whole spirit of the instrument? Why not rather seek for the old paths, and walk in them, that we may have peace and rest and quiet, and that union and harmony may prevail throughout the length and breadth of the land?

Having, as briefly as I could, considered the question of the constitutional power of Congress to pass this resolution, and as concisely as possible suggested the reasons which have led me to the conclusion that no such power is to be found in the Constitution, I proceed to advert very summarily to the remaining objection to the resolution, viz:

III. If there be a power conferred by the Constitution to admit Texas into the Union, in the form of a treaty or of an act or resolve of Congress, it is unwise and dangerous to exercise it.

We do not require Texas as a place for our people to occupy, or its soil for our farmers or planters to till. We have now a vast, rich, and fertile territory within the limits of the the United States yet unoccupied. Millions and millions of acres of the public lands in different States remain unsold, inviting the hand of labor to till it, where the climate is healthy and the price of the lands is low. We do not require the addition of the territory of Texas to enable our agriculturists to find land to cultivate; we have enough and more than enough to supply their wants and those of their children's children for years to come; and why should we be so anxious to annex more territory to our already almost boundless domain? The wants of our present and rapidly increasing population do not demand it.

But if a necessity is imposed upon us to make additions to our immense possessions in order that farmers and laborers may find employment, is it expedient for us to obtain *Texas* for such a purpose? What is now the condition of its public domain? We have heretofore understood from high authority that most, if not all, of the good lands of Texas have been patented or granted by the different authorities which from time to time have had the control of them? It is probable that the whole of Texas proper which is of any value has been made the subject of a grant, and, if so, of what benefit would the annexation of that country be to those who wished to purchase good lands at a reasonable price? Their Government has not kept, it has been said, any complete record of grants and alienations which have been made, and every thing connected with the subject is doubtful and uncertain. Should Texas be annexed, we do not know, nor have we the means of knowing from her archives, what portion of her lands is under governmental control, while the probabilities are many and strong that every acre which is worth any thing is in the hands of patentees or grantees.

If, however, there be land there unsold and of value, is it not all virtually under mortgage, and for an amount uncertain and indefinite? The records of Texas are in this particular also lamentably deficient. The amount of her public debt is unknown to herself and more so to us. A part of the territory claimed to be within her limits is in the possession of Indians and another part in the possession of Mexico; so that by the acquisition of Texas we obtain a territory of whose extent we are ignorant—covered with patents and grants, under a mortgage the amount of which is unknown—the title in dispute, and to be obtained, if at all, by a war with another Power. Surely if there be no necessity there can be no wisdom in purchasing such a domain. But it is has been said that the resolution does not provide for the cession of the public lands of Texas to the United States or for the payment of her debts by this Government. On the contrary, that it is one of the conditions of annexation that Texas shall retain all the vacant and unappropriated lands within its limits, to be applied first to the payment of its debts and liabilities, and that in no event are the latter to become a charge upon the Government of the United States. All this appears very well on paper; but what will the other nations of the earth say to us, who incorporate Texas into the Union, and receive from her all her public edifices, fortifications, barracks, ports and harbors, navy and navy yards, docks, magazines, arms, armaments, and all other property and means pertaining to the public defence belonging to her, and deprive her of the power of imposing duties on imports, the highest and best, perhaps the only security for her public creditors—what will they say to us if we refuse to pay her debts, if we take from her the means of payment and yet decline to provide for her lawful engagements? Did not her creditors rely upon her power and disposition to levy duties to pay their honest and just debts, and do we not propose voluntarily to deprive them of this resource? And if we do this, do not honor and justice and moral honesty demand that we should give them an equivalent for it? And, if we refuse, shall we not be regarded as a nation eager to obtain possession of a foreign country, and leaving her creditors deprived of the resources on which they justly relied to discharge their demands? Are we prepared to encounter public obloquy for the purpose of acquiring territory which has been already granted to others, subject to a mortgage of unknown amount, incumbered with liens indefinite in number and amount, and the possession of which we cannot obtain without a protracted and bloody contest?

My friend, the Senator from Pennsylvania, who has occupied a seat next to me for some time, (although, I fear, if rumors shall prove to be true, I shall soon be deprived of the pleasure of having him for a neighbor,) said that he should have preferred that the resolution should have been so drawn as to subject the public domain of Texas to the control of the Government of the United States, and her Indian relations also; but he added that when she was admitted these matters could be arranged by mutual consent between the United States and Texas, and the details be satisfactorily settled by friendly arrangement. I hope my friend from Tennessee (Mr. Foster) heard this declaration; for I recollect that a few weeks ago, upon the introduction by him of a joint resolution nearly identical with the one now under discussion, he said, or I understood him to say, that he would not vote for the admission of Texas without a guaranty that no part of her debt should be paid by the United States, and that this was with him a *sine qua non*. Did he hear the doctrine advanced by the Senator from Pennsylvania, that Texas and the United States might hereafter agree to modify the provision as to the public lands? That it was, in this respect at least, a public act which might be varied in its terms by mutual consent—repealed or changed by the assent of both parties, and thus the public domain of Texas be subject to the action of Congress? Does not the Senator perceive that if by such consent Texas might cede her public lands to the United States, she might also by an arrangement with the United States have her debts paid, or become a charge upon this Government? And what would then become of the condition or guaranty indispensable, in his view, to the proposed annexation, viz. that the United States should never be made responsible for the debts of Texas? Gone, annihilated, vanished. And how can he vote for a resolution which will not give the security which he deems essential? If, however, the territory should be first acquired *by treaty*, no act of legislation can vary the terms. The sure guaranty which he demands would be found in the requisite vote of two-thirds of the Senate to change a fundamental article in the treaty of annexation. And, by insisting upon the exercise of the treaty power, in the first instance, to acquire the territory, he would obtain what might be considered a perfect security for the object he wished to accomplish, viz. entire exemption from any liability on the part of the United States to pay the debts of Texas. The Senator from Pennsylvania reminds me that he did not refer, in his remarks, to any future arrangement for the payment of the debts of Texas, but to one regarding her public lands and her Indian relations. Certainly he did not speak of any such arrangement as to her debts; but, if the argument be a sound one, that after her admission into the Union she may agree with this Government to surrender her public lands, and we can lawfully enter into such an arrangement, we can also, with her assent, (which she will not probably be disinclined to give,) assume her debts.

We do not require Texas from any well-founded apprehension that it will become dependant upon, or an ally, or under the control of Great Britain or any other Power. This point was very fully considered at the last session, in the debate on the Texas treaty; and it was most conclusively shown that there was not the slightest cause for alarm; that anonymous letters and opinions of interested men in Texas were not to be considered as entitled to weight in opposition to the clear and explicit disavowal of the British Government, repeatedly made, furnishing the highest evidence that there was no foundation for the jealousies and apprehensions which had been entertained of her designs upon Texas. Since that time nothing has transpired to vary the then existing state of things in this particular. Texas, if not annexed, will remain an independent nation, with all the rights and privileges of such a nation, under no human control except that which is exerted by her own Constitution and laws.

The annexation of Texas, as contemplated by this resolution, will be a violation of our treaty and amicable relations with Mexico. This topic also was examined and discussed at the last session, and I shall not now dwell upon it. All that can be said upon it was then said by many Senators who took part in that debate.

It is inexpedient to pass this resolution, because it is possible, if not very probable, that it will lead to hostilities with Mexico, if it be not itself considered by her a declaration of war. We have heretofore been advised by that Government that she should so consider it—at least if annexation should in fact follow from the passage of the resolution. No one has more confidence than I have in the valor and courage and power of this nation successfully to prosecute a just war. But it should be a just one, an honorable one, and thus should command the confidence of the people. Would a war with Mexico under existing circumstances, produced by the annexation to the United States of what she claims to be a part of her territory, be *such a war?* If, however, it should be deemed a war just on our part to repel the hostilities of Mexico, are Senators aware of the consequences which would result from it to the property, if not the persons, of our citizens? Do they know the state of feeling which exists in the public mind, especially among our merchants and men of business generally on this subject? I have received communications from commercial men who are not politicians, but who are engaged in their business employments, who desire to know whether it be safe for them to continue their business operations, and especially whether it be prudent to send their ships on long voyages, purchased and fitted at great expense; and whether there is danger that their prospects and property are to be sacrificed for the purpose of obtaining jurisdiction over Texas? The vote which will be given by this body within a few days will decide and answer these questions. Mexico is weak and poor, but she is proud, and the privateers of all nations which would sail under her flag would greatly injure and annoy our commerce and capture and destroy immense amounts of property afloat on the ocean belonging to our citizens. We ought to pause and consider before we adopt a measure which may and probably will be fraught with such deep and lasting injury to American citizens.

This resolution ought not to pass, because it will tend to create throughout the various sections of our country strong fears that the constitutional securities of the rights and privileges of the States will not be preserved. The value of our bond of Union is incalculable. Why should we run the hazard of weakening it by the shock it will receive from the adoption of the resolution? What necessity is there for adding to the existing materials of discord another so well calculated to weaken confidence, to produce irritation, and to disturb the peace of the Union? Is it not far better to be contented with our present almost illimitable territory, instead of exerting a new and at least doubtful power of adding a foreign Government to the Union? Would it not be the part of wisdom to follow the precedent set by our patriotic ancestors, and cherish the Union *as it is*, rather than add a foreign nation to it, and thus be instrumental in originating and consummating a measure calculated to alienate the affections of the citizens of different portions of our country from each other?

There is one other objection to this resolution to which I shall advert, and upon which I shall not long detain the Senate. I mean the objection which arises from the claim insisted on by those who first started this project of annexation, that it is necessary for the maintenance of the peculiar institutions of the South as well as those of Texas: in other words, Texas is to be annexed to the Union to perpetuate slavery in the United States and in Texas, and this, it has been urged elsewhere, is an object which the slave States have a constitutional right to insist shall be accomplished, if necessary, by the annexation of Texas. There is no portion of the people of this country more devoted to the Constitution, more patriotic, more determined to abide by and enforce all the guaranties of that instrument than the people of the free States. It was the result of compromise. It was framed in a spirit of conciliation. New England will adhere to all its provisions; will aid in sustaining all the rights of all the States which are secured by it; will abide by all its stipulations. But she will not consent to introduce new provisions to secure the objects named; she will not advocate the exercise of new and dangerous powers to promote them. No principle of honor, patriotism, or public expediency demands this at her hands. She will abide by the compromises of the Constitution; she will keep within the limits which they prescribe, and beyond them she will not advance. My friend from Kentucky, (Mr. Morehead,) who opened this debate, touched this topic in a style and temper deserving all commendation. He said that it was wise to leave the guaranties of the Constitution just as they were, without attempting to increase or diminish them; that it was best to confine ourselves to the existing provisions of the Constitution rather than add new ones; that we had thus far been prosperous, and were making rapid advances in strength, greatness, and glory. I cannot but indulge the hope that we shall preserve the existing balances and checks of the Constitution, discharge all the obligations which it imposes upon us, and then all will be well.

My friend from Pennsylvania (Mr. Buchanan) said that he was pleased with this joint resolution because it proposed *immediate annexation* so far as it is practicable, which will quiet public excitement and fulfil the wishes of the people as expressed in the late Presidential election. I do not agree with the Senator that the result of the late election is expressive of the opinion of a majority of the people of the United States that Texas should be admitted into the Union. It is notorious that in many parts of the country the question of annexation was wholly and designedly kept out of view, while in other portions very many, and among them distinguished men, voted for Mr. Polk because he was the nominee of the party, but under a *protest* as to this matter of annexation, and with an armed determination to aid in the election of members of Congress who would vote against it. The vote of the State of New York, which elected the President who is soon to be inaugurated, was the vote of a *plurality*, and it is believed that a majority of her electors were then opposed to annexation. The election decided nothing as to the question of the policy of admitting Texas. As to the existing excitement I ask who is responsible for it? Who is justly chargeable with exciting the public mind upon this question? Previous and for some time subsequent to the coming in of the expiring Administration, the people of the United States had not dreamed of annexation. The public mind was tranquil. But that Administration, for purposes which they avowed, and possibly from motives which they did not avow, got up this scheme of annexation—were the sole authors of the excitement, were alone responsible for that which now is sought to be allayed by immediate annexation. Ought the Senate to vote for this measure to quiet the public mind which has been excited by others and not by them?

The Senator said, also, he was pleased with this resolution because it settled the question of slavery. And how does it settle that question? Why, by adopting the Missouri compromise line of 36° 30′. Will, however, this resolution settle that question? How very small a portion of Texas is north of this line; but, if it were ever so large, no free State can be formed there without the consent of the State of Texas. The resolution provides that new States, not exceeding four in number, in addition to the State of Texas, may, *by the consent of said State*, be formed out of the territory belonging to the Republic of Texas. The State of Texas which is to be admitted into the Union has entire control over the whole subject, and it needs not the gift of prophecy to foresee that no free State will ever be formed out of any portion of the territory with her consent, and without it, no State, whether free or slave, can be erected or formed within the limits of the present Republic of Texas. This resolution cannot, therefore, settle finally the question of slavery. Besides, if the Legislature who pass the resolution for admission can subsequently, with the consent of Texas, alter the stipulations contained in it, (as it has been urged may be done in regard to her public lands,) the entire question of slavery is left open, subject to be modified according to an agreement hereafter to be made between the United States and Texas.

My friend from Pennsylvania was pleased with this resolution, because it refers the question of annexation directly to the *People* and not to the *Government* of Texas. It seems to me that by this resolution *the people* have not the control of this matter. They cannot act upon the question of annexation without the consent of the existing Government; they cannot accede or disagree to our proposals, except by a convention assembled by the order and with the license of the Government: so that, after all, the question is left first to the decision of the Government, and, if they refuse to act, the people are deprived of the power of action.

The Senator liked the resolution for another reason. It raised and settled the broad question whether the power of Congress to admit new States extends to the admission of a foreign independent State. It does *raise* that question, but does it *settle* it? Does the passage of this resolution dispose of that question? Has not the next Congress something to say upon it, and something also to decide? Does the resolution admit Texas? Are not the proceedings of her Convention to be submitted to Congress for their final action? Nothing can be more clear, and therefore the whole matter is open to await the further and final action of the Congress of the United States.

The Senator was pleased with the resolution, because it would prove to be a bond of perpetual peace between the United States and the manufacturing nations of the Old World, and particularly Great Britain. This it would effect, because, if Texas should be annexed to the Union, Great Britain would be dependant *on us* for the cotton she would consume—a staple almost indispensable to her very being as a nation, and thus there would be a permanent bond of peace. I do not perceive how the dependence of Great Britain upon the United States for the supply of cotton for her manufacturing establishments will strengthen the relations of peace between us. She will purchase this article where she can obtain it on the most advantageous terms. She will give Texas the market price for it, and no more, whether she be an independent State or a State of the Union. It is possible she might obtain it even on better terms if Texas was not annexed to the United States. The price, however, does not depend upon annexation, but upon the demand and supply. She takes from us now what she wants, and she will take no more, whatever may become of Texas. The relations of amity between us and her do not depend upon the quantity of cotton which may be grown or its price.

It has been urged that the annexation of Texas will promote and extend our manufacturing interests. She will then become the purchaser and consumer of the products of our labor. But if she remain independent she will supply herself from the workshops of Great Britain. This does not seem to me to be a necessary consequence. If Texas remains as she is Great Britain will doubtless use every effort to introduce her manufactures there, but Texas must impose duties on them to enable her to defray the expenses of her Government. It cannot be that she will admit them free of duty. And if she can be supplied by the United States on as favorable or better terms than by Great Britain, we shall have the preference. She will buy of those who will sell the cheapest. Her annexation to the United States will not greatly extend the market for our manufactures, at least for some time to come. At present her population is small and her wants but few. She consumes little. The increase of her numbers will be from the United States or from foreigners, who, if she were independent, would settle here, and thus we shall merely supply in *Texas* those we should have supplied in the *United States*. The aggregate amount of manufactures purchased by Texas would be nearly the same whether she be in or out of the Union. The consumption would not be much increased by her admission as a State, and the supply would be furnished by us to the same people, either as our citizens or as the citizens of a foreign Government. Neither would our navigating interest be promoted by annexation; certainly not for many years. The facilities for commercial intercourse between us and Texas, by water, are not great: it would require but few vessels, and those small ones, to be the carriers of all the productions which would be sent to and from it; and, whether annexed or not, as we could and should carry cheaper and more expeditiously than any of our rivals, we should secure all the benefits which the navigating interest of any country could derive from commercial intercourse with her.

My friend from Pennsylvania thinks that the annexation of Texas will strengthen the Union; that the frontier States—those on the outer border of the Confederacy—have been, and always will be, the most loyal of any of the States to the Government and the Union. Of course I suppose the more remote our frontier is from the centre, the stronger will be our Union; and for such a purpose would it not be best that it should extend to Cape Horn? Are we to go on, spreading our free institutions on all sides, until we become an ocean-bound Republic? Are we to have no neighbors but Republics? Will not our thirst for acquisition be allayed without embracing within the Union the whole of the western continent? Would it not be wise to listen to the voice of the patriots and statesmen of other days, who warned their countrymen of the dangers attendant upon a great extension of their limits? Shall their admonitions be lost upon us? Shall we assume to be wiser than the generations who have preceded us? Had we not better check our ardor for acquisition, and let "well enough alone?" The voice of the fathers of the Republic still speaks to us in the records which they have left for our perusal. It is the voice of kindness, of patriotism, and of wisdom. Let us listen to it, let us give heed to it, let us profit by it.

I have now, Mr. President, discharged what I considered to be an imperious duty, both as an American Senator and as representing a State which has given me this place of honor and responsibility. It has been my design to explain the grounds of my honest and conscientious opposition to this measure of annexation, and to set forth the reasons why I think it both unconstitutional and inexpedient. The voice of my own beloved Commonwealth, to which I always listen with respect, has reached me. Her Legislature has expressed the sentiments of her people on this momentous subject. At its session in May last it passed the following resolutions:

"*Resolved*, That the power to unite an independent foreign State with the United States is not among the powers delegated to the General Government by the Constitution of the United States, and that the treaty recently concluded by the President of the United States for the annexation of Texas, assuming the payment of its debts, its war with Mexico, and its treaties with foreign Powers, is a dangerous and alarming stretch of Executive power.

"*Resolved*, That the Government of the United States, pure and irreproachable in its relations with foreign nations, has ever observed, with unbending integrity, the faith of treaties; and that national reputation and honor, as well as the dictates of sound morality, require a rigid adherence to these principles; and that the annexation of Texas to this Union would be a violation of our treaty stipulations with Mexico, and a virtual declaration of war against that Power.

"*Resolved*, That the State of Connecticut, faithful to the Constitution of the United States, and mindful of its concessions, can never consent to annex a foreign nation to the Union; and especially will it never consent to stipulate for its admission with the privilege of a slave representation, or become a party to its voluntary institution of slavery."

In the sentiments thus expressed I fully concur. I have endeavored to enforce them. The decision of the Senate, which is soon to be pronounced, will present the momentous issues which will grow out of this proposition to annex a foreign Government to the Union of these States. I hope the Senate will be directed to a wise and just decision. I have been educated from my youth in that school which has maintained the supremacy of the Constitution and the laws; which has deemed the firm unwavering support of the provisions of that instrument and the Union of the States to be essential to national happiness and prosperity. With a strict adherence to the spirit of the Constitution; a wise and honest Executive Administration; an intelligent and patriotic Legislature; a learned, firm, independent Judiciary, and an enlightened and moral people, with the blessing of Providence, all will be well with us. But if the checks, and balances, and guaranties of the Constitution be sacrificed; if form be substituted for substance; if a new and dangerous exercise of powers which a literal interpretation of the Constitution does not demand nor its spirit justify, be indulged, dissensions, and jealousies, and heart-burnings will arise and increase; the bonds of our Union will be weakened; the integrity of the Confederacy be endangered, and the prosperity and increasing greatness of the nation will be impeded, if not destroyed. From such a calamity may He who holds in his hand all the nations of the earth save us!

IN SENATE—Friday, March 14.

On motion of Mr. Woodbridge, it was

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be directed to report to the Senate, at the commencement of the next session of Congress, whether any, and if any what, further works are necessary or expedient for the enlargement and strengthening of the fortifications at the outlet of Lake Huron, called Fort Gratiot; together with an estimate of the expenses of such additional works as may be recommended.

After which the Senate went into the consideration of Executive business.

FROM LATE LONDON PAPERS.

The Mormonites.—This singular sect of American fanatics have installed themselves in Theobald's-road, where, yesterday evening, "Elder E. H. Davis," styling himself companion and intimate friend of the late martyr Joseph Smith, delivered the first of a course of lectures on their particular views and opinions. The audience was numerous and of a respectable class, many of whom were provided with the peculiar prayer-books of the sect. The preacher took his text from Matthew, 20th chapter and 14th verse, from which he argued that the promises of Scripture had not been fulfilled until these, the latter days: to this church, however, had now been restored the gifts of tongues, prophecy, healing, and inspiration, and was in possession of apostles, prophets, evangelists, and pastors, the same as in the days of old. The preacher strongly urged upon his audience the claims of adult baptism as a sign of their admission into the Latter-day church.

Dryburgh Abbey, where the body of Sir Walter Scott lies buried, is the property of the Earl of Buchan. Over the large gate, at the entrance to the abbey grounds, is a board on which is painted, in large letters, placed there in all seriousness by order of the Countess of Buchan: "Slaveholders from America not admitted."—*Scotsman.*

M. Dethuin, a notary at Mons, has given an example of justice and disinterestedness which does him honor, and is worthy of imitation. A lady, lately dead, left him the whole of her property, estimated at 50,000fr.; but M. Dethuin has renounced the legacy in favor of the lady's brother.

From a Parliamentary return we find that the nett produce of the revenue of Scotland, for the year ending 5th January, 1844, was £5,145,563; whereas in the previous year it was only £4,675,943—showing an increase on last year of £469,620.—*Scotsman.*

Education among the poorer classes appears, from a recent statistical account, to be making great progress in Lombardy. More than 350,000 children of both sexes are now receiving instruction there in the primary schools.

Amsterdam, Jan. 15.—According to the N. Rotterdamsche Courant, letters have been received overland from Batavia, informing the directors of the Dutch Commercial Company that the coffee crops had failed to a considerable extent.

It appears by official documents, recently published, that the number of births during the period between 1816 and 1844, exceeded that of the deaths by 13,450.

One of the most distinguished veterinary surgeons of Zealand has sent an interesting communication respecting the cattle disease to the Middelburgsche Courant. After tracing the origin of this terrible complaint to Asia, the writer states that it caused frightful ravages in the country from 1713 to 1719; from 1741 to 1756, and from 1768 to 1786: that in the province of Holland alone 160,220 horned cattle perished from April 1, 1769, to March 31, 1770; that 100,000 died in Friesland, and that in 1776 there was scarcely any live cattle in the whole country. In the 18th century the disease was carried from this country into England.

Cast-Iron.—Amongst the multiplied uses to which cast-iron is now applied, superseding wood and stone, is that of monuments for the dead; and perhaps this is the most enduring form in which respect and kindred affection can raise their memorials above the loved ones of the earth. A mausoleum of this description, the tomb, pedestal, urn, all of cast-iron, has just been placed in Hornchurch churchyard, over the remains of the late Mr. Thomas Wedlake, who, considering the credit which he won, and the benefits which he conferred upon the country by his ability in the scientific and useful application of this material whilst living, has most appropriately, in accordance with his own wish, his respected name perpetuated by it when dead. The design is classical and exceedingly chaste, and the whole was cast in Mrs. Wedlake's foundry, under the superintendence of Mr. Elliott, her manager, who was a pupil of Messrs. Maudslay & Co. of Lambeth; and certainly the execution of the work does the highest credit to his taste and care. The inscription, which is also cast in the iron, is as follows: "Mr. Thomas Wedlake, of Fairkytes, in this parish, died September 7, 1843, aged 63. Lived beloved. Died lamented." The whole is enclosed in a handsome iron railing; and whilst the monument, from the novelty of its material, induces all to notice, its elegant appearance compels them to admire. This is, we understand, the second tomb of the kind executed in the kingdom; but it is probable that cast-iron, from its exceeding durability, may be more generally used in memorials to those whose names "friendship and love would wrest e'en from the grave."—*Chelmsford Chronicle.*

Carlsruhe, January 13.—M. de Jagemann, Ministerial Councillor, has presented to the Chamber a project of law, tending to introduce the Pennsylvania system in the great prison at Brucheal. M. Regenauer has presented another project of law, tending to open to the Government a credit of thirteen millions of florins, in order to complete the railroads; the Wurtemburg line and the second railroad are not included.

[*Manheim Journal.*

WASHINGTON.

"Liberty and Union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 1845.

The Senate on Monday last confirmed the nomination of George Bancroft, of Massachusetts, to be Secretary of the Navy, and thus the new Cabinet is complete.

On Wednesday, the nomination of Colonel Armstrong, of Tennessee, to be Consul of the United States at Liverpool, was confirmed, and also some others of less consequence.

On Thursday the Senate was in session some two hours, during which it confirmed a number of nominations, which had been sent in by the President of the United States on the day previous. Among them we hear of those of Alexander H. Everett as Commissioner to China; William H. Polk as Chargé to Naples; and Mr. Jewett, of Maine, as Chargé to Peru, in the place of Mr. Bryan. Among the other appointments confirmed, we also learn was that of Elijah F. Purdy as Surveyor of the port of New York, and of Benjamin F. Butler as United States District Attorney for the southern district of the State of New York.

On Friday most of the day, it is understood, was occupied in the discussion of a Treaty, (said to be the Zoll-Verein.) Several minor nominations were acted upon, being those which had been sent in the previous day. The only foreign appointment among the number, was that of Benjamin G. Shields, of Alabama, to be Chargé to Venezuela, in the place of Vespasian Ellis, which was confirmed.

It is supposed that the Senate will be ready to adjourn early in the coming week.

The Richmond Enquirer states that Mr. Calhoun was offered the mission to England, but he declined it.

The New York News states that Mr. Silas Wright was offered the Treasury Department, which he declined; and that Mr. B. F. Butler was offered the War Department, which he declined. Mr. B. has, however, received an appointment probably much more acceptable to him, in which he will succeed Mr. Ogden Hoffman, as worthy a gentleman as lives.

We learn from "the Constitution" that Mr. Calhoun, accompanied by his family, left Washington on Wednesday morning for his residence in South Carolina.

Captain Newton.—We mentioned, on Monday last, the remission of sentence awarded to Captain Newton, late of the Missouri, by President Tyler. The following notification from the Department sets forth the views by which the President was governed in his action:

Navy Department, March 3, 1845.

Sir: The President of the United States has this day been pleased to remit the unexpired portion of the term of your suspension, to which you were sentenced by a General Naval Court Martial in October last.

The following is a copy of the endorsement by the President on the record in your case:

"An important principle having been settled in this case, 'and the measure of punishment being altogether secondary 'in this, the first case arising under the steam marine, and 'considering that there is nothing implicating in the slightest 'degree the moral standing of Captain Newton, I direct the 'residue of the punishment to be remitted."

You will accordingly consider yourself awaiting orders.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

J. Y. MASON.

Capt. John T. Newton,
U. S. Navy, New York.

Mr. Aaron V. Brown (a Representative in the last Congress) has received and accepted the nomination of the Democrats of Tennessee as their candidate, at the ensuing election, for the office of Governor of that State.

The Creek and Pawnee Indians.—The Arkansas Intelligencer learns through Mr. J. W. Taylor, a respectable merchant of the Creek nation, that the Pawnee Mahas attacked, about ten days since, the Creeks who live upon Little river. The Creeks were attacked by the Pawnees, but repulsed them, after killing six of their warriors, and without any loss on their side. The Pawnees have returned to their homes upon the wild prairies for a reinforcement, with which they have sworn to return and take revenge. The scattering Creeks are removing from the exposed quarter to the denser settlements. This affray occurred in the country which was apportioned to the Seminoles by the late treaty, and whither they are daily removing.

The editor of the Cincinnati Gazette is so overjoyed at the commencement of a direct traffic from that port to Liverpool, that he places the advertisement of the "A. No. 1 barque Muskingum" among the editorials, and introduces it with a loud jubilation. The Muskingum (the first square rigged vessel ever built at Cincinnati) was to leave on Monday, the 10th instant, and no doubt is now passing on her devious way to the sea. We can imagine what the surprise of the custom-house officers at Liverpool will be when the Muskingum arrives among them. Perhaps they will deny, as they did once before about another place, that there is such a city and port as Cincinnati, and compel the skipper to trace his course back upon the map.

[*U. S. Gazette.*

"Sweet are the uses of adversity," says the proverb. The Charleston Mercury, on receiving the news of the formation of the Cabinet by Mr. Polk, thus *meekly* gives in its adhesion. There was a prophecy uttered by a Florida Locofoco, that the Calhoun fragment of the Democracy would secede from the support of Mr. Polk's administration before the end of the session of its first Congress. If we may judge of coming events from the shadows cast before, the secession will be long before that time.—*Philadelphia Gazette.*

"In proscribing every man suspected of being a friend of Mr. Calhoun, Mr. Polk has paid an involuntary compliment to that body of politicians of which they have reason to be proud. It was not thought necessary to conciliate them with office—it was believed that their support of the new Administration depended on the principles and measures it should uphold, and that they were incapable of a revenge that involved the desertion of their political faith. We are not disappointed in Mr. Polk's initiative. It is long since we have believed that Mr. Calhoun would remain in the Cabinet; and, save for the purpose of concluding the important negotiations for which he was called there, we have not wished his continuance in office. Our blood, therefore, has no answering ferment to this *bouleversement*.

"Blessed," saith the wise Sancho, "blessed are those who expect nothing, for they shall not be disappointed." And in this category of the beatitudes, reposing sweetly ourselves, we are neither out of our reckoning nor out of our temper. We look with entire composure on the turmoil and hubbub of those that hope and those that dread—the laborious tugging back and forth of those who strive for the possession of the hide of that patient jackass, the People, doomed to be periodically flayed to make boots for the moss-troopers of faction. The whole herd of swine, with the devil in them, may plunge furiously down into the gulf of spoils—it troubles us not. We are spectators, and only will be stirred to sympathy by some object worthy the regard of a rational man."

NEW YORK CORRESPONDENCE.

New York, March 12, 1845.

A singular movement was made in the upper branch of our Legislature yesterday in regard to that unoffending religious sect known as "Shakers." A Mr. Clark introduced a bill to prevent their receiving bound apprentices. The grounds of this illiberal attack upon the Shakers appear to have been of the flimsiest and most contemptible nature. After denouncing their "practices" as "vicious, immoral, and degrading in the extreme," it might be supposed that Mr. Clark would have adduced some facts, or apologies for facts, to substantiate his assertions. But he had nothing but vague, vulgar rumors to give them color. He had heard that it was the practice of the Shakers to "decoy children from their homes," and he instanced a case where the Surrogate of the county undertook to bind a neighbor's daughter to one of the leaders of the sect, and when the mother came to take her away, the child, as well as those who had become her guardians, resisted the woman's authority. Does Mr. Clark mean us to infer, by gravely instancing such a case as this, that the Shakers had bewitched the child? Otherwise the child's reluctance to go away should surely be taken as a proof of the kindness of her protectors.

But it appears that Mr. Clark objects to some of the religious notions of the Shakers; and this is another reason why he would subject them to legislative privations and stigmas. He read from a book to prove that they believed in the return of departed spirits. Monstrous depravity! to believe in such a thing as a spirit, and its power to penetrate space and time, in this enlightened, material age! Hanging is too good for such poor, credulous beings. But the sagacious and liberal Mr. Clark charged the Shakers further with claiming Generals Washington and Harrison as spiritual members of their Society! Unparalleled audacity! Had they claimed Captain Kidd, or some other reprobate, it would have been all well enough—but to believe that their doctrines met the approval and sympathy of such intelligences as the two venerated ex-Presidents, was an act of presumption which called for the severest legislative penalties.

Will it be credited that the Senate, after seriously listening to Mr. Clark's tirade, appointed a committee, with power to send for persons and papers, to investigate these foolish charges? Such was the fact.

The Historical Society of this city, at their late monthly meeting, started anew the subject of giving some comprehensive name to our Confederacy more euphonious, convenient, and poetical than the "United States." *Alleghania* was proposed some time since by Washington Irving: but will that cover Texas and Oregon? We cannot call ourselves *Unitedstatesians*: would *Alleghanians* be much better? The question is one which it should be left to the poets of the country to decide.

The office-seekers are in a state of intense anxiety, and look eagerly for accounts from Washington. When will they be relieved from their suspense?

I took occasion to-day to look at the floating theatre to be seen at the foot of Spring street, on the North river. I was surprised to find it so ingenious and creditable a structure. It is built so as to hold upwards of twelve hundred people. The stage is about as large as that of your late National. The scenes are well painted, and the drop curtain exhibits a fair representation of the landing of Columbus. The gas, with which the house will be lighted, is to be manufactured on board. It is the intention of the dramatic *captain* of this establishment to visit the principal towns on the Hudson; and, towards autumn, to offer entertainments to the fashion congregated at Newport. This enterprise is of course started by a Yankee; and it would not be surprising if he should succeed.

Letters from Hudson mention the arrest of four anti-renters, charged with a violation of the peace and resistance to the laws.

There has been little doing in stocks to-day. Buyers continue shy in consequence of the Mexican news. The packet-ship Virginian, for Liverpool, takes out upwards of twenty-four thousand dollars in gold.

New York, March 13, 1845.

The Whigs of this city who are opposed to the "Texas iniquity," and who are determined "faithfully to support Whig measures and abide by the cardinal principle of a rigorous adherence to regular Whig nominations," are invited to meet at National Hall on the evening of the 18th instant, to respond to the nomination of Dudley Selden, the Whig candidate for Mayor. Our charter election takes place in less than a month. Two candidates are already in the field. The Locofocos, for some unexplained cause, have not yet made their nomination. It is supposed that they will re-nominate Mr. Coddington, the former Postmaster of this city; but Mr. Saul Alley is preferred by many, and it is not improbable that he will be the selected candidate. The Locofocos are quite confident of success; a great many Whigs thinking it better to hand over the city once more to the keeping of Tammany Hall than to endanger the integrity of the Whig party by another diversion in favor of "Nativism."

An instance of the efficiency and necessity of our new police system occurred yesterday. Two men entered a broker's office, and pretended to be in want of some twine. The broker, unsuspicious of any intended mischief, stooped behind his counter to comply with their request, when one of the rogues seized a package of bills, amounting to three thousand dollars, and both made their escape. Instant application was made to the police, and an hour after the theft had been committed the authors of it were arrested, although none of the money has as yet been recovered.

There was quite a full attendance at the meeting of the "Society for the Abolition of Capital Punishment" last evening. The principal speakers were Messrs. Rickerson and McAdam—the one in favor of the gallows, and the other in opposition to it. This subject is beginning to attract the attention of our community to a considerable extent.

The reopening of the Park Theatre, or "Old Drury," as our paragraphists prefer to call it, was welcomed last evening by quite a large audience, who received Buckstone's new melodrama of "Green Bushes" in a very enthusiastic manner. The plot is full of bustle and incident, the characters are partly tragic and partly comic, and the play was "got up" in a finished style by the management. The scene of the first act is in Ireland a hundred years ago, and we have an amusing exhibition of an Irish "row and fair." The second act opens on the banks of the Mississippi, where certain speculators in a menagerie from London have come with the view of catching some "natives" and carrying them back for exhibition. An ingenious scene of a raft on the river occurs in this act. The piece is likely to be popular, as it combines all the elements which usually render a play attractive. The Park opens with good prospects and the promise of a succession of novelties.

Affairs at the Stock Exchange continued dull to-day: there was a general decline in prices. Were it not for the "annexation movement" our monetary barometer would have risen rapidly. But now capitalists are reluctant to invest until they see the "end of the business;" and many enterprises, that might give employment to thousands, are checked, perhaps paralyzed, in consequence.

FROM MEXICO.

Mexican papers to the 12th February state that Santa Anna was to be tried on the 24th of that month, by the Congress, sitting as a jury; and if he did not prefer to be present before the jury, but sent a written defence, the trial was to take place sooner. He was still in prison at Peroté, and appeared to have full liberty to communicate by letter with whomsoever he pleased.

New York Town Elections.—The Courier and Enquirer says that the returns of the town elections throughout New York, so far as heard from, indicate a most gratifying progress of Whig principles. In Wyoming county ten Whig, two Loco, and *one* Abolition Supervisors have been chosen. In Essex, the Whigs have carried eight and the Locos one. In Erie county the Whigs have carried eighteen out of the nineteen towns; and the Board of Supervisor will stand twenty Whig to four Loco. In Chenango county ten Whigs and eight Locos are chosen, with only one town to hear from. In Cortland seven Whigs, three Locos, and one Abolitionist have been chosen. In Otsego, seven Whigs and eleven Locos are elected. In most of these counties there is a decided Whig gain.

The trial of Henry McCurry, for the murder of Mr. Paul Roux, late of Georgia, commenced at Baltimore on Monday last, and was terminated on Wednesday by a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree. The punishment is *death*.

ARRIVAL OF THE FRIGATE CONGRESS.

EDITORS' CORRESPONDENCE.

Annapolis, (Md.) March 12, 1845.

The United States frigate Congress arrived here to-day from a three years' cruise, forty-eight days from Rio de Janeiro to the mouth of the Chesapeake; officers and crew all well. The following is a list of her officers:

Capt. P. F. Voorhees, Lieuts. R. L. Browning, John P. Gillis, T. A. Jenkins, Richard Bache, D. D. Porter, Wm. Ronckendorff, Surgeon Thomas L. Smith, Purser B. J. Cahoone.

Marine officers: Lieuts. B. E. Brooke and John C. Grayson, Chaplain W. G. Jackson, Acting Master Jas. L. Blair.

Professor Jno. Pierce, jun., Assistant Surgeon Oscar F. Baxter, Captain's Clerk F. H. Fleming, Midshipmen C. W. Aby, J. W. Bennett, Edward Simpson, W. N. Jeffers, Peter Kemble, Thomas C. Eaton, Wm. Reily, D. P. McCorkle, L. P. Ashmead, T. S. Fillebrown, W. R. Mercer, Chas. C. Bayard, S. B. Luce, Jno. D. Langhorne.

Acting Midshipmen (from the frigate Raritan) R. W. Simms, W. P. Humphreys, John M. Meehan, Wm. B. Hays, Chas. Daurcited.

Boatswain William Black, Gunner Samuel G. City, Carpenter James Magill, Sailmaker G. D. Blackford.

Passengers.—Mrs. B. J. Cahoone; John Sergeant, jun., Esq., of Philadelphia, bearer of despatches from our Minister at Rio; Lieuts. Acosta and Alvin, of the Brazilian navy, to pursue their profession in our naval service, having been on board several months, at the request of the Emperor, for that purpose, and now on a visit to our dock-yards; and four Brazilian boys, to be apprenticed to ship-building in our navy yards. Also, the master and crew of the brig Montevideo, arrested by G. W. Gordon, the American consul at Rio, charged with aiding and abetting the slave trade on the African coast.

Lieut. Porter proceeded forthwith to Washington, bearer of despatches from the American Consul at Rio to the Secretary of State.

During the cruise of the Congress she has displayed our flag in France, Italy, Austria, Greece, Turkey, Syria, Egypt, Tripoli, Morocco, Sicily, Malta, Minorca, Gibraltar, Madeira, Teneriffe, Brazil, and the Republic of Rio de la Plata.

The following notice, somewhat more particular than that heretofore published, of the late horrible murder at Mount Sterling, (Ky.) is copied from the Lexington "Observer and Reporter" of March 8:

"Horrible Affair.—Our city was thrown into a deep gloom and consternation on Thursday morning, by intelligence from Mount Sterling that Clifton R. Thomson, Esq., a member of the Fayette Bar, and recently a member of the Legislature from the county of Fayette, had been shot dead in the court-house in Mount Sterling, by his brother-in-law, the Hon. Henry Daniel, so long a member of Congress from the Montgomery district. We forbear to give any particulars in reference to this horrible transaction, as the perpetrator of the deed is now in jail to answer to the violated majesty of the law; but it would be useless to conceal the fact that a state of excitement almost unparalleled has been produced by this deplorable event, not only by the untimely death of so excellent a gentleman, but by the very general, indeed, we may say almost universal opinion, that it was wholly uncalled for and unprovoked. The immediate cause of the deed grew out of some comments made by the deceased upon an affidavit filed by Mr. Daniel for the continuance of a cause in Court, in which the deceased was plaintiff and Daniel was defendant.

The body of our deceased friend was brought to this city last evening, and now, whilst we write, is being conveyed to the farm in Fayette, where he was born and raised, with all the manifestations of sincere and unaffected grief and respect so eminently deserved by him."

ILLINOIS.

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE N. Y. JOURNAL OF COMMERCE.

Springfield, (Ill.) March 1, 1845.

The Legislature of our State yesterday passed the revenue bill. This is the measure intended to consummate the late negotiations of Col. Oakley and Mr. Leavitt with the holders of Illinois bonds. Gov. Davis and Mr. Leavitt have been here for two weeks past. This morning they left for New York, by the way of St. Louis. The revenue bill provides for a property tax, to be applied to the payment of a portion of the interest on the public debt. Provision is also made to secure the canal and its appurtenances to those bondholders who may finish it. The tax for interest is very light. The people in this State are not accustomed to pay high taxes, and it would be impolitic at first to require more than can be sustained at the next general election, when the issue between taxation and repudiation will come directly before the people.

It is understood that Governor Davis and Mr. Leavitt will forthwith make the necessary arrangements to commence work on the canal.

The negotiation is looked upon here as a contract, the law for taxation as a part of that contract; and, if not complied with by the bondholders, the people of this State will readily form an excuse for refusing any payment of interest for years to come. But if the canal should be finished, as we hope and trust it will, our people will honorably and faithfully perform their part of the contract, and in a very few years ample provision can and will be made for the liquidation of the whole public debt.

Value of Land in Lancaster County, (Pa.)—The Board of Revenue Commissioners, in session at Harrisburg, having sent out circulars inquiring the value of land in Pennsylvania, are now receiving depositions. The following is the estimate of E. C. Reigarts, Esq.:

"Limestone land may comprise about one-half of the county, (quite a full estimate,) one-third of the remainder middling, residue poor and worthless. Limestone land may average $70 per acre; middling $35 to $40; poor $8 to $10. Value of land has declined more than ten per cent. within the last few years. Instances in support of this position—limestone lands in Lancaster county, on account of their reputation, have always been valued too high. State improvements have not enhanced the value of real estate."

Not Dead After All.—The New York Assembly, on Saturday, adjourned at an early hour as a mark of respect for the memory of ex-Speaker Chatfield, whose death was currently reported here on that day. It turns out, however, that Mr. Chatfield is both alive and well. We suppose that the Assembly will have to correct their minutes accordingly.

[*Albany Evening Journal.*

FROM THE SOUTHERN CHRONICLE.

The wonderful performances of the Electric Telegraph have suggested the following attempt at a tribute to the genius of the inventor, in Latin elegiac verse. I would, with all humility, submit to the philosophic world the propriety of calling this new invention "*the Ceraunograph*," and its illustrious author "*the Ceraunographer*."

EPIGRAMMA

In Morseum Ceraunographum.—Naturæ Spoliatæ Querela.

Parcite, ait Natura, almam nudare parentem,
Nati! Franclinius nubibus arma rapit;
Pingit Phœbeis radiis Daguerrius audax;
Jam ignis cœlestis Morsica scripta parat.

For the English reader I have added the following rather loose translation:

EPIGRAM

On Morse, the Ceraunographer.—Nature complaining of her Sons' Spoliations.

What, daring men! cries Nature, will ye spare?
See Franklin force the clouds their bolts to bury;
The Sun resigns his pencil to Daguerre,
While Morse the lightning makes his Secretary.

MIRANS.

Sudden Death.—Thomas Chapman, Esq., of Camden, New Jersey, well and widely known as a member of the Bar of that State, we regret to learn, yesterday, while in conversation, fell from his chair and immediately expired. Mr. Chapman was about fifty years of age, has occupied a seat in the State Legislature, and was for a number of years Prosecutor of the Pleas for the county of Gloucester. He was a member of the Episcopal Church, a most benevolent man, and exemplary citizen. Verily, in the midst of life we are in death.—*Philadelphia Ledger.*

Value of a Dog.—Mr. Thompson, of New Haven, whose house was burned a few days since, was saved from death by the sagacity and faithfulness of his dog, having been awakened from his sleep by the faithful animal when in the most imminent danger from the fire, and to which he would probably have fallen a victim but for the vigilance of the four-footed sentinel.

The Lexington Inquirer of Friday last says: "We learn with sincere and deep regret that our highly respected fellow-townsman, Clifton R. Thompson, Esq. was shot dead in the court-house, in Mount Sterling, on Wednesday, during the sitting of court, by Henry Daniel, his brother-in-law. Daniel was immediately taken into custody by the civil authority, and confined to jail, and, as the affair will undergo a judicial investigation, we will forbear further comment. Thus has fallen, by the hand of violence, one of Fayette's most gifted, noble, generous, and honorable sons."