## United States Senators from Georgia.

### HISTORY OF THE LATE ELECTION AND SKETCHES OF FORMER SENATORS.

We have announced the election by the Legislature of Georgia, on the 26th January, of Alfred Iverson, of Columbus, to succeed William C. Dawson, whose term of office expires on the 4th of March, 1855. He was elected upon the sixteenth ballot, receiving 112 votes. Mr. Dawson, the present whig Senator, received 96; M. H. McAllister, 4; Howell Cobb, 2; C. J. McDonald, 1; blanks, 2. The clear majority for Judge Iverson, therefore, was seven votes. This terminates one of the most exciting Senatorial elections which ever took place in Georgia. It will be recollected that the dissensions between the State Rights and Union democrats in the Legislature prevented the first attempts at an election of Senator; some of the friends of Howell Cobb, the Union candidate, having voted to postpone the election, after the nomination of Ex-Governor Chas. J. McDonald had been made by two-thirds of the democratic members of the Legislative caucus. Upon the final vote it will be seen that gentleman, the regular democratic nominee, received only one vote. He was the favorite of the secession democrats of Georgia, and President of the second Nashville secession convention. His defeat, although the successful candidate is of the same school in politics, is much regretted by the secession democrats, as, in the language of one of their own papers, (the Macon *Telegraph*,) "they fear that the party organization has received a dangerous blow, and that the success which has attended the effort of a few to defeat the declared intention of the democracy, will for all future time encourage malcontents, first to desertion and then to defiance. The democratic party, having a large majority, went into caucus, deliberately made their nomination, and then yielded to half a dozen men who were dissatisfied with their action—not only yielded, but placed themselves under their control. By abandoning the nomination, they virtually declared that the caucus system was a mere form, to be ignored and defied at pleasure. We cannot, (says the same paper,) but believe that much the better plan would have been to have referred the whole matter back to the people. The injustice done to Gov. McDonald is a subject upon which we do not desire to comment. He received the nomination by a majority of two thirds—not because he had many friends in the Legislature, but because the people demanded it. The friends that he had stood to him till they were overwhelmed by the force of numbers, and there was no longer any hope in resistance. Upon the final ballot he received one vote. Of so much value is a caucus nomination in Georgia. We do not desire to be understood as reflecting in any way upon the conduct of Judge Iverson, for we have reason to be thankful that out of a policy so devious, so hesitating and so unmanly, has resulted the election of a a gentleman so gifted and so estimable."

The election of Judge Iverson was brought about in this wise:—A meeting of the democratic members was held on Saturday night, January 21, but as the attendance was thin, in consequence of inclement weather, it was not anticipated that any success would result from the proceedings of the caucus. A committee of one from each Judicial circuit was, however, appointed. The committee reported the names of Messrs. Chappell, Iverson and McAllister to the meeting. A resolution was adopted, pledging the support of the democratic party, to the person who should receive the highest vote on the first ballot. Judge Iverson was that man. The democrats went into the election on the 26th, with very dubious hopes. Up to that time there had been on previous trials, twelve ballots for Senator. On the thirteenth ballot, (being the first ballot on the 26th,) Iverson received 63 votes; McAllister, 31; McDonald, 23; Cobb, 2, and Dawson, the whig candidate, 96. On the next (fourteenth) ballot Iverson received 96; on the fifteenth, 101; and on the sixteenth, 112 votes. After the fifteenth ballot, a motion made by a whig Senator to take a recess until the 1st of April, was lost—99 to 113. Mr. Dean, State rights democrat, immediately afterwards withdrew the name of Gov. McDonald, in consequence of which Judge Iverson was elected, as we have stated.

The Savannah *Republican*, a whig paper, says:—

"The Hon. Alfred Iverson is a native, we believe, of Burke county, and about fifty-five years of age. He has occupied a prominent position in the democratic party for some years, having been twice elected to the bench of the Superior Court, and once to the national House of Representatives. He is an effective popular speaker, and a man of very fair abilities. He does not rank with the first men of the State; yet we consider him equal in all respects, and in some one superior, of Mr. McDonald the nominee of the party. A gentleman of education and refinement, and of excellent private character, the people have no cause to regret his election, so far as the man, disconnected from the politician, is concerned.

"We cannot extend this commendation to him, however, in his political capacity. Without stopping to review his history in detail, it is sufficient for our present purpose to remark, that he belongs to the secession school of politicians. He took a decided stand against the compromise of 1850 with Mr. McDonald, and in the western portion of the State especially he was considered the head and exponent of those ultra politicians who favored the establishment of a Southern confederacy, and the consequent disruption of the federal Union. To the Columbus clique of extreme politicians is to be ascribed, mainly, the bitter opposition got up in this State against the adjustement, and especially the continuance of that opposition; and when the reader is informed that Judge Iverson was the master spirit of that clique, he will be prepared to appreciate his political tendencies and affiliations.

"The moral effect of Judge Iverson's success is the same it would have been if Mr. McDonald had been elected. It is an endorsement of the secession wing of the democratic party, and a direct blow in the face of the Union men. Neither Cobb, nor Chappell, nor Warner, nor McAllister, nor Ward, nor any other Union democrat stood the least possible chance of being elected. It is true, the small, but determined and patriotic band of Union democrats in the Senate, was able to defeat the election of McDonald; but beyond this they were utterly powerless.

"The Columbus regency has played a bold game. Its members took many chances in the contest for the spoils, and verily they have carried off some capital and glittering prizes.

"Thou hast it now, King, Cawdor, Glamis, all."

Will the scales never fall from the eyes of Union democrats? The fate of Mr. Cobb and his friends is the fate of Union democrats all over the country.

We may add that Judge Iverson was a Union man during the struggle respecting nullification, in 1832, when Georgia refused to join with Mr. Calhoun and South Carolina in the attempt at causing these States to secede from the Union. In 1850 he became an advocate of the doctrines of secession on a different issue from that which agitated Georgia and South Carolina in 1832; and with about two-thirds of the democratic party of Georgia, he opposed the election of Howell Cobb, as the Union candidate for Governor of Georgia. The main body of Cobb's supporters on that occasion were of the whig party.

LIST OF U. S. SENATORS FROM GEORGIA.

The following is a list of the U. S Senators from Georgia from the adoption of the constitution, in 1789, to the present time:—

| | Commencement of Service | Termination |
|---|---|---|
| William Few | March, 1789 | March, 1793 |
| James Gunn | March, 1789 | March, 1801 |
| James Jackson | March, 1793 | Resigned 1793. |
| *George Walton | Nov., 1793 | Feb., 1795 |
| Josiah Tatnall | Feb., 1795 | March, 1799. |
| Abraham Baldwin | March, 1799 | March, 1805 |
| Do. | March, 1805 | Died 1807. |
| James Jackson | March, 1801 | Died 1806 |
| John Milledge | June, 1806 | March, 1807 |
| Do. | March, 1807 | Resigned 1809 |
| *George Jones | Aug., 1807 | Nov., 1807 |
| William H. Crawford | Nov., 1807 | March, 1811. |
| Do. | March, 1811 | Resigned 1812 |
| Charles Tait | Nov., 1809 | March, 1813 |
| Do | March, 1813 | March, 1819 |
| *Wm. Bellinger Bulloch | April, 1813 | Nov., 1813 |
| William Wyatt Bibb | Nov., 1813 | Resigned 1816 |
| George M. Troup | Nov., 1816 | March, 1817 |
| Do | March, 1817 | Resigned 1818 |
| John Forsyth | Nov., 1818 | Resigned 1819 |
| John Elliott | March, 1819 | March, 1823 |
| Freeman Walker | Nov., 1819 | Resigned 1821 |
| Nicholas Ware | Nov., 1821 | March, 1824 |
| Do. | March, 1823 | Died 1824 |
| Thomas W. Cobb | Nov., 1824 | Resigned 1828 |
| John MacPherson | March 1825 | Resigned 1829 |
| Oliver H. Prince | Nov., 1828 | March, 1829 |
| George M. Troup | March, 1829 | Resigned 1833 |
| John Forsyth | Nov., 1829 | March, 1831 |
| Do. | March, 1831 | March, 1837 |
| John P. King | Nov., 1833 | March, 1836 |
| Do. | March, 1836 | Resigned 1837 |
| Alfred Cuthbert | March, 1837 | March, 1843 |
| Wilson Lumpkin | Nov., 1837 | March, 1841 |
| John M. Berrien | March, 1841 | Resigned 1845 |
| John M. Berrien | Nov., 1845 | March, 1847 |
| Walter T. Colquitt | March, 1843 | March, 1849 |
| John M. Berrien | March, 1847 | Resigned 1852 |
| *Herschel V. Johnson | Feb., 1848 | March, 1849 |
| William C. Dawson | March, 1849 | March, 1855 |
| *Robert M. Charlton | Dec., 1852 | March, 1853 |
| Robert Toombs | March, 1853 | March, 1859. |
| Alfred Iverson | March, 1855 | March, 1861. |

*Appointed by the Governor during the recess of the Legislature.

Of the above Senators, the following have been Governors of Georgia, elected at the times stated, viz.:—

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| George Walton | 1789. | George M. Troup | 1823. |
| James Jackson | 1798. | John Forsyth | 1827. |
| Josiah Tatnall | 1801 | Wilson Lumpkin | 1831. |
| John Milledge | 1802 | Herschel V. Johnson | 1853. |

Georgia, having by a State Convention assembled at Augusta, with great unanimity adopted the constitution of the United States on the 2d January, 1788, became early distinguished for its uniform adherence to the old republican party organized by Jefferson and Madison. The two signers of the constitution in the convention at Philadelphia, William Few and Abraham Baldwin, were elected to represent the State in the first Congress—the former in the Senate, and the latter in the House of Representatives; but they were both considered republicans, and generally cooperated with the anti-federalists in opposing Washington's administration. Some of the measures of Washington and Hamilton, however, received the support of the Georgia Senators. But the State never sent a federalist to either branch of Congress, under the old organization of parties, nor are we aware that the federal party had any definite existence in Georgia, as in South Carolina, where that party was sometimes predominant.

The population of Georgia has always been mainly Anglo-Saxon, from its settlement as a colony to the present time. There have been, it is true, some exceptions in the Highland and Lowland Scotch colonists; but Georgia has always been considered a decided Anglo Saxon community, as may be seen by the names of her Senators and Representatives in Congress, nearly all of whom show their Anglo-Saxon or Scotch origin.

It is worthy of remark that the largest proportion of the people of Georgia have, from early times, been brought up in or connected with the Methodist Church, the predominant religious sect in that State. This fact is doubtless to be attributed to the missions of Wesley and Whitfield in the infancy of the colony, who then planted the seed of Methodism in a soil peculiarly favorable to its growth. Hence Georgia has been always the favorite camping and stamping ground of the Methodists, a sect remarkably favorable to the old democracy, but more dubious in the modern division of political parties.

We are enabled to give brief biographical sketches of the most prominent of the foregoing list of Senators, with the political lives of whom we are generally quite familiar, particularly with such names as Few, Baldwin, Troup, Crawford, Forsyth, and those of our own times. But for local information, and notices of individuals less known out of their own State, we are indebted to the Rev. George White's historical collections of Georgia, recently published, a work of great value to the student and the politician.

Colonel William Few, one of the Georgia Senators in the first Congress, was a descendant of one of the original settlers of Pennsylvania, and was born in Baltimore county, Maryland, on the 8th of June, 1748. His paternal ancestor, who was from Wales, and whose family name was written Ffew, accompanied William Penn in his emigration to this country. The parents of Col. Few, when he was ten years of age, removed with their family to Orange county, North Carolina, when the son had the benefit of a good education. He imbibed sound principles and virtuous habits, and, at the commencement of the Revolution, took the patriotic side. In 1776 he removed to Georgia, when the Revolution was in active progress, and a committee of public safety conducted the affairs of government. Soon after his arrival he was elected a member of the Convention called to frame a State constitution. At the ensuing election he was chosen a member of the Assembly for Richmond county, and by that body was appointed one of the council. From this period to that of the adoption of the constitution of the United States, and afterwards, with short intervals, to the close of 1804, he was constantly employed in public affairs.

The earliest military service of Few was performed in repulsing a British force which invaded Georgia from East Florida. He was afterwards employed in expeditions against the Creek Indians, when he acted as Lieutenant Colonel of Militia. In 1778 he was appointed Surveyor General of the State, also that of presiding Judge of Richmond county. In 1779 he was re-elected a member of the Legislature, by which body, in January, 1780, he was appointed a member of the Continental Congress, and in the following May took his seat, while it was in session in Philadelphia. Soon after the peace of 1783 Colonel Few returned to Georgia, and was again elected to the Legislature, which met in January, 1784, for the purpose of revising the laws and reorganizing the affairs of the State. He now engaged in the practice of law, and acquired a high reputation as an advocate, counsellor, and debater. His talents, knowledge, and experience induced the Legislature again to elect him a member of the Continental Congress, when subjects of interest to Georgia were pending before that body. He was subsequently elected a member of the convention for framing the United States constitution, which met at Philadelphia in 1787, and, with Abraham Baldwin, affixed his signature to the constitution, in behalf of Georgia. He then repaired to the State, to exert his influence in favor of the adoption by her of the proposed constitution, and was elected a delegate from Richmond county to the State Convention, which met in Augusta, in December, 1787, and by which the constitution was ratified a few days afterwards. The Legislature then appointed him one of the Senators in the first Congress. In 1788 Colonel Few married Catharine, daughter of Commodore Nicholson, of the United States Navy.

In the Senate of the United States the course of Colonel Few was that of a moderate republican. He supported some of the measures of Washington's administration, and was favorable to the charter of the first Bank of the United States, although opposed to some of its provisions. In general however, he acted with his colleagues in both houses, in the opposition of the republicans to the measures brought forward by Hamilton and other leaders of the federal party. When his term of service expired, in March, 1793, Col. Few retired with his family to his estate in Georgia, and resumed his agricultural pursuits. In 1795 he was elected a member of the Georgia Legislature, which declared the Yazoo act null and void. About the same time he was appointed Judge of one of the districts into which the State was divided, and after three years service on the bench he resigned on account of ill health. In the summer of 1799 he removed with his family to the city of New York, where he continued to reside until the close of his life. He owned a splendid mansion in Park place, in this city, and was conspicuous as a public spirited citizen whenever his services were called for. He was for some years President of the City Bank, and his wealth and generous disposition enabled him to take prominent rank as a public benefactor.

Colonel Few was a zealous advocate for the advancement of, and favored the doctrines of, protection to American Industry. In 1820 the friends of a protective tariff brought forward Henry Eckford, as a candidate for Congress, to run against Mr. Cambreleng, who had been nominated at Tammany Hall, as an anti-tariff man. The meeting to nominate Mr. Eckford was held at Dooley's long room, in the Sixth ward, when Colonel Few acted as chairman, and Ichabod Prall as secretary. In January, 1828, the friends of a protective tariff met at Tammany Hall, to organize the present American Institute, on which occasion Colonel Few presided, and was subsequently chosen the first President of the Institute. He died the same year, viz: on the 10th of July, 1828, being then eighty years of age.

Of the Senatorial colleague of Colonel Few in the first Congress, James Gunn, we have no knowledge except that he served twelve years in the Senate, or two full terms, and acted with the Democratic Republican party with probably more uniformity than Colonel Few, in those measures which distinguished the Republicans from the Federalists.

JAMES JACKSON, who succeeded Colonel Few as Senator, in 1793, was born in England in September, 1757. He emigrated to Savannah in Georgia when only fifteen years of age, and was received into a law office, where he commenced his studies. But he soon laid aside his law books to take part in the Revolutionary contest, and embraced the patriotic side. He was engaged in many of the actions with the British in the Southern States, holding various military ranks until he was raised to that of Lieutenant-Colonel. He served under Generals Green and Wayne, and was the first American officer who, in actual command, entered Savannah after the evacuation by the British in 1782. After the war he resided and practised law at Savannah, and married a daughter of William Young, Esq., an ardent patriot. When elected to the Legislature, he acted with great magnanimity in advocating the release of the penalties and confiscations against tories. In 1784 he was appointed Colonel, and in 1786 Brigadier General, when military duties in Georgia were peculiarly arduous, on account of Indian hostilities. When he was thirty-one years of age, in 1788, he was elected Governor of Georgia, but for satisfactory reasons declined the office. In 1789 he was elected by the people of the Eastern district a Representative in the First Congress. Between this period and 1806 he held almost every high office in Georgia, viz.: member of the Legislature, Major General, Delegate to the State Convention to frame the present constitution of Georgia—of which he wrote the greater part—Presidential Elector, Governor, and United States Senator. In 1791 General Anthony Wayne, of the Revolutionary army, who had become a citizen of Georgia, ran against Jackson for Congress. An animated contest took place, and General Wayne was returned. Jackson contested the seat, and obtained a decision of the House that General Wayne was not elected. By the casting vote of the Speaker the House refused to declare Jackson elected. The matter was therefore referred to the people, but Jackson was chosen United States Senator by the Legislature. He resigned his seat in 1795, but a few years after was again chosen Senator for the term commencing March 1801. He died before the expiration of his term, at Washington, March 19, 1806.

GEORGE WALTON was born in Frederick county, Virginia, in 1740, and received a limited education. He served as an apprentice to the trade of a carpenter, after which he removed to Georgia, and studied law with Henry Young, Esq. He took an active part on the patriotic side in the Revolutionary war, and was chosen a delegate to the Continental Congress, in 1776. He was six times elected a member of that body, and his name is affixed to the Declaration of Independence. When Savannah was taken by the British, under Colonel Campbell, Walton commanded a battalion on the right of the American army. In this battle he was wounded and taken prisoner. In 1779 he was exchanged, and in October was elected Governor of Georgia. Besides other important offices which he held, he was Judge of the Superior Court for fifteen years, until his death, at Augusta, in February, 1801.

JOSIAH TATNALL was born at a place below Savannah; his father was Colonel Josiah Tatnall. At the age of eighteen he entered the army of General Wayne, near the close of the Revolutionary war, and no opportunity presented for distinguishing himself. After he was placed in office, and advanced to the station of Brigadier General, he rendered important services during Indian hostilities. He was several times elected to the Legislature, and in 1796 was chosen U. S. Senator for the balance of the term, which expired in 1799. He died in the West Indies in 1804, and his remains, according to his dying request, were removed to his native place in Georgia.

ABRAHAM BALDWIN was a native of Connecticut, and having removed to Georgia, he took an active part in political affairs. He was a member of the Continental Congress from 1786 to 1788, and was also a delegate with Colonel Few to the Convention at Philadelphia in 1787, which formed the United States Constitution. Having affixed his name to that instrument, he was chosen one of the three members to represent Georgia in the House of Representatives in the First Congress. In that body he continued to serve for ten years, being five times elected by the people, and was one of the most zealous of the opponents of Washington's and John Adams's administrations. In 1799 having been chosen United States Senator by the Legislature, he took his seat in that body, and was re-elected, after six years service for another term. But he died in 1807, and was succeeded by George Jones, who received his appointment from the Governor and served until the Legislature elected William H. Crawford, in November, 1807.

JOHN MILLEDGE was descended from ancestors who came to Georgia with Gen. Oglethorpe. He was born in Savannah, in 1757, received a good education, and studied law with the King's attorney. He entered into the service of the country during the Revolutionary war, and few made more costly sacrifices in the cause of the country. After the war he became one of the leading men of the day. As a member of the Legislature, as Governor of Georgia, as a member of both houses of Congress, his course gave satisfaction to the people. He was the first to advance everything to promote the interests of Georgia. He was one of the first in originating the State University, and distinguished himself in his opposition to the celebrated Yazoo fraud. The present political capital of Georgia derives its name from Governor Milledge. He died at the Sand Hills, near Augusta, in February, 1818, aged sixty-one years.

WILLIAM H. CRAWFORD was a native of Virginia, and was born in Amherst county, February 24, 1772. His ancestors came from Scotland. His father emigrated from Virginia to Edgefield district, South Carolina, in 1779, and in 1783 he removed to Columbia county, Georgia, where he died five years afterwards. William H. Crawford was a lad during the revolution, and was brought up among scenes of pecuniary suffering and excitement. After the death of his father, Mr. Crawford in order to aid in the support of his mother's family, devoted himself to the occupation of a schoolmaster until he had an opportunity of entering a classical academy himself, being desirous to become acquainted with the learned languages. He accordingly became a student in the academy, where his progress was so great that he was soon employed as an assistant. After two years spent in this academy he went to Augusta, and formed a connection with Charles Tait, (afterwards Judge and U. S. Senator,) in the management of the Richmond Academy. In 1799 he removed to Lexington, in Oglethorpe county, and commenced the practice of law. It was not long before his talents and great attention to business placed him at the head of his profession. For three years he represented Oglethorpe county in the Legislature, and then became a prominent candidate for higher public favors. In November, 1807, he was elected to the United States Senate for the balance of Mr. Baldwin's term, which expired in March, 1811, and was re-elected for another term, but resigned in April, 1813, in consequence of receiving from President Madison the appointment of Minister to France. In the United States Senate Mr. Crawford occupied a station among the leading members, and was for a time President *pro tem.* He differed with his democratic friends on some leading measures, particularly with regard to a renewal of the charter of the first United States Bank, which expired in 1811. Mr. Crawford voted for the renewal of the charter, which was defeated in the Senate by the casting vote of the Vice President (George Clinton). Mr. Crawford was, however, a zealous advocate of the measures adopted by Congress preparatory to war with Great Britain, and voted for the Declaration of War in June, 1812. Having received the appointment of Minister to France in April, 1813, he resigned his seat in the Senate and proceeded on his mission to Paris, where he remained two years. During this time he showed himself to be a fearless advocate of his country's rights, and gained the favor of Parisian society by his open manners and instructive conversation. When he returned to the United States, in 1815, he was appointed Secretary of War. On the accession of President Monroe, he was appointed Secretary of the treasury, and continued at the head of that department for the eight years of Monroe's administration. In 1816 he had been a candidate before the Congressional caucus for nomination as the republican candidate for President of the United States. On that occasion he received 54 votes, and James Monroe 65—so near did Crawford come at that time to receiving the regular nomination for President. He was considered by the Southern democrats from that time up to 1823, as the most prominent candidate for the succession to President Monroe. But a combination of circumstances arose to prevent the consummation of the wishes of his friends. The views of Mr. Crawford were known to be conservative as a statesman. He was favorable to a national bank, to a protective tariff, to internal improvements by the general government, and other measures since advocated and supported by the whig party of our times. Yet Mr. Crawford was put forward as the democratic candidate, expected to be nominated by a congressional caucus, and his supporters in Congress were called "radicals." The claims of rival candidates, Adams, Jackson, Clay and Calhoun, were urged against those of Mr. Crawford, and their respective friends joined in their labors to render a congressional caucus odious and unpopular. Hence the caucus was confined to Mr. Crawford's friends, and composed only of about one fourth of the whole number of members of the two houses. It consequently had very little influence with the people, and Mr. Crawford lost the election.

During the canvass for the Presidency Mr. Crawford was attacked with paralysis, which deprived him for a time of his sight, his speech, and the use of some of his limbs, and which so shocked his whole nervous system as seriously to impair his memory and to obscure his intellect. This sad event depressed the spirits of his friends, and forced him for a time to retire from the duties of his office. After a struggle of many months, his speech, to a great extent, was restored; he regained the use of his limbs, and his vision was slightly improved. But his great intellect had been blighted to a degree which human skill could not reach, and was never again to return with its original strength and lustre.

After the Presidential election, Mr. Crawford—having declined Mr. Adams's offer of continuing him in the office of Secretary of the Treasury—retired to Georgia, and in 1827 was appointed by the Legislature Judge of the Northern Circuit, which he held until his death, in Elbert county, September 15, 1834. His age was sixty-two years, and his remains were interred at Woodlawn, his seat in Oglethorpe county.

CHARLES TAIT was a man of fine talents, and resided in Elbert county. He was rector of the Richmond Academy in 1795, and was a Senator in Congress for ten years, also a Judge of the Superior Court.

GEORGE M. TROUP was born on Tombigbee river, in what was then the territory of Georgia, now Alabama, in September, 1780. He received a classical education, partly in Georgia and partly on Long Island in this State. He graduated at Princeton college in New Jersey, and studied law in Savannah. Entering into public life, he was elected at an early age, in 1801, to the Legislature of Georgia, and again chosen in the two following years. In 1806 he was elected to Congress, and continued a member of the house until 1815, when he withdrew to private life. In 1816, contrary to his wishes, he was elected United States Senator, but continued only two years in that body. In 1823 he was elected Governor of Georgia, and retired in 1827. In 1828 he was again chosen United States Senator, and resigned in 1833. He resides in Laurens county.

JOHN FORSYTH was born in Frederick county, Virginia, and removed with his father to Georgia, when he was about four years of age. He received a classical education, and graduated at Princeton college, in 1799. He studied law in Augusta, and commenced practice in 1802. Soon after, he was appointed Attorney-General of the State, and in 1811 was elected to Congress. He continued to serve in the House until 1818, when he was elected to the United States Senate. He resigned the following year, on being appointed Minister to Spain, at which Court he remained several years. While in Spain he was elected to the House of Representatives, and took his seat in Congress in 1823. He was elected Governor of Georgia in 1827, and in 1829 again chosen United States Senator, continuing to serve in that capacity until 1834, when he succeeded Mr. McLane as Secretary of State. He retired at the close of Mr. Van Buren's administration, in March, 1841, and died at Washington city, October 21, 1841, in the 60th year of his age. Mr. Forsyth married a sister of Henry Meigs, Esq., of this city, a native of New Haven, Connecticut; and one of his daughters married Judge Iverson, the recently elected United States Senator.

Most of the remaining Georgia Senators are well known to political men, but the limits of this article prevents us from giving particular sketches of their public career.

## Affairs in Washington City.

[Coorespondence of the Philadelphia North American.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 2, 1854.

Washington politics are a mixture of facts and fancies. Among the latter I class the report of the *coup d'etat* in Spain, and the proposed elevation to the throne of the Duke of Alba, brother-in-law to the French usurper. I believe the rumor originates in an amateur despatch from one of the fighting diplomatists at Madrid. The two Soulés are adventurous and chivalrous gentlemen, and I like them both for resenting so promptly and gallantly the slight attempted to be put upon their relative. But they have not a little of the French precipitancy in politics as in war and love.

The idea of acquiring Cuba as the result of a Court intrigue in Madrid is absurd. The suggestion of superseding Isabella by enthroning a brother of Eugenie, is a monstrous stretch of imagination. Spain is disturbed, and will never be settled until the quarrel between absolutism and constitutionalism shall be adjusted. The stupid interference of the great Napoleon in Spain, and his unprincipled usurpation of the crown for Joseph, were his ruin. His nephew cannot rival his brilliant achievements, but he can avoid his follies and errors. The destruction of French armies in Spain was a prelude and cause of the disasters at Leipsic, the Russian campaign, and the capitulation of Paris. Louis Napoleon is about to go to war with Russia, and probably with Austria. He will not be guilty, at such a time, of the insanity of sending armies into Spain to support the brother of his wife in pretensions to royalty, which he knows would arouse to arms every Spaniard from the Biddassoa to the Rock of Gibraltar. Nevertheless, I think it not improbable that Mr. Soulé may have written home that if he can only set by the ears the adherents of the Queen and the partizans of the Carlist and Bourbon cause, he can secure Cuba to the United States in the confusion of the melee. But wiser and profounder men than our Minister do not perceive the slightest probability of such a result. The opportunities of purchasing the island in the supposed contingency would be no better than they were during the long civil war of the succession, which began in 1833, and ended only with the minority of the reigning Queen. During three years of that time Gen. Jackson ruled the administration of our government, and Mr. Forsyth was Minister in Spain, and an abler one we could not have had. It certainly cannot be charged that there was any want of energy in the management of our foreign relations during that period. Yet Cuba was not purchased. Ten or twelve years later Mr. Buchanan offered one hundred millions of dollars for Cuba, but the tempting offer was not looked at. Precedent and probability are all against the truth of the rumor.

The proceedings of yesterday in the House settle the fate of the bill for the prevention of interruptions on railroads, aimed at the Erie people. It is evident that the bill cannot pass. The House appears to be about equally divided upon it; but the combination of interests and opinion against it is too strong to be overcome, and I doubt whether the bill will be taken up again. The New Yorkers and Orleans, and the West generally, appeared too eager for the passage of the bill. But the united vote of Pennsylvania, joined to the power and influence of Maryland and Virginia, which are interested in the diversion of trade from New York, and the general sentiments of the South against the coercion of a State, rendered their zeal and ardor completely impotent. Detroit and Michigan aided in the defeat of the measure, because it is hoped that the Erie war may add to the business of their rail across the Canadian peninsula. Mr. Orr, of South Carolina, was active and efficient in resisting the bill, and may possibly be looking to a strong Pennsylvanian vote in the next Congress for Speaker.

The aspect of the affair is much changed by the repeal of the charter under which the obnoxious road was built. If that repeal is valid and conclusive as to the right to use the improvement, then the question is ended. If not, the duties of the Executive to repress the disorders by a military force, if that be required, is plain. I understand that the subject was under consideration in the Cabinet to-day, but cannot learn that any course of action was determined upon. The *Union* furnishes no confirmation of the statement that United States troops have been ordered to Erie. This unfortunate occurrence will lead to an investigation of the important question of the rights of the States to regulate and restrict the making of roads and the transportation of passengers and merchandise through their territories. The question is a very interesting one for Maryland and New Jersey, which derive a great revenue from taxes upon travel and trade between States on either side of them.

The minority of the committee on the Pacific Railroad have not agreed to the alleged bill proposing donations for three routes. It has nevertheless been resolved to report it on that basis, and it may be expected in the course of the following week.

The Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads will report, on Tuesday next, a bill for the discontinuance of all contracts for carrying the mails in ocean steamers, and also for withdrawing, in September next, the extra compensation of $475,000 a year to the Collins line. There is but little doubt that this bill will pass, and that all the contracts will be re-let to the lowest bidders, or that the government will take possession of the steamers, as they are already authorized to do, and run them on account of the department. The same committee will soon report a bill establishing a mail line, by steamers, from San Francisco to changhae, in China.

[Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3, 1854.

Quite an animated correspondence is taking place in the Washington papers on the subject of the Gadsden treaty. Some of the outsiders, who expected to be "in town" as soon as the treaty should get here, speak of the territory of Arezonia (!?) being large enough for two slave States, and that it contains "rich placers," which will be explored by negroes. All this is moonshine—and not very bright moonshine either. It is the light of the moon in the last quarter, no more.

The territory of Arezonia ought to be called Fagendia, for it is the fag end of nature, with no other placers in it than those to be discovered by some Dr. Gardiner, and paid for after the same fashion. I have no doubt that as soon as the treaty shall be ratified (if such a thing, were possible) somebody will trump up a claim for the loss of the placers which nobody will be able to find, and for which, therefore, the United States or Mexico will be held responsible. It is not the land conveyed by the treaty and the treaty itself, which contains the placers, and they are just worth five millions of dollars.

Col. Benton is preparing an onslaught on the Nebraska bill, in conjunction with the Pacific Railroad project. Col. Benton's opposition to the bill is much to be regretted. In the coalition formed by the present administration, it was a blunder to overlook and exclude the great men of the party. With the exception of Marcy, there is no prominent statesman in the whole coalition; and he, if I am not very much mistaken, is not a very willing—certainly not a very enthusiastic supporter of the Nebraska bill. He is, however, bound to go for it, strong officially.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3, 1854.

Mrs. Jefferson Davis's reception last evening, although not attended as numerously as on some former occasions, was a brilliant affair. The army was well represented by officers in full uniform, Senators, members of the House of Representatives, and other distinguished persons.

In the Northern liberties a large and elegant wedding party took place at the residence of the Rev. Mr. Evans.

Great preparations are in progress for the President's levee and the soiree of Mrs. Postmaster General Campbell, on C. street, this evening.

It is whispered in fashionable circles that one of our beautiful young belles will shortly become united in hymenial bonds to a member of the Cabinet. It is said that the young lady possesses beauty, high accomplishments and wealth.

At the agricultural bureau of the Patent Office Mr. Townsend Glover has on exhibition upwards of 2,000 specimens of all the fruits which are cultivated in this country, (except the peach) the name of each, description of the soil, locality, and many other particulars interesting to every orchardist. These specimens are manufactured in composition, and appear perfectly natural to the eye. No less than four hundred varieties of the apple, and about five hundred of the pear, are here displayed. Besides the fruits are many specimens of fish, reptiles, &c., beautiful to behold.

[Correspondence of the Detroit Free Press.]

WASHINGTON, Jan. 27, 1854.

Mr. James Lane, of New York, now in this city, who has been engaged in the surveys for a ship canal across the Isthmus of Darien, states that he has discovered a new route for a canal across the isthmus, which will require only ten miles of cutting. A large lake, hitherto unknown, composes a part of this new interoceanic communication. Mr. Lane considers that this route is far preferable to the Nicaragua or any other isthmian route. The discovery is certainly a valuable one, if it proves to be all that is claimed for it. Mr. Lane returns to the isthmus to survey this route.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

[From the Washington Star, Feb. 3.]

ENDORSEMENT ON BILLS ON THE GOVERNMENT.

A case of much interest has recently been adjudicated at the Treasury Department, which may be stated as follows:—A disbursing officer of the government, duly authorized, drew a bill on the proper department in favor of an individual, or his order, which individual endorsed it in blank. Subsequent to the blank endorsement of the payee, there was another endorsement in blank, purporting to have been made by an attorney of the endorser, but there was no proof that the person claiming to be the attorney was authorized to act in that capacity. The question was—whether the holder of the bill could be paid? It was held that he might be paid, on the ground that while the first endorsement remains blank, the right of the holder to recover as the immediate assignee of the first endorser is not restricted by subsequent endorsements. Even if those subsequent endorsements were all in full, so that the holder could deduce a regular title through them, he would not be bound to do so, but might strike them all out and claim simply under the first blank endorsement.

THE GADSDEN TREATY.

Last evening and to-day it was said on the avenue that this treaty does not contain a final release from all demands under the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, as heretofore generally represented. If this be true, it is by no means wonderful that the President hesitates whether or not to send it into the Senate, as is alleged by those who take on themselves the duty of "knowing every thing going on." For our part, we were never knowing. We know quite as little about the real facts involved in this Gadsden treaty as it is possible for one to know who is forced to be as much "around town" as ourself. So we state nothing concerning it as more than floating conversation on the avenue.

PROTESTED BILLS ON THE GOVERNMENT.

It has been the settled and uniform practice of the government, in the settlement of accounts, not to allow interest or damages on protested bills, under whatever circumstances they may have been drawn and protested; nor are costs on protested bills paid except in compliance with a special act of Congress.

AMERICAN CONSUL AT LONDON.

We feel satisfied that the nomination of George N. Sanders, Esq., for this position, is now pending before the Senate.

THE CAUCUS ON THE NEBRASKA-KANSAS BILL.

[From the Washington Star, Feb. 4.]

We learn that a consultation or caucus of the Senators, friends of the Nebraska and Kansas bill, was held yesterday morning. Thirty-nine or forty members of the Senate were present. They were not distinguished by party affiliations or by any sectional classification. It was decided that a fair chance should be given to the opponents of the bill to debate it fully, but that the bill should be passed to a decision without delay, and in preference to all other business before the Senate. We presume that a like policy will be adopted in the House, and that on the passage of the bill by the Senate, it will be taken up immediately in the House, and if its supporters have the strength, as is not doubted, all other business will be postponed to it. This is a wise course, as Congress shall then go on and settle the other matters before it without this exciting subject creating obstacles to calm and dispassionate consideration. We are informed that another consultation of Senators was held this morning.

THE CURRENT OPERATIONS OF THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

On the 2d of February there were of treasury warrants entered on the books of the department:—

| | |
|---|---|
| For the recemption of stocks | $69,038 03 |
| For the payment of other Treasury debts | 7,489 96 |
| For the Customs | 41,756 30 |
| Covered into the Treasury from miscellaneous sources | 8,206 77 |
| For the War Department | 44,704 54 |
| For re paying for the War Department | 9,496 78 |
| For the Navy Department | 67,960 62 |
| For the Interior Department | 3,924 00 |

## Appointments by the President,

*By and with the advice and consent of the Senate.*

CUSTOM HOUSE OFFICERS.

COLLECTOR.

John T. Hudson, of Buffalo, New York.

SURVEYORS.

Daniel L. Willcom, of Ipswich, Mass.
Sidney B. Smith, of Pawtuxet, R. I.
John Gladding, jr., of Bristol, R. I.
William E. Cozzens, of North Kingston, R. I.
Augustus C. Millard, of East Greenwich, R. I.
William Hayden, of Hartford, Conn.
Andrew Agnew, of New Brunswick, N. J.
Canby Fennington, of Havre de Grace, Md.
William Shands, of City Point, Va.
Charles Fagot, Ponchartrain, La.
A. Benton Moses, of Nesqually, W. T.
William Martin, of Alton, Ill.

NAVAL OFFICERS.

Nicholas Brown, Newburyport, Mass.
Charles Millet, of Salem and Beverly, Mass.
Silas A. Comstock, of Providence, R. I.
Milton Hall, of Newport, R. I.
John Romeyn Brodhead, of New York, N. Y.
Christopher C. Robinson, of Norfolk and Portsmouth, Va.
Thomas Lynch Hamilton, of Savannah, Ga.

APPRAISERS.

Daniel D. Briggs, of New York, N. Y.
Isaac Phillips, of New York, N. Y.
Samuel J. Willis, of New York, N. Y.
William J. McIntosh, of New York, N. Y.

ASSISTANT APPRAISERS.

Peter Herman, of New Orleans, La.
Francis Leech, of New Orleans, La.

SUPERVISING INSPECTORS OF STEAMBOATS.

Augustus Walker, of Buffalo, N. Y., Ninth district.
Isaac Lewis, of Monroe, Mich., Eighth district.
John S. Brown, of Baltimore, Md., Third district.
William Burnett, of Boston, Mass., First district.
W. E. Muir, of New Orleans, La., Fourth district.

## United States Circuit Court.

Before Hon. Judge Betts.

FEB. 4—*Hence H. Day vs. The New England Car Spring Company.*—The complainant in this case filed a bill against the defendants setting up that a patent was granted to E. M. Chaffee, that Chaffee had assigned it to Day in July, 1853; that the defendants have had no license or permission from the said Chaffee to use the improvement or invention," and praying an injunction. On the bill the pl