MISCELLANEOUS.

THE ALLEGORICAL TALE.

A northern correspondent calls our attention to the following tale from the pen of a gentleman "of some merit and modesty," who has "numerous friends at the South" as well as at the North. We republish it with great pleasure.—UNION.

From the Albany Argus.

An allegorical tale, exceedingly well sustained, appears in our columns to-day, from the Knickerbocker for April. Aside from the ingenuity with which the "elements of things" are personified, and made to act according to their known properties and affinities, it has its interest in the descriptive and narrative parts for those not critically familiar with the conventional rules which govern in Gaseous and Mineral Society. It is from the pen—we venture to say, from the initials—of Samuel R. House, of Waterford, a young physician of rare though unpretending professional and general acquirements.

By a new contributor to the Knickerbocker, for April.

Methought I was exploring the hidden recesses of an extensive cave, whose winding passages had never before echoed to the tread of human foot. With ever-fresh admiration and delight, I was gazing at the thousand wonders which the flashing torch-light revealed on every side, at each step of my progress; when a strange sound, as of the hum of many voices, fell upon my ear. What such a sound could mean in such a place, was more than I could divine.

Curiosity led me on in the direction whence it came. The buzz of conversation—cheerful, as it would seem, from the occasional bursts of merriment that were heard—grew more and more distinct, until the dark and narrow passage I had been following, suddenly opened upon one of those magnificent rock-parlors, of whose grandeur and beauty description can convey but a faint idea. A flood of light illuminated the arching roof with the vast columns of stalactite sparkling with crystals that supported it, and was reflected, with imposing effect, from the huge sheets of the same material, of the purest white, that hung from the ceiling in graceful but substantial drapery. I stood in one of nature's noblest halls, but not alone.

A strange company had gathered there. "Black spirits and white, blue spirits and gray," were before me. A festive occasion had assembled in joyous mood and in holyday attire—the first born of creation, the ELEMENTS of things.

In dreams, nothing ever surprises us. It seemed perfectly natural to see these fairy forms in that strange grotto; so, accosting, without hesitation, the one nearest to me, I apologised for my intrusion, and was about to withdraw. From my new acquaintance, however, I received so cordial a welcome, and so earnest an invitation to become a partaker in their festivities, that I could not deny myself the pleasure of accepting the hospitality so kindly proffered.

I was soon informed that some of the leading characters among the Elements had resolved, some weeks before, upon having a general pic-nic dinner party. Fifty-six family invitations had accordingly been sent out—one to each of the brotherhood; and preparations for the feast made upon a most extensive scale. Sea and land had been ransacked for delicacies, and everything was put in requisition that could minister to the splendor of the entertainment or to the enjoyment of the occasion.

At the hour I so unexpectedly came upon them, nearly all the guests with their families had assembled in the strange drawing-room I have described, awaiting the summons to the banquet. Spacious as that drawing-room was, it was nearly filled with these interesting children of nature. And here they were—seen, not as in the chemist's laboratory, writhing in the heated crucible, or pent up in glassy prisons; or, peering out of gas-holders and Florence flasks, but arrayed in their native beauty; each free as air, and acting as impulse prompted. There were those present of every hue, every style of dress, every variety of appearance. The Metals, the Gases, the Salts, the Acids, the Oxides, the Alkalies, all were there. From the mine, from the shop of the artisan, from the mint, from the depths of ocean, even, they had come; and a gayer assemblage, a more animated scene, my eyes had never beheld.

Many of the ladies of the party were most tastefully attired. Chlorine wore a beautiful greenish-yellow robe, that displayed her queen-like form to good advantage. The fair daughters of Chromium particularly attracted my attention, with their gay dresses of the liveliest golden-yellow and orange-red. Iodine had but just arrived, and was not yet disincumbered of an unpretending outer garment of steel-gray that enveloped her person; but the warmth of the apartment soon compelled her to throw this aside, when she appeared arrayed in a vesture of thin gauze, of the most splendid violet color imaginable. Carbonic Acid was there, but not clad in the airy robes in which I expected to see her. The pressure of the iron hand of adversity had been upon her; and now her attire was plain—simply a dress of snowy white, the best which the straightened circumstances to which she had been reduced allowed her to assume. Quite a contrast to her, was her mother Carbon, whom you would have supposed to be a widow in deep mourning, or a nun who had taken the black veil—so sable were her garments, so gloomy her countenance—had not her ear-rings of polished jet, and a circlet of diamonds that glittered on her brow, evinced that she had not yet altogether renounced the vanities of the world. The belle of the room appeared to be Nitrous Acid, the graceful daughter of Nitrogen; airy in all her movements, and with dress of deepest crimson, that corresponded well with a lip and cheek rivalling the ruby in their redness.

Among the lady Metals, too, there were many of bright faces and resplendent charms; but I must pass on to a description of the gentlemen of the party. Sulphur wore a suit of modest yellow-plush; while Phosphorous quite disconcerted some of the more decorous of the matrons present, by making his appearance in a pair of flesh-colored tights. Phosphuretted Hydrogen, (or, as he is nicknamed, "Will of the Wisp,") startled me by flitting by in a robe of living flame, the dress in which the graceless youngster is said to haunt churchyards and marshy places, playing his pranks upon poor benighted travellers.

The King of the Metals, Gold, was arrayed in truly gorgeous apparel; though it must be confessed there was a glitter and an air of haughtiness about him, from which you would turn with pleasure to the mild sweet face of his royal sister, Silver, who leaned upon his arm—a bright-eyed, unassuming creature, of sterling worth.

Mercury was there, as lively and versatile as ever; a most restless being; now, by the thermometer, noting the subterranean temperature; now, by the barometer, predicting a storm in the regions overhead; now, arm-in-arm with this metal, then with that; and they all, by the way, save stern old Iron, had hard work to shake him off. A strange character, surely, was he; a philosopher of uncommon powers of reflection; the veriest busy-body in the world; well versed in the heart of healing; a practical amalgamationist; in short, a complete factotum. Potasium, though a decidedly brilliant-looking fellow, manifested too much levity in his deportment to win respect, and was pronounced, by those who knew him best, to be rather soft. In gravity, Platinum surpassed all the company; in natural brightness, Tin was outshone by few.

When Oxygen arrived, and his light, elastic tread was heard, and his clear, transparent countenance was seen among them, a murmur of congratulation ran round the drawing-room, and involuntarily all assembled arose to do him homage. He was a patriarch, indeed, among them—literally a father to many of the younger guests. His arrival was the signal for adjournment to the banqueting-room, where of right he took his seat at the head of the table.

Touching the apartment we had now entered, I can only say that it was grand beyond description! It was lighted up with the radiance of noonday, by an arch of flame intensely dazzling, produced by a curious apparatus which Galvanism (who excels in these matters) had contrived for the occasion, out of some materials which his friends Zinc and Copper had furnished him. Festoons of evergreens and wreathes of roses encircled the alabaster columns, and made the whole look like a hall in fairyland.

But I must describe the table and its paraphernalia. The preparation of the viands—I mean the baking, boiling, roasting, stewing, and the like—had been committed to Caloric, who has had long experience in that department. The nobler of the Metals had generously lent their costly services of plate, while Carbon united with Iron to furnish the elegant steel cutlery used on the occasion. Alumina provided the fine set of China that graced the table; and Silex and Potash, without solicitation, sent, as their joint contribution, cut-glass pitchers and tumblers, of superior pattern and transparency.

As among these sons of Nature there is no craving for artificial excitement, Oxygen and Hydrogen, (who, by the way, have done more for the cold water societies than Delavan or Father Mathew,) were commissioned to provide the drinkables; and what beverage *they* furnished may easily be conjectured. Carbon, with Oxygen and Hydrogen, found most of the vegetables; and Nitrogen, whose assistance as commissary here was indispensable, joined them in procuring the meats, under which the table groaned. No taste but would be satisfied with the variety: no appetite but would be cloyed with the profusion of good things.

Though the liberality of the four who have been named left but little for their associates to contribute, still some individual offerings to the feast deserve to be noticed. Thus the oysters, Carbonate of Lime had sent in the shell; the pyramids of ice-cream for the dessert were provided by the daughter of Chlorine and Sodium, who was out several hours in the snow, engaged in freezing them; and the almonds and peaches came from the conservatory of Hydrocyanic Acid, the druggist.

After grace had been said by Affinity, who is a sort of chaplain to the Elements, having officiated at the weddings of all the married ones of the company, a vigorous onset was made upon the good things before them. At first, all were too much engaged for conversation; but, the dessert appearing at last, as they cracked the nuts, the jest too was cracked; toast and song were called for, and wit and innocent hilarity became the order of the day. Even Oxygen, who had presided with such an air of dignity, relaxed from his sternness, and entertained the younger ones at the table with many a tale of his mischievous pranks in the days of old Father Chaos, when Time and himself were young. Strange tales they were, too, of earthquakes with which Hydrogen and he would now and then frighten the Icthyosauri and Megatheria of the ancient world; and of conflagrations comical, as of old Vulcan's tongs and anvil, kindling them before his eyes with the very bolt he was forging: "This, however," he added," with a sly glance at his staid partner Nitrogen, who sat near, "was before Marriage had sobered down his spirits, and tamed his impetuosity."

I have no space to chronicle more of these freaks of Oxygen's early youth, nor any of the sayings and doings of others of the party on this memorable night. Else would I give the marvellous story Nickel had to relate, of a *falling out* he once had with the Man in the Moon, and of a journey he was consequently under the necessity of making in hot haste to the earth for refuge. I would tell, too, of the drolleries of Nitrous Oxide, that funniest, queerest, craziest of youngsters; and how Phosphorus made a flaming speech, and Potash a caustic one; and how Mercury proposed as a toast, "The medical profession: to whom we say, 'Use us, but do not abuse us.'" I must speak, however, of a curious little by-scene I chanced to witness: it was a flirtation that Platinum was carrying on with Hydrogen, whom, much to my surprise, I found seated among the Metals, and quite at home among them too. There was quite a contrast between Platinum, gray, heavy, and dull as he was, and the light and buoyant creature by his side: but there soon seemed to be evidence of some mutual attraction. Platinum grew warm in his attentions, and ere long quite a flame was kindled between them.

So passed the evening: all went "merry as a marriage-bell," with nothing to mar the good humor that prevailed; till, in an evil hour, Sulphuretted Hydrogen, a disagreeable fellow, against whose appearance at the banquet most of the company had protested, entered the apartment with a very offensive air. In an instant the whole family of Metals, to whom he was particularly obnoxious, changed color. Lead fairly grew black in the face with indignation; Arsenic and Antimony seemed to be jaundiced with rage; Ammonia, to whom his presence recalled very unpleasant associations, in trying to avoid him, precipitated several Metalic Oxides to the floor; while Chlorine, with more self-command than the rest, advanced with a firm step to expel the intruder, looking as if she were about to annihilate him on the spot.

How the scene might have terminated, I know not; for just at that moment a strange sound, of awful import, like the trampling of a mighty host, came to my ears: I felt sure it was "an earthquake's voice," and that now my fate was sealed! My knees tottered under me; the arching grotto and the festive board gradually vanished from before my eyes, which—*opened* upon the class, as they were leaving the laboratory of our worthy professor of chemistry, where, it seemed, much to my confusion, I had fallen asleep during lecture, and

'Dreamed a dream in the midst of my slumbers.'

S. R. H.

Medical College, Crosby-street.

We copy the following paragraph, upon a subject that has occasioned some discussion lately, from the Concord Freeman—an excellent democratic paper, which Mr. Warren, its proprietor, is conducting with great tact, ability, and efficiency:

"We observe that some of our cotemporaries complain of the late examination and rearrangement of the assistant engineers in the naval service. We have no acquaintance with the board of officers by whom this examination was made, and of course know nothing of their fitness. They, however, stand at the head of the list of that corps, and *ought* to know all about it; and, from their position, may fairly be presumed to be free from bias. But be this as it may, that an examination of the assistant engineers, by some competent authority, is necessary, seems to us too manifest to be disputed. A similar examination of midshipmen is always had before they are promoted to passed midshipmen, and of assistant surgeons before they are promoted to surgeons. In both these instances, the examining board is composed of officers who have respectively passed through these grades; and in arranging those who have passed the examination on the list, regard is had, among those passed at any one examination, solely to merit—the best officer being placed on the list No. 1, and so on. And in case either a midshipman or an assistant surgeon fails to pass on the first examination, a second examination is had the year following; and if found to be unqualified for promotion then, such officer is immediately stricken from the roll. We do not, therefore, see anything unusual in this examination and rearrangement. Those who are dropped as unqualified will of course complain, and so will those who have been superseded; and, at the same time, it is not unlikely some of those who have been promoted think they have not been placed high enough. Such complaints are incident to every system. There is but one straightforward course to pursue in all such cases, and this Mr. Bancroft appears determined upon. In all probability, he does not know personally three engineers in the service."

[*Boston Post.*

REGULATIONS FOR THE ADMISSION AND PROMOTION OF ENGINEERS.

Before persons can be appointed assistant engineers in the navy, they must have passed a satisfactory examination by a board of at least three engineers, designated by the Secretary of the Navy, and produce satisfactory evidence of their good moral character, correct habits, and sound bodily health.

In the examination for a *third assistant engineer*, the candidate must be able to describe all the different parts of ordinary condensing and non-condensing engines, and explain their uses and their mechanical operation; to explain the manner of putting engines in operation, how to regulate and modify their action, and the manner of guarding against danger from the boilers, by the means usually applied to them for that purpose. He will be expected to write a fair, legible hand, and to be well acquainted with arithmetic and the mensuration of surfaces and solids of the regular forms. He must be not less than eighteen nor more than twenty-six years of age.

Candidates for promotion to the rank of *second assistant engineer* must have served at least two years as third assistants in the management of steam-engines in the navy in actual service; must produce testimonials of good conduct from the commanders and senior engineers of the vessels in which they may have served; and must pass a satisfactory examination upon the subjects, and to the extent prescribed for third assistants; they must likewise be able to explain the peculiarities of the different kinds of valves; the construction of expansion valves; the manner of their operation; the remedies which are usually resorted to, to check foaming in boilers; must possess a knowledge of the usual causes of derangement in the operation of air-pumps, force-pumps, and feed-pipes, and the proper preventives and remedies; and the mode of cleaning boilers when required. They must have a general knowledge of the mensuration of surfaces and solids.

Before promotion to the rank of *first assistant engineer*, candidates must have been employed at least three years as second assistant engineers in the management of steam-engines in actual service, and produce testimonials of character and good conduct from their former commanders and superior engineers; must pass a satisfactory examination upon the subjects prescribed for third and second assistants; the mechanical powers and the general principles of the operation of steam-engines; the causes of, and the best means of removing, the different kinds of deposites and incrustations to which boilers are exposed; and be able to furnish a working sketch or drawing of different parts of engines and boilers; to superintend their construction, and determine upon their accuracy and fitness for use.

Promotions to the grade of *chief engineer* are to be made after the candidates have served for two years as first assistant engineers in the management of steam-engines in the navy in sea-service, and have been examined upon any of the subjects specified for assistants which the board may deem expedient; and after they shall have satisfied the board of their previous good conduct and character, of their sufficient knowledge of mechanics and natural philosophy, of the forms, arrangements, and principles of different kinds of steam-engines, boilers, propellers, and their various dependencies, which have been successfully applied to steam-vessels, and their alleged relative advantages for sea or river service, and shall have attained twenty-six years of age.

Candidates for promotion, who may fail to pass a satisfactory examination, may be examined again once; and if they fail to pass at the second examination, they shall be dropped from the list of engineers.

Candidates for admission or promotion will be required to furnish the board of examiners with evidence of their abilities in the execution of mechanical drawings, and their proficiency in penmanship.

The examining boards will report the relative qualifications of the persons examined, and number them, giving to the best qualified the lowest number.

Assistant engineers now in the service, who have not served as such in steamers the time specified by these regulations, will be required, when directed by the department, to undergo an examination to determine whether their qualifications warrant their continuance in their present grades. Examinations to ascertain qualifications for admission or promotion, will be ordered at the discretion of the department; and if, in its opinion, the wants of the service require the admission of engineers of any grade above that of third assistant, the same qualifications and restrictions as to time of service will be exacted, as by the regulations are required for promotion to the grade in question: *Provided*, That all appointments to the grade of second assistant shall be made between the ages of twenty-one and twenty-eight; and to that of first assistant, between twenty-five and thirty-two; and to that of chief engineer, between twenty-eight and thirty-five. The engineers and assistants must employ all favorable opportunities for acquiring a practical knowledge of the fabrications of the different parts of steam-engines and their dependencies, that they may be able to repair or replace such parts as the space and means for making and repairing can be furnished in steam-vessels. When other qualifications are equal, candidates whose skill and abilities in these particulars are superior, will have precedence over others for admission or promotion, who may be considered equal in other particulars.

GEORGE BANCROFT.

Navy Department, July 8, 1845.

The operation of the new post office law, as far as can be ascertained, for the single month since it went into effect, is highly encouraging; and the accounts which we gather from the public journals in different parts of the country justify the belief that, when its advantages become generally appreciated, the system will meet all just expectations that have been formed of it. It was framed as a great measure, by which all classes of the community were to be benefited; and although it was believed, and still is, that the system will ultimately support itself, yet, that there would be no falling off of revenue at first, under the reduced rates, was never anticipated. In all the principal towns and cities, the number of letters has largely increased, though not in a ratio sufficient to equal the receipts under the former law. Many exhibit a decrease of 25 and 30 per cent.; others of 40, and some of near 50. These deficits are doubtless to no inconsiderable degree attributable to the great reduction on the longer distances. For instance: a letter to Charleston, Mobile, New Orleans, Cincinnati, St. Louis, &c., which, under the old system, might be charged a *dollar*, can under the new system be chargeable with but *ten cents* postage; consequently, the receipts on this class of letters are widely different under the two systems.

The receipts at the post office in this city, for the months named, were as follows:

June, 1844,	$17,760 63	July 1844,	$13,611 52
June, 1845,	16,444 97	July, 1845,	8,711 56
	$1,315 66		$4,899 96

Showing a falling off, under the old system, in the month of June of the present year, as compared with the same month of last year, of 9½ per cent., and for the month of July (the first month under the new system) a reduction in the receipts of 36 per cent., while the number of letters have been greatly increased.

The receipts at the post office in Baltimore during the month of July, compared with those of July last year, and of June, 1845, were as follows—showing a decrease in the receipts of near 50 per cent:

June, 1844,	$6,537 87	July, 1844,	$6,483 74
June 1845,	3,336 42	July, 1845,	3,336 42
	3,201 45		3,147 32

The postmaster at Wheeling furnishes the following statement:

Number of letter packages mailed at Wheeling for the month of July, 1845 - - -	14,592
Number of letter packages mailed at Wheeling for the month of July, 1844 - -	11,340
Excess in favor of 1845, - -	3,252

At the post office in Washington city, the number of letters and packages received during the month, unconnected with the business of government, has increased over 33 per cent., compared with the month of June.

The deficiency, however, in the gross receipts of the department, will by no means be as heavy as many predict. The payment of postage by the executive departments, the reduction in contracts, the payment of postage by Congress, &c., will go far to supply any deficit that might otherwise exist. But even supposing that the department, while the system is being tested, fails to meet its current expenses under it, no difficulty whatever can arise; nor can Congress hesitate in making an appropriation from the national treasury to defray the expenses of a system of so much importance to our whole population. Let the measure be fully and fairly tested, and there can be no doubt of its complete success.—*Pennsylvanian.*

From the Pennsylvanian.

MR. POWERS, THE SCULPTOR.

We present a few extracts from a letter written by Mr. Powers to a friend in this city, which will be found interesting, as presenting a view of the difficulties which are attendant on the progress of talent towards its development, and may likewise prove an incentive to those who are more addicted to despondency than the writer. It will be a subject of congratulation to his numerous personal friends, and more numerous admirers, to know that his day of trial is passed—that perfect success has crowned his arduous studies and unremitting assiduity—and that orders, more numerous than he can fill, are now pouring in upon him from European patrons. But his prosperous condition will be best explained in his own words:

"FLORENCE, June 27, 1845.

"If you want to know how it is that a man may often think of those dear to him, and resolve and resolve to write to them, and yet rarely do it, turn sculptor yourself, get a lot of children, and come to Florence, to buffet the thousand obstacles in your way, such as I have met with—and you will be satisfied. When I look back upon the last eight years of my experience, I wonder to find so few gray hairs upon my head; for I have passed through trials which distress me, even now, to think of. But I do not wish to write you a croaking letter; nor would I have you suppose I think to justify myself for not writing to you. I would only let you know why I have become so neglectful (in appearance) to my friends in America. My first finished statue is now exhibiting in London; and I have received very favorable news from it. It is "The Slave," of which you may have heard. I will not tell you what has been said of it; for I suppose you will see it in the papers at home; and you would not think any better of me for repeating anything, in favor, at least, of my own work. I have received orders from England for two copies of "The Slave," and another from Lord Egerton for an original work—the subject to be left to my own choice.

* * * "Speaking of Cincinnati, I fear I shall never recognise her in her magnificence; and, much as I rejoice at her prosperity, I shall still feel a regret at not finding the same dear old city that I left, when I started upon (what appeared to me at the time, in spite of my forced hopes) a 'wild-goose chase.' 'What folly,' thought I, in moments of despondency, 'for a man at thirty, with a family, and without property, to think of going into the very nest of the arts, and there distinguish himself as a sculptor!' But, to tell you the truth, the family and the poverty have done more to support me, than I have to support them. They have compelled me to make exertions that I hardly thought myself capable of; and often, when on the eve of despairing, they have forced me, like a coward in a corner, to fight like a hero, not for myself, but my wife and little ones. I have now as much work to do as I can execute, unless I can find some more assistance in the *marble;* and I have a prospect of further commissions. I was delighted, *at last*, to send Mr. C. his bust of Proserpine. I hope he will like it. It was hard to make him wait so long; but it could not be avoided."

BOYS' DRESS BOOTS—Philadelphia made boots for little boys.—With considerable trouble we have got them up, and now offer them at our usually low prices, for cash, or to punctual customers.

W. MANN,

Sign of *the large black boot*, Pennsylvania avenue, 2 doors east of 4½ street.

Aug. 9

POLITICAL.

FLORIDA.

From the Tallahassee Floridian, Aug. 2.

CONGRESSIONAL ELECTION.

We are gratified at the information we have received from the adjacent counties of the State, that the nomination of Mr. Brockenbrough is hailed with great satisfaction by the democracy. The repeated elections within the last year have been a severe tax upon the people. Their zeal, if not unextinguishable, would flag. But they feel the importance for the State, of having a talented, industrious, and zealous friend of the administration, as its representative in the popular branch of the legislature of the Union.

We have nothing to object to Mr. Cabell, except that his politics are not exactly of the right kind. He would not be a proper exponent of the wishes and political principles of the people of the State. His election would be, in some degree, a restoration of the ancient *territorial regime*—a coming back again of the old *Bourbons*—those who have seemed to regard themselves as the *legitimate* rulers of Florida. He is, we concede, the best of the whole dynasty. But we cannot bring ourselves to the conclusion that the people will elect him, or that it would be wise for them to elect him. He would be an infinitely better representative than some of them, who, it is rumored, were tried to be made candidates of, and will run a great deal better than they would; but we repeat, he must be a great way behind at the end of the race. "Revolutions never go backward," is an old and true proverb. The people of Florida have just achieved a wonderful, a glorious political and moral revolution. Despite the calumny, abuse, and vituperation of their opponents, the democracy (alias the buzzards, as the Sentinel called them) of young Florida—the young democracy—have risen like the young Hercules of old, and in their might "bruised the head" of the fell serpent of federal whigery, while it was striving to strangle them even in their cradle. The same influence—the same party—nearly the same people have to be met again. The snake was not "killed"—it was only "*scotched.*"

The democracy of Florida should arouse. They should rally at the sound of the old battle-cry of "principles and the people." Attempts are made to create sectional jealousies. It is said that Middle Florida is getting more than her share, and that the candidate for representative should have been selected from the west, or east, or south. Is not the whig candidate a middle district man? But as to Mr. Brockenbrough, this objection does not lie. He was brought out by the south, and west, and east. The south, which is so wholly, so nobly democratic, claimed, and rightly claimed, that she had a title to be heard. She was willing to postpone the claims of her Mallory and Marvin, and others, in consideration of being allowed to select Brockenbrough as her favorite beyond that district. So, too, a portion of the west—the west, where he lived so long, where he won his reputation as a jurist—in which he held responsible official trusts—which west he represented by a flattering popular vote in the Territorial Senate—we repeat, a large portion of the west claimed him as their preferred candidate.

William H. Brockenbrough did not seek the nomination. His friends urged it upon him. He has never sought office. He represented, on his first coming to Florida, one of the eastern counties in the territorial council with credit and honor. His course was democratic. When appointed United States district attorney for West Florida by Mr. Van Buren, he removed to Apalachicola in 1838. He, however, resigned that office in a short time, and was appointed United States judge for this district; which high and honorable trust, however, he declined accepting, preferring to devote himself to professional practice. He soon after removed to this city. He has ever held a foremost station at our bar, not undistinguished for talents, legal acumen, learning, or eloquence. Who can doubt his democracy? Here, in the hotbed of Florida whigery—when it would have been to his pecuniary and professional advantage to have been a whig, or at least to have been neutral—he did not hesitate to espouse the cause of democracy in the gloomiest day of its peril. In 1840 he sustained the election of Van Buren against the whig candidate, even while a candidate in a whig district—the west—for the territorial senate; and his frank and manly course contributed, we believe, to his success. Since his removal to this city, he has been one of those sneeringly denounced as the '*workies*' in the democratic cause. He was elected the first president of the Democratic Hickory Club of this county, and his soul-stirring eloquence in the cause of the people called forth, on different occasions, hundreds to the meetings of the club, and produced the most salutary effects in the dissemination of true and correct principles. His election will reflect credit on the State. *With the senators already chosen, Florida will, if he is elected also, start in her career under the most favorable auspices.* He is favorably known in his native State and throughout the Union. We have heretofore copied extracts from leading prints in Virginia and elsewhere, referring to him, and we now clip the following from the Richmond Enquirer, contained in an article written by a correspondent of that paper from the mountains of western Virginia, and also another extract from the Charlottesville Jeffersonian.

We would add, Mr. B. declined to have his name presented for the senatorship, and conceded the propriety of preferring the gentlemen elected, who are both his attached personal as well as political friends. His course should be appreciated by every true democrat.

From the St. Albans (Vt) Republican.

THE DONKEY OF WHIGERY.

The whigs are eternally astride of some hobby or another, and they never leave it until they have fairly ridden it down. They are now astride the tariff, whipping, kicking, and spurring, and fighting windmills and their own shadows, in the true Quixotic style. "The tariff 's in danger!" bawls out some bell-wether of the party; and immediately the cry is caught up and echoed from one corner of the land to the other. "Stick to the tariff," says one; "it 's your charter," says another; "Polk 's against it," bawls another: and in this way they are endeavoring to create a panic, and conceal the real points at issue.

Confusion of thought, we are told, is one of the truest indications of terror. And the panic of these tariff alarmists is so very great, they cannot see how foolishly they are cutting their own throats; for it appears, on summing up these dangers, that we are in the utmost peril of being destroyed by the very measure they are upholding—a measure that is driving the farmer to sacrifice his property to pay his taxes and supply his family with the necessaries of life.

This hue-and-cry about the reduction of the tariff is raised by the manufacturing lords. Their interest is too well provided for by the present law, to wish it touched. The control it gives them over the producers and the markets of the country, is a power not to be lightly surrendered. As long as they can buy their wool for almost a song, and divide their present enormous profits, they will use every exertion to continue the unequal provisions of the present tariff.

It is this very tariff that makes wool so low and dull in market. It is this very tariff that is destroying the farmer. It does not protect him against foreign competition. The manufacturers managed this matter by the introduction of a "coarse-wool clause," which is flooding the country with foreign wool, and driving our own wool-growers from the market.

There is no danger to the tariff—no danger to protection; but there is danger to these rich manufacturers. There is danger that the enormous profits they are making will be shifted to the pockets of the real producers of the wealth of the country. The following statistics are taken from the Woodstock Age. We ask every farmer in the country to read them. They will easily discover the reason why he is growing poor, and why the manufacturer under his very nose is growing rich.

"In 1840, about 35,000,000 pounds of wool were raised in the United States. By reference to reports of the treasurer, it will be seen that an average of about 400,000 pounds is all the fine wool, or European wool, that has been imported annually for the last ten years. In 1841, good wool sold in this country for 45 cents per pound. The duty then on fine wool was but 25 per cent. The tariff of 1842 increased the duties on fine or European wool (of which none of consequence was imported) to 40 per cent., equal to 12 cents per pound. Let it be remembered the democrats urged a higher duty on South American or coarse wool. The whigs opposed and defeated the proposition of Mr. Wright to increase the duty from 6 per cent. to 20 per cent. There were imported of this wool last year, over 13,000,000 pounds—about one-third as much as was raised in all the States in 1840. Yet Mr. Clay and the whig presses say, there must be no modification of the tariff of 1842. No wonder that the manufacturers can pay the few hands they employ one dollar per day, while coarse cloths are protected by a duty of 40 per cent., and pay but 5 per cent. duty on wool.

"In 1836-'40, importations of South American wool were not large; in 1841 wool sold high. In 1842, the importation was nearly 15,000,000; in that year wool sold at from 20 to 30 cents per pound. In 1843, but about 3,000,000 was imported; the next year (1844) wool brought from 30 to 50 cents. In 1844, nearly 14,000,000 was imported, and this year wool is low. Do not these facts show that this wool does not come in competition with our wool?"

From the Boston Daily Times.

THE POSITION OF TEXAS, AND THE DUTY OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

We perceive that the New York Courier and Enquirer, and other whig papers, are agitating the subject of the administration's sending troops to Texas for the defence of its borders against any invasion that may ensue from the late action of Texas and the United States, with regard to the annexation of the former country. To us, this course of the whig leaders seems exceedingly factious, and very much like seeking to find fault with everything that is done by our government for the honor and glory of our country, and the preservation of its rights and liberties.

We have no question, however, that this policy belongs essentially to, and originates from, the leaders, and not from the honest members of the party—the masses—who, it must be conceived, can have no wish to disgrace their country, or weaken its energies, in the case of an invasion from the enemy. The leaders have another object in view. They desire to keep up an antagonistical position to a democratic administration, to falsify its declarations, to misrepresent its intentions; and thus, by deception and false issues, render it unpopular in the estimation of the American people. It is only by such means that they now expect to come into power, enjoy the honors of place, and bask in the sunshine of popular favor.

But it must be remembered by them, that the late election, as well as others in the political calendar, has demonstrated that the people—even though enrolled, in part, under the whig banner—have too much sense to be misled by superficial reasoning and declamatory appeals. Surely they are too intelligent to be misled by the declaration—*that the administration has no right to send troops to Texas for the preservation of peace on its borders.* They must see that Texas is a part of our territory, and that an act has been passed by Congress, and approved by the Executive, admitting Texas into the American Union, under certain stipulations; and that those stipulations have been honorably complied with by the representatives of Texas, under the sanction of its Executive. Nothing now remains to be done, but what is purely formal and immaterial. The substance of the contract has been acted upon and consummated.

Hence arises a duty to be performed by the greater power, which has absorbed and incorporated within itself the lesser—it is the duty of defending its whole territory from invasion, and making preparations for the preservation of peace within its borders. Texas is ours by the law of nations; and we should be false to its known principles, we should be recreant to our own free institutions, if we did not defend our whole republic against whatever power that might seek to disturb its boundaries. The President of the United States has no other election. He must do his duty to the country, and he will do it.

Indeed, the people would hold the administration as faithless in its duty, did it not take all necessary precautions to preserve the integrity of the whole Union, and resist encroachment upon our territory, let it come from what source it may. In fine, the leaders of the whig party might as well understand now, as by continued lessons of bitter experience, that there is very little use in resisting the progress of American institutions, the wishes of the American people, or the judicious, patriotic, and well-advised course of the administration, which they have established, and are determined to uphold.

LOW PRICES INCREASE CONSUMPTION.

In 1840, the then government of England sought to increase the revenue of the government by increasing the taxes. The attempt was a failure. In 1842, the present government sought to increase the revenue by *diminishing* duties. The effort was eminently successful. Encouraged by success, farther reductions of duties were made last spring, the most important of which was on sugar. The minister estimated that the increased consumption of all kinds of sugar consequent upon the reduction would be 43,000 tons for the year, making the whole consumption 240,000 tons. The greatest consumption ever known was 207,000 tons in one year, of which one half was British plantation. The result of the reduction up to June 18 was as follows. British plantation sugar imported:

1842,	64,885 tons	1844,	60,810 tons.
1843,	65,492 "	1845,	93,997 "

Here is an increase of 33,000 tons, of one description only, in less than six months, at an advance of 2s. 2d. per cwt. on the foreign cost. The people of England have been enabled to buy 1½ lb. of sugar where they bought 1 lb. last year; and the government has obtained revenue as follows:

1844,	1,200,000 cwt. at 24s. duty,	£1,440,000
1845,	1,880,000 " " 14s. duty,	1,316,000

Instead of a falling off of £600,000 for six months, as estimated, the decline is but £25,000. This enjoyment has been placed within the means of the people, by diminishing the cost of the article. What is the policy pursued in the United States? A hundred per cent. duty is imposed on sugar; and even the "Tribune" admits that the price to the consumers is advanced in consequence, and that print rejoices over the fact. A diminished consumption of course follows the enhanced price not only of this, but all other articles. The 40 per cent. duty on woollen goods has produced a greatly diminished consumption of those articles, and of course a *decreased* demand for wool, at a time when the supply of the latter was greatly increased, both by smuggling and increased crops. The result is a decline in price. The contrast between the policy of the United States and English governments consists in the fact that the former seek to encourage the making of goods by bounties to the manufacturers; the latter seek to encourage the consumption of goods by reducing their cost to the consumers, who are the great masses of the people. The United States destroy the sale of goods, by artificially raising the prices; England promotes the sale, by reducing the prices. Which is the commercial policy? Evidently that which creates the greatest interchange of goods; and that is the soundest manufacturing policy which results in the greatest consumption of the goods made. Manufactures are wanted in a country to add to the comforts of its inhabitants. If they are made at prices beyond the reach of consumers, they might as well not be made at all.

[*N. Y. Morning News.*

From the Jackson Mississippian, July 30.

THE CURRENCY AND THE TARIFF.

The declaration of the Hon. Robert J. Walker, in his letter to us, published during the past month, to the effect that the tariff "*must be reduced to the revenue standard,*" has attracted the attention of the public throughout the country. So far as we have observed, the sentiment is received with unbounded satisfaction by the republican party. Some are, however, doubtful whether any substantial modification of the abominable bill of 1842 can be effected at the next session of Congress. It is difficult—nay, almost impossible—to effect a radical change in favor of free trade, while the currency of the country is in so inflated a condition. The advantages of unrestrained commerce with the world are not manifest, while the currency is now contracted, now expanded. Experience teaches, that, when the currency is contracted, importations decline. When money is cheap, (or plenty,) importations increase. When the currency is scarce, exportations will exceed importations, and the balance of trade thus produced in our favor will be brought back in specie. When banks are chartered, and paper money becomes plenty, it drives the specie from circulation; money is unnaturally cheap, and heavy importations again commence; and, again, the specie is drawn from the banks, carried abroad, and distress and an exclusive rag currency is the consequence. Thus intimately and almost inseparably connected is the whole fabric of duties, importations, and currency. An amendment on one subject may produce like results on the other; but, with a sound currency—a currency not subject to the ever changing pursuits of speculators—a reduction of the high tariff follows as a natural consequence.

Taking this view of the subject, truly may it be said that Mr. Walker has a difficult task before him. If he succeed in breaking down the high duties, he will have removed one of those causes which encourage a mixed and unstable currency; but, could he first succeed in destroying the mixed currency, his task thereafter would be an easy one. The abandonment of protective duties would succeed, as surely as darkness is dispelled before the glory of the king of day.

The federalists who believe that corruption is a necessary ingredient in a good government, will understand the principles which govern this subject. They favor a paper currency—a national bank; for well they know the base passions which too frequently rule in human affairs. With a bank they know that an abundant currency will prevent the people from immediately suffering the distresses of high duties; and they likewise understand that a bank is almost sure to follow a high tariff—one being favorable to the existence of the other. Do away with the banking system, and the tariff will soon fall of its own weight. Each is a burdensome tax upon honest labor, levied for the benefit of the few. Each is at war with the most simple principles of reciprocal justice between man and man.

Mr. Walker has the most earnest wishes of the lovers of true equality everywhere, for a successful termination of his exertions to unshackle commerce; but whilst he is collecting statistics in relation to the tariff, let him not forget that he will hardly be able to effect much, whilst the government supports the "pet bank" system—one of the grand causes which keeps alive the restrictive policy, deludes mankind with an outside show of prosperity, and finally bequeaths vice and debt a legacy to posterity.

SKETCHES FROM THE FOREIGN PAPERS RECEIVED AT THE UNION OFFICE BY THE LATE ARRIVAL OF THE MAMMOTH STEAMER GREAT BRITAIN.

THE NEW TREATY OF COMMERCE BETWEEN ENGLAND AND SICILY.—Of this treaty, the London Morning Post gives the following summary:

This treaty, which has been presented to Parliament, consists of nineteen articles. The first eight relate to the advantages which the citizens of each country shall enjoy. These are, that they shall be subject to the laws of the country in which either may reside. When duties are not levied at a fixed rate, the *ad valorem* duty shall be ascertained by the importer signing a declaration, on entering his goods at the custom-house, of their value. If the officer considers this amount too small, he shall be at liberty to purchase the goods at the amount stated by the importer, with an addition of 10 per cent. In case of wrecks, what is saved shall be truly accounted for by the agents of both governments, after deducting the expenses paid in recovering the property. Her Majesty gives up the privilege of 10 per cent., stipulated in favor of the trade of her subjects by the convention of 1816. His Sicilian Majesty engages that, as long as this treaty shall last, the subjects of Great Britain shall continue to enjoy a reduction of 10 per cent upon the duties payable according to the customs tariff, and they shall not be charged higher du