

Internal Improvements.

The spirit of Internal Improvement, in the State of Tennessee, is gaining faster upon the affections of a considerable portion of the people, than at any time since 1836-7. A great many projects have been set on foot, some by individual enterprise, and others with the assistance of the credit and means of the State. Indeed, we may say that three-fourths of the different works of Internal Improvement in our State, completed or under way, have been materially aided out of the Treasury. Each Grand Division of the State has received at the hands of the State all that could possibly be squeezed out at the time. East Tennessee, however, seems to have been the favored section, having received twice the amount of any other portion, in the way of building roads and improving rivers. This is owing, doubtless, to the fact that her people have pressed the subject upon the Legislature with an untiring zeal. At the last session, Landon C. Haynes, in order to secure the aid of the State to the public works in East Tennessee, introduced a bill, as he avers, that was calculated to set on foot a general system of Internal Improvements throughout the State, having for its object the development of the resources of the State, and the advancement of the pecuniary interests of the people. The bill was defeated, and now we find the subject revived, and receiving the attention of some of our ablest editors in the democratic ranks, whilst the whig press of Tennessee stand as one man to the support of almost every project of Internal Improvement that is asked for. The Nashville Union says it believes that it is the interest and duty of the State to use her means or credit in advancing such important works as will secure to the different sections of the State, the facilities and benefits of a ready access to the commercial points at which our products may find the best markets. That paper thinks our experience in such matters will enable us to throw sufficient guards around a proper system, as will effectually secure the State against any and all frauds that might otherwise be perpetrated, and avoid the deplorable condition of embarrassing the credit of the State, and at the same time afford equal benefits to all. The first step towards this desired end, he says, might be made by the State furnishing the iron for important railroad lines whenever individual enterprise has completed the grading, &c., preparatory to receiving the same; to do this, he thinks, would furnish strong inducements for individuals to invest their means in that way. Without approving or condemning the different plans and projects that have already been suggested by the friends of Internal Improvements, aided by the State directly or indirectly, we can not come to any other conclusion than that the credit of the State will be employed to assist in the construction of additional works of the kind. The State debt will, we predict, be increased from three millions to double that sum, or liabilities incurred to that amount, which we consider the same thing. The way is already being paved with glowing representations of the decided advantages that are to result to all classes by magnificent schemes of Improvement. We might here enter our protest against the State's embarking in any and all projects of the kind; and array the best arguments at our command to show the impropriety of increasing our present liabilities, to build works of Internal Improvements; but that was not our purpose in attempting to pen this article. We only promised ourselves to

undertake to show the state of public feeling upon that subject, and to propose to the people of our own County the question: What is best to be done under all the circumstances? We know the democratic portion of Lincoln County to be opposed to bringing the State in debt to construct works of Internal Improvement, and would if they had it in their power, withhold the assistance of the State from all projects of the kind, further than to grant liberal charters to companies. Notwithstanding this is all we are willing to do, it may not be amiss for us to consider the propriety of accepting a portion of the means of the State for the purpose of improving our County. There are certainly very potent arguments in favor of a move of this kind. We have paid our proportionate part into the State Treasury, without having a dollar appropriated to aid us in improvements, save a small sum applied in removing obstructions from Elk River several years since, whilst almost every County in our vicinity has been the recipient of the State's bounty to a very considerable extent. Now we ask the question: If the policy is persisted in, of employing the means or credit of the State towards works of Internal Improvement, shall we as a County urge our claims for a share?—or shall we stand aloof, as heretofore, and let others apply our means? Whether we accept or not, we know our taxes will have to be paid. And if the State becomes involved to an irredeemable extent we will be required to shoulder a portion of the responsibility in an effort to retrieve her. Now, what is to be done? As an individual, we are decidedly and emphatically opposed to the State's embarking in works of Internal Improvement. We have written this article merely to induce the people of our County to weigh the subject well, that they may let their judgments dictate the proper course to be adopted.

Keep it before the people, that the Northern democratic party is the only party at the North in which the South may repose confidence. And to judge from the votes and acts of the whig party at the North, one will be at a loss to discover any difference between them and the free soilers. This was clearly shown by a recent vote had in the Lower House of the Legislature of Indiana, upon the following resolutions, which were adopted by 65 to 28. Of the affirmative votes, 56 were democrats and 9 were whigs. Of the negative votes, 25 were whigs and 3 were democrats.

Mr. Williamson, from a select committee, reported the following resolutions: "Sec. 1. Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, That the people of the State of Indiana love and respect the Constitution of the United States, and esteem the Union of the States as the true source of their present greatness and the only sure guarantee of their future happiness, peace, and prosperity."

"Sec. 2. That in the adjustment and compromise of the vexed question of slavery and other kindred measures we recognize the settlement of the most difficult and momentous questions of the age, and that it is the duty of every patriotic American citizen to submit to and respect said compromise."

"Sec. 3. That our senators in Congress be instructed, and our representatives requested, to maintain and support said measures and exert their influence to delay and quiet the further agitation of said existing subjects until their practical effects can be ascertained."

"Sec. 4. That a joint resolution on the subject of slavery, approved January 19, 1850, be, and the same be hereby re-enacted; that the said resolution did not express the sentiment of Indiana; that Indiana then was and now is in favor of the people in each State and Territory passing all laws for their own government consistent with the Constitution of the United States."

"Sec. 5. That a copy of the above resolutions be forwarded by the governor to each of our senators and representatives in Congress, and to the governor of each State in the Union."

These resolutions were adopted by the following vote: ayes, 65—56 democrats, 9 whigs; noes, 28—25 whigs, 3 democrats.—They will pass the senate by a very large majority.

The Eagle published at Guntersville, Alabama, says that a good Cabinet Maker, Silver Smith, and Black Smith, are very much needed in that place. Guntersville is a flourishing town, and mechanics of the above description will no doubt find it a good location.

Democratic State Convention.

One week from to-day, a body of men is to assemble in Nashville, composed of delegates selected from the ranks of the Democratic party, whose duty it will be to nominate a man, who, in all human probability, will fill the gubernatorial Chair of Tennessee for two years from next August. The delegates have been assigned to this post of honor, in deference to their mental worth, their high standing in society, and their unflinching devotion to Democratic principles. Taking the Lincoln delegation as a criterion, the important business to be transacted, could not have been placed in safer hands. In fact, all the primary meetings that have been held in Counties from which we have heard, have been characterized by a unanimity of sentiment, a spirit of devotion to principle, and a rectitude of purpose, highly commendable. This is as it should be. A determination to succeed should be accompanied with an abnegation of every thing having a tendency to create dissensions in our ranks—a perfect abhorrence of all predilections which may be calculated, even in a remote degree, to divide our party—a disinclining of all private animosities and personal bickerings, for the time at least, if there is a possibility of their retention exercising a baneful influence on our prospects. It may be said that we are strenuous in urging the necessity of being well disciplined before the canvass fairly opens. If so, we plead guilty. We are in favor of taking Time by the fore-lock—of now commencing the preliminary arrangements for a vigorous prosecution of the approaching canvass—of immediately "setting the battle in array," on the principle that it is never too soon to do good.

We have said, at the commencement of this article, that the Democratic candidate for Governor, in our opinion, will be elected. This belief is based on the supposition that each Democrat feels the vital importance of using all the legitimate, honorable means that Providence has placed in his power, for the furtherance of his cherished principles. Let us foster a spirit of unity,—let us banish all schisms of whatever nature, from the party—and success is inevitable. We have the numerical strength to succeed in the State, if it is but brought into active service in a systematic manner.

In the number before this we proffered to enlighten the whigs of old Lincoln, upon the condition that they would subscribe for the Observer. This promise we made in good faith, and as an evidence, that we intend to be as good as our word, we publish this week an extract from a celebrated speech of Daniel Webster, which we are disposed to believe will appear fresh to most of our whig friends, although it is now nearly two years old. Doubtless you had no idea we would be able to knock the scales from your eyes so soon. Now read the extract and learn for once in your lives, what your party in the North is said to be justly entitled to, by one who knows:

By this time the efforts of the WINGS ALONE had raised a strong excitement in the North against the annexation of slave territory. I say the WINGS ALONE, for no body belonging to the other party, North, South, East or West, stirred a finger in that cause; or if there were any, they were so few as not to be discernible in the mass, until the WINGS of New England, Ohio, and other Middle States, HAD ACCOMPLISHED A GREAT EXPLOIT, which feeling in the public mind. And then this portion of the Democracy of New York denounced the barn-burning party, seized upon this state of excitement thus brought about by WHIG EFFORT, and attached this principle to their creed, to give them a pre-eminence over their rivals.

You see old Daniel is very emphatic; "the efforts of the WHOS ALONE raised a strong excitement in the North against the annexation of SLAVE TERRITORY." We know you will do Mr. Webster the credit to believe his statement; Southern whig declarations to the contrary notwithstanding.

The Pork Trade.

The St. Louis Republican gives an estimate of the yield of the hog crop this season as compared with last year. It takes the estimate given by the Cincinnati Prices-Current, and adds to it the estimated number killed in Missouri, Iowa, and Illinois. The Republican also gives the average falling off in weight of pork and lard in two houses in that city, and then sums up thus:

We thus have 1,264,608 against 1,608,120 hogs, at 10 per cent. difference in weight. Let us see the deficiency in pounds:

1,608,120 hogs at 200 lbs. is 321,624,000  
1,264,608 hogs at 160 lbs. is 202,337,280

Difference in pounds... 99,286,720 equal, when reduced to barrels of pork, to 468,000 bbls.—and much less mess to the 1,000 hogs than last year.

Let us now note the deficiency in lard this year. It is shown that 5 lbs. less in leaf was produced, and 3 lbs. less in the gut and head, than last year.

Last year, the leaf produced 25 lbs. to the hog, and 10 lbs. to the hog to the gut and head—making 35 lbs. to the hog; 1,608,120 hogs at 35 lbs. is 56,284,200 lbs.

This year, leaf 20 lbs. and gut and head 7 lbs.—making 27 lbs. to the hog. 1,264,608 hogs at 27 lbs. is 34,144,417 lbs.—which, taken from 56,284,200 lbs., makes the deficiency of lard this year 22,140,000 lbs.

As will be observed, these are approximations to the number of hogs actually killed, as founded on the statements of the Cincinnati Prices Current, and estimates of the number cut in Missouri, Illinois, and Iowa.

The Democratic State Convention.

We have received from the Democratic Central State Committee the following circular:

DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION.

The undersigned, constituted by the late Democratic State Convention a Central State Committee, respectfully request their democratic fellow-citizens of the several counties in the State to take early measures to be represented in the State Convention, to be held in Nashville on the 25th of February, 1851, in conformity with the usage of the party. The day named has been suggested by several of the democratic presses of the State, and has received the assent of the party, so far as the undersigned have been able to ascertain its feelings and wishes. They have deemed it proper, however, that there may be no misunderstanding as to the day, to make this general call, and they trust it will be responded to by the appearance of delegates from every county in the State in the Convention. The Committee apprehended no conflict of opinion in relation to the proper candidate for Governor, and here the most unshaken confidence that entire harmony of sentiment, on questions of National politics, will continue to prevail in the party. They believe, however, that the proper concert of action necessary to secure success in the important approaching canvass, can in no other way be so certainly secured as by a full representation in the general convention.

FELIX ROBERTSON,  
AARON V. BROWN,  
WILLOUGHBY WILLIAMS,  
GRANVILLE P. SMITH,  
J. O. GUILD,  
State Central Committee.

OPPOSED TO FEMALE DOCTORS.

Miss Harriet K. Hunt, a young lady of Boston, applied to the Medical College of that city for admission to the medical lectures of the institution, but was refused, on the ground that it was inexpedient. She made a second application by a very able letter, in which she considered the broad subject of the necessity of a good medical education for women. The subject was considered by the directors of the institution, who voted that she should be admitted to attend the lectures on the same terms as other students, provided it did not conflict with the students of the college.—The gentlemen students were very much excited by the act of their teachers, and sent in a protest against it. Miss Hunt, entirely out of courtesy to them, in consideration of the state of disaffection and insubordination in the present class, decided to postpone her attendance on the lectures until the commencement of another term. The gentlemen students are a gallant set of fellows, and ought to feel proud of their opposition.—They are the only ones who will be likely to feel the same gratification on account of it.—*Phil. Ledger.*

DEAD—Ex Governor Samuel W. King, of Rhode Island, died at Providence on the 22d. He was Governor during the troublous Dorr times in 1842.

Northern vs. Southern Slavery.

It is a notorious fact, that the slaves of the South are in better condition, physically and mentally, than the poor of the northern States: they are better fed and clothed, and have more leisure for enjoyment. Instead however, of taking better care of their paupers, they seek to take care of our negroes; and in doing so, they meddle with matters which do not concern them at all. They are perfectly nervous at the idea of compelling human beings to labor without recompense, while if they would consult their statute laws they would find that in many of their States they force poor white men into a state of slavery which is quite as odious as black slavery. As an instance in point, we make an extract from an article in the February No. of the Democratic Review, which contains a reply to a letter of the editor addressed to an eminent citizen of Connecticut, asking information as to the law in relation to the "bidding off of paupers." The following is the reply:—[*Nash. American.*]

"It is the custom in many towns in Connecticut, to set up the paupers at auction every year, at the lowest price. This was the case to my knowledge in several counties. I have always understood it to be a general thing in Connecticut. When we were in it, they were sold to the number of sixty for the year to our next door neighbor for 15 dollars ahead, and he got half the work out of them that he could, though most of them were infirm and not able to do much. They hoed his corn and saved his wood, and weeded his garden; and being an extensive fisherman, they assisted in dressing his fish, and "did chores" generally. They are made to work all that they are able. In II, the contractor, as I said, was a fisherman, and during the fishing season, a principle article of food for the paupers was the heads and tails of shad, which were cut off when dressed for salting. They were all lodged in a little one-story house, with an attic not to exceed 25 by 30 feet, and were all stored in together, male and female, with, as appeared to me, very little regard to decency. In case of the death of any of them, the contractor got a special sum for their burial, and also, I think, secured the whole amount contracted for, for the year; indeed I believe the probable death of some of them, was a contingency calculated on in making the bid; so that the contractor had a direct interest in starving them to death, or in neglecting them when sick."

This is white slavery with a vengeance, and a running comment upon the sycophancy of these dear friends of freedom.

TERRITORY OF UTAH.—Accounts from the Mormons in the Great Salt Lake Valley, estimate the population of Utah at about 30,500. It was expected that this year's emigration would swell the numbers to 40,000. The population of Salt Lake City is about 5,000. Last year \$6,000 was sent to the old States and Europe, to assist persons of their faith in emigrating westward; and this year \$5,000 has been raised to be devoted to the same purpose. It is deposited with trustees, and loaned in small sums, at 7 per cent. It is believed that at least one thousand persons died in attempting to cross the Plains last summer.

The wheat crop of last season in the Salt Lake Valley is estimated at 500,000 to 1,000,000 bushels.

It is supposed that the Mormons will continue the construction of their immense temple next summer. As to slavery, the number of black persons among the Mormons is represented as very small. Perhaps there are a hundred in the entire valley—persons brought in and still living with their former masters. But they are said to be not regarded as slaves.

THE COTTON CROP OF THE WORLD.—The Cotton crop greatly fluctuates in amount, from year to year but during favorable seasons the subjoined number of pounds has been realized:

Brazil	39,000,000
United States	700,000,000
Egypt	26,000,000
West Indies	13,000,000
Africa, exclusive of Egypt	48,000,000
India	190,000,000
Rest of Asia	195,000,000
Mexico and South America except Brazil	70,000,000
Elsewhere	18,000,000
Total	1,299,000,000
Reduced to bales of 400 pounds bales	3,147,500
Of which the U. S. must yield	2,800,000

Snow fell in Louisville, Ky., on last Sunday to such an extent as to render sleighing pleasant.

Items of News.

Mr. Morse, M. C. from Louisiana, thinks newspapers have deteriorated for the last ten years, and if high postage will stop their circulation it will be better for the public. Mr. M. lives away down on the Bayou Teche, where the only newspapers are printed on the skins of dead alligators, where whiskey is two cents a quart—where the gospel don't shine but once in seven years, and where every man who can read or write is sent to Congress, to the Legislature, or to the Penitentiary. We do not doubt that he fully represents his constituents.

IMMIGRATION FOR JANUARY.—The total number of alien passengers who arrived in N. Y. during the month just closed, was about 15,000; of these 10,468 were from Ireland, 2,402 from Germany, 1,035 from England, 216 from Switzerland and 243 from France.

The first work of internal improvement of importance yet undertaken in Texas, with a certainty of success, is the construction of a canal from the Gulf of Mexico to the Brazos river. Mr. Bradbury of Galveston, has taken the contract for \$65,000. Operations are also commenced for the construction of the first railroad in the State. It is to connect the Rio Grande with the town of Harrisburg, a few miles below Houston, on the Buffalo Bayou, and is expected to prove a very profitable road.

The congregation of the Duane Street Church, in New York, on Wednesday, purchased the lot on the corner of Fifth Avenue and Nineteenth street for the site of a new church, to supply the place of the one they have just vacated. The price paid was enormous—\$32,500! This for a piece of ground 92 by 150 feet, gives a vivid idea of the value of real estate in the upper part of New York city.

RATHER BELOW PAR.—The Alta Californian says the scrip issued by the city of San Francisco was selling at 33 cents in the dollar. The city is deeply in debt, and an effort had been made to raise \$750,000 at 3 per cent. a month; which failed. The city is paying \$15,000 a month interest.

HUNGARIANS.—A correspondent of one of the Paris papers, writing from Constantinople, says that orders have been issued for the speedy conveyance to the city of Liverpool of nearly two hundred Hungarian refugees, who have been resident at Choumbla. A vessel has been provided by the Turkish Government, furnished with everything necessary to secure the comfort of the voyagers, besides a donation to each of a small sum of money.—The impression is that nearly the whole of the refugees will embark for Liverpool for the United States.

ANOTHER GREAT DISCOVERY.—The Germantown [Pa.] Telegraph says there has just been brought to light, the application of a power which is to supersede entirely the present steam power of the world. The discovery has been made by an Eastern man, who has completed his models—one of which will be deposited at Washington, as soon as a patent right shall be secured in the different European countries. The Machinery is entirely perfect, and the power is a motive one, and steam has no part in creating it.

The area of Texas is about five times the size of New York. It is about four hundred miles from San Antonio to the nearest point of New Mexico. From the mouth of the Rio Grande to El Paso it is about eight hundred and thirty miles, in a straight line, and twice that distance by river. From the northeast corner of the State to El Paso is about eight hundred and sixty miles, and about the same from the mouth of the Rio Grande to the northern line.

The Legislature of Wisconsin a year ago passed resolutions censuring Mr. Walker, one of the Wisconsin Senators in Congress, and inviting him to resign on account of his support of the Compromise. The recent Legislature rescinded the resolutions. This speaks well for the public sentiment of Wisconsin.

NEGROES IN IOWA.—A bill is now pending in the Iowa Legislature, having been acted upon favorably, to provide for the removal of all free Negroes, emancipated in other States, and hereafter settling in that, but providing that those already there may remain, subject to the present law upon the subject, and disqualifying them from acquiring any additional real estate.

Real estate is getting to have an enormous value in New York city—as is exemplified by the sale a few days since, of a house and lot No. 359 Broadway, on the west side, and near Franklin street, 28 feet front, 190 feet deep, for \$60,000—or about \$2,143 per foot. The same property sold twenty years ago, for \$11,000. Increase 22 per cent. per annum, from current revenues.

A mammoth cotton mill has just been erected in Manchester, N. H.—It is 400 feet long, and six stories high, built of brick. Haven't these New Hampshire folks heard that the country was ruined?

GETTING ROUND THE LAW.—The authorities of San Francisco passed a law that all the bar-rooms should be at closed 12 o'clock at midnight. The keepers complied, shut at 12, and opened five minutes afterwards for the next day.

We find the following in the proceedings of the Missouri Legislature, of the 25th ult:

Mr. Campbell presented a petition from Dr. Catron, praying for a change in the name of his son Thomas Denton Catron to Thomas Jefferson Catron. The petition stated at length the reasons for the change—that Denton had deserted his principles, and was no longer worthy of respect, and that the petitioner felt disgraced in having one of his children to bear his name. This petition created quite a breeze in the House. The Denton men were very indignant, and Dr. King moved to lay it upon the table, and called for theories and ways. Motion to lay on the table failed, and the petition was referred to a select committee.

A CALIFORNIA CANDIDATE.—The manner in which candidates for office in California appeal to the public for votes is very frank, to say the least. Below is an announcement from a Californian paper, which shows what Major Brown was willing to do:

Notice.—I am a candidate for the office of Justice of the Peace, and request the support of my friends.—Voters will call at the Union and drink at my expense until after the election.

(Signed) MAJOR BROWN,  
Nevada, Oct. 10, 1850.

It has been estimated that the quantity of iron required in England for railroad use, for the current year, will be about 1,200,000 tons, which, it is supposed will be equal to all that country will produce.

A CURIOUSITY.—The name of a colored woman in Crawford county, Penn., is VINE, DAVIS. She is 89 years old. She can see to pick up a needle in the dark, and in the daytime cannot see across the room.—So writes the Marshal upon his census schedules.

PROPOSED FEDERATION.—The Montreal Courier mentions a rumor that the Provincial Parliament will meet for the dispatch of business on the fifth of February next, and that a scheme will probably be submitted for the confederation of all the British North American colonies. The measure is reported to have the sanction and emanate from the suggestion of the home government.

American dimes are not current at the Sandwich Islands. A very large shipment of them, which had accumulated in mercantile houses there, has been lately made to the United States.

EXTENSION OF THE CAPITOL.—The House committee at Washington, it is said, have agreed upon a plan for the extension of the Capitol, by additional wings on north and south. The Senate committee have not yet concurred, but they are expected to do so at the next meeting.

GOLD DOLLARS.—A correspondent of the Washington Globe publishes an extract from a letter from Mr. Patterson, the director of the mint at Philadelphia, by which it appears we are shortly to have a shower of lilliputian currency.

The scarcity of silver coin in Baltimore is becoming daily more apparent—so much so that it is with great difficulty that the retail dealers can transact their business to advantage. The brokers are readily paying three per cent. for silver in exchange for gold, and some reported to have paid as high as four per cent.

The Secretary of State has furnished Congress with a statement of the number of emigrant arrivals at ports in the United States (including those in California) for the year ending the 30th September, 1850. The entire aggregate is 315,333. Last year it was 229,610—increase in twelve months, 15,723.