WASHINGTON ITEMS.

The news from the Utah expedition is important. Colonel Alexander's camp was near Harris's Fork, Green river. The Mormons had run off six hundred head of cattle belonging to the party. Governor Cumming was bent, if possible, upon entering Utah.

The Senatorial debate on the Kansas question, which came off last Wednesday week, attracted hundreds of listeners, who filled every seat in the gallery. A strong desire was manifest to hear Mr. Douglas's speech, and much sympathy was felt for him. The cutburst of applause which followed the conclusion of his speech was an indication of this sympathy.

James W. Denver, of California, has been appointed by the President Secretary of Kansas Territory, in the place of Mr. Stanton, *removed*. In the Senate, no opposition to Denver was made by Mr. Douglas, and therefore the rejoicings of Administration journals are foolish. It is not an indication of the fate of the Lecompton Constitution before that body. The cause for the removal of Mr. Stanton was his official act of calling the new Territorial Legislature together.

"Ion," of the Baltimore *Sun*, remarks:

"The latest intelligence from Kansas fearfully complicates the question relating to that troublesome Territory. The Legislature elect were to meet, and assume the direction of the Territorial Government, whether called by Acting Governor Stanton or not. It is stated here, on reliable authority, that it is then proposed to arrest the action of the Lecompton Convention, and enact laws making it a penal offence to hold the constitutional election, which is to take place on the 2d inst.

"General Denver has started on his mission to Kansas, but it is apprehended that he will not reach the Territory in time to exert his authority and influence for the maintenance of order. Governor Walker has not been removed, but probably will not return to the Territory as Governor, inasmuch as he coincides with the popular feeling against the action of the Lecompton Convention.

"Kansas is therefore, or will be before the 1st of July next, in open rebellion against the U. S. Territorial Government. There will be a fearful crisis, though it was not unforeseen. Gov. Walker advised the President that this would be the result."

William A. Richardson, of Illinois, has been appointed Governor of Nebraska Territory. What does this fact import? Mr. Richardson was the lieutenant of Mr. Douglas in the last Congress, and has been supposed to agree with him in his views of the doctrine of Popular Sovereignty. But the appointment of Mr. Richardson to office would seem to imply that he agrees with the Cabinet in the present crisis.

Senators Henderson and Houston are on their way to Washington.

The Review.

Life of an American Slave.

We have received proof-sheets of a story with the above title from the publisher, H. Dayton, New York. It is a work of uncommon power and interest. The style is simple, and the course of the story straightforward, and we predict for it a popular sale. We understand that the story is a perfectly true one, and that it was issued in a cumbrous form, and with many uninteresting episodes, before the day of cheap and popular books, yet, in spite of these drawbacks, it sold entirely out of print. The present story is abridged, and will be presented to the public in a readable shape. It will be issued in a few days, and, when we receive a copy, we shall review it more carefully.

The Hasheesh Eater. New York: Harper & Brothers. For sale by Taylor & Maury, Washington, D. C.

This is a singular book—in many respects one of power and a certain fascination. It is something in the vein of De Quincey's Opium Eater. Hasheesh is the secretion of an Eastern plant (*Cannabis Indica*) which possesses powerful stimulant and narcotic properties. This volume describes the effect of hasheesh upon the human system, and especially upon the mind. It will be found by the curious to possess much interest. The style in which it is written is nervous and graphic.

☞ Senator Hunter, of Virginia, has just been re-elected to the United States Senate for six years from the 4th of March, 1859. He is a man of fine abilities, and is a friend to the Calhoun Constitution of Kansas. He will doubtless break a lance with Mr. Douglas upon the matter on the Senate floor.

THE NAW HOUSE PRINTERS.—Mr. Steadman, of Ohio, was elected Printer to the House by a union of his backers with those of Mr. Banks, of Virginia. The new firm will be that of "Banks & Steadman," and they are to issue a new journal, we learn. Mr. Steadman is the candidate of Mr. Douglas, and it has been supposed that the new paper will reflect Mr. Douglas's sentiments respecting Kansas, and advocate his interests. Says the Washington correspondent of the Richmond *South*:

"A very creditable feature in the arrangement is the prospective establishment by the copartners of a newspaper, of an improved standard, at the Capital, that will reflect the Democratic sentiment of the country. This is an evident improvement on the old beneficiary system, in which the public printing seems to have been regarded as a mere private emolument, without any attendant obligations to the party at large. The establishment of a press of a high Democratic standard, as Messrs. Banks and Steadman propose, that will not be a mere Executive organ, but that will reflect the sentiment of the party at large, the printing patronage in fact being theirs, and not of the Executive branch of the Government, denotes decidedly a change for the better, implying as it does a due acknowledgment to the party, and conveying a public benefit not lightly to be estimated in furnishing to the country a readable Washington paper. It is understood that the paper will be established some time between this and the 1st of January."

How is the new journal to satisfy Northern Democrats and the Southern ones at the same time, upon the Kansas question? If Mr. Douglas holds his position against the Administration, it would seem certain that the South will desert him. Mr. Banks's newspaper, the *South Side Democrat* upholds the Lecompton Constitution. Mr. Steadman, we understand, does not. How will the partners come to an agreement upon this matter? Perhaps by reflecting, not only Mr. Douglas's views, but those of the South—issuing the paper as several of the New Orleans journals are, one half in French, the other in English!

PARTY DISCIPLINE.—The action of the President in dismissing John McKeon, of New York, from the office of District Attorney of the United States for that district, excites considerable attention throughout the country. Mr. McKeon is dismissed for opposing the election of Fernando Wood at the recent municipal election in New York. It is said that the President does not like Mr. Wood, but will not tolerate any bolting from party nominations. This seems to indicate a disposition on the part of the President to enforce party discipline in a rigid manner. The *N. Y. Evening Post* remarks:

"If the reason assigned for the removal of Mr. McKeon be the correct one, it is certainly calculated to shake the confidence of the most confiding in Mr. Buchanan's patriotism, and we may add, in his good sense, for no President in his sense, one would suppose, would deliberately undertake to carry Wood upon his shoulders since his defeat. Such a burden would have broken down the Administration of General Washington. If Louis Napoleon has ever attempted a more direct or shameless interference with the elective franchise than this, the evidence of it has not yet transpired, so far as we know."

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OPENED.—The Congregational or Independent Church, on Fifth street, opposite the City Hall, in this city, was reopened last Sunday for public worship. The Rev. Mr. Bassett, of Illinois, is to supply the pulpit during the winter, and the friends of the enterprise hope that the residents of Washington who would like to see an independent, Anti-Slavery church established here, will attend its services. The sermon delivered last Sunday was one of much thought, research, and eloquence.

Strangers are freely invited to attend.

THIRTY-FIFTH CONGRESS,

FIRST SESSION.

Monday, December 14, 1857.

SENATE.

The standing committees were announced.

The death of Senator Butler was announced in appropriate terms by his colleague, Mr. Evans.

HOUSE.

After the announcement of the standing committees, the House resolved forthwith to occupy the new Hall.

The death of Senator Butler was announced by the Hon. Mr. Boyce, and the House adjourned.

Standing Committees of the House.

Committee of Elections.—Thomas L. Harris of Ill., W. W. Boyce of S. C., Israel Washburn of Me., John W. Stevenson of Ky., Ezra Clark of Connecticut, H. M. Phillips of Pa., J. A. Gilmer of N. C., L. Q. C. Lamar of Miss., and James Wilson of Indiana.

Of Ways and Means.—J. Glancy Jones of Pa., John S. Phelps of Mo., N. P. Banks of Mass., John Letcher of Va., L. D. Campbell of Ohio, H. W. Davis of Md., J. Kelly of N. Y., William A. Howard of Mich., and J. F. Dowdell of Ala.

Of Claims.—S. S. Marshall of Ill., M. R. H. Garnett of Va., J. R. Giddings of Ohio, T. G. Davidson of Ind., J. C. Kunkel of Pa., S. Moore of Ala., H. Goodwin of N. Y., S. Arnold of Ct., and H. Maynard of Tenn.

On Commerce.—John Cochrane of N. Y., John S. Millson of Va., E. B. Washburne of Ill., W. F. Miles of S. C., E. Wade of Ohio, James A. Stallworth of Ala., George Eustis of La., James Landy of Pa., and L. B. Comins of Mass.

On Public Lands.—Williamson R. W. Cobb of Ala., John McQueen of S. C., Henry Bennett of N. Y., John G. Davis of Ind., David S. Walbridge of Mich., Thomas Ruffin of N. C., Joshua Hill of Ga., William Montgomery of Pa., and Joseph C. McKibbin of Cal.

On the Post Office and Post Roads—W. H. English of Ind., P. Powell of Va., J. M. Wood of Me., C. L. Scott of Cal., V. B. Horton of Ohio, T. Davis of Iowa, J. Craig of Mo., R. Davis of Miss., and J. C. Atkins of Tenn.

For the District of Columbia—William O. Goode of Va., T. E. Bowie of Md., E. Dodd of N. Y., H. C. Burnett of Ky., E. Joy Morris of Pa., Augustus R. Wright of Ga., S. Dean of Conn., Alfred M. Scales of N. C., and Elijah Ward of N. Y.

On the Judiciary.—G. S. Houston of Ala., J. S. Caskie of Va., M. W. Tappan of N. H., Burton Craige of N. C., C. Billinghurst of Wis., Miles Taylor of La., C. Ready of Tenn., Henry Chapman of Pa., and H. F. Clark of N. Y.

Committee on Indian Affairs.—A. B. Greenwood of Ark., C. S. Scott of Cal., B. F. Leiter of Ohio, J. H. Reagan of Texas, S. H. Woodson of Mo., E. S. Sherter of Ala., S. M. Burroughs of N. Y., S. Colfax of Ind., and W. F. Russell of N. Y.

On Military Affairs—J. A. Quitman of Miss., C. J. Faulkner, of Va., H. Marshall of Ky., John H. Savage of Tenn., Benjamin Stanton of Ohio, M. L. Bonham of S. C., Samuel R. Curtis of Iowa, George H. Pendleton of Ohio, and James Buffinton of Massachusetts.

On Naval Affairs.—T. S. Bocock of Va., T. B. Florence of Pa., T. Davis of Mass., W. Winslow of N. C., E. Corning of N. Y., J. Sherman of Ohio, J. L. Seward of Ga., F. H. Morse of N. Y., and G. S. Hawkins of Fla.

On Foreign Affairs.—T. L. Clingman of N. C., G. W. Hopkins of Va., A. Burlingame of Mass., J. B. Clay of Ky., D. Ritchie of Pa., W. Barksdale of Miss., D. E. Sickles of N. Y., H. E. Royce of Vt., and W. S. Groesbeck of Ohio.

On Territories—A. H. Stephens of Ga., W. Smith of Va., G. A. Grow of Pa., L. C. Branch of N. C., A. P. Granger of N. Y., J. Hughes of Ind., F. K. Zollicoffer of Tenn., C. L. Knapp of Mass., and J. B. Clark of Mo.

On Patents—James A. Stewart of Md., William B. Maclay of N. Y., Wilson Reilly of Penn., John R. Edie of Penn., and William D. Brayton of R. I.

On Public Buildings and Grounds—L. M. Keitt of S. C., S. O. Peyton, of Ky., E. B. Morgan of N. Y., L. W. Hall of Ohio, and Samuel A. Purviance of Pa.

On Accounts—J. C. Mason of Ky., J. Dick of Pa., T. Ruffin of N. C., J. A. Searing of N. Y., F. E. Spinner of N. Y.

Joint Committee on the Library—W. H. Dimmick of Pa., W. Winslow of N. C., and John U. Pettit of Ind.

Joint Committee on Printing—Samuel A. Smith of Tenn., Otho R. Singleton of Miss., and Matthias H. Nichols of Ohio.

On Revolutionary Claims.—Samuel S. Cox of Ohio, George Taylor of New York, Isaiah D. Clawson of New Jersey, Aaron H. Cragin of New Hampshire, James Jackson of Georgia, Owen Lovejoy of Illinois, Jabez L. M. Curry of Alabama, Henry L. Dawes of Massachusetts, and Jacob M. Kunkel of Maryland.

On Public Expenditures.—John M. Elliott of Kentucky, Henry A. Edmundson of Virginia, John Covode of Pennsylvania, Jacob R. Wortendyke of New Jersey, John M. Parker of New York, Joseph R. Cockerill of Ohio, William Kellogg of Illinois, James M. Gregg of Ind., and E. P. Walton of Vermont.

On Private Land Claims.—J. M. Sandidge of Louisiana, Joseph C. McKibbin of California, Aaron Harlan of Ohio, George S. Hawkins of Florida, Cadwalader C. Washburne of Wisconsin, Francis P. Blair of Missouri, Reuben E. Fenton of New York, Charles J. Gilman of Maine, and William T. Avery of Tennessee.

On Manufactures.—William D. Bishop of Connecticut, Albert G. Watkins of Tennessee, Philemon Bliss of Ohio, Sherrard Clemens of Virginia, Nathaniel B. Durfee of Rhode Island, John A. Ahl of Penn., James B. Ricaud of Maryland, Henry M. Shaw of North Carolina, and Stephen C. Foster of Maine.

Committee on Agriculture.—W. G. Whiteley of Delaware, Lawrence W. Hall of Ohio, Wm. B. Kelsey of New York, Guy M. Bryan of Texas, Justin S. Morrill of Vermont, John Huyler of New Jersey, Richard Mott of Ohio, James B. Foley of Indiana, and James S. Gillis of Pennsylvania.

On the Militia—Israel T. Hatch of N. Y., Albert G. Watkins of Tennessee, Anthony E. Roberts of Pennsylvania, Thomas F. Bowie of Maryland, Cydnor B. Tompkins of Ohio, E. A. Warren of Arkansas, Aaron Shaw of Illinois, Albert G. Jenkins of Virginia, and Eli Thayer of Massachusetts.

On Revolutionary Pensions.—John Hickman of Pennsylvania, John A. Searing of New York, Robert B. Hall of Mass., John V. Wright of Tennessee, John M. Parker of N. Y., Henry M. Shaw of North Carolina, Nehemiah Abbott of Maine, Sherrard Clemens of Virginia, and John F. Potter of Wisconsin.

On Invalid Pensions.—Joshua H. Jewett of Kentucky, Thomas B. Florence of Pennsylvania, George R. Robbins of New Jersey, John H. Savage of Tennessee, Calvin C. Chaffee of Massachusetts, Joseph Burns of Ohio, Thomas L. Anderson of Missouri, Oliver A. Morse of New York, and Charles Case of Indiana.

On Roads and Canals.—George W. Jones of Tennessee, Albert G. Talbott of Kentucky, William S. Darrell of Massachusetts, Martin J. Crawford of Georgia, Samuel G. Andrews of New York, Edward A. Warren of Arkansas, Isaac N. Morris of Illinois, John Thompson of New York, and Paul Leidy of Pennsylvania.

On Revisal and Unfinished Business.—W. L. Dewart of Pennsylvania, Joseph Miller of Ohio, De Witt C. Leech of Michigan, Guy M. Bryan of Texas, and Judson W. Sherman of New York.

On Mileage—Robert Smith of Illinois, Ambrose S. Murray of New York, W. E. Niblack of Indiana, J. Morrison Harris of Maryland, and Henry Waldron of Michigan.

On Engraving.—Garnett B. Adrain of New Jersey, Israel T. Hatch of New York, and W. L. Underwood of Kentucky.

On Expenditures in the State Department—Owen Jones of Penn., Jabez L. M. Curry of Alabama, John A. Bingham of Ohio, William T. Avery of Tennessee, and Charles B. Hoard of New York.

On Expenditures in the Treasury Department.—William Lawrence of Ohio, Allison White of Pennsylvania, David Kilgore of Ind., Jacob M. Kunkel of Maryland, and Lucius J. Gartrell of Georgia.

On Expenditures in the War Department.—Wilson Reilly of Penn., Clark B. Cochrane of New York, Joseph R. Cockerill of Ohio, William Stewart of Pennsylvania, and John V. Wright of Tennessee.

On Expenditures in the Navy Department—John B. Haskin of New York, Joseph Miller of Ohio, Emory B. Pottle of New York, Paulus Powell of Virginia, and Reuben Davis of Mississippi.

On Expenditures in the Post Office Department.—Albert G. Talbott of Kentucky, John H. Reagan of Texas, George W. Palmer of New York, Joseph Burns of Ohio, and James B. Foley of Indiana.

On Expenditures on the Public Buildings.—Allison White of Pennsylvania, George Taylor of New York, Cadwalader C. Washburne of Wisconsin, Joseph Miller of Ohio, and Abram B. Olin of New York.

Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills.—T. G. Davidson of Louisiana and James Pike of New Hampshire.

Regents of the Smithsonian Institution—William H. English of Ind., Benjamin Stanton of Ohio, and Lucius J. Gartrell of Ga.

The Senate Standing Committees.

Washington, Dec. 14, P. M.—The caucus of all parties in the Senate have agreed to constitute the committees as follows:

Foreign Relations.—Messrs. Mason, Douglas, Slidell, Polk, Crittenden, Seward, and Foot.

Finance.—Messrs. Hunter, Pearce, Gwin, Bright, Biggs, Fessenden, and Cameron.

Commerce.—Messrs. Clay, Benjamin, Bigler, Toombs, Reid, Allen, and Hamlin.

Military Affairs.—Messrs. Davis, Fitzpatrick, Johnson, Iverson, Broderick, Wilson, and King.

Naval Affairs.—Messrs. Mallory, Thomson of N. J., Slidell, Allen, Hammond, Bell of Ten., and Hale.

Judiciary.—Messrs. Bayard, Toombs, Pugh, Benjamin, Green, Collamer, and Trumbull.

Post Offices and Post Roads.—Messrs. Yulee, Bigler, Gwin, Fitch, Henderson, Collamer, and Dixon.

Public Lands.—Messrs. Stuart, Johnson, Pugh, R. W. Johnson, Broderick, Foster, and Harlan.

Private Land Claims—Messrs. Benjamin, Biggs, Thompson of Ky., Kennedy, and Durkee.

Indian Affairs.—Messrs. Sebastian, Brown, Reid, Fitch, Bell of Tenn., Houston, and Doolittle.

Pensions.—Messrs. Jones, Thomson of N. J., Clay, Bates, Thompson of Ky., Foster, and King.

Revolutionary Claims.—Messrs. Evans, Bates, Crittenden, Wilson, and Durkee.

Claims.—Messrs. Iverson, Mallory, Polk, Bell of N. H., and Simmons.

District of Columbia.—Messrs. Brown, Mason, Johnson of Tenn., Henderson, Kennedy, Hamlin, and Chandler.

Patents and Patent Office.—Messrs. Reid, Evans, Yulee, Simmons, and Trumbull.

Public Buildings and Grounds.—Messrs. Bright, Hunter, Davis, Douglas, and Hale.

Territories.—Messrs. Douglas, Jones, Sebastian, Fitzpatrick, Green, Sumner, and Wade.

Engrossed Bills.—Messrs. Wright, Bigler, and Harlan.

Audit and Control of Contingent Expenses.—Messrs. Evans, Wright, and Dixon.

Enrolled Bills.—Messrs. Jones, Brown, and Doolittle.

Printing.—Messrs. Johnson, Fitzpatrick, and Fessenden.

Library.—Messrs. Pearce, Bayard, and Hammond.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS.

Report of the Secretary of the Interior.

Secretary Thompson's report opens with an exhibit of the operations of the Land Bureau. A historical sketch is given of the methods by which the public domain was originally acquired, and then follows a schedule of the organization of the surveying system. The whole surface of public domain is stated at 1,450,000 000 acres, of which 57,442,870 acres have never been offered for sale, and 80,000,000 acres were subject to entry at private sale on the 30th September last. The number of acres thus far sold is 36,862,464 acres; leaving undisposed of, 1,386,137,536 acres. Last year, 22,889,461 acres of public lands were surveyed and reported; 5,300,550 acres were sold for cash; 7,381,010 were located with military warrants; and the railroad grants under the act of March, were 5,116,000 acres. The sum received on cash sales was $4,225,908, a falling off of $5,332,145, with a corresponding falling off in the location of lands with warrants of more than 20 per cent.

The Bureau of Pensions return a satisfactory report. Up to June, 1857, a total of $61,314 620 in money, and large donations of land, had been paid to Revolutionary soldiers or their widows. During the past year, 41,483 warrants for bounty land have been issued, requiring to satisfy them 5,352,160 acres of public land. The number of warrants issued under all the Bounty Land Acts of Congress from the Revolutionary War to the present time is 547,260—requiring 66,714,942 acres of land. Frauds upon the Pension Office are numerous, and an extension of the statutory limit of two years is recommended, to remedy this evil. The report states, in detail, the condition of the public buildings at the capital, and then considers the subject of District Attorneys' fees, concludiug this branch with a recommendation of an increase of the attorneys' salaries on an equitable basis. The wagon-road works have been commenced on the routes from Fort Kearney to Honey Lake, in California, from El Paso to Fort Yuma, at the mouth of the Gila, and from the Platte River to the Running Water. The Mexican Boundary Commission having concluded its labors, its maps and journals have been turned over to the Department.

The Patent Office reports, that from Jan. 1 to Sept. 30, 1857, 4,095 applications for patents were received, 820 caveats were filed, 2,066 patents were issued, and 2,287 applications were rejected. The receipts of this Bureau for the quarters of the year have been $161,415; expenditures, $163,942; excess of expenditures, $2,526. Of the expenditures, $27,939 were made up of fees restored to applicants after the examination of their cases. The Secretary commends this practice, and urges the necessity of making the Bureau self-sustaining. The right of appeal to a District Judge is also censured, and a repeal of the law which authorizes the practice is earnestly urged.

The report concludes with a strong endorsement of the utility of the Agricultural Division of the Department.

Report of the Postmaster General.

Postmaster General Brown's Report is very voluminous. Mr. Brown states that since he entered upon the Administration of the Department, he has ventured on no new theories, nor attempted any innovations on a well-tried system. He calls particular attention to the fact, while but 8,146 Post Offices were established in the twenty years from 1827 to 1847, the number established in ten years, from 1847 to 1757, was 11,444—being an increase of 3,298 in just one-half of the former period. During the last fiscal year, 1,725 offices have been established, and 704 discontinued, being a net increase of 1,021. The number of Postmasters appointed during the year was 8,680; of which 4,767 were to fill vacancies occasioned by resignations. The total number of Post Offices in the United States at this time is 27 148, of which 368 are of the class denominated Presidential, the incumbents being subject to appointment by the President and Senate. On the 30th of June last, 7,888 mail routes were in operation, with an aggregate length of 242,601 miles; of which 22,530 miles were by railroad, 15,245 by steamboats, and 49,329 by coach. The total annual transportation of mails was 74,906,067 miles, costing $6,622,046. The cost of transportation was relatively as follows: By railroad, ten cents and five mills per mile; by steamboat, twenty two cents a mile; by coach, seven cents and four mills a mile. The length of railroad routes has been increased 2,207 miles, and the length of steamboat routes is increased by 294 miles. The number of mail contractors is 6,576. The stage coaches are going more and more out of fashion; during the year, the length of coach routes has been reduced 1,124 miles, and the annual transportation 24,061 miles. The cost of the Utah routes was increased $17,500, by the allowance of additional pay, without increased service, on the route between Salt Lake and San Pedro. The extension of railroad service (amounting to 2,458,648 miles) is set forth in tabular form in the report, with an exhibit of the additional expense thereby incurred, amounting to $249,458 during the year. Compared with the service last year, there appears a decrease of 791 miles in the length of routes, and of 823,034 miles in the annual transportation, while the cost is increased $120,044. In New York, railroad transportation has increased 293,328 miles, while steam boat service has decreased 161,664 miles, and coach service has fallen off 143,384 miles, but with an increased cost in the latter amounting to $12,642. The receipts of the Department for the year were $7,353 591, and the expenditures, 11,508,027. Allowing for certain special provisions on the account of revenue and expenditure, the *deficit* is stated at $3,453,718,40. The increase of expenses this year is 5 per cent. in the amount of annual transportation, and 9 7-10 per cent in cost.

The estimates for 1858 are as follows: Expenditures, $12,053 247; revenue, $10,584,074; leaving the sum of $1,469,173 to be appropriated by Congress to defray the expenditures of the coming year.

Report of the Secretary of the Treasury.

The importance of this document has induced its publication at length on another page of this paper. A brief extract of the figures of the Report may not be out of place for reference.

The Government spent this last fiscal year, ending June 30, 1857		$70,822,722
On the civil list	$27,531,922	
Interior Department	5,358,274	
War department	19,261,774	
Navy Department	12,726,856	
Public Debt	5,943,896	
The budget of expenditure for the current fiscal year, to end June 30, 1858, is made		$74,963,058
Actual first quarter	$23,714,528	
Estimates three quarters	51,248,530	
The balance in the treasury at the beginning of the year, July 1, was		$17,710,114
Revenue to 30th September		20,929,819
Estimated to 30th June		36,750,000
Total		75,389,933

This would leave $426,875, provided the revenue is not over-estimated, nor the expenditure underrated; to provide against which contingencies, and to guard the public credit, the Secretary asks for authority to employ Treasury notes, not to exceed the sum of $20,000,000. The customs revenue for the first quarter was $18,573,729. The Secretary calculates on only $33,000,000 for the remaining nine months. Instead of $231,000,000 in dutiable merchandise for the year, entered for consumption, (as the first quarter would indicate,) he looks for no more than $174,000.000, owing to the recent revulsion. The land and miscellaneous revenues of the year he sets down at $6,006,090, of which $2,356,090 was realized the first quarter.

The public debt was reduced on the 1st of July to $29 060,386. The Department has since purchased $3,895,232, leaving the amount outstanding $25,165,154.

The Department has collected anew the railway capital and debt of the country. These amount—

In capital	$491,435,661
In debt	417,243,664
Total	908,679,325

The annual income is reported at $48,406,488. Interest on the debt, $25,093,203.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

Arrival of the Europa.

New York, Dec. 11.—The mail steamer Europa has arrived at this port, bringing Liverpool dates of the 28th ultimo.

The screw steamer Indian arrived at Liverpool on the 25th, and the United States mail steamer Arago at Southampton on the 26th ultimo.

Later advices have been received from India. The fugitives at Delhi have been defeated at various points. Lucknow still holds out, and is safe, strong reinforcements being near.

Ministers will propose the total abolition of the East India Company's charter as soon as Parliament meets, and the Indian Empire will be then brought under the British Crown and Parliament.

Lord Clarendon announced to a deputation on the subject of Slavery, that the French scheme of negro emigration from Africa will probably be abandoned.

The Indian advices mention that fifteen troop ships, with six thousand men, had reached Indian ports.

The mutineers had been signally defeated at Agra, with the loss of forty-three of their guns, and one thousand men killed. A great amount of treasure was recovered.

General Havelock was safe at Lucknow, but the enemy was in great force in the vicinity.

The King of Delhi is to be tried by military commission.

Two more of the sons of the King of Delhi have been shot.

The fall of Delhi had a marked favorable effect at Meerat.

The arrears of revenue were coming in quite rapidly.

The news from China is unimportant.

It is reported that the Spanish Government has instructed General Concha to organize forces for service against Mexico, in case negotiations shall fail.

Walker, Nicaragua, &c.

New Orleans, Dec. 12—The steamer Empire City, from Havana, with the California mails and passengers, has arrived at the Balize. She reports the Star of the West at Havana, with $2,500,000 in gold for New York.

General Walker landed at Punta Arenas on the 25th of November, with 150 men. The Fashion passed the Saratoga at full speed, unmolested.

On his arrival, Walker sent 50 men up the San Juan. The Fashion was at Aspinwall, coaling for her return. Commodore Paulding, in attempting to seize the steamer, found her papers correct.

The British and American squadrons had sailed for San Juan.

From Oregon.—The news from Oregon states that the election there had resulted in the success of the Constitution, the rejection of Slavery, and the exclusion of free negroes from the State.

Resumption of Specie Payments.

New York, Dec. 11.—The Governor is informed of the intention of certain banks here to resume specie payments, and all must follow suit, or wind up. When the Legislature meets, it will find the banks acting in strict conformity with the law. The effect of the proceeding, it is believed, will be favorable.

The *Commercial* of this afternoon has private advices from Washington, announcing a projected conference between the President, the Secretary of the Treasury, and others, on financial matters in connection with the Government. In addition to the subject of a loan, Gen. Jackson's plan of a bank will be discussed. Col. Benton will probably exercise a considerable influence upon the Administration in the matter.

Virginia.

With regard to the finances, the Governor of Virginia says there will be no necessity to increase taxes. The temporary debt is reduced from $1,659,000 to $990,000. He advises that authority be given to issue $500,000 of treasury notes, as the chief burden of the public debt falls on the current year 1857–'58.

The sinking fund is operating well, and is fruitfully administered. The whole amount of interest due on the public debt on the 1st January next has been or will be promptly paid, having been provided for—the banks having ratably, in proportion to the amount of their notes held by the Government, furnished the specie funds for this purpose. Besides the interest on the public debt proper, the State has provided for the interest on $300,000 of bonds, hypothecated by an agent of the board of public works a few years since, in New York. Since the 1st of January, 1855, $1 085,926.18 of the principal of the public debt has been sunk, and of that amount $453,097 has been sunk in the last two years. The total amount of the public debt is now reduced to $27,482,015 13.

The salaries of several officers, for good reasons, are advised by Gov. Wise to be increased as follows: The Secretary of the Commonwealth and Librarian, $3,500, First Auditor $3,500, Second Auditor $3,000, Register $3,000. An increase of clerks, and a clerk for the Attorney General at $1,000, are recommeded.

From Kansas.

St. Louis, Dec. 10.—The *Democrat* received Kansas letters to-night, containing the proceedings of the Delegate Convention which met at Lawrence on the 24 instant, Ex-Gov. Charles Robinson presiding.

Resolutions were unanimously adopted, repudiating and pledging ceaseless hostility to the Lecompton Constitution, denouncing the call for elections on the 21st instant and the 1st proximo; declaring that the Legislature elected on October 5th shall not be suspended by any Constitution or State Government until a fair and impartial vote be had; endorsing the Topeka Constitution; requesting the extra session of the Territorial Legislature to frame an election law providing for the submission of the Topeka and Lecompton Constitutions—the one receiving the majority of legal votes to become the fundamental law of the State of Kansas.

A resolution was also passed, returning thanks to acting Gov. Stanton for calling a special session of the Legislature. Speeches were made by Messrs. Robinson, Lane, Thatcher, and others.

From Washington.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Senator Bigler, in order to correct a misapprehension, states in conversation that the meeting to which he alluded in his speech on Wednesday, as having taken place in Douglas's room, last year, to consult on the Toombs Kansas bill, was an official rather than a private meeting of the Committee on Territories, and to which other Senators had been invited.

Judge Butler's death, according to the present understanding among the Senators, will be formally announced on Monday, and that of Mr. Bell, of New Hampshire, on Tuesday.

The Democratic Senatorial caucus to-day agreed on the standing committees. Mr. Mason is to continue chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs; Mr. Douglas, of Territories; Mr. Hunter, of Finance; Mr. Stuart, of Public Lands; Mr. Bayard, of the Judiciary; Mr. Brown, of the District of Columbia; Mr. Clay, of Commerce; and Mr. Yulee, of the Post Office Committee.

From Mexico.

The steamer Tennessee, from Vera Cruz, with dates to the 8th, has arrived at New Orleans. The position of the Mexican Government was decidedly better. The revolutionists had been vanquished at Puebla and elsewhere. Comonfort had been formally installed. The port of Naridux had been declared open, but the siege of Campeachy still continues. The besiegers were suffering very severely for provisions.

Murder of a Woman in New Jersey.

The Mount Holly *Mirror* contains the following account of the murder in that vicinity:

"The dwelling of Mrs. Clevenger, situate on the Old Shore road, about half way between Mount Misery and Cedar Bridge, was destroyed by fire one night last week, and (sad to relate) Mrs. C. perished in the flames. She was a very old lady, lived entirely alone, and was known to travellers as 'Old Mother Clevenger.' Her residence was a one-story cabin, and was well known to persons travelling the road. It is generally believed the old lady was murdered, and her cabin then set on fire. The coalings are near her residence, and those employed in them frequently went there to obtain liquor—she being in the habit of keeping some for travellers. Several times recently, upon refusing it to persons who were intoxicated, she has been severely beaten. She was known to be in possession of some money, and it is thought the desire to get hold of it, in connection with the hatred existing against her, in refusing to supply drunken brutes at the coalings with liquor, was the cause of her sad and terrible death. The ruins were examined, but only her skull and some few of her bones were found. She was about 80 years old. A night or two previous to the fire, her hogs were poisoned and her horse's throat was cut."

Fugitive Slave Case in Indiana.

Indianapolis, Dec. 4.—Eight days since, the agents of Dr. Vallandigham, of Frankfort, Ky., captured a fugitive slave at Naples, Illinois. While *en route* for Kentucky, the negro was taken on a writ of *habeas corpus* before Judge Wallace, who ordered his release. He was, however, again arrested, and taken before U. S. Commissioner Rea, who, after hearing the case, decided that the fugitive must go back to Slavery again. The fugitive was then rearrested on a writ issued by Judge Wallace, before whom some nice questions of State sovereignty are now being discussed. It is claimed by the counsel for the fugitive that he is free under the Fugitive Slave law and the Dred Scott decision, as well as under the State Constitution. In the mean time, Dr. Vallaudingham has been arrested on the affidavit of the fugitive, charging him with the crime of kidnapping. The latter case is now in progress before Mayor Wallace.

The Vallandigham Slave Case.

Indianapolis, Dec. 5.—An immense crowd assembled at the Senate chamber this morning, to hear the decision of Judge Wallace on the fugitive slave case. The judge decided that he could not traverse the decision of the commissioner, and the negro was remanded back to slavery. The United States Marshal started with the negro this evening for Louisville, where he will release him to Vallandigham. The case before the mayor against Vallandigham for kidnapping has been dismissed. The excitement is great, and some difficulty is apprehended at the cars. No attempt at a rescue, however, has been made.

GENERAL SUMMARY.

The New Orleans *Courier*, the Administration paper of that city, arguing from the stand-point that Kansas will likely, at last, come into the Union as a free State, presses the acquisition of Cuba during the present term of Mr. Buchanan, to supply its loss to the South. It says:

"We learned many years ago, from his (Buchanan's) great speech on the Panama mission, that the Moro was practically a fortress at the mouth of the Mississippi. It ought, therefore, to belong to the United States. The acquisition of Cuba is a question of far greater importance to us than any other now before this Administration. It would be a peculiarly fit time to annex it as a slave State, when it could be made a twin sister to a free State from the West. All parties ought to be satisfied—the great majority of all parties would be. Mr. Buchanan would earn the crowning glory of his life, and the whole Mississippi valley would embalm his name among those of their heroes. Peace and quiet would be restored to the North, security would be given to the commerce of the South and West, and the people of Cuba would prosper as they never prospered before."

The *Courier* urges it upon the Louisiana members of Congress to stand up to this question.

We take the following mention of a recent slave case from the Chicago *Tribune*. From the brief statement of facts, it would seem that a slave can be held as such for six years in a free State, and then sold as such on free soil—two concessions never before, to our knowledge, accorded to Slavery by the decision of any free State court. Where will the "tramp! tramp! tramp!" of Slavery stop?

"A colored girl, named Ruth, was taken to Caseyville, Illinois, six years ago, by Mr. Mallory, who represented that the girl was given to his wife to raise until she was 18, and then she would be free. In July or August last, Mallory removed to St. Louis, taking Ruth with his family. Finding no house to rent, he returned to Caseyville, and it becoming known that the girl was his slave, he feared that she would be run off, and therefore sold her. It being assumed that the girl was free, Mallory was arrested on a charge of kidnapping, and, after an examination before the Recorder, was discharged, on the ground that Ruth was a slave, having been born of a slave mother, and inherited by Mallory. Under this decision, a slave may be taken into a free State, and retained there six years in bondage, and then be sold and carried into a State where Slavery is permitted. This reverses the old law on this point, and pretty effectually."

A few days since, a Southern gentleman, an officer of the United States navy, arrived in New York, and put up at the St. Nicholas. A decoy was not long in initiating himself into his good graces and playing the agreeable, by showing him the leading town sights, ending, as usual in such cases, in a visit to a gambling house, to take a "glimpse of the tiger," as the more knowing ones phrase it. The Southern gentleman was delighted and grateful. He showed his delight by drinking freely of the costly wines set before him, and his gratitude by playing at faro. In an hour's time he had lost $3,000. This was on Wednesday night. Thursday morning the losing gentleman awoke with a severe head-ache, and to the consciousness that he had foolishly lost what he could ill afford to lose. He called upon the superintendent of police, and his money was recovered; but the name of the Southern gentleman and the locality of the gambling house and the name of the proprietor are suppressed.

The Florida war, which has now been carried on at intervals for twenty years or more, at a vast expense both of money and lives, is about to be renewed, upon almost as large a scale as ever. The total population of the Seminoles, which never exceeded 4,000 or 5,000, at the utmost, negroes included, is now reduced to about as many hundreds; but the difficulty of catching them or killing them is rather aggravated than lessened by this diminution of their numbers. Besides a large force of United States troops employed in the service, some two thousand Florida volunteers have been called into the field, and a fresh campaign is about to commence. In addition to the other forces to be employed in these operations, we learn that Gen. Carter (we suppose of the Florida volunteers) has brought with him from Tallahassee to Tampa Bay some fine dogs, well practiced in trailing negroes. It will be recollected, that in a former campaign against the Seminoles, great hopes were entertained of the services to be rendered, if not in worrying the Indians, at least in the way of finding them, by certain packs of blood-hounds, imported for that purpose from Cuba. Those hopes were disappointed; but perhaps these domestic dogs may prove more efficient.—*N