Literary Review.

1. LIGHT FROM THE SPIRIT WORLD. Rev. Chas. Hammond, Medium. Bela Marsh: Boston.

2. THE PILGRIMAGE OF THOMAS PAINE. Written by the Spirit of Thomas Paine, through C. Hammond, Medium. Partridge & Brittan: New York.

3. VOICES FROM THE SPIRIT WORLD. Isaac Post, Medium. Charles McDonnell: Rochester.

4. PHILOSOPHY OF SPECIAL PROVIDENCES. By Andrew Jackson Davis. Bela Marsh: Boston.

5. REVIEW OF REV. CHARLES BEECHER'S REPORT CONCERNING SPIRITUAL MANIFESTATIONS. By S. B. Brittan. Partridge & Brittan: New York.

6. THE SHEKINAH. Monthly: September, 1853. Partridge & Brittan: New York.

Byron, Shelley, Southey, and Edgar Poe have degenerated into writing doggerel verses—Washington has forgotten the significance of language—Jefferson declares himself still for the Union in very bad grammar—and the hero of Waterloo is at the present moment vending coffee to thirsty souls in the invisible world! So say the spirit rappers at least; and A. J. Davis, with a host of other luminous worthies, some of whose names appear at the head of this article, officially endorse the statement. Nor is this all. In defiance of the laws of gravitation, mediums have been known to hang, like Mahomet's coffin, suspended between heaven and earth—hats have, unaided, found their owners' heads—table brushes have remorselessly misapplied themselves to old gentlemen's wigs—and the last and most remarkable freak has been performed by a boot-jack, which trotted into a room, and spontaneously dragged off the boots of every individual present! Who witnessed this last unearthly apparition, and did not say with Hamlet—

> Answer me!
> Let me not burst in ignorance! but tell
> Why thou, O bootjack of mahogany,
> Hast acted thus, and snatched from me my boots?
> Speak! art thou inebriated?

But these are trifling phenomena to those yet in embryo. A new tragedy from the pen of Will Shakspeare, a scientific treatise upon spiritual intercourse by Bacon, or an heroic poem by Homer, may be confidently expected. Why has not Pharaoh been summoned to translate the inscriptions on the Pyramids, or Sanconiathon to explain Layard's discoveries in Nineveh? Let us advise Partridge & Brittan to keep their eyes upon the shade of Rydaspes, and bag it without delay. The mysteries it could unfold would be mines of wealth—a nest, a mare's nest for the Partridge!

But, seriously, the ghosts of our ancestors have visited us at a proper season. Two centuries ago these rappers would have been burnt for sorcery. Fifty years back, if the subject of "spiritual manifestations" had been approached at all, it would have been treated with utter contempt and ridicule, and the whole business regarded as an imposture and an insult to common sense. To-day, the question deserves "the most earnest scrutiny," as Greeley sagaciously observes. By the spirits of the sixth circle and their ambling medium! we find it difficult to decide who are the most enlightened—we who believe everything—our fathers who believed nothing, or our ancestors who burnt the witches! But though it is the fashion of the day to "open your mouth and shut your eyes and see what Heaven will send you," we cannot endorse the principle. We must examine some of these phenomena which our authors take for granted are evidence of an existing intercourse between the inhabitants of this and the second sphere. Here, for example, is an instance of an astonishing cure wrought through the agency of spirits. We extract it from S. B. Brittan's review of Beecher's report on the manifestations. In style and composition it resembles much the wonderful effects related of Comstock's vermifuge or Holloway's ointment—but *n'importe*, read it:—

At a circle held at Adrian the first Saturday in July, the spirits wrote:—"Seek the lame, the halt, and the infirm, and they shall be healed!" I then remarked to J. M. Reynolds:—"It cannot be done; if that is read away go the spirits and the cause together; for some one will be presented and not cured." Nevertheless the call was read by my colleague, when Mr. Lyons presented himself, stating that his leg had been drawn up by rheumatism four years and was under acute pain at the time. Without the exercise of my own volition, I was thrown into the spiritual state, and placed before him. I was also made to speak by the power of the Spirit! I put my hand on him, and he was made whole. He dropped his cane, and went away rejoicing, feet as a boy of sixteen!

How would Andrew Jackson Davis explain this? He has written a work lately denying special providences, and has proved that Ananias died from physiological and psychological causes! From its tenor we must conclude that the author has been enjoying lately a most intimate communion with the spirit of Tom Paine, and has appropriated Tom's ideas when in the flesh.

Hear, again, a communication from the shade of Cicero:—

Go on, oh, people! go on to perfection! The spirits of Rome's greatest heroes are hovering near to protect and encourage you. Be courageous—persevere! Cherish true liberty. Spread knowledge over the world. Instruct barbarous nations in the art of oratory. I once thought myself the first orator in any age or country; but truth must be told—I have been excelled by Van Buren.

Would you like a sentiment from Washington? No, no, we'll spare you that!

Shelley, who believed in neither angel nor spirit when alive, has changed his views, and expresses his altered belief thus:—

> "Here am I blest! My mind can sweep o'er all
> Of beauty, and drink in a freedom
> That on earth I was denied. Earth's sons
> With souls of clay, would have despoiled me;
> They made me what I was—they made me doubt;
> But here they have no power to mar my soul,
> For to my lumined spirit is revealed
> What once was dim and shadowy on earth.
> Oh! Immortality, thy bliss—and still
> 'Twas I who doubted thee!

> Friend, listen why:
> I saw the wrongs in Church and State, and I, too,
> Saw a power to right them, and to make
> An Eden's garden smiling here;
> But others scorned, and wished not to right
> Those wrongs I saw, for they were false,
> Yet feigning to be true."

We have given these specimens of spiritual communications, as they bear internal evidence of the vilest humbug. We will not pause to argue with any man who believes in such trash—that spirits without form or substance can write—that Washington has become a drivelling idiot, and Shelley has lost all his power of rythm, and has degenerated into a scribbler of senseless effusions!

But separate deception so obvious from the so-called spiritual manifestations, and the whole question lies in a nutshell. Let us admit that there are many natural agencies with which we are imperfectly acquainted—let us admit that many of the phenomena of animal magnetism and electricity are utterly beyond our comprehension—let us even admit Reichenbach's theory of what he calls the odic force or the mesmeric influence, so to speak produced by human agency upon animate and inanimate objects. But between this and travelling into another world to seek for the causes of those phenomena which are produced here, what an immeasurable gap! There are people who find an unnatural cause in everything. A heavy storm of hail comes from some volcano in the moon—an extraordinary light in the sky is a convocation of demons—the flickering of a candle is a premonitory symptom of an earthquake, or a tickling behind the ear denotes that you will shortly be visited by your grandfather's ghost and so on. History is stocked with similar delusions. The theories brought forward in favor of mesmeric influences are examples. Every new scientific discovery seems to suggest at once to vulgar minds some connexion with the invisible world. Thus is it with our spiritualists to-day. Ignorant of the first principles of science, and obstinate in their ignorance, they insist upon attributing certain effects to supernatural causes. They have cast aside the light of reason, and have entered blindfold into presumptuous speculations, contrary alike to the theories of revealed religion and the dictates of common sense. Has there been an attempt at any logical argument?—any reasonable deduction drawn from these rapping phenomena, to prove that they are evidence of spiritual intervention? We see nothing of the kind in any of the works we have mentioned. Although the *onus probandi* lies with those who have advanced these startling propositions, they have failed in making out the shadow of a case. By their own showing, questions are answered through an absurd and suspicious method of alphabetical rappings, and the bulk of these answers are admitted to be failures. Spirits are summoned which lie like troopers, and are proved to be both morally and intellectually the inferiors of mortals. Does not this, on the face of it, look like deliberate imposture?

But suppose these rappings and table-turnings to be *bona fide*, do the believers in spiritualism mean to say that there can be no natural agency at work, of which they themselves know little or nothing? If they discard the theory of Faraday, and treat with contempt the possibility that mesmerism, electrism, magnetism, or odism, may have something to do in the matter, they must establish their claims to spiritual intercourse beyond all peradventure, or the world will rightly judge them to be fools or knaves. They are miserable spectres, after all. They have not equalled yet the very ordinary feat of the Chinese wizard, who plants an orange seed and makes it grow into a tree, which buds, blossoms, and bears fruit, in the space of fifteen minutes! They seem, in fact, to be nothing more than the presiding deities over intoxicated furniture, exulting in the wreck of tables and the crash of chairs. Sometimes—as in the case of the ghosts of Poe, Byron, and Shelley—they return to the world to deliver themselves of a post mortem edition of execrable poetry. Every one remembers the story of the hypochondriac who fancied himself a china teapot. One outstretched arm was the spout, and the other, placed akimbo, answered very well for a handle. The remonstrances of his friends were vain. Satisfied that he was composed of a costly and brittle material, he would not permit their approach, for fear of being broken! He used to entreat them to take care of his spout! Our spiritualists remind us forcibly of this human teapot. They should be treated as hypochondriacs. Credulous people, beware of their spout!

We are not bigoted sceptics. We are prepared to believe any man a teapot, if he can prove it. On the subject of spiritual intercourse we shall be satisfied with witnessing the successful *dénouement* of some such experiment as that of the gentleman who has been offering a thousand dollars, for the last few years, to any mortal or ghost who will read a line of Shakspeare that he has written out and carefully sealed up in a box.

Our Kentucky Correspondence.

PADUCAH, Ky., Oct. 19, 1853.

The Situation of Paducah—The Services of Gen. Clarke—Telegraph Lines—Railroads, &c., &c.

This is the head of deep water navigation in low water seasons. The "bars" commence just above this point, and only the smallest steamers navigate over them, while the large class steamers run below. This arrangement makes Paducah a considerable point, as boats reship, it being the termini of their trips. The Tennessee river empties into the Ohio at this place, and thus it is also the point of reshipment for that river. Large barges and flats of cotton are brought here, and shipped on steamers to New Orleans. The packets run from Paducah to Nashville. From these remarks you will perceive that Paducah is a considerable commercial town, and will ever continue so. As the country becomes more cultivated the prosperity of the place will advance. Corn and tobacco are the principal products of the country. Wheat, fruit, potatoes, &c., are fast becoming attractive to farmers.

Paducah is a very old town, and it was not until within a few years past that its progress became marked and attractive. The place was named after an old Indian chief. It was laid out about 1832, and became a county seat about 1836. The land was originally a part of the Gen. George Rogers Clarke military grant, given the old soldier or his heirs for his distinguished services in the Revolutionary war. It will be remembered that Clarke was a great soldier. He fought nobly; was paid nothing. He achieved for the United States wonders, but for himself little renown. By his invaluable services we now own the country west of the Ohio river. At the treaty for peace the British Commissioners claimed all the territory west of the Ohio. Mr. Jay concurred in the claim; but Mr. Adams contended that by the achievements of Clarke, who then held St. Vincents—now Vincennes—Kaskaskia, Cahokia, &c., that the whole territory was then held by the American army, and that he "never would surrender" one inch of ground west of the Ohio conquered by Clarke. Mr. Adams triumphed in his position.

I must return to the subject of my letter. Paducah has rapidly improved. The telegraph lines diverge from here to New Orleans and St. Louis. There are seven churches, any number of stores, coffee houses, hotels, &c. The hotels are very inferior. The most important hotel burned down last spring, but is now in course of rebuilding. It was formerly kept by a man who never hesitated to charge according to a man's "pile," and the fact being generally known, it injured the town. The Bank of Louisville has a branch here, with a nominal capital of $100,000. The issue is about $600,000, being two dollar issue for each dollar of coin in the vault. The Commercial Bank is located here. It was organised about a year ago, capital about $500,000. Its issue is not as much as allowed by charter. I understand the bank is entitled to issue some $100,000 more than is now in circulation. The bank has a very careful cashier, and while they have the services of Mr. J. L. Dallam, in that important position, will prosper. It never will suspend or break. His capacity is fully equal to the position. There are three saw mills constantly running; also, one grist mill; two tan yards; one distillery; a marine railway, for repairing steamers; and an extensive shipyard; three newspapers, two democratic and one whig. There is a university and a large female seminary. The government Marine Hospital is located here. The population of the town is about 4,000. The Mobile and Ohio railroad ends here. The Vincennes railroad terminates opposite the town. These roads are now in progress of construction, and will at an early day be completed. The town is healthy.

This is the home of the Hon. L. Boyd, the ex Speaker, the sixteen year Congressman, distinguished for drawing his per diem and mileage, and for doing nothing else. LAMARTINE.

New Chapter in the History of Koszta.

[Correspondence of the Boston Traveller.]

CONSTANTINOPLE, Oct. 6, 1853.

You have already been informed of the imperial order from Vienna for the delivery of Koszta to the Americans, and that Mr. Brown had gone to Smyrna, on the part of our Legation, to see that he was shipped for the United States. Mr. B. has just returned, without having accomplished the object of his visit. Opposition arose from a very unexpected quarter—the carrying out of the plan being prevented by none other than Mr. Offley, the American Consul in Smyrna. As different versions of the story will no doubt be sent home, I give you, in brief, the true account of the matter, which I have received from the most reliable sources.

You will recollect that Mr. Marsh, our Minister, was absent at the time this affair of Koszta took place. When he returned, Koszta was still kept a prisoner at the hospital of the French Consulate in Smyrna. Some little time afterward Mr. Marsh received an official demand from the Austrian Minister at the Porte for the delivery of Koszta to him, as an Austrian subject. This, of course, was positively refused, and, after some rather sharp correspondence, the matter rested for a while. At length the French Ambassador proposed to both parties a sort of compromise, by which the release of Koszta might be effected without waiting for the decision of the question of international right. It is understood that the French government have expressed their disapprobation of the act of their Consul in Smyrna, in consenting to be the keeper of Koszta, and probably it was for this reason that the French Ambassador proposed his mediation. They want to get rid of the man as soon as possible.

Mr. DeBruck and Mr. Marsh accordingly agreed to separate the two questions, as to Koszta's person and the rights of nations, and it was arranged that Koszta should be given up to the American Legation, to be sent by them direct to America, leaving the two governments to settle the question of rights as they could. Of course, by this arrangement, neither party gave up their ultimate claim to the man, as that would depend upon the manner in which the other question should be determined. The object was simply to get the man liberated. He was charged with no crime. The French Consul was very uneasy at being made his jailer for so long a time, and it seemed altogether the most judicious course to send him off quietly to America. Of course, in these circumstances, and with the main question of right still pending between the two governments, it would not have been reasonable to expect that Austria would consent that Koszta should be set free in Smyrna; though, ultimately, if the right shall be proved to be on the side of our government, he will, of course, be at liberty to go there, or anywhere else but to Austria itself, under our protection. The object of the present movement in his behalf was to shorten his imprisonment; not to retain him a prisoner during the months, and years perhaps, while this difficult question is pending. It must be acknowledged also, that, comparatively, we gained by this operation, and the Austrians lost, for he was allowed to go to America, where, at least, he is safe.

The thing being thus arranged by the Ambassadors, Mr. Brown proceeded to Smyrna to carry it into execution. You will remember that when Koszta was received by the French Consul, it was by written stipulation that he was to be given up only at the joint request of both the United States and Austrian Consuls in Smyrna. Of course, as a matter of form, Mr. Offley's signature was necessary for the carrying out of the plan. This he positively refused to give! He saw fit to take the ground that it would in his estimation be an indignity to our country to have Koszta released in this way. Apparently, he could not see far enough to separate between the two questions as to the present disposal of Koszta's person and as to which government had right on its side in the steps previously taken. His being permitted by Austria, to proceed, with an American passport, to America, while at the same time she continued to assert her claim to him, in form, as an Austrian subject, implied surely, some concession on her part, but none on ours. We receive him on these terms, still protesting that, in Smyrna, we had a right to protect him as an American citizen, and we carry him to America till the dispute is settled between the two governments.—Have we not much the best of the bargain?

But Mr. Offley says, it is an indignity to our country that Koszta should be carried on board an American vessel, to be sent off to America, and not be permitted to land again in Smyrna. The answer to this is easy. To suppose that Koszta would be set at liberty in Smyrna, by agreement of the Ambassadors, to go where he liked, is to suppose that the international question could be settled by them, which is now an impossibility. This question is entirely taken out of their hands, and must be settled by the two governments; nor can Koszta's release in the way proposed, in any way interfere with the right solution of that question; unless, indeed, it add weight to the American side. By this act, Mr. Offley, an inferior officer of the government, put himself above our Legation, and virtually assumed the right of veto upon the doings of the United States Minister at the Porte. He has assumed a grave responsibility, and will, I doubt not, receive some lessons of wisdom from home, which will be of essential service hereafter.

Mr. Brown, being thus thwarted, immediately communicated the circumstances to Mr. Marsh, and it was agreed between this latter gentleman and Mr. De Bruck, that Koszta should be given up, on the joint requisition of the Austrian Consul in Smyrna, and Mr. Brown, on the part of our Legation. The necessary steps were consequently taken; but what was the mortification of Mr. B. when he communicated to Koszta the order for his release, to hear him indignantly refuse to go! It is said that his mind had been warped by the Consul, without whom he would never have taken such a resolution. He showed the greatest ingratitude to Mr. Brown, who had done everything to save his life, and after every effort in vain to persuade him to change his mind, Mr. B. came away leaving him still at the French hospital. The French Consul was so indignant that he threatened to turn him out into the street, which threat he may very likely put in execution.

Statistics of the British North American Provinces.

UPPER CANADA—1852.

Counties.	*County Towns.*	*Population.*
Glengarry	Alexandria (v.)	17,593
Prescott	L'Orignal	10,487
Stormont	Cornwall	14,643
Russell		2,870
Dundas	Morrisburgh (v.)	18,811
Carleton	Bytown	31,397
Renfrew	McNab (v.)	9,415
Lanark	Perth	27,317
Grenville	Prescott	20,707
Leeds	Brockville	30,290
Frontenac	Kingston	30,735
Addington	Bath (v.)	15,165
Lennox	Napanee (v.)	7,955
Prince Edward	Picton	18,887
Hastings	Belleville	31,977
Northumberland	Cobourg	31,229
Peterborough	Peterborough	15,236
Victoria	Lindsay (v.)	11,757
Durham	Port Hope	30,732
Ontario	Whitby	29,571
York	Toronto	80,724
Simoce	Barrie	27,165
Peel	Brampton	24,816
Halton	Milton	18,322
Wentworth	Hamilton	42,619
Lincoln	Niagara	23,868
Welland	Merrittsville	20,141
Haldimand	Cayuga	18,788
Norfolk	Simcoe	21,281
Brant	Brantford	25,426
Waterloo	Berlin	26,537
Wellington	Guelph	26,796
Grey	Sydenham	13,217
Bruce	Penetang're [v]	2,837
Huron	Goderich	19,198
Perth	Stratford	15,545
Oxford	Woodstock	32,638
Elgin	St. Thomas	25,418
Middlesex	London	39,899
Lampton	Port Sarnia	12,040
Kent	Chatham	17,469
Essex	Sandwich	16,817
Total		953,539

LOWER CANADA—1852.

Tadousac	Tadousac	1,865
Chicoutimi	Chicoutimi	7,079
Saguenay	Baie St. Paul	13,041
Montmorency	Chateau Richer	9,598
Quebec	Quebec	60,941
Portneuf	Cap Sante	19,951
Champlain	Batiscan	13,896
St. Maurice	Three Rivers	14,147
Maskinonge	Maskinonge	13,415
Berthier	Berthier	16,390
Jolliette	Jolliette	18,218
Montcalm	St. Patrick	12,824
L'Assomption	L'Assomption	16,866
Montreal	Montreal	78,381
Laval	Ile Jesus	11,053
Terrebonne	Ste. Therese	16,353
Two Mountains	St. Scholastique	15,722
Argenteuil	St. Placide	14,129
Ottawa	Aylmer	13,038
Pontiac	Allumettes	9,865
Saudreuil	Vaudreuil	9,917
Soulanges	Coteau du Lac	11,512
Huntingdon	Huntingdon	15,190
Beauharnois	Beauharnois	12,162
Chateauguay	Chateauguay	17,354
Napierville	Sherrington	13,541
St. John's	St. Jean	15,226
Laprairie	Laprairie	14,054
Chambly	Chambly	12,535
Vercheres	Varennes	14,165
Richelieu	Sorel	19,354
St. Hyacinthe	St. Hyacinthe	17,348
Rouville	St. Hilaire	16,331
Iberville	St. George	14,862
Missisquoi, W. R.	Phillipsburg	15,205
Missisquoi, E. R.	Brome	10,010
Shefford	Granby	11,083
Bagot	Upton	13,622
Drummond	Drummond	9,025
Yamaska	La Baie	14,748
Nicolet	Nicolet	18,957
Arthabaska		6,539
Sherbrooke	Sherbrooke [t]	6,640
Stanstead	Stanstead	10,255
Compton	Compton	7,463
Wolfe		2,235
Beauce	Ste. Marie	15,597
Megantic	Somerset	15,357
Lothimere	Lotbiniere	14,061
Levi	St. Joseph	15,855
Dorchester	St. Anselme	12,790
Bellechasse	St. Michel	12,094
Montmagny	Montmagny	11,945
L'Islet	L'Islet	10,591
Kamouraska	Kamouraska	19,375
Temiscouata	River du Loup	14,552
Rimouski	Rimouski	13,351
Bonaventure	Carlisle	10,853
Gaspe	Perce	10,094
Total		890,261

NEW BRUNSWICK—1851.

Westmoreland	Dorchester	17,814
Albert	Hopewell	6,313
Kent	Liverpool	11,410
Northumberland	Miramichi	15,064
Gloucester	Bathurst	11,703
Restigouche	Dalhousie	4,161
Victoria	Perth	5,408
Carleton	Woodstock	11,108
York	Frederickton	17,628
Sunbury	Magerville	5,301
Queens	Gagetown	10,634
Kings	Kingston	18,842
St. Johns	St. Johns	38,475
Charlotte	St. Andrews	19,938
Total		193,800

NOVA SCOTIA—1851.

Cape Breton	Sidney	17,580
Victoria	Bedeque	10,000
Inverness	Port Hood	16,917
Richmond	Arichat	10,381
Sidney	Antigonish	13,367
Guysborough	Guysborough	10,848
Pictou	Pictou	15,593
Halifax	Halifax	39,112
Colchester	Truro	15,469
Cumberland	Amherst	14,339
Hants	Windsor	14,330
Kings	Kentville	14,138
Lunenburg	Lunenburg	16,395
Annapolis	Annapolis	14,285
Queens	Liverpool	7,256
Digby	Digby	12,252
Yarmouth	Yarmouth	13,142
Shelburne	Shelburne	10,622
Total		276,117

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND—1848.

Kings	Georgetown	15,425
Queens	Charlottetown	32,111
Prince's	Princetown	15,142
Total		62,678

SUMMARY.

Provinces.	*Year.*	*Population.*	*Square Miles.*
Upper Canada	1852	953,239	147,832
Lower Canada	1852	890,261	201,989
New Brunswick	1851	193 800	27,700
Nova Scotia	1851	276,117	18,746
Prince Edwards Island	1848	62,678	2,134
Newfoundland	1851	101,600	57,000
Hudson's Bay Territory	1851	180,000	2,500,000
Labrador	1851	5,000	170,000
Total		2,662,695	3,125,401

CAPITALS.

Upper Canada	Toronto
Lower Canada	Quebec
New Brunswick	Frederickton
Nova Scotia	Halifax
Prince Edward Island	Charlettetown
Newfoundland	St. Johns
Hudson's Bay Territory	York Fort
Labrador	Naia Fort

POPULATION OF CHIEF CITIES.

	1844.	1846.	1852.
Toronto, U. C.	18,420	21,000	30,775
Hamilton, "	5,669	6,832	14,112
Kingston, "	6,840	9,500	11,585
Quebec, L. C.	34,500	37,000	42,052
Montreal, "	44,093	50,000	57,715
Frederickton, N. B.	3 700	4,000	4,458
St. John, "	19,500	20,000	22,745
Halifax, N. S.	22,000	23,500	26,000
Charlottetown, P. E.	3,904	4,500	4,717
St. Johns, N. F.	12,000	19,000	21,000

TURNING FREE SOILERS OUT OF OFFICE IN MASSACHUSETTS.—The President has ordered the removal of Stiles, Postmaster at Bedford, and Merrill, Postmaster at South Andover, Massachusetts, for coalescing with the free soilers at the recent Middlesex County Convention, in the nomination of candidates for State Senator. Hobart Clark has been appointed to succeed Merrill, and Henry A. Gleason to succeed Stiles. Calvin H. Perry has been appointed Postmaster at Natick, Massachusetts.

APPOINTMENT BY THE PRESIDENT.—James W. Green, of Virginia, to be Consul of the United States for Lima, in Peru.

Naval Intelligence.

Third Assistant Engineer Henry S. Barker has leave of absence for six months, on account of sickness.

Midshipman Z. W. Dawson, who has returned from the Mediterranean sick, also has leave of absence for three months.

Passed Midshipman Joseph S. Day is promoted to a master, rice John Stuart, deceased.

The United States steam frigate Susquehanna was at Cumsingmoon August 19; the Mississippi at Whampoa August 10; the sloop of war Saratoga at Shanghai August 1, where she would go into dock for repairs; the Plymouth at last accounts was at the Loo Choo Islands, where she would remain until relieved by the Vandalia, in the course of two or three months. The Vandalia and steamer Powhatan were daily expected at Hong Kong, at our latest dates. The razee Macedonian was expected in the course of a week or ten days, and the storeship Supply in two or three weeks.

Political Intelligence.

The democrats in the Vermont Legislature have nominated Hon. Daniel Kellogg for the United States Senate, and the free soilers Hon. O. S. Shafter. The whigs have not yet made a selection, but the choice lies between Jacob Collamer, Portus Baxter, and Carlos Coolidge.

Obituary.

GEN. ALEX. MCCONNELL, who has been a prominent man in Ohio for some thirty-six years, as a member of the Legislature, Board of Public Works, as an associate judge, &c., died recently at McConnellsville. He was one of the Jackson electors in 1832.

FOREIGN CONSUL.—Eusebio J. Gomez has been officially recognized by the President as Consul of Spain for the port of Key West, Florida.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

MONEY MARKET.

WEDNESDAY, Nov. 9—6 P. M.

There was more activity and a better feeling in the stock market to-day. Buyers on time, their own option, were plenty, and sellers freely supplied them. At the first board Delaware and Hudson went up ¼ per cent; Morris Canal, ½; Pennsylvania Zinc, ¼; Nicaragua Transit, ¾; Cumberland Coal, ½; Parker Vein, ¼; Panama Railroad, ½; Erie Railroad, ¾; Norwich and Worcester, ½; Hartford Railroad, ½; Reading Railroad, ¼ Hudson Railroad, ¼; New Haven Railroad, 1½; Erie Bonds, 1871, ½; Panama Bonds, 2; Metropolitan Bank, ¼. Some of the fancies are a little heavy, but prices remain unchanged. At the second board the market was firm, with moderate transactions. Cumberland advanced ¼ per cent; New Jersey Zinc, ¼; Parker Vein, ¼; Reading Railroad, ¼

The receipts at the office of the Assistant Treasurer of this port to-day, amounted to $67,521 72; payments, $140,662 03—balance, $6,406,489 55.

The following sales of stocks were made at auction to-day by A. H. Muller:—

$4,000	Columbus, Piqua & Indiana Railroad bonds			80¾
7,000	do.	do.	do	80½
9,000	do.	do.	do	80¼
60 shares Fulton Insurance				75
50 Mechanics' Bank				132
20 New York Life and Trust Company				146
4 Bank of the Union				92
40	do	do		70½
50	Cleveland and Toledo Railroad			90½
50	do.	do		90
100	Island City Bank			75
100	Lenox Fire Insurance Company			90
20	City Bank, Brooklyn			85¼
10	St. Nicholas Bank			90

The directors of the Pacific Fire Insurance Company have declared a semi-annual dividend of eight per cent, payable on and after December 1.

The receipts of the Norwich and Worcester Railroad Company for October, 1853, were $31,867 44; do. 1852, $24,886 89. Increase 28 per cent, or $6,980 15.

The Utica *Gazette* of yesterday says:—"The Bank of Owego will lose about $30,000 in consequence of the failure of T. Dwight, the New York city redemption agent for the bank. Owing to the excitement consequent on the state of affairs thus produced, the old officers of the bank resigned, and George Hewett has been elected president, and G. W. Warner cashier. We understand that the failure will not affect the solvency of the bank."

One of the most important improvements of the day is that in reference to the preparation of timber for the construction of ships, and for all other purposes where wood of different shapes is required. The Ship Timber Bending Company will soon have in operation, in the neighborhood of our largest shipyards, one more powerful machine for the bending of the largest and longest piece of wood to any shape required for building the largest ship. Any curve desired can be obtained, and additional strength is at the same time given to the timber bent. The different experiments made with model machines have been witnessed by the most prominent scientific men and shipbuilders of the country who have been highly gratified with the results presented. The principle upon which the force is exerted by the company's machinery is very simple. An iron model, with a large groove corresponding to the shape of the knee, passes in its whole length, under a cogged wheel, whose cogs fit into corresponding grooves in the surface of the model, and performs a semi circular revolution. It receives into its anterior extremity, which starts under the wheel, the stick of timber to be bent, and fits over it as it lies upon the horizontal frame which supports the machinery, receiving the stick into its groove up to the spot where the curve begins, where the model rises from the frame as the knee of the ship rises from the water. The horizontal framework has also a groove into which the stick is received, and at its farther end an iron plate is forced against it steadily by a screw, giving a strong and uniform "end pressure" in the direction of its length. It lies upon a flexible iron band, which is attached to the end of the model, where the stick rests. As the anterior end of the model passes under the cogged wheel, and rises to a right angle with the frame, carrying with it the stick of timber bound in its groove by the flexible iron band, its posterior extremity descends, fitting over the timber until it is level with the frame. The stick of timber has now taken the shape of the mould, and when cold retains its shape with as much tenacity as if it had grown into it. It is very evident that when a straight stick of timber is bent into a semi-lunar shape, the fibres of the wood upon the inner side must be packed more densely. The wood is steamed for from a half to one hour for each inch of thickness, and put into the machine warm and moist, and as it takes its bent position, the inner fibres are impacted without destroying the tissues of the wood, but only increasing slightly its density on the inside of the curve. By a slight modification of the moulds or models, which are intended to be made in sections, great diversity of shape, even to a double curve, can be given, and the immense variety of purposes to which this invention can be applied will at once suggest themselves to the mind.

The annexed statement exhibits the actual aggregate indebtedness of the government of the United States on the 5th of November, 1853, compared with that of the week previous:—

FINANCES OF THE UNITED STATES.—OUTSTANDING LIABILITIES, Nov., 1853.

Loans.	*Amount outstanding Oct. 29. 1853.*	*Redeemed Since.*	*Amount outstanding Nov. 5, 1853.*
1842	$7,502,385 54	$156,300 00	$7,346,085 54
1843	169.700 00	54,300 00	115,400 00
1846	4,331,739 71	66,000 00	4,265,739 71
1847	22,139,230 00	271,200 00	21,868,000 04
1848	14,906,741 80	97,000 00	14,809,741-80
	49,049,769 05	644,800 00	48,404,867 64
Texas Indem'ty.	4,925,000 00	—	4,925,000 00
Do. not issued	5,000,600 00	—	5,000,000 00
Old funded debt	114,118 54	—	114,118 54
Treasury notes outstanding	114,711 64	—	114,711 64
Debt of Corporate liab'ts	720,000 00	696,000 00	24,000 00
Totals	$59,923,537 23	1,340,800 00	$58,582,797 23

It appears by this that the redemption of liabilities from Oct. 29 to Nov. 5, 1853, amounted to $1,340,800, of which $696,000 was on account of debts of the District of Columbia, and 644 800 on account of the different outstanding debts of the general government. It does not appear in this statement the per cent premium paid on the different classes of loans redeemed; but we know it ranges all the way up to two and twenty per cent premium. The largest item of redemption was of the debt due in 1867, a period fourteen years hence, and the loan due at that remote date is bought by the present Secretary of State at a premium of twenty two per cent. It can hardly be possible that he pursues such a course for the best interests of the country, for the most ordinary financier in Wall street would devise some way of making better use of his surplus funds than buying up his own paper at such an enormous advance. So far as the government and its finances is concerned, it would be far better to let the surplus revenue remain idle in the vaults of the different depositories, than to put into the pockets of financiers such an enormous profit as they are now drawing from the Treasury. The Secretary of the Treasury is either so inexperienced in finances as to have been made the tool of certain cliques of capitalists, or else he is in collusion with them, in fixing such a high point for the redemption of government stock. Either through his ignorance or cupidity, he publicly announced that certain stocks of the United States would be redeemed at a certain per cent to any extent they might be presented at the Treasury, the consequence of which was that the market value immediately advanced to that point, and there it has remained ever since. We can easily understand why such an announcement should be made; but the reason is entirely in favor of individual aggrandizement, and decidedly against the interests of the government. It was an absurdity that no Wall street fancy stock speculator would have been guilty of. Such a thing was never heard of in England, or in any other country where it officials had the slightest pretension to financial knowledge. The movement was so uncalled for, so far as any public purpose was concerned—so blind to the public interest—so well calculated to aid those financiers in the confidence of the Secretary of the Treasury, that we cannot attribute it to any other motive than a desire to subserve private interests. It is too palpable to have been a mistake or a blunder. If it was either, it would be more excusable; but it certainly bears upon its face a worse character.

It is well known in this city that the government is at all times surrounded with a set of political financiers, who stand ready to pick up the crumbs that fall from the treasury table. They manage to control every new head of the Treasury Department, and squeeze out considerable pap in one way or another. They are full of financial schemes, and either in contracting new loans or in liquidating old ones, either before or at maturity, pretend to have nothing else in view but the best interests of the department and of the government. Throughout the Mexican war Mr. Walker was in the hands of a clique of capitalists, who made immense fortunes by the negotiations of loans, while he directed his entire energies, physical and mental, to the duties of his office, without participating directly or indirectly in the enormous profits made out of the government patronage. Mr. Walker was not made a tool of by any of the financiers of that day, for no one can point to a single mistake or blunder, or to any act calculated in any way to discredit his administration of the Treasury Department during his whole term of office. It is, however, well known that but for his favoring certain bankers in Washington, in the payments of loans negotiated into the treasury, they would have been ruined, and plunged into the very lowest depths of bankruptcy. The government was not restricted in any of its financial operations by the course pursued by the Secretary of the Treasury, but, on the contrary, it enabled parties to make such dispositions as the exigencies of the time required to meet the contracts entered into. But for this, much valuable time would have been lost in issuing proposals for new bids, and the terms realized might have been much less favorable. Mr. Walker was a match for any set of scheming financiers; but they have now got hold of a pliant tool, and they will make a rich harvest during his term of office, be it long or short. Western lawyers make very poor Secretaries of the Treasury. The present is not the only instance of the truth of this remark. There is no other department of the government requiring a more experienced, practical man than the treasury, notwithstanding which it is almost invariably administered by some fourth or fifth-rate country lawyer.

We have at this moment a surplus revenue of about twenty-five millions of dollars. Of this, five millions are due to Texas, which must soon be paid. This will leave a balance of twenty millions. The total indebtedness of the government was, on the 5th of November, $58,582,797 23. This is nearly three times greater than our immediate available means, notwithstanding which the wise Secretary of the Treasury is paying a premium of twenty-two per cent on a debt having seventeen and eighteen years to run. If these figures had been reversed—that is, if there had been in the Treasury $58,582,797, and the outstanding debt had been $20,000,000—such a piece of financiering as paying twenty-two per cent premium would hardly have been justifiable. We doubt the policy of depleting the treasury in any irregular way. We shall want every dollar before the next two years elapse, to meet the ordinary appropriations. Even had it been sound policy to have anticipated the maturity of a portion of the public debt, it should have been privately, secretly purchased at the market price, and not blazoned by a special circular, that such a price would be paid for any amount presented at the Treasury Department. Verily, Mr. Guthrie is a model Secretary of the Treasury, and Wall street is in a fair