The Review.

NEW BOOKS.

In the struggle now going on in this country between the systems of Free and Slave Labor, the *facts* of the actual working of the latter, its evils and its compensations, its domestic, social, moral, economical, and political phenomena, are of primary importance to the statesman and moralist; and, in fact, to every man who desires to act wisely and understandingly upon the questions growing out of this conflict. After all that has been written on both sides, it has been difficult for a sincere seeker of the truth to obtain a clear and satisfactory knowledge of the actual results of Slavery, as developed in the daily life of planters and slaves, poor whites, and free blacks. We have seen nothing so well calculated to meet this want, as "A JOURNEY THROUGH THE SEABOARD SLAVE STATES," by F. A. Olmsted, well known as the author of "*Walks and Talks of an American Farmer in England.*" The author writes without passion or prejudice, and is uniformly genial and good-humored. He has the rare faculty of seeing things as they are, undistorted and uncolored. His book is a daguerreotype of the South. So far as we can judge, the picture is complete. Every phase of Southern life and manners is delineated with a minuteness of detail which leaves no room for critical regrets. The story of his rambles, winding brightly through the statistical facts and philosophical reflections of the volume, is so admirably told, that it has more than the interest of romance.

He enjoyed rare opportunities for studying the character of the people of the South, both bond and free; and his portraits of travelling companions and chance acquaintances, of all colors and conditions, are manifestly true to the original. The conversations which he relates with planters and slaves are never simulated or imaginary; you are as sure of their actual occurrence, as if you had listened to them in the pine barrens of Virginia, on the sand hills of the Carolinas, or while steaming up the Red river. Nothing richer in humor can be well conceived than his accounts of interviews with negro-drivers, poor whites, and rough-spoken planters, and their shiftless, slatternly housekeepers and helpmates.

While, as we conceive, no candid Southern reader can take offence at the author's manner of stating the facts which fell under his observation, no Anti-Slavery man can rise from their perusal without a deeper and more settled abhorrence of the baleful institution, which curses not only master and slave, but the very soil on which they tread.

The volume is published by Dix & Edwards, New York. 12mo., pp. 725. It certainly deserves, and can scarcely fail of, a wide circulation. J. G. W.

"WOLFSDEN" is the title of a noticeable book from the publishing house of Phillips, Sampson, & Co., Boston. As a work of art, it is manifestly open to criticism. The plot is not particularly ingenious, and its pictures of city life and Southern scenes might have been omitted without any real loss of interest. The style, often vigorous, terse, and picturesque, is sometimes careless and in bad taste, although never dull or commonplace. Viewed, however, as a picture of New England rural life, it has, in our opinion, few equals in our literature. The story of the child-hunt in the wild Maine woods, the winter sleigh rides and singing parties, and pub-breakings, in Wolfsden, the intensely-wrought tragedy of the Blacksmith and his temper, and the tender pathos and simple beauty of some of his descriptions of life and Nature indicate the ability of the author to take a high rank as a writer of fiction. J. G. W.

"EDITH HALE," from the same publishers, is a spirited and graphic New England story. It is said to be from the pen of a gifted correspondent of the *Era*: and we are glad to learn that her first essay at book-making is likely to be a successful one. J. G. W.

EMMA SOUTHWORTH'S admirable Anti-Slavery tale, so well known to the readers of the *Era* under the name of *Mark Sutherland*, is winning golden opinions, in its book form, with the title of "INDIA." It is unquestionably the finest production of her pen. J. G. W.

GRACE GREENWOOD, always welcome, as a lively, earnest writer, who gives her heart as well as her fine intellect to her work, has a new volume from the press of Ticknor & Fields. "*The Forest Tragedy*" is a story of great dramatic power, and the minor sketches which make up the residue of the book are in the author's best manner. J. G. W.

Our readers, we feel certain, will thank us for calling their attention to Ticknor & Fields's new and revised edition of Bayard Taylor's PICTS OF HOME AND TRAVEL. All the admirable characteristics of the author's prose are reproduced in these picturesque and most delicious verses. Those suggested by his world-wide rambles have for us a peculiar interest. Their pictures are from life—clear, vivid, genial, and truthful. They have the breadth, freedom, and resonance, of air, and sky, and ocean—the pine forests of Monterey answering the solemn roll of the Pacific—the wild Styrian mountains and limitless savannas of the West. In this volume, as in all the writings of the author, one feels the healthful warmth and vigorous pulsations of a strong, brave, and beautiful life, in which romance and adventure are tempered by an abiding sense of moral obligation, and that charity and kindly sympathy with human life, in all its phases, which mark the travelled gentleman and Christian cosmopolitan. J. G. W.

THE HEART OF MABEL WARE. A Romance. New York: J. C. Derby. Cincinnati: H. W. Derby. Sold by Taylor & Maury, Washington, D. C. Pp. 411.

This graphic delineation of the workings of a human heart is the production of a master's hand, and is fraught with all the tragic interest of "The Scarlet Letter." The characters are naturally and powerfully drawn; and the eye that penetrates the surface of society, rends the veil over the heart, and gazes into its depths, will recognise the truthfulness of the portraiture. It is the thrilling yet common tale of sin, and its certain terrible punishment.

Yet, while the author has done this faithfully and well, he has told it in such a manner as to make sin attractive and alluring—in such a manner that we seem to hear the subtle temptation of the Serpent in the Garden of Eden, "*Pluck and eat, and ye shall be as Gods, knowing good and evil.*" In proof of this, turn to Chap. xxiv, p. 299. The lover of Mabel has killed the injured husband, and the guilty pair are flying from avenging laws.

"It was pleasant, after the great toil and turmoil of such a night—the crowning turmoil of her perturbed married life—for Mabel to see the shores go bluely down out of sight, behind her; to watch the ceaseless march of the long-ranked billows; and to feel about her the bracing embraces of the compelling winds. Philip, too, seemed moved by the same benign influences. His manners were not now reserved, as they were wont to be, but joyous as a boy's. His glances were full of love; his voice musical and happy. They were not old, these two, but, after the maturing experiences of the recent past, they now seemed to grow young every day. They were not sorry when the retarding winds or the hindering calms came and checked their course. They could well wait. * * *

"Nor were the sweet moods of happiness which now, every day, and all day long, possessed them, marred by the black shadows of their crime. The cloud of shame and remorse, which rises when any great wrong is wrought, to hide the pleasant sun away, leans far forward; and many unshadowed days intervene between the sin and the drear shade of it. Hardness of heart and uneasiness of mind, which are the fruit of vice, spring not up at once to wretched fruition. The seed, like other seed, lies hid in the mould of the heart's garden, and, springing up duly, is at first no more than a fragrant blossom—and later, a little germ—and later, a bitter crudeling. Long years ripen it to poison maturity, and other years—years too slow—bring decay and death. *It is not true that all the ways of sin are thorny ways, and all her uses bitter.* It is not true, that all the great treasures of bright names and white fames, of heart's ease and soul's loss, of charges undischarged, and duties unheeded, and ties daringly snapt asunder, that have been paid down—the exchange, oh! most unequal barter, of purities for infamies, and of faith's serenity for integrity, flawed and shattered beyond repair, that have been made—heavy prices wherewith, since the world began, so many sweet and noble, aye, and loyal hearts, have been ready to purchase absoluteness of affection; it is not true, that all these grave and heavy prices have been paid down for naught—trafficked for a fair promise never fulfilled. *Who of them all, wretched, despairing, dying, would go calmly back, resign the thrilling purchase, and be forevermore without the sweet memory of it, if so they might even have back again the price they paid?*"

What is this, in which passion is addressed, and the discriminating sense of right and wrong cast aside, but calling darkness light, and evil good? It is the last injury that can be inflicted upon the minds of the young, to paint pictures in which vice is made to wear the features of loveliness, and represent the married in any of its relations as a hateful bond to be broken at all hazards. Mabel Ware and her seducer are pictured in this extract as floating over a sea of happiness, glad, even at the cost of the life of a husband, the desertion of family and country, to drink to the full the cup of passionate and sensual joy.

Nor is this all. The author, having thus confounded all the teachings of Christ as to the nature of sin and its consequences, then develops the religious nature of Mabel Ware. There is much pretty sentiment expressed of God, seen in his works, and the communion of Mabel's soul with the beautiful. But there is none of that repentance which "needeth not to be repented of." As might be expected, the author, in thus delineating the naturalistic view of piety, does not fail to pour out his contempt on revealed religion, and those forms of worship in which Christians have sought to give permanancy to the religion of the Bible. *

LONDON CORRESPONDENCE.

LONDON, *April* 11, 1856.

To the Editor of the National Era:

The Central American question was brought up in Parliament last Friday night—and indeed the Crampton difficulty. Viscount Goderich wished to know if a despatch of the British Minister to Mr. Crampton, which has found its way into the English papers through the medium of the American press, is authentic; for it appears, from the despatch in question, that Mr. Crampton neglected to communicate at once the offer of arbitration made to our Government by Lord Clarendon—and the reason he gives is, that "he overlooked it."

Mr. Gladstone followed the Viscount in a pretty severe review of the conduct of the English Government in reference to the American question. Long since, Lord Clarendon had promised soon to lay before the House the correspondence on the subject, but nothing had been heard of it; and now, upon being pressed for a reason, he replies that the Foreign Office has been so busily engaged on other matters, that it could not get time to prepare the papers for the House! Mr. Gladstone said:

"The subject was of too much importance for any mere mechanical obstacles to be allowed to interfere with the production of these papers. Although the correspondence of last year was concluded, he trusted they might understand from his noble friend that the subject itself had not passed out of the hands of the Government—[hear]—that no ultimatum had been exchanged between the United States Government and our own, and that the hope might be still maintained that these difficulties would receive a speedy and an amicable termination. [Hear, hear.] A grave responsibility lay with the House, should it remain silent on this question. Other voices had gone forth respecting it, which he must say had sounded in tones the most unfavorable to wisdom, to justice, and to peace, and to those friendly relations which he was certain every man in that House desired to see maintained between Great Britain and the United States. [Cheers.] It was commonly reported that the Minister of America, who had recently arrived in this country, was armed with powers to deal with the question; and he (Mr. Gladstone) did not wish to press his noble friend for the production of the papers, but simply to inform the House of what had been done, and so put it in a position to judge of its duties. [Hear, hear.] He had alluded to the unwise and inflammatory language used by certain organs, and rumors had got abroad, calculated to create uneasiness in the minds of members of that House. For instance, it was said that additions were about to be made to our military force in Canada. [Hear, hear.] He hoped, before any such addition was made, that House would have an opportunity of uttering its voice respecting this great question, for he was convinced that that voice would be heard in a manner calculated to promote the interests, friendship, and mutual good will of the two Governments."

Mr. Gladstone speaks the minds of five-sixths of the English people. The *Evening Star*, the *very* best of the cheap dailies, says:

"After Lord Palmerston's speech, which will no doubt increase the irritation of the people of the United States, it is doubly important that the people should speak out. Let them, as Mr. Baxter advised at Dundee, 'take the matter into their own hands.' Let them show the Government that they will not tolerate a feeling which threatens to embark us in a war with the United States."

In another issue, it says:

"In 1812-'13, the Americans had about 1,000,000 tons of shipping; now they have got upwards of 4,000,000 tons, or rather more than we have, and their ships are known to be amongst the finest of the world. The total population of the States was then about 8,000,000; it is now 25,000,000. Then they gave us a great deal of trouble. We might, perhaps, as some idle people amongst us boast, now sweep their commerce from the seas, but they, in turn, would sweep ours. A large portion of the great mercantile marine of the two countries, no longer employed in supplying their mutual wants, would be converted into instruments of mutual destruction. There would be a maritime war in every sea. Our West India Colonies, dependent, in a great measure, for food and lumber, on the States, would be exposed to great privations and to great depredations, and might take it into consideration whether they should not declare themselves a neutral State. Our own coasts would tempt numerous attacks, and we should ourselves suffer, as we have not suffered for many centuries, the horrors of partial invasion and actual warfare.

"May God forbid that the language of any politicians, or of any portion of the Press of England, should ever bring about a civil war between two nations so circumstanced."

I make these extracts to show the real state of feeling here, notwithstanding the war-cries of the *Times*.

The Paris *Patrie*, in one of its issues of last week, contains a singular article upon the subject of cotton cultivation in Algeria. It declares that, now the war is over, the French Government will bestow great attention to the subject. It states the sterling fact that, during the war, Algeria has supplied the army with provisions, besides exporting to France large quantities of corn at the same time. The following extract is worth noticing:

"The Engish are the largest consumers of American cotton; and that circumstance, by-the-bye, will be for a long time the chief obstacle to a rupture between the two countries. Manchester and Liverpool on this side of the Atlantic, New York and New Orleans on the other, are powerful enough to prevent the rashness or the ill humor of a Crampton, a Marcy, or a Cushing, plunging the two nations into the horrors of war. Nevertheless, nothing can be positively said on that score, and, at a later period, circumstances may arise—circumstances, in fine, of a nature to interrupt that commercial intercourse which causes the circulation of hundreds of millions of francs between England and the United States.

"Were Manchester able to procure cotton in Algeria on the same conditions, with reference to price and abundance of supply, as in America, a great step would be made towards the peace of the world and a stable balance of power."

The annexation of Oude is completed, and the *Times*, which does not disdain to accuse us of our filibustering propensities, and perhaps justly, says very coolly, in an article upon the subject, "*We cannot give India freedom*, but we can give her progress and material prosperity."

The Crimean investigation proceeds at Chelsea, and Lord Lucan, who had charge of the cavalry, is on his trial. He bears the examination with bold grace; flies angrily without cause; protests against the severe comments of the *Times* newspaper; and, in short, bids fair to come out of the investigation with a soiled reputation.

A statistical abstract for 1855 has just been published here, and I quote a few facts, which, I think, will possess interest for your readers. The raw cotton imported into the country during the last year amounts to 890,159,872 pounds. The expenditures of the Government were £84,505,788. In 1853, they were only about £51,000,000, showing a great increase on account of the war. The taxes last year were increased nearly five millions, and the National Debt to the sum of eighteen million pounds.

The imports were 153 and odd millions—a reduction of over eight millions. The loss of bullion in the Bank, the increased exports and diminished imports, show the country to be poorer by over twelve millions of pounds than it was in 1854.

The number of marriages was 149,736, or near fourteen thousand less than in 1853. The number of paupers in England and Wales is 877,767, or an increase of fifty thousand and more in two years. Emigration has fallen off nearly one hundred and fifty thousand—so that England has not prospered during the war.

The news regarding the peace is not important this week. The army of Austria, occupying the Principalities, is to be immediately withdrawn. The Russian blockade is terminated, and merchant vessels, from England and France, are free to enter there. The Peace Congress, it is said, is discussing the future condition of the Principalities. Turkey claims that the old treaties are abrogated, but the other Powers will hardly consent to such a doctrine. A commission is to proceed to the spot, and ascertain the wishes of the people. Sardinia wishes the Congress to consider the Italian question, fearing that Russia may revenge itself upon her hereafter, through Austria.

The Russian Imperial Peace Manifesto has just made its appearance here, and excites some severe criticism. It, of course, charges the commencement of the war upon the Allies, and makes the best use of its facts, but it is a lame defence.

The two steamers sent out by the Government to search for the Pacific have returned, without hearing anything of her, and the conviction that she is lost is growing fixed.

Truly yours, AMERICAN.

THE PRESIDENCY.

Special Correspondence of the N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, *April* 25, 1856.

It is absurd to suppose that any strength can be lent to the Republican cause in the coming Presidential canvass by *a name*. The election has got to be carried on the strength of the cause, or not at all. Who the candidate is, is a matter of small consequence, so he be a true man, and a man not specially obnoxious to any wide-spread existing popular prejudice. Among the individuals who come within this category, there is not much to choose. No one of them can either essentially strengthen or materially weaken the ticket. Any attempts to run after inveterate Hunkerism on the one hand, or the floating vote on the other, at any sacrifice whatever, will this time, we feel convinced, prove to be a grave and mortifying error. We undertook to propitiate both elements in the last canvass, and the result was a dead failure, which we ought to profit by. Our chances, in doing it, seemed to be good, and they certainly were far better than they are likely to be again. These are times when the currents of opinion on public affairs have no decided set any way, and when, after eddying about in counter and purposeless drifts, a slight thing gives them direction and force. This has been the case in our political history more than once. But it will not do to confound such epochs with the present. Such is not the condition of the public mind. In the North and in the South there is a strong and determined current of sentiment and opinion upon the great question of the day. These currents are not in any degree under the control of, or even subject to modification by, the power of any man in this nation. Personal popularity adds nothing to their force, and diminishes nothing of their strength. They set straight on to a plain point. The sooner, therefore, the too prevalent idea is abandoned, of the strength of this man or the weakness of that, as the Presidential candidate of the Anti-Nebraska men, except where the specific strength or weakness to a decided extent can be clearly pointed out, the sooner we shall approach the true starting-point in the selection. It is of no use to be balancing little considerations, or figuring up picayune differences. Least of all, is it wise to be estimating the value of imaginary individual advantages.

We think the election of Mr. Chase as Governor of Ohio, last year, strikingly illustrates the true moral of the coming election. He held the position of a fit man, not repugnant to popular prejudice, and was borne into office by the simple strength of the great idea of the canvass—hostility to the removal of the Missouri restriction, and Freedom for Kansas. Another man might have done as well, or better, perhaps, but no other man could have done as well, unless he had fully and entirely represented the vital idea of the contest. That election furnishes the Republicans a clear chart of their policy on the national theatre, and it discloses a clearer view of the real power of the issue on which they are to fight the Presidential battle than they can easily find elsewhere. J. S. P.

A BRIEF MEMOIR OF THE LATE COL. BARON DE WEISSENFELS,

One of the heroes of the Revolution. Compiled from authentic papers left by his daughter and only heir, the late Mrs. Harriet De la Palm Baker, deceased.

Baron de Weissenfels was a native of Elbing, in the Kingdom of Prussia. A town in Germany bears the name of his family. He was trained to arms under Frederick the Great; and peace having been conquered by that great captain, Weissenfels sought employment in the British service, in North America, in 1756. He ascended the Heights of Abraham with brave Wolfe, and saw him expire in the arms of victory. He was an officer in the Royal American regiment, at the attack on Eort Ticonderoga, and participated in the descent upon and capture of Havana in 1762.

When peace was concluded with France, in 1763, Weissenfels was among the reduced officers, and settled in New York. He had served in the same regiment with St. Clair.

When the Whigs of the Colonies, in 1775, raised the standard of liberty and struck for their rights, Wiessenfels was one of the first who embarked in the cause, though it was in strong opposition to his interests and the wishes of his friends, for, as a loyal subject, of a noble family, and an officer of the King's army, titles and honors and wealth lay in his path before him. But he hesitated not to sacrifice them all on the altar of Liberty. While others, more prudent, paused to stipulate for indemnification for such losses, he lost sight of them all in the dazzling brightness that invested the *principles* which he flew to sustain. His military science and tact, together with his dauntless courage, rendered his services a great acquisition, and shortly afterwards he was again at Quebec, Brigade Major with Montgomery.

Returning from that disastrous expedition, he received from the American Congress, in March, 1776, a commission of Lieutenant Colonel, commandant of the third New York battalion.

"The Colonel who commanded the second regiment of the New York line, to which he then belonged, having deserted, Lieut. Colonel Weissenfels, was invested with the command by General Washington, and bravely fought the enemy at White Plains."

After the battle at White Plains, he accompanied Washington with the army over the Hudson river and across New Jersey to Pennsylvania, and assisted in the capture of the Hessians at Trenton. He was also with his regiment t the capture of Burgoyne.

"In the attack upon the British army at Monmouth court-house, he commanded the second New York regiment (the Colonel, Van Cortlandt, being under orders at another place,) and for the first time, with fixed bayonets, drove the invincible British regulars from their ground. He accompanied the same regiment, as second in command, in the campaign against the Indians in 1779, and under Gen. Sullivan, in a severe battle with them at New Town, on the Tioga river, charged them with bayonets and secured a victory. Gen. Washington esteemed Col. Weissenfels a brave, intelligent, efficient officer—punctual in duty, always at his post."—(*Letter of Gen. Colfax, Mar.* 15, 1838.)

And thus he was employed to the end of the war, enduring, with his compatriots in arms untold privations, hardships, and dangers. Had he fallen into the hands of the enemy—having left the British service without a discharge—he would have been liable to all the dreadful penalties for desertion.

For his faithful services in the Royal army before the Revolution, he was entitled, by a proclamation of the King, to a large tract of land. This, together with his half-pay of a lieutenant, he lost by entering into the service of the United Colonies. He ever disdained to ask for remuneration for these losses, though he greatly needed it, "from an unwillingness to give a seeming mercenary character to services which had been prompted solely by the most noble and generous impulses.

Colonel Weissenfels is dead! And his daughter and only heir, the inheritor of his poverty as well as his exalted virtues, also is dead. Her children survive her, also needy, but trusting that the country which has become great, and rich, and powerful, through the wisdom and the valor of the patriots of the Revolution—of whom their grandfather was a distinguished one—will accord to them that justice which, had he demanded it himself, could hardly have been denied, and the claim to which has descended to them. A FRIEND OF THE HEIRS.

LETTER FROM PROFESSOR SILLIMAN.

NEW HAVEN, CONN., *April* 16, 1856.

To the Hon. John P. Hale:

DEAR SIR: Observing that you have promptly repelled a slander recently uttered on the floor of the Senate, I avail myself of the occasion to vindicate both myself and my fellow-citizens of New England from unfounded and injurious imputations. In doing this, I am influenced solely by a regard for truth and by respect for the Senate of my country.

The colony of about one hundred persons who have recently gone [to Kansas] from among us are, I believe, without exception, people of substantial and excellent character, and of the best habits. Our community has suffered a serious loss by their departure, but we felt that we had no right to object to their removal to a region where they hope to establish happy homes and to contribute to the formation of a good state of society. We have therefore afforded them all the assistance in our power, both by moral encouragement and by material aid in money and in arms.

It is no new thing for colonies to go out armed. Our ancestors came from Europe to this country in full panoply, and every colony to the Oriental countries is furnished with arms as a necessary protection. The pioneers of the great West bore arms from the East, with all necessary munitions of defence. From Marietta to Oregon, and from the close of the American Revolution to the present era, the same protection has in all similar cases been provided. It was not merely that wild animals might be slain for safety or for food; bands of predatory and murderous men, the original inhabitants of this continent, were to be repulsed or held aloof by the fear of arms, wielded by strong hands and directed by courageous minds.

Is the case of the New England emigrants to Kansas different in any essential circumstances from those which I have named? Are not ferocious animals to be slain, as then, for safety, and harmless ones for food? And, for reasons still more imperative, protection by arms is equally indispensable as then, not indeed in Kansas against the aborigines of the forest, but against men falsely called civilized, whose numerous and unprovoked assaults have been made upon peaceful emigrants and other travellers, on steamers or on the land, whose lawless spoliations and wanton destruction of property and whose repeated murders have been perpetrated under circumstances of aggravated insult and cruelty, while the robbers and murderers still walk freely abroad, and justice is unavenged; not to mention the menaces of a general massacre of a peaceful and unoffending population by an armed host under high physical excitement, a catastrophe of guilt and infamy which appears to have been prevented solely by the fact that the intended victims had arms in their hands, and had both the courage and the skill to use them effectually in self-defence—all these reasons impose upon emigrants from the free States passing that way the absolute commanding necessity of protection by arms.

Could we, then, *citizens of New Haven*, permit our emigrating friends to depart unarmed, and to encounter these dangers without adequate protection? In us this neglect would have been cruel, in them suicidal. We are assured that all persons coming to Kansas from the South, to settle or to vote, carry arms. Can any reason, then, be assigned why emigrants from New England should come on in a defenceless condition? If the former course is right, the latter course cannot be wrong, and this will be the verdict of many a good and honorable mind in the South.

The New England emigrants regard their arms as a defensive protection merely. The knowledge that they are thus provided will, as we believe, prevent the necessity of using them. The Eastern emigrants to Kansas are in general real settlers, who go out, as our New Haven colony have gone, to improve their fortunes, to create new and desirable homes, and to carry into that new and beautiful region those institutions which, under God, have produced the prosperity of their native States, the States of New England.

The charge of treasonable designs against the Government we indignantly deny and repel. This is a question merely of safe emigration, and in this movement the Government is not at all in view, except in the act which has opened Kansas and Nebraska to emigration from every part of our country. The arms which are carried by the New England emigrants have reference only to wild animals and lawless men, whose assaults, should, they be made, will be resisted; but the arms will never be employed in acts of aggression.

There is no reason to believe that persons from the East have ever gone to Kansas merely to vote and then to return to their former homes. It appears quite incredible that men should travel fifteen hundred to two thousand miles, with no small expense of time and money, merely to cast a vote to carry an election. The strong tide of emigration which is now flowing West has for its object a permanent establishment in Kansas, and has not been undertaken from any transient impulse or for a fugitive and temporary purpose. Ill health, disappointment, or other personal reasons, may have induced some of the New England emigrants to return; but the great body of them will remain, and will, I trust, exhibit results, already indeed manifest, which will confer blessings on that Western world. Those results will be such as belong to peaceful industry, enterprise, and industrial skill, appearing not only in material prosperity, but in intellectual and moral influences, which will produce a happy and flourishing community. I am not disposed to apologize for whatever aid I may have contributed by action or influence to arm our emigrant colony, nor am I aware that the extraneous circumstances of time, place, and person, connected with the occasion, are of any serious importance. They were, at the crisis alluded to, wholly accidental and unexpected; but the exigency admitted not of change or delay, and the thing done was right. It is no evidence of a good cause, when extraneous and irrelevant circumstances of little or no importance are officiously paraded, to the neglect or concealment of a real and important issue. The real issue in the present case is whether the arming which is conceded to persons emigrating from all other parts of our country, whether going to Kansas to settle or to vote, should be denied to the emigrants from New England. May they not also carry arms and munitions, and all other supplies and defences necessary to the settlement of a new country on the very frontiers of civilization and one of its most extreme outposts? Can any issue be more simple or more reasonable? Who can give any other answer than that which is now being practically given by the voluntary action of many thousands moving from the most remote points of our vast country to possess the promised land?

The arts of designing men and the intemperate zeal of those who have viewed the subject through a false medium have fostered prejudices and produced recrimnations which are unfavorable to a candid and patriotic consideration of this subject. The wise and the good in the South and Southwest (and I have known many such) will, when the present feverish excitement has died away, come to view this matter right, and we must patiently wait for that most desirable result.

In justice to my fellow-citizens of New England, I will add, that the great body of them have no disposition to interfere with the internal concerns of other States. While they do not choose to espouse the cherished institution of the South, they will, however, use no means against it but those of reason, argument, and moral influence.

These remarks, dear sir, you can dispose of as you think best, and you will allow me, in concluding, to express the high esteem and consideration with which I am yours, very respectfully and truly, B. SILLIMAN.

PUBLIC MEETING AT THE TABERNACLE.

A call, signed by between two and three thousand citizens of this metropolis, has been issued for a public meeting at the Tabernacle on to-morrow evening, at half-past seven, of all "opposed to the measures and policy of the present National Administration, for the extension of Slavery over Territory embraced within the compact of the Missouri Compromise, and in favor of repairing the mischiefs arising from the violation of good faith in its repeal, and of restoring the action and position of the Federal Government, on the subject of Slavery, to the principles of Washington and Jefferson," for the purpose of hearing the report of the delegates to the Pittsburgh Convention, and of taking measures for an organized expression of their opinions at the next Presidential election. The list of names, which occupies no inconsiderable portion of this sheet, embraces an unusually large proportion of our prominent citizens for a political occasion, and indicates a degree of interest in the subjects to be considered which we were hardly prepared for. Nor will the interest of the questions to be agitated at the meeting constitute its sole attractions. Several eminent public men have promised to be present and participate in its exercises, and among them three whose voices have never been heard in this metropolis, which is, however, quite familiar with their echoes. We refer to the Hon. Senator Harlan of Iowa, and Messrs. Fessenden of Maine, and Galloway of Ohio. We are authorized to state that these gentlemen have distinctly promised to be present, and to speak.

The meeting promises to be a highly interesting one, and we venture to believe that its effect upon the future politics of the country will be beneficial.—*N. Y. Eve. Post, April* 28.

THIRTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

First Session.

Friday, April 25, 1856.

SENATE.

On motion of Mr. Toombs, a resolution was adopted instructing the Committee on the Judiciary to inquire into the expediency of repealing the act of June, 1848, amendatory of the naturalization act of 1813.

A bill for the relief of George P. Marsh was advocated by Mr. Brodhead, and, after a short debate, was passed—yeas 27, nays 12.

The bill for the relief of Hannah F. Miles was likewise passed.

The bill to incorporate the Columbia Wood Gas Company was advocated by Mr. Pratt, and opposed by Messrs. Brodhead and Bigler, when it was postponed.

The bill defining the duties of the commissioners of elections in the city of Washington, and for other purposes, was amended by the substitution of the bill agreed upon by the House committee, and then passed, as were also the bill incorporating the St. Thomas's Literary Society and the bill for the benefit of public schools in the city of Washington. The Senate then adjourned until Monday.

HOUSE.

Yesterday, when the bill to refund the duties paid on all goods and merchandise destroyed by fire, in original packages, was before the House, the question was raised, that as the bill provided that the commissioners to settle these claims should issue certificates which should be cashed by the Secretary of the Treasury, it must necessarily be committed, under the rule requiring that all measures making appropriations shall receive their first consideration in Committee of the Whole.

The Speaker had decided that, as further legislation would be necessary before money could be paid under this bill, the rule did not apply in this case; but this decision was overruled by 11 majority.

This morning, Mr. Watson moved a reconsideration of that vote, which led to some debate.

Mr. Phelps condemned the hot haste exhibited to pass this bill. No one could assert how much money was involved. Rumor said, from ten to fifteen millions of dollars.

Mr. Pelton explained, that from the best information he had obtained, the amount of duties to be refunded would scarcely exceed three or five hundred thousand dollars.

Mr. Phelps thought that including San Francisco, with all the other fires for the last sixteen years, covered by this bill, the amount would be far greater. The New York fire of July, 1845, alone, involved $350,000. Mr. Phelps contended, the bill directed the Secretary of the Treasury to pay the money, being, in effect, an appropriation for that purpose.

Mr. Haven said the Speaker's decision yesterday was right, though the bill came here under suspicious circumstances. It declared that the holders of certificates of adjudged losses shall be paid, but conferred no authority on the Secretary of the Treasury to pay them. The Constitution declares the President shall receive an annual salary, but nobody thought the Secretary of the Treasury could pay him without a special appropriation—so in this case.

The vote overruling the Speaker's decision was reconsidered by a vote of 74 to 41.

Mr. Haven explained, that in making the remark that the bill came here under suspicious circumstances, he had no reference to the committee who reported, but to "outside combinations."

Further debate ensued, in which Messrs. Davis of Maryland, Clingman, Orr, Washburn of Maine, Humphrey Marshall, Walker, Simmons, Letcher, Seward, and Quitman, participated, but, without taking the question, the House adjourned till Monday.

Monday, April 28, 1856.

SENATE.

Mr. Hunter, from the Committee on Finance, to which was referred the amendments of the Senate to the bill to supply deficiences in the appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1856, amended and disagreed to by the House of Representatives, reported that the Senate insist on their amendments disagreed to by the House, and disagree to the amendments of the House to the amendments of the Senate to said bill, and ask a Committee of Conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses.

Mr. Pugh expressed the opinion that to some of the amendments the Senate ought to recede, and that the subject should not be disposed of in this wholesale manner.

Mr. Hunter reminded the Senator that it was the usual course, when the two Houses disagreed, to ask a Committee of Conference, and much time was saved by such an operation. If there was any particular amendment the Senator wished excepted, he could name it.

Mr. Pugh was opposed to the amendment of the Senate relating to the aqueduct. He would move that the Senate recede from the amendment.

Mr. Hunter said that the State of Maryland had granted the right of way, and if any individual wrongs grew out of this grant, then the courts would be open to the wronged.

The question having been taken on Mr. Pugh's motion for the Senate to recede, it was decided in the negative by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Adams, Biggs, Clay, Fitzpatrick, Pugh, Wade, and Wilson—7.

NAYS—Messrs. Allen, Bell of New Hampshire, Bell of Tennessee, Benjamin, Bright, Brodhead, Brown, Butler, Cass, Collamer, Crittenden, Dodge, Evans, Fessenden, Fish, Foot, Foster, Geyer, Hamlin, Hunter, Iverson, Johnson, Jones of Iowa, Jones of Tennessee, Mallory, Seward, Stuart, Sumner, Toucey, Trumbull, Weller, Wright, and Yulee—32.

The report from the Committee on Finance, insisting on the amendments of the Senate, was agreed to, but the Committee of Conference on the part of the Senate has not yet been named.

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of the special order, being the bill to authorize the people of the Territory of Kansas to form a Constitution and State Government, preparatory to their admission into the Union when they have the requisite population.

Mr. Brown, who was entitled to the floor for half an hour on the bill, addressed the Senate with so much effect as to have occasioned some regret that a more enlarged period had not been extended to him.

He urged that the power of the Federal Government to regulate Slavery in the Territories did not include the power to destroy it; and, while contending that the States, being sovereignties, were of course not fit subjects for Federal legislation in this respect, the Territories were to be governed by Congress with restricted jurisdiction, such as it is entitled to exercise in regard to other domestic relations, as, for instance, husband and wife, or parent and child, or other matter proper for municipal legislation.

Mr. Stuart moved to postpone all prior orders, to proceed to the consideration of the bill for the improvement of rivers and harbors.

After remarks by Messrs. Iverson, Stuart, and Butler, the question was taken on Mr. Stuart's motion, and decided in the negative.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the subject of naval reform.

Mr. Biggs was entitled to the floor, but waived his right in favor of Mr. Bell, who addressed the Senate until after three o'clock P. M., and then, without concluding, gave way for a motion to proceed to the consideration of Executive business, and, after a brief Executive session, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

The Speaker stated that the first business in order was the consideration of the appeal from the decision of the Chair that the bill of the Senate to remit and refund the duties on goods, wares, and merchandise, destroyed by fire, does not contain an appropriation, and therefore must not necessarily go to the Committee of the Whole under the rule requiring all measures making appropriations to be so referred, the question being on seconding the demand for the previous question.

The previous question was then seconded, when the question was put, "Shall the opinion of the Chair stand as the judgment of the House?" and it was decided in the affirmative—yeas 81, nays 76.

The question then being on ordering the bill to a third reading—

Mr. Pelton, of New York, moved that it be postponed until the third Tuesday in May.

Some conversation ensued, when the question was taken on the motion to postpone, and it was decided in the negative—yeas 40, nays 107.

On motion of Mr. Orr, the bill was then committed.

Mr. Nichols, of Ohio, and Mr. Ready, of Tennessee, then made explanations growing out of a speech recently delivered by Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, at Hamilton, in that State, to which Mr. C. replied.

After some unimportant business, the House adjourned.

NEWS.

Forged Land Warrants.

Washington, April 26.—The amount of forged land warrants already discovered exceeds 1,000,000 acres. The investigation is still in progress, and additional frauds are daily coming to light.

Erie Riots Renewed.

Buffalo, April 26.—A dispatch received from Erie says that a mob destroyed yesterday the *Constitutional* office, in that city, in consequence of that paper advocating the railroad interests, and that they threatened to damage the property of the Railroad Company.

Senator Douglas's Reply to Col. Lane.

Washington, April 26.—The *Union*, this morning, contains the Douglas and Lane correspondence. The concluding paragraph of Mr. Douglas's letter is as follows:

"Col. Lane calls upon me for such explanation of my language as will remove all imputation upon the integrity of his action or motives, in connection with the memorial. My reply is, that there are no facts within my knowledge which can remove all imputation upon the integrity of his action or motives in connection with that memorial."

Important from Nicaragua.

New Orleans, April 22.—The steamship Charles Morgan has arrived, from San Juan, 16th instant.

The steamship Orizaba, from New York, arrived at San Juan on the 16th, and landed 325 passengers.

The reported defeat of Schlessinger is confirmed. Fifty of his men were killed. The cause of the defeat is alleged to have been negligence on the part of Schlessinger. The lieutenant of his party had arrived at Rivas. They loudly cursed their cowardly colonel. Captain Thorpe faced him with pistols on the field of battle, and threatened to shoot the coward.

Capt. Thorpe came passenger in the Charles Morgan. He reports Walker in a good position, prosperous, and receiving large accessions to his forces.

Another battle had taken place at Arcapoka, between fourteen Americans and a force of two hundred Costa Ricans. The latter were defeated with the loss of thirty killed, whilst the Americans had only two killed.

From Nicaragua—Quarrel between French and Walker.

New Orleans, April 22.—Colonel French has left San Juan for Aspinwall, owing to a quarrel with Walker. It is reported that Walker had 700 hundred men marching to meet the Costa Ricans, who were expected to invade Nicaragua. The accounts are meager and unreliable.

Colonel Schlessinger has been court martialled on charges of treason and cowardice. The result of Schlessinger's engagement with the Costa Ricans is stated to be a loss of ninety men, including the missing.

The Kansas Investigating Committee.

Chicago, April 23.—Messrs. Howard and Sherman, of the Congressional Committee to investigate the Kansas difficulty, reached Fort Leavenworth on the 14th instant. Mr. Oliver, of Missouri, had not arrived.

Connecticut Election.

The official vote at the recent State election in Connecticut has just been announced, as follows: Ingham, (Dem.) 32,704; Minor, (Am.) 26,108; Welles, (Rep.) 6,740; Rockwell, (Wh.) 1,251; scattering 12—total 65,815—a larger vote by 35 than ever before cast in the State. Mr. Ingham lacks 1,407 votes of an election by the people.

Kansas News.

Chicago, April 26.—A despatch from Leavenworth, dated the 22d inst., says that Sheriff Jones attempted to arrest a man connected with the late difficulties, but was resisted by 300 men, when Governor Shannon ordered out the military.

The foregoing story is considered doubtful.

From Kansas.

St. Louis, April 26.—A dispatch from Kansas city to the *Republican* says that the United States troops made several arrests yesterday, and that Sheri