

Commissioners' Election.
The election for Commissioners yesterday passed off very quietly. It rained very heavily towards night, which may have reduced the vote to some extent. At any rate the aggregate vote is a small one. The whole number of votes polled was 581, as follows:—
John Dawson..... 279
John McRae..... 228
G. W. Davis..... 200
A. Martin..... 190
Wm. A. Wright..... 184
S. B. Wallace..... 177
T. C. Miller..... 171
P. W. Fauning..... 243
T. C. Craft..... 202
James Grant..... 190
T. Loring..... 219
B. J. Jacobs..... 228
O. L. Pillyaw..... 182
H. Hensley..... 194

The French and English Press.
The press, especially the press of France is nothing if not spicy—somebody and some government it must abuse, but Louis Napoleon says to it—If you abuse my government, I will stop your issue and imprison your body. Besides taking all your property in the shape of fines. So as a last resort, the French papers are giving all their attention to abusing the English and the English are abusing them. The slaughters in India on one side—the new slave trade on the other, form some of the staples of their complimentary allusions. The fact is, the French are disappointed at the turn things have taken in India. They had hoped for the fall or humiliation of their old and successful rival in the East, and are surprised at the energy displayed by a people whose military skill and power they had grown to despise. There is little question that the nations of continental Europe, whatever may be said to the contrary, are jealous and envious of the colonial empire and power of England, and build up as it has mainly been to their exclusion. France once aspired to the empire of the East—England drove her out and grasped the prize—Canada, Acadia and Louisiana once belonged to France—a part was seized by Great Britain and a part sold to the United States to keep it from being seized. Spain has lost her colonies by revolution, or had them seized by Britain. Holland remembers the Cape of Good Hope. All would rejoice to see the fabric fall to pieces, and no doubt, hailed the Indian outbreak as the beginning of the end.

Senator Douglas.
There is a medium in all things. Hasty judgments and sweeping denunciations are neither apt to hit this medium, nor to do justice. Stephen A. Douglas, of Illinois, has for years stood high in the affections of the Southern people, and he has deserved to stand high. He has done good service in the cause of constitutional equality, and the South asks nothing more than equality under the Constitution. He has fought abolitionism in its own homes at the North, with an energy and ability certainly not surpassed by any, and as certainly equally by few. Is it common justice—common policy to rush into unqualified and unmitigated denunciation of such a man—to argue or ignore his long years of service—to depreciate his abilities—to undertake his exertions—to vilify his motives—without the fullest examination, and the most thorough conviction? We would not judge an enemy so—how much less ought we to act so towards one who has always been a friend?

Now, upon the policy to be pursued in regard to Kansas, Mr. Douglas differs from the President, and from the great body of the Southern Senators and Representatives. Remember, it is simply a question of policy, and although we think Congress had better admit Kansas on the Leocompton Constitution, and so get rid of the matter; and although in this we differ from Senator Douglas, still, we cannot for our lives see anything in his course amounting to an abnegation of principle, or to an affiliation with the enemies of the South. There is nothing in his recent declarations to justify the sweeping denunciation of apostasy. There are objections to the action of the Leocompton Convention—serious objections, but not, in our opinion, fatal objections; nor such as ought to prevent the admission of Kansas as a State, and the removal of the whole vexed question from the broad arena of the country, to confine it to the small and local arena of the new State.

The Fayetteville Observer understands us to have meant that we expressed ourselves freely in our paper in regard to the appointment of Mr. McRae to the Consulate at Paris. On examination, we believe that our language in a recent editorial is fairly open to that construction; but such was not our meaning. We should have said that we expressed ourselves freely in conversation, and to the effect, and pretty much in the language we have stated. The fact is, that Mr. Leake's stepping into Mr. McRae's place, turned the current of public discussion exclusively towards himself during the canvass. Persons were frequently, we might almost say constantly, asking us what we thought of the appointment of Mr. McRae, to whom we invariably replied that we had no sort of objection in itself—no doubt Mr. McRae would do very well, but the appointment was a very unfortunate movement under the circumstances. We had, and have no idea that the appointment was made with the view of buying Mr. McRae off, or any thing of that kind. In that case, "unfortunate" would not have been the proper term.

The Fayetteville Carolinian of last week contains a feelingly written editorial reference to the death of its late editor. There is nothing that the public is not already sufficiently acquainted with—nothing that it behooves us to pry into. It is but the old tale,—"one more unfortunate, weary of life," the prey of a morbid temperament, or a constitutional melancholy slips the cable that binds him to time, and drifts out into the wide ocean of eternity. The body may have predispositions to disease which may be developed, and so death result—so may the mind; but who shall say that the victim is responsible for the agony under which he perishes? Not we, surely—not any Christian man, who, conscious of his own weakness, knows how to make allowances for the weakness of others.

The Carolinian will continue to be published as usual. The editorial department is at present in the charge of Mr. Wm. Bow, who will attend to its duties until other arrangements can be made.

Robert J. Walker has written a long letter, addressed to Hon. Lewis Cass, Secretary of State, but really intended for public use. He tenders his resignation, makes a long argument on sovereignty, quotes from one of his own pamphlets, attacks the Leocompton Convention, says the President is wrong, talks about his Southern opponents, and trusts in the Lord. The Lord have mercy upon him, for the Southern people will not. Mr. Walker had better be a resigned man. His sun has set. Let him depart deep into the shades of private life, if he knows what is best for himself and the public in general.

HARD USAGE.—Mr. McRae wants a farther to come out as gubernatorial candidate on the distribution issue, and the Raleigh Register joins in the desire that somebody should get up to create a split in the Democratic ranks. Mr. Leake answers to the cry of Mr. McRae and the wishes of the Raleigh Register, and now that ungrateful paper won't have Mr. Leake—he's not "pumpkins"—he's something else, and won't do.

We are informed that Professor Johns, late British Consul at Jerusalem, will shortly deliver a series of lectures in this place, based upon his travels in Syria, Arabia and Egypt, and especially on Jerusalem and the holy places around it. The lectures to be illustrated by views and diagrams. The lectures ought to be interesting in a high degree.

A MEAN BUSINESS.—Some person sent us a notice a few days since, through the mail, announcing the marriage of Mr. Lewis P. Demot to Miss Jane Forney, by Wm. Grist, Esq., in Brunswick County. We learn that no such marriage has taken place, and that Mr. Demot has a wife and family. The letter was signed in such a manner as to lead us to believe it genuine, and we published the notice. We hope the guilty party may be found out and punished to the full extent of his deserts, for the liberty he has taken in tampering with the feelings of those interested, to say nothing of imposing upon the press through a deliberately false statement.

Mr. McKoon, U. S. District Attorney at New York has not been removed for voting or acting as he pleased in the contest for the majority of that city, but for asserting that the President desired the defeat of Mayor Wood, etc. As a United States officer he had the rights of any other citizen, but not the right to endeavor to accomplish his ends by dragging in the Executive of the United States in an unauthorized and improper manner. It was Mr. McKoon, and not Mr. Buchanan, who was amenable to the charge of Federal dictation.

Distribute, deposit, give away money out of the United States Treasury, while you issue twenty millions of Treasury notes to keep the Government from "suspending." Great world, this. Like a corporation going in debt and leaving contributions on its stockholders to foot them with a dividend based on insolvency. Do not some politicians actually think the people fools?

The Editor of the Washington Union has been chosen Printer to the Senate. We wish somebody would elect us Printers to something, whereby we would make much money. We want considerable in these rare and difficult times.

The Washington correspondent of the Boston Post, writing under date of the 11th inst., thus states the question between Senator Douglas and the administration on the Kansas question. It seems to hit the point about as nearly as we have yet seen, and shows that the Democratic press of the North is yet sound upon this issue:—

There is no use in concealing the fact, that by the friends of the Administration here, Judge Douglas is considered as having gone into opposition. This does not imply that he has gone over to the black republicans by any means, for there are various shades of opposition to the Leocompton Convention, and less completeness on this Kansas question. The supporters of the administration intrude themselves in a position which is widely separated from that assumed by Senator Douglas. They say that the people of Kansas, in the exercise of their admitted "sovereignty," have chosen to form a constitution by means of the Leocompton Convention, and that the Leocompton Convention was invested with its authority and discretion whether to submit the constitution or not by the proper power, namely, by the people themselves; and they say that it is an "incentive" in a supporter of the Kansas-Nebraska bill, to argue that that act did not authorize the people of Kansas to form a constitution in their own way, but left them bound hand and foot waiting for Congress to pass an enabling act in order to endow them with the first attribute of sovereignty. It is powerfully, and I think unanswerably, argued, that if the Senator from Illinois can successfully deny the authority of the people of Kansas, acting through its regularly constituted authorities, to form a valid constitution, and not a mere petition, he proves the boasted attributes of the Kansas-Nebraska law to be no more than a transparent fraud.

If an "enabling act" is necessary to confer upon the people the first attribute of popular sovereignty, what function did the Nebraska law confer? This Senator Douglas is laboring effectually to destroy his own work and to declare by act of Congress that the Nebraska bill was a humbug, while the friends of the administration are endeavoring to manage the Nebraska law to confer upon the people of Kansas the rights which it pretended to confer, and that it does not need to be colored up by an "enabling act." I should like to have some supporter of the view which Judge Douglas takes, being also an original supporter of the Nebraska bill, attempt to explain this contradiction.

A correspondent of the Newbern (N. C.) Express, writing from Weldon about the first of December, 1857, after giving a glowing description of his sojourn at Weldon, pays his respects to Wilmington in the following complimentary style:—
On Thursday I took a seat on Capt. W. H. Shaw's train, when, by the way, a more clever, attentive and polite conductor does not live, and I was soon landed in Wilmington, time enough to eat just such a supper as Mr. Gage of the Carolina Hotel can prepare. I know there are many in your section who think Wilmington does not afford a good hotel. Such may have been the case, but that objection to visiting Wilmington no longer exists.

Mr. Gage is one of the most accommodating proprietors I have met with, and is, in the nicest sense of the word, a gentleman of marked aptitude for the position he occupies. He is urbane in his manner, high-toned in sentiment, possessing liberal impulses, and is the best of his guests. Admitted to Mr. Gage's house, his attentive high spirits, and the great cheerfulness that did, and will do, he understand the caterer's difficult art. The choicest viands that can be obtained from the Baltimore, Norfolk and West India markets not only grace Mr. Gage's table—not only alone it—but, in profuse abundance, almost remember it. Mr. Gage's rooms are neat, airy and comfortable. His servants are all attentive and always ready to obey the call of the guests of the house. The man who shops at the Carolina Hotel, and is not satisfied, ought to quit traveling—'tis useless to go anywhere else. Tell your people to come now and try the Carolina, under its present regime, and if they are not pleased, your correspondent will foot their bills. The weather here is as balmy as spring—surely summer is tripping back to us. Every day is cheerful as spring. The ladies—hoops, hoops, burrah! for the dear creatures, they are out upon the sidewalks in numbers.

I was very much amused yesterday at a little fellow parading the streets, following in the wake of that gallant young corps, the Rifle Cadets, singing, with intense gusto, "Hail times come again no more." Rather paradoxical, but showing the great strength of his attentive high spirits, and the weight of the pressure. To-morrow, I learn, the Wilmington Light Infantry are to parade for the last time under their present gallant commander, Capt. W. L. DeRosset, who retires from the command with the best wishes of his comrades. This company well deserves the reputation which is awarded to it as first in hospitality, first in gallantry, and first in the hearts of their countrymen. Eager for the foe, they will never surrender to any *armes*, save those of the ladies. They are to have a grand jubilee at the Carolina hotel, and I have no doubt it will be piteous and bountiful—both solids and fluids; and, as a matter of course, wine and sentiment will rule the hour. Long may Capt. DeRosset live and enjoy, as he now does, the respect and esteem of his numerous friends.

Printer of the Senate.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—A caucus of Democratic Senators to-day nominated Hon. Wm. A. Harris, Editor of the Union, as Printer of the Senate.

General Walker and the Government.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—It is reported that instructions have been sent to the Southern ports to prevent supplies from being taken to this country to Gen. Walker in Nicaragua, also to libel the steamer *Pashou* upon her return to Mobile.

The "Herald" believes that the bark *Saphira*, from New York, on the third of November, took out a large quantity of stores and ammunition for Gen. Walker.

AGUSTA, Dec. 19.—The Governor of Florida directs the collectors of taxes in that State to receive all ordinary currency.

The rain commenced in Augusta last night, with a fair prospect of continuing for some time.

Arrival of Vice-President Breckinridge at Washington.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Vice-President Breckinridge arrived here to-day.

SALARIES OF PUBLIC OFFICERS IN VIRGINIA.—The salaries of several officers are advised by Governor Wise, in his message, to be increased as follows: "The secretary of the commonwealth and librarian, \$3,500; second auditor, \$3,000; treasurer, \$2,000; register, \$2,000. An increase of clerks and a clerk for the Attorney General at \$1,000, are recommended.

From the Chapel Hill Gazette.
To Gov. Swain, the President of the University, we are indebted for the following:
REPORT.
CHAPEL HILL, N. C., Dec. 4, 1857.
To the Honorable Board of Trustees of the University of North Carolina.
The Faculty respectfully report the following particulars of the regular Semi-Annual examination of the four College classes.

Due notice was given of the resolution of the Board respecting disapprovals, and care was taken in advance to prepare the students for an examination of correspondingly greater strictness. The classes are divided into small sections, and more time than usual was given to each student. Beginning on Wednesday, 24th of November, the examination was continued for six days—five hours each—in the order as published.

The Senior Class was examined on Mitchell's Chemistry, Hittcock's Geology, Whately's Logic, and Wayland's Political Economy. Of "elective studies," a part of the class examined on Adley's German Reader, and a part of Will's Outlines of Analytical Chemistry.

The Junior Class was examined on Gibbon's Rome, (Smith's) Racine, the Histories of Tacitus, the Antiquities of Sophocles, Mechanics, Hydrostatics, Pneumatics and Optics.

The Sophomore Class on Arnaut's French Reader, French grammar, the Odes of Pindar, the Satires of Horace, Homer, Demosthenes, and Trigonometry.

The Freshman Class on Smith's History of Greece, Quintus Curtius, Tenophon's, Anabasis, Algebra, and Geometry.

The Senior Class consists of ninety-one members; the Junior class one hundred and ten; the Sophomore Class one hundred and one, and the Freshman Class of seventy members.

DISTINCTIONS.
In the several classes were awarded as follows:—
Junior—1st, Messrs. Ferguson, Harris, Johnston and W. Lynch.
Kirkland 2d in Math. and Com.; 1st in the other departments.
Tobbins, 2d in Latin and Greek; 1st in the other departments.
J. H. Adams, do. do. do.
Stockton, 2d in Bi. and Mat.; 1st in others.

2d. Messrs. Croom, Eare, Fetter, Foster, Gaines, Gill, C. Green, Latham, McClammy, Morrow, Nixon, Smith and Withers.
Badger 2d in Languages; 2d in others.
3d. Messrs. Coffin, Cook, C. Frierson, Gatling, Green, Hughes, Jones, Knox, Lynch, Pillow, Rogers, Saunders, Webb and Woodburn.

Sophomore—1st, Messrs. Battle, Bryan, Hale, Royster, Seales, Strong, Wilson and Wooster.
2d, Messrs. Bond, Borden, Brooks, Bullock, Cooper, Daniel, Headen, Kelley, Martin and Weir.
3d, Messrs. Anderson, Baird, Brickell, Bruce, Butler, Fain, Goble, Graham, Howell, Kirk, McKinnon, Wm. Smith, and Woodson and Parker.
Freshman—1st, Messrs. Allen, Morehead, J. Morehead, Stehman and Yancy.
2d, Messrs. Dowd, Ely, Holston, Jones, Lee, McSwain, Potent, J. Thompson, VanWyck and Wright.
3d, Messrs. Bason, Bellamy, Carr, Fay, Hicks, Lane, W. H. Martin, and Woodson and Parker.

BANKING IN GEORGIA.—A bank bill has passed the Senate of the Georgia Legislature, the general provisions of which are:—
To grant a suspension of specie payments until the 15th November, 1858, unless there is a general resumption of specie payments at an earlier date; restricts the banks to specie or other coin on all loans and other contracts, whether on short or long time; restricts them to one per cent. as the highest limit for sight exchange; forbids them dealing in Southern or other paper at the North at usurious rates, and if proved to have done so, invalidates their claim in any court in Georgia having competent jurisdiction; compels all Presidents and Cashiers of banks to hold on to stop circulating bills, and to live in peace. But I have been told that the first company of packers that went through here this season, on their way from California to the States, shot at every Indian they saw between Carson Valley and Box Elder, and what has been the result? Probably some persons have been killed, animals have been taken from nearly all the emigrants that have passed on that road, and the Indians in that region have now more stock than they know how to take care of, and they come into the settlements with their pockets full of gold. The whites first commenced on the Indians, and now if they do not quit such conduct they must stop traveling through this country, for it is more than they can do to keep the Indians still under such outrageous treatment.

A New Breach-Loading Rifle.
TESTS AT THE ARSENAL.—The Secretary of War, officers of the British, French, and Austrian legations, members of the army and navy, with many distinguished civilians, were present yesterday, by appointment, at the Washington Arsenal, to witness experimental tests of inventions of great importance. A patent train fuse, invented by Gomez and Mills, appeared to possess all the advantages of the galvanic battery in velocity of ignition, while, as it is not detonating, it cannot be exploded by any chance blow. Cannon were fired with it almost quicker than thought at a long distance, and it was fired thirty-yards under water.

Hale's improved rocket was also satisfactorily tested. The rockets were fired from their carriage and struck with remarkable accuracy at a distance of 950 yards.—They gave the greatest satisfaction.

The great feature of the exhibition, however, was the effect of the breach-loading rifle of Mr. Morse, of Louisiana, which proved a remarkable weapon, possessing many points of novelty and of excellence. The mechanism by which the breach of the gun is opened for loading is simple, yet strong and secure. The charge is contained in small metallic cartridges, which have at one extremity a conical-pointed hollow ball; and then comes the very small amount of powder required; and at the other extremity is the percussion cap. These cartridges can be easily loaded, and re-loaded, and can be used for a long time. The piece is loaded and fired in four motions, viz: the first opens the breech, withdraws the shell of the last cartridge fired, and cocks the piece; at the second motion the loaded cartridge is inserted; at the third motion the cock is let down, and at the fourth motion the cock can be let down, or the piece fired. After the most severe tests, there was no evidence of its aim, and it received the highest praise from the many distinguished and well qualified judges present. Major Bell, the commandant at the Arsenal, entertained the gentlemen present with his accustomed hospitality.—Washington Union.

Testings of Pouch.
Punch's first picture represents a fierce Chinese army, with shields, spears, lances and pig tails, driven off by a corps of Italian organists, playing "My Mary Ann," "Bobbing Around," and "Poor Dog Tray."
The English beat the Yankees in one thing—bragging. Witness—
Changyong and Company.
The glory of Leonidas
Eternal will and should remain,
With his name on his shield and his Pass,
When those three hundred men were slain.
England has sons as good as he,
As hard a heart as he will bore;
Old Sparta kept her name,
Old England longer held her name.
And Leonidas was relieved and won,
Against an overwhelming host,
And Havelock, conquering chief, has done
Yet better than Leonidas.
His common nobly failed,
Will history never cease to tell:
How England, in like straits, prevailed,
And Britons triumphed as they fell.
Punch jokes a little about the panic, and chronicles a few of its effects:—
Mr. Larker was so "engaged in the city" while the money pressure lasted, that he never once reached home until past midnight, and then was so much overcome that he could not take his boots off.

McFlinn's Co., the great North Carolina house, had been preparing a snuff for upwards of a twelvemonth; and now, it is believed, he has attributed his misfortune entirely to the panic, and no doubt will be rewarded with a first class certificate.
The wife of a respectable and highly cautious stockbroker was so alarmed by what she heard her husband say about the "low state of the bank resources" and the "drain of gold from the establishment," that she made haste to realize her property, and to keep, and in her hurry purchased more things for her wardrobe than she had.

Another bill discounter, of strictly Christian tenets, was thrown in such a state of mind by finding that some "paper" he had been "doing" had in fact been doing him, that to compose himself for rest he was prescribed the strongest anodyne, and even Mr. Smith's Poems failed to set him nodding.
Mr. Brown's wife's mother, chancing to be staying with them, took occasion of the panic to read a lecture on economy to Mr. B. at dinner time, in answer to his grumbling at "that blanketed cotton!"

The chairman at a meeting of an agricultural society was so affected by the sight of the new savings bank, he was awarding to prize laborers, that he immediately wrote off a letter to the Times, declaring that there need be no fears of distress among the working classes, for the peasantry he knew had hoards of gold, which they, when out of work, could well live back upon.
A Belgravia footman who had been "investing" some spare "penceknives" in three per cent. was so overjoyed at the suspension of the bank note, and the consequent advance of government securities, that he actually returned a civil answer to a lady who called to apply for a governess's place.

Punch laments his large picture "The American Crisis," John addresses Jonathan paternally—"The fact is, both you and your wife have been living too fast."—John is smoking as he bestrides a rocking-chair, and with his feet to the back of it, he is saying, "I had for the loss of 'carriage and fixins.'" John Bull looks like the old fool that he is, buying things in this country that nobody here would buy, and lending to people here double of what they could get trusted in America. We suspect John will discover, before he gets through, that he and his wife, as well as Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan, have been living "too fast."

Punch's "take off" of "Fanny Fern" is capital, though sooth to say, he compliments her over much in selecting her style as the common speech of American womanhood. Fanny is made to conclude as follows:—
"The men have shown that they ain't up to the pace required in these go-ahead days, so now we'll try our luck. Let them be off to Saragosa, let Sarah anybody like him. We come to take the business, and we'll have, Yes, Sirs. We'll begin by making one big bonfire in Broadway of all their books and bills and botheration, and the gallant firemen of New York (far nobler fellows, as I have said elsewhere, than any of the haughty aristocracy of England, or the upper ten either) shall see that we don't let the city afire. Then we'll take business into our own keeping, and whip me for a fool if by next fall every thing that is worth anything is not in our hands, and discounts and protests (except about our beauty, eh, girls?) and all that blatheration, as the poor Irish exiled patriots prettily call it. We will have the almighty dollar naked in all its silver loveliness, and he shall be wrapped up in no paper of any kind. That's our basis, our declaration of independence, and we will fight any number of Bunker's Hills upon it.—Hail Columbia, happy land, the gods have took your cause in hand. What do you say to that, my Cats?"
FANNY FERN.

The Universal Alphabet.—It has only three letters, but they are understood all over the world, viz: "L. S. D."
Motto for Queen Isabella.—"The pleasures that we love physics (Spain)."
Irish Proverbs.—Every goose thinks his wife a duck. No news in a newspaper isn't good news. Manners make the gentleman, and the want of them drives him else where for a show of civility.
A miss is as good as a mile of old women.
Too many cooks spoil the broth of a house.
It is a good head of hair that has no turning.
It's foolish to spile one's dinner for a half port of tarts.
There are as fine bulls in Ireland as ever came out of it.
Necessity has no law, but an uncommon number of lawyers.
Better to look like a great fool, than to be the great fool you look.
A soft answer may turn away wrath, but in a chancery suit, a soft answer is only likely to turn the scales against you.
One fortune is remarkably good until you have had another one told you.
Don't halloo until you have got your head out of the wood, particularly at Doneybrook Fair.

A Nation of Talkers.—It seems that the French language has 5,000 more words than the English. Upon this fact being mentioned to a lady, she said—"Well, I'm sure they must want them all for the French talk ever so much more than we do."
Jones—the philosopher Jones—has discovered the respective natures of a Distinction and a Difference.—He says that a little Difference frequently makes many enemies, while a little Distinction attracts hosts of friends.

Congressional.
WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The Standing Committee of the Senate has appointed:
Mr. HUNTER, of Virginia, to introduce a bill to-morrow for the issue of Treasury notes.
A debate occurred in the Senate between GREENE (Dem.) of Missouri, and DOUGLASS, (Dem.) of Illinois upon the Leocompton Convention movement.
The bill occupied its new hall to-day. It will be excessively interesting to all the people of South Carolina to know that the reporters are very indignant at the want of accommodation therein, for their comfort. The proceedings of the other members of the House are a non-event.—Tel. Cor. of the Charleston Courier.

Congress—Wednesday, Dec. 16th.
SENATE.—After the appointment of the standing committee, the Kansas question was discussed during the remainder of the day by Messrs. Green and Douglas, in speeches of marked ability, which were at the same time characterized by courtesy and good temper. The subject was then postponed until Monday next, when it is expected that Mr. Bright will occupy the floor.
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—The House met in the new hall. Several Executive communications were received; after which the members drew for seats. Mr. J. Glancy Jones, of Pennsylvania, from the committee of Ways and Means, reported the bill making appropriation for the payment of invalid and other pensions.—Mr. Stewart, of Maryland, presented the memorial of Mr. Bruce, in relation to the petition of Mr. White, contesting the seat of Mr. J. M. Harris. The President's message was then taken up on a motion to print, when Mr. Cox, of Ohio, presented his views on the Kansas question, opposing its admission into the Union with the Leocompton constitution. Mr. Hughes, of Indiana, followed in defence of the position taken by the President. A special committee was authorized to inquire into the necessity of additional inspectors and other officers of the House; after which it adjourned.

THURSDAY, Dec. 17.—SENATE.—A large number of petitions were presented and appropriately referred; also, several bills were introduced, of which notice had previously been given, the most important of which are: The Pacific Railroad bill, which organizes the Territory of Arizona, and a homestead bill.
A select committee was appointed, on the motion of Mr. Sillid, to investigate the condition of the banks of the District of Columbia; also, a select committee, on the motion of Mr. Gwin, on the subject of a Pacific railroad.

On motion by Mr. Trumbull, the credentials of Messrs. Bright and Fish were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, together with the protests presented at the last session against their right to their seats.
Mr. Hunter reported a bill to authorize the issue of treasury notes; which he will call up for consideration to-morrow. The senate then elected Wm. A. Harris as Public Printer, and, after an executive session, adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—The death of Hon. G. Montgomery, member elect from the 12th congressional district of Pennsylvania, was announced to-day by his colleague, Mr. Leidy, who delivered an appropriate address. Mr. Florence, of Pennsylvania, also paid a tribute to the virtues of the deceased, and, after the adoption of the usual resolutions, the House adjourned.
WASHINGTON.

THE VIRTUAL ESTABLISHMENT OF BRITISH SUPREMACY IN INDIA.—The virtual re-establishment of British supremacy in India, and the prospect of a reformed organization in all the departments of the British Eastern Empire, have naturally opened the springs of religion as well as political agitation.
The Bishop of Oxford has delivered at Reading, Eng., a long lecture in support of foreign missions. With respect to India, he strongly denounced the sanctioning and maintenance by the British authority there of the native superstitions, affirming the true interpretation of the cause of England's recent disasters to be that "England had been false to England's faith, and timid of avowing England's God."

THE PORK TRADE.—The weather yesterday turned cooler, and the packers commenced slaughtering in the city. The market for hogs is very quiet, and prices are twelve hundred hogs. Prices are unchanged, and we quote hogs at \$5 25 net. According to the estimates of the packers, there have been nearly two hundred thousand hogs contracted for, to be packed at this point this season, and it is fully expected that it will exceed that number. The receipts are quite heavy, and all the packers' pens were full last night. Messrs. A. S. White & Co. received in one drove, on foot, 700 head from Washington county.

A number of the hands engaged at the pork-houses yesterday struck for higher wages. They were the "hog shavers," who wanted their pay increased, but did not succeed, and in the evening most of them came to terms with the packers. At their pork-houses, have already slaughtered 10,800 hogs, and will think the entire number killed this far this season, around the falls, amounts to 60,000.—Louisville Courier, 11th inst.

Some 200,000 women, in France, gain employment by the manufacture of laces. They are all hand-made—that is, with bobbins, upon a small, portable cushion—except at Alencon, where the needle is employed, and the work done on parchment. The different appellations given to the most popular patterns, are: the finest of all made—Bayeux, Chantilly, Lille, Arras, Mirecourt, DuPuy, Bouilleul, Alencon, and, although made in the same way, they are instantly recognized by the peculiar style of the district. The scarfs and mantillas of Bayeux, for which it is celebrated, are very rare and beautiful.—No where but in France could design and execution be so united. The berthes and collars and cuffs of Alencon, collars of guipure and point d'Anguille, have the most delicate and graceful patterns, and are of the finest possible work. The point d'Alencon is worked entirely with the needle, and is the only lace now made in France of pure linen thread, the thread being worth from one hundred to one hundred and twenty francs per pound. It is the richest lace in the world, and the strongest, and consequently its price is the highest. It is a lace of very ancient date, having been introduced into France by Venetian workmen, in 1660, and is different from other laces; for, while in other fabrics only one worker is required to make the richest piece, the Alencon requires from fourteen to sixteen different workers for the smallest size—even a quarter of a yard, and the most simple pattern. The guipure, which is the French Honiton, is made at Mirecourt, from whence proceed all the French improvements and novelties in lace-making.

TEXAS TRADE WITH EUROPE.—Texas, the most remote of our cotton growing States from its European markets of exchange, is leading the way nobly in the race of direct trade and commercial independence. Her brief years of independent nationality was of immense advantage to her in this respect, as it brought her into contact with Europe directly by her own ports with all the articles she needed from their manufacturers, at the best prices and minus the discount of two or three shipments and brokersages. It also brought to her shores a hardy, direct immigration, which is even now planting her third-rate soil with vineyards, destined ere long to astonish and supplant the wine-growers of Europe, and to furnish the most valuable of her exports. The French Honiton, is made at Mirecourt, from whence proceed all the French improvements and novelties in lace-making.

A PAPER PRINTED AT SEA.—Two copies of a sea newspaper, called the Vanderbilt Daily News, have been forwarded to our table. These papers take their title from the ship in which they were published, and are not only the time carefully marked on which they make their appearance, but also the latitude and longitude in which they were printed at the hour of publication. The typography is beautiful, and the editorials are humorous and appropriate to the limited area of news on a board of the largest steamers. The following is a specimen of the news department:—It may be sufficient for the gentleman to state that a certain quack and venerable gentleman among our passengers is not the Hon. Excellency James Buchanan, travelling incognito on a visit to Spain, nor is a certain young gentleman, the recently appointed Minister to France, to succeed the hospitable, free, and accepted Mason. We have also full permission to state that the young lady of fair complexion and golden hair, who is the Empress of the French in disguise, is the lady with dark hair and eyes, the distinguished authoress of the "Wide, Wide World."—London Star.