THE WASHINGTON UNION.

WASHINGTON CITY.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, APRIL 22, 1857.

OFFICIAL.

APPOINTMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT.

Richard Roman, appraiser general at San Francisco, California, vice Samuel J. Bridge, removed.

Henry C. Matthews, collector, Georgetown, D. C., vice Robert White, whose commission has expired.

Michael Kane, appraiser, San Francisco, California, vice O. P. Sutton, removed.

Henry E. Stoughton, district attorney for Vermont, vice Peck, whose commission has expired.

R. Biddle Roberts, district attorney for West Pennsylvania, vice Thaler, resigned.

Jas. Conner, district attorney for South Carolina, vice Evans; commission expired.

Wm. Morrow, marshal for Delaware, reappointed.

F. J Moreno, marshal for North Florida, reappointed.

E. E. Blackburn, marshal for South Florida, reappointed.

G. S. Walden, district attorney for North Alabama, reappointed.

W. H. H. Tison, marshal for North Mississippi, vice Jordan, whose commission has expired.

Richard Griffith, marshal for South Mississippi, reappointed.

Jas. C. Pennie, marshal for South California.

Wm. H. Welch, chief justice of Minnesota, reappointed.

John Pettit, assistant justice of Minnesota, vice Chatfield; commission expired.

R. R. Nelson, assistant justice of Minnesota, vice Sherburne; commission expired.

Sam. W. Black, of Pennsylvania, assistant justice of Nebraska, vice Underwood, resigned.

Edward Lander, chief justice of Washington Territory, reappointed.

George H. Williams, chief justice of Oregon Territory, reappointed.

Matthew P. Deary, assistant justice of Oregon Territory, reappointed.

Cyrus Olney, assistant justice of Oregon Territory, reappointed.

APPOINTMENT BY THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

James Mills, deputy collector and inspector of customs, St. Paul, Minnesota, vice L. B. Wait, removed.

THE ENGLISH ELECTIONS.

The dissolution of the old Parliament and the election of a new one have followed each other with great rapidity. The public journals in England have for the last fortnight been full of electioneering matter, almost competing, in this respect, with the press of the United States. There have been speeches to the people, and printed addresses to the people, and editorial appeals, together with all the usual accessories of a hard-fought contest. The ministerialists and the opposition have handled each other frequently without gloves, and there is no doubt that England has free speech and a free press. The appeal to the people was on the Chinese question—that is, the question whether the British authorities at Canton had sufficient justification for their war on that city? The Palmerston government took the broad affirmative of this issue, and being out-voted dissolved Parliament. Then it was announced that Lord Elgin had been sent to China as a special minister; and the opposition complain that this ought to have been announced before the vote on China was taken, because such an announcement, being a *quasi* disclaimer of Sir John Bowring's proceedings, would have prevented the dissolution. The charge is that Lord Palmerston wanted a new Parliament more thoroughly devoted to himself than the old one, and was glad to avail himself of this China question in order to get it. Going to the people on an appeal to British *pluck* and British honor, he felt sure of success. Whatever may have been his motive, there is no doubt that he judged rightly of the *effect* of such an appeal, and the opposition were not very adroit in accepting the issue prepared for them. The contest is now over, and the new Parliament will assemble about May 1st. To dissolve Congress, order elections, and have a new Congress back again in two months, would be considered rapid work even in the United States.

The result of the elections is favorable to Lord Palmerston, but still more favorable, we judge, to the "liberals," as he chooses to call his party, although many of the most liberal of the members rejected (and the members elect as well) belong to the opposition. The liberal members suspect Lord Palmerston of having very little notion of *reform*, beyond the use that can be made of the word as a rallying cry, and in the new Parliament they threaten to make him meet all the reform issues squarely. Perhaps they will, but *he* can avoid them if anybody can, for never was there a more adroit party manager than Lord Palmerston. He goes back to the leadership of the House of Commons, exultant and powerful. But it is not quite true, as the London Times says, that he has been selected to represent them by the British people as fully as any American President is ever chosen to represent the people of the United States. This is rendered impossible in consequence of the restricted suffrage across the Atlantic. While here the presidential poll runs up to an aggregate of some four millions of votes, the English poll is only about 700,000. This disparity tells its own story, and Lord Palmerston cannot claim successfully to be the chosen champion of the British people in any such sense as the elected head of our own government can make a similar claim here. Nevertheless, he has abundant reason to be gratified with the result of the elections. He is not, however, the only triumphant figure in the new Parliament. Lord John Russell is almost a political resurrection. After his withdrawal from the Aberdeen cabinet, and his failure at Vienna, he seemed to be utterly lost to future prominence. Yet the city of London has again returned him to Parliament, and there are many indications that he may become the leader of a new reform party. The following speech of Mr. Cobden at Huddersfield shadows forth the views and purposes of this coming party, and points to Lord John as its possible leader:

A meeting of the electors of Huddersfield was held on Saturday. There was a most crowded attendance of electors at the appointed time. Mr. W. Williams, J. P., chairman of Mr. Cobden's committee, was voted to the chair.

Mr. Cobden, on presenting himself, was received with immense cheering. After recapitulating his arguments on the Chinese question, he went on to speak of the ballot and suffrage, to which he had before alluded. He said, connected with these there was an organic change necessary of as great importance as either, and that was the redistribution of the electoral power in the country. It was possible to extend the franchise to any extent, and yet contrive to hand over the power to a few families, as in the palmy days of the rotten borough system, by giving two seats to Ripon and one to Huddersfield, Salford, or Dundee. The franchise ought to be distributed according to the population and wealth of a district, and in England it would be found that wealth increased in proportion to the population, forming the rule for an equal allotment of electoral power. Ireland would be an exception to this rule, but Ireland was an exception and anomaly in almost everything, and there they found that population had little reference to wealth. He was in favor of shortening the duration of Parliaments from seven to three years, his reasons being that few were aware of the extent to which a House of Commons might be coerced by the threat of a dissolution. [Hear, hear.] Lord Palmerston, during a considerable portion of last session, and the whole of this session, had exercised a considerable factious sway over the House of Commons by the consciousness of having the power of dissolution in his hands. Why were members afraid of going to meet their constituents? One main consideration was the enormous expenses in which they were mulcted for the elections, especially in Scotland, where, with the purest constituencies, the members were subjected to heavier legal and other charges than in England. If we had three years' instead of seven years' Parliaments, they would come to be considered as of *bona fide* duration; for it must be a crisis, indeed, that would render necessary a dissolution before the time, and there would not be the same capricious exercise of the power of dissolution. This reform, coupled with that of the ballot, would save a vast amount of turmoil and strife, as the effect of the ballot would be to put an end to the practice of canvassing at elections, and the more frequent recurrence of elections would be considered by men of all parties as a great boon. He observed that his honorable opponent had a plan for permissive ballot, but he (Mr. Cobden) was for compulsory ballot. He would make everybody vote by ballot, with permissive open voting—that was, any man who chose to put the name of his favorite candidate, Cobden or Akroyd, on his hat or on his back was at liberty to do so. A new reform bill was necessary; it was twenty-five years since there had been any such measure, and at present the government of the country was entirely in the hands of an oligarchy of from 700,000 to 800,000—only that number being within the electoral pale. He was sorry that Lord John Russell—and certainly the pluck of that little nobleman was always calculated to draw forth the admiration of his countrymen, and especially Yorkshiremen, who were fond of fighting—still gibed at the ballot, as he felt certain that his view of reorganizing the liberal party, with a view to a reaction at no distant date, was based upon reform. His lordship might be certain that it would be impossible to constitute such a party in the House of Commons, or to raise such an amount of enthusiasm as would enable him to carry the measure unless he made the ballot a part of that system. The reason was that the 700,000 or 800,000 men within the electoral pale had no great motive for calling for an extension of the suffrage; for them to ask for an extension of the franchise was to ask that their power should be diluted and spread over a larger surface. He would give the liberal party in Huddersfield credit for being more disinterested towards their neighbors outside the electoral pale than he had observed in any other borough. [Hear.] He (Mr. Cobden) was in favor of household suffrage, the rate-book to be the register, and every man rated to the poor to have a vote. [Rounds of applause.] He was of opinion that if a leader in the position of Lord John Russell were to introduce a reform bill with the ballot included, he would trip up the heels of his opponents and take the wind out of their sails in a very clever and very successful way, and break the ranks of his adversaries in the counties. [Hear, hear.] The qualification for members was only a fiction, and he would vote for its abolition, as in Scotland. Mr. Cobden then proceeded to defend his conduct in reference to the Russian war. The effect of that war had been only to put the world in a more military aspect than before, to press down the peoples, and to end in no such result as had been anticipated. As to the late decision on the China question, he denied that there had been any conspiracy, as alleged by his opponent, Mr. Akroyd, and said that since he had been in the House there had never been a decision of such weight, influence, and authority. [Cheers.] Every man of sterling stubborn worth and obstinate integrity had voted for it, [hear, hear;] and one who had voted against it—Mr. Ellice—had since condemned his own vote in his address to the electors, and declared it to be an immoral one. Mr. Cobden argued that should we take possession of any portion of the territory of China, it might give umbrage to the United States and embroil us with that country. Mr. Cobden then said he had been charged with being anxious to reduce our military establishments, so that we should be entirely defenceless. What he had said a thousand times in every direction was, that we should spend £10,000,000 on military and naval defences, but if any hostile attack threatened the shores of England he would as cheerfully vote £100,000,000 as £10,000,000. [Applause.] He deprecated the wasteful expenditure in the military and naval departments. It was not unusual to see among the items of receipt £500,000, £400,000, or £600,000 for old stores, and these stores he would venture to say had cost £3,000,000. Of this wasteful expenditure he gave numerous instances. We ought to be sure that the money we voted was well expended, and this could never be done so long as the army, navy, and ordnance were under the management of the class of people who had so long had the exclusive management of those departments. [Loud applause.]

Mr. Cobden, then, in answer to the questions put, stated that he should, after their recent vote in favor of the Canton massacre, vote that the bishops be excluded from the House of Lords. He should not vote for the opening of the Crystal Palace or Crystal Palace grounds on the Sunday, nor would he vote for the Maine law.

Mr. Cobden and the Manchester men have suffered, it is true, a defeat; but they are not men to be kept down for a long time. There is great force in the following views of the London Times:

We cannot, however, pass over without especial remark the entire and complete smash of the rump of the Corn-Law League. The constituency of Manchester have rejected Mr. Bright and Mr. Milner Gibson. Mr. Cobden has shared the same fate at Huddersfield. Even Sir E. Armitage has been defeated by Mr. Massey, the treasury candidate. The sense to discern the signs of the times has been denied them, and they have paid the penalty of their blindness. Surely the country has not been ungrateful to them, nor unmindful of their past services. But for the recollection of what they had done—of the great things they had accomplished in their time—they would long since have been dismissed to the limbo of all useless and impracticable politicians. Still, with it all, we regret the fate which has overtaken Mr. Bright and Mr. Cobden. Nothing can be more alien to our feelings than to insult these gentlemen with an expression of commiseration when the battle of life has for the moment turned against them. Save in so far as for personal and domestic affliction they need not the pity of any man. How many among public men now living have done what they have accomplished? What we now say with regard to Mr. Bright we said when the contest was as yet undecided, and when the constituency of Manchester had not as yet passed upon him a vote of ostracism. We can well understand that Manchester should have desired to free itself from the dictation of the League; perhaps the object might have been obtained, and yet the resolution have been more gracefully carried out. With regard to Mr. Cobden, we can only repeat that in our opinion, while he is living and in the full possession of his faculties, no English House of Commons will be complete without him. Let the constituencies think, not upon what he has done since 1846, but upon the energy, the singleness of purpose, the zeal with which he fought the fight for food for many a long year, when that fight was no easy one. He is not a man to be cast aside like a chipped brick. Unless we much mistake the signs of the times, there is a little cloud upon the horizon, as yet no bigger than a man's hand, which denotes a time when his services may again be called into requisition. For ten years we have opposed these two gentlemen in well-nigh every act of their public lives, and yet now we most honestly say that we deeply regret to see erased from the roll-call of the House of Commons the names of John Bright and Richard Cobden.

As a matter of record we give below the resolutions which were adopted by the New York legislature just before its adjournment:

"*Resolved*, That this State will not allow slavery within her borders, in any form, or under any pretence, for any time, however short.

"*Resolved*, That the Supreme Court of the United States, by reason of a majority of the judges thereof having identified it with a sectional and aggressive party, has impaired the confidence and respect of the people of the States.

"*Resolved*, That the governor of this State be, and is hereby, respectfully requested to transmit a copy of these resolutions to the respective governors of the States of this Union."

NOVEL EXHIBITION.—It is stated in the New York papers that a schooner has captured a whale off Sandy Hook, and intends to bring it to that city for exhibition.

THE COMMERCIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND ENGLAND—WHO ARE THE PEACE-MAKERS?

The time was, and at no very distant period, when kings and princes waged war against each other without let, hindrance, or advice, and for causes and from influences in which their oppressed subjects had no lot or part. Personal slights, the refusal of one sovereign to marry another sovereign's daughter, a desire for martial renown, and more frequently a desire to handle the funds which were raised to cover the expenses of these absurd wars, were the moving and immediate causes of some of the most bloody and prolonged struggles which Europe has ever witnessed. In these enlightened and progressive days, however, the merchants and bankers, the mechanics and manufacturers, the growers of cotton and tobacco, of wheat and corn, share in no slight degree the war-making power with their rulers and representatives; and it is not too much to say that without their consent and willing assistance no war could be commenced or prosecuted for any considerable length of time after the sword had been drawn.

We have already remarked, in a former issue, that the *entente cordiale* now existing between France and England was not so much the result of recent treaties and of closer diplomatic relations as it was the result of a large, lucrative, and increasing trade between the two countries. If this trade is of so large and influential a character as to bring these two powerful kingdoms into the closest alliance after centuries of enmities and bloodshed, it would be difficult to over-estimate the influences of the stupendous commercial and financial relations now existing between the United States and England.

Two millions of the population of England are employed in the manufacture of American cotton, and even a larger number are either directly or indirectly engaged in the trade. It is the chief source of England's wealth and power; and although we are occasionally threatened with rivalry from Africa and Asia, she must ever, from all that now appears, look to the United States for her supply of that great staple. England is not only unable, within herself, to furnish the raw material which gives employment to so many millions of her people, but she is unable, from the products of her own soil, to feed them. England not only looks to the United States for her cotton, but she looks to us to make up her large annual deficiencies in breadstuffs.

We have before us a parliamentary paper, which has just been issued, showing the total imports of grain and flour into England for the past year, from which the following table is compiled. *It will be observed that three-fourths of the flour imported into England were obtained from the United States, in addition to three-fifths of the quantity of Indian corn, and more than a fourth of the quantity of wheat:*

Imports of Breadstuffs into England for the year 1856.

Countries whence imported.	Wheat.	Flour.	Indian corn.
	Quarters.	Cwts.	Quarters.
Russia, Northern	467,617	24,850	61,386
Russia, Southern	291,842	639	....
Sweden	10,708	....	....
Norway	4,483	....	....
Denmark	177,216	3,014	....
Prussia	222,681	256	....
Mecklenburg-Schwerin	62,625	190	....
Hanover	8,917	2	872
Hanseatic Towns	137,326	183,014	16
Holland	28,179	2,918	2,191
Belgium	24,938	2,470	1,522
France	10,007	69,872	27,658
Portugal	14,809	6,753	1,417
Spain	49,719	460,823	....
Tuscany	2,165	12,850	4,467
Papal Territories	47,974	....	....
Naples and Sicily	21,600	67	....
Austrian Territories	86,634	1,001	80,776
Greece	98,134	....	210,427
Turkey proper	112,825	5,819	62,711
Wallachia and Moldavia	124,671	....	196,706
Syria and Palestine	36,195	6,293	100
Egypt	534,603	441	9,159
Morocco	4,569	26	61,257
British East Indies	90,963	239	....
British North America	111,819	309,326	23,317
United States	1,279,150	2,902,707	1,000,871
Chili	1,034	36,525	....
Other parts	9,480	11,272	32,960
	4,072,833	3,991,367	1,777,813

Quarters = 8 measured bushels.
Cwts. = 112 lbs.

With these facts and figures before us, it will not be difficult to ascertain who really are the peace-makers and war-makers in England and the United States; nor will we be at a loss where to look for those influences which have so materially changed the diplomatic relations of the two countries of late years, and which have called forth so many expressions of regard from both sides of the Atlantic.

THE LOUISIANA COURIER.

We regret to learn that Col. John Claiborne has withdrawn from the Louisiana Courier, one of the ablest and most influential organs of the democratic party in the South. In the course of his graceful valedictory, Col. C. remarks:

"In taking farewell of those with whom I have so often communed during the past three years through the columns of the Courier, I most cordially congratulate them on the success of the time-honored and well-tried principles of the democratic party, to the maintenance and development of which all my exertions were cheerfully given. It should be no small source of gratification to every one to have contributed, even in an humble manner, to the support of the great cause of democracy in the fierce war which has been waged on it during the past few years, and from which it emerged in triumph last November. At no time since the days of Jefferson has the democratic party held a prouder position as the upholder and defender of the constitution, and of the sovereign and equal rights of the several States of the confederacy, than it now occupies; and the rare union of all the elements composing a ripened statesman, which are found in our present Chief Magistrate, gives to every patriot the assurance not only that every regard will be paid to the landmarks by whose guidance democratic administrations have hitherto done so much for the honor and glory of our country, but that every measure of policy necessary to our continued advancement and our rightful position among the sisterhood of nations will be unhesitatingly adopted and energetically pressed."

Col. Claiborne states that the first number of the Louisiana Courier was issued fifty years ago, and that he leaves it in a flourishing condition.

BLACK-REPUBLICANISM ALWAYS THE SAME.

The adjournment of the black-republican legislature of New York is the occasion of the following remarks in the Albany Atlas and Argus. They cannot be too carefully read or too extensively circulated:

"The black republicans commenced with an overwhelming majority. They passed 800 laws. They emptied the treasury. They anticipated its resources for years to come. They sanctioned hundreds of illegitimate claims. They overrode the vetoes of their own chief magistrate. They rejected his nominations. They assailed the constitution of the United States and of the State; declared defiance of the courts and overturned the charters of the chief cities. They reversed the rules of the common and commercial law, and unsettled every vested right in the State. While doing this, they cried 'Liberty, liberty, liberty—the negro, the negro, the negro!' But they passed no liberty bill. They tossed the measure from house to house, and abandoned it. They voted for vaporising resolutions; but the lover of liberty will look in vain through the immense statute-book of the year for a single word in protection of human rights. He will find nothing but acts of spoliation and disorganization.

"Black-republicanism is the same everywhere—corrupt, hypocritic, impudent, and false."

NEW HAMPSHIRE ELECTION.—Why have not the democratic papers hereabouts informed their readers of the result of the late election in New Hampshire?—the first gun fired since the new administration came into power. In that overwhelming democratic State, which they used to call "the star that never sets," the democracy have again been routed—horse, foot, and dragoons. Not a solitary democrat was elected. The black republicans have elected their governor and all their members of Congress. What has become of that fifteen or twenty thousand majority which New Hampshire has always until lately rolled up for the democracy? Can the Enquirer or Examiner enlighten the public on this interesting point?—*Richmond Whig.*

The interrogatory here propounded with such an air of triumph can be answered with confidence and truth by the Enquirer, the Examiner, and all other journals familiar with the history of New Hampshire politics. In the first place, it is not true that New Hampshire has "*always* until lately" rolled up from fifteen to twenty thousand majority for the democracy. On the contrary, New Hampshire voted *twice* against General Jackson for President, and when the democracy *gained* the ascendency in the days of the Old Hero, they found that they could maintain it only by sleepless vigilance. In more than ten of the twenty years' elections since the close of Jackson's official life, there has been a fierce contest between the parties; the opposition having actually succeeded several times. This was the case more than once during Mr. Polk's administration.

The explanation of the recent defeat of the democracy of New Hampshire ought to be known to the intelligent editor of the Whig. As already intimated, they had but a small *majority* to operate on four years ago; so small, indeed, that a loss equal to that generally sustained by any violently-assaulted party would throw them into a minority in the State. The abolition tornado that swept over New England after the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska act took off comparatively few of the New Hampshire democracy, but a number sufficiently large, under the circumstances, to produce important results to New Hampshire and to the Union. The few deserters from the democratic ranks co-operated actively with the Richmond Whig's quondam political friends, and the black republicans of the State elected Hale and Bell to the Senate, carried through the Fremont presidential ticket in triumph, and still hold possession of the granite hills. Can the Whig see any just cause of exultation in the present defeat of the democratic party of New Hampshire, the party struggling against the black-republican organization of that State?

THE SUBJUGATING ACTS.

The acts of the black-republican legislators at Albany for the purpose of crushing out the democracy of the city of New York continue to excite a feeling of the deepest indignation, and which is not confined to any particular locality in the State. The New York Daily News uses the following seasonable and energetic language:

"From this moment onward let the united democracy of the city and State of New York raise the standard of REPEAL. Let it neither be surrendered nor lowered, but nailed to the mast, floating in every breeze, prominent in every wind, before all eyes, in the presence of everybody, at all times and in all places. The flag of REPEAL should be unfurled at once, and Tammany, or some other acknowledged residence of the democracy, should fling out the banner upon the outward wall; REPEAL! REPEAL! should be the watchword, and continue to stand sentinel until victory shall crown our efforts, until right, justice, and honor be firmly re-established. No quarter should be given the enemy, no cessation of hostilities, while a single black-republican law remains on record.

"What justice is there in forcing upon the people of the city of New York a batch of political laws decidedly against their wishes, interests, or principles? Why inflict upon the city the infamous police bill, City Hall, Central Park, and a dozen of others? Are the citizens of New York disqualified to build their own City Hall, regulate their Central Park, reorganize the police, amend the city charter, any more than the party noodles at Albany? New York never interferes or identifies herself with any measure required by the country villages or towns. New York never meddles with the internal or municipal arrangements of the cities of the interior of the State. New York never dictates to Canandaigua, Le Roy, Utica, Syracuse, Auburn, or any other place, the laws which shall govern them; nor appoints commissioners to regulate their village or city matters. No."

The New York Times shows itself superior to partisan prejudices and partisan instincts in the following independent remarks:

"The bills just passed by the legislature, authorizing the erection of a new City Hall and the improvement of the Central Park, have bestowed upon our office-ridden city sixteen new names to be added to the corporation pay-roll. There are five commissioners to superintend the erection of the new hall, who are to be paid five dollars a day; and the eleven gentlemen who have been elected by the legislature to give their advice as to the kind of shrubbery which shall be put in the Park, and the style of fence with which it shall be enclosed, are to be paid for their services just what the governor of the State may think proper to say the city shall pay them. The city itself is not allowed the privilege of having any voice in the matter—neither to name the persons who shall serve as commissioners, nor to determine the value of their services.

"The bill for the improvement of the Central Park, which first passed the assembly, did not allow any pay to the six commissioners beyond the amount of three hundred dollars a year for actual expenses; but this was amended in the senate so as to give the governor of the State power to allow any compensation he might see fit to name."

THE DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE FOR GOVERNOR IN TENNESSEE.

We have already alluded to the fact that the nomination of Gen. Harris for governor of Tennessee is responded to with the utmost cordiality and enthusiasm by the democratic press of that State. The Memphis Appeal thus speaks of the distinguished nominee and his prospects:

"Until the last presidential canvass, General Harris has had no extended intercourse with the people of Tennessee, outside of the ninth congressional district, which he represented in the Congress of the United States from the session of 1849–'50 to the session of 1853–'54. Previously to that period he represented the Paris district in the State senate. And in 1848 he was appointed an elector for the ninth congressional district to advocate the claims of Gen. Cass to the presidency. This comprises the whole of Gen. Harris's political experience until last year. But so thoroughly, and with such consummate ability, did he perform the duties of elector for the State at large, on the democratic electoral ticket, during the recent trying and important canvass, that the democracy everywhere marked him out as the man who was destined to bear their standard in the contest of the present year, and as one whose triumph is certain.

"The nomination is not one of General Harris's seeking. We chance to know that he never encouraged the suggestion of his friends to run him for governor until they had placed his name so prominently before the people that he thought it his duty to yield to their earnest wishes. Not that he is insensible to the approval which such a nomination implies of his public course, and to the confidence in his ability, usefulness, and integrity which it expresses; not that he is not willing to serve his party and his country in any situation and at any post to which he may be called by the partial voice of his countrymen; but because he prefers retirement and the pursuits of private life, in the bosom of his family, whenever consistent with his duty to his country, to public honors.

"But now that he has been called by the voice of his party to lead the column in the contest of this year, we venture to predict that he will do it gallantly, ably, and successfully. Wherever he goes his presence and bearing will inspire confidence in our glorious cause, and will give strength to the whole ticket. We should not be surprised if his majority is greater than that of any man who ever canvassed the State for governor in a contested struggle. At all events he will undoubtedly be the next governor of Tennessee."

THE DEFEAT OF GENERAL ZOLLICOFFER.

The Nashville Union, in its issue of the 17th instant, notices at considerable length the causes which have resulted in the defeat of General Zollicoffer, who was a candidate before the know-nothing convention of the eighth congressional district of Tennessee for renomination. We make room for the conclusion of the Union's remarks:

"The star of Bell and Etheridge is once more in the ascendant—the clouds by which their political atmosphere has been obscured have cleared away, and without a rival those men, the representatives of northern sentiments upon southern soil, stand forth the leaders of their party. Zollicoffer, for his fidelity to the South, has been sacrificed to policy. He has been superseded because his act affirming the equality of the South under the constitution constituted an obstacle to the favor of black republicanism. But the worst feature of all is, that those who now thrust him aside for this obnoxious act urged him to its performance, and were loudest in his praise when the deed was first accomplished.

"So far as Tennessee is concerned, there is now no obstacle to the harmonious co-operation of the black republicanism of the North with the know-nothingism of the South. The facts to which we have directed attention prove that the scheme to strike down the supporters of the Kansas bill, and to elevate those who had united with abolitionism in opposition, has been planned and executed with a determination and precision which precludes the supposition that it was the result of accident. How this will accord with the feelings of a more conservative and national portion of that party time will develop. It will only serve, however, to unite still more firmly the great national party which in November, 1856, triumphed over all opposition, and which will oppose with renewed zeal the unnatural alliance and combination which is thus shadowed forth as the future policy of our adversaries on that memorable occasion."

RAILROADS IN FRANCE.

The December number of the "*Journal des Economistes*," published in Paris, contains an able report on the condition and progress of railroads in France during the year 1856, submitted to the Emperor by M. A. Rouher, chief of the Department of Agriculture, Commerce, and Public Works, from which we translate for our columns the following extracts:

* * * A résumé of these figures, which indicate the great increase of public confidence, also exhibits the fact that the construction of the net-work of railroads in France has cost, to this period, 3,080,000,000 francs,* of which 2,419,000,000 fell upon the companies, and 661,000,000 was contributed by the State. Of this aggregate amount there appears for the years 1855 and 1856 the enormous sum of 919,000,000 francs.

Truly, such expenses and outlays and such efforts expended by the nation demonstrate the wonderful activity and vast resources of the empire, especially when we consider that at the same time it conducted beyond its limits a terrible and glorious war, and with noble patriotism subscribed to the national loans, the aggregate amount of which was without a precedent, while other public works were also in progress for promoting the health or adding to the splendor of our largest cities. They also explain and justify the wise and prudent measures adopted by your Majesty in 1855, and the official announcement inserted in the *Moniteur* of the 9th of March last to the effect that no new grant would be made in the year 1856. * *

It would have been desirable had the spirit of speculation not have led to any risks in going beyond our own frontiers in seeking after new enterprises, forgetful of the wise precautions recently adopted by foreign powers; but it will suffice for the interests of the public credit that these enterprises have claimed the attention of the government. At this time the general progress of the railroads is unembarrassed by any extraordinary charges. The completion of the lines for which grants are obtained will not involve a greater outlay than 1,260,000,000 francs, of which 230,000,000 must be furnished by the State. The period fixed for the completion of the work has been wisely extended to ten years, and it may be added that much progress is already made in the sections which are to be opened to travel within the next three years.

The increasing revenues of the companies are, besides, such as to inspire public confidence.

The net receipts, which in 1847 were raised to 22,000 francs per kilometre,† suddenly fell in 1848 to 13,600 francs; but since 1852, notwithstanding double tracks were laid, their marked increase is shown by the following figures:

In 1852 21,600 francs per kilometre.
1853 24,600 " "
1854 26,400 " "

These returns experienced in 1855 an exceptional augmentation, owing to the Universal Exhibition or World's Fair. They reached 30,300 francs; and if the amount did not reach that figure the present year, (1856,) the increase over 1854 is not the less progressive; for the returns for the first three quarters show the net amount of 28,000 francs, at the very lowest, per kilometre.

Statement exhibiting the cost of railroads (in France) from 1823 to 1856:

	Actual cost—		
	To the State.	To the compa's.	Total.
	Francs.	Francs.	Francs.
From 1823 to 1829	....	3,300,000	3,300,000
" 1830 to 1841	3,228,740	172,097,753	175,326,493
" 1842 to 1847	278,553,677	509,411,555	787,965,232
" 1848 to 1851	298,417,147	198,711,088	497,128,235
" 1852 to 1854	51,187,751	646,690,064	697,877,815
In 1855	55,200,000	430,406,485	485,606,485
In 1856	20,286,000	458,569,713	478,855,713
Total	706,873,315	2,419,186,658	3,126,059,973
Less receipts in 1855-1856	45,565,000	....	45,565,000
General total	661,308,315	2,419,186,658	3,080,494,973

It may be interesting and instructive to show as well the proportions in which the expenses are distributed between the principal periods into which the past thirty-four years have been divided, as the share contributed by the State during the same periods. The years which elapsed between 1823 and 1830 were, as respects railroads, an epoch of experiments and trials, to which the companies devoted an annual average of 470,000 francs, the State furnishing no contribution.

During the twelve years which succeeded the revolution of July the indecision in regard to the system upon which railroads were to be constructed, and the small share of confidence which these new speculations inspired, paralyzed the progress of development. Thus the expenses on the part of the companies did not exceed an annual average of over 14,330,000 francs, while the amount which fell upon the State on a similar average was but 270,000 francs. The law of June 11, 1842, gave the first impetus to railroad enterprises. From 1842 to 1847 the annual average expense was 85,000,000 francs for the companies and 46,400,000 for the State. From 1848 to the month of December, 1851, owing to the political disturbances, which reached even the sources of credit, the annual average expenses of the company sunk to 30,000,000 francs, while the amount which fell upon the State was raised to 75,000,000 each year. Since 1852, however, when legitimate confidence was again restored, and new institutions had inspired in France security and hope in the future, a new order of things commenced. The annual expenses of the company augmented in a remarkable degree, having risen to the average of 216,000,000 francs. The demands upon the treasury diminished no less rapidly, having been reduced by receipts and reimbursements to the annual sum of 17,000,000 francs.

Finally, under the healthy influence of the general prosperity and credit, the expenses of the companies reached in 1855 430,000,000 francs, and in 1856, 458,000,000 francs; while those of the State were reduced by reimbursements to not more than 30,000,000 for both years. The résumé of these figures, which are themselves the indices of the public confidence, shows that the net-work of railroads in France has cost, up to the present period, 3,080,000,000 francs, of which the State paid 661,000,000 francs, and the companies 2,419,000,000. To this aggregate amount the years 1855 and 1856 alone contributed the enormous amount of 919,000,000 francs.

The entire length of this net-work of railroads at the commencement of 1857 is 11,250 kilometres; or opened, 6,500; in progress of completion, 4,750.

Length to be completed in the next ten years:

1857	968	kilometres.
1858	818	"
1859	1,197	"
1860	234	"
1861	548	"
1862	83	"
1863	300	"
1864	236	"
1865	–	"
1866	366	"
Total length in progress of completion	4,750	"

*The franc equals 18.6 cents.
†The kilometre equals about 5 furlongs.

THE WILDS OF AMERICA.

We have received from Mr. J. W. Moore, of Philadelphia, a copy of Mr. Charles Lanman's new work on the Wilds of America, accompanied by a copy of the subjoined letter. The work is illustrated, contains over a thousand pages, and is printed in superior style. By glancing at the preface we observe that it has been published under the critical patronage, as it were, of Mr. Irving; and if the young author is not quite satisfied with the flattering approbation of his distinguished friend, he would not likely be made happy by our commendation. But Mr. Irving's letter will be read with interest for its own sake:

SUNNYSIDE, March 2, 1857.

MY DEAR MR. LANMAN: I am suffering a long time to elapse without acknowledging the receipt of a copy of your work, which you have had the kindness to send me, and expressing to you the great delight I take in the perusal of it. But when I remind you that I am approaching my seventy-fourth birth-day; that I am laboring to launch the fourth volume of my Life of Washington, and that my table is loaded with a continually-increasing multitude of unanswered letters which I vainly endeavor to cope with, I am sure you will excuse the tardiness of my correspondence.

I hope the success of your work has been equal to its merits. To me your "Adventures in the Wilds" are a continual refreshment of the spirits. I take a volume of your work to bed with me, after fagging with my pen, and then ramble with you among the mountains, and by the streams, in the boundless interior of our fresh unhackneyed country, and only regret that I can but do so in idea, and that I am not young enough to be your companion in reality. I have taken great interest of late in your expeditions among the Alleghany mountains, having been campaigning *in my book* in the upper part of the Carolinas, especially in the Catawba country, about which you give such graphic sketchings. Really, I look upon your work as a *vade-mecum* to the American lover of the picturesque and romantic, unfolding to him the wilderness of beauties and the varieties of adventurous life to be found in our great chains of mountains and systems of lakes and rivers. You are in fact the picturesque explorer of our country.

With great regard, my dear Mr. Lanman, yours ever, very truly, WASHINGTON IRVING.

For the Union.

THE METROPOLITAN HOTEL, NEW YORK CITY.

Among the many princely establishments in America for the entertainment of the travelling public, the Metropolitan Hotel on Broadway, New York, stands pre-eminent. Covering nearly an entire square of ground, and peering high above the surrounding buildings in the adjacent blocks on either side of Broadway, it presents a most imposing appearance, and at once arrests the attention of every passer-by, whether he be a resident or stranger. It is, indeed, a mammoth establishment; and yet, notwithstanding its huge proportions, the whole structure is in strict accordance with the severest rules of architectural symmetry. The magnificence of its interior arrangements, both as regards the convenience of its subdivisions into parlors, halls, saloons, and chambers, and the gorgeous style in which these are furnished, fully corresponds with the elegance and grandeur of the exterior; and this grand establishment is, therefore, without a superior in this or any other country.

This splendid hotel is under the management of the Messrs. Leland, (brothers,) gentlemen of enlarged experience in the hotel business; and the order and regularity which reign throughout this vast concern render it by far the most agreeable place of sojourn in the bustling city of New York. These gentlemen, although ably assisted by two efficient, polite, and accomplished clerks, Messrs. Billings and Marsh, and by two younger brothers of the proprietors, at all times give their own personal attention to the house, and therefore nothing is ever omitted or overlooked which can minister to the comfort, the convenience, or the pleasure of their guests. They are kind, courteous, and polite in their deportment to all; and hence the deserved popularity which they have given to the establishment. A sojourn of several weeks at the Metropolitan enabled me to form a correct judgment of this noble establishment, and of the gentlemen by whom it is conducted; and it gives me no little pleasure to recommend it to the especial notice of my southern friends. A VISITER.

LATER FROM TEXAS.

The Galveston Civilian of the 11th instant furnishes the following paragraph:

The new iron steamship General Rusk, Capt. Thomas Forbes, Lewis Hudson purser, arrived on her first voyage this morning at 6 o'clock, making the run to our bar in forty-three hours. The Rusk is perhaps the strongest, staunchest sea steamer ever in this port, and constructed with great care to the comfort of passengers. She is of small freighting capacity, but admirably adapted, by her structure and light draught, for the trade to the Rio Grande. Heavily loaded, she is now drawing but 6½ feet. With some trifling modifications in her machinery, she will make the run from New Orleans to this city in thirty-eight hours. She is a vessel that will ride a storm like a duck, and endure many, many years. We are proud of her name, in honor of our model senator.

The following items are from the Galveston News of the same date:

From our exchanges we learn that disease is raging to a considerable extent in the northern and northwestern portions of the State. Red River, Lamar, and adjoining counties seem to be much afflicted with it.

A number of cart trains arrived at San Antonio last week, laden with corn, from Mexico. The Herald speaks of it as fine white corn, which sold readily at $1 15 per bushel.

J. R. Simms writes to the Austin Intelligencer from Round Rock, Williamson county, under date of March 30th, to the effect that "there are a number of families that have not had a morsel of bread for weeks, and don't know when they will get any, as they have spent the last red cent months ago. To use a common phrase of the country, they have staid until they are too poor to leave."

He calls upon the governor and the liberal people of the State for relief.

We learn that the iron on the G. H. and H. railroad was laid a distance of 13¾ miles up to yesterday. It is now complete beyond Dickinson's bayou.

The State penitentiary at Huntsville is now turning out an average of seventeen hundred yards of cloth per day. The Item thinks this equal to any product of northern mills, in proportion to the labor employed.

The Flag chronicles the arrival of an opera company at Brownsville, and goes into ecstacies in anticipation of the unusual musical treat to be thereby afforded the citizens of that place.

The rain of last Tuesday and Wednesday extended over a large portion of the State. We hear of it from as far north as Austin, and as far west as Victoria. It must have done immense benefit to the growing crops. The norther of Sunday may have counterbalanced it, however.

We learn from the Flag that Brownsville and Matamoros were visited by a snow-storm on the 13th of March, followed by hoar frost, which killed the tender vegetation. Such a visitation was never before known at that place.

The True Issue exults over the benefits to the crops of that region conferred by the rains of last week, and speaks of a number of flour mills in process of erection in anticipation of the largely-increased production of wheat. We shall be glad to hear that Fayette and other western counties have escaped the blasting influence of our late cold term.

THE NEW CENT.

It is stated in the Philadelphia Gazette, on the authority of Colonel Snowden, director of the United States Mint, that in about three weeks' time this much-desired coin will be distributed to the public. About a million are already completed, and two millions more will be finished before the Mint commences paying them out. Col. S. also states that since the establishment of the United States Mint no less than 1,800 tons of copper cents have been coined, making of distinct pieces one hundred and fifty millions. Of these a large number have been lost, converted into "washers" for machinery, or otherwise taken out of circulation.

BASS-WOOD PAPER.—The Rome (N. Y.) Sentinel of Tuesday says that "the attempt to make paper out of bass wood has not proved sufficiently successful to warrant its manufacture. We understand that the mill closed last week."