GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

MR. PEABODY AT THE MARYLAND INSTITUTE.—In addition to previous demonstrations of respect to Mr. George Peabody, the munificent London banker, he has had a warm reception at the hall of the Maryland Institute in Baltimore, to the success of which, in its infancy, he had liberally contributed. Not less than five thousand persons were present, and the honored guest was welcomed in a handsome manner by the Hon. Joshua Vansant, President of the Institute.

Mr. Peabody replied in appropriate terms, and was also addressed in a cordial welcome by the Mayor of the city, Thomas Swann, Esq.

The general reception was succeeded by a banquet, made up of every delicacy, and in a profusion suitable to the occasion. Here speeches, toasts, and wit, abounded; and, after the honored guest had retired, the scenes were prolonged until a late hour in a genial and proper spirit. Speeches and sentiments were made and offered by C. F. Mayer, Esq., Mr. Vansant, Mr. William H. Keigler, Mr. Swann, Mr. W. Prescott Smith, Professor Page, Mr. W. H. Young, Mr. Kimmel, and others, and by Mr. Kimberly, a representative of the press, whose timely sallies of wit did credit to his profession.

MARINE LOSSES FOR JANUARY.—The New York *Courier* publishes a list of the vessels reported to be totally lost during the month of January, which shows a total of one hundred and thirty-one vessels, of which, twenty-four were ships, fourteen barques, thirty-two brigs, fifty-nine schooners, and two sloops. The *Courier* says:

"The total value of the property lost was three millions seven hundred and thirty-four thousand two hundred dollars. This is exclusive of partial losses of cargo and damages to vessels not amounting to a total loss, which, at an estimate, would be likely to increase the figures to something near five million dollars. We do not think that there has ever before been so large an amount of loss reported in a single month. The vessels reported in this list are chiefly American, although some foreign are included, when bound to or from a United States port, or known to be insured in this country. What proportion of the total is insured abroad or at home, and what proportion falls on owners, it is impossible to estimate with anything like accuracy.

"The number of lives actually reported to be lost is eighty-one, but if we add the crews of the vessels reported to be "missing," in regard to which all hope is abandoned, it swells the total to three hundred and eighty-three—a fearful sacrifice of human life to the pursuits of commerce.

"The large marine losses of the last few months are attributable in no small degree to the increased tonnage of the ships built of late years. This augmented capacity renders them, by the disproportion to their strength, less fit to withstand severe storms, and also increases their liability to get aground on bars and shoals.

"The following table shows that this tonnage has more than doubled within the last forty years:

	No. vessels built.	Av. tonnage.
1816–'26	7,894	106
1826–'36	8,578	120
1836–'46	9,066	135
1846–'56	16,388	225

FROM FLORIDA.—The Tampa *Peninsular* of the 17th ultimo has the following:

"General Harney left this place yesterday morning, with Captain Sparkman's company as an escort, to visit the Istapoga country. He is sanguine that Indians are in that section.

"General Harney goes out for the threefold purpose of endeavoring to catch 'Billy,' of inspecting the troops at the different stations, and of stationing others at points that he may deem advantageous. He will probably visit Fort Capron and Fort Dallas before he returns.

"Indian signs were discovered in abundance on Horse Creek last week.

"Captain E. T. Kendrick's company of mounted volunteers were mustered into the United States service by Major F. N. Page, on Wednesday, the 14th instant.

"Company I, 4 h artillery, are to be removed from Fort Brook to Alafia.

"Several companies are on scouting duty in the Big Cypress.

"The volunteer companies are all under orders to commence scouting duty immediately."

FROM KANSAS.—*Lecompton, Jan.* 23.—Several important political measures have already come under the consideration of the Territorial Legislature, but up to this date the absorbing business has been a shoal of charter and corporation bills of a private character.

A bill passed the Council on Wednesday, repealing the test oaths imposed by law at the last session. Four or five members spoke, declaring that they would vote for repeal through policy; otherwise, a State Constitution recognising Slavery could not be got through Congress. The vote was unanimous in the same body that enacted them unanimously last year.

The repeal of these test oaths, although a just measure, is too late to be of value to the people of the Territory. All of the counties will be organized, and county officers appointed by this body, before it goes into force, and those holding offices for several years and until Kansas will be a State.—*Cor. St. Louis Democrat.*

THE OHIO AND MISSISSIPPI RIVERS.—*Pittsburgh, Feb.* 5.—The river has risen nine feet, and there is a general break-up of the ice in the river below. At Wheeling, the ice has moved and gorged below.

Cincinnati, Feb. 5.—The ice moved this morning about two miles, and has gorged again. The steamers Gipsey, A. W. Quarrier, and James Watt, were sunk.

St. Louis, Feb. 5.—The ice moved again this morning. The river is rising slowly, and the ice cannot stand much longer. The river opened yesterday from Evansville to New Orleans. Weather warm.

Intelligence from Tampico, Mexico, to the 16th ultimo, states that the revolutionists, headed by Garsea, had complete control of the city. They had attacked the residence of the British Consul, and taken therefrom nearly a quarter of a million of dollars, sent thither for safety by a number of merchants. Trade was entirely suspended. No opposition seemed to be made by the people, who were powerless to give aid.

Governor Geary, of Kansas, has vetoed a bill, passed by the Council and House of Representatives of Kansas during their present session, providing that "the District Court, or any Judge thereof in vacation, shall have power and authority to admit to bail any prisoner on charge or under indictment for any crime or offence, of any character whatever, whether such crime or offence shall have been heretofore bailable or not."

DEATH OF COLONEL MERRICK.—*Washington, Feb* 5.—Colonel William D. Merrick, of Charles county Maryland, and formerly United States Senator, died here this morning, at an advanced age.

FRESHET IN THE SCHUYLKILL.—*Philadelphia, Feb.* 8.—There is a heavy freshet in the Schuylkill river. The Norristown railroad track is covered to the depth of six feet, and the occupants of the mills along the river are moving their goods and machinery from the lower stories. Much damage is anticipated. The ice has moved at Manayunk, but is still tight opposite the city.

A HYPERBOREAN STATE.—Notwithstanding the general belief in the chimerical character of the project for the erection of a new Commonwealth, to be called Superior, it seems to be assuming definite shape and importance. The Legislatures of Wisconsin and Michigan have approved of and agreed to the surrender of their respective shares of the territory required for the new State. The matter will probably come before the next Congress, as a memorial on the subject is to be forwarded to Washington. This inchoate State will comprise all the American territory bordering Lake Superior, in Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota. It will include all the upper peninsula of Michigan, with its immense mineral resources, the northern part of Wisconsin, and the northern corner of Minnesota. Some of the Wisconsin papers are so enthusiastic in favor of the project as to propose to crede all the northern part of the State, from the forty-fifth parallel up. They say, very truly, that if this territory were to be erected into a State it would result in building up a great commercial emporium on the shores of the lake; that the present capitals of Michigan and Wisconsin are entirely too far from the remote settlers of the north, who, as they are thus shut up by themselves for four months in the year, should be allowed the privilege of adapting their political institutions to their circumstances. At present, the territory referred to has not sufficient population to form a State, as it numbers only some 28,000 souls; but it would be proper enough to erect it into a National Territory, to be left to grow at its leisure into adult proportions.—*Philadelphia American.*

IMPORTANT FROM NICARAGUA.—The New York *Times* of yesterday has the following:

Mr. E. N. Stagers, U. S. mail agent at San Francisco, who left Greytown on the 22d of January, informs us that advices had been received there from General Walker to the 17th of that month, which is eight or ten days later than previous advices.

He states that the report which reached here some days since by telegraph from New Orleans, that Greytown was in possession of the Costa Ricans, was utterly untrue. He was himself there for some time, and everything was perfectly quiet.

Fifty-one men, who had served under Walker, and been discharged upon the expiration of their term, had found their way to Greytown, and reported that Walker's position at Rivas had been undisturbed, and that he had from 450 to 500 effective men under his command.

Some curious letters have been brought to light—one from Morgan & Sons to General Walker, and another, said to be from George Law to General Henningsen—both accompanied by a large supply of arms and ammunition.

An exciting scene had taken place in consequence of the unwarranted interference of the British. Captain Erskine, it seems, had searched amongst Walker's recruits for British subjects, and had threatened Colonel Lockridge with the adoption of forcible means, if he refused to give them up. The Colonel had no power to resist, and some dozen of his men left him, and availed themselves of the offer of British protection. The Colonel, however, solemnly protested against this interference, and General Wheat seized the opportunity to make a patriotic speech, which was greatly applauded by the recruits who remained to share the fortune and work the deliverence of Gen. Walker.

NEWS FROM WHEATLAND—MR. BUCHANAN'S CABINET.—*Lancaster, Pa., (near Wheatland,) Feb.* 4, 1857.—Mr. Buchanan has so far determined upon the persons who are to constitute his Cabinet, as to warrant me in naming the men though not the positions they will respectively fill. From the South—Cobb, of Georgia; Floyd, of Virginia, certain; Pickens, of South Carolina, or Brown, of Tennessee, contingent. From the North and West—Bright, of Indiana; Clifford, of Maine; and Judge Black, of Pennsylvania, who is hard pressed for Secretary of State. The only drawback to this latter gentleman is J. Glancy Jones, of the Old Keystone, who has a number of warm and zealous friends. The chances are, that Judge Black will be chosen.—*New York Herald.*

This will do till the next bulletin.

THE FRESHET IN THE POTOMAC, caused by the rapid thaw of the last three or four days, made itself felt yesterday all along the river banks. At five o'clock P. M. the river was rising fast, and vast masses of ice, mostly very pure and clean, from a foot to eighteen inches thick, were driving past, carrying no greeting of security to bridge, boat, or other craft, they may overhaul in their headlong way. We understand that on the canal level, above the Georgetown level, the water is out over the canal, and that drift timber is plentiful. With the Potomac thus alive with huge masses of ice, urged with extreme rapidity against the structure of the Long Bridge, it is no wonder that a portion of it has given away, and temporarily closed the communication between the Virginia and District shores. The part gone last evening consisted of a span or two on the District side of the Virginia draw. The high westerly wind is calculated to increase the momentum of the river, and put the whole remaining structure in peril.—*Nat. Intelligencer.*

SETTLEMENT OF THE SWISS DIFFICULTY.—On the 20th January, when the second Chamber of the Prussian Legislature had met at Berlin, M. Manteuffel appeared on the Ministerial bench, and, after the customary announcement to the Speaker that he had a communication to make, informed the House, in a few words, that the honor and requirements of Prussia had been satisfied by the unconditional liberation of the Neufchatel prisoners. This *pro forma* announcement having been received with general marks of approbation, the Minister added that this important point being settled, the King was prepared to refer the ulterior arrangement of the Neufchatel position to a conference of the European Powers, with as little delay as circumstances might permit. The House received the latter communication with similar tokens of satisfaction, and the subject dropped.

There is reason to believe that a circular note, notifying the intentions and views of the Prussian Cabinet, has already been sent to the various Courts, who will decide the place of meeting, which will probably be London.—*London paper.*

TREMENDOUS FRESHET AT ALBANY.—*Albany, Feb.* 9.—There was a tremendous flood last night, causing damage to the estimated amount of two millions of dollars.

A public meeting has been called for the relief of the sufferers.

The streets at noon were in the greatest state of excitement. Several alarms of fire were sounded. Families from the flooded districts were landing from flat boats at the post office steps, and the water was still rising. The lumber districts were also overflowed.

The city of Troy is nearly overflowed, and the bridges are in danger. One bridge from up the river floated down entire against the Troy bridge.

The freight depot on Green Island was burnt by slacking lime. Trains were suspended, and business was entirely stopped.

DESTRUCTIVE FLOOD AT CHICAGO.—*Chicago, Feb.* 9.—We are in the midst of the greatest flood experienced here since 1849. All the railroad bridges are badly damaged, or swept entirely away, and no trains are running. The railroad bridge over the Du Page river was moved by the ice on Friday night, precipitating the locomotive and six cars into the river. The fireman and brakeman were drowned.

THE OHIO RIVER.—*Pittsburgh, Feb.* 9.—Navigation is now fairly open. There are 17 feet 8 inches water in the channel, and the river is at a stand. The weather is clear and cold.

Louisville, Feb. 9.—There are six feet water on the falls. Ice is still running. Navigation is fully open. Thermometer 31.

NEW JERSEY SENATOR.—It is stated that the Democratic members of the Legislature of New Jersey, now in session in Trenton, have agreed upon the re-election of the Hon. John R. Thomson as United States Senator.

FROM KANSAS.—*New York, Feb.* 10.—Kansas letters say that the joint committee of both Houses report in favor of taking the census, preparatory to holding a convention for the formation of a State Constitution.

COTTON PRESSES BURNT.—*Mobile, Feb.* 9.—The Planter's, Hunt's, and Montgomery Cotton Presses, in this city, were burnt to-day, and from 10,000 to 15,000 bales of cotton were consumed.

SLAVER SEIZED.—*New York, Feb.* 10.—The schooner Jane P. Glover has been seized by the United States Marshal as a slaver. She had been recently purchased by a Cuban, who has fled to Havana.

FIRE IN NEW YORK—TWO LIVES LOST.—*New York, Feb.* 10.—Bosch's cabinet warehouse, on Bleecker street, was burnt this morning—loss $80,000. Bosch and his wife perished in the flames.

BRONCHITIS AND COUGH CURED.

BOSTON, *August* 15.

GENTLEMEN: Having been troubled for a considerable time with a bad cough and bronchial affection, I was induced to try a bottle of Dr. Wistar's Balsam of Wild Cherry, which I am happy to say entirely removed the difficulty. I deem it but justice to say thus much for the benefit of those who may be similarly afflicted.

GEORGE H. DAVIS,
Firm of Hallett & Davis,
Piano-Forte Manufacturers, Boston.

Messrs. S. W. Fowle & Co.

I hereby certify that I am personally acquainted with George H. Davis, Esq., and have the fullest confidence in the above statement. D. G. BARROWS,
Practicing Physician.

If genuine, signed I. BUTTS. 7

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN GEN. SCOTT AND SECRETARY DAVIS.

Washington, February 4.—The correspondence between General Scott and Secretary Davis is quite voluminous. From a hasty examination of the various documents, it appears that General Scott declined to give open and specific information to Mr. Davis, regarding the expenditure of the secret service money in Mexico, believing that no obligation of public or private honor, according to the usages of nations and armies, required him to disclose names and circumstances. He however expressed a willingness to give such information for his private ear alone, which the Secretary said he was willing to receive in confidence. In November, 1855, the President of the United States writes to Secretary Davis, saying, in substance—"General Scott states two grounds on which he has learned that I hesitated to allow the five per cent. commission. It is proper to remark that he has been misinformed or misapprehended my position. He himself fixed 3½ per cent., which he might properly receive for his disbursements in Mexico; and a balance struck upon that basis was the subject of conversation between us."

Mr. Davis, in response to the President, informs him that General Scott had charged himself with the sum of $261,691; all of which, excepting $30,000, were levied and captured in Mexico, and took credit for disbursing $255,541, leaving $5,155 withheld by General Scott on his account. This balance the President authorized General Scott, through the Secretary of War, to retain.

General Scott, in a letter dated New York, December, 1855, writes that there are two items, making $11,885, against him, as not admitted or disallowed by the President on account of five per cent. charged by him on all moneys disbursed. He says it was entirely within the competency of the President to allow that charge, and he asks that suit be brought against him by the Government to recover the amount claimed to be due by him, nearly $6,000. But the President declined to enter suit. There are many explanations relative to these figures, but the financial parts of the transaction cannot be fairly understood by this mere reference to the subject.

Among the documents is the opinion of Attorney General Cushing, dated January, 1856, to the effect that the act creating the grade of Lieutenant General does not confer upon General Scott all the authority which was imposed by the law of 1798 upon Washington, who was thereby made the commander of the armies, while General Scott was appointed Lieutenant General by order of the President of the United States. It carries retrospective pay and emoluments, but not retrospective authority.

General Scott's correspondence with the officers of the Government goes back as far as 1848, and that between him and the Secretary of War, during 1855, contains the following features: Mr. Davis, on July 25th, says—"I leave unnoticed the exhibition of peevish temper in reply to an inquiry from this Department," &c. General Scott replies, July 30—"It would be easy to show that the whole letter in which you charge me with exhibiting a peevish temper is as flippant in its statements and logic as in that accusation." Certainly, as Secretary of War, you have done enough to warrant more than a suspicion that from the first you have considered it your special mission, by repeated aggression on my rights and feelings, to goad me into some perilous attitude of official opposition.

"To prove my long forbearance, (for at my time of life and angry discussions are painful,) I will now proceed to enumerate some of the provocations alluded to, without dilating in this place on your partisan hostility to the brevet of Lieutenant General, and to the compensation Congress intended to attach thereto." The General then alludes to one of the Secretary's "captious retorts," and his "capping the climax by usurpation and absurdity." He likewise says—"Following out your personal rebuke in the letter of the 12th, your object, in violation of principle, is to crush me into a servile obedience to your self-will. I know your obstinacy, and I know also what is due to myself as a man and a soldier; and if I am to be crushed, I prefer it at the hands of my military peers."

The Secretary rejoins, in an unofficial note dated August 21—"Your present accusation charging me with usurpation for the most unworthy ends, and imputing to me motives inconsistent with official integrity, is considered basely malevolent and pronounced utterly false."

General Scott, replying, August 6th, says—"I have received a note from you, dated on the 2d instant, which you seem to desire me to consider as unofficial. I shall not comply with your singular fancy, as you can have no legitimate claim to address me except as Secretary of War. Accordingly, I shall treat your communication, whether designed as private and scurrilous, or as public missives of arrogance and superciliousness, as equally official. There are beauties in it which ought not to be lost, and it shall not be my fault if I do not render your part of this correspondence a memorable example to be shunned by your successors."

To this the Secretary replies, Sept. 7th—"Nor am I to be at all deterred from a full exposure of the groundlessness of your charges, or by the threats you make of rendering my part of this correspondence a memorable example to be shunned by my successors. This is the meanest bravado in one who himself affords the most memorable example, on the records of this Department, of a sane controversialist defeated and a false accuser exposed."

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

Baltic, from Liverpool, 21st January; Africa, from Liverpool 24th; Alps, from Havre, 25th.

Lord Palmerston had issued a circular to the House of Commons, stating that business of great importance would be laid before the coming session of Parliament, and expressing the earnest hope that all members will be in their places at the opening.

Lord Napier had arrived in London, to make preparations for his departure on the American mission.

The Neufchatel prisoners had been liberated, and the Swiss question was considered settled.

The event of the most interest is the trial of Verger, the assassin of the Archbishop of Paris. The trial was full of dramatic interest. Verger had been condemned.

A mutiny had occurred among the colored crew of the ship J. L. Bogart, lying in the Mersey, for Mobile. The first mate was badly injured, and was taken to the hospital. The second mate had been arrested, for shooting some of the seamen, and three of the crew for assault. The alleged cause of the mutiny is, that the crew shipped under articles for New York, but subsequently learned that the ship was to proceed to Mobile, where, as they are colored, they apprehended that they would be retained as slaves.

The British in China have taken the French Folly Fort, and were, at last accounts, again bombarding Canton.

The British fleet had captured the forts of Bushire and the island of Karnack, in the Persian Gulf. It was rumored that the Russians had occupied Astracan.

The London *Herald* announces that a Cabinet Council was held on the 21st, and the subject of a reconstruction of the Cabinet was discussed; and that offers for another coalition were made a few weeks ago. Among other changes, it is said that Mr. Gladstone will be replaced in the Exchequer.

The merchants of the principal commercial cities in France have appealed to the Emperor in behalf of the French citizens who suffered by the destruction of Greytown by the American sloop-of-war Cyane.

Russia has at last succeeded in obtaining entry into the five ports of China opened to other nations, and the preliminaries of a treaty to this effect had been already arranged. The opening of these ports to Russia had always been refused, on the ground that an equivalent was given in permitting her to trade inland, and allowing her Ambassador to reside at the Court of Pekin.

The mails from Constantinople of January 12 also brought important news from Asia, confirming reports in the English papers relative to the capture of Bushire by the British expedition to the Gulf of Persia. They announce the occupation of the islands of the Caspian Sea by the Russians, the concentration of the Persians on the eastern frontiers of the Empire, as ordered by the Cabinet of Teheram, which *has caused a holy war to be preached in the provinces of the south.*

A telegraphic despatch from Marseilles, dated the 23d of January, states that Russia has occupied the islands in the Caspian Sea, *without the consent of Persia.* Some revolted and ferocious tribes had been carrying terror into several of the Persian provinces.

Advices from Constantinople of the 16th of January announce the close of the Conferences relative to the Principalities. Ten thousand Turkish troops will occupy the Principalities, to preserve order pending the election of Divans.

The *Journal of Constantinople* alleges that the Circassians of certain regions massacred the Russians who fell into their hands.

The Paris *Pays* contradicts the report that Portugal had ceded the establishment of Goa, in Africa, to England.

The *Patrie* states that in Berlin political circles it is believed that an arrangement between Prussia and Switzerland, relative to the future condition of Neufchatel, will be first discussed between the Cabinets of Paris and Potsdam, and that the question will only be brought before a Conference when it is matured for a settlement.

The *Patrie* states that in view of the approaching evacuation of the Principalities and the general pacification of Europe, Austria is about to make an important reduction in her army.

The *Gazette de Madrid* states, on authority, that there is not the slightest difference in the views of Ministers on the leading political topics of the day.

M. de Montigny, Consul of France at Shanghae, had concluded a commercial and religious treaty with the King of Siam.

The Russians in China—Important Privileges Recently Acquired.

From the Pays, January 21.

By our special correspondence from St. Petersburg, of the 16th inst., we obtain important news.

It appears that Russia has obtained from the Court of Pekin the privilege, that she has solicited for many years, to trade at the five ports of China open to other nations.

This favor was refused until now, upon the ground that for a century Russia had the monopoly of Chinese commerce on land, and a legation in the capital of the empire.

The new treaty is one of the highest importance to Russian maritime commerce, to further which, the Government of the Emperor Alexander appears disposed to display the greatest activity.

MARKETS.

Liverpool, Jan. 24.—Breadstuffs are dull. Wheat is generally 2*s.* lower. Flour has declined 6*d.* Corn is generally slightly cheaper. All articles are quiet and dull. Western Canal flour, 31*s.* @ 31*s.* 6*d.*; Ohio, 34*s.* @ 35*s.*; mixed corn, 33*s.* @ 33*s.* 6*d.*; white, 34*s.* 6*d.* @ 35*s.*

Provisions are dull. Lard is dull at 67*s.* @ 68*s.*

Produce—Ashes generally are unchanged, and market quiet. Turpentine, spirits, 44*s.* 6*d.* @ 45*s.* Rosin—common is steady at 4*s.* 6*d.* @ 4*s.* 9*d.* Olive oils—all qualities slightly advanced. Tea—common Congo unsettled, and market excited. Prices advanced 9*d.* @ 1*s.*

THIRTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

THIRD SESSION.

Thursday, February 5, 1857.

SENATE.

The proceedings of the Senate were without general interest.

HOUSE.

Mr. Nichols, of Ohio, moved to reconsider the vote of yesterday adopting the resolution of Mr. Washburne, of Illinois, in regard to the printing of the report of the State Department on the commercial relations of the United States with foreign nations; which motion was passed over for the present.

A message was received from the Senate, announcing the adoption, by that body, of the following resolution:

[Printed already in record of Senate proceedings concerning the counting electoral votes.]

The resolution was adopted.

Mr. Jones, of Tennessee, and Mr. Howard, of Michigan, were appointed tellers on the part of the House.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill of the Senate to expedite telegraphic communication for the uses of the Government in its foreign intercourse—the question being on seconding the demand for the previous question.

Decided in the negative—yeas 45, nays not counted.

Mr. Pennington, of New Jersey, moved to strike out the words "fifty years," and insert in lieu thereof the words "at all times," in the proviso which reads "that the United States and the citizens thereof shall enjoy the use of the said submarine telegraph communication for a period of fifty years, on the same terms and conditions which shall be stipulated in favor of the Government of Great Britain and the subjects thereof," &c. He observed that the proviso as it stood limited the advantages which the United States were to derive from the proposed contract to fifty years, as similar to those which were to be granted to the Government of Great Britain. The object of his amendment was to extend the term beyond fifty years, and to make it applicable to all future time.

Mr. Smith, of Virginia opposed the bill, remarking that it contained perhaps the most remarkable proposition to be found in the history of a free Government, and especially a Government which existed with but limited powers. He denied the constitutional power of the Government in the premises, and desired to know whence gentlemen derived the authority to enter into a scheme appropriating large sums of the public money in support of an enterprise entirely beyond the jurisdiction of the Government, with its termini located in foreign parts.

Mr. Seward, of Georgia, gave the views which would induce him to vote for the bill. If the Government possessed the power to enter into postal treaties with foreign nations, and to pay eight hundred thousand dollars per annum to support an ocean mail steamer system, in his estimation it had the power to bring upon this cable, and at less expense, the same intelligence which we received through a medium sustained at such great cost. The construction of this line would be a great benefit, and he thought that a great good would be achieved when the merchant in the city of Savannah could inquire the price of cotton, and receive an answer with scarcely an hour's delay.

Mr. Mace, of Indiana, regarded the question as of great importance, and one which, if adopted, might lead to results not perhaps anticipated by any member of the House. He therefore moved that the bill be referred to the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, and he demanded the previous question.

Mr. Campbell, of Ohio. The motion of the gentleman from Indiana, if adopted, will amount to a defeat of the bill.

Mr. Washburn, of Maine. Is not the gentleman from Indiana aware that if his motion to refer prevail, it will defeat the bill?

Mr. Mace. I am aware of no such thing. If the bill be referred, the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads will carefully investigate its provisions, and report upon it in accordance with the conclusions at which they may arrive.

On motion of Mr. Kunkel, of Pennsylvania, the House then went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. H. Marshall, of Kentucky, in the chair,) and resumed the consideration of the bill reducing the duty on imports and for other purposes.

Mr. Clingman, of North Carolina, occupied an hour in discussing questions connected with our relations to Central America and Cuba. He reviewed and condemned the policy of Great Britain with regard to Central America, declaring that the latter had come into the possession of the former country in defiance of Spanish rights and treaty obligations. We already disputed with Great Britain the mastery of the seas, and he argued to show that, having excited her jealousy in various ways, her efforts were being directed to check our territorial expansion, and, if she should fail in that, to render useless the territories we might acquire. She was thus pursuing a policy most injurious to the interests of the United States, and he looked to the incoming Administration for a bold and decided policy upon the subject. Extremely averse to the African slave trade, Great Britain had hit upon the Coolie trade as more humane; and it was his intention, if he could get the opportunity, to introduce a resolution to the effect, that whereas this House has lately had occasion to express its opinion against the re-opening of the African slave trade, it views with still greater repugnance the slave trade in white men, known as the Coolie trade, carried on under the auspices of Great Britain and Spain. If members were to support such a declaration with unanimity, it could not fail to tell upon the civilized world, for there never was a deliberative body entitled to as much weight, when the intelligence, wealth, and independence of those represented here were considered.

Mr. Stanton, of Ohio, remarked that the idea seemed to be that the interests of agriculture were altogether subordinate and secondary in character, and, if necessary to promote manufactures, that they should be stricken down. He earnestly opposed the abolition of the duty on wool, contending that the growth of that article was as much a matter of national importance as were manufactures, and equally entitled to the protecting care of the Government. They should have a system that would afford protection to *all* the interests of the country, or take off the duty on foreign goods, and repeal all laws which excluded foreign vessels from the coasting trade. Let us (said he) have a fair free field and an open fight, or else a just system of protection.

Mr. Letcher, of Virginia, referred to the large surplus in the Treasury, and appealed to all who desired to save the country from a commercial revulsion such as had never been experienced, to join him in the adoption of a measure which would reduce the revenue and preserve to the people the right to retain in their own hands the products of their labor. He held, that while the Government had the right to arrange its scale of duties for the purpose of supplying its treasury with so much as might be necessary to carry on its operations economically, it had no right, in laying those duties, to look to any other consideration than to the acquisition of revenue. He opposed the bill of the majority of the Committee of Ways and Means, agreeing with the gentleman who had preceded him, that it was a thorough manufacturers' bill.

Mr. Morrill, of Vermont, then obtained the floor, when the Committee rose.

Mr. H. Marshall, of Kentucky, moved that the Committee have leave to take a recess; which motion was agreed to.

The House then again went into Committee, when, at half-past four o'clock, a recess was taken until seven, for the purpose of continuing the discussion.

Evening Session.—The Committee reassembled at seven o'clock.

Mr. Morrill, of Vermont, reviewed the tariff question. He stated that he was in favor of a protective tariff, and preferred American manufactures to those of foreign countries. He argued at considerable length to show that, if this bill should pass, wool would be imported duty free. He stated that he should vote for certain amendments to the bill, and, if they were agreed to, he should vote for the bill.

Mr. Taylor, of Louisiana, regretted that the House was called upon to decide upon the dangerous questions involved in this bill in a manner far too hasty for safety. He referred to the past legislation of Congress upon the subject of the tariff, and showed that the greatest increase in the production of sugar had taken place in Louisiana and Cuba, and that its greatest increase of consumption was in Great Britain and the United States.

Mr. Colfax, of Indiana, spoke in favor of free sugar; and, while thanking the majority of the Ways and Means Committee for allowing him to argue for the sugar consumers before them while preparing their tariff, and for the reduction they propose to ten per cent., urged that the change should be not a partial, but an entire one, by making it free, as tea and coffee already are. He contended that the sugar duty was not needed for revenue purposes, the treasury being already overflowing; and that as a practical experiment, having been tried for sixty years, it had utterly failed, the crop having virtually run out. He argued that one-eighth of the whole tariff receipts last year were collected from sugar and molasses, making twenty-five millions of consumers pay a tax as needless as oppressive; that the total home product was not one-sixth of the consumption; that New Orleans itself imported twenty-five million pounds of foreign sugar last year, and Baltimore forty-three millions; that the whole crop of the country was insufficient to supply the farmers of the Mississippi Valley alone, leaving the remainder of the whole country to draw their supply from abroad; that more duty had been paid on imported sugar last year than the whole amount raised in this country would have cost at Havana, and that it would therefore have been a saving to have repealed the tax, and given the whole amount as a bounty to the sugar planters to consent to the repeal; that if the Chinese sugar cane recently introduced proved half as valuable as is claimed for it, sugar would not need protection any more than corn or cord-wood. He expressed the opinion, that if the question of free sugar was submitted to the voters of every Congressional district in the Union, not twenty out of the two hundred and thirty-four would vote no.

Mr. Boyce, of South Carolina, obtained the floor, when the Committee rose, and at a quarter past 9 o'clock the House adjourned.

Saturday, February 7, 1857.

SENATE.

Mr. Toombs presented a memorial from General James Shields and others, citizens of Minnesota Territory, now in Washington, setting forth that said Territory, though now containing about 200,000 inhabitants, has as yet received no grants of land in conformity with the policy of Government to make, upon certain conditions, grants to new States and Territories for railroad purposes; that three years ago, Congress did make a grant to Minnesota for railroad purposes, but, in consequence of the unwarranted interference of persons whose interests were not identified with the Territory, the grant was repealed.

Mr. Toombs commended the memorial to the Committee on Public Lands, and gave notice that he would at once bring in a bill making the necessary grant to that young and enterprising Territory.

Mr. Douglas, from the Committee on Territories, to which was referred the bill to establish a separate judicial district south of the Gila, and to create the office of Surveyor General therein; to provide for the adjudication of certain land claims; to grant donations to actual settlers; to survey certain lands, and for other purposes, reported it with an amendment, which was ordered to be printed.

The following bill was introduced, and appropriately referred:

By Mr. Toombs: A bill making a grant of land to the Territory of Minnesota, in alternate sections, to aid in the construction of certain railroads in that Territory.

Mr. Houston moved to take up the motion connected with the resolution calling for information from the Navy Department. So far as he was concerned, he had nothing further to say in addition to what he had already advanced, but simply to desire a vote of the Senate.

The motion pending was that made by Mr. Biggs, to reconsider the vote on the amendment of Mr. Mallory, limiting the call to the number of deserters and the causes.

Mr. Allen moved to lay the motion to reconsider the amendment of Mr. Mallory on the table.

Agreed to.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the bill for the relief of Obed Hussey, the immediate question pending being an amendment offered by Mr. Brown, to include the name of Cyrus McCormick.

The bill led to an extended discussion, when, on motion by Mr. Adams, it was ordered to lie on the table by a vote of 26 yeas to 14 nays.

The bill for the relief of the Tampico volunteers was taken up, and indefinitely postponed.

Various private bills were then acted upon.

And the Senate then adjourned, at near five o'clock.

HOUSE.

Mr. Orr, of South Carolina, submitted the following resolution, which was agreed to:

Resolved, That the Speaker be authorized to pay to Martha Brooks, widow of Hon. Preston S. Brooks, deceased, the sum due the said decedent as a member of this House at the time of his death.

The Speaker proceeded to call the committees for reports relating to the Territories, this day having been set apart for the consideration of such business.

Mr. Cobb, of Alabama, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported House bill to establish two additional land districts in the Territory of Kansas; which, having been amended so as to increase the number of said districts to three, was read a third time and passed.

Also, from the same committee, reported a bill to authorize the Delaware and Pottawatomie Indians to sell the right of way for a railroad; which was read twice.

Mr. Jones, of Tennessee, objected that the bill authorized the company to buy of the Indians a strip of land a mile wide, the effect of which, he held, would be to create a landed monopoly.

Mr. Walbridge, of Michigan, moved that the bill be laid on the table; which motion was decided in the affirmative—yeas 91, nays 27.

Mr. Grow, of Pennsylvania, from the Committee on the Territories, reported House bill making appropriations for public buildings in the Territory of Kansas, with the recommendation that it do not pass; and it was committed.

Also, from the same committee, reported a bill to authorize the payment for property taken or destroyed in the Territory of Kansas under authority of law or color of law; which was read twice.

Mr. Grow asked that the bill be put upon its passage.

Mr. Cobb, of Alabama, raised the question of order that, as the bill made an appropriation, it must, according to the terms of the rules, have its first consideration in Committee of the Whole.

The Speaker so decided; and the bill was accordingly committed.

Mr. Grow gave notice that on Tuesday next he would endeavor to obtain a vote on the bill to repeal the laws of the Territory of Kansas, heretofore reported from the Committee on the Territories.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. Stanton, of Ohio, in the chair,) and proceeded to consider the bills on the calendar relating to Territorial business.

The first bill taken up was that making an appropriation for completing the Capitol building in the Territory of New Mexico; which, having been read, was laid aside to be reported to the House, with the recommendation that it pass.

The bill providing for the completion of the Capitol building of Utah Territory was next taken up, and a brief debate ensued, in the course of which,

Mr. Dunn, of Indiana, opposed the bill, declaring that the question was whether they would give money to a Territorial Government embracing a population which was acting in open defiance of religion and of morality, and in contempt and scorn of the law which protected them. It was unworthy the House to entertain such a proposition, and he therefore moved that the bill be laid aside, to be reported to the House, with the recommendation that it do not pass.

Mr. Leiter, of Ohio, did not see why the bill should not take the ordinary course, even though the inhabitants of Utah were living in daily violation of the laws of the country and of Christianity. The Government had the power to reduce them to subjection, and it was its business to do so.

The question was taken, and the motion of Mr. Dunn was agreed to.

The Committee then proceeded to consider the bill to complete the Capitol building at Omaha city, in the Territory of Nebraska, and to secure to said Territory the square upon which said Capitol is to be erected, &c.

Mr. Whitfield, of Kansas, moved an amendment to the bill, extending its provisions to that Territory; when, after debate, the bill was passed over.

The bill for the construction of a road in the Territory of Nebraska was next taken up, read, and laid aside, to be reported to the House, with the recommendation that it pass.

The Committee proceeded to consider the bill for the construction of a wagon road from the South Pass of the Rocky Mountains, in Nebraska Territory, via Salt Lake Valley, to Honey Lake Valley, on the eastern portion of the State of California.

Mr. Grow, of Pennsylvania, offered a substitute for the bill, appropriating the sum of $300,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the construction of a wagon road from Fort Kearny, in Nebraska Territory, via the South Pass of the Rocky Mountains, to the eastern boundary of the State of California, near Honey Lake.

Considerable debate ensued, during which,

On motion of Mr. Smith, of Virginia, a section was added to the substitute, appropriating $200,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, for the construction of a wagon road from El Paso, on the Rio Grande, to Fort Yuba, at the mouth of the Gila river.

On motion of Mr. Otero, of New Mexico, a section was also added to the bill, appropriating $50,000 for the construction of a wagon road from Fort Defiance, in that Territory, to the Colorado river, near the mouth of the Mohava river.

Mr. Walbridge, of Michigan, moved an additional section, appropriating $300,000 to construct a wagon road from the head of Lake Superior to Puget Sound; which motion, after debate, was disagreed to—yeas 36, nays 87.

Further debate ensued, when the substitute, as amended, was agreed to, and the Committee rose and reported its action to the House.

The bills making an appropriation for completing the Capitol building in the Territory of New Mexico, and for the construction of a road in the Territory of Nebraska, were then severally read a third time, and passed.

The House thereupon proceeded to consider the bill for the construction of a wagon road from the South Pass of the Rocky Mountains, via Salt Lake Valley, to Honey Lake Valley, in the eastern portion of California, when the substitute adopted in Committee of the Whole was agreed to, and the bill, as thus amended, read the third time.

The question being on the passage of the bill—

Mr. Grow demanded the previous question; which was seconded.

And then, at four o'clock, the House adjourned.

Monday, February 9, 1857.

SENATE.

Mr. Bright presented the credentials of the Hon. Graham N. Fitch.

Mr. Bright moved that the oath prescribed by law be administered.

Mr.