

Our neighbor of the Herald don't like Democratic organization—it don't like it through all of two columns. It has a serious and serial objection to it. It objects to it and continues its objections.

Now, we don't wonder that any organ of the opposition should have decided objections against the organization of the Democrats. Just so long as that organization is kept up, just so long is victory secure, and all chance for the opposition perfectly hopeless. Of this we must suppose the Herald to be conscious; and, no doubt, the opponents of the Democratic party, generally, would be highly pleased to see apathy pervade its ranks. That would be directly into their hands. It might even give them one of those opportunities of which they are now and then able to avail themselves—it might place it in their power to taste the sweets of victory over the Democratic party—a victory the more prized because of its rarity, and the certainty that its achievement can hardly be hoped for again without the occurrence of some accidental position of affairs as to that which nearly all the few victors of the opposition at the South have been due.

The Herald seems to dwell with much emphasis upon the fact that public opinion appears to have settled down into the belief that there will be no regularly nominated gubernatorial candidate of the party opposed to the Democracy of North Carolina, but that in all human probability the whole strength that can be rallied by the opposition will be cast for some candidate of Democratic affinities, but willing to make an issue with his former party friends upon the Distribution question, or any other question that may be used plausibly as a "good enough Morgan."

Why should it be thought wonderful that difficulties should arise in the ranks of the Democratic party? We must all have our troubles, and unless we fought a little among ourselves we would have too jolly a time altogether. There is not vitality enough left in any other organization at the South to endanger our ascendancy in a fair contest at the ballot-box, and if we are to see any serious opposition, it must take the Democratic name.

We don't exactly understand all the programme. Mr. McRae, in his letter to Mr. Dancy, distinctly says that he cannot and will not be a candidate for Governor, but he wants a practical farmer. Well the practical farmer comes out and requests the Fayetteville papers to announce "myself" as a candidate for Governor. In spite of Mr. McRae's call for a farmer, seconded by another loud call from the Raleigh Register, there appears to be a disinclination to take up with the obliging offer of Mr. Leak—in fact there is disorganization among the disorganizers. The Register subs Leak. Several organs of the American or Know Nothing party say they will go the straight anti-Democratic stripe or nothing. They will not pull the wires which some of their leaders are trying to fix. These leaders virtually say to their party "We are used up crowd—the Democrats have got the people with them—if we run on our own hook we will certainly be beaten—let us try another scheme—let us try and disorganize these Democrats. We may not succeed this time but we may effect something. We may sow the seeds of disunion from which we may reap some advantage hereafter. Let us push forward Mr. McRae. Let us sympathize with him—let us assure him that he is an ill-used man. Mr. McRae is a good speaker—he may do for us what we cannot do for ourselves—he may distract the Democrats of the State and then we may come in."

The Democratic party of North-Carolina is not so blind as not to see this movement. It is not so inexperienced as not to know that the hour of fancied supremacy is that in which attacks of this kind are most to be apprehended. It is not so apathetic as to lie dormant and not use the just and proper means in its power to maintain the integrity of its principles and its organization.

It is no new thing for disorganizers to arise in the ranks of the dominant party, nor for outsiders to endeavour to take advantage of the movements set on foot by these disorganizers, or of the aspirations cherished by them. At least two districts in this State have been canvassed by professing Democrats on this issue. The fate of those who made the attempt might afford valuable lessons to others anxious to try the same experiment, while the temporary success of a member of the opposition, in one of these districts, ought to give a warning not to be forgotten by Democrats.—The only national defeat the Democratic party has sustained since 1840 was inflicted upon it through the disorganizing efforts of one whom it had promoted to the highest office upon earth.—Martin Van Buren. But where was he left and what became of the Democratic party? At the next trial it rallied its forces and achieved a victory unparalleled in the political annals of the country and that victory, spite of many a disorganizing attempt since, still perches upon its banners.

But speaking of disorganization—what politician who has, for any length of time, observed the political movements of the country can have failed to remark the effects of disorganization upon the ephemeral combinations that have from time to time arisen to contest the palm of supremacy with the Democratic party? They have sprung up—had their brief day, and passed off the stage, leaving hardly a name behind. They have, indeed, been disorganized, while the Democratic party has survived every storm, and arisen stronger from every trial. Men have left her, but she has remained—her principles have been attacked, but the legislation of the country has been shaped in accordance with them. Her organization has been weakened, but never destroyed; nor has it ever failed eventually to triumph over all the machinations of disorganizers. But for all this, the Democratic party is not intolerant nor proscriptive. It does not, for trifling or inadequate causes, desert or denounce those who have done it service, or in whom it has reposed confidence.—Mistakes in policy it can excuse—errors in judgment it can pass over, but open violation of principle it can regard in only one light—it can attach to it only one effect—that of putting the persons so acting out of the pale of the party, and this by their own deliberate act, while such act is persevered in.

Whether, with a Treasury forced to resort to borrowing, the United States is prepared to grant bounty lands to the States as the pensioners or beneficiaries of the General Government, or whether the Southern States are willing to accept of such grants or donations with the certainty of having to pay them back in the shape of high tariffs to put money out of the pockets of their own citizens and into the pockets of New England manufacturers of the abolition school, is a question yet to be decided; but permit us to say, that in regard to how the decision will be made we have not the shadow of a doubt. The whole distribution agitation, if precipitated upon us as at the existing canvass for Governor can serve no end but that of excitement here amongst us in North Carolina. It cannot result in pushing distribution through Congress, and to this conclusion those who understand the signs of the times, and have drawn from them the only possible inference, must have come. It must fall in making any impression upon the ranks of the aroused and forearmed Democracy of North Carolina. We trust that the whole Democratic press of the State will do its duty, and if doing so be objected to, we hope it will make itself very objectionable. We are inclined to think it will, though the office will not be on its part, either in act or intention.

As for the "plunder," and all that sort of thing—if there be any of it, as there may be elsewhere—it is next to nothing in North Carolina—nothing at all to us. If that were required to keep the Democrats of North Carolina together, their cohesion would be very short-lived indeed. If that were required to stimulate us to a defence of our principles, then would our efforts in that cause be feeble indeed. Go abroad among the fifteen hundred Democratic voters of New Hanover county, or the eleven hundred of Duplin, or the nine or ten hundred of Sampson, or the vast number of any of the counties of this or the other districts of the State, and what do they look for—what do they promise themselves as the reward of victory, beyond the triumph of what they believe to be right principles and sound policy?

By and with the advice and consent of the Senate. John Appleton, of Maine, to be Assistant Secretary of State of the United States. Richard K. Meade, of Virginia, to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States to Brazil. William B. Reed, of Pennsylvania, to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States to China. John Bigler, of California, to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States to the Netherlands. Henry C. Murphy, of New York, to be minister resident of the United States to the Netherlands. Benjamin F. Angel, of New York, to be minister resident of the United States to Constantinople. William B. Calhoun, of South Carolina, to be secretary of the legation of the United States at Paris.

We cut the above from the Washington Union, and feel disposed to offer some remarks in reference to the subject suggested by it—that of appointments. Not that we have any personal interest in that matter, but because certain considerations present themselves to our minds, appealing to our State pride or to our sense of right in other respects. It is always easy to carp at Congressional delegations and to charge them with a desire to control or influence executive appointments to suit themselves, or to promote their own ends. Even our own delegation, we regret to say, has not escaped reproach although they have avoided giving cause for it to an extent which threatens to lay them open to animadversion upon another score.

Apart from the interests or feelings of the individual or individuals appointed to any high office or office, there is an implied compliment, an evidence of consideration to the State from which the selection is made, and the neglect to do so to a fair extent, is not without justice construed into a tacit disregard of the claims and rights of the State so neglected. The question will be asked—Does the State so neglected, say North Carolina, contain no men fit to fill positions of honor in the public service? Is she so insignificant as not to deserve respectful notice or consideration? Are the citizens of other States more worthy of recognition or consideration? Are the recommendations made by other delegations more earnestly pressed or more respectfully regarded by the Administration?

No doubt members of Congress would gladly be relieved from all responsibility on account of appointments—from all demand for their intervention in such matters. Generally speaking, our North Carolina members, spite of any intensions that have been made against them, are too backward in this matter—certainly so as compared with their more pushing neighbors, and thus it begins to happen that the results of delicacy of feeling will be set down as the lack of earnestness or of influence. Thus it happens, that out of 191 missions and consulates filled up to the 4th day of November last, North Carolina had none. From the same characteristic delicacy of feeling pervading the South, it has also happened, that out of these 191 foreign appointments, the North, from which Mr. Buchanan received a very limited supply, has 129, while the South, which went for him in nearly unbroken column, has only 52. North Carolina has not now, and never has had since the days of Washington, a man at the head of a single bureau. At least, so we are informed.

Now, these things amount to little in themselves. As individuals we care nothing for them—as citizens of the State, they appeal to us in a different way. North Carolina, as a State—a Democratic State—deserves, at least, as much consideration as any of her neighbors.—Her delegation will be expected to urge her claims to this consideration, and to have these claims recognized. We neither know the name, nor care to know the name, of a single individual presented for appointment to any office outside of the State. Our feeling is general—it is respect to the reputation of the State, which must suffer by the exclusion of her citizens. We think it can only be necessary for this matter to be brought fairly to the attention of the Executive, and, instead of finding fault with our Representatives for so doing, we would gladly strengthen their hands were it in our power to do so.

A NEW COLONIZATION SCHEME.—We see that Francis P. Blair, Jr., an abolition member of Congress from Missouri, and Eli Thayer, another of the same kidney from Massachusetts, have commenced agitating a new colonization scheme. They propose that the United States shall acquire by purchase, or by some other peaceful means, a tract or tracts of land either in Central or South America, to be colonized by the free negroes of the United States.—Thayer proposes in this manner to forestall Southern action and render impracticable the creation of slaveholding States or communities to the Southward. His attempt is best known at the South in connection with his attempt at free soil colonization in Virginia. He made quite a parade over the matter, and got together a company. They got land somewhere in Western Virginia, and started a village which they called Cerro.—It is now literally a "deserted village." He was also one of the free soil managers under the "Emigrant Aid Society," for the abolishing of Kansas, so that one way or the other, he has had his share of experience—such as it is. The miserable population of the Mosquito Coast, composed as it mainly is, of Jamaica negroes, does not, certainly, hold out any flattering prospects or inducements for further colonization of the same character. The same class of negroes are the pests of the Panama Transit Route, in fact they are already the curse of every point on the Central American coast where they can squat and steal.

Dr. Hon. John B. Ashe, formerly a member of Congress from Tennessee, died in Texas recently.

We copy the above paragraph from one of our exchanges. We had before noticed it in the papers, but from the fact that Mr. Ashe's relatives here had heard nothing of it, we were led to hope that it might be incorrect. We regret to learn, however, that it is even true, information having been received here this morning confirming the announcement. Hon. J. B. Ashe was a native of this county—the eldest son of Col. Samuel Ashe, and brother of Hon. W. S. Ashe and T. H. Ashe, Esq., of Wilmington, and Dr. Richard P. Ashe of California. He died on the 9th December, 1857, at his residence in Texas, not far from Galveston, we believe. He must have been about forty-eight years of age, and had been in rather feeble health for some considerable time previous to his death. Our acquaintance with him was very limited, having been formed during a brief visit which he paid to Wilmington some years ago, when he was warmly received by the friends of his youth, who still retained for him a warm attachment and respect. He was universally regarded as a gentleman of fine talents and estimable character, and his election to Congress from the district in which he resided in Tennessee, shows the estimation in which he was held by the people of that State. Since his removal to Texas, he has participated but slightly in public business. Originally a Whig, he had fit his duty, under the changed position of affairs at the South, to co-operate fully with the Democratic party.

Mr. Ashe, we learn, leaves a considerable family to mourn his loss.—Daily Journal, 15th inst.

The capture of Col. Anderson's command by Captain Sands of the Susquehanna, turns out to have been, as was supposed, a voluntary surrender on one side and the extension of protection on the other. It would appear that the United States forces went some miles up the river to meet the filibusters.

It would appear as though Anderson before he left Castillo, was guilty of any number of outrages in the slaughter of cattle and destruction of property. We cannot but think that this ends filibustering for the present, although we have understood that officers in Walker's force, or at least persons holding official positions in connection with the enterprises carried on under his name, have passed through here, and that a force was now collecting somewhere South—say at New Orleans, and would shortly start again for Nicaragua. They seem to think that the authorities will not interfere with them any more than they can help. In this we feel certain that they are mistaken, and they will soon find out their error when they come to the execution of their projects.

FROM CALIFORNIA.—We are indebted to the courtesy of John Cowan, Esq., for a copy of the Stockton Weekly Democrat of December 21st, 1857, sent on by his brother, Dr. Cowan, of California. It is published at \$5 a year, by Rasey Biven, Esq., Editor. We find little news of striking interest. Politics seem to be about as dead in California as they well can be, for the present. Some little reference is made to General Walker, but with no apparent interest. The Democrat states the amount of public land in California, already surveyed, at 15,000,000 acres, all of which is open for settlement, with the exception of about 300,000 acres. It thinks that two-thirds of this consists of good arable land.

Railroad Statistics.—Dismore's Railroad Guide states the number of miles of Railroad in actual operation in the United States on the first day of January, 1858, at 25,965 3/4, constructed at a total cost of \$918,146,600, which strikes us as being too low by at least 25 per cent. There are in the non-slaveholding States 18,251 1/2 miles, and in the slaveholding States 7,714. Amount expended in construction North \$691,020,146. Amount South \$227,126,466. New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Illinois are the great railroad States. New York having 2,700 1/2 miles, Pennsylvania 2,773 1/4, Ohio 2,728 1/2, and Illinois 2,616. Of the Southern States, Virginia is first, having 1,321 3/4 miles; Georgia next, with 1,185 1/2; Tennessee third, with 887 1/2; Maryland fourth, with 798 1/2; South Carolina fifth, with 748 1/2; North Carolina sixth, with 675 miles. Although Maryland ranks fourth of the Southern States in the length of her railroads, she is first in the amount of money expended.

Our neighbor of the Herald certainly takes a great many things on faith. It thinks there can be little doubt that Commodore Paulding, in his arrest of Walker upon the soil of Nicaragua, acted upon private instructions from the President. This is all assumption, not only without proof, but contradicted by every circumstance occurring before and since—by the President's message—by the published instruction to Commodore Paulding and to Lieut. Almy of the Fulton. It is certain that the President anxiously desired the breaking up of Walker's expedition—it is equally certain that he characterizes the landing for the purpose of seizing him upon Nicaragua soil as a grave error. Again, we don't think the President is "applauded" for anything connected with Commodore Paulding. The utmost limit of "applause" in that case, is the amount which the President himself awards to Commodore Paulding—namely, the absence of censure. The President palliates a grave error committed by a faithful public servant, in consideration of high character, patriotic motives, and the absence of complaint by the party really entitled to complain. The people of the country will sympathize with the President in his conscientious desire to enforce the laws, and will think that, perhaps, the course pursued towards Commodore Paulding may have been the best under the circumstances. That is the whole of it.

Now, the President never gave any orders to Walker to interfere in Kansas. He passed over many individual expressions of opinion on the part of that functionary, but brought him up with a round turn when these opinions took the shape of acts.

LATEST NEWS.—Further details of California news by the last steamer report that Lieut. Beale would soon return to Texas.—The camels remained on the Tizon reservation in Sonora. In Lower California political affairs were quiet. A dreadful hurricane on the coast had occurred. It drove thirteen vessels ashore and destroyed many houses at La Posse and San Bernardino. The Mormons had all gone to Salt Lake. From Aspinwall the further news is that the U. S. frigate Washburn was bringing home Colonel Anderson's command. Col. Anderson before surrendering destroyed all the buildings and cattle at Castillo, and broke up the machinery of the lake steamer.

The steamer Isabel arrived at Charleston on the 13th, with Havana dates to the 10th inst. She brings no news of material importance. Sugars were firm, with unchanged prices. Molasses had declined. The Ohio Legislature has passed resolutions expressing confidence in the administration of Mr. Buchanan; reaffirming the Cincinnati platform; instructs her Senators, and requests her Representatives in Congress to vote against the admission of Kansas into the Union, under the Lecompton Constitution, or any other Constitution, without first having been adopted by the people. A Resolution has been introduced into the House of Representatives of the New Jersey Legislature, instructing their Senators and Representatives to vote against the admission of Kansas under the Lecompton Constitution. The resolution has not yet been acted on.

Gov. Denver's Message to the Legislature of Kansas called attention to the second schedule of the Lecompton Constitution, and advises that no action be taken in the matter until the decision of Congress upon the subject be known. If Congress shall admit Kansas into the Union under said Constitution. The intelligence received at St. Louis from Kansas is to the 13th inst., by telegraph. The report states that the pro-slavery party in Kansas has carried the ticket for State officers and Legislature at the election on the 4th inst. It is stated that Gov. Denver placed troops at the disposal of the free State men for the purpose of preventing any invasion that might be attempted of the border counties.

Several cotton failures are reported to have taken place in Mobile, in consequence, it is alleged, of the fall in the price of cotton. The receipts into the United States Treasury have considerably improved the past week. The \$100 notes have been issued at the rate of one hundred thousand dollars per day. None of a larger denomination have yet been received from the engravers. The Washington N. C. Dispatch of the 14th inst. states that White Shad have already been caught in Pamlico river and sold in that market at 81 per cent—half credit. The following officers were elected by the Sampson County Agricultural Society on the 2d inst., to serve for one year: President, Dr. Thos. Bunting; Vice Presidents, J. R. Beaman, W. C. Draughton, C. H. Stevens, F. J. Faison, and H. Boykin; Recording Secretary, E. L. Perkins; Corresponding Secretary, A. A. McKay; Treasurer, G. W. Draughton; Auditing Committee, W. Johnson, L. C. Hubbard, and G. W. Atkins.

Among the appointments confirmed by the U. S. Senate, we notice that of Francis W. Pickens, of South Carolina, to be envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States to Russia.

Hon. David S. Reid. We regret to learn from the Washington Union, that the Hon. David S. Reid, of North Carolina, has been confined by severe illness nearly two weeks at Richmond, Virginia, while returning to Washington, accompanied by his family. We are happy to learn, from the same paper, that on Saturday he was convalescent; and we hope that he may soon be able to proceed to the scene of his important duties.

Four Days Later from Europe.—The steamer North American, from Liverpool, with dates to the 20th inst., has arrived at Portland. The steamer America, from Boston, arrived out on the 28th ult. There was a prospect of a further reduction of bank rates. Lord Harley would be succeeded in the British ministry by Lord Clarendon. The reduction would be fully confirmed. The slaughter of the rebels had been very great. The U. S. steamer Minnesota, with the U. S. Commissioner to China, had reached Hong Kong. Speedy operations against Canton by the British were anticipated.

It is said that all the exiled French generals have received an unconditional invitation to return to France, on no other plan than that the French Government would be prepared to furnish them with a transport, caught fire and half destroyed. She succeeded, however, in reaching Mauritius with the troops. Later from Europe.—The mail steamer America has arrived with Liverpool dates of the 31st inst. The Liverpool cotton market had an advancing tendency, and all qualities were slightly dearer since the sailing of the North American. Breadstuffs were steady. Provisions quiet. Consols were quoted at 94 1/2 for money, and 94 3/4 for account.

[SECOND DISPATCH].—Sales of cotton for four days were 40,000 bales, and the advance was called 1/4 per cent. The money market was slightly easier at 7 1/8 per cent. There is a growing case in the British money market, but the bank of England made no change in rates. The holidays checked business. The loss of the rebels in Lucknow is estimated at 7,000. It was estimated that Canton would be invested by the 1st of December. M. Houdel is appointed Belgian Minister to Washington. Severe Storm at New Orleans.—NEW ORLEANS, JAN. 15.—A severe storm, amounting almost to a hurricane, passed over this city this afternoon. Fifteen ships broke from their moorings, and were carried to sea. The houses were unroofed, and the steamboats sustained immense damage. Several lives have also been lost. The buildings on the lake, at the end of Poydras street, were half destroyed. No news from the Gulf has yet been received.

From New Mexico.—ST. LOUIS, JAN. 14.—Advices from New Mexico have been received, giving the organization of the Legislature. Donaciana Vigil had been elected President of the Senate, and Merville Ashurst, of Alabama, Speaker of the House. The Gazette has been purchased by a party of gentlemen, who design placing it on a permanent basis. It will support the administration. Governor Bencher calls the attention of the Legislature to the mineral and agricultural wealth of the Territory, the condition of the treasury and the importance of establishing courts in each county.

Yellow Fever at Havana and Port au Prince.—NEW YORK, JAN. 15.—Private advices from Havana state that Sig. Anonia, the celebrated bassist of the Matetzky troupe, was sick with the yellow fever. No other of the troupe broke from their moorings, and were carried to sea. The houses were unroofed, and the steamboats sustained immense damage. Several lives have also been lost. The buildings on the lake, at the end of Poydras street, were half destroyed. No news from the Gulf has yet been received.

Later from Kansas.—ST. LOUIS, JAN. 15.—The Republican, of this city, says that Calhoun has returned to Lecompton under an escort of troops. He would leave Leavenworth on Wednesday for the Indian Territory, and thence to the mouth of the river, where he is expected to-night. Congress, January 15.—SENATE.—Mr. Doolittle introduced a joint resolution directing the presentation of a medal to Commodore Hiram Paulding. After the usual morning business, the Senate resumed the consideration of the joint resolution to extend and define the authority of the President, under the approval of Congress, to suspend any act to amend an act entitled "An act to promote the efficiency of the navy," in respect to dropped and retired officers. The proviso submitted by Mr. Hunter, that the number of officers on the active list shall not be increased, was reconsidered and rejected; when the joint resolution was read a third time and passed. Mr. Fitch made a personal explanation in reference to the proposed amendment of the late Indiana State convention, and after some remarks by Mr. Douglas and Mr. Hale upon the same subject, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—The House went into Committee of the Whole, Mr. Phelps, of Missouri, in the Chair, and resumed the consideration of the pending question, being the reference of the President's message to the standing committee, Mr. Curtis, of Iowa, finished his remarks, urging the construction of a railroad to the Pacific, instead of seeking to open a route across the Nicaragua isthmus. Mr. Clay, of Kentucky, followed, sustaining the views of the President on the Nicaragua question. Mr. Pottle, of New York, urged the same views. Mr. Lamar, of Mississippi, advocated the acquisition of Kansas under the Lecompton Constitution. Mr. Montgomery, of Pennsylvania, followed, also in support of the President's views. Mr. Stephens, of Georgia, then obtained the floor, the committee rose, and the House adjourned.—Union.

Congress, January 14th.—SENATE.—Mr. Houston gave notice of his intention on some early day to ask leave to introduce a bill to provide for the admission of Kansas into the Union as a State. The joint resolution, directing the presentation of a medal to Commodore Hiram Paulding, was taken up and read a second time; when it was made the special order for Wednesday next at one o'clock. Mr. Chandler gave notice of his intention, on some early day, to ask leave to introduce a bill making additional appropriations for deepening the channel of the St. Clair Falls. Several private bills were considered and passed; and after the consideration of executive business, the Senate adjourned until Monday next.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—The House went into Committee of the Whole on the reference of the President's message to the standing committee, Mr. Phelps, of Missouri, in the chair, when Mr. Stephens addressed the committee on the neutrality laws, urging that amendments were required to render them effectual to accomplish the objects intended. Mr. Blair, of Missouri, followed, advocating the acquisition of territory southward, on which to colonize the free negroes of the United States and the slaves who may be liberated hereafter.—The remainder of the day was taken up in five-minute speeches upon amendments, of which a number were offered. Without final action the committee rose, and the House adjourned until to-morrow.—Union.

THE GRAVE OF PATRICK HENRY.—The Richmond Enquirer says that Patrick Henry's grave, in Charlotte county, Va., has been until recently unmarked by a stone. It is now marked by a solid wall of the fine sand stone—quarried on the place—nine feet ten inches square, and two feet high, with a superincumbent six feet square twenty-two inches high, with marble slabs projecting over the sides. On one of the slabs is inscribed: "Patrick Henry. Born May 29th, 1736. Died June 6th, 1799. His fame his best epitaph." On the other: "Dorothea Dandridge, wife of Patrick Henry. Born in the year 1755. Died February 14th, 1831. It will thus be seen that his wife sleeps by his side. In Charlotte county, in Red Hill, the residence of John Henry, Esq., these sacred relics lie. Would it not be well for the State of Virginia to add a stone, at least, to the modest monument that marks the grave of PATRICK HENRY?

DECIMAL CURRENCY IN CANADA.—At the beginning of the present year, the old method of reckoning currency in Canada by pence, shillings and pounds was abolished, and the decimal system of this country was introduced. It is said that the new system will be found to correspond in value with our own.—Daily News.

An English paper publishes the notice of the marriage of a couple, respectively eighty-three and eighty-two years old, and says: "We have often met with the expression, 'a green old age,' but have never seen so striking an example of such a state as this has been."

The Fallures in Great Britain.—From the London Times (City Article). A week ago an estimate was made in Parliament that the liabilities of the house which have failed during the recent crisis amount to an aggregate of £45,000,000 sterling, being at least double the total reached in 1847. It may be doubted if the figures for 1858 would not be found to have amounted to more than twenty-two and a half millions, but there can be no question that on the present occasion their magnitude is much beyond anything attained at any previous period. Subjoined is a list of the principal suspensions announced at London since the beginning of October, when the pressure first decidedly commenced. Only a rough conjecture can be formed as to the total they represent, since in many instances the balance sheets remain yet to be produced, but fifteen or sixteen millions may be taken as the lowest sum. The failures in the provinces, of course, cannot be estimated with an approach to precision, but as the debts of five banks alone amount to about twenty-three millions, the Westerns of Scotland, £8,911,932, the Northumberland and Durham about £3,000,000, the Liverpool Borough about £4,000,000, the Wolverhampton and Staffordshire £1,000,000, and the City of Glasgow £6,000,000, it is evident that thirty-five millions would be a very moderate computation for this part of the question. The grand estimate is thus raised to £50,000,000 (50,000,000), and with this before them the Parliament and the public at large could not be expected to profit the cause of the evil. With the constant extension of activity peculiar to all commercial countries, it is plain that if the same causes continue to operate, the new revaluation which will be due in 1867 will as much exceed that of the present year as this exceeds what was witnessed in 1847.

A bill, containing the fact must be recognized that, according to the opinion of Parliament, the elements of mischief actually in operation are but faintly represented even in the totals now given. The doctrine is that by the prohibitions and precautions enforced by the Legislature to prevent the mercantile classes from exercising, in banking affairs, their own independent judgment, an immense amount of mischief is averted. Indeed, upon no other plan could the French system be tolerated for a moment in any branch of business in England. If under this paternal care we have suffered to the extent of fifty millions, what must be the opinion of those who uphold that system, as to the total that would have been exhibited if our traders—instead of being taught to rely upon government vigilance, had been left to the free exercise of their own judgment? The things that we regard as ordinary conceptions. The discredit to which sagacity, therefore, will be proportionately great if our legislators are unable clearly to trace and expose the baneful influences that have been at work. Out of doors a few persons venture to ask whether the wanted remedy may not, in fact, constitute the root of the disease, and if it would be very rash, after having witnessed throughout the history of the things that we regard as place under the Parliamentary guidance of banking business, to try the experiment of leaving it to its natural course. In that case, however, their functions as regards the concerns of trade would be limited to the simple duty of providing inexpensive means by which, while men were left to make such mutual contracts as they might deem best, every one attempting to falsify or break such contracts might be dealt with according to his deserts. It is much more pleasant to fancy it possible to "control" or "regulate" trade. Any man who can persuade himself, especially in a country like Great Britain, that he is called to take part in such an operation, must be conscious of immense self-importance, and, as a general rule, neither ministers, members of Parliament, nor any other of the class of men who are prone to surrender the delusion of imaginary power.

PRELUJARIETIES OF THE NEW FRENCH METAL.—According to a communication from eminent scientific authorities, in the "Comptes Rendus," Paris, it appears that the valuable properties of aluminum are increased by the presence even of small quantities of other metals.—One-twentieth of iron or copper make it almost impossible to work the alloy, while one-tenth of copper renders aluminum as brittle as glass. An alloy of five parts of silver with one hundred of aluminum works like silver, but is harder than the pure metal. The one-hundredth of bismuth renders aluminum so brittle that it cracks under the hammer even after being repeatedly annealed. The presence of aluminum in other metals often communicates valuable properties when the quantity is not too large. Thus one-twentieth part of aluminum gives copper a beautiful gold color, and hardness enough to scratch the standard alloy of gold employed for coins, without at the same time diminishing the malleability of the copper. One-tenth of aluminum gives with copper a pale gold-colored alloy of great hardness and malleability, and capable of taking a polish like that of steel. Five parts of aluminum with one hundred parts of pure silver give an alloy almost as hard as silver coin containing one-tenth of copper, and thus permits the hardening of silver, without introducing a poisonous metal. The results of these experiments show an increased variety of uses in the chemical and mechanical arts to which aluminum may be applied.

STATISTICS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COAL TRADE.—The Miner's Journal furnishes in detail the annual statistics of the Pennsylvania coal trade. The amount of anthracite coal sent to market on the seaboard in 1857 was 6,431,378 tons, and in the same time in 1856, 6,114,145; making a total of 7,545,523 tons, or a decrease of 316,223 tons compared with the year previous. Including the supply of bituminous coal in Western Pennsylvania and further west, and of Virginia, the number of tons is about 10,500,000.

In 1820, the total amount of the coal trade was only 356,000 tons; it has since increased, since then, to 10,500,000 tons, and is now valued at ten millions and a half tons annually. It is no comparison to the coal trade of Great Britain. From 1820 to the present time, the whole product in this country has been 77,536,544 tons, including a small amount imported, but in the United Kingdom, in a single year, (1856,) the product was 66,645,450 tons.

The Schuylkill region, which last year furnished more than one-half the aggregate amount of anthracite sent to market, this year falls 320,163 tons below the proportion. The Journal gives a list of 86 operators, with 122 collieries, and adds: A number of the collieries enumerated above were abandoned in the early part of the season, and afterwards abandoned. We doubt whether the number of operators who will mine this year will exceed 80, which is a decrease of 12 since last year. The number of collieries worked has decreased in a greater ratio. Last year we worked about 144 collieries. The number that will be worked this year will not exceed 115 or 120. The whole supply of coal sent from Schuylkill county in 1857 was 3,042,378.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE IN PARIS.—The President's Message was published in full by all the Parisian journals. It was telegraphed through from Liverpool to Paris in five hours and a half—the same time it was required to telegraph it to London. But the two copies came over different wires, and while the copy sent to London was in English, that to Paris was in French.—This fact shows the importance given to the Message. The comments of the press upon this document are various.—N. Y. Daily News.

From the message of T. B. Cumming, acting governor to the fourth legislative session of Nebraska Territory:—"The area of the Territory is greater than that of New York and the New England States. Our Territory has a climate, productive soil and natural advantages which will attract millions of emigrants driven to our shores by the political troubles of the Old World. Politically, we have equal reason to rejoice. Our future increase will give to us the control, to a great extent, of the country's political destiny, and it is gratifying to believe that that termination to defend the federal constitution, and preserve the Union of the States. Safe, thus far, from the interference of reckless agitators and the mad efforts of intolerant fanatics, we can furnish to the world an enviable proof of the legitimate effect of the genius and spirit of our republican institutions. No retrogression can be too severe, if it promotes the cause of the oppressed political infidelity, we are prepared to meet it with a federative system to which we owe our existence, and under which alone we can achieve true and permanent greatness."

WHO IS THE OLDEST MASON?—Certain exchanges have stated that William Clark, the oldest inhabitant of Wilmington, Del., and one of the oldest in the State, died on Tuesday morning last. The deceased had been for more than twenty years a member of the Order of Free Masons, and at the time of his death was believed by many to be the oldest Mason in the United States. The Newark Advertiser says Joseph Munn of Bloomfield, is said to be the oldest member of the Order of Free Masons in the United States.

SPECIE IN FRANCE.—The specie in circulation in France in the time of Colbert in 1661, was 600,000,000; in 1708 it was 800,000,000; in 1754, 1,600,000,000; under Necker, 2,000,000,000; in 1803, 2,800,000,000, and in 1828, 2,718,000,000; in 1852, 2,585,500,000, and at present it exceeds 6,000,000,000.—France has more specie than any other country in the world, including Austria, and four times as much as in the United States.

Late News from California.—The steamer Star of the West arrived at New York late on the evening of the 13th, with intelligence from San Francisco to the 21st December, and from Aspinwall to the 4th inst. The amount of treasure by this arrival is stated to be 1,607,000.

The following summary from the Alta Californian of the 21st December embraces the more important items of California intelligence:—During the two weeks which have elapsed since the departure of the last mail steamer copious rains have continued to fall all over the State, rejoicing alike the farmer, the miner, the merchant, and the agriculturist. The "dry diggings," as they are termed, are now abundantly supplied with the aqueous element so indispensably necessary to the development of the auriferous resources of the mineral districts. Interior journals give glowing accounts of the success of miners, and speak hopefully of the future.

A hill, containing deposits greatly resembling glass, has been discovered in Yuba county. These are found cropping out on the summit of the hill, in broken fragments of a deep brown color, crystallized, and closely resembling the glass of which bottles are made. Specimens have been sent to England and the Atlantic States for examination. A street affray occurred in Sacramento on the 17th between Charles A. Sumner, editor of the republican paper, and Henry Shipley, of the State Journal. The former, who is a relative of Hon. Charles Sumner of Boston, was badly beaten. The affair grew out of articles of crimination and recrimination indulged in by the editors of their respective journals.

A bill, Aves, at last accounts, was about to explore the Colorado river with a stern-wheeled steamer. The Sonora surveying party, under Col. Stone, has left Los Angeles. The Mariposa (Fremont) ranch is to be sold for taxes. It was assessed at over \$700,000, and the total taxes amount to \$70,000. The following from the New York Courier and Enquirer embraces the substance of the news from Central America:—The pulser of the Star of the West confirms the report received by the Empire City, by way of New Orleans, of the surrender of Col. Anderson at Castillo, but gives no particulars. A passenger by the Star of the West states that several armed boats from the United States steam frigate were sent up the river to Fort Castillo, and were ordered to land and surround the place. While negotiations were in progress Anderson sunk one of the lake steamers in thirty-five fathoms of water, and before surrendering blew up the fort and destroyed all his ammunition. Anderson and his men are now understood to be on board the steamer Washburn. In the Panama Star and Herald of the latest date, January 4, we find only the single announcement that the U. S. States steam sloop-of-war Fulton arrived at Aspinwall yesterday (30th) from San Juan de Norte. The remaining filibusters left at Castillo had surrendered themselves and one of the river steamers to the steam frigate Susquehanna.

Late and Important from Utah.—Our advices from Great Salt Lake city, by way of San Francisco, are to the 8th of November. The proposition to the Hon. Brigham Young "Prophet, Seer and Revelator" of the Mormon people was sustained unanimously in the Tabernacle. The Desert News of November 4th says:—The company from Carson began to arrive on the 1st instant, and will probably all be in by the 3d. This company, with a few exceptions, embrace all who were sent on fugitive missions to that region; also, several from California and Oregon. Mr. Bell, who in company with others, left Salt Lake on the 8th of November, furnishes a California paper with the following:—The force of the Mormons has been greatly overestimated; almost every available man has been enrolled.—In passing through the settlements Mr. Bell found that the men generally had been called out to the mountains; and yet the whole force fell far short of 10,000 men. The winter has set in with severity. In the city the snow was 2 inches deep, and in the mountains, where the Mormons were encamped, it must have been from 6 to 12 inches deep. The Mormon army was in a very poor condition, badly clothed, poorly armed, and with very little provisions. The families are represented as being in a suffering condition—wanting in provisions and wood; the winter already commenced, and the men all called off to the camps.

Mr. Bell's company had passports from Governor Young, but they were only asked for them once. It seemed as if intelligence had been sent ahead of them, and all notwithstanding their journey to California, but at one station, Nevertheless, the company was necessary, and as necessary to the bishop, hire an interpreter, and send them ahead of the company to treat with the Indians for their safe passage. By representing themselves as Mormons, using every precaution, and more particularly by the expenditure of over two thousand dollars among bishops, priests, and laymen, the company succeeded in making their