NEW-YORK TRIBUNE.

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BY TELEGRAPH TO THE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE.

The Annexation Movement.

BOSTON, Thursday, Feb. 14.

The St. John papers of Feb. 6 have been received. The *New-Brunswicker* contains a long and well-written article in favor of Annexation to the United States, contending that for the want of it their resources and population are fast dwindling away, and that the Free-Trade policy of England will give the finishing blow. The article contends for the constitutional right of the Colonies to agitate the subject, and calls upon them in the name of their children not to falter in the cause, but to persevere to the end.

The Adams Murder.

BOSTON, Saturday, Feb. 14.

Dr. M. Clark of Lawrence, who was arrested for the murder of Miss Adams, yesterday, upon the finding of the Coroner's Jury, has been taken to Salem Jail; his wife, who is charged with being an accomplice, is very sick and was left at home with two constables to look after her. It is now supposed that the deceased, while undergoing the operation, made enteries, and that, fearing a discovery, a fold of cloth was put over her mouth, and finally they were obliged to bury her. The young man Taylor, the lover of the deceased, testified for Government before the Coroner's Jury. Dr. Clark is 60 years old and has heretofore been a physician at Georgetown, Mass.

Massachusetts—A Free Soil "Crisis."

Hon. Henry Wilson, the poet Whittier, Hon. John M. Earle, and several other prominent Free Soilers of Massachusetts, have called a State Mass Convention of the party at Faneuil Hall, Boston, on the 27th of February. The call for this Convention is very strongly worded, talks of the jeopardy of human liberty, of the plottings of treason by the Slave perpetuists at the seat of government, dissolution of the Union, the present "alarming crisis" and of the inflexible determination of the people of the Free States to sustain the Union "at any and every hazard—their fixed, inalterable purpose under the Constitution and within the Union to arrest the extension of Slavery into the territories now free,—to abolish the Slave Trade and Slavery in the District of Columbia—to relieve the Federal Government from all connection with and responsibility for Slavery,—and to place the Government openly, actively and perpetually on the side of freedom. The people and the people alone can avert the timid action of their representatives and reassure the opponents of Slave Extension.

"In this crisis, the true friends of LIBERTY *and* UNION, in Massachusetts, are called upon to assemble in Faneuil Hall, where their fathers were wont to meet, in the dark and troubled days of the Revolutionary contest. The Committee would urgently press upon their fellow citizens, the importance of taking immediate measures to secure a full attendance, of firm, true, and wise men, who will devote one day in an honest effort to rescue liberty now perilled—the Union now madly assailed."

Keokuk, Iowa—Growth, Trade, Prospects.

Correspondence of the Tribune.

KEOKUK, Iowa, Jan 21, 1850.

HORACE GREELEY, Esq.—*Dear Sir*: Inclosed you will find the largest subscription (30 copies) to the *Weekly Tribune*, I suspect, of any town of the Hawkeye State"—the result of some two or three hours' work and an evidence of a true appreciation of your journal. If I am wrong in regard to its being the largest list, let us know, and the balance shall be forthcoming.

Our young city, which, two years ago, claimed to have 1,200 inhabitants, and has yet scarcely made its appearance on the map, now boasts of several thousands, and with the "push along, keep moving" spirit, expects in a few years to rival our southern sub, blior of ree miles away. Jesting aside, this town, known only some years since as the resort of the lawless, ranks, in point of population, second in the State, and first in trade. Being the market for the immense supplies of the Des Moines Valley, projects have been entered into for the construction of a line of railways from Keokuk to Fairfield, and thence branching to Fort Des Moines in the West and Dubuque in the North. Public opinion is enlisted in the matter—a guarantee that something will be done. We also allowedly look upon ourselves as the great "Hog Metropolis" of the State. In short, should you ever feel inclined to cross the Mississippi, H. G. of *The Tribune* will receive a most cordial welcome, and can see for himself that our wharf is something more than a "natural dog-out," as one of your correspondents some time since termed it, and that our town has not only a "church without a sexton," but several excellent churches. Very truly, yours, &c. O.

We are greatly obliged to our correspondent, but we have several larger Clubs in Iowa.

Telegraph under the Atlantic.

To the Editor of The Tribune:

Permit me to detail a practical plan for connecting the Continents of Europe and America by means of the Magnetic Telegraph. On referring to the *Journal of Commerce* of the 31st ult. it will be seen in an article signed "John Wilkins," that in his statements in relation to the stupendous plan he is very far wide of the mark—too far, indeed, to demand more than a passing notice, were it not for the fact that the writer has evidently taken his idea, soul and body, from D. G. Armstrong, Esq. of this City, so far at least as it is at all practical or possible even. According to Mr. Armstrong's plan, the wire is to be a cable, 36 strans, coated with Gutta Percha, the only available insulator now known, to be laid with suitable anchors from above Halifax, on the coast, along the Banks of Newfoundland, which extends to within 100 miles of the Coast of Ireland, below all currents—for there is such a point far down beyond the reach of anchorage, and yet where the water decreases so that its density will overcome the weight of the wire, leaving it suspended until it rests by its own gravity on the bottom, where the anchors are to be continued until the line is extended across—the whole to be accurately marked on a chart of the whole line, with "tell-tales" at distances of 50 or 100 miles, with suitable buoys, where a ship may come up, and attach an instrument of simple construction to the connecting wires, and thus communicate either way with land.

According to his plan based upon careful and accurate calculations, the whole weight of the wire will be 8,516 tuns, which will require nine ships of 1,000 tuns (Custom House measurement) and four sea steamers, of not less than 1,500 tuns burden, to take charge of the working squadron, while there would be no difficulty in lay down the wire, after all the material is on shipboard and the vessels at their respective stations on American and Irish coasts, will be from thirteen to twenty-one days, during the months of July and August, both squadrons to leave port at the same time to rendezvous at a given point of latitude and longitude, as near midway of the Ocean as possible; the whole distance not less than 1,800 miles. It will be now seen on comparing the Wilkins data with the above plan, that no reliance can be placed on his calculations. In his article, he estimates the weight of the wire at 1,000 tuns, requiring, at most, only two ships of 400 tuns burden each, and one sea steamer. Now, I confess to some curiosity to know by what process 1,000 tuns of Submarine Telegraph Wire could be carried on two ships, of only an aggregate of 800 tuns burden, not to mention some 3,000 tuns of anchors, &c.

In the use of insulating substances, Mr W. is equally unfortunate, as in his figures, he speaks cautiously of India Rubber, Glass or some other suitable insulating medium, carefully avoiding the very name of Gutta Percha, the only available and complete insulation known for the purpose, although wires are laid down in various places insulated with this substance, which has received the sanction of Messrs. Morse, Rogers, O'Reilly, and other competent authorities in this country and Europe, while Rubber has long been discarded. As for the Glass part of Mr. Wilkins's plan I should be most happy to see him place his wire coated with a malleable Glass that would not break on a rough sea bed. When he does that I shall be ready to "hold his hat" and yield the floor so far as Mr. W. is concerned. He further speaks of galvanized wire as being sufficiently insulated. This piece of information is quite new to me at least. I well know that galvanized wire will not oxydize, but that it has any peculiar insulated properties over common wire I entirely deny.

In his financial estimates he says that "it would be difficult to see how half a million dollars could be honestly applied to the construction of such a line." Of the value of this calculation some estimate may be arrived at when the fact is known that the anchors alone at three cents per pound would cost three hundred and forty-two thousand dollars. This item alone will leave but a small margin for his new fleet, ships, steamer, &c. to say nothing of the fact that his wires for the fleets with his other claptraps will weigh over half a million tuns; and to make the matter still stronger, I here offer (in good faith) to enter into bonds to any required amount that I will bring forward capitalists, in this country and Europe, who will pay Mr. Wilkins two millions of dollars the day his line is in successful operation and take it off his hands. "KOSSUTH."

FROM WASHINGTON.

The Women of New-Hampshire—Slaveholders Defeated in their Stronghold!

Correspondence of The Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Feb. 13.

The Women of New-England are the friends of Freedom. They seek to divorce from the South because its good qualities are obscured by one foul blot—the slave gas in the mouths of millions of native Americans—but they abhor the idea of wars against sister Republics, merely for the purpose of erecting a better market for the sale of the sons and daughters of the women of Carolina, Mississippi, Maryland and Virginia. They want no COMPROMISE bills, to carry through Congress a Slave State and a Free—Democracy choked off by patronage, nullified by the vilest of all aristocracies, that of the skin. Honor and glory to the women of New England! Their grandmothers had the same noble aspirations after liberty in 1776—witness Bunker Hill—witness Bennington!

Yesterday Mr. HALE, a true representative of "the Old Granite State," presented, in Senate, the petition of 1,463 women of Dover, New-Hampshire, asking that Slavery may not be extended by the Congress of the great Republic of the West, over the Territories of New-Mexico and California, or any part thereof.

Mr MASON—a Whig!—objected to its reception. Mr. KING, a Loco, moved to table it (that is, to shove it under the table, out of their way.)—Messrs. BUTLER, Loco, and BERRIEN, Whig, would not consent to the reading of it, though it is but twenty three words long. It was read, however, whether or not.

The question now came on, by Yeas and Nays, Will the Senate receive the memorial of these 1,463 ladies of New-England? and here is the vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Baldwin, Bradbury, Bright, Chase, Clarke, Cooper, Corwin, John Davis, Dayton, Dodge of Iowa, Dodge of Wis. Douglas, Fetch, Greene, Hale, Hamlin, Jones, Miller, Norris, Phelps, Seward, Shields, Smith, Spruance, Wales, and Walker—26.

NAYS—Messrs. Atchison, Benton, Berrien, Borland, Butler, Clemens, Jefferson Davis, Dawson, *Dickinson*, Houston, Hunter, King, Mangum, Mason, Rusk, Sebastian, *Sturgeon*, Turney, and *Underwood*—19.

So that 19 Senators, among them DICKINSON of N. Y. (I wish he had 19 years of slave labor on BUTLER'S plantation)—he would not cringe thus on the 20th,) both the' Missouri men, (and there's the coils of admitting the vile weed of Slavery into the fair fields of that North-western State,) HOUSTON and RUSK, (and this is what we get for coveting Texas, and getting up a strife that cost the lives of 50,000 of God's creatures, and $100,000,000 in gold and silver,) MASON and HUNTER, (looking to the price of the staple commodity, human nature, young and healthy, saleable in Texas.) I cannot forgive TAPPAN and DIX for betraying the North into the Texas snare, and am not sorry that the rewards expected for friends, went elsewhere. There were men enough yesterday in Senate to fight and win the battle for the New-England maids and matrons. SEWARD was on the right side—ditto, BALDWIN and SMITH—ditto, DAYTON and MILLER—ditto, PHELPS—but where was WEBSTER and UPHAM? FEARCE, too, where was he?

The technical question voted on, as above, was on tabling the motion to receive the petition, but to refuse to table was a pledge to vote to receive. The vote was decisive. KING admitted that. The conversation was kept up, however. Mr KING talked of the equal rights of the South. Equal rights!—If one man has the small pox, another the rheumatism, a third the leprosy, and a fourth a hump-back, cannot the rest of mankind have equal rights unless these evils are extended to them? The South is cursed with Slavery—can't get rid of it—it sticks to them like Sinbad's old man who wouldn't get off—it terrifies them with dreams of insurrection and massacre—St. Domingoes—sleeping or waking. Are the rest of creatinne who loathe this leprosy, to be cursed with it whether or not? Are Mr. KING's "equal rights" the exclusion of all but despots and their serfs from a virgin soil? MARCY, DICKINSON, DOUGLAS, CROSWELL, STURGEON, WALWORTH, BUCHANAN, &c. would say 'aye.' I wish they had the slave's place a while, with a KING for overseer to let fly at 'em now and then with his lash. Oh, how glad they'd be to recant, ☞ on their barenees, ☞ in dust and ashes!

Senator DOUGLAS begins to look forth. He admitted that as Mexico had abolished and prohibited slavery in New-Mexico and California, it was now prohibited there, and he thought it useless to pile on the Wilmot Proviso on top of that. I on the contrary would vote for it to-morrow, if I could.—Shame upon us, that we are behind these Roman Catholics, whose church, as Mr. DOUGLAS stated, the United States Constitution has abolished as an establishment! Messrs. KING and JEFFERSON DAVIS controvert the fact that slavery was prohibited in New-Mexico when Congress got hold of it. The latter wanted slaveholders to be enabled to carry their serfs there as cattle or kitchen utensils, property!

Mr. ANDREW P. BUTLER of South Carolina, got quite in a rage at the good-natured HALE. He actually boiled over. "Is it to be tolerated," he cried, "that the time of Congress shall be appropriated by mischievous incendiaries(?!) who claim the right to introduce propositions of this kind? That gentleman [Hale] has the whole Senate to himself. He lives upon mischief; it is the very food which sustains him. I know I am not rebuking him. Sir, it is intolerable that a miserable minority, a mischievous incendiary, a madman, if you choose to call him so, should come here and interfere with the rights of other men upon this floor!"

HALE gave him his change. The noble blood of the men who crossed the ocean that they might have leave to worship the God of their fathers as their consciences dictated, was roused, and the appropriate representative of a State two-thirds serfs to one-third other kinds, was silenced.

Said Mr. HALE:

"The mischief comes from a majority that seeks to tread down the minority—that desires to make them more miserable than they really are. 'Miserable' as we are, I think the Senator will find out that our power of speech is not exhausted; and while we may exercise it within the privileges of the Constitution, he will find that it will be exercised at any and at all times. We are not to be frightened out of our rights by threats upon this floor by denunciation, or even by the threat of danger personal to ourselves. Small and few as we are, we are not miserable cowards, that can be frightened from the assertion or the maintenance of our rights. New-Hampshire blood, coursing in New-Hampshire veins, from the commencement of this Government, in the Senate, in the House of Representatives, and upon the field of battle, has spoken her rights; and she has sons that will still vindicate those rights against all her foes—*come when they will, how they will, and where they will.* She will not be intimidated by threats or any language of the sort."

What a pity we could not exchange a few cart loads of doughfaces here—I'm marking them—for half a dozen SEWARDS and HALES.

JAMES SULLIVAN.

P. S. The people North (Slavery weakens morality and patriotism, South) are keeping up a steady fire in the form of petitions, for the abolition of flogging and the spirit ration in the Navy, and for Post Office reform, (which latter cannot be kept back.) A memorial from citizens of Niagara County, N. Y. asks for a second ship canal between Lakes Erie and Ontario. Is not the Welland enough, especially when we consider that the rates of toll levied on it don't yield 1½ per cent on the outlay? HOGAN SALOMON is here prosecuting his father's claim for repayment of advances made to Government or its officers during the war of '76.

J. S.

Coinage—Oregon Commerce—Brevet Rank—Pensions to Military Officers—Eaton's Horse—A Thinking Machine.

Correspondence of The Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Feb. 13.

There is no end to the private bills and other measures introduced into the House. Some of them have been acted upon by the Standing Committees. The Committee on Commerce, through Mr. M'LANE, this morning reported back the Coin bill amended, so as to make eighths of dollars a legal tender in all cases only at 10 cents, sixpenses at 5 cents, pistareens at 15 cents, and Spanish quarters at 20 cents. The double dime or twenty cent new coinage clause, is struck out altogether.

Mr. THURSTON induced the House to consent to a Resolution requiring the Committee on Commerce to enquire as to the expediency of ordering certain improvements to be made in the navigation of the Columbia, and of erecting Light-Houses on the Oregon coast. The House has ordered, that Mr. JULIAN of Indiana, who is sick, be paid his wages.

A few days ago, the Committee on Military matters, through Mr. BURT, reported a bill to regulate brevet rank and to retire disabled army officers.—It is a bill to create a pension list, heavier than what the British call their 'dead weight.' It provides, that when the President (i. e. the administration of the day) shall think fit to consider any military officer too old, too infirm, or disabled by wounds got in the service, he may order him to receive his full pay for the rest of his life, according to his 'lineal or staff rank,' but without extra emoluments, and some one else is to be commissioned in his place. Thus we go. Wars to extend Slavery on Monday, Pensions to anybody the President pleases on Tuesday, a heavy debt on Wednesday, plenty of taxation (first indirect, next direct,) on Thursday and Friday. What would follow on Saturday? Spain had her California; it corrupted her nobles, enfeebled her Government, and swamped the Monarchy. Let the present generation take care that Congress do not exhibit a vulnerable heel through patronage, pensions, debt, gulloons, and an immense naval and army list.—The Military Committee also desires to regulate brevet rank so that it shall not entitle the officer to rank, command of pay according to such rank; but that the President (the Administration) may assign brevet officers their brevet rank, command, and pay when serving with the militia or volunteers, or when exercising expensive and difficult commands in remote departments or divisions. This latter clause allows favoritism enough, and I should not be surprised at its adoption.

Gen. JOHN H. EATON, JACKSON'S War Secretary, bought an Arabian horse, sent from Morocco or Muscat as a present to this Government, in 1840, at $875, kept him five years, sold him for $250 to a circus, and now asks $1,094 lost by the purchase, as the horse disappointed his expectations! The horse was fairly sold, and the Senate's Committee report not to give EATON a cent.

Mr. JONES of Tenn. spoke well to-day upon the subject of a resolution from the Senate for more money to a new functionary, a special investigating Supreme Court Judge's Clerk. JONES truly stated that the Judiciary costs twice as much as it ought to do, and that he would oppose the measure, as well he may. Mr. BAYLY, whose miserable management of the Custom-House reform case speaks poorly for his business talent, spoke in favor of the measure, and Mr. CARTER of Ohio against it. Mr C said that when the members of the Court could not do their own *thinking*, through old age, debility, or bad habits, he would be for dispensing with them. It seems that formerly the lawyers were allowed by the Court to spin their yarns to any length, no matter how many suffered thereby. Now, a pleader before them must close his harangue in two hours. Mr. CARTER has no idea of providing "a thinking machine for the bench." The Clerk was allowed, nevertheless.

An Old Job—French Spoliations—Five Millions wanted in Wall-st.

Correspondence of The Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Feb. 13.

Mr. TRUMAN SMITH of Conn. has presented the Fiftieth Congressional Report on the claims of certain persons for spoliations said to have been committed by the French prior to Sept. 1800, accompanied by the enclosed bill now before the Senate. Said bill appropriates $5,000,000 to these citizens, their heirs or those they have sold their claims to, but allows no claimant by assignment in larger sum than the consideration paid for the claim he bought with interest. How are we to find, in a case fifty to sixty years old, what the consideration was? If A pays a bad debt in claims, how then? In ordinary cases of debt, six years is a bar, and here is a story half a century old, produced cut and dried in chase of ☞ Five Millions! It seems we had a convention with France in 1803, and that claims were paid then: a Treaty with Spain in 1819, when still more payments were made, and once more in 1831, by Treaty with France. Those who failed in those times, or their children, grand-children, brokers, bankers, &c. are here, as large as life in 1850, and a commission is wanted, now that the children of the first claimants, if not all dead have handed over any demands they had to others. The bill sets three Commissioners agoing, at $3,000 a year each, for two years after Act. Next, with a secretary at $2,000 a year, and a clerk at $1,000, and applies $50,000 for the expenses of a post obit inquiry. I had almost forgotten their Messenger—he is to get $500—and their Secretary is to take in the documents post free. When the five millions are paid, if anybody shall claim as much, this French claim is not again to be resuscitated. The Secretary must be well versed in French and Spanish, and the Commissioners, in this snug job of theirs, are to take justice, national law and treaties for their rule and guide. The five millions are to be added to the public debt of the Union, and five per cent. stock issued, pro rata, as it is expected that more than five will be awarded.

The nearer we go to the times of these spoliations, the more adverse the reports are. Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. RUSSELL, and Mr. FORSYTH report adversely, in 1818, '22, and '24, but more light was got in 1826, and the tide turned. If the claims were just—that is *in those cases not paid*—has every Congress since the Second Session of the 5th, when Senator GILES reported, up to this hour, been howling to admit the validity of a just debt? Is the case that was not clear 50 years since, made more plain by the delays of half a century?

In the XXIXth Congress, for the first time, a bill passed both Houses, but the Administration (supported of it, and the President vetoed it. *Who are the claimants?* What do they severally claim? How did they obtain an interest? The Committee say that the claimants are suffering in penury and want." Who thus suffer? If it be true, as was stated by a former Collector of Boston, that in his time 95 per cent of the merchants failed, why bring forward this affair now?

The Committee of 1850 mention the difficulties in the way of a settlement then, viz: the multiplicity of claims, the nature of the depredations, and the loss of documents. We are now in 1850. The Senate minority, with whom I agree in opinion, ask, how it is possible now to decide between good and bad claims, if any are good? Where is the evidence now? Who shall be paid? How ascertain the several relations of each original claimant? Why not an administrator keep the money on an important claim? Between conflicting creditors and their descendants what is to be done? Shall a length of time bar such claims? Never until 1854—could the agents of the claimants get a vote of the two Houses. "The failure to obtain such a sanction of their claims for a period of nearly 50 years, is rather to be considered as evidence that Congress believed them to have been unfounded.

T. S.

Postage Reform—The Coinage Bill—Twenty Cent Pieces.

Correspondence of the Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Feb. 13.

Many bills and resolutions, drawn up or introduced by Members, go to the permanent committees in the early week of the session, and if promptly acted upon and returned to the House or Senate, as the case may be, stand a pretty fair chance of obtaining the deliberate consideration of one or perhaps both branches of Congress, especially during the long session—for were this the biennial session ending 3d of March, it would be within seventeen days of its close, with nothing done or doing. Even the Census bill has not been acted upon in either House!

I am glad to see petitions for Post-Office reform crowding in. It is said that the House Committee on the Post-Office were at first indisposed to go with the country, but that the petitioning is not without its effect upon them. Their names are Emery D. Potter (SAWYER'S successor from the interior of Ohio), Loco, Chairman; he is apparently a business man;—Phelps of Mo., Featherston of Miss., Stanton of Ky., Powell of Va., Southern Locos McKissock of N. Y. and Hebard of Vt., Northern, and Alston of Ala. Southern, Whigs; with Durkee of Vt. a Loco Free Soiler.

Messrs. Rush Texas, Soule, Bright, Upham and Morton are the Senate's Postal Committee.

The sooner they begin to report the better; but I suppose we shall be deafened for some time to come about admitting a free State, and a black aristocratic one, side by side—despotism's wedding, Liberty being the bride! Thus is the gong kept going.

Mr. W. J. BROWN of Indiana, who played his cards so as to come within two votes of having Mr. COBB the trouble of presiding in the House this Congress, introduced a Postage bill on the 4th, which is referred to Mr. POTTER and his colleagues. It is inclosed.

Mr. BROWN fixes the postage on half ounce letters at five cents, paid or unpaid, after next September.

"Newspapers, pamphlets, magazines, periodicals, or other printed matter, he would tariff thus: one cent for every ounce and a half, or fraction thereof; all newspapers, &c. not sent to regular subscribers must be prepaid; no postage is to be charged on newspapers sent per mail within the county where they are published. Anybody may agree to carry newspapers for hire outside the mail. Handbills and circulars charge two cents if not watered. Letters sent abroad he would charge fifteen cents sea postage to the United States mail lines. The Postmaster-General might increase these rates. The franking privilege to be continued, but restricted to ounce letters, and members mustn't frank for a friend any more under $10 penalty. Thus far Mr. W. J. BROWN.

Mr. SCHENCK's coin bill reduces the legal value of a Spanish shilling to that of a dime, and the York sixpence to five cents. Foreign quarters are to fetch but 20 cents. The mint is required to coin double dimes or 20 cent pieces, equal to the fifth of a dollar or a Halifax shilling. Why not also issue a million (say $5,000) copper half cents! They would be very useful to those who labor hard and earn but little. X.

What becomes of the Money Raised from Federal Taxation?

Naval Recruiting—A Year's Insurance—Federal Courts—Pioneer Women's epitaph—Stark Works—A President for Cuba—Professor Bache and his Notions—Jessup's Estimates—No Stagnation—Army Bations Fitted Two and a-Half Years Ahead—Mr. Towson and the Army—Tolles and Fortification—More Castles at West Point—Rivers and Harbors, or a Grave Spot in the Desert—Mail Pockets—Hydropathy and Ex Officio—The National Almanac.

Correspondence of The Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Feb. 13, 1850.

In my last letter to *The Tribune*, reviewing the estimates submitted to Congress, or in other words, the votes of money asked by the Government, I got as far as page 23 of Executive Doc. No. 1, a 240 page octavo, which those who think that the Federal patronage, wielded by a series of Southern Administrations, has occasionally made some slight inroads even on the more than Roman virtue of the chosen 140 Representatives from the Free States, will do well to read and digest. This morning I got up at 5, adjusted my specs, and went from page 30 to 147, where I found 6 Commanders, 6 Lieutenants, 6 Doctors and 6 Midshipmen entered as attached to six recruiting Naval Stations, at a cost of $36,600.

I was rather at a loss to perceive how the eloquence of the half dozen of Surgeons could aid in persuading tradesmen, mechanics, and merchant seamen, to enter an aristocratic service in which they can never rise to distinction, be their merit what it may—a service described by its oldest and highest officer as being more arbitrary and tyrannical than any in Europe, and in which the privates are whipped like disobedient dogs, the officers never. At last, however, I recollected that the doctors were proposed to be retained to inspect recruits, whether they are sound of wind and limb.—Of course, this $36,600 is but a part of the estimate for naval recruiting for 1850-51. We are at peace with the world. Long may we remain so! Yet, who knows? To be prudent and provident is very desirable, as well in nations as in individuals, and therefore the ten millions, nearly, asked by the Cabinet for naval purposes in 1850-51, when added to the two millions voted already, in the form of balances on hand, is surely none too much, "for security." There have been wars on sea, and there may be again. Who then would grudge 500 tuns of Spanish dollars to be insured against invasion, south especially, for a whole twelvemonth!

I was in error when I said that only $577,[illegible] were asked for expenses of United States Courts of Law, by a direct vote, beside the untold sums levied by Clerks, District Attorneys, and Marshals as fees, never accounted for. There is another $140,000 for same judiciary, in same year, page 38, Ex. Doc 1. I was also in error as to the years vote for the Military Academy—it is $199,238 47, or nearly $900 per annum per scholar.

The Tribune states that WETMORE, after having realized a handsome fortune out of an office, the income of which is apparently fixed by law at not more than $2,000 a year, is paying the Government back $30,000 in gold, and about to pay it other $42,000, and wait the issue of a law suit for another $80,000. Is the Criminal Law in the hands of the Whigs, then, to allow an officer to keep back any sum he thinks fit to say he ought to have to himself, (law or no law,) get interest on it, *or prevent the country from getting the use of it*, and yet not be sent to the penitentiary? Why, then, retain any penal clause in the 2nd Treasury Act? Or, perhaps the civil suit is to go on *slowly*—the criminal suit *slower* still—appearances must be kept up, of course—and if Mr. WETMORE's friends happen to get uppermost by the time the last sarcebutter is fired off by some legal thirty two pounder, they can send him back again to his old post: and "the balance" may be more truly ascertained at the end of their new ease of power. Is every official to give the jail the go-by thus? A Sub-Treasurer is invested with millions in specie and gives security for only one or two hundred thousand. Why may he not *send* a quarterly account now and then, create a confusion, trump up a half million bill of "services," and say he is place at his own credit at his private banker's, one of the nations in the iron chest, till a Court of Law decides upon his "claim?" True, the creditor whom the statute appoints may have declared that already; but why not carry the matter to those United States Courts where as "JOHN HENDERSON of Mississippi" tells us, the suitors must always wait three to five years for a hearing or a decision. One party, at least, in some cases I know, would'nt be sorry though there were fifty years of waiting in place of five. Is not WETMORE paying up $92,000 now a confession of guilt? If it was his why did he give it up? If not, why keep it till now?

The Government that has succeeded POLK and MARCY do not show a disposition to be more frugal with the money of the country than their predecessors. Patronage is their northern arm of power.

Professor BACHE puts hard on the public purse. He's as bad as a couple of Custom Houses, seven years old and still growing larger. He permits the public to know that "In section 5, a general reconnoissance has been made, so as to decide upon the plan of the work, and to form an idea of the difficulties, &c. His "triangulation and topography" are some of the costliest I have ever heard of.

Quartermaster-General JESSUP hands in his estimates $3,370,000, in page 92 and 93. They afford as useful information, as if I was to spill a bottle of ink on this sheet and then bid a blind man decipher my pothooks. In one item of $740,000 he blends a score or two of requirements all in one; in another of $400,000, we have twenty lines of mission type to tell what it is for, a third is only $120,000 for officers' mileage, when traveling alone; a fourth is $1,600,000; a fifth $430,000, and in both everything is included under one head, and a gross sum extended. Who can guess or tell what is right or wrong, where the estimates for particulars are thus carefully concealed? Immediately below this mockery of all accountability, we have items of $150 for labor, $900 for printing, &c. One department puts nearly four millions into a page and a quarter, and bids you guess the details. Another will fill up a couple of pages with a few thousand dollars, quoting acts of Congress as he goes along like a lawyer pleading before BETTS. Sometimes, as in JESUP'S case, p. 93, 94, you are served with a specimen of both, as if in burlesque. We are now in 1850, and to close the business of the war with Mexico, he will want $5,000 worth of extra clerk hire, until July 1851. Why not have said $50,000 wortb? Why not apply statute law after inquiry, to Jesup's department?

The Last Congress must have had an idea that this one could not do much. General GIBSON, Commissary General of subsistence, reports, page 95, that the funds now voted will subsist the army this half year, all next year, and then leave $637,[illegible] 609 in the Treasury. Had government an idea that the XXXIst Congress would not vote enough? KING of N.J.'s move may allay their fears. They have but to ask and receive.

Mr. GIBSON shows that "the regular army" will probably amount to 9,945 persons, of whom only 300 are women; that their food will cost 15 cents per day, or $514,485, which will leave $697,609 in the Treasury July 1, 1851, or more than would keep them in food during 1852, unless another Mexican, Cuban or other war was wanted to prop up despotism, South, and extend the "peculiar" institution.

Mr. N. TOWSON, Paymaster General, is a pattern in the way of estimates. He covets none of the decent mysteries which shroud Mr. MEREDITH'S revenue-collection drafts; Statute, chapter, page, date and section follow names, pay, subsistence, forage, servants' clothes, and totals—the servants' clothing for staff officers being $7,170. Of $2,315,321 required for Mr. Towson's bureau, he gives minute details, and asks but $33,720 for clothing to all the officers' servants. I do not think Mr. Towson was bred a lawyer: he makes his statements too plain for an argument.

JOSEPH C. TOTTEN, B.B.G and C.E. (see the key to these capitals in page 116) wants $754,800 for fortifications, the expenditure to be chiefly South, for there, of course, there is a discontented class, the democracy of color. Like Towson, he quotes law in the most edifying manner. The $754,000, be it remembered, is in addition to monies voted already and not expended. TOTTEN wants, for a 'new mess-hall' to the 240 West Point Cadets, the present one being old-fashioned, $25,000, and for a barrack for them $40,000. Hundreds of thousands expended already in buildings for them vanish like Aladdin's palace when the African got hold of his magic lamp.

Col. ABERT's bureau of Topographical Engineers, propose to spend $1,184,000 next fiscal year, and of this, $1,033,500 are for River and Harbor Improvements. Here, at least, is one green spot in the financial desert. That is, if the money shall be applied, and not deferred. Of the votes thus asked, $200,000 are for improving the Mississippi, O hio, &c., $50,000 for the Hudson; $50,000 to Delaware Breakwater, $30,000 Savannah Harbor, $30,000 Erie do. $40,000 at Oswego do. $20,000 at Cleveland, Ohio; $50,000 for Red River; $30,000 St. Louis Harbor; $20,000 to Dubuque, $60,000 to the Ohio below Pittsburg; $20,000 for mouth of the Genesee; $20,000 at Milwaukee, $20,000, Michigan City, &c.; also $75,000 to complete light house on Carysfort Reef, Florida.

As in last year, $874,000 are asked for the United States Mail Transportation, Liverpool and New York, New-York and Charres, Panama and Oregon. For preparing a Nautical Almanac for the press, $12,850. For the Hydrographical Office here another $10,500 is asked to buy instruments, other $9,250 to buy books and maps; other $9,200 for binding, printing and publishing; $15,000 for copying from old sea journals, for the wind and current charts, &c. Who checks this expenditure? These are princely demands. Beside the $12,850 for the Almanac, exclusive of printing, and the $8,200 for the hydrographic, there is an estimate of $31,200 for 24 officers at National Observatory. It is assuredly well officered. Professor BACHE is, as I said before, very learned, but he pulls hard and often and long upon the National purse strings.

ROGER SHERMAN.

CANADIAN AFFAIRS.

The Colonial Secretary and his Document—Its effects upon the different Political Parties—Rumored Resignation of Mr. Baldwin, &c.

Correspondence of The Tribune.

MONTREAL, Thursday, Feb. 7.

SIR: Since I last wrote to you an infernal machine contrived between the precocious Liberals of Canada, with their miserable Governor at their head, and the Colonial Secretary in Downing st. has exploded among the ranks of the Annexationists. You will have got the dispatch to which I allude before this, and I therefore need say nothing about its contents. O'Connell's words start involuntarily to the lips, as one reads Grey's command to his agent here to catch and imprison, or perhaps hang, any one whom he can find straying much beyond the legal inclosure—"Base, bloody, brutal Whigs! was any party ever better characterized? However, the explosion has produced no other effect than to create ridicule and contempt for the Colonial Minister, and all his subordinates here in Canada. It is universally felt that whatever the form of this document, it does not substantially alter the opinion of any man or body of men whose opinions are entitled to weight, after full *cognisance de cause*, and deliberate judgment thereon. I have heard but one opinion. It is that Lord Elgin and his advisers, having rashly undertaken to stifle public sentiment by dismissals from the militia and magistracy before any advice came from England as to the reception of the first Annexation Manifesto, they were not a little puzzled when they found that the weight of this opinion was decidedly in favor rather than opposed to a movement they were attempting to put down by loud clamor and executive censure. Lord Elgin, then (so goes the train of reasoning) must have written to his wife's uncle, that some very strong declaration would be necessary in order to justify him in the arbitrary steps he had determined on, and hence the dispatch. Men then compare this insolent censure of the Annexationists of Canada with the unreproved agitation of Mr. Cobden for getting rid of the burdensome part of the Colonial relations, and they ask why it is more treasonable for Canada to desire relief from the burden of England than for England to desire relief from the burden of Canada? To say that people are irritated would be too strong a term for the prevalent feeling, they despise much more than they hate. They have just seen this swaggering Secretary beaten in the most shameful manner, after an obstinate persistence in his folly by the little Colony of the Cape of Good Hope, and they think it is something like a love of defeat that induces him to try his hand with Canada, especially when he has to act by means of an agent who has shown so much personal cowardice as Lord Elgin. The truth is, that the British Ministry here in Canada is little more powerful than it is at Washington, unless indeed it chooses to break in upon our Constitution by armed force. We can refuse to be governed in any other way than by a ministry possessing the confidence of the majority of the Representatives. These Representatives may annex what condition they please to the continuance of their confidence, and the Governor has no means of acting unless his ministry go with him. Therefore Lord Grey may command one thing; but if Parliament command another, Lord Grey is not wasting his pains. In their desire to keep office, however, the present government may go great lengths, as they have already shown themselves willing to do anything, however inconsistent with their past professions, in order to retain their big salaries. Men who have been for the last quarter of a century blaming Governments for dismissing militia officers, who appeared with cannons, &c. at public meeting, and threatened all sorts of bloody destruction to tirest Britain, are now threatening prosecut