as their relations to party are concerned, we differ, but they deserve honor from men of all parties for the firmness with which they maintained their consistency. Mr. Winthrop is a gentleman; as a presiding officer, the House, we presume, could not furnish a better man; but, if we understand the position of Messrs. Giddings and Palfrey, they could not satisfy themselves that in constituting committees he would be controlled by those principles in relation to the two great questions before the country—War and Slavery—which they believe to be sacred and vital. Their refusal to support him was, therefore, consistent and honorable. Free from drawing a single vote upon the proscriptive anathemas of their party, it should command respect. No generous mind, conscious itself of rectitude, will ascribe such conduct to base motives, when a fair, honorable, all-sufficient reason is apparent.

Mr. Tuck is a Liberty man, elected as the candidate of the Independent Democrats and Liberty men of New Hampshire, and will continue, no doubt, to do just as he has done—deliberate, decide, and act, according to his own views of right and policy.

The *National Whig* permits a correspondent to abuse these gentlemen in a style which their political opponents have not indulged in. Messrs. Giddings, Tuck, and Palfrey, we are informed, are guilty of "madness so unconsciously the madness of Abolition, that they do not see or feel what is due to themselves or to the party to which they profess to belong, but of which they are *the mere putrid excrescences!*" They are deficient in "intellectual calibre," *arrogant*—and why? Because they oppose "the will of 100 men of profounder sagacity than themselves, who undertook to think them at home;" their "fantastic tricks" would "excite derision and contempt," were they not calculated to do injury to a party which regards "*them and their follies with disgust!*" In a word, the writer repudiates them as "political miscreants."

To begin with, this by-law of three "putrid excrescences," although, by the way, Mr. Tuck is an independent "excrescence," never having grown upon the Whig body.

The venerable John Quincy Adams is next extirpated. He committed a most loathsome crime in voting for Mr. French. "The old man has some very strange vagaries occasionally;" "ingratitude is a marble-hearted fiend, and no ingratitude more ungenerous than that which intrinsic deformity and turpitude." "But let him pass!"

Four "excrescences" have been extirpated—now for three more. The caucus candidates for Postmaster of the House is defeated—horror of horrors! If the constituents of Mr. Houston, of Delaware, "do not leave him at home hereafter, they will not be more to be discussed as the party." That Mr. Thibodeaux should desert his political friends is not to be wondered at; he "has the character of being a mere political cipher in his own district." *Query:* What must they be who elected him?

But what shall be said of Mr. Pendleton? He "*deserves the execration of every true Whig in the country*" for voting for a "resolution to close decorum," with using "false pretences," with being guilty of a treason more "execrable" than that of John Tyler, &c.

These proscriptive journals have an odd way of harmonizing their party. Their tact and taste must be very grateful to their Whig friends. As this party has a majority of but five in the House, and that majority made up of "the will of 100 men of profound investigation, how it is to be converted into a certain, always available majority, by the extirpation of six Whig members, or, rather, to use the language of the Whig, "mere putrid excrescences."

All this is no special business of ours, but it seems to us that the Press impairs its efficiency, when it sacrifices greatly its self-respect, when it permits itself to be used as an engine of abuse, especially against men whose age, great abilities and public services, or whose integrity and independence, should secure them against libellous assaults.

For the National Era.

STANZAS.

BY MISS ALICE CAREY.

Where the breeze is cool and healthful,
And the berries ripe and sweet,
And the prairie spreads a carpet
Soft and diapered for our feet—
Where stags their branching antlers
Toss proud as they go,
And the hill-sides wake their echoes
To the bugling of the roe—

Where the buffalo are treading
O'er the bendlands wild and free,
And the Indian's cabin is peeping
On the rocks along the sea—
Where the redwings and the jays are gliding
To the edges of the rills,
And the eagles dip their plumage
In the high-piled hills—

We can tell the stealthy leopard
By his silver and speckled hide;
And the ruler of the forest,
By his lordly look of pride;
And the proud and stately tiger,
By their nimble-footed leaps;
And the hideous hyena,
By the carnival he keeps—

But man a thousand victims,
Yea, ten thousand times more slain,
And never bear the damning sign
God branded on Cain!
Yet live code in the house
Would be safer than the snark
Of him who shrinks affrighted
From the searcher of the heart!

MOUNT HEALTHY, OHIO.

For the National Era.

TO THE NATIONAL ERA.

Another year, thou friend of truth,
On fortune, fame, and fashion's scorn;
Though spurned by thousands, thou art still
Most welcome weekly to our door.

To cheer the children of liberty,
Herald of Freedom, go thou forth;
Thy righteous truths must yet prevail,
From west to east, from south to north.

Another year still plead for peace,
Heart mission! be it not in vain!
Till wars of nations be no more,
Nor garments roll'd in blood be seen.

Another year, speak for the dumb,
Who groan beneath oppressive woes,
Yet know not that they have a friend
Who dare to lift their sorrows upon.

Another year, go forth to plead
That those dear rights, the gift of Heaven,
(The birthright of all the sons of man),
May to the most enslaved be given.

Plead that the slave no more may feel
His heart-strings break, with grief untold,
For wife and children torn away
To distant climes, to be sold.

Go forth to haste the long-wished day
When our lov'd country shall be free,
And millions now in bondage made
To swell the song of jubilee.

ABBY LOUISA.

Madison, Ohio, Dec. 6, 1847.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

The Report of the Secretary of War, occupying seven columns and a half, closely printed, of the *Union*, is too long for our paper; nor is its entire republication at all important. Nearly four columns and a half are occupied with a succinct history of the military operations against Mexico, for the last year; but with these our readers are familiar, and the narrative of the Secretary contains nothing which has not already been made public. It is adorned with the ordinary symbols of patriotism.

Mexico, notwithstanding she has been flogged so severely, spurns all overtures for peace; and the question arises, what now must be done? To withdraw our armies, abandon our conquest, is a notion which the Secretary deems unworthy of remark. Further operations, he holds, must be conducted in one of the three following modes:

"*First.* To take and hold an indemnity line—to recede from all placed and positions now occupied in advance of it, and cease from all aggressive operations beyond that line;

"*Second.* To occupy the whole country, and hold all the principal places in it by permanent garrisons; and,

"*Third.* To retain what we now possess, open the lines of communication into the interior, and extend our operations to other important places, as our means and the prospect of advantage shall indate—occupying a disposable force always ready, within approachable limits, to annoy the enemy, to seize supplies, enforce contributions, and frustrate his efforts to collect means and assemble troops for the purpose of prosecuting the war."

He confines himself to a few prominent considerations in relation to each mode. The policy of a defensive line might enable us to reduce our troops, but not expenses. It would fail in effecting peace, for it would relieve the Mexicans from the evils of war. It would afford them time and means to recover their strength and accumulate materials of war. It would place our forces at a disadvantage, as they would never know where the enemy would make an attack. It would relieve Mexico from all the burden of our troops, and compel our Government alone to bear them.

The third mode he therefore deems preferable.

"Beyond certain limits, it admits of expansion and contraction; but, as a fixed condition, all now held is to be retained, and no part surrendered, but in compliance with treaty stipulations. This plan also contemplates further acquisitions, extending to other important points, more or less numerous, as circumstances may dictate."

Hitherto we have not touched the substance of the wealthy and influential classes of Mexico, those who can force a peace or prolong war. Now, by making them suffer the usual calamities of war, they must be made to desire peace.

"In addition to the troops required to garrison places to be retained, it is proposed to have in the field a competent force for aggressive operations; to strike the enemy whenever he may present a vulnerable point; to open avenues from the ports in our possession into the enemy's country, and to cover and subject to our control some of his rich mining districts and productive agricultural regions. It is our duty to compel the foe out in more detail the movements and objects contemplated in the further prosecution of the war upon this plan."

He proceeds to state what troops would be necessary:

"I proceed to present my views in relation to the troops considered necessary for this purpose. The twenty-four regiments of regulars has been distinguished from the volunteer force, when filled up to the limit fixed by law, would be twenty-eight thousand eight hundred and fourteen, exclusive of officers; but the actual strength, as soon as can be ascertained, is now twenty-one thousand five hundred and thirty-three. It will therefore require an addition of seven thousand four hundred and eighty-six enlisted men to complete the regular military establishment.

"During the last year, the recruiting service for the regular army has been attended with considerable success. The recruits enlisted for the fifteen old regiments amount to eleven thousand and eighty-one, and those for the ten regiments raised under the act of the last session of Congress are eleven thousand one hundred and sixty-two.

"By the operations of the recruiting service, it is believed that the present strength of these regular regiments will be fully sustained, and probably increased.

"The accompanying tables from the Adjutant General's Office show that there are now in service, or engaged to be, twenty-three thousand of volunteers, seven battalions, and thirty-three companies not organized into regiments or battalions; but the rank and file of all these do not probably exceed twenty-two thousand. The regular and volunteer forces have borne a conspicuous part in the present arduous campaign, and particularly in the series of successful conflicts with the enemy. The casualties of the service have, therefore, fallen heavily upon them. They have become considerably reduced. In the ten regiments raised for the war their complete organization will require an addition of about twelve thousand five hundred men.

"Attempts have been made, under the act passed at the last session of Congress, to engage volunteers to fill up the companies in service, and thus greatly reduce the number of volunteers required for that purpose. These efforts have not been successful—only eight hundred and twenty-one have been procured. One of the disadvantages attending these attempts has been that they have taken place from on the same footing in respect to compensation as recruits for the regular army. As the volunteers have been, in fact, the chief reliance for the recruits for the ten regiments, there can be no reason for not holding out to them the same inducements to enter the public service. It is, therefore, respectfully recommended that Congress be asked to authorize a like bounty to volunteers.

"I also report that those raised in the same State be consolidated temporarily, and the supernumerary officers sent home to obtain recruits for their respective companies. Should this attempt prove unsuccessful, the temporary merging for the consolidation be made permanent, and that entire companies of volunteers be accepted, to take the place of the volunteer companies in the fifteen old regiments, which may be occasioned by the consolidation."

But the forces now in service, augmented by all the recruits that may be reasonably expected, will not be enough. He recommends that Congress, without a moment's delay, pass a bill to raise ten additional regiments of *regular* forces for the war; and, as the exigencies of the war may require, that authority be given to the President to accept volunteers to the number of 20,000

"The Department has presented estimates for considerable deficiencies in some of the war appropriations for the current fiscal year. Provision was made in these appropriations for continuing in service, the regular and volunteer troops, ten thousand volunteers; but it was subsequently deemed important greatly to augment this volunteer force. This augmentation has extended beyond that number is over fifteen thousand, for which no appropriation was made. The expense of organizing and transporting this force to the seat of war, together with their pay, subsistence, and allowance for clothing, have produced a considerable part of these deficiencies. The unforeseen and extraordinary rise in the price of articles of subsistence, has also caused a much larger expenditure in the Commissary's Department than was expected when the estimates for the appropriations were presented to the last Congress. The largest amount of disbursements has been in the Quartermaster's department, for which a statement of this amount, as well as the necessity for it, I respectfully refer to the report of the Quartermaster General. The duties of that branch of the public service are numerous and arduous in time of war—and particularly in a foreign war, carried on at a great distance from our ordinary sources of supplies—these duties are vastly multiplied and complicated. The difficulties under which that department has labored from the commencement of the war, suddenly called on, as it then was, in an unprepared state, to provide for several armies destined for different and distant fields of action, and subsequently in fitting out the important expedition against Vera Cruz, and procuring transportation for the troops over wide-spread operations, and the manner in which these difficulties have been met and overcome, often under the eye of the enemy, and in his presence are well presented in the accompanying report of the Quartermaster General."

In the estimates for the next fiscal year, deductions have not been made for the contributions that may be levied on Mexico. These have been inconsiderable, but hereafter it is hoped that they will be augmented.

He recommends that Congress allow a percentage to officers employed in collecting the contributions in Mexican pork.

He refers to unsettled claims in California against the United States, and recommends that they be ascertained and settled.

An appropriation is asked to satisfy claims for expenses incurred by individuals and States in organizing, subsisting, and transporting volunteers; also, an appropriation for a regiment of Texas volunteers, who entered the service at the call of the commanding officer at Camargo, and were then discharged, as he had no authority to make such a call.

Authority is asked to supply volunteers with clothing in the same manner as regulars are supplied.

In addition to the reports of the Adjutant General and Quartermaster General, he submits reports from the Commissary General, the Paymaster General, the Chief Engineer, the Chief of the Topographical Engineers, the Ordnance Department, the Surgeon General, the Commissioner of Pensions, and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Little progress has been made the past year in the permanent defences of the country. An estimate less than that of last year is submitted for works this year.

He recommends that provision be made for an annual board of visiters to West Point Academy.

An increase of the company of engineer soldiers, authorized by act of Congress, May, 1846, is called for.

The regular surgeons having been insufficient for the wants of the army, physicians in civil life have been employed. Authority is asked for the appointment of six hospital surgeons.

As the pension laws do not sufficiently provide for soldiers who have retired from actual service, disabled by wounds, permanently impaired in health, he concurs in the recommendation of the Surgeon General, in relation to the creation of an Army Asylum.

The number of pensioners on the rolls is 23,019. Many have died the last year; the reduction in the whole number being about ten per centum. An additional number of clerks is needed in the Pension Office.

The Secretary closes his report as follows:

"A most important and difficult part of the duties devolved upon this Department is the management of Indian affairs. Our intercourse with the tribes are yearly extending, and, in many respects, assuming a more interesting character. For a full account of our relations and transactions with them during the past year, I respectfully refer you to the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

"The wise policy of separating the Indians residing in States and organized Territories, from contiguity to, and intermingling with, the wild roaming tribes, has thus far been on a quiet scale, but, if it be practicable, it will be, from some, removed as far as practicable from the reach of influences so pernicious to their well-being, and, if properly pursued, and generally followed with favorable results. Some embarrassments have arisen in the removal of the Choctaws, but they have been, to a great extent, overcome; and arrangements are in progress for their subsistence to that undertaking. A very satisfactory account of the various measures which have been pursued in this policy, and of its removal, will be found in the Commissioner's report.

"Two treaties will soon be laid before you, which have been negotiated with different bands of the Chippewas of the Upper Mississippi and Lake Superior, for a portion of their lands west of that river. A part of this large tract is intended for the Pillager Chippewas, who have to move and surrender their possessions in lowa, and the remainder is held in reserve for any other tribes yet remaining east of the Mississippi, who may prefer a residence there.

"The Sioux and the Chippewas have long been enemies, and hostile collisions between them are of frequent occurrence. Efforts have been, in the now proposed, other tribes between them, their long cherished feuds, it is hoped, will subside, and that region of country cease to be any longer the theatre of such bloody conflicts.

"Among those tribes with which we have treaties, or near which our agents reside, tranquillity has generally prevailed. The hostile incursions known are the outrages committed by parties of the Sioux—one upon the Winnebagoes, which, by our interference, was amicably adjusted; and of others upon the Omahas, which, by our friendly Pawnees. Proper measures have been taken to punish the aggressors, and to prevent a repetition of such occurrences.

"The depredations upon the trains on the Santa Fe route have been, it is believed, committed by Indians not entirely, but principally, with whom we have hitherto had but little or no intercourse, and who can, therefore, only be controlled, and their mischievous propensities repressed, by a military force. For this purpose, a force has been sent into that region, with instructions to chastise the offenders, and procure, as far as practicable, the restoration of the plundered property.

"The anomalous condition of our relations with the Indians in Texas embarrassing the action of the Department, especially in the duty of regulating intercourse with Indian tribes do not extend over Texas. A special agent was, however, appointed to that State, by the last Congress, to visit the several bands in that State, to counsel with them, and to distribute such presents as it might be deemed expedient and best calculated to conciliate their good-will, and to inspire confidence in the friendly disposition of the United States towards them. This proceeding has been attended with success. It is desired that Congress, at the approaching session, should place our relations with these Indians on more permanent footing.

"A difficulty has arisen among the Stockbridge Indians in Wisconsin, occasioned, principally, by the legislation of Congress, which cannot be overcome without the interposition of Congress. Provision for the further action of Congress on the subject is clearly presented in the Commissioner's report.

"It will be perceived, by that report, that very special attention has been given, during the past year, to the important subject of education among the Indians. Additional schools on the new system—combining manual labor with literary instruction—have been established, and arrangements made for others among several of the tribes. The extent to which the funds appropriated for this have been found necessary to employ all the funds at the disposal of the Department, some portion of which has been heretofore applied to educate a few boys at Indian schools, in other States, the models now adopted for applying the funds provided for education, is deemed altogether preferable, and promises the most highly beneficial results."

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

By an act of Congress in 1844, the employment in the navy of 7,500 petty officers, seamen, landsmen, and boys, was authorized; August 10th, 1846, authority was given to increase this number to 10,000. Not more than 8,000 during the present year have been at any one time in service. The difficulty of enlistments has arisen chiefly from the extraordinary activity in the mercantile marine.

The Secretary mentions the concentration of a considerable naval force in the Mediterranean Sea, for the protection of American commerce there against any privateers that might accept commission from Mexico. Many such have been issued, but they have found favor in no quarter. Intercourse with Turkey has greatly increased. The squadron on the coast of Africa has been actively engaged in suppressing the slave trade. It is not known that a vessel with American papers has escaped, where there was a just ground of suspicion. The squadron had been reduced below the force required by treaty with Great Britain, but the deficiency was now nearly made up. It is contemplated to maintain a squadron in the Mediterranean, principally with ships which have served a portion of the time on the coast of Africa.

The various movements and positions of our naval forces are stated, but it is unnecessary to follow the Secretary in these details.

The Navy has been supplied with liquid fire, by Uriah Brown, "it is not my opinion," says the Secretary, "that the interest of the United States will be promoted by adopting the invention—as a means of national defence.

The estimates for the year are as follows:

"The gross amount estimated for is ten million three hundred and twenty-five thousand six hundred and twenty-two dollars. The amount appropriated for the current fiscal year is $10,052,636.10. This estimate now presented does not include an item of $1,200,000 to complete the four war steamers authorized by the act of 3d March last, an increase of the appropriation under the head of contingent expenses of the Navy, of $25,000, and one fifty thousand dollars for the prosecution of the work on the dry-dock at New York. The reasons for these appropriations were given in my reports, and, I presume, will be satisfactory. There are other objects estimated for, requiring an inconsiderable expenditure, which seem to me to be necessary for the efficient discharge of the public duties devolved on the Department. Of the appropriations made for the current year, the unexpended balances will, I believe, with ease, prove adequate to all the wants of the service."

Four war steamers of the first class are in progress of rapid construction.

In relation to contracts for the transmission of the mail in steamers, from New York to Liverpool, between New York and New Orleans, and from Havana to Chagres:

"I have cordially co-operated in the establishment of the lines of steamers stipulated by those contracts. Thirteen new vessels will be constructed in the most skilful manner, which may be used in the contingency, and will be available for national purposes on any emergency. The contracts stipulate that a survey should be appointed by the Postmaster General, shall be placed and maintained on board; but, as the contract is made with this Department, and the payments will be made from the Treasury on bills approved from time to time by the Secretary, it may be a question whether the law sufficiently provides for the regulation and collecting of postages by the Post Office Department, and how far we may be required to be responsible for the payment of these contractors. I respectfully submit that the necessary legal enactments on the subject may be made by Congress."

"The operation of the act of March 3d, 1845, requiring appointments of midshipmen to be made from the States and Territories, according to representation in Congress, has been highly favorable to enlarging the interest felt by the whole country in the navy. It will be yet some time before the operation of this law will be fully removed. The maximum number of midshipmen allowed by law, is four hundred and fifty-one. The divisor fixed by the act of 1845 is at this time 230. It will change as the number of members of the House of Representatives varies. I recommend that the restriction imposed by the act of August, 1842, by which the number of midshipmen is limited to 451, be so far removed as to authorize an increase of the number to 460, and, at all times hereafter that each State and Territory shall have two midshipmen for each Representative in Congress to which it may be entitled. This would not, I think, materially contribute to hasten the establishment of equality, and will simplify the distribution of midshipmen among the States and Territories. Some have been presented to the Department, of sons of those who have fallen in battle, which have confirmed the opinion that it would be wise and just to give the authority asked for in my last report, that appointments should be out of eight or ten at large, irrespective of actual residence."

We find nothing further in the report worthy of particular notice.

REPORT OF THE POSTMASTER GENERAL.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
December 6, 1847.

SIR: On the 30th of June last, the post routes in operation in the United States were 153,816 miles in extent, and the annual transportation of the mails over them was 28,887,806 miles, as follows:

On railroads,	4,176,903 miles, at a cost of	$267,475
On steamboats,	1,015,519 " " "	93,275
In coaches,	15,303,474 " " "	912,462
By other modes in inferior grade,	8,391,910 " " "	650,186
		$2,906,948

The increase in the extent of the routes since the 1st of July, 1845, is 9,878 miles, and of transportation 3,253,630 miles.

Since the 1st of July last, new routes have been put in operation 8,220 miles in extent, at an additional cost of $42,825 per annum.

The number of mail contractors in the service, during the last year, was 3,696; the number of post masters, and other messengers connected with the mail service on railroads and steamboats, 1,000.

At the beginning of the Southern section, during the last spring, in the States of Alabama, North and South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, the service was taken at greatly reduced rates. In the last half of the last session alone, a saving $166,697 per annum, a reduction of about 19 per cent. from the former prices. This result has been produced by that provision of the act of 1845 which enacted that the lowest bidder shall be accepted, without regard to the former contract, and that the Department may contract for a new route, if the old. The service in that section has been increased.

A detail of the mail service in the Navy will be found in the tables of the First Assistant Postmaster General, which accompany this report, marked A, B, C, D, E.

The number of post offices in the United States, on the last of July last, was 14,183, being an increase of 1,183 since the 1st of July, 1845, of 963. The number established during the year was 1,299, and 136 discontinued.

The changes of postmasters during the year were 3,430. Of the number, 2,252 were appointed in consequence of the death of incumbents, 1,178 in consequence of their resignation, 2,209 in consequence of changing the sites of the offices; 829 by the establishment of new offices; 170 were removed, and of 3 where terms of service had expired, the commissions were not renewed. Four were made to change their residence, three married, married C, one against his. Resignations have been more numerous than in any previous year, the last of March, 1847, which directed an allowance of increased rates of commissions, and returns to the postmasters in the smaller offices the franking privileges, although the actual increase of compensation is not so great as was expected, or probably intended, yet it has had the effect of its passing, so as to the increased business of the offices, under the reduced rates of postage, would have been.

The 10th section of the act 1825 authorized the allowance of commissions on the money arising from postages received, "*on the amount received in any one quarter.*" The act of 1847 authorized the allowance of the same "*on the amount received in any one year,*" at the higher rates. This change in the mode of computing the commissions has had the effect of slightly increasing the compensation of the postmasters whose offices yielded less than $1,133.25, the increase being greatest in those of $100 and under, and the reverse of this, whilst there is a general decrease from that sum of about twenty-five per cent., until the sum of $1,133.25 is reached, and upon offices yielding that sum, the compensation is the same. In offices yielding over that sum, the compensation to the postmaster is regularly increased four and a half per cent.

It is believed that, if the mode of computing the commissions by the quarter, instead of the year, had been retained in the act of 1847, the increased rates would have been sufficient to have given, in most cases, a larger compensation than the additional duties of the postmaster of the Department have heretofore been deemed to require. If the commissions were computed by the quarter, the increase of compensation to the postmasters in offices yielding

$10 would be	$1.10
100 " "	9.00
1,000 " "	90.00
10,000 " "	877.50
100,000 " "	8,775.00

Upon the best estimates which can be made, the number of letters and papers passing through the United States mail during the last year may be stated as follows:

Paid and unpaid single rates of 6 cents	36,152,556
Do. do. double rates of 6 cents	1,251,157
Do. do. triple rates of 6 cents	227,891
Ship and steamboat letters at 6 cents	38,331
Ship and steamboat letters at 2 cents delivered in the mails from foreign countries, 2 cents added to the foreign postage	850,980
Dropped letters	365,365
Printed circular letters	1,025,264
	39,911,544

The free letters sent by persons entitled to the franking privilege, and those sent free to the army, cannot be ascertained with any degree of accuracy, but it is believed would not falls short of 2,000,000.

The newspapers passing through the mails annually are estimated at 85,000,000, exclusive of those published within the County. The number of transient newspapers, paying 3 cents each, cannot be ascertained with any degree of accuracy, as they are returned with that on letters. The dead letters passing through the offices, and returned to the Department, to ascertain if so can be ascertained, are estimated at 2,000,000 pieces, which, calculated at an intermediate point between the two rates of postage, would produce a sum of the four or five hundred thousand dollars. The newspapers, circulars, advertisements, and other matter which are created in the offices, and taken out or returned to the Department, will not probably fall short of the number of letters mailed.

The great labor required of postmasters in the reception and distribution of the mail, and the responsibility attached, in addition to the reas

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, *Dec. 8, 1847.*

In obedience to law, the following report is respectfully submitted:

The receipts and expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1847, were—

From customs - - -	$23,747,864.66
From public lands - - -	2,498,355.20
From miscellaneous sources - -	100,070.51
From avails of Treasury notes and loans - - -	25,679,199.45
Total receipts - - -	52,025,989.82
Add balance in the Treasury, July 1, 1846 - - -	9,126,439.08
Total means - - -	61,152,428.90
The expenditures during the same fiscal year were - - -	59,451,177.65
Leaving a balance in the Treasury, July 1, 1847, of - - -	1,701,251.25

As appears in detail by accompanying statement A. The estimated receipts and expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1848, are—

From customs, first quarter, by actual returns - - -	$11,166,229.00
From customs, for second, third, and fourth quarters, as estimated - - -	19,883,742.50
From sales of public lands -	3,500,000.00
From miscellaneous sources -	400,000.00
Total receipts - - -	34,900,000.00
From avails of Treasury notes and loans - - -	6,285,294.55
Add balance in Treasury, July 1, 1847 - - -	41,185,294.55
Total means, as estimated -	1,701,251.25
	42,886,545.80

Expenditures, viz:

The actual expenditures for the first quarter, ending September 30, 1847, were $16,469,194.69, as appears in detail by accompanying statement B.

The estimated expenditures for the public service during the other three quarters, from 1st October, 1847, to 30th June, 1848, are—

Civil list, foreign intercourse, and miscellaneous - - -	$8,486,180.42
Army proper, including volunteers - - -	9,080,865.58
Fortifications, ordnance, arming militia, &c. -	2,036,416.59
Indian department -	1,726,000.00
Pensions - - -	1,063,523.66
Naval establishment	10,241,072.47
Interest on public debt and Treasury notes - - -	2,250,577.18
Redeeming notes payable when presented - - -	267,139.31
	38,615,660.07
Excess of expenditures over means, 1st July, 1848 -	15,729,114.27

The estimated receipts, means, and expenditures, for the fiscal year commencing 1st July, 1848, and ending 30th June, 1849, are—

From customs - - -	$32,000,000.00
From sales of public lands -	3,000,000.00
From miscellaneous sources	100,000.00
Total revenue - - -	35,100,000.00
Deduct deficit, 1st July, 1848	15,729,114.27
	19,370,885.73

Expenditures.

The expenditures during the same period, as estimated by the several Departments of State, Treasury, War, Navy, and Postmaster General, are:

The balances of former appropriations, which will be required to be expended in this year - - -	$1,475,210.73
Permanent and indefinite appropriations - - -	4,987,577.82
Specific appropriations asked for this year - - -	55,644,941.72
	55,643,941.72
Deduct means remaining applicable to service of fiscal year ending 30th June, 1849	19,370,885.73
Excess of expenditures over means 1st July, 1849 - - -	36,274,055.99

This sum is composed of the following particulars:

Civil list, foreign intercourse, and miscellaneous - - -	8,513,061.52
Army proper, volunteers, and military academy - - -	32,007,028.42
Fortifications, ordnance, arming militia, &c. - - -	2,045,169.90
Pensions - - -	1,694,318.81
Indian department	936,091.24
Naval establishment	10,905,558.55
Interest on public debt and Treasury notes	2,453,402.68

It will be perceived that if the war is continued until the 30th of June next, and the appropriations provided by Congress, nor any sums received from military contributions in Mexico, there would be a deficit in the Treasury on that day of $15,729,114.27. For the reasons hereafter stated, under the operations of the constitutional treasury, it will be necessary, if any hereafter to retain in the Treasury, to meet the wants of the Government, and afford a constant supply for all their enlarged operations to the mint and branch mints, a sum equal to $5,000,000. Adding this to the deficit in the Treasury on the 1st of July next, it makes the sum of $18,729,114.27 to be supplied during that period; to meet which, if the expenditures authorized and estimated shall take place prior to that date, a loan for that sum would be required if no additional revenue was derived from any source whatever. It is believed, however, that if Congress would adopt the following measures, which are recommended to their favorable consideration, additional revenue to the amount of $4,500,000 per annum may be realized: First, from a duty on tea and coffee of 25 per cent. ad valorem, $3,000,000 per annum from the reduction and graduation of the price of the public lands, $500,000 per annum; leaving the expenditures and appropriations to be made by law, in regard to which, Congress will, no doubt, be guided by the state of the Treasury, and the means provided by every officer or agent not absolutely required for the public service; by curtailing the expenses of the revenue marine; by introducing a more rigid system of economy and retrenchment; by closing and from the extension of the pre-emption privilege to every *bona fide* settler on our unsurveyed lands without the necessity of a law to be extinguished, $500,000 per annum. Could these measures be adopted by Congress, the loan might be reduced to a sum not exceeding, at the most, $17,000,000, leaving a standing Treasury of $17,000,000, allowance is made for the fact that these measures, for additional revenue could not all go into effect, so as to produce the full amount during the time intervening between the present period and the 1st July next; after that date, it is not doubted that they would produce the full amount of $4,500,000 per annum. The Secretary of the United States has, however, directed contributions to be levied in Mexico in every form that may be sanctioned by the law of nations. These contributions consist, first, in diminishing the estimated expenditures, by obtaining, as far as practicable, supplies for the army in Mexico; second, by duties upon imports, as a military contribution; third, by enforcing the Mexican duty upon exports; fourth, by directing the seizure and appropriation to the support of the war and the army of all the internal revenues of Mexico, except transit duties, whether assessed by the General Government of Mexico, or by any department, city, or town thereof. By the acts of September 2, 1789, and the 10th May, 1800, it is the duty of this Department to report to Congress estimates of the probable amount that will be derived from all sources combined, in order that no larger loan may be asked or effected than would be requisite after deducting the amount thus estimated. The sum to be realized from these military contributions will depend upon future contingencies. If our armies are withdrawn from the capital and ports of Mexico, nothing would be received from military contributions. If they were withdrawn from the capital, retaining the ports, no safe transit being open for imports into the interior, and to the rich and populous portion of the country, and demanding the enemy's lines, small revenue would be derived from this source, as shown by past experience—probably not exceeding $1,000,000 per annum. If, however, the ports at present occupied by our forces be retained, and all the rest seized or blockaded, so as to prevent the carrying of imports into the interior, through any other ports than those held by our forces; if the roads were then opened into the interior, through the city of Mexico and the mining region, and the military force of occupation, which must remained secure, it is my conviction that the revenue from all these sources above specified ought not to be less, so far as the duties on exports and imports are concerned, than it has therefore been collected by the Government of Mexico.

I have not been able to obtain any reliable statement of the amount of duties realized in Mexico upon exports; if, however, it were fairly collected upon all the exports of specie from Mexico, it would probably not amount to less than $1,000,000 per annum. It is not known, however, that so large a sum as realized from this duty was ever recorded in the custom-house returns of Mexico. Under these circumstances, it is extremely difficult to estimate the amount of duties which could be derived from this source, but they ought not to be set down at less than $500,000 per annum. The receipts from duty on imports collected by Mexico have varied from six to twelve millions of dollars per annum; and I think it ought not to be less with the ports and interior held by the army, by our possession, and rendered secure for exports and imports.

There are several reasons why it ought to be greater.

The present duties are framed so as to yield the largest revenue; whereas, the Mexican tariff was in the interest of the manufacturing and industry, the duties, even when the goods were admitted, being generally adverse to revenue. There were also sixty articles, the importation of which was prohibited, among which were sugar, rice, cotton, boots, and half boots; coffee, nails of all kinds, leather of most kinds, flour, cotton yarn, and thread, cotton, wool, and linen goods, cinnamon, lard, molasses, timber of all kinds, saddles of all kinds, cotton goods or textures, chiefly such as are made in the United States; pork, tray or salted, vinegar, wax, wax candles, cotton blankets, or counterpanes; shoes and slippers; wheat, and grain of all kinds. The admission of the prohibited articles would, of course, greatly increase the protective into revenue duties, and the abolition of the heavy transit charges, must of course increase imports and revenue, and greatly enlarge our trade with Mexico. Mexico, in return for our exports imported there. No nation, in proportion to its wealth, can afford to import largely beyond the amount of its exports. Her export being specie, is sought by all nations, in exchange for their goods imported there. Under our brave officers, the money will not be lost, as it was to a great extent by speculation under the Mexican Government, and the lower duties will, to a great extent, prevent smuggling. The duties also have been reduced on the goods imported from one Mexican port into another will be an addition to the amount exacted by the Mexican Government.

On the whole, I cannot believe that, under the circumstances and condition of things above suggested as the most favorable to augment these contributions, that the duties on imports, from the ports, the roads, and interior, in our military possession, would be less than it was under the Government of Mexico, especially under the guaranty already given, that, in any event, the duties it will, as announced, be provided that the goods imported should neither be confiscated nor subjected to any new duty by Mexico.

The internal revenue collected by the Mexican Government, as well as Departments, was about $13,000,000 per annum.

I do not believe, however, that any very large portion of this revenue could be collected under our military system; and I have no sufficient data upon which to base any reliable estimate as to the sum so derived.

Under these circumstances, it is impossible to name any precise sum as that which probably would be derived from military contributions in Mexico. The more complete, however, the possession of the country by our troops, the larger would be the revenue. This must be left to time. It is therefore no use to say, and, without being able to fix any precise sum, it is my conviction that the revenues that may be derived from these various sources in Mexico ought to be very considerable, and augmenting from time to time. In view, however, of the uncertainty of the amount of these contributions at present, and the doubt as to their permanency, I have based the measures proposed for augmenting the revenue by duties upon tea and coffee, the reduction of the price of the public lands, and the extension of the pre-emption privilege, should not be adopted by Congress, I recommend that authority be granted to negotiate a loan for the sum of $18,500,000, upon the same authority as that of the 28th of January last. Should the war be continued until the 1st July, 1849, an additional loan, amounting to $20,500,000, would be necessary, if no additional revenues be granted by Congress, and no contributions were levied in Mexico. As it is believed, however, that a considerable sum must be derived from these contributions, I do not think it necessary hereafter to retain in the Treasury, to meet the wants of the Government, and afford a constant supply for all their enlarged operations to the mint and branch mints, a sum equal to $5,000,000. Adding this to the deficit in the Treasury on the 1st of July next, it makes the sum of $18,729,114.27 to be supplied during that period; to meet which, if the expenditures authorized and estimated shall take place prior to that date, a loan for that sum would be required if no additional revenue was derived from any source whatever. It is believed, however, that if Congress would adopt the following measures, which are recommended to their favorable consideration, additional revenue to the amount of $4,500,000 per annum may be realized: First, from a duty on tea and coffee of 25 per cent. ad valorem, $3,000,000 per annum from the reduction and graduation of the price of the public lands, $500,000 per annum; leaving the expenditures and appropriations to be made by law, in regard to which, Congress will, no doubt, be guided by the state of the Treasury, and the means provided by every officer or agent not absolutely required for the public service; by curtailing the expenses of the revenue marine; by introducing a more rigid system of economy and retrenchment; by closing and from the extension of the pre-emption privilege to every *bona fide* settler, and embrace all lands, whether surveyed or unsurveyed, to which the Indian title may be extinguished. The lands remaining subject to entry, at private sale, on the first of this month, were 129,101,001 acres; and the unsurveyed lands to which the Indian title has been extinguished, 71,048,214 acres, (per table C.) The adoption of these two measures, for the reasons stated in my previous reports, would augment the revenue to a sum equal to a half of dollars per annum, operating, as they would, on 223,149,215 acres. It would, at the same time, increase the wages of labor, by rendering it more profitable for the working classes to purchase farms at the low price, whilst it would at the same time augment the wealth and power of the whole country. When the public lands have been sold, and a long time for a price they will not bring, the failure to reduce the price is equivalent in its effects to an enactment that they shall remain unsold. If they be sold and settled for an unlimited period. The case is still stronger as to unsurveyed lands, thereby an act of Congress forbidding their sale or settlement, and denouncing as criminals and trespassers the American pioneers who would desire to enter in advance into the wilderness, cover it with farms, and make it to blossom as the rose. The school-house, extend over it the blessings of our free institutions, and enlarge by the axe and the plough the cultivated area of the American Union.

Should the pre-emption privilege be adopted, the surveyed as well as the unsurveyed lands opened to pre-emption, and the Indian title extinguished without the necessity of a law, which succeeds it, in addition to Iowa and Wisconsin, we should soon have two new States, Minesota and Iasca, in the great valley of the West, adjacent and contiguous to the Mississippi, and hereafter to the old States of their population, the gradation and pre-emption system will, in a series of years, increase their prosperity, by giving them customers in the West, who will carry to them their products, and receive their imports or fabrics in exchange, increasing the transportation upon our railroads and canals, and augmenting our freight as well as coastwise tonnage. The distribution of the proceeds of the sales of these lands is prevented for at least twenty years by the act of 28th June, 1841, setting apart and appropriating these proceeds to the extinguishment of the public debt. So far, also, as distribution may have been advocated with a view to a protective tariff, it is now proved that a tariff for revenue not only yields a larger income than the protective system, but also advances more rapidly in a series of years the prosperity of the manufacturers, by the augmentation of their foreign and domestic market. Every reason, therefore, which has heretofore operated in favor of the revenue system from the pre-emption system, or the reduction and graduation of the price of the public lands, having ceased to exist, it is hoped that these measures will receive, at the present session, the favorable consideration of Congress.

The mineral lands were transferred by Congress to the Treasury Department, by act of 1st and 3d, March 1847. After obtaining all the information in my power, the law was carried into effect by the appointment by me of Dr. C. T. Jackson, of Boston, to the mineral lands on the shore of Lake Superior land district in Michigan, and of Dr. D. D. Owen, of Indiana, to make a similar survey of the Chippewa, Sioux, and Winnebago, Northern lands. The appointment of agent to collect the rents, &c., by those acts, was conferred by me upon Colonel D. R. McNair, of Kentucky, with whom was associated Lieutenant E. J. Allen, of Michigan, as assistant. Copies of the instructions which were given by me in April last to Messrs. Jackson and Owen, as well as to Mr. McNair, and Lieutenant Allen, and General Roberts, his assistant, are merely annexed; and these four gentlemen have all zealously performed their duties. It will be seen from the reports of Messrs. Jackson and Owen, that the Department of Messrs. Jackson and Owen contemplate a complete geological and topographical description of the mineral region, together with the meteorological and hygrometrical observations, and a series of observations on the dip and intensity of the needle, as intimately connected with the mineral and meteorological charts of the country, and as leading to results interesting to the cause of general science. From the preliminary reports already made by Messrs. Jackson and Owen, this Department feels well assured that both those gentlemen will fully sustain that high reputation for perilous and laborious exploration in new regions of the U. S. Mr. McNair, and assistants, which induced this Department to confer those appointments upon them. It was my pleasing duty to direct all the geological and mineralogical surveys provided for by the act of the 10th August, 1846, establishing the Smithsonian Institution, to be deposited with a Board of Regents, composed of the Chief Justice, and the secretary thereof, whose great discoveries have contributed so large and important an addition to the cause of science, conferred so much honor upon the Institution, and have attracted the admiration and applause of the distinguished men engaged in scientific pursuits in every portion of the globe. Our mineral lands are resources of great mineral wealth, and especially in copper; and when the mines shall become the property of individuals, and the adjacent lands settled and enlarged, as they will be, if they are properly managed with more abundant labor, it is believed that this great region, occupying a position nearly central between the Atlantic and Pacific, will become an important portion of our country. Much time and labor were devoted to the preparation of these instructions, owing to my sickness, and the very laborious duties of the General Land Office, to whom the subject was then transferred by me, retaining only the supervisory power required by law.

By the act of the 11th of February, 1847, a bounty in land was designed by Congress for the benefit of the brave men who are vindicating the honor and extending the power and the glory of their country. By the proviso to that act, the sale of these claims is prohibited until a warrant or certificate issued. It seems, from this proviso, the benevolent intention of Congress to secure homes to our soldiers and volunteers. It is deeply to be regretted, however, that the intentions of Congress will be disappointed, in a great degree, by sales of these warrants or certificates at a great sacrifice, which will be obviated, to a very great extent, if the proviso of the act of Congress be construed Congress upon these assignments, and especially by forbidding the sale until the patent shall have issued. If this is not done, but very few of these bounty lands will ever reach the soldiers for whom they were intended, will have retained the right to the homes intended for them by the benevolent policy of Congress. With a view, as far as practicable, to secure to the soldiers and volunteers to retain their rights, it was decided by this Department, after a conference with the Secretary of War, that no warrant should be issued in favor of a soldier and volunteer became a pre-emptor, he might use his warrant or certificate in purchase of the lands upon which he had settled, but that the assignee or purchaser of that use such warrant or certificate in payment of any lands that had not been offered at public sale. Under this decision, the soldiers and volunteers will receive the value of their bounty, and the purchaser; and there is an additional motive to retain the warrant or certificate. Instructions have also been issued by the Department to the various agents and receivers of land offices, that they cannot become the purchasers of these warrants or certificates, or any other land scrip, or be interested in these paper currency. If the union of the Government with the banks had continued, and their suspension and the depreciation of their paper currency, which arrested the wages of labor, specie disbursements, which suspended banks could not furnish, consequences the most disastrous to the honor and the interests of the Government of the Union. The Government is now disconnected from banks, and yet its stock and notes are at par, although we have been constrained to contract heavy loans, and to pay our foreign debt, in Mexico, than at any former period. But during the last war, when the Government was connected with banks, its six per cent. stock and Treasury notes were depreciated 25 per cent., payable in bank paper 20 per cent. below par; thus amounting to a loss of 45 cents in every dollar paid to the Government. In my first annual report to Congress, on the 3d of December, 1845, in recommending the adoption of the constitutional treasury, I the following, in reference to this subject:

"Nor will it be useful to establish a constitutional treasury, if it is to receive or disburse the paper of banks."

"If paper, in whatever form, or from whatever source it may issue, should be introduced as a circulation by the constitutional treasury, it would expose the Government, compelled to use as a means of circulating gold and silver."

During and before the commencement of the last session of Congress, it was thought by many that this measure could not operate successfully during war, and that large loans could not be negotiated if the payments were required in specie. The Department, however, adhered to the recommendation of its predecessor, believing that the Government would be rendered stronger by the divorce, and that if the Treasury should resort to banks to negotiate its loans or supply its revenue, that both, if the war continued, would be involved, as they were in the war of 1812, in one common ruin. During the months of June, July, and August last, (per table N.) the sum of $6,000,000 was transferred from the assistant treasurer of New York for necessary disbursements at New Orleans and in Mexico. Heretofore, the public money has been deposited in the banks, and loaned out to their customers, when such enormous transfers were made, a contraction of the banks, with ruinous losses, must have ensued. But the money of the Government is now transferred from New York to New Orleans, and scarcely affects business or the money market, because the transactions of the Government are separated from those of the banks. When the Government formerly received and disbursed only the paper of banks, whenever a revulsion and suspension had occurred, as in 1814, the Government was universally reached upon our perilous paper system, so as to create a pressure in our money market, a large and sudden contraction of the paper currency, and a sudden loss of specie by the banks, and, as a consequence, many failures and most frequent suspensions of specie payments. Now, in the 19th year of the Constitutional Treasury, when in England of the most unprecedented magnitude have occurred, including banks and bankers, yet our banks and credit are sound and stable, and the business of the country is still prosperous and progressive.

Nothing is more injurious to all classes, but especially to our manufacturers, than the expansion and contraction of our currency, caused by our paper system, vibrating with every considerable change of the public money held by them as depositories. During a period of suspension, the paper system opens temporarily, and beyond the wants of the country, a market here for foreign imports, not in exchange for exports, but for credit; the country is flooded with the fabrics of the city of its specie, contracts the paper currency, forces, at a sacrifice, the sale of domestic fabrics, and ruinous importations, which have been made, and, as a consequence, many failures and most frequent suspensions of specie payments. Now, in the 19th year of the Constitutional Treasury, when in England of the most unprecedented magnitude have occurred, including banks and bankers, yet our banks and credit are sound and stable, and the business of the country is still prosperous and progressive.

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Table X gives the amount of Treasury notes paid in for public lands during the 4th quarter of 1846, and the 1st, 2d, and 3d quarters of 1847.

Table KK exhibits the amount of Treasury notes paid in for duties from 1st December, 1846, to 1st December, 1847, including the amount of $101,800, paid into the custom-house in April last, at a period when the month in which the loan for $10,000,000 was negotiated; from which it appears that the general appreciation of these notes in the market, and their partial discounts, induced the Treasury to purchase them, and subsequent renewal of the payments of Treasury notes for duties.

Table P exhibits separately the monthly issue of Treasury notes from 1st January, 1847, to the 30th November, 1847, inclusive, under the acts of July 22, 1846, and of 28th January, 1847—being the whole amount, $32,764,100, which, at the time, lacked $17,762,950, and in the aggregate of both $26,557,950.

Table Q exhibits the yearly payments on account of the principal and interest of the public debt from 1791 to 1847, both inclusive, amounting in the whole to the sum of $483,800,498.79.

This table is the same with that in the 4th vol. and the ability of the American Union to discharge all its obligations, the amount of debt now due being $45,659,659.40; which is less than one-tenth of the amount of principal and interest of the public debt which we have already paid. These payments were made with uniform punctuality, and without embarrassment to our interests, in periods when our population was greatly less than one-fifth of its present numbers, and when its ability to meet its engagements was even in a still more inferior ratio.

It is impossible for any American citizen to repard this evidence of the honor and good faith of the country without the liveliest feelings of pride and satisfaction. In war and in peace, our country has maintained her honor unsullied, and resolved, through every sacrifice of blood and treasure, to keep her faith inviolate.

The constitutional treasury went into effect on the 1st of January last; and the business of the Government, under this act, during the seven months, has been conducted in specie; of which, as appears by table U, there was received during the last eleven months, for loans, customs, lands, and miscellaneous sources, the sum of $48,667,886.18 in specie, and the sum of $48,226,516.31 during the eleven months disbursed in specie.

In New York (see table Y) during the month of August last $3,340,706.48 in specie was received by the collector of that port, and in the last eleven months the sum of $18,601,023.26. During the same month of August, the sum was deposited (see table GG) the sum of $3,795,720.92 in specie was transferred from the city, and transferred from or disbursed by that officer. The receipts and disbursements of the Government in specie, during the last eleven months, have amounted, together, to the sum of $39,402,247.99; and not a dollar has been lost to the Treasury, nor any injury inflicted upon any branch of commerce or business. The constitutional treasury has been tried during a period of war, when it was necessary to negotiate very large loans, and, when expenditures were being increased, and when transfers unprecedented in amount were made from distant points for disbursement. During the last eleven months, the Government has received, transferred, and disbursed more specie than during the whole preceding period of fifty-six years preceding, since the adoption of the Constitution. To render the system still more safe, useful, and economical to the Government, and to render more secure the public money in the hands of disbursing agents, I have recommended, in my last annual report, (including the establishment of a branch mint at New York,) and which received the sanction of the House of Representatives during the last session, the measures recommended to the favorable consideration of Congress. During the year ending 30th June, 1847, our imports of specie were $24,000,000, (see table T,) most of which, under former systems, must have gone into the banks, to have been made the basis of issues of their paper to the additional amount of fifty or sixty millions of dollars. To meet an expansion, during the last spring and summer, accompanied with a specie drain, and followed by a greater drain, by bankruptcies in England to an extent heretofore unknown, finding our banks and credit greatly expanded, and reacting upon this expansion, would have produced a revulsion here exceeding in ruin that which occurred in 1814 in the country. A general suspension of the banks would probably have resulted; depressing the wages of labor and prices of property and products; diminishing the paper currency and credit even of the most solvent, and producing extensive bankruptcies. From this revulsion we have been saved by the constitutional treasury, by which the specie imported, instead of being converted into bank issues, has been made to circulate directly to a great extent as a currency among the people—having been received here during the last eleven months by the new orders of this Department under the act of 9th of February, 1845, and the rendeus of the Department of the able and efficient head of the mint at Philadelphia, to the unprecedented extent of $20,758,018.12; and there are thousands of our citizens, now in the interior, who have received our coin, and volunteer than to the purchaser; and there is an additional motive to retain the warrant or certificate. Instructions have also been issued by the Department to the various agents and receivers of land offices, that they cannot become the purchasers of these warrants or certificates, or any other land scrip, or be interested in these paper currency. If the union of the Government with the banks had continued, and their suspension and the depreciation of their paper currency, which arrested the wages of labor, specie disbursements, which suspended banks could not furnish, consequences the most disastrous to the honor and the interests of the Government of the Union. The Government is now disconnected from banks, and yet its stock and notes are at par, although we have been constrained to contract heavy loans, and to pay our foreign debt, in Mexico, than at any former period. But during the last war, when the Government was connected with banks, its six per cent. stock and Treasury notes were depreciated 25 per cent., payable in bank paper 20 per cent. below par; thus amounting to a loss of 45 cents in every dollar paid to the Government. In my first annual report to Congress, on the 3d of December, 1845, in recommending the adoption of the constitutional treasury, I the following, in reference to this subject:

"Nor will it be useful to establish a constitutional treasury, if it is to receive or disburse the paper of banks."

"If paper, in whatever form, or from whatever source it may issue, should be introduced as a circulation by the constitutional treasury, it would expose the Government, compelled to use as a means of circulating gold and silver."

During and before the commencement of the last session of Congress, it was thought by many that this measure could not operate successfully during war, and that large loans could not be negotiated if the payments were required in specie. The Department, however, adhered to the recommendation of its predecessor, believing that the Government would be rendered stronger by the divorce, and that if the Treasury should resort to banks to negotiate its loans or supply its revenue, that both, if the war continued, would be involved, as they were in the war of 1812, in one common ruin. During the months of June, July, and August last, (per table N.) the sum of $6,000,000 was transferred from the assistant treasurer of New York for necessary disbursements at New Orleans and in Mexico. Heretofore, the public money has been deposited in the banks, and loaned out to their customers, when such enormous transfers were made, a contraction of the banks, with ruinous losses, must have ensued. But the money of the Government is now transferred from New York to New Orleans, and scarcely affects business or the money market, because the transactions of the Government are separated from those of the banks. When the Government formerly received and disbursed only the paper of banks, whenever a revulsion and suspension had occurred, as in 1814, the Government was universally reached upon our perilous paper system, so as to create a pressure in our money market, a large and sudden contraction of the paper currency, and a sudden loss of specie by the banks, and, as a consequence, many failures and most frequent suspensions of specie payments. Now, in the 19th year of the Constitutional Treasury, when in England of the most unprecedented magnitude have occurred, including banks and bankers, yet our banks and credit are sound and stable, and the business of the country is still prosperous and progressive.

Table A gives the amount of Treasury notes paid in for public lands during the 4th quarter of 1846, and the 1st, 2d, and 3d quarters of 1847.

Table KK exhibits the amount of Treasury notes paid in for duties from 1st December, 1846, to 1st December, 1847, including the amount of $101,800, paid into the custom-house in April last, at a period when the month in which the loan for $10,000,000 was negotiated; from which it appears will observe the gradual appreciation of these notes in the market, and their partial discounts induced the Treasury to purchase them, and subsequent renewal of the payments of Treasury notes for duties.

Table P exhibits separately the monthly issue of Treasury notes from 1st January, 1847, to the 30th November, 1847, inclusive, under the acts of July 22, 1846, and of 28th January, 1847—being the whole amount, $32,764,100, which, at the time lacked $17,762,950, and in the aggregate of both $26,557,950.

Table Q exhibits the yearly payments on account of the principal and interest of the public debt from 1791 to 1847, both inclusive, amounting in the whole to the sum of $483,800,498.79.

This table is the same with that in the 4th vol. and the ability of the American Union to discharge all its obligations, the amount of debt now due being $45,659,659.40; which is less than one-tenth of the amount of principal and interest of the public debt which we have already paid. These payments were made with uniform punctuality, and without embarrassment to our interests, in periods when our population was greatly less than one-fifth of its present numbers, and when its ability to meet its engagements was even in a still more inferior ratio.

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Nothing is more injurious to all classes, but especially to our manufacturers, than the expansion and contraction of our currency, caused by our paper system, vibrating with every considerable change of the public money held by them as depositories. During a period of suspension, the paper system opens temporarily, and beyond the wants of the country, a market here for foreign imports, not in exchange for exports, but for credit; the country is flooded with the fabrics of the city of its specie, contracts the paper currency, forces, at a sacrifice, the sale of domestic fabrics, and ruinous importations, which have been made, and, as a consequence, many failures and most frequent suspensions of specie payments. Now, in the 19th year of the Constitutional Treasury, when in England of the most unprecedented magnitude have occurred, including banks and bankers, yet our banks and credit are sound and stable, and the business of the country is still prosperous and progressive.

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