

Business Notices.

R. R. R. We direct the attention of the public to the following letter from Joseph Gardner, of Dresden, Tenn. It is a copy of a letter...

MUSLIN DE LAINES.—25 cases Printed and Plain De Laines will be offered this day at 1/4 yard at...

TOILET QUELS.—S. & M. E. TOWLE & Co. will offer, this day, 250 Toilet Quills at 2 1/2 each, worth 3 1/2...

CLOTHING AT WHOLESALE.—We beg to inform Southern and Western merchants that we have just received...

TEA, COFFEE AND SUGAR.—Unquestionably the place to procure these prime articles of domestic consumption...

SINGER'S SEWING MACHINES.—All persons who wish for information in regard to SEWING MACHINES can obtain...

THE REMARKABLE WEATHER OF THIS WINTER. In producing Colds, Coughs and Pulmonary Complaints, affords...

HOSTETTER.—The surprising effects of HOSTETTER'S STOMACH BITTERS in removing Bile, forcing the appetite, imparting vigor to the system, and dissipating...

FRENCH BUILDING STONE.—IMPORTED FROM CAEN, FRANCE, BY DEPPERMAN & ALBERTI, No. 90 Broadway.

CHRISTOPHER'S HAIR-DYE, WIGS AND TOILETS.—This is the best and most perfect hair-dye ever used. It is a simple and safe preparation...

WIGS.—HAIR-DYE.—WIGS.—BACHELOR'S WIGS AND TOILETS have improved recently to such a degree...

WILDER'S PATENT SALAMANDER SAFE.—THE BEST FIRE-PROOF SAFE IN THE WORLD is not now made up by any other maker...

HERRING'S PATENT CHAMPION FIRE AND BURGLAR PROOF SAFE, with HERRING'S PATENT FIRE-PROOF LOCK, and Crystal Palace, New York, 1853-54. NILES C. HERRING & CO., No. 135, 137 and 139 WATER ST., NEW YORK.

THE METROPOLITAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY. CORNER OF FIFTH AND CHURCH STS. CAPITAL, \$300,000. EDWARD A. STANBURY, Secretary.

METROPOLITAN CARD ENGRAVING ESTABLISHMENT, No. 58 BROADWAY.—Artistically Engraved Cards, Wedding Invitations, Fine Stationery, Photo Plates, Fancy Goods, Individual Colored and Tinted Photographs, &c. J. N. GIMBLETT, Proprietor.

STATEN ISLAND FANCY DYING ESTABLISHMENT.—Office No. 3 John St. (Two doors from Broadway.) Dye Silks, Woolen and Fancy Goods, in the piece or otherwise, in every description. Their superior style of dyeing. LADIES' and GENTLEMEN'S GARMENTS, richly dyed. Colors as bright as the most brilliant or grave colors. All kinds of Shawls, Curtains, &c., cleaned or dyed. Goods received and returned by express. BARKETT, NEPHEWS & CO., No. 3 John St., New York.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—HERE IS HEALTH FOR ALL.—Yes, for all, a simple remedy, which, if used, immediately on the manifestations of bile, restores health when falling, gives energy and vigor to the system when flagging, in a manner superior to any medicine ever made known. It is sold at all the manufacturers, No. 80 Maiden Lane, New York, and No. 24 Strand, London, and by all druggists, at 25c, 50c, and \$1 per box.

ROBINSON, ROBINSON & COUREN. ISAAC ROBINSON, ATTORNEY AT LAW, No. 207 Broadway. WM. A. COUREN, (Third door below Chamber St.) Have formed a Law Partnership, and have opened new offices at No. 207 Broadway, in any of the Courts will meet with prompt attention.

New York Daily Tribune. SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1856.

The expected steamers had not been heard from at our office when THE TRIBUNE went to press this morning.

WILL CONGRESS ACT? The people are impatient for the action of Congress on the subject of Kansas. As the case now stands, the citizens of that Territory seem to stand without the pale of law or justice. They are driven by the ferocity of the Border Ruffians, backed, we are ashamed to say, by the President, to the stern necessity of sleeping on their arms, and holding themselves in perpetual readiness for the conflict of life and death. No savages that ever roamed the wilderness, before the white man set his foot on this continent, were more completely thrown upon their own resources to protect themselves from violence than are the inhabitants of Kansas today. The truth glares out upon the country in all its hideous proportions, that the people of Kansas have no protection from outrage and death but through their own unaided prowess in combat with the horde of demi-savages who hover on their borders; a band of murderers rendered more devilish by the countenance of an Executive whose malice against freedom is inconceivable, and whose malignity seems unbounded.

From such a load of infamous oppression the settlers of Kansas should be instantly relieved. Why does not Congress speak? The sense of justice is not dead among Senators and Representatives. We feel that there must be, both in the Senate and House, a spirit of justice and humanity that will succor the valiant men of Kansas. It is impossible that Congress is a body of Border Ruffians, whatever the leading members of the Administration may be. Let it act, then, by vote, by resolution, by enactment, in any way that will

assure the inhabitants of Kansas that it is neither dead nor asleep to their wants, their wrongs, and their necessities. Let the painful suspense which they must feel be terminated. Let the settler feel that, although the protecting arm of the Executive, which ought to be his shield, is withdrawn, yet that Congress will second no act of official atrocity toward them, but will afford them instant and constant protection against the invading mob of Missouri, as well as its lackers in Washington.

JUDICIAL REPORTS. We hope the result of Judge Bogart's trial may have tended to satisfy some of our cotemporaries that they were a little too hasty in calling for a radical change in the system of Jury trials because one or two Jurors would not agree or rendered verdicts which they did not like. What we seem to need most at this moment is, not so much a change in the Jury as a change in the Bench—or rather a change in the method by which our City Judges are appointed.

The election of Judges by the people seems to be, on general principles, conformable to democratic ideas; and, in that point of view, we have been favorable to it. As applied to the Judges of our higher Courts, that system has worked well in practice; but the same cannot be said of our local tribunals, charged with the administration of criminal justice and the enforcement of our Police regulations. The case of two of these Judges, now fresh in the public mind, is certainly not favorable to that method of appointment. The same reasons, indeed, which make it necessary, in the administration of our municipal affairs generally, to abandon many of the usages which answer sufficiently well in the rural districts, and to substitute for them other methods of operation, apply with peculiar force to this matter of the appointment of the Judges of our City and Criminal Courts.

It is well known that here, much more than in the country, a few busy and active individuals take upon themselves the entire management of our political affairs. The greater part of our citizens are too much engrossed with their own private business or pleasures to have much time to give to the public. Content with merely putting their votes into the ballot-box, they leave to somebody else to nominate and print the ticket and put it into their hands, and, if it has the endorsement of some party in whom they have confidence, they vote it without thought, and often in utter ignorance of the persons whose names are borne upon it.

Besides, it is unfortunately too true, as has been made evident by the testimony given upon some recent trials, that among the persons who take a large share in this controlling guardianship over our elections are many who are themselves very proper objects of criminal jurisdiction. Such men as Peole and Baker and their respective gangs are by no means exactly the sort of persons to be entrusted with the selection of Police Justices. In the case of Judges whose jurisdiction is confined to civil actions, or who, by the extent of their jurisdiction, arouse the public to a careful scrutiny of their qualifications, even the most unprincipled politicians, as they have no special private interest of their own at stake, may be expected to consult the interest of their party by making nominations at least apparently respectable. But when it comes to the selection of criminal Judges with a limited local jurisdiction, the case is different. Unfortunately, there are in this city a great many people who, though interested perhaps in the general enforcement of the laws—as who, indeed, is not—have yet a decided hostility to the enforcement of some particular laws. And it may happen—should we not be justified in saying it has happened?—that by the combination and secret arrangement of these parties interested in defeating the execution of certain particular laws, very unfit persons indeed are placed upon the bench.

Virtue is said to be essential to a republican government. It is much to be feared that there is not at this moment quite virtue enough in the City of New-York to enable us completely to carry out the democratic theory. The appointing power, vested in a Governor, is no doubt liable to be abused; but the sense of individual and personal responsibility affords a safeguard for fit appointments beyond anything that party caucuses have to offer. This is an important subject, and at this moment a specially interesting one. When the report of the Legislative Police Committee comes before the Legislature, it can hardly fail to become a prominent subject of attention.

MRS. PARTINGTON IN NEW-YORK. The disinterested and perfectly self-sacrificing spirit of some people is astonishing. Even in this hardened and worldly City of New-York, a few such pattern individuals are to be found. The Commercial Advertiser is one of them. Though the Republicans so obstinately disregarded its urgent and repeated advice to put a doughface in the Speaker's chair, that journal does not in the least forego its benevolent efforts to enlighten what it regards as the dark path of the Republicans with the lamp of its wisdom—that lamp, by the way, seems to burn a little dimly just now. Is the Commercial sure it has been properly trimmed and filled? In these times of oil of the best quality will burn out. It is a dangerous hallucination that because a lamp was once full it may still be relied upon to give as much light as ever.

But, however, The Commercial may be classed among the foolish virgins, who slept and slumbered and forgot to trim their lamps, that is no imputation against its goodness of heart. Its expiring wick instead of light only sends out a faint flicker of smoke and a disagreeable odor; but the kind-hearted old virgin, quite unaware of this circumstance, still fusses and bustles about, and undertakes to light the Republicans on their way with as much alacrity as if appointed in caucus special link-boy, or link-girl rather, to the party.

What new troubles The Commercial is the apprehension, or we ought rather perhaps to say the certainty, that the Republicans have made a blunder or done something worse in the case of the delegate from Kansas. Forgetting its usual cry of peace! peace! The Commercial just now is hot for a fight, and seems hugely disappointed that the Republicans did not make a stand against allowing Whitfield to be sworn. "Poor Governor Reeder," it exclaims with all the pathos of Mrs. Partington herself, and with a confusion of ideas rather characteristic of that lady.

"After so much promise and confident boast, what is the fulfillment! Mr. Whitfield presented himself when the name of the delegate from Kansas was called, was sworn in and took his seat without a word of opposition, and with only the remark from one of the Anti-N. breakers that, as some future time he might raise the question of Mr. Whitfield's right to the seat! And this was the lame and impotent conclusion of all the sound and fury about insisting upon Gov. Reeder's admission, at whatever cost or hazard. The whole subject is permitted to go by default. How came this to pass? Were the Republicans sincere in their former declarations of purpose? Did they really mean what they said? We are bound to believe they

did. Then why did they not carry out their intention and keep their oft-repeated pledges to their friends and supporters? The only attempt at an explanation came in the pure Anti-N. breaka question—in the case of THE TRIBUNE, in which it was pleaded that the Republicans did "not think it prudent to risk a defeat" at that time on that question. If we accept the reason as the true one, it is suggestive of some rather grave reflections, for it is equivalent to an admission that we have seen in the editorial correspondence of THE TRIBUNE, in which the Republicans have addressed all their strength, and on which alone they claim to stand—they are powerless in the House of Representatives.

It will no doubt greatly comfort The Commercial to learn the true state of the case, which, indeed, it might have learned from the letter of our Correspondent which it quotes; but we suppose the tears of sympathy with "poor Governor Reeder," and of indignation against the treacherous Republicans stopped it short in the middle of the letter, which, of course, it threw down with contempt, and rushed for relief to the ink-bottle.

The Commercial then will be good enough to understand that had the question of Reeder's claim to the seat been raised when Whitfield presented himself to be sworn, it must have turned, as then presented, upon the mere technical point of their comparative formal and apparent regularity of their certificates—the very ground upon which Cushing and Pierce sought to place it in their special Kansas message. The Republicans in Congress thought—and with all due submission to the antique wisdom of the Mrs. Partington of The Commercial Advertiser, they seem to us to have thought correctly—that it would be far better to have a full report from a Committee of all the facts in the case before bringing the question to a decision. The case has not gone by default as The Commercial represents. It remains to be tried, not on the pleadings of the lawyers, but on the facts. We shall see when the Committee on Elections report how far The Commercial is inclined to go on behalf of "Poor Gov. Reeder." We hope not to find it backing out, but in this business at least something better than an enemy in the disguise of a half-handed friend—a political Mrs. Partington trying to keep out the Republican tide with a broom.

RELIGION AND SOCIALISM. One of the bug-bear cries which alarmists have attempted to stifle inquiry into the existing relations of capital and labor, has been the assertion that the friends of social reform are the enemies of religion. Instead of manfully facing the terrible inequalities which the aspect of modern society exhibits, and endeavoring to solve the problem in favor of a more general diffusion of wealth, material comfort, mental culture, and social refinement, the conductors of the conservative and religious press have uttered loud anathemas against the advocates of progress, stigmatizing them as infidels, and holding them up to the scorn and detestation of the religious community. In common with other friends of social reform, we have suffered our full share of reproach on that account. Our motives have been misrepresented, our opinions caricatured, and our arguments assailed with a persistent malignity, as if in claiming justice for the oppressed classes of society we were warring upon everything sacred and valuable in our present institutions. But such reproaches have never changed our convictions, nor daunted our action. We knew that the question of Socialism was at the foundation of all enlightened efforts for the benefit of humanity, and have acted accordingly. Believing that truth and justice would finally carry the day, we have cherished no impatience for the rapid spread of our principles. From time to time, we have met with cheering responses in quarters from which we expected no sympathy. Men whose insight was too great for their prejudices have been forced to admit the correctness of our position, and, though from an opposite point of view, to plead for the cause to which we have given our advocacy. We find a remarkable instance of this power of truth over ecclesiastical habitudes in a leading article of The Evangelist, which we have copied at length elsewhere. That journal, though protecting its orthodoxy by a due proportion of saving clauses, takes substantially the same ground with ourselves on the subject of Socialism. It justly complains that a question of such vital moment as the reorganization of society—the hope of which has taken hold of many of the leading minds of Europe, and pervades the mass of the people in France and Germany—should not receive a fair examination, or should be dismissed with a scornful sneer, or the assertion that it is a mere ebullition of infidelity. On the contrary, with a keener discernment of the signs of the times, The Evangelist maintains that Socialism is one of the greatest problems that now task the intellect of the age, and that it should be approached with seriousness and candor, even with religious solemnity, and be judged by the highest light—that of Christianity. This is precisely what we have always contended for. In this view we have endeavored to do our part toward the solution of the problem. We are certainly glad to find such correct principles propounded in the columns of The Evangelist, and we commend its statements to the careful perusal of our readers.

RAILROADS AND THE PUBLIC. The Railroad System of New-England and New-York may be regarded as substantially complete. Some secondary roads remain to be finished—some, perhaps, to be even commenced; but, on the whole, this portion of the Union is very well accommodated with Railroads, very few points being more than a day's drive from a station. Maine will in time run one road, if no more, to the St. John, there to connect with a British American network, and enable sea-loading voyagers to take or quit the Atlantic steamers at Halifax; but there will be few cogent appeals hereafter to the public-spirited to help complete Railroads in the Eastern States. Pennsylvania has one great enterprise—the Sunbury Road—still in its earlier stages; but a few years of prosperity will witness its consummation. Ohio is already cut up into small sections of lines of Railroad, to most of which her fertile soil and active, energetic population already secure fair incomes. A very large proportion of her soil is still covered with the primitive forest, as is that of Pennsylvania, whose mineral wealth has hardly yet been guessed at. Though all the long lines running nearly East and West are destined to a constant augmentation of through business from the rapid extension and growth of the Furrier West, yet the necessary increase of local travel and transportation alone would soon suffice to guarantee prosperity to every judiciously located and economically constructed road connecting the Atlantic with the Great Valley.

There is one unfinished Road, or rather series of roads, to which we have hitherto called attention as of eminent consequence to our city. It is that which leaves the Erie Road at Little Valley, near the Allegheny River, and proceeds due west to the Erie Road here bending north to reach Lake Erie at Dunkirk through Jamestown, (N. Y.), Mead-

ville, (Pa.), Warren, (Ohio), Ravenna, Akron, &c., to Westline and Galion, there connecting with the great routes which permeate Indiana and Southern Ohio. The Ohio portion of this road, we understand, is now being vigorously prosecuted, and it is therefore time to speak of the sections intervening between that and our own noble thoroughfare. Were this line completed, on a uniform gauge of six feet, if no further than to Dayton, Ohio, it would inevitably become the great cattle Road of the country. It penetrates or approaches the best stock-growing districts of the Union, and the advantage of a wide track for cattle transportation need not be insisted on. And the great stream of passengers from the Ohio and from St. Louis would have no motive for running north across the ridge which separates the Ohio from the Great Lakes if a shorter road, of easier grades and with fewer changes of cars, solicited their patronage. There is scarcely a foot of waste or sterile soil on this route from Little Valley to Dayton, or if you please, to Kansas; and those who might seek the seaboard by way of Philadelphia could choose between the Pittsburgh and Sunbury routes, both crossed by that we have indicated.

As yet, this route is attempted in pieces; the New-York, Pennsylvania, and the Ohio sections being essayed by different companies—the Ohio, we believe, by more than one. This division vitiates the enterprise and impairs its chances of success. The project is one of decided general interest; and we wish some of the intelligent and spirited capitalists of our city would consider and respond to its claims as a whole on the sympathy, the energy and the executive ability of the Commercial Emporium.

A NAME FOR THE PARK. One of our cotemporaries has some timely observations on the name due the new Park, now that Commissioners and Judge have done their work, and the engineer and landscape-gardener should begin theirs. The Times objects to the name Central Park. So do we; it is scraggy, literary-wise; and not distinctive, not suggestive. But we do not think the substitute of our cotemporary merits the matter. "Reservoir Park" is making the Park an appendix to one of its details, and is frightfully prosaic. "Croton Park" is too leaky a term; it is water for landscape; and, besides, Croton is indicative of a druggist's shop, even more than castor-oil, being the most violent of opening medicines. We think we can do better for the Park. We go against Greek terms, however plastic their particles—as the people do not understand them. Plain comprehensible nomenclature must answer. Of this are two that occur to us: MANHATTAN PARK—a park representing the island. Or, what would be better, SANTA CLAUS PARK. This dear old Dutch saint, in accordance with the positive philosophy, has subsided into a fairy, and is the last of the godlike company of sprites. The sweet genius of childhood, and the almoner of heart-dissolved gifts, he might well give his name to the magnificent woods and walks where, in posse at least, a Shakespeare might well have had his Midsummer-Night's Dream, with all its fairy—and whither, too, children will resort by tens of thousands to perfect their joys and elaborate their health. The term, too, of Santa Claus is ideal, a quality overlooked in the halcyon-iterations of the Americans, who, beside their want of originality, have been, in naming places, as dry as a sheriff's advertisement.

Another point in regard to the Park. We want some artist of sufficient experience to undertake the laying out of the Park. Since the death of the lamented Downing, we have had in this country no master of this art in its full proportions. Let, then, the head artist of the Versailles garden, or the King of Prussia's gardens, or Queen Victoria's parks, be imported for the nonce; and let us have no jobbing and no bad work—but something worthy the city and the outlay.

We heartily beg pardon of The Boston Atlas. The Boston mail has been rather irregular of late; besides, to tell the truth, with all our wakefulness and watchfulness, we do sometimes fall asleep over the Boston newspapers. For one or the other of these reasons, the article in which The Atlas kindly undertook to correct some chronological mistakes into which we had fallen as to the rather obscure biography of ex-Governor Clifford—to say nothing of the moral lecture it administered to us on that occasion—entirely escaped our notice. In our reference to this subject the other day, we alluded to a ferocious leader in The Boston Courier, of which, as we have since discovered, all the materials were stolen bodily from The Atlas, and served up by The Courier with condiments of its own. Hard times these, when the Boston papers have nothing to furnish to their readers except cold victuals, conveyed from each other. Even Pharaoh's prophetic dream did not go quite so far as that. We will see that justice is done to The Atlas. We seldom call upon indosers, except when they are more responsible than the drawers, and least of all when it turns out that the indosers have stolen the bill and are attempting to pass it off as their own property.

Meanwhile, as The Atlas has at last found out that a plot is brewing in Massachusetts for a political fusion between Gardner and the Hunkers, we hope it will give a little attention to that matter, and especially that it will take care, lest it be itself ejected or frightened into the plot. The Atlas means well unquestionably. It always meant well, and we hope its backbone is now entirely erect. Still, if, in a friendly spirit, we seek to apply a strengthening plaster now and then, we trust it will not be taken amiss.

FROM WASHINGTON. KANSAS IN CONGRESS. Editorial Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune. WASHINGTON, Thursday, Feb. 7, 1856.

As the time rapidly approaches for action in Congress on the state of things existing in Kansas and the various grave questions of duty and policy thence arising, the interest evinced therein becomes intense, and to many even painful. "Will Congress leave the People of Kansas to the tender mercies of the Border Ruffians who have so long oppressed, harassed, and plundered them? and who have in several instances consummated their outrages by wanton, unprovoked murder?" Such is the main question to be answered through the legislation of the Session before us.

The Administration have seen fit to rest their case entirely on an impeachment of Gov. Reeder. When asked why they have not protected and maintained the rights of the People of Kansas against the concerted outrages of the Missouri invaders, they reply that one of their own agents—to wit, Gov. Reeder—did thus and so, wherefore they could do no otherwise than they did. I do not feel the force of this logic. If the President set over Kansas a Governor who proved false to her inter-

ests and his own duty, his creators cannot make him the scapegoat of their sins. He acted for them and they by him; and they do not even allege that his acts behind which they now take shelter, were contrary to their instructions or were the cause of his removal. They removed him on a charge of speculating in Indian lands; they did not then pretend to find fault that he had not called the Territory to their attention earlier or refused certificates to more of the members fraudulently returned by the Border Ruffians.

Gov. Reeder is most anxious for the earliest opportunity to meet and repel all the calumnies which have been hurled against him, and I am sure he will be able to do it. He may have erred in judgment in issuing certificates to so many legislators elected by fraudulent votes; but how was he to verify that fact? Wherever testimony was submitted to him showing that the election was vitiated by foul voting, he annulled the return; where no such testimony was offered and the return was unexceptionable, he issued certificates to those returned as elected. How could he have done otherwise? Is it the business of a Governor, in cases where no fraud is alleged, to fish for testimony to invalidate the returns duly before him? Had Gov. R. done this, who does not see that the clamor thus provoked would have been ten times greater than it now is?

I am very sure the House will not sustain Whitfield. I hope it will give the seat to the rightful claimant, Reeder; for the dodge of sending back the election to the People, without sternly guarding against a fresh influx of the Border Ruffians, would excite universal indignation. Remember that half the settlements in Kansas are within a half-day's ride of the populous range of counties composing the western verge of Missouri—a strip containing more slaves and a more fanatical slave-holding population than any other portion of the State. This population has cast a majority of the votes polled at each of the three elections held under Federal authority; and they have publicly declared, through their recognized leaders, that they can and will do so again. The Yankee schoolmistress who wrote from Weston the letter so gratifying to The New-Haven Register admitted that they had carried these elections by foul voting, and declared that they could and would keep doing so. To send back the election, therefore, in view of the manifest impossibility of guarding the polls of a vast, thinly-populated Territory against concerted invasion and corruption, is simply to invite villainy and violence to hold a fresh carnival, to be grounded in liberdicide and sure to culminate in murder.

—But suppose the House to do its whole duty by Kansas, what is to be hoped from the Senate? The answer to this question rests with Messrs. Cass and Douglas—let them ponder it well! They are believed not to be at heart unfriendly to the Free-State People of Kansas, many of whom they severally recognize as their devoted followers and supporters in the past. They assured the People of the Union that Squatter Sovereignty in the Territories would ensure Peace, Justice and Freedom; where is the entertainment to which they so confidently invited their disciples?

—Enough have already been plundered, more than enough murdered, in testing their theories on Kansas; it is now high time for them to step forward and say what shall be done to save her People from subjugation and virtual extermination. Let them take hold resolutely, and the sword of the destroying angel can yet be stayed; for there will be several votes from the Slave States in favor of the sorely oppressed settlers whom they induced to put their trust in Squatter Sovereignty. Mr. Douglas is not yet here, but is anxiously expected; Gen. Cass is on hand, and, having demolished Mosquito, must now be ready to deal with Kansas. Any demonstration on his part in favor of her afflicted pioneers will be gratefully welcomed, and it cannot come too soon.

H. G. THE OFFICE-BEGGING SCOURGE. Editorial Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune. WASHINGTON, Thursday, Feb. 7, 1856.

Both Houses this afternoon adjourned over to Monday—the House without electing a Printer. In fact, things were in such confusion there that our friends were not willing to risk a vote, believing the chances in favor of Wendell's election. So, after some time spent on a Senate proposition to distribute wood to the suffering poor of this city, the House was glad to give itself a holiday. (I believe in benevolence, even of the public sort; but I can't help thinking it the wiser way to give every poor family a wood-lot and let its members cut for themselves.) As the weather has at last moderated, I trust we shall not hear of this wood bill again.

—There seems to be much ill-suppressed vexation at the Court end of town in view of the readiness and heartiness wherewith the opposition Senators respond to the views of the Executive with regard to our differences with Great Britain. The Executive is like a vapor who is baffled and chagrined in that he can by no demonstration induce the neighbors to hold him and prevent his doing something desperate. The House will probably give him as free a rein as the Senate.

Before Monday, I trust such explanations and comparisons of views will have been had as to the Printing of the House as will insure the success of the Opposition candidate.

—There is an appalling pressure for office upon the new Clerk and Doorkeeper of the House. Everybody who once held an office and by the turn of the wheel lost it fancies that he will be martyred afresh should he not now be provided for; while those who never yet were so lucky as to get their noses into the public manger are fiercely insisting that their turn has come at last. There are some forty places to give, and not less than a thousand persons severally determined to be called to fill them. Of course an immense majority are doomed to certain and sure disappointment.

The root of the evil in Congress itself—in the exorbitant salaries and allowances it persists in paying to its servants, thereby transforming every one into an office-seeker. If a lottery were advertised in which tickets cost nothing, while a hundred or two of them were certain to draw high prizes, the lottery-offices would be thronged. It is just so with regard to office-seeking. Men loathe it; yet they say: "If I should happen to win, I shall have light work and heavy pay; if I lose, I can lose very little; so I will make the effort." And so each beggarly place there are five hundred greedy bidders, and the aspirant who is so lucky as to secure a good berth must instantly face a ravenous pack intent on finding places under his authority.

From being an office-seeker to fighting a legion of office-seekers, the transition is instantaneous. I have intimated that the stipends paid to sub-functionaries here are exorbitant. Three dollars per day is, if I mistake not, the regular allowance to fire-makers, folders, packers, &c., employed

about the Capitol, while the choppers in Virginia forests, who cut the wood which is here burned, work much harder under exposure to the inclemencies of the weather for not more than 75 cents a day. The boys employed as pages have \$62 per month, while they cannot in the average elsewhere earn \$10 per month. Now this seems a nice thing for them, yet in truth it is quite otherwise. The boy who obtains such wages for a Session of Congress is spoiled for regular industry thereafter. To come down to the actual value of his labor is unbearable; the poor \$3 or \$4 per week looks paltry—despicable. His season of good luck and high living has incapacitated him for ordinary exertion and for appreciating fair, regular earnings. To the far larger number of our youth, a year in jail would work less injury than six months in the Capitol as page, messenger or other attendant.

Is it in vain that I urge these obvious, undeniable considerations favoring retrenchment and reform? May I not hope that some Member will take up the subject in the spirit of true patriotism and carefully prepare a bill entailing every needless servitor and graduating the wages of each one retained by the price paid for similar service in well ordered private establishments? Such a bill would make no figure in the journals and exert no cheers from the balconies; but it would effect a sensible saving to the Treasury and prove a permanent blessing to the whole country. H. G.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT. WASHINGTON, Thursday, Feb. 7, 1856.

After another effort, the election of printer was postponed by the House until Monday. Mr. Follett, the caucus nominee, has been absent during this contest, but is expected to return here to-night, when it is to be hoped some satisfactory arrangement may be made by which the friends who have heretofore acted together may be kept united. The present division of strength is solely attributable to mismanagement at the outset, and to an attempt to disregard influences which are now found to be potential in determining the result. This patronage is too valuable to be engrossed by any single individual, and the system heretofore practiced by both parties, of conferring it upon a particular organ or party pet, will hardly be repeated again. The public sentiment is against monopoly in every form, but especially in that sort which builds up one man at the expense of a class.

Mr. Campbell of Ohio renewed the attempt to get a direct vote upon the resolution from the Senate appropriating \$1,500 to purchase wood for the suffering poor of the District of Columbia. It was resisted as usual by Mr. Jones of Tennessee, who sets up as the peculiar guardian of the Treasury. In the course of some obnoxious comments on the proposition, he inquired, tauntingly, of Mr. Campbell, whether the advantages contemplated would be conferred equally upon the black population of the District? Mr. Campbell replied, that as perhaps the gentleman's acquaintance was more familiar with the portions of Washington in which this class of people resided he might himself be better able to answer the question, and to understand their wants. The retort is said to have a practical significance, which will not bear repetition. It is sufficient to know that the Member from Tennessee consulted discretion in not pressing the point further, and concluded it might be as well to let the Member from Ohio travel his road unmolested heretofore.

Instructions for Mr. Dallas are now preparing at the Department of State, and his day of departure will probably be determined to some extent by the intelligence to be received by the steamer, now daily expected to arrive. The principal objection presented on his person, will be the reception of his credentials. That event may be indefinitely deferred, but no expectation is entertained that it will be offensively refused.

In summing before them, an officer of each of the grades represented in the late Board, the Naval Committee were influenced only by a desire to ascertain in propria persona, the mode of proceeding adopted in their deliberations, in order to be better able to recommend some measure which will meet the cases of injustice, and to justify them in discriminating between the various plans of redress, which are now under consideration. The Committee still adhere to its purpose, to decline any investigation into the alleged cases of harshness, submitted to them upon memorials. The resolution of Mr. Jones of Tenn., now pending before the Senate, calling upon the Secretary of the Navy for the record, journal and papers of the late Board, is designed to get an official confirmation of a well understood fact, to wit, that the more important portions of the debate, which will come upon the return of Mr. Dobbin's answer. Everybody knows already the Board kept no records, and that single fact militates as much as any other against its decrees. A strong and determined opposition to the new promotions will be brought to bear, but no conviction is to be confirmed finally, though they may be held "in durance vile" for a long time.

The Senate to-day carried through the resolution, reported from the Committee on Finance upon Mr. Broadhead's suggestion, recommending the consideration of the Appropriation bills in that Chamber, and a conference with the Ways and Means in the House for distribution of the labor. This is a step forward and cannot fail to be attended by good and practical results. Mr. Seward, Mr. Sumner and others deprecated the movement as an "innovation," and offensive to the spirit of the Constitution. They were greatly exercised about the rights of the popular branch and the danger of violating the precedent, which has heretofore recognized the right of originating "money bills" in that Chamber. But the facts urged by Mr. Toombs, and which are well understood by all persons at all experienced in legislation, that the postponement of these bills until the closing hours of Congress virtually confers the whole legislative power upon four men constituting the majorities of the Committees of Conference, and that the House have frequently, under this compulsory, voted large amounts of money previously rejected, completely overhauling the effect of this address to popular sympathy. Mr. Toombs stated, among other things, that he was present on one occasion when an appropriation of eight millions to the Navy was carried without even reading the bill. Time was limited and the title of the bill alone was read. If Congress acts up to the spirit of the proposed reform, spoliation of the Treasury will at last be checked. INDEX.

COL. FRENCH AGAIN DENIED.—Col. Parker H. French has lately addressed a letter to Mr. Marcy, in which he says that "the period has arrived when, in obedience to instructions, he must formally present his credentials and respectfully ask the recognition of his Government." Mr. Marcy has replied as follows: "DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, Feb. 7, 1856. 'SIR: I have received your letter of the 5th inst., with a copy of your letter of credence, and laid them before the President. I am directed by him to reply to your request to be received as Minister Plenipotentiary to this Government from the Republic of Nicaragua, that he has again taken the subject into deliberate consideration, but has not seen sufficient reason to change the determination made known to you in my letter of the 21st December last. I am, Sir, your most obedient servant, W. L. MARCY."

The British Mail from Toronto, intended to have been dispatched by the Africa on Wednesday, did not reach here until yesterday afternoon, in consequence of the bad state of the roads. It came in charge of Mr. McGilvray, the British Mail officer, and will go out in the steamer Fulton to-day. Mr. McGilvray met the agent with the Arabia's mails at Buffalo on Thursday morning.