Our Washington Correspondence.

WASHINGTON, May 9, 1850.

Misrepresentations of the Cabinet Whitewashers—The Richardson Committee—The Barron Claim—Preston and the Benson Claim—Course of the Claim Attorney's—Alarm of the Cabinet—Meredith Closeted with two Letter Writers, who assail the Whigs in Congress—The Republic's article.

Letter writers who wish to get credit for reliability, should keep truth on their side. Some of them however, in, their zeal to defend and whitewash the misdeeds and blunders of the cabinet, are in the habit of sending forth falsehood after falsehood, manufactured out of whole cloth. One of these writes the "Juvenal" letters for the New York *Express*, and the "Patuxent" letters for the *Baltimore Patriot*.

One of his statements, in both papers allued to, is that the Richardson investigating committee have been hunting about for witnesses, among those most busy in getting up charges against Mr. Ewing, and, failing to find any who had any testimony to give, have abandoned the pursuit, and turned to Mr. Ewing and called upon that functionary to furnish them with the information they sought.

Now, the fact is, the Richardson committee have not called upon a single individual to testify. No one has as yet been summoned before the committee.

Of the papers which Mr. Ewing has sent to the committee, agreeably to a resolution adopted by the committee, are those relating to the allowance and payment, for the second time, of the Barron pension claim. If these papers alone do not nail Mr. Ewing to the counter, then will I acknowledge myself mistaken very much. If those papers do not show that the claim was settled and paid at the treasury, years ago, and a receipt for the money, in full, received in return, then am I greatly mistaken. If they do not also show that the claim was reopened and settled upon a different principle from the one first adhered to, then am I much mistaken. If they do not show that Mr. Ewing decided to allow and pay the claim upon the newly adopted principle, a full month before Mr. Attorney General Johnson (who gave three legal opinions, I believe, on the subject) decided that it ought to be allowed, then am I greatly in error. If, finally, they do not show that Mr. Ewing allowed and paid compound interest on the claim, then I am mistaken.

The claim, when first settled, was settled upon the principle, and under the law, of half pay for life. The sum received by the claimants and receipted for, at the time, was a little over ten thousand dollas.

The claim was re-opened by Mr. Ewing, and settled upon the principle of full pay for five years, and the interest thereon. The sum of ten thousand dollars, paid on the first settlement, was deducted from the amount of the five years full pay, with the interest thereon, which left the sum of upwards of thirty-two thousand dollars, paid to Mr. James Lyons, the agent of the claim. The government, getting alarmed, has commenced a suit, as I learn, to recover back from Mr. Lyons the amount of money overpaid in the shape of compound interest.

It is ascertained that Mr. Secretary Preston is in the same category with five of the other members of the cabinet, in the matter of upsetting the usage of the government, and paying claims previously refused. The Benson claim, of some fourteen thousand dollars, for alleged damages in the matter of a contract made with the Tyler administration, and vetoed by Mr. George Bancroft, while Secretary of the Navy, has been allowed and paid by Mr. Secretary Preston, as is understood, upon a legal decision of Mr. Attorney General Johnson, reversing the decision of his predecessor, Mr. Toucy, who had decided against the claim.

It is amusing to see with what eagerness the agents and attorneys of the claims allowed and paid by members of the cabinet, are filling the newspapers with such arguments and isolated precedents as they can invent and cull, to justify the conduct of the cabinet. The mind of one of these attorneys who despises the whole cabinet in every thing but their allowance of these old claims, is seen in a labored defence, as a communication, in the *Baltimore Patriot*, and, also, with slight alterations, in the *New York Express*. Is there any fear that the moneys recently paid out on these old claims will have to be returned to the treasury? The moneys allowed to the Messrs. Ewing have not all been paid as yet. They are to be paid in instalments.

In your paper of yesterday you gave an important leader from the *Republic* of Monday last, and make some very judicious remarks on the subject. Look at the leader in the *Republic* of to-day, breathing the same tone, and conveying the same pregnant foreshadowing of what is certain to come to pass. I tell you now, for I know the fact, that General Taylor's sentiments are truly reflected in that article. And I tell you, further, that the cabinet will speedily be changed. It cannot remain as it is. The members of it are alarmed, each and all of them. Mr. Ewing is the most impervious of the lot. He consoles himself that he will be yet able to hold on. Messrs. Clayton and Meredith are the most agitated.

A member of Congress, of high standing, informs me that Mr. Meredith gives frequent audiences to two letter-writers, who are assailing Mr. Clay, Mr. Webster, and other whigsin Congress, in the *Boston Courier*, the *Boston Journal*, the *New York Courier and Enquirer*, the *Philadelphia North American*, &c. My informant told me that the two press-men in question were closeted with Mr. Meredith day before yesterday, for two hours, while members of Congress who called to see the Secretary, were turned away with the declaration that the Secretary was engaged!

WASHINGTON, May 9, 1850.

The News from California and Oregon—Resolutions by the Senate—Letters from Los Angeles of a Movement to Divide California—Effect on the Great Question.

The news from California contains matter of the deepest interest to Congress. It appears that there are certain revolutionary movements on foot in that young, unauthorized, and prosperous commonwealth. The two most important points are—

1. A scheme to set up an independent government in California.

2. A scheme to divide the State, and to set up in the southern section, a separate territorial government.

With respect to the latter scheme, Gen. Foote produced several letters from California, by the last steamer, addressed to Dr. Gwin and himself, giving an account of a certain convention lately held at Ciudad de los Angeles, or the City of the Angels, (where there are no angels) in behalf of a separate territorial government for Southern California. There was such a convention; but from a letter to Dr. Gwin, by a Mr. Chamberlain, at San Diego, it appears that this meeting, or convention, was not participated in by the American settlers, but was exclusively confined to the the native Californians, or Mexican inhabitants. Thus much for the convention. If the thing, however, is permitted to go on, there is no telling were it will stop.

The effect of the news from California upon the compromise, it is impossible so soon to tell. It has created much speculation, and in some quarters a very ominous impression that this state of things in California will tend to defeat the bill of Mr. Clay, and operate to defeat any measure for the admission of California, and upon these considerations. If California sets up for herself, she may become the nucleus of a republic on the Pacific, and as such, she will cease to be a bone of contention between the North and South. If, on the other hand, her admission is delayed, the people themselves may divide the Sate, and a southern territory may be established, which will be a settlement of the question, thus far, to the satisfaction of the South. Whatever may be the effect of delay, there is a detachment of Southern men in the Senate, but particularly in the House, who are determined, by all means, to defeat the admission of California, as a State, at this session. The contest will be severe, and the chances are about equal that California will be reduced to the condition of Jim in the Ethiopian melody:—

"That you, Sambo?"
"No, 'tis Jim."
"Well, you is right good looking,
But you can't come in."

WASHINGTON, May 7, 1850.

The Patent Office Agricultural Humbug—The Cost of Printing—Wentworth's Committee on Father Ritchie—Expenses of the Post Office Department—General Expenses of the Government—The Tariff Movement and the Pennsylvanians—Counter Position of the New Yorkers—The Downfall of the Whig Party.

There was quite a lively debate in the Senate today, on the motion to print 30,000 extra copies of the Patent Office Agricultural Report, for the use of the Senate. We have given you some general account of the contents of this report. It consists of visionary lectures and transcendental treatises—the natural history of various bugs and beetles, parasitic fungi, mushrooms, &c., with illustrative plates—copious statistics from the newspapers, and prize essays, and a lot of commercial statistics from a variety of sources—a mere waste of paper and money, when we consider that the document on commerce and navigation will give them all.—In fact, the agricultural magazines, the newspapers of the country, and the document on commerce and navigation, we take it, would amply supply the place of this Patent Office document, and save the expense to the treasury.

Mr. Butler, Mr. Jefferson Davis, and Mr. Foote, ably exposed the fallacies of this document. Gen. Foote, particularly, considered it as a ridiculous humbug, associated, as Mr. Ewbank appears to be, with that prince of humbugs and socialism, Horace Greely. But the document carried—it is good for Buncombe—it will amuse the farmers at least, and that is enough. But let us look at the cost:—

The House have ordered	100,000 extra copies.
The Senate do do	30,000 do do
Add the ordinary number for both houses, say	2,000 copies.
Total	132,000 copies.

There is good reason to fear that the old party press patronage system will be revived, or, at least, the prices of the old party system, under which, with all the plates and the binding, we may expect this report to cost $1 50 per copy, which will bring the cost of this single document to very nearly $200,000. Including the first part of this Patent Office report—the part relating to mechanics, steam propellors, patents, &c.—we suppose the document altogether will at least cost the government $200,000, when, for all useful purposes, it might be safely cut down to $20,000.

We expect something from the Committee on Printing—Wentworth's special committee of nine, on the contract printing. We understand that the work was taken as follows:—The composition at less than they pay to the journeymen; the paper and press work at the cost of the paper; that the young printers thus taking work, do it in the *Union* office, and upon the materials of Ritchie & Burke.

Wentworth is acting upon this idea:—That the contractors took the work upon a speculation with Ritchie & Burke—that the design was to get the work as the lowest bidders, and then to let it accumulate till Congress raised the compensation.

Wentworth charges further, that while the documents that are laid upon the table, which the members see and have a chance to examine, are printed upon middling good paper, and are tolerably well bound, and that the documents which go to the folding room to be put in wrappers for distribution, and which the members do not see, and which constitute the mass of the work, are printed upon wretched paper, and that the binding is of the meanest kind, altogether different from the documents laid upon the tables of the House.

Such are some of the discoveries of Wentworth, and such are the results of a contract system, under which the work is taken at less than cost, with a view of securing good prices afterwards. But whatever the printers may have done, they ought to be paid for it, and Congress cannot honestly take advantage of a contract which they accepted with a full knowledge that the work could not be done at such prices.

At fair prices, for good work, the printing of this session of Congress will probably reach as high as $500,000. Upon this mass of work, the 2½ per cent profit of the old prices would give a profit of $100,000 to the printers. And this is the measure of reform now before the Senate. But anything is better than the present execrable system, though the government will at last be driven to a printing office of its own.

From a report of the Postmaster General, the expenses of his department, for the next fiscal year, will be as follows:—

For transportation of the mails, including the service in California and Oregon	$2,950,000
For transportation of the mails in two steamships from New York, by Southampton, to Bremen at $100,000 for each ship, under the contract with the Ocean Steam Navigation Company of New York	$200,000
And for transportation by two ships, under the same contract, from New York to Havre at $75,000 each	150,000
	350,000
Deduct the amout of former appropriations for the same object, which it is estimated will remain unexpended on the 30th June, 1750	273,333
Leaving to be appropriated the sum of	76,667
For transportation of the mails between Charleston and Havana, by way of Key West, calling at Savannah, under the contract with M. C. Mordecai	$50,000
For transportation of the mails across the isthmus of Panama	55,000
For compensation to postmasters	1,450,000
For ship, steamboat, and way letters	45,000
For wrapping paper	24,000
For office furniture (in the post offices)	8,000
For advertising	65,000
For mail bags	25,000
For blanks	28,000
For mail locks, keys, and stamps	10,000
For mail depredations and special agents	30,000
For clerks for offices (in the post offices)	340,000
For miscellaneous	70,000
For publishing new editions of the post office laws and regulations, and of the table of post offices, those published in 1847 having been exhausted some time since	8,500
Total	$5,215,167

This expenditure is derived almost entirely from the Post Office receipts, and is not generally counted with the expenses of the Treasury. From the extravagant manner in which things are working—from the apparent recklessness in the squandering of the public money all around us, the high tariff people will have abundant apology for increased taxation and loans, before this session is through.

The Pennsylvanians are warring for more protection, and it is even hinted that they are quite willing to go for a compromise of the negro question, if they can get 70 per cent on coal and iron. That is, they are in the market for 70 per cent—they are willing to sell themselves at that price, and some even go so far as to say that they will only support a compromise upon such a bargain and sale. We can hardly believe the Pennsylvanians have sunk quite so low as that; and they might as well agree to make the most of the bill of '46, for it is altogether absurd to expect anything better for some considerable time to come.

The New Yorkers are on the other tack, anyhow. They are with old Zack, and against Henry Clay. Thirty members, as we understand, of the New York delegation are in favor of the President's policy, and opposed to the compromise. The Southern whigs are for Clay—some few in the North are with him; and thus, the whig party, between the President and Mr. Clay, is split up into confusion. How they are to come out, God only knows; the first consequence will probably be the explosion of the cabinet, and such a state of anarchy as can only be restored by a revolution.

WASHINGTON, May 6, 1850.

The California, Nicaragua and Territorial Questions—The Investigating Committees, &c., &c.

The secrets withheld by the administration, of and concerning California, Nicaragua, and other matters, will soon cover Clayton and his colleagues of the cabinet, with a mantle of black oblivion. The expose will astonish the people, and reveal the moral turpitude of men high in office, and it will most assuredly prevent any settlement of the vexed question this session. California will be remanded back, and Utah, Deseret, and New Mexico, will have leave to retire "without day," as the lawyers say. The committee of thirteen, it is understood, will be ready to report on Wednesday of this week, and on Monday next the great battle will begin. Benton is loaded and eager for the fight; Foote has his pistol cocked, and Old Hal looks fierce, as if he could kill a Mexican. All have a belligerent look, except General Houston, of Texas; he looks good natured, and whittles. Senator Dickinson arrived this morning, and Webster will soon follow, so that all will be ready for the fray. The indefatigability of Senators who are Presidential aspirants, on this, as well as on other questions, is exceedingly amusing. Petty politics and party, instead of principle and patriotism, seem to govern them in all things. Webster expresses a doubt of the committee's power to do anything, and leaves for Marshfield. He will return in time to take ground, and let Clay have the credit of the failure. He's afraid; and who cares! Houston, it is said, leaves in a day or two for New York, where he is invited to deliver a great talk at the Tabernacle, on temperance. He seems to have no aspirations for the Presidency.

The various committees, investigating matters and men, touching the "Gulping claims," fights, printing, &c., are busy, and will parade figures and facts before Congress, sufficient to puzzle any and everybody but the Attorney General. He will be able to cypher it up, legally and logically. He is a great saving to the country and cabinet, according to the *National Intelligencer*. No Tombs lawyer was ever puffed, even in the *Police Gazette*, as poor Reverdy Johnson has been in the *Republic* and *Intelligencer*. It damages him terribly; and he should try to buy them off. Black mail is cheaper and safer than ruination. The great difficulty with this cabinet is, that half of them get thirsty, and are dry about half of the time, perhaps two-thirds. This is a cold-water secret worth keeping, for it will account for and excuse many things otherwise an enigma, a riddle, or a romance. This accounts for the letting out secrets of state, to be telegraphed, while they are in that state of unquenchable thirst.

The committee on the doorkeeper are down on him. He must surrender. There are candidates in the field; but Rathbone, of Ohio, seems to have the best look now, but the sun may not rise on him to-morrow. It is said that the President swears terribly about Clay and the committee; that he has been worked up to believe that it is all done to dish him, and to dish up Clay for the next President. His is a short, stubbed kind of swearing, without ease, or elegance, or grace. SIMON.

WASHINGTON, MAY 5, 1850.

The Galphin Claim—The Committee's Report—Laws of Congress relative to Powers of Attorney—Meredith and Johnson—The Ewing Committee—Restrictions on the Chicasaw Claim.

The committee on the Galphin claim will be ready to report in a week or ten days. There will probably be two reports, though of this I am not certain.

The report of Mr. Burt, chairman of the committee, will be pretty elaborate, and will be confined almost entirely to one branch of the inquiry, to wit: whether the claim, and the interest on it, were allowed and paid in conformity with law and precedent.

The course of the government, in the matter of allowing claims and the interest on them, has not been strictly uniform, as the report will show; but for the most part it has been the usage of the government not to allow interest on claims, unless by order of Congress specially given. This doctrine was laid down by Mr. Badger in the Senate, last week, as the doctrine uniformly recognised and practised by the government.

Mr. Burt's report will cite the action of the government on this subject, and leave the House to draw its own inference, as I learn, as to whether the Galphin claim, and the interest thereon, were allowed and paid according to law and precedent, or not.

I understand the report will not affirm that the claim was or was not just and valid against the United States, but give the facts, and let the House decide.

The report will not touch the question of delicacy, or that of morality, both of which have been raised by the newspapers against Mr. Crawford's conduct. The House did not call upon the committee to go into these questions.

If the members of the committee undertake to screen or whitewash the conduct, beyond what the testimony will warrant, they will find it a hard business to face their constituents and meet their opponents on the subject. He who defends and justifies the allowance of the Galphin claim and the interest thereon, to Mr. Crawford, a member of the cabinet, by Messrs. Johnson and Meredith, two other members of the cabinet, will have an up-hill business of it on the stump, if his opponent should happen to be any sort of a man.

There is a law of Congress which requires that an agent of a claim allowed, shall present a power of attorney to the treasury, executed after the passage of the law allowing the claim, before he can draw the money.

When was Mr. Crawford's power of attorney to draw the money for the principal of the claim executed? Did it, as required, specify the act by which the claim was passed? What is its date? And what is the date of his power of attorney, to draw the interest on the claim? What is the date of the power of attorney transferred by Mr. Crawford to his friend Bryan, by whom the interest, amounting to $193,000, was drawn?

These things should be known. They deserve to be examined.

It is asserted that Messrs. Meredith and Johnson both swore before the committee that they knew nothing of the interest which Mr. Crawford had in the Galphin claim, or that he had any interest at all in it. And yet they examined the papers on the subject, before they made up their minds that the interest on the claim ought to be allowed and paid; and in those papers there was positive, unmistakable evidence of the fact that Mr. Crawford had an interest in the claim. How are these things to be reconciled? But let us wait for the report of the committee, and the testimony.

The Ewing committee is under way, though nothing of note has yet transpired relative to its proceedings. In the case of the Chicasaw claim of $108,000, it will be well for the committee to inquire how the money was drawn from the Treasury to be paid to the claimants. The law is positive, that where a fund raised by Congress for any given purpose, remains two years unappropriated, it reverts back to the surplus fund in the Treasury, and cannot from thence be transferred or drawn for any purpose except by a special act of Congress.

When was this Chicasaw fund created by Congress? Was it not more than three years ago? If so, was it, two years after its appropriation, added to the surplus fund in the Treasury? If so, by what unlawful process has it been since drawn out, and $108,000 of it paid to Dr. William Gwin and others? Let the committee look to it.

The British in Venezuela.

BRITISH LEGATION,
CARACAS, March 20, 1850.

SIR:—In my dispatch No. 21, of the 15th November, 1847, I stated that you were fully justified in denying, unequivocally, that there was any foundation whatever for the designs which, for insidious purposes, were falsely attributed to Her Majesty's government, in the question of Barima; and that I concurred in the propriety of your having declined to hold further communication with any parties in Venezuela respecting their hopes and wishes upon this subject; and finally, I directed you, as the preferable course, to decline to become, under any pretext, a party, even as a listener, to such conversations and suggestions.

By my dispatch, No. 8, of the 30th of March, 1848, I informed you, that, having transmitted a copy of this correspondence to Viscount Palmerston, Mr. J. Bidwell had, by his lordship's orders, expressed to me his lordship's entire approval of the answer I had returned to you.

In July of last year, a report was made to Viscount Palmerston, that a project was entertained by a political party in Guayana, to declare that province a free and independent State, under the protection of Great Britain; his lordship accordingly stated to Mr. J. Riddel, at the time acting British Consul General, "for his guidance in such matters, that it would not suit the policy of Her Majesty's government to involve Great Britain in the responsibility which would accrue, if Great Britain were to take any South American State under its protection. That Her Majesty's government sincerely desire the prosperity and welfare of all the States of South America; but Her Majesty's government think that those States ought to be able to manage their own affairs."

With reference to this or to some other alleged plan of certain parties to declare the independence of the province of Guayana, Viscount Palmerston, under the date of the 12th of October of that same year, instructed Mr. J. Riddel, "to take care that it be clearly understood that the British government will not take any part whatever in the internal differences of the American States; and that therefore none of the contending parties can have any foundation for asserting that their schemes are, or will be, supported by the government of Great Britain."

The purport of these instructions was communicated to you in Mr. J. Riddel's dispatch, N. 38, of the 22d of November of last year.

In order to subserve the private interests of a certain well-known individual, and the political schemes of a faction, it has, of late, been actively circulated throughout the Republic, that either by cession, in part payment of the debt due to the Anglo-Venezuelan bondholders, or as an indemnification for the losses which British subjects have sustained by reason of the operation of the law of Espera, or by purchase from the Venezuelan government, or by force, Great Britain is bent upon acquiring possession of Venezuelan Guayana.

Such a statement is not only utterly and entirely destitute of any foundation whatever, but is the very reverse of the truth; and as its currency and belief have produced mischievous effects, and are calculated to impair the friendly relations happily subsisting between Great Britain and Venezuela, I have to instruct you to take advantage of every fitting opportunity for exposing its wickedness and falsehood.

Should you deem it prudent and advisable, for the attainment of this end, to show to any influential individual at Bolivar, this dispatch, or the instructions therein referred to, you are at liberty to do so; and in now repeating those instructions, for the guidance of your official conduct in the matter, I have to press upon you the necessity of a strict and faithful observance of them.

I propose to read this dispatch to the Venezuelan Minister for Foreign Affairs, and, should he desire it, to furnish him with a copy.

I have, &c., (Signed)
BELFORD HINTON WILSON,
H. B. M. Charge de Affaires to Venezuela.

Kenneth Mathuen, Esq., British Vice-Consul at Bolivar.

The Cabinet and the Press—The Bulletin of the "Republic" Newspaper on the Cabinet.

[From the Washington Republic, May 9.]

The poets tell us, in verses that are familiar to every schoolboy, that all things are uncertain—that times change, and we change with them; and, for our own part, we confess there is no gentleman of our acquaintance who can tell distinctly what a day may bring forth. We cannot, therefore, but be amazed, when we read the confident allegations and predictions of a "*special* correspondent" of the Baltimore *American*. If we can believe him, there are some times which can never change, and some men. Horace tells his friend to order wine, ointments, and roses, whilst opportunity, and age, and the black threads of the three sisters, permit their enjoyment; for the day will come when he must leave the lawns, and mansion, and villa watered by the yellow Tiber, and his heir will enter into possession of his piled-up wealth. But if we are to credit our *special* correspondent, there are men living, on whom such advice would be thrown away. No need exists for them to preserve an equal mind in adverse fortunes, nor in better days a temper free from the insolence of prosperity. They are insured through. Come what may—physically, morally, intellectually—they are warranted not to die nor change during General Taylor's administration.—Read and wonder.

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

WASHINGTON, May 6, 1850.

Since I last had this pleasure, many months have elapsed, and the cabinet of Gen. Taylor, whose dissolution was predicted with so much certainty last fall—but which prediction, you may remember, I pronounced at the time to be utterly baseless—still continue in power. Recently, however, renewed and the most desperate efforts have been made by the opposition and disappointed partisans, and whose efforts are by no means abated, to bring about a displacement of the cabinet; but all such exertions, all such attempts, have not only proved to be vain, but have recoiled upon the heads of the assailants and discontents. Gen. Taylor, in civil life, his opponents have by this time discovered, is no more to be driven from his propriety, or seduced from the performance of high duties, when he has taken his position, than he was in military life to be turned from his purpose by the presence of an army numbering quadruple his own force. And I now tell his opponents, of whatever shade, hue, or character, that where General Taylor is, there are his cabinet; that wherever he will be, there will they be; and I boldly predict that not only will the present and future efforts to sever the bonds of fidelity and affection between General Taylor and the members of his cabinet end in discomfiture to the intermeddlers concerned and all our opponents, but that General Taylor will go on to the end of his administration with the able and upright statesmen who now enjoy his confidence in so high and deserved a degree as his constitutional advisers. And in making this prediction, I know what I say, because I know the character and views of the parties of whom I speak. They have but one purpose in view, in the administration of public affairs, and that is, the faithful execution of the laws, and the duties assigned to them by the constitution and the laws. There is, and there has been, a perfect harmony between General Taylor and every member of his cabinet, on all points of policy; and as the sole purpose of General Taylor is to execute his office with fidelity and to the best of his ability, and his cabinet agree with him upon this point, they will continue to be, as they have been—A UNIT. There is no one point—I speak what I know—upon which they can differ among themselves or with the President, or he with them; and hence the impossibility of the relations of these faithful counsellors and statesmen with their illustrious chief being disturbed or broken by the cunning artifice or blind rage of the opposition, or, by the evil eye or pretended friendship of the discontents. General Taylor knows that the *rigid performance* of official duty is the only high-road to ultimate success; and hence he heeds not the complaints or denunciations of the politicians, the path of whose interests and ambition the VERY RIGID performance of his duty is constantly liable to cross, and does constantly cross. Having done his duty faithfully, he fears not the verdict of his countrymen, who placed him where he is, in the exercise of their sovereign will. In these sentiments his cabinet cordially coincide; and hence, too, a bond of official union that is indissoluble."

Now, without consulting a member of the cabinet on the subject, we venture to say that there is not a gentleman connected with it who would not repudiate and condemn this publication. We cannot, therefore, but most deeply and sincerely lament that such paragraphs as the above have been scattered broadcast through the press, by writers whose relations to the cabinet, or particular members of it, have induced the public to believe that the sources of their inspiration were understood. The motives of these writers are good, no doubt, and their zeal is laudable; but we fear that their zeal sometimes outruns their discretion. For when such paragraphs as the foregoing appear in letters which denounce members of Congress for soliciting offices, and then swindling the administration by not swallowing its measures whole—or which throw out intimations that if a compromise bill is carried through the House of Representatives it will be through the influence of *bribery*—who can wonder that the patience of men is sometimes severely taxed, and that powers of endurance, camel-like though they may be, should sink under the accumulated burden?

Our readers cannot fail to observe the extraordinary tone and temper of the letter we have quoted, and its assumption to speak for every member of the cabinet. And what is the nature and effect of the communication, stripped of its verbiage? Unveiled, it purports to disclose a combination or conspiracy, on the part of the members of the cabinet, to adhere to President Taylor, under any and all circumstances, reckless of consequences, and without regard to public exigencies or agitations. To him they will be sun-flowers, though they may become hemlock and nightshade and cypress to all the rest of the country. "General Taylor having selected his cabinet," the letter in effect says, "it becomes his *high duty* to keep them in place, (rather than in *power*,) if the world comes to an end; and he'll do his high duty. It is *scandalum magnatum* to say one word against a member of the cabinet; and every one who does, will be denounced as a disappointed partisan, a soured office-seeker, an intermeddler in matters that do not concern him, and one of OUR opponents. As General Taylor means to do his duty, and his cabinet mean to do the same, it is impossible that they should ever do a wrong thing, or an unwise thing, and quite *impossible* that they should ever differ on any point under heaven. All the complaints that are circulated are in consequence of General Taylor's having had to disappoint unscrupulous men in the *rigid* performance of his duty."

Such is the letter, done into plain English, and what we desire to know is, who may be the "T." who speaks in such arrogant and insolent tone, and who dares thus confidently to predict, and menace, and denounce. Cannot the writer see that such menaces and predictions, made at the moment when, at his *own request*, the conduct of one cabinet minister is under the investigation of a committee of Congress, are in the last degree injurious to President TAYLOR, and injurious to the WHIG cause and the country? Can the mouths of men be stopped, or their pens arrested at such a moment, and a manifesto made of "Love me, love my dog," as the condition of loyalty and the test of political allegiance?

The idea that General TAYLOR has made enemies by the over "rigid" performance of his official duty is amazing. The writer would have us believe that the General is a stern and truculent man, exercising his functions with a "rigidity" that causes complaints. We have never heard the first syllable of complaint against the PRESIDENT from a WHIG—never the first syllable. The pretence that any such complaints exist is unfounded, and it is not the rigid, or the *very* rigid performance of duty, that leads to complaints from sensible or honest men. Complaints spring from other causes.

If Congress represents public sentiment, and all men have not turned rogues within a twelvemonth, wide-spread discontents among whig friends of the administration have existed, and do exist, which no man, who is not a parasite, a sycophant or a fool, will venture to deny. They who seek to persuade President Taylor that the complaints springing from these discontents are levelled at *him*, are false counsellors. The intimations of those who seek to persuade him that WHIG gentlemen who differ from his cabinet or himself in matters of policy, are actuated by personal inducements, are scandalous and false. They who pretend to be his friends, and seek to cure these discontents and differences by such nostrums as they are now administering through certain WHIG journals, will find that the disease will only fatten on the remedy, or that the remedy will only engender a more aggravated disease.

Therefore it is that, as an independent whig journal, and expressly disclaiming any special authority, we venture to assert that the "T." who wrote the letter in the Baltimore *American*, was neither authorized nor inspired by any member of the cabinet; and that every member of the cabinet is prepared to repudiate and repel his assumptions by his *conduct*, if events should occur which would render it their part as statesmen, gentlemen, and patriots to withdraw from the public service. It is in the last degree unjust and ungenerous to charge them with a disposition to solicit in advance contempt and execrations, by threatening "at all hazards, and to the last extremity"—under any and all circumstances—the infliction which Mr. Canning once described, with force and felicity, as the greatest curse that could befall a free country—a cabinet that was insensible to public opinion.

The Isthmus Passports.

MR. BENNETT:—

In the *Herald* of Tuesday last, you stated that "the authorities of New Granada have no authority to demand passports from any American crossing the Isthmus." It is true, our treaty gives American citizens the right of way; but a passport from the United States State Department is necessary to prove one to be an American. I presume you intended, that passports from the Consul of New Granada in New York are not necessary, which is the fact. The law taxing foreigners $25 a month, passed by the California Legislature, makes it necessary that American citizens should have United States passports. By publishing this letter, you will do a service to all United States emigrants to California. Your obedient servant,

BELFORD & CO.

Police Intelligence.

Burglary—Two fellows, calling themselves John Doyle and Michael McQuade, were arrested and conveyed before a magistrate, on a charge of burglariously entering the soap factory of W. Jones, No. 259 sixteenth street, and robbing the desk of several dollars, in pennies. They were committed to prison for trial.

Stealing Valuable Clothing.—A Dutch woman, by the name of Christiana Grosman, was arrested on Wednesday, by officer O'Keeffe, on a charge of stealing a quantity of valuable ladies' under clothing, valued in all at near $150, from the possession of Mrs. Koof, residing at No. 37 Wooster street. These articles of clothing were the property of different ladies, from whom Mrs. Koof received them to wash, and this Dutch woman stole them from the wash tub. The clothing was recovered, and the thief committed to prison for trial, by Justice Mountfort.

Grand Larceny.—A fellow called Patrick Burke was caught on Thursday, by Constable Joseph, having in his possession a piece of drab cloth, valued at $35, the property of David Rockwell & Co., No. 464 Pearl street, from whom the rogue had but a short time previous stolen it. The officer meeting or seeing him in the street with the property under his arm, and knowing him to be a thief, took him into custody. Justice Mountfort committed him to prison for trial.

Political Intelligence.

VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.—The returns from the late election in Virginia show the election of 55 whigs and 68 democrats to the House of Representatives. The Senate returns have not been received. The vote for the convention to receive the constitution is about ten for to one against it.

NASHVILLE CONVENTION.—George A. Trenholm and William Duboze have been chosen delegates to the Nashville convention from the Charleston district of South Carolina. Messrs. Chesnut and Gregg have been chosen to represent the Richland district in the same State.

FOURTH DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS.—Benjamin Thompson has been re-nominated by the whigs of the 4th congressional district of Massachusetts. The election will take place on the 21st inst.

THE MONTESQUIOU CASE AT ST. LOUIS.—Judge Colt yesterday decided the motion previously made and argued, to admit Gonzalve and Raymond de Montesquiou to bail. After citing precedents in which persons charged with criminal offence have been bailed, the Judge decided that Gonzalve be admitted to bail in the sum of $20,000 upon the indictment for killing Barnum, and $20,000 upon the indictment for kiling Jones; and that Raymond be admitted to bail in the sum of $10,000 upon the first named indictment, and $10,000 upon the second. The prisoners were brought into the court in the afternoon and gave the required bail—Messrs. James H. Lucas, Charles Chouteau, Thornton Grimsley, Wiley Randolph, S. E. Sellick, Augustus Brewster, John Snyder, Wm. Maffitt and Wm. Fulton severally becoming their sureties. Suitable rooms have been provided for them at the St. Louis hospital, under the care of the Sisters of Charity, where they will remain until another trial is had. The court granted a commission to take depositions in Illinois, New York and Canada, which depositions are to be made evidence in the future trial. —*St. Louis, (Mo.) Republican May* 1.

DESTRUCTION OF COTTON FACTORIES AT THE EAST.—The cotton factory occupied by S. Hewitt, in Needham, Mass., was totally destroyed by fire on Wednesday night. There was an insurance for $12,000 on the machinery, at the National and the Freemen's Insurance Company, one half each, and $1,200 on stock at Providence, R. I. Building not insured. Two large cotton factories, at Newton Upper Falls, known as the Ellis Factory, and owned by Messrs. Pettes, were destroyed by fire about half-past 11 o'clock, same night, together with a large amount of machinery, stock, &c. It is reported that the policy of insurance on the buildings expired but a day or two since. The fire was caused by an incendiary.—*Boston Post, May* 10.

CADET APPOINTMENTS.—The following cadet appointments, from New York and at large, have been made for the year 1850:—New York—Phillips Phœnix, of the 3d district; Stephen H. Weed, 6th district; Alexander Annan, 8th district; Peter Fonda, Jr., 12th district; Samuel Ten Eyck, 21st district; William De Mott, 27th district; John A. Black, 30th district; Loomis L. Langdon, 32d district; Lemuel C. Curtiss, 33d district; and Fazilo A. Harrington, 34th district. At large—Wm. Croghan Jesup, George W. C. Lee, Jno. R. Smead, Robt. C. Wood, George A. Gordon, Wm. C. Nicholson, Wm. F. Drum, Jno. O. Long, James G. Montgomery, Thomas J. Wright.

The last three are in the places of H. W. Hilliard, deceased, and M. White, and —— McKee, declined.

At Northampton, N. H., from the 3d of December, 1849, to the 20th of April last, snow fell twenty-one times, and the aggregate depth of snow was five feet and six inches.

MEDICAL.

DEAFNESS.—USE DR. McNAIR'S ACOUSTIC OIL, for the cure of Deafness; also, all these disagreeable noises, like the buzzing of insects, falling of water, whistling of steam, which are symptoms of approaching deafness. Many persons who have been deaf for ten, fifteen, or twenty years, and were subject to use ear trumpets, have, after using one bottle, thrown aside these trumpets, being made perfectly well. It has cured cases of ten, fifteen, and even thirty years' standing, of deafness. Sold, only genuine, by COMSTOCK & CO. BROTHERS, 57 John street.

BLISS'S COMPOUND COD LIVER OIL CANDY.—THIS favorite remedy is composed of pure Cod Liver Oil, combined with other valuable ingredients, which completely disguise the unpleasant taste of the oil, without detracting from its medicinal virtues, presenting it in a form by which it can be administered to the most delicate invalid without inconvenience. It has now been before the public for four months, during which time the most flattering testimonials of its superior excellence have been received, and it now stands unrivalled as a curative for recent colds, obstinate coughs, bronchitis, influenza, asthma, and all affections of the throat and chest. The medicinal influence of this candy pursues the exact track of the inflammatory action causing cough. First soothing the organs of the voice, the sedative influences passes along the mucous lining of the windpipe into the bronchits, and allaying pulmonary irritation, giving ease and comfort to the chest, restoring the voice to its accustomed clearness and powers; congealed phlegm, acrimony in the fluids, and obstructions in the glands are gently and safely discharged by easy expectoration. It never disagrees with the stomach—a common cold yields to its benign influence in a few hours, and when resorted to before the complaint is far advanced, all danger of consumption is entirely prevented. Beware of counterfeits. Since the introduction of this popular remedy, several worthless imitations have made their appearance, entirely different from the original. The public will be particular and inquire for Bliss's Compound Cod Liver Oil Candy, and observe the fac similes of the signature of the proprietors, on every package of the genuine article. Prepared only by B. K. Bliss, druggist, Springfield, Mass. For sale in this city by A. B. & D. Sands, 100 Fulton street; at the Astor and Irving House drug stores, and 110 Broadway, and by all the principal druggists throughout the Union.

DOCTOR CONVERS' INVIGORATING CORDIAL—The only remedy yet discovered for seminal weakness and nocturnal emissions, so ruinous, incapacitating for society, business or matrimony. Affections of the head, back, limbs and nerves, caused by improper secret habits, are speedily removed. $2 a bottle; three bottles for $5; with directions and important advice to the married and single. Dr. Convers' office, 55 Third avenue, between Tenth and Eleventh streets, New York, where he is consulted, and the cordial obtained and forwarded to the country, post paid.

DR. MORTAMORE WOULD INFORM THE HUNDREDS who apply to him for the cure of delicate diseases, that he holds out no delusive hope that he will cure them "in two or three days." He is called upon daily to witness the sad effects of so wicked a deception, worthy Pandemonium itself. He would, however, assure those who may come under his care, that they may rely upon a cheap, pleasant, and speedy cure. In from 8 A. M. to 9 P. M., Sundays excepted. Advice gratis. L. MORTAMORE, M. D., No. 126 William street.

$XX SAVED.—GREGORY'S FRENCH ANTIDOTE—A total and speedy eradicator of private diseases. It purifies the blood, drives out the virus from the system, and leaves the patient in a vigorous, healthy state of body and mind. People who have used it are wonderfully astonished to find themselves cured so speedily, and without restrictions of any sort, and, without a particle of mercury. Price, $1. Sold at the drug store, corner of Bowery and Grand street, 130 Fulton street, (Sun Buildings,) and at the Doctor's residence, 67½ Madison street. Dr. Gregory would intimate to strangers and others, that he has been engaged in this family of diseases 23 year in this city, and he is both able and willing to give good advice freely to all who may need it from 8 A. M. until 8 P. M. Letters will secure prompt attention if pre-paid, and medicine forwarded if desired.

$500 REWARD.—MYERS & CO.'S SPECIFIC.—IT never fails in the cure of all urinary difficulties, viz.:—gonorrhœa, gleet, whites in females, inflammation of the kidneys and bladder, gravel, &c. The proprietors are certain of its virtues, and will warrant a cure.