The Legislature.

Congressional.

WASHINGTON, January 18.—Mr. Goddings advocated the plurality resolution, declaring that the House cannot organize.

Mr. Cobb said that with the Republicans the issue was Banks and disorganization. He (Cobb) preferred Campbell, of Ohio, who could have been elected the other day had all voted on Thorington's resolution

Mr. Tappan replied to Mr. Cobb, and said that the vote on Thorington's resolution was not fair, but as the Republicans made a nomination other than Campbel, the vote for Speaker yesterday showed that there was not an anti-Nebraska majority in the House.

Mr. Clingman offered a resolution providing that until a Speaker was elected the first business each day should be to vote, and no debate be indulged in until this was done; the House not to order a vote a third time on the same day, pending which the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, January 19th.—Senate not in session. In the House Clingman offered a resolution, that during the calling of the roll, no debating or personal explanations should be in order. This resolution also limited members to ten minutes speeches, and is not to be suspended, except by unanimous consent of the House. The resolution was adopted, and the House proceeded to ballot for a Speaker, with the following result: Banks 91, Richardson 69, Fuller 21, Pennington 3, Campbell, (of Ohio 3 Scattering 2.

Battle in Kansas.—Several Persons Killed and Wounded.

WESTON, Mo., January 12.—A battle was fought last night between the pro and anti-slavery parties at the town of Easton, Kansas Territory, and several persons were killed and wounded on both sides. It is said that the Abolitionists made the first attack. It is supposed that the difficulty grew out of the election of the fifteenth of December, and it is feared that the war has again commenced.

The Kickapoo (Kansas) Pioneer gives particulars of the battle at Easton. One pro-slavery man was killed and several wounded. Several abolitionists were killed and others wounded. A company of abolitionists from Lawrence, headed by a man named Brown, commenced the fight. The Kickapoo Rangers and large numbers of persons have left for Easton.

Trouble with England.

A Washington correspondent of the New York papers mentions that trouble is brewing between the United States and England, which threatens a rupture between the two countries.

Arrival of the Northern Light.

NEW YORK, Jan. 12.—The Northern Light has arrived from California, bringing dates to the 20th ult., with three hundred passengers and $600,000 in specie.

Walker is reported as receiving continual accessions to his government.

A number of Colonel Kinney's men at San Juan del Norte, have joined Colonel Walker.

The California mines are reported as never better. Several new ones have been discovered.

The Indian war is raging with increased fury.

The trade of San Francisco is dull; money tight.

CONGRESS.—The Washington Sentinel says:

Much inconvenience is experienced both by members of the House of Representatives and of our citizens, in consequence of the failure to organize. The Sergeant-at-arms, Mr. Glossbrenner, from his own private resources, furnished or advanced between fifty and sixty thousand dollars for the pay of members; but, according to what was said in the House on Thursday, some of the latter have not yet drawn the "first red cent." Besides, there are tradesmen and mechanics who are waiting for funds to meet their obligations. Thus, there is a check to business transactions; and an anxiety on the part of almost everybody for the passage of a bill to supply deficiencies in the appropriations as heretofore. And no money can be drawn from the Treasury for the payment of the various persons employed in the House.

Gen. Walker, of Nicaragua, who is endeavoring to raise a force of Americans to proceed against the Guatemala invaders, is said to be about to form a navy to aid him in his enterprize. Walker's object is said to be the formation of a great southern republic. The Indians of Nicaragua are represented to be very friendly towards Walker and his government.

THE WEATHER AND RIVER.—Since our last we have had all sorts of weather, except such as might be termed pleasant. On Thursday night last it commenced raining, and continued almost incessantly until Saturday morning, overflowing all the creeks, and suspending our mail communications with Little Rock Clarksville and Shreveport. The creeks in this vicinity were higher than they have been known for two years before. Since the rain the weather has been cold and freezing, until yesterday when it became more moderate. We think a sufficient quantity of water has fallen to render Red river navigable, at least as high as Fulton. On yesterday it had risen about 15 feet at that point, and was still rising rapidly. Little river was bank full.—*Wash. (Ark.) Telegraph.*

WHAT HUMPHREY MARSHALL SAYS.—We have seen the time when it was a matter of small consequence what Humphry Marshall said; but since he has sold himself body and breeches to the know-nothings and has become their acknowledged leader of the southern wing in Congress, for want of a better, his opinions, especially when sustained by those of abler men of his own party, are entitled to some weight. Humphry Marshall, then, says that the democrats by their nomination of such a man as Mr. Richardson, and the noble manner in which they have stood up to him, have made their next President, and that Kentucky will vote for the democratic candidate.—*Vicksburg Sentinel.*

Iron and Cross-Ties

For the Galveston, Houston and Henderson Railroads.

The following vessels have recently arrived at this port, from Newport, Wales, with iron for the Galveston, Houston and Henderson railroads:

Brig Crimea	2,379 bars.
Bark Ocean Favorite	2,736 "
Bark Canada	1,983 "

Another vessel with 7000 tons of iron is reported to be on the voyage out.

The following named vessels have arrived from Maine with cross-ties for the same road:

Schooner Convert, from Castine	96,194 feet.
Schooner Mary Place, Bangor	164,000 "
Schooner Sea Breeze, Bucksport	138,000 "
Brig Susan Duncan, Bangor	130,000 "
Sch'r Francis Newton, Bucksport	130,000 "
Brig Lincoln, Castine	161,000 "
Brig Martha Rogers, Bangor	160,000 "
Sch'r John C Honser, Bucksport	92,300 "
Sch'r Mississippi, Bangor	129,000 "
Brig Julia Ford, Bangor	145,000 "
Brig J B Filicott, Bucksport	165,000 "
Sch'r Tiger, Bangor	125,400 "

[*Galveston Civilian.*]

The Dallas Herald.

LATIMER & SWINDELLS, Publishers.

J. W. LATIMER, Editor.

Dallas, Saturday, February 9, 1856.

AGENTS.

The following gentlemen are requested to act as Agents for the HERALD, and are authorized to receive and receipt for money, advertisements, &c.

M. H. Rogers, Lancaster, Dallas County.
Hamilton Wilson, Cedar Hill, Dallas county.
Capt. W. Quirk, Birdville, Tarrant county.
Jordan Parker, Fort Worth, Tarrant county.
John L. Lowery, } McKinney, Collin county.
S. H. Markley, }
Jas. T. Davis, Kaufman, Kaufman county.
J. D. Hearn, Black Hill, Denton county.
E. W. Rogers, Waxahachie, Ellis county.
Guy Stokes, } Chandler's Creek, Ellis county.
Bryan Thomas, }
R. P. Smith, Sherman, Grayson county.
Capt. S. B. Allen, Pecan, Grayson county.
A. Barton, Long Cheinanne, Navarro county.
Jas. T. Lee, Porter's Bluff, Navarro county.
A. P. Lipsey, Alton, Denton county.
S. S. Weaver, Gainsville, Cook county.
H. R. Latham, Clarksville, Red River county.
R. M. Barton, Post-master Palestine, Texas.
A. T. Hewitt, Esq., Greenville, Hunt county.
Chas. H. Clarke, Boston, Bowie county.

Religious Notices.

Rev. A. M. Dean will preach at the Masonic Hall, in Dallas, on the first Friday in each month, during the present year.

Rev. Alexander Hinkle preaches at the Masonic Hall, in Dallas, on the Second Sunday in each month.

Rev. James A. Smith preaches at the Masonic Hall, in Dallas, on the Third Sabbath in each month.

Rev. William H. Hughes preaches at the Masonic Hall, in Dallas, on the fourth sabbath in each month.

DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

For Electors.
For the State at Large.
FRANK W. BOWDEN, of Rusk.
WM. R. SCURRY, of Victoria.
For the 1st Congressional District.
A. J. HOOD, of Cherokee.
For the Second Congressional District,
A. J. HAMILTON, of Travis.
For Sub-Elector for the 16th Judicial District.
JOHN J. GOOD, of Dallas.

For Comptroller of Public Accounts,
JAMES B. SHAW, of Travis.

For State Treasurer.
JAMES H. RAYMOND, of Travis.

For Attorney General,
JAMES WILLIE, of Washington.

Judicial Election

The returns of the late election for District Judge and District Attorney are very incomplete. We have not even received the full vote of this county, and the returns from all the other counties are exceedingly meagre. Enough is known, however, to insure the election of Mr Burford by a handsome majority. The contest for District Attorney is conceded to be between Cols McCoy and Easton, the result considered doubtful. Below we give all the returns received.

FOR DISTRICT JUDGE.

Counties.	Burford.	Scott.	Turney.	Berry.
Dallas	306	43	82	3
Collin,*	93	2	189	27
Cooke, one precinct	35	10	—	—
Denton,*	217	64	33	—
Tarrant and Parker,*	186	36	110	—
Johnson,*	81	1	38	—
Ellis,*	110	42	26	—
	1158	203	478	30

FOR DISTRICT ATTORNEY.

Counties	McCoy.	Easton.	Perry.	Gaither.	Clark.	Sigler.
Dallas,*	258	7	170	21	3	1
Collin,*	54	218	16	1	2	
Denton,*	32	73	2			
Tarrant and Parker,*	59	21	33	10	42	118
Johnson,*			10	10		
Ellis,*	32	1	97	1		2
	435	325	327	43	48	121

*The vote in part.

☞ The "oldest inhabitant" has no recollection of as cold a winter as the present in Texas. For the last six weeks the ground has been constantly frozen, and ice has never disappeared.

☞ In nearly all the counties in this Judicial District, there was but a meagre turn out at the late election for Judge and District Attorney. In some of the counties not half the voters were at the polls. In the counties comprising the 16th District there is a voting population of at least 5000. At the late election, from present indications there were not more than half that number of votes polled.

☞ We had a slight snow on Thursday—clear and moderately warm to-day.

Hons Wm M Williams, of Lamar, J J Dickson of Red river, and Bob Taylor and Dr Pettus, of Fannin arrived in town on Thursday night, *en route* for their homes. Senator Weatherford also arrived at home on Thursday last. The other members from this section are expected to-day.

The bill to accept the adjustment of the public debt, proposed by Congress, passed both Houses previous to the adjournment of the Legislature, and immediately received the signature of the Governor. This is by far the most important measure consummated by the late Legislature, and will, we think, have a happy effect on the future prosperity of the State. We republish an article from the State Times on the subject, which forcibly expresses our sentiments as to the effect of the measure.

☞ Will some friend in Parker and Wise counties communicate to us a point near the centres of those counties for the establishment of a postoffice, together with the names of suitable persons for postmasters? The Department will supply the county seats of the new counties with the mails, in advance of the establishment of a route.

☞ The bill to incorporate the town of Dallas passed both Houses of the Legislature. We are not acquainted with its provisions.

☞ No Speaker elected at latest dates from Washington city.

☞ We learn that Red river was up high enough for large boats to come to Shreveport, on the 1st inst., and still rising.

BRAZOS STATESMAN.—We have received the prospectus of a newspaper with the above title, to be published at Waco, in this State, by Denson & R M Billingsly. This paper is to be democratic in politics. Waco presents a fine field for the labors of a good democratic newspaper, such as we doubt not the Statesman will be. We wish the enterprize every success.

The Know-Nothing Platform.

After a stormy session, characterized, we are informed, by a little fairly harmonious discussion, the know-nothings of Texas, or rather their leaders, have adopted a platform of principles, and submitted it for the government of the faithful. This platform is signalized by throwing overboard some of the cherished principles which spoke that party into being, and for affirming others with which it has been at war from the beginning. Hence, the catholic test, that mighty lever by which know-nothingism has wrought upon the prejudices and fears of the people, and commended itself to the affectionate regard of the morbid bigotry of the country, is slurred over, or as we construe it ignored, in the Austin platform. Hence, also, we have nothing in this platform of the "maintenance of the union of these United States" as being "the paramount political good;" but instead, it says that "the preservation and perpetuation of the *Constitution* and the Federal Union, is the bulwark of our liberties in war, and a prime source of national greatness," &c., and enunciates as the true doctrine, "a strict construction of the Constitution of the United States, and the preservation of all the rights of the states, secured or reserved, in the Constitution." This is indeed hopeful for a party which, under the Philadelphia platform, expressly repudiated the doctrine of states' rights and strict construction, and referred all disputes involving those rights to the Supreme Court.

The Convention *abolishes* "all secrecy, obligations, pass-words and signs." That is, those persons who have taken a solemn obligation upon the Holy Evangely of Almighty God, that "they would not vote nor give their influence for any man, for any office in the gift of the people, unless he be an American born citizen, in favor of Americans ruling America, nor if he be a Roman Catholic," &c., is released by this convention to violate that obligation, and is *absolved* from the guilt of the sin, a power so indignantly denounced by the know nothings when exercised by the Pope of Rome.

The platform has no piety plank.

The salient point of the platform is the extension of the period for the naturalization of foreigners to 21 years. This is the single issue on which the party stakes its all in Texas. To give force to this measure, the Convention, prompted no doubt by the overwhelming condemnation which the people have passed upon them, ignore those principles which have been constantly held up as the infallible policy by which America was to be governed—the catholic test—the Union paramount to the rights of the states—the arbitrament of the Supreme Court, &c. They do not even "pretermit as expression of opinion" as to the power of Congress on the subject of slavery, and have mustered courage to declare that Congress has not power to legislate on the subject of slavery in the states or territories.

The repudiation of those odious principles of the Texas know-nothings; their feeble effort to follow the lead of the democracy, in a *quasi* endorsement of a portion of its creed; its silence on others; its abolition of the odious, hateful, sacrilegious and dangerous sworn secrecy, and pernicious hidden machinery of oaths, grips and signs, are hopeful and at the same time instructive omens. It shows that this American party have some self-respect left, and that they are not yet prepared to set up, in defiance of the deliberately expressed judgement of the nation, and that they are not impervious to the indignant voice of their countrymen which has visited with condemnation their theory of Federal politics, and has met with scorn their attempt to set up in this country a secret political inquisition, and to organize American parties on the hated basis of French Jacobinism. It shows that this young Sam, however profligate in his habits and loose in his principles, has still a sense of decency left, that prompts him to hide his nakedness from the public gaze—that he even shows a disposition to reform. But this penitence comes in an inauspicious time. We doubt its sincerity. It comes when his northern allies have arrayed themselves against the principles now proclaimed by the Texas know-nothings, coalesced with black-republicanism, and put to shame their claim of being a national party, and when the democracy have established, by their course in Congress, that it is the only national party in the country. It comes when this party which professed to "rise upon the ruins" of the democracy; to interpose between the "elements of sectional hostility"—"to give peace to the Union.—find that that democratic party upon whose ruins it professed to rise, is now in Congress, manfully fighting the battles of the Constitution against sectional agitators, whilst its boasted allies of the north are the leaders of those agitators, and its representatives from the south barely rise to the dignity of a faction.

☞ The Legislature adjourned on Monday last to meet in July next. We are not prepared to say precisely what this body has done. We can say with perfect safety, however, that it has accomplished far less of general importance than any legislative body that has ever met in Texas. We think we can confidently assert that for all the good it has done, it might as well not have assembled. We do not remember a single measure of general utility that has been passed, except the Texas Debt Bill. Three months have been spent in useless discussion and buncombe speeches. Hundreds of bills have accumulated on the Speaker's table and before the different committees, but nothing has been done to forward the great interests of the state, to develope her vast resources, to foster her prosperity and advancement. We don't undertake to say who is to blame for this. We know that a few refractory members can neutralize the efforts of majorities, and retard the most important public business by a factious course. Perhaps such has been the case with our Legislature. The people have a right to know who is responsible for this long and stormy session, resulting in worse than nothing, and the people will surely inquire into it and hold their representatives to a fearful responsibility for their action.

☞ W H Randolph, the know-nothing Post Master at Huntsville, has been turned out by Post Master General Campbell and Mr. Hume, a democrat, appointed in his stead, whereupon the great decapitated addresses a letter of abuse and vituperation to Mr Campbell through the newspapers. Mr Campbell will hardly honor this precious epistle of the ex-postmaster with a perusal. It (the letter) shows conclusively in its coarse style and unmannerly insolence that the Post Master General did exactly right in turning him out.

Geological Survey of the State.

Among the important measures which it was expected the late Legislature of this State would adopt, was the creation of the office of State Geologist, and the authorization of a geological survey of the State. The press has for several years past called attention, time and again, to the importance of such a measure, and conclusively shown the immense benefits likely to result to the State from its adoption. It was recommended in the message of Gov. Pease, but the Legislature could not spare sufficient time from the discussion of far less important subjects to authorize it. There is no State in the Union that offers so wide or interesting a field for the investigation of geological science as Texas. It is believed that within her borders all the precious metals exist in abundance; and it is known that extensive and inexhaustible beds of coal and fields of gypsum exist, not to mention other valuable ores and metals. Besides these, the extent of the country and the variety of its formations and changes, present an inexhaustible subject for geological research. Almost every portion of the State presents fossil remains of the most interesting character, and abound in volcanic formations that require scientific analysis.

We learn that Dr Moore of Houston, for many years editor of the Houston Telegraph, is anxious to enter upon this wide and inviting field of scientific research; and that he would have commenced an immediate geological survey of the State, had the Legislature adopted the necessary measures. Dr Moore has for many years been enriching his mind by a study of the noble sciences of geology, and is said to be thoroughly proficient in it. It is a subject of deep regret that he was not authorized to apply his talent to bring to light the hidden treasures of our magnificent State.

☞ No State paper within our remembrance has ever received so universal commendation, at the south, as President Pierce's late message.—The high constitutional ground which it takes, on the slavery question, and its manly rebuke of sectional agitation finds an echo in every southern heart, and is cordially approved by national men in all sections. The firm, dignified, and unyielding tone of the message, on the subject of our Foreign Relations, particularly those with Great Britain growing out of Central American affairs, is but an iteration of the undivided voice of the nation, and has received a hearty response from all parts and all sections of the Union. We could fill our paper with extracts from the press, commending the patriotism and nationalism of this admirable document. And yet the know-nothing press of Texas is silent, and has not a word of encouragement and approval for a President who so gallantly upholds the national honor in our intercourse with other nations, and boldly defends the cause of the south against the fanatical assaults of her enemies.

☞ The annual catalogue of Baylor University shows that institution to be in a flourishing condition. There were upwards of 100 students in the different departments during the past session, and the number is greatly increased the present session. The institution has been in existence ten years; and has property in lands, buildings, &c., valued at $40,000. It may therefore be considered as permanently established. Located at Independence, Texas.

☞ From account of the Austin Gazette, we should judge that the know-nothing convention at Austin was sadly deficient in harmony. Mr West, of Travis, was not satisfied with the Philadelphia Platform on the subject of slavery, and suggested the adoption of the Georgia Resolutions. This aroused Bob Taylor's well known horror of everything savoring of nullification, a favorite theme with that gentleman, upon which he is in the habit of *gostrating* luminously. His raw head and bloody bones had its effect on the nerves of the convention, for the Georgia Platform was voted down.

A resolution instructing the delegates to the national convention to vote for Sam Houston as the first choice of Texas for the Presidency, gave rise to a stormy debate, and was withdrawn.—This is significant and shows signs of "throwing Jonah overboard." A resolution disapproving Houston's vote on the Nebraska bill and approving President Pierce's message on the slavery question, was tabled. Pending this resolution, the Gazette says some of the speakers declared their confidence in President Pierce on the southern question. Upon the whole, the dissolving views of know nothingism in Texas, as presented in the deliberations and actions of this convention, were entertaining and instructive. We think it probable that this will be "positively the last performance" before a Texas public.

"All obligations, secrecy, signs and pass-words are abolished."—*K. N. Platform of Texas.*

Who abolishes them? Who has the authority to do it? If your oaths were ever binding, who is authorized to release you from them? Were they not solemnly taken, for your guidance for all time to come? Are they not forever binding in *foro conscientiæ* to those who believed them lawful? And can a mere convention of delegates control the conscience of the party? Can it absolve its members from the guilt of perjury in disregarding their obligations? Has a know-nothing convention the power of absolution, so indignantly denounced in the Pope? or is not this pretended abolition of the oaths, and secrecy of the order, a sham to screen the party from the overwhelming condemnation which its oaths and secrecy have brought upon it?

LIQUOR LICENSE.—The Legislature have passed a rather stringent law regulating the license and sale of spirituous liquors. The law, as passed, levies a license tax of $250 per annum on all retail establishments, and requires the vendor to enter into bond in the sum of one thousand dollars, payable to the county Treasurer, conditioned that, he will keep an orderly house, will not sell liquor to slaves, except upon the written consent of their owners, or to students of institutions of learning, and that he will not permit any species of gaming in the house. The bill in its original shape provided that license should only issue on the written consent of a majority of the legal voters within 3 miles of the place, but this provision was stricken out.—Persons selling without license are to be prosecuted in the District Court or before any Justice of the Peace, and, on conviction, fined in a sum not less than fifty nor more than two hundred dollars, and imprisoned in the county jail until the fine is paid.

TEXAS WESTERN RAILROAD.—Our readers were informed some time since that the Texas Western Railroad Company had let out the contract to responsible men for the construction of one hundred miles of that road. We learn from a gentleman who passed through Marshall a few days since, that the contractors have commenced operations on the road between Marshall and the State line, and that they assured him that two or three thousand hands would be put upon the road next spring. This road, it will be remembered, covers the route of the Pacific Railroad through Texas. Present indications seem to prevail that its construction through Texas will be prosecuted to a speedy termination.

☞ We sincerely rejoice at the election of Hon Jeff. Davis to the United States Senate from Mississippi. Col Davis possesses talent of a very high order. He is one of the soundest and most consistent statesmen in the Union, and is destined to be one of the very foremost leaders of the democracy in the United States Senate. The whole south will rejoice at his return to that body.

☞ The Grand Lodge of Free Masons, which recently assembled at Galveston, elected the following officers for the current year.

M W	F B Sexton, Grand Master,	San Aug't.
Rt W	J B McMahon, D G Master,	Lockhart.
" "	J E Cravens, S G'd Warden,	Palestine.
" "	H Sampson, J " "	Houston.
" "	W Steadman, G Treasurer,	Henderson
" "	A S Ruthven, G Secretary,	Galveston.
" "	E H Tarrant, D G M 10th Dst	Waxaha'e.

There were about four hundred members of the order in attendance, and a large crowd of ladies and other persons from all sections of the State; and the Galveston papers speak in the most glowing terms of the imposing ceremonies of the occasion.

Passage of the Debt Bill.

The passage of the public debt bill by the legislature is one of the most important matters ever transacted by that body. The acceptance of the terms proposed by the United States Congress disposes of, settles and forever wipes out the debt. Texas stands disenthralled from her engagements—with a full treasury—a fair name—and a bright future. The action of the legislature is just cause of gratulation to the country. It places the Lone Star State upon high and enviable grounds.—She has paid her revolutionary debt. What other government has done the same? The conditions are not those the people at one time preferred and may now prefer, yet the offer made by the United States, and acquiesced in by the creditors generally, has been accepted, and no one can accuse us of not having done all that could be honorably required in the premises. If the acceptance of the proposition of the United States, by Texas, attaches discredit to the latter, it certainly would have a like operation upon the former. Congress would not propose anything they conceived we could not accept without dishonoring ourselves. They could not do so without incurring the charge of dishonor. The adjustment is the act of the United States, Texas and the assenting creditors—they are all alike bound to share its honor or its odium. The compliance of Texas removes the stain of repudiation, which, (whether true or false,) had been coupled with her name—had destroyed her credit, and injured that of her citizens. She can now proudly, triumphantly, point to the settlement as an attestation of her willingness to redeem her pledges. She can adduce her example as an evidence that republics are not ungrateful and unjust—that those participating in revolutions—in struggles for freedom, must not despair of ultimate reward.

The prospect now opened up for Texas is full of promise—it is enough to gladden the heart of every true patriot. Now we can start on the career of internal improvement with every hope of success—we can develope the resources of the country, and offer homes to the emigrant under the most favorable auspices—an overflowing treasury—with no debt and light taxation. How immeasurably enhanced is every anticipation we indulged of future greatness, wealth and prosperity.

To the members of the legislature voting in the affirmative on this question, the people owe many thanks, but they should accord to those opposing it the meed of sincerety and honesty of purpose. Differences of opinion must and will exist—they generally prove nothing more or less than an independence of thought and beget an independence of action a free people should ever admire. They are but a consequence of the liberal institutions we enjoy. At the same time we hail the settlement of the debt question, as a proud achievement for Texas—the harbinger of better times and more rapid advancement—we do not call in question the purity or the patriotism of those taking a different view of the subject. God bless our bright and sunny land. May our loved "Lone Star" never cease to shine with refulgent lustre upon a powerful, a rich, and a happy people.—*State Times.*

Memphis and Little Rock Railroad.

Although the Tennessee Legislature has thus far declined to endorse the bonds issued by the city of Memphis in favor of the Memphis and Little Rock Railroad, for the reason that they regarded it as a local road, yet we have no doubt, from the energetic representations which have recently been made, together with the steady progress of the work, the Legislature will eventually grant the aid required. At a meeting of the citizens of Memphis, held recently, a strong petition, signed by a large number of the leading men of the city was forwarded to the Legislature. The facts set forth in the memorial, we have no doubt, will exercise a powerful influence upon that body. It will show conclusively that it is not a local road, in which Memphis and Arkansas are alone interested, but that it is the beginning of the great central Pacific road, over which is to travel the commerce of the Eastern and Western Hemispheres, and which is to make our country the great central mart and depot of the world. Upon the fortunes of Memphis it will undoubtedly produce a most beneficial effect, making her, probably, the leading city of the West. This alone should command the favorable action of the Legislature if it has any State pride. Upon the fortunes too of Arkansas, poor debt-ridden Arkansas, it would wield an almost magic influence. It would cause her citizens to shake off the lethargy that now enshrouds them, and wake up to newness of life and energy. The steam whistle would act upon them like an electric shock, causing every nerve and muscle to respond to its invigorating power. Arkansas would be redeemed, and the immense trade which she could and would throw into Memphis, would be another great spoke in her wheel of fortune—and this too should command the attention of the Legislature.

But whether the State of Tennessee endorses the bonds or not, we have no fears that the building of the road will be suffered to stop until its final completion. It may retard the work, but it will be built. We see by our Memphis exchanges that gentlemen are subscribing for lands, and when twenty miles of the road are completed, the lands donated by Congress can be brought into market, and the fund thus raised, with the stock already subscribed, will be sufficient to insure ultimate success. Should, however, the aid which is sought from the Legislature be granted, the work will be done in much shorter time than it can be effected without it, and the city of Memphis will sooner be able to pay the debt she may have assumed for its construction.—*Wash. (Ark.) Tel.*

GOV. BIGLER, OF CALIFORNIA.—Although Governor Bigler, at the recent election in California, was declared to be beaten, he actually had eight thousand more votes than any democrat ever before received. The Pennsylvanian learns by private letter that there is not a doubt as to his election; but fraud accomplished the purpose of the secret lodges. Every intelligent man in California is satisfied of this fact, and the honest Know Nothings do not hesitate to make this admission. The consequence has been, that the Governor's fraudulent defeat, has greatly increased his popularity with the Democracy and all right thinking men. California will be right side up at the Presidential election.

U. S. SENATE.—An exchange describing the *personelle* of the United States Senate, says that Senator Butler, of S. C., is the thickest at the waistband, though not uncomfortable heavy. His face is bright, and his hair, which he wears long, and in singular confusion, is white as a newly washed lamb's wool. Hale's appearance indicates that he has been fed liberally on pork and buttermilk. Pugh looks young when among the old, bald or white-headed and big-bellied Senators. A majority of the Senators have naked patches on the top of their heads, and quite half of them are the opposite of slender. They chew tobacco very much as other folks, and immediately after adjournment several of them lit cigars, and leaning back, appeared to feel comfortable.

SYRACUSE, NEW YORK, January 11.—The Soft Shell Democratic Convention is in session here. Slavery agitation is deprecated; the principles of the Kansas-Nebraska bill are endorsed; they have also endorsed the resolutions adopted in the democratic caucus of Congressmen, at Washington, touching the bill; a resolution expressing regret at the death of the whig party, was adopted. The Convention endorsed Pierce's administration."

MISSISSIPPI SENATOR.—It is stated in the New Orleans *Picayune* of the 17th ult., that a private dispatch had been received in that city, to the effect that the Legislature of Mississippi had elected the Hon. Jeff. Davis, United States Senator, by a majority of twelve votes, if the report be correct he will succeed the Hon. Stephen Adams, whose term expires on the 4th of March, 1857.

"DIDN'T COUNT IT."—A witness was once called on the stand to testify as to an event which had occurred many years previously.—From his gray hairs and general appearance, he looked to be at least fifty years old. After proceeding with his statement, he was asked how old he was?

About thirty, he replied.

About thirty! You look to be much older than that, sir. How many children have you!

Eight.

Any grand children?

Yes, six.

And only about *thirty* years old? How is it possible, sir, that can be the case?

Why, sir, I was born in 1800, but staid twenty years on Campbell's Creek, in Rankin County, and I never thought that time ought to be counted agin me—and I didn't count it.

HON. JOHN M. CLAYTON.—The Intelligencer learns from an authentic source that application has been made by gentlemen elected to the American convention, asking the use of the name of this distinguished statesman as a candidate for the Presidency at that convention, and he replied, that he preferred his present position as Senator to Congress, to any public station, and declined being considered as a candidate for the Presidency.

The Kanzas war, according to an estimate made by one of the Generals engaged in it, will cost the United States Government not less than sixty-five thousand dollars. Whether the Government will consent to pay expenses so unnecessarily incurred, is a question yet to be answered.

President's Message.

A correspondent of the Philadelphia Bulletin furnishes that paper with a poetical effusion entitled "President's Message, (not) by Franklin Pierce," in which is given the following capital hit at the author of "Hiawatha."—Coming to the subject of Indian affairs he says:

In our Indian territories,
Indian territories, savage,
Territories savage Indian,
We've had trouble and confusion,
Trouble and confusion awful,
By the salty lakes of Utah,
By the shores of the Pacific,
By the rushing Missisippi,
By the Oregon's swift waters,
By the rivers' wild of Texas,
By the muddy streams of Kansas,
Have our Indian neighbors savage,
Been a shooting and a scalping,
Shooting and a scalping white folks.
But I've sent a lot of soldiers,
Led by Generals brave and mighty,
Harney bold, the Mush-ko-kwan-ko,
Wool, the Hi-fa-lu-tin-jingo;
And I'm confidently hoping
That the tribes will soon be silenced,
Silenced crushed and catawampussed.
But to make the peace enduring,
I propose that every soldier
Carry with him in his knapsack,
In his knapsack wim his linen,
The new "Song of Hiawatha,"
To be tried on every Indian.
If six-shooter will not kill him,
If Sharp's rifles will not phase him,
If from cannon, musket, sabre,
He escape, then let them give him
But a page of "Hiawatha,"
And I'm sure he will knock under,
With his jaws and spirit broken.
And, to keep the tribes in terror,
I propose that great Longfellow,
He who wrote Hiawatha,
Great Longfellow, the Professor,
Henry W. Longfellow,
Be Commissioner appointed,
Of our Indian Affairs too.
So we will have peace forever,
In our Indian territories,
Indian territories savage,
Territories savage Indian.
Don't you wish you were Longfellow?—

Er