KNOXVILLE WHIG.

KNOXVILLE, TENN.:

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1860.

Two Books for Sale.—I have on hand a book of 300 pages, well bound, being a discussion of the Slavery question, between myself and Mr. Pryne, in which the latter entered into a defense of "glorious old John Brown and his boys," as he styled these Kansas murderers. This book is now of more interest in the South, than heretofore. I will send it *post paid* by mail to any one who will inclose me one DOLLAR.

I have my reply to Graves' "Iron Wheel," with an Appendix, a book of 208 pages, bound cheap in paper covers, which I will send *post paid* for 50 cents, or two copies for one dollar, paying 20 cents postage, and leaving only 50 cents for the Book. Send on your orders.

W. G. BROWNLOW.

January, 1860.

Samuel A. Smith.

Some weeks ago, I made the following statement to the public, over my own signature in the Knoxville Whig:

"In a former contract for the House printing, Wendell paid to *Saml. A. Smith* of East Tennessee, $1,500, as his part of the profits, and for services rendered in getting him the big fat job. This payment was made in whole, or in part, through the Ocoee Bank at Cleveland, through which, as a fiscal agent, Smith drew his drafts, every one of which Wendell honored. Great heavens! just to think of a member of Congress becoming a sharer of the profits in such frauds perpetrated on the National Treasury."

Mr. Smith, who was beaten for Congress in a Democratic District, for his habits of drunkenness, his profligate votes, forming every species of extravagance and corruption acted upon in the House, and for his endorsement of the corruptions and extravagance of Buchanan's Administration, has been made Commissioner of the Land Office at Washington. Seeing this statement of mine, he comes out in a card, in a defiant tone, and abounding in DELIBERATE FALSEHOODS, from beginning to ending. He can't come his game of *bluff over me*! I will expose his trickery, his demagogueism, and then I will brand—him as a LIAR, from which charge he cannot escape.

How does Mr. Smith meet this charge, in his *blustering* card, evidently written while drunk, making statements as palpably FALSE, and as susceptible of being proven FALSE, as any statement ever uttered by the "Father of lies?" He says, in two brief extracts:

"A movement has, for some time been going on in Cleveland and elsewhere in the Third Congressional district, to attack my character and official integrity through the columns of the Knoxville Whig."

"The men who instigate these charges are too cowardly to show their hand and yet have enough to attempt to destroy a man's character for political purposes."

After charging that "some one connected with the Bank, or a hanger-on who had the privilege of going behind the counter," had given the information to me, I am told by a gentleman from Cleveland, that COL. CAMPBELL, the late Cashier, and COL. MILLS, who frequently had business in the Bank, had called on Mr. Smith in person, to know if he intended any allusion to them. He promptly responded that he did not! No, and though he is "base enough" to make his insinuations, if every man in the Third Congressional District, will call on him in person, he will acquit them, one by one—for he is "too cowardly" to look any honest man in the face and charge him with such a conspiracy!

Now, if the reader please, after this man Smith had *moved the plurality rule in Congress, and called the previous question upon it, which cut off all debate, and resulted in the election of Banks to the Speakership*, it was openly charged on the streets of Washington, that a disreputable combination had been entered into between the *Banks Republicans* and *Wendell Democrats*, and it was alleged that Smith was into it! The New York *Herald* came out and made the charge of combination, and attributed Wendell's election to it, and the *Herald* is now the organ of Buchanan's Administration. The Democrats had but *seventy four members* in the House, Wendell was elected on the first ballot, and it required *more than one hundred to elect*. Hearing and seeing these things, I believed them to be true, and I believe them still. But, during the summer and fall past, I heard of a very respectable *Democratic Lawyer in this City*, saying to different persons that this man Smith had received $7,500 of the profits arising from the House Printing given to Wendell, and that this payment was made, in whole, or in part, through the Ocoee Bank, at Cleveland. This went still further to confirm me in the belief that the charge was true. I, however, with a view to satisfy myself fully, sought and obtained information, *in a way, and through a channel no one would suspect*, to the effect that *Smith had, after the election of Banks and Wendell*, DRAWN UPON THE LATTER FOR SEVEN THOUSAND DOLLARS, through this Ocoee Bank. I therefore made the charge, and I repeat it, and the record justifies me, notwithstanding Smith's denial.

Once for all, let me say, as an act of justice to others, that I neither sought or obtained information from any officer of the Bank, at Cleveland, or any "hangers on," or stockholders, in or out of that town. Nor have I obtained any information of the new owners of the Bank, or any one of the old or new officers, stockholders, or "hangers-on," in reference to *Smith's Wendell Speculations*. Nor did any living being in Bradley County ever seek, directly, or indirectly, to attack Mr. Smith through my paper, on this or any other subject. I alone made the attack, and I alone am responsible. I once thought Mr. Smith a clever man, and so spoke of him in my paper. Since his conspiracy to elect Banks and Wendell, I have regarded him as a corrupt demagogue, and I now speak of him in that light, though he has given me no personal offence.

Mr. Smith, in an evil hour for him, and either under the influence of intoxicating liquors, or a most reckless and lying disposition, *or both*, perpetrated the following paragraph, in his defense, which I will prove to be false in every particular—false by *suppression*, false by *denial*, and false by *misrepresentation*:

"I have never DRAWN BUT ONE DRAFT ON Mr. WENDELL THROUGH THE OCOEE BANK, OR ANY OTHER BANK ON PERSON. That was a draft for one thousand dollars—drawn about the last of August, 1857—was cashed by the Ocoee Bank, and the amount was paid to Wendell on the Capitol grounds. I was then a clerk of the House of Representatives, now go at any house, then in his hands. The object in drawing this draft was simply to save the risk of transmitting the money from this city to Tennessee. This draft was drawn long after the expiration of the thirty fourth Congress, for which Mr. Wendell was printer, and is the ONLY ONE EVER DRAWN on him by me for any purpose whatever."

Now, I ask the reader to turn back and read the foregoing paragraph once more, and mark the bold assertions, unqualified denials, and reckless specifications of the man, for I intend, by the testimony of the Cashier of the Bank, a high minded honorable man, to prove Mr. Smith a FOUR-FOLD LIAR! I intend to prove, beyond controversy, that the amount of his transaction with Wendell through the Ocoee Bank, was "SEVEN THOUSAND AND NINETY-SIX DOLLARS," instead of "ONE THOUSAND," as he alleges! I intend to prove that, with the exception of "TWELVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS" drawn out in favor of his brother-in-law, Frank W. Lea, the whole "SEVEN THOUSAND AND NINETY-SIX DOLLARS," coming from Wendell, went to pay Smith's numerous debts, scattered over that district, and the money was drawn out of the Bank on Smith's checks!

Here is the testimony, which convicts this loathsome swindler of willful and deliberate lying. It explains itself. Let it be read carefully, though it is long. It is full of interest, and it is an important item in my bill of indictment:

Col. S. A. Smith's Account with the Ocoee Bank.

CLEVELAND, TENN., Jan. 4, 1860.

EDITORS NASHVILLE PATRIOT.—*Dear Sirs*: Your paper of the 29th ult. contains a communication from Hon. S. A. Smith, in regard to certain charges which appeared in the Knoxville Whig against him in reference to a former contract for the House printing, in which it is alleged that he received $7,500 from Cornelius Wendell as his part of the profits, &c., and that the same was paid in whole or in part by drafts through the Ocoee Bank at this place. In the communication referred to, Col. Smith says—"I have no doubt that some one connected with the Bank, or a hanger-on who had the privilege of going behind its counter, obtained a knowledge of the fact that I (he) had drawn the draft referred to of Wendell, and used it with a view to injure me (him) both personally and politically." And further he says: "The late officers of the Bank, to preserve their own character for integrity and honorable dealing as business men, owe it to themselves to disavow any complicity with the instigation of this foul calumny, and to state the facts as they appear upon the books of the Bank."

Inasmuch as I was the Cashier of the Ocoee Bank at the time alluded to, and presumed to be more familiar than any one else with the facts, so far as the drawing of drafts is concerned, I feel directly called upon to respond to the above paragraph. In doing so, I take the occasion to say in the outset, that I know nothing of the truth or falsehood of the charge made against Col. Smith in the Knoxville Whig. I do not know whether he has received anything from Cornelius Wendell or any one else for services rendered while a member of Congress, and I utterly repel the insinuation conveyed in the language quoted above, if he refers to me, that "some one connected with the Bank" obtained a knowledge of facts, and used them to injure him both "personally and politically." I have at all times studiously avoided making statements in regard to the business of the Bank with its customers. I have given no information to my knowledge of Col. Smith's transactions with Wendell, or any one else, through the Bank—and if at any time any remark of mine has been made, or word spoken in reference to any draft of his, I do not now remember it. Although I knew that he had dealings with Wendell through the bank, I have never known what the consideration and tendency of those dealings were, and the transactions themselves made no little impression on my mind at the time they were made, that I did not inquire or even suspect their nature. In fact, I had never even heard of the charge until I saw it published in the Knoxville Whig, and if Col. Smith had seen proper to have called upon, or addressed me, before the publication of his card, he could have dispensed with his gratuitous insinuations involving myself and others who have been connected with the bank."

Since reading Col. Smith's card, and at the request of Col. Galloway, who was President of the bank during the time of the transactions, I have examined the books by permission of Mr. McMillin, the acting Cashier, and proceed to make a statement of the result.

The American Exchange Bank, New York, was at that time the correspondent of the Ocoee Bank, and received all its deposits in that city, and I find that from the 21st June, 1856, to 8th September, 1857, the business done by Col. Smith, on his own account, and by way of collections for the Ocoee Bank, amounted in the aggregate to the sum of $16,294 80, as follows:

1st—21 June,	Check through	Corning & Co.	$1,400
24—12 Aug.	"	"	1,000
24—22 "	"	Amer'n Exchange Bank	1,000
24—24 Aug.	"	Corning & Co.	1,700
24—24 Aug.	"	S. A. Smith	500
6th—21 "	"	Corning	147 80
8th—21 Feby.	"	"	400
8th—12 March	"	"	100
8th—9 June	"	"	6,000
12th—8 Sept.	"	"	1,000
			$16,294 80

The above dates are taken from the accounts rendered by the American Exchange Bank—the entries correspond with the entries here differing slightly in date, which arises from the time consumed in the transmission by mail, &c. It is necessary that I should explain the above items as they appear on the books of the bank here, as follows: The first item, $1,400, was made up in this way: A check of $400 on one of the banks in Virginia was sent him for collection, which he attended to and deposited the same with $1,000 additional in the American Exchange Bank to the credit of the Ocoee Bank. This $1,400 was placed to Mr. Smith's credit on the books here.

The second item was a draft of Frank W. Lea on Cornelius Wendell for $1,000 collected and deposited in the same way.

The third item was a draft of F. W. Lea on S. A. Smith—$1,000 same collection and deposit.

The fourth item occurred in this way, the Ocoee Bank sent to Col. Smith a package of Virginia bank notes amounting to $1,640, which he exchanged and forwarded with $100 more to the American Exchange Bank.

The 5th, 7th, and 8th items were drafts drawn by F. W. Lea—collected and disposed of as shown.

The 6th item, $148 80, was the proceeds of a land warrant sold by Smith for the bank.

The 9th item was a draft drawn on the 17th March, 1857, by S. A. Smith on Cornelius Wendell for $2,500—and the 10th item was a draft drawn by S. A. Smith on Wendell for $1,000.

It appears from the above statement and from the books of the bank that the sum of $8,694 80 were funds belonging to the Ocoee Bank and collected for their accommodation, to wit:

Check on the Virginia Bank	$ 400
Virginia Bank Notes	1,640
F. W. Lea's bill	500
Proceeds of Land Warrant	148 80
F. W. Lea's Bill	500
" " "	1,000
Total	$4,694 80

Also, the two drafts of $1,000 each drawn by F. W. Lea—one on Wendell and the other on Smith—although credited to Smith's account were likewise charged to him, and the money, I think, paid to Mr. Lea was $2,000.

Deducting the two foregoing sums from $10,294 80, and it leaves the sum of $4,600, which was passed to Mr. Smith's credit on the books of the Ocoee Bank on account of the New York or Washington transactions, subject to a further deduction of $87 50, being the discount charged by the bank on the draft for $2,500 drawn by Smith on Wendell.

It is proper to add, that Col. Smith deposited other sums to his credit in the Ocoee Bank during the time referred to, viz: $1760 on the 6th Sept., 1856; $465 on the 23d March, 1857, and other small sums, amounting in the aggregate to $808-50. So that the total amount of his credits were about the sum of seven thousand dollars, which has been paid out upon his checks.

The whole matter, therefore, stands as follows:

Col. Smith collected for the Ocoee Bank and placed the same in the American Exchange Bank the sum of	$8,694 80
He collected the F. W. Lea's drafts of $1,000 each, which were paid to Mr. Lea	2,000 00
Making in all	$10,694 80
His credit, of which appears as his own funds in the American Exchange Bank $4,600 less the discount on the draft for $2,500, ($87 50) and less also (which should have been stated before) $200, paid him for a lot of the $1,000 Wendell draft, (balance given being placed to his credit)	$4,312 50

Whether the whole amount of this sum of seven thousand and ninety-six dollars belonged to Col. S. or not, I have no means of knowing. The sum of twelve hundred and fifty dollars of it was checked out and paid to F. W. Lea, and the balance of it paid out on checks to various persons—a recapitulation of which would be of no interest to any one.

The foregoing statements are made after a careful examination of the books within the time allowed me from other pressing engagements. A more rigid examination might discover errors and inaccuracies to some extent, but I do not think they would materially vary the result. I regret extremely the necessity of appearing before the public in a matter of this sort, but I could not avoid it. I have endeavored to make my statement plain and intelligible, and I am sure that I have not been animated by a desire to do injustice to any one, or to screen from public view any incident connected with the transactions which I have been called upon to explain. My whole aim has been to give a true history of the transactions themselves, and if I have failed, it has been unintentional and the books of the bank of course will correct me. I trust that I shall not be called upon to advert to the subject again. Very respectfully,

THOS. J. CAMPBELL.

I wish to call the reader to the fact, that Mr. Smith, in admitting that he drew one draft on WENDELL for $1,000, falsely asserts, that it was "*drawn about the last of August*, 1857," whereas it was drawn on the 12th of August, 1856! In the same *lying* paragraph, he says: "This draft was drawn *long after the expiration* of the 34th Congress, to which Mr. Wendell was Printer." It was drawn, as the proof shows, the 12th of August, 1856, just after the first session of that Congress. Wendell was elected only the winter before, and that was the long session! One lie makes it necessary to tell another!—And his whole publication, from its beginning to its close, is a tissue of deliberate falsehoods, intended to shield him from the dirty and disreputable combination he had formed with Wendell!

After perusing Col. Campbell's testimony in the case, the Clarksville *Chronicle* says:

"Sam. Smith is trying to break the force of the charge that he received money from Wendell for whom he voted as a candidate for public printer. But the Cashier draws the figures and the vouchers on him which gives an ugly aspect to the affair.—Sam ought not to cut up about it though for swindling his "uncle Sam" in some shape or other, is the constant practice of his party, and there are so many in company with him that there is no end to precedents if he wants to justify himself. Wendell got the public printing on terms that enabled him to pay liberally, and as the money came out of the people's treasury no body in particular was robbed.

Mr. Smith says that the $1,000 he drew for on Wendell, was his "own money" in the hands of the 'Sergeant at arms, of the House of Representatives." This won't do, Mr. Smith—you had no money of your own in the hands of any one but Wendell. The winter previous to that, you had *to borrow money to bear your expenses to Congress!* And even now, after drawing upon Wendell for "SEVEN THOUSAND AND NINETY SIX DOLLARS," and paying off your borrowed money, and other liabilities, *as far as the amount* would go, every thing you have above ground is *mortgaged*, and mortgaged for all that your property will bring, even when sold at a fair price! You are in a position where I think you can pay out. You are Commissioner of the Land Office, with a salary of $3,000, and every chance for stealing five times that amount, if you were not a conscientious man about such financiering! Wendell will serve you, as a partner, and he is a man of consummate skill, in raising money, especially when he has access to the United States Treasury! But if you fail in all other schemes, revive your *fraudulent* Bill you have been trying to get through Congress for years, to appoint a special Board of Commissioners to pass upon certain Indian Reservations, lying within the States of Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama, and North Carolina, by which, if you pass these claims, the Government is to be swindled out of MORE THAN A MILLION OF DOLLARS! I have no doubt you will succeed, and that you have gone into the Land Office for this object alone. And I have as little doubt that you are to share as a partner in the profits!

After saying that WENDELL was elected public printer to the House, for the 34th Congress, and that he was nominated for that office in the Democratic Caucus, Mr. Smith adds this notorious falsehood:

"When the election came on, more than two months afterwards, to my astonishment every *Southern Know-Nothing or American voted with the democratic party for Wendell*. He was supported by every Tennessean in the House, of both parties."

This statement is destitute of any foundation in truth. Upon referring to the final vote for Public Printer, it will be seen that neither Messrs SNEED nor ETHERIDGE voted for WENDELL—that SEVEN other South Americans also voted against Wendell, and as many as FOUR North Americans voted against him, in all THIRTEEN! The false statement of Mr. Smith has drawn the following card from the Hon. W. H. SNEED, who, at that time, represented the Knoxville District. I find this card in the Nashville *Patriot*:

MESSRS EDITORS: Your paper received here last night, contains a card from the Hon. S. A. Smith, on the subject of the election of Public Printer for the Thirty Fourth Congress, and in reply to charges made against himself.

I have nothing to do with the charges against Mr. Smith. In the Card, however, Mr Smith states every South American, every member from Tennessee, to his "astonishment" voted for Mr. Wendell, and institutes a comparison between the plausibility for a charge against South Americans, rather than against himself, and though he states he certainly did not believe in the truth of such charge, yet I confess I do not like such comparison, though free to acquit the honorable gentleman of any intention to criminate.

Being a member of the Thirty-Fourth Congress—a South American, and from Tennessee—I have only to say in reply that every South American did not vote for Mr. Wendell. In looking over the vote, I do not believe half of them did. Every Tennessean did not vote for Mr. Wendell. The Journal shows Mr. Etheridge as voting against him, and I was absent attending upon a sick family during the entire election, and I do not remember that the subject of election of Printer was ever spoken of to me, or by me, or in any way discussed in my presence until after it was made.

The card of Mr. Smith was evidently written upon mere recollection, and hence these mistakes, as I am sure, from my favorable acquaintance with him they are.

Respectfully,

W. H. SNEED.

This is not the first time Col. SNEED has corrected Mr. Smith's false statements in reference to the organization of the House, in the 34th Congress. He did it in a public discussion in London, as the citizens will recollect, and showed from the records, that Smith was the *instrument*, in the hands of the Republicans, in electing Banks to the Speakership! He afterwards met Mr. Smith in debate, at Sweetwater, before a large crowd, and branded him with the same offence, and before his own constituents, held him up as a political free booter!

SAMUEL A. SMITH, offered the resolution to adopt the Plurality Rule, in the election of a Speaker, and moved the *Previous Question* upon it, which cut off all debate, which elected Banks, the Black Republican. All the Black Republicans voted for the Plurality Rule, and the following DEMOCRATS, as they then were, voting with them, carried the point. Clingman, Herbert, Hickman, Jewett, Kelly, SAM. A. SMITH, Barclay, Bayard, Welch and Williams—10. Mr Clark was the only American who voted for the infamous rule, and still more infamous combination!

GOV. AITKEN, a South Carolina Democrat, would have been elected Speaker over Banks, had not SEVEN BUCHANAN DEMOCRATS, as they then were, *Judged behind the bar*, with a view to the success of Banks. Those men were HICKMAN, PARKER & BARCLAY, of Pennsylvania; BURTON CRAIG, of North Carolina; MR. TAYLOR, of Louisiana; W. A. RICHARDSON, of Illinois, and JAMES L. SEWARD of Georgia! Any three of these National Administration Democrats, voting for AITKEN, would have elected him over Banks. But a part of the programme was, that the Republicans were to have the Speaker, and the Democrats the Printer. It was "a business transaction," and Mr. Smith understood it perfectly! And if Banks had not been elected Mr. Smith would never have drawn a draft on *Cornelius Wendell* through the Ocoee Bank!

It may be said by partisan Democrats that SIX AMERICANS from the North voted for Mr. FULLER, and that these votes would have elected AITKEN. So they did—but AITKEN was the candidate of the SEVEN Democrats, and not of the SIX Americans! And so I take it, Smith was not the only man who, in the summer of 1856, drew drafts upon the notorious Wendell!

A portion of the corruptions, bribery, and villainy of this Printing *imbroglio* has recently been brought to light in the United States Senate, and by SENATOR BROWN, of Mississippi, denounced as monstrous! He has held up, on the one hand, as a master villain, sharing in the profits of a corrupt printing conspiracy, BRIGADIER GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON BOWMAN, proprietor of the dirty Washington Union, and Superintendent of Public Printing, bought his paper of SECRETARY TOUCEY, who owns a Paper Mill in Connecticut, allowing him two prices for paper, and sharing with him in the profits. The other party to the *bribery*, exposed in the Senate, is the RIGHT HONORABLE CORNELIUS WENDELL, *pelgut* the financial agent of the EX-HONORABLE SAMUEL A. SMITH, and the man who honored his drafts to the tune of "SEVEN THOUSAND AND NINETY-SIX DOLLARS," through the Ocoee Bank! Brigadier Bowman, Chevalier Wendell, and Pickpocket Smith! Ye Gods! what a trio!! Unable to conceal their schemes of plunder any longer, they are now exposed on the floor of the American Senate, with a seeming unconsciousness of the utter disgracefulness of the spectacle!

In concluding his lame defense, Mr. Smith says:

"Moreover, during that Congress, as the journal will show, I voted against every proposition to print extra copies of books, which makes the printers profits, except the President's message and accompanying documents. Since the first Congress I served, I have never voted to print a single book, except the regular reports from the Departments."

The Journals show just the reverse—they show that the man voted money to pay for every extra job proposed! Col. BRANDON read these votes upon him all over the district, and lashed him until he became an object of both pity and contempt. The man is incapable of telling the truth.

The laws of the last Congress, which Brigadier Bowman devised for his and Wendell's benefit, secures the profits of the printing for even the Senate, in the House, where the printing is first directed. These laws you assisted in getting up Mr. Smith, and as the Journals show, you *voted for them!* The Senate Committee on Printing, have recently ordered the printing of the documents sent in by the President and Cabinet, thus forestalling the House completely, and blowing up this Attorney General Black—Toucey—Smith—Bowman—Wendell fraud! Since Bowman's election as printer to the Senate, he has contracted with John C. Rives for the use of his large Job Office, and Wendell regarding it as a breach of the Union sale contract, has sued out an attachment against the Constitution and Union newspaper office, claiming from Bowman THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLARS under a corrupt contract, to which Attorney General Black was in some way a party. I now look for rich disclosures, unless you, Black, Toucey, and others interested can compromise the suit! Since Senator Brown, of Mississippi, openly charged Bowman, Wendell, Black & Co., with fraud on the floor of the Senate, and threatened them with a *criminal prosecution*, the Washington States, a Democratic paper, comes out and says:

"The General Bowman is the person who shame out so grossly in certain exposures made by a Congressional investigating committee in connection with the public printing. He was quite merciless upon Wendell and all connected with him, and it now seems that he himself subsequently, as Superintendent, fell into the same temptation and made a corrupt bargain with the same man by virtue of which he holds his present position as publisher of the Administration organ at the capital."

If the Senate appoints a committee to investigate the charges against Bowman, we feel satisfied that every allegation made against him will be sustained, and that *other parties, occupying a higher position, will, perhaps, be implicated*, who were recipients of part of the "plunder, resulting from the Black-Bowman-Wendell contract. We had intended to have said much upon this subject, but we will await the action of the Senate on Mr. King's resolutions."

Mr. Smith, *you are among those "other parties,"* so is Black, and so is Secretary Toucey, whose paper mill in Connecticut, furnished the paper at the highest price paper was ever sold in Washington! I think that the whole of you put together, will have enough influence to *suppress* the investigation under "Mr. King's resolution," and I advise you to do it! But if an Oppositionist is elected Speaker these frauds will be looked into by the House, and you will be yet exposed. In the mean time, we can carry on our newspaper war, and by the time Congress adjourns I will cover you with glory and renown.

W. G. BROWNLOW.

February 7th, 1860.

Hon. John Bell.

We are pleased to record the fact, that every fire-eating and disunion paper in the country, is down upon JOHN BELL, and repudiate the idea of his being run for the Presidency—while the conservative journals, North and South, are speaking of him in most favorable terms, and many of them are holding him up as *the* man for the times. A gentleman writing to us from Missouri, concludes his letter in these words: "We are all here for our beloved BATES, but next to him, we prefer your honored statesman JOHN BELL, who, if nominated by a National Union Convention, can carry Missouri with ease."

The New Orleans *Bulletin*, of recent date says:

"There are probably few men in the country better qualified by nature, education, and experience as a statesman for the office of President of these United States than Mr. Bell.—There is nothing of the demagogue about him, and he does not say one thing and mean another. Everybody knows where to find him.

The New Orleans *Bee*, in an article favoring Mr. BELL for the Presidency, says:

"No public man of our time exhibits a more unspotted political career. There are thousands of those who rank nominally among his political opponents who would gladly see the affairs of State committed to his prudent and judicious guidance."

The Philadelphia *Enquirer*, in an able article in review of the Tennessee nomination of Mr. BELL, concludes in these words:

"The friends of the country have been almost despairing that their avowals were of any use, but when Tennessee declares that the will be true and just to the North, so long as the North is true and just to the South, we take the assertion as sufficient, and as a reliance in our great struggle with the Administration party, the extinction of which is a political necessity, and the existence of which must prove ruinous to the Confederacy. The hope of the meeting was that John Bell, of Tennessee, would prove acceptable to the Convention as a candidate for the Presidency, and on this and the points that we have named, patriotic speeches were made, the assembly concluding its session by determining to make the State Convention next month speak for Tennessee in such terms as will rebuke the sectional fanaticism that rejoices only in vain threats and empty declamations.

We hail the effort of Tennessee to take true Union ground. Kentucky is also in the right path. Pennsylvania will not be wanting in loyalty to the whole Union, and the general conservative spirit will yet be felt by all the wild politicians."

The Boston *Courier* says, in a well written article on the "Signs of the Times":

"The conservative men of the North would be willing to unite with the South, and elect some such national and tried man as John BELL of Tennessee. He rises above sectionalism, and the tricks of the demagogue."

The Baltimore *Patriot*, and other conservative journals, North and South, have spoken out in the same tone, in reference to Mr. BELL. Our candid opinion is, that he ought to be the candidate of the National Union Party, irrespective of sections, and that he *will be* their candidate. He can carry Louisiana, Missouri, and Maryland; and he can carry Tennessee and Kentucky against Douglas. If, indeed, he can't carry Tennessee against any man, no other Opposition man can do it.

Since writing the above, we have received the following letter from Anderson county, which is only in keeping with the letters we are receiving daily, from all parts of Tennessee:

CLINTON, Jan. 30, 1860.

MR. EDITOR:—In looking over the political field, we have come to the conclusion, that the National Union candidate for the Presidency, will stand the best chance of success in the coming contest. We are desirous of securing the nomination of Tennessee's most gallant and patriotic Statesman, the Hon. JOHN BELL, who stands forth to-day as a living monument of the value of political foresight, displayed, as it was, in his course and predictions relative to the Kansas Nebraska bill. He stands to-day, upon true conservative ground, where he has ever stood, alike the patriotic foe to Southern Secessionists and Northern Abolitionists. Let us unite in a move for Bell, the Union and our country.

JOHN LEDBETTER,
D. K. YOUNG,
T. J. COWART,
W. W. WALLACE,
E. S. WALLACE,
J. P. GIBSON,
L. C. HOUK.

Important Railroad Connections.

The gap on the Mississippi Central Railroad was closed up on the 30th ult., and the connection has been completed between Lynchburg and Alexandria, with a saving of over one hundred miles between this and Washington. The route from New Orleans to Canada—all by rail—through East Tennessee, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and Boston, is now complete, and it is the longest line of Railroad in the world.

Life in Turkey.

An exchange paper states that the Turkish women, are walking the streets of Constantinople without having their faces veiled, which never was known before. Our explanation of this reform is, that the American Ministers to Constantinople, of late years, have set examples there calculated to improve the habits of the Turks. Our only astonishment is, that the Turkish women wear any clothes at all, in warm weather!

Bank of East Tennessee.

Our readers are already aware that this institution has appealed from the late decision of the Chancellor against it, to the Supreme Court, which convenes here in September next. There is no doubt but that tribunal will sustain the complainants, and confirm the decision of the Court below, against the Bank, but by the appeal, they will gain *delay*, which was the real object had in view when the appeal was taken, so far as the Bank and its officers were concerned.

We will still receive and file in the suit, the issues sent to us from this until September, upon the terms we have taken all others, and for months past, advertised in the *Whig*. Where persons have small sums, and prefer it, we will take them for subscriptions, at 25 cents on the dollar, though we prefer other money.

We have the money of between four and five hundred persons in this suit now, and in most cases small sums, owned by poor men and laborers, and widows. These are hard cases, and to seek to deprive the parties of their money, is only in keeping with the original programme of the Bank! We subjoin the following letter as one of many we have on file, and are now daily receiving:

TALBOTT'S MILLS, TENN., Feb. 6, 1860.

MR. BROWNLOW: Inclosed you will find $18 of the issues of the Bank of East Tennessee, which I wish you to file in your suit, upon the conditions that others have their's filed. I worked hard for it, by days' work, and have kept it thinking that the Trustees would make some arrangement to redeem it; but since I have seen your exposition of their frauds and mismanagement, I conclude that I will never get anything for it, unless I can get it through your suit. I am, very truly,

Those who hold these issues yet, and expect the Trustees to redeem them, will be the most sadly disappointed men in the world. And if they hold them until the Trustees, or the owners of the Bank, make a showing of their condition, they will hold them until the day of judgment. The whole study of the concern is to avoid the redemption of their issues, or the showing up of the assets of the Bank. And now that the suit has gone against them, their efforts will be to take care of themselves, and place their effects beyond the reach of the law.

The Southern Convention.

The *extreme* Southern men, generally *Loco*focos, most of whom, by the by, are Disunionists, have agreed upon a Southern Convention, to be held at Atlanta, about the middle of next month. They say it is to be held in view of the late invasion of Virginia! We can't see any sort of necessity for any such Convention. Old Brown invaded Virginia, and for the offence he and his confederates were hung. The laws were promptly executed, and they were just suited to such cases, as they are in all the Southern States. If any more John Brown's should wake up, and come to judgment, the people are prepared to *judge of and concerning them, according to law!*

If the people of the South will, irrespective of parties, call a Convention, to take into consideration the subject of *manufacturing* extensively in the South, and the propriety of *direct trade* with England and France, so as to make ourselves independent of the Abolition imposters, and wholesale dealers of the North, we will go into that in good faith. But we will join no traitors to the Union, in their wicked and unholy attempts to get up a Southern Confederacy!

Meeting in Heaven.

Increase of Population.

On Monday morning, Mr. Smiley, a quiet and clever citizen, upon opening the front door just at daylight, found a *boy child* in a basket, handsomely done up in a drab shawl, and other necessary clothing. It was supposed to be about four or five days old. We have believed, for some time, that there was too much excess of *piety* in this town, but we were not expecting to see it work itself off in *baskets*, after this fashion! We are after the guilty parties with a sharp stick, and expect to be able to ferrit them out in due time. The community look to us to ferrit out such operations as this, and we are bound to do it!

☞ Charles Blair, of Connecticut, who manufactured John Brown's *Pikes*, testified before the Harper's Ferry Committee, at Washington, that he was a member of the National Democratic Party!

Clarksville Bank Robbery!

The Branch Bank of Tennessee at Clarksville, has been robbed of $18,000—14,000 of this was in gold, and 4,000 in notes. The burglars entered the door of the Bank, and of the vault, it is supposed, by picking the locks. The locks were either not very reliable, or the parties must have been somewhat familiar with them. The parties are no doubt *Democrats*, as they selected *hard money*, as a "*constitutional currency*."

☞ The proceedings of various County meetings have reached us too late for this week's Whig. They shall appear next week. They all breathe the true spirit, and we shall publish them with pleasure.

The Speaker's Election.

Gov. PENNINGTON, of New Jersey, an old Clay Whig, has been elected Speaker, after a struggle of two months, by the vote. He received 118, whereas 117 were necessary to a choice. But one South American voted for Pennington, and he was H. Winter Davis, of Maryland, and as many as a dozen Anti Lecompton Democrats went into his support, which secured his election. The Democrats are to blame for bringing out themselves they did, Mr. MCCLERNAND, of Illinois, a *Squatter Sovereignty Douglas Democrat*. Pennington is a better man than McClernand, but scarcely as well qualified. Mr. KEITT, of South Carolina, made the declaration on the floor of the House, in the hearing of Pennington, who assented to its truth—that he [Pennington] was in favor of the Fugitive Slave Law, and of its enforcement, and of taking slavery into all those portions of Territory that are adapted to slave labor. He was also utterly opposed to the *Helper Book*, and therefore much was gained to the South by his election, and the defeat of Sherman! On the other hand, Messrs. Clark, Cobb, Barksdale, Moore, Davis, of Mississippi, all *Democrats*, stated that they repudiated McClernand's *Squatter Sovereignty*, and voted for him as a choice of evils. We will give the final ballot. Whole number, 233; necessary to a choice, 117. Pennington, 118; McClernand, 85; Gilmer, 16; Smith, 4; scattering, 11.

Mr. SMITH, of North Carolina, an old Whig, a true man, and a man of ability, in a previous ballot, came within two votes of being elected. Indeed he was elected, every American voting for him, and several Republicans, but enough of the Republicans, *Morris, Nixon*, Sherman, Julian, and Wood, withdrew and changed to other men, defeating Smith by *two votes*. Smith would still have been the Speaker, but for the fact that *four* Democrats refused to vote for him, *Allen*, of Ohio, *Hoskins*, of Indiana, *Adrain*, of New Jersey, and *Davis*, of Indiana!

In like manner, the Democrats of the House, could have elected Mr. GILMER at any time, an able man, a true man, and one who owns more slaves than any of them, but they refused to do it, and the result is, that the Republicans have elected the Speaker. To relieve the Democracy of the responsibility of what they have done, their organs, South, will now lie and howl, as if the very Devil were after them. The people of the South, however, will be made familiar with all the facts—the records will show.

PENNINGTON is really more acceptable to Southern Democrats, if they would speak out honestly as KEITT has done, than MCCLERNAND, who is a *Squatter Sovereignty—Anti-Fugitive-Slave-Law Douglas Democrat*. The real trouble with Democracy is, that PENNINGTON is a stern, honest, old Clay Whig, who will form his committees, when called upon, with a view to ferrit out and expose the vile frauds, and wholesale plunder of this corrupt and infamous administration. Out with their rascality we say, and so say the people!

Messrs. BOCOCK and SHERMAN having conducted Gov. PENNINGTON to the Chair, he spoke as follows:

Pennington's Speech.

Gentlemen of the House of Representatives: I return you my grateful acknowledgment for the distinguished honor you have been pleased to confer upon me in electing me Speaker of this House. Coming here for the first time at the present session, to be associated with you as a member, no event could have been so unlooked for, than that I should be called upon to preside over your deliberations, and my friends will do the justice to say that I have not sought the position, as I certainly never desired it. I am nevertheless as conscious of the dignity and importance of this high office as any gentleman can be, but should have been better pleased, could its duty have been entrusted to abler and more experienced hands. After witnessing the almost insurmountable obstacles in the way of an organization of this House, I came to the conclusion, that any gentleman of any party, who could command a majority of the votes for Speaker, was bound in deference to public exigencies, to accept the responsibility, as an act of patriotic duty, whether agreeable to his personal feelings or not. As that choice has unexpectedly fallen on me, I have not hesitated to accept it. In the execution of this high trust, my object will be to be my duty with impartiality and justice to all. I shall have great necessity, gentlemen, for your indulgence in the new position in which I am placed, and I feel entire confidence that I shall receive it at your hands. A Representative from the State of New Jersey, upon whose soil so many brilliant achievements were accomplished in the Revolutionary war, and whose people have ever been distinguished for their devotion to the Union and Constitution, I pray to the great Arbiter of our destinies that I may do no act to impair the integrity of either, but that by wise counsel, peace and order may reign in our midst, and our free institutions be perpetuated to our descendants.

I feel that I have a national heart, embracing all parts of our glorious Union. Again thanking you for your kindness, I now enter upon the duties of that arduous and complicated station.

Mr. Phelps, being the oldest consecutive member administered the oath to the Speaker by request of the Clerk.

The "K. G. C's"

These caballistic letters, have been going the rounds of the newspapers for more than a year, and have excited no little wonder in the public mind. They mean nothing more or less than the "KNIGHTS OF THE GOLDEN CROSS," an extensive organization in the United States, that looks to the subjugation of Mexico. Gen. BUCKLEY is at the head of the expedition, well supplied with money, arms, and men, and has the countenance of the Government. A sensible man will see from the President's Message that he is not argue to this Expedition, as he favors an interference with the affairs of Mexico. We have known of the organization for more than a year. It has been well managed.

At least ten thousand men are now on their way there. The New York correspondent of the Charleston Mercury writes:

The "K. G. C's" have positively started on their expedition to Mexico. About 500 men have left this city by land and water, for New Orleans, and equal or larger numbers from Baltimore and Philadelphia. All the leading Southern cities have contributed their quota of gallant fellows. If any gentlemen of a filibustering turn have left Charleston lately, you may be sure they are off with Gen. Walker and the "K. G. C's." The present movement is only the advance guard. More than 50,000 men are enrolled as members throughout the country, and at least half of them are ready to travel as fast as they can be taken to their designated destination. The teleg