been performed. He then laid the corner-stone of the original Capitol. He was at the head of the Government, at that time weak in resources, burdened with debt, just struggling into political existence and respectability, and agitated by the heaving waves which were overturning European thrones. But even then, in many important respects, the Government was strong. It was strong in Washington's own great character; it was strong in the wisdom and patriotism of other eminent public men, his political associates and fellow-laborers; and it was strong in the affections of the people.

Since that time astonishing changes have been wrought in the condition and prospects of the American People; and a degree of progress witnessed with which the world can furnish no parallel. As we review the course of that progress, wonder and amazement arrest our attention at every step. The present occasion, although allowing of no lengthened remarks, may yet perhaps admit of a short comparative statement between important subjects of national interest as they existed at that day and as they now exist. I have adopted for this purpose the tabular form of statement, as being the most brief and the most accurate.

COMPARATIVE TABLE.

	Year 1793.	Year 1851.
Number of States	15	31
Representatives and Senators in Congress	135	295
Population of the U. States	3,929,328	23,267,498
Population of Boston	18,038	136,871
Population of Baltimore	13,503	169,054
Population of Philadelphia	42,520	409,045
Population of N. York (city)	33,121	515,507
Population of Washington	....	40,075
Population of Richmond	4.000	27,582
Population of Charleston	16,359	42,983
Amount of receipts into the Treasury	$5,720,624	$43,774,848
Amount of expenditures of the United States	7,529,575	39,355,268
Amount of imports	31,000,000	178,138,318
Amount of exports	26,109,000	151,898,720
Amount of tonnage	520,764	3,535,454
Area of the United States in square miles	805,461	3,314,365
Rank and file of the army	5,120	10,000
Militia (enrolled)	....	2,006,456
Navy of the United States, (vessels)	(none.)	76
Navy armament (ordnance)	....	2,012
Treaties and conventions with foreign Powers	9	90
Light-houses and light-boats	12	372
Expenditures for do	12,061	529,265
Area of the first Capitol building, (square feet)	14,641	
Area of the present Capitol, including extension	....	4½ acres.
Lines of railroads, in miles	....	8,500
Lines of telegraph...do	....	15,000
Number of post offices	209	21,551
Number of miles of post route	5,642	178,762
Amount of revenue from post offices	104,747	$5,592,971
Amount of expenditures of Post Office Department	72,040	5,212,953
Number of miles mail transportation	....	46,541,423
Number of colleges	19	121
Public libraries	35	694
Volumes in do	75,000	2,201,632
School libraries	....	10,000
Volumes in do	....	2,000,000

In respect to the growth of Western trade and commerce, I extract a few sentences from a very valuable address before the Historical Society of Ohio, by William D. Gallagher, Esq., 1850:

"A few facts will exhibit as well as a volume the wonderful growth of Western trade and commerce. Previous to the year 1800, some eight or ten keelboats, of twenty or twenty-five tons each, performed all the carrying trade between Cincinnati and Pittsburg. In 1802 the first Government vessel appeared on Lake Erie. In 1811 the first steamboat (the Orleans) was launched at Pittsburg. In 1826 the waters of Michigan were first ploughed by the keel of a steamboat, a pleasure trip to Green Bay being planned and executed in the summer of this year. In 1832 a steamboat first appeared at Chicago. At the present time the entire number of steamboats running on the Mississippi and Ohio, and their tributaries, is more probably over than under six hundred; the aggregate tonnage of which is not short of one hundred and forty thousand—a larger number of steamboats than England can claim, and a greater steam commercial marine than that employed by Great Britain and her dependencies."

And now, fellow-citizens, having stated to you this infallible proof of the growth and prosperity of the nation, I ask you, and I would ask every man, whether the Government which has been over us has proved itself an affliction or a curse to the country, or any part of it?

Ye men of the South, of all the original Southern States, what say you to all this? Are you, or any of you, ashamed of this great work of your fathers? Your fathers were not they who stoned the prophets and killed them. They were among the prophets; they were of the prophets; they were themselves the prophets.

Ye men of Virginia, what do you say to all this? Ye men of the Potomac, dwelling along the shores of that river where WASHINGTON lived, and where he died, and where his remains now rest! Ye, so many of whom may see the domes of the Capitol from your own homes—what do you say?

Ye men of James river and the Bay, places consecrated by the early settlement of your commonwealth, what do you say? Do you desire, from the soil of your State, or as you travel to the North, to see these halls vacated, their beauty and ornaments destroyed, and their national usefulness clean gone forever?

Ye men beyond the Blue Ridge, many thousands of whom are nearer to this Capitol than to the seat of government of your own State, what do you think of breaking this great association into fragments of States and of People? I know some of you, and I believe you all, would be almost as much shocked at the announcement of such a catastrophe as if you were to be informed that the Blue Ridge itself would soon totter from its base. And ye men of Western Virginia, who occupy the great slope from the top of the Allegheny to the Ohio and Kentucky, what course do you propose to yourselves by disunion? If you "secede," what do you "secede" from, and what do you "accede" to? Do you look for the current of the Ohio to change, and to bring you and your commerce to the tide-waters of Eastern rivers? What man in his senses can suppose that you will remain part and parcel of Virginia a month after Virginia should have ceased to be part and parcel of the United States?

The secession of Virginia! the secession of Virginia, whether alone or in company, is most improbable, the greatest of all improbabilities. Virginia, to her everlasting honor, acted a great part in framing and establishing the present Constitution. She has had her reward and her distinction. Seven of her noble sons have each filled the Presidency, and enjoyed the highest honors of the country. Dolorous complaints come up to us from the South that Virginia will not head the procession of secession, and lead the other Southern States out of the Union. This, if it should happen, would be something of a marvel, certainly, considering how much pains Virginia took to lead these same States into the Union, and considering, too, that she has partaken as largely of its benefits and its government as any other State.

And ye men of the other Southern States, members of the old thirteen; yes, members of the old thirteen; that touches my regard and my sympathies; North Carolina, Georgia, South Carolina! What page in your history, or in the history of any one of you, is brighter than those which have been recorded since the Union was formed? Or through what effect has your prosperity been greater, or your peace and happiness better secured? What names even has South Carolina, now so much dissatisfied, what names has she of which her intelligent sons are more proud than those which have been connected with the Government of the United States? In revolutionary times, and in the earliest days of this Constitution, there was no State more honored, or more deserving to be honored. Where is she now! And what a fall is there, my countrymen! But I leave her to her own reflections, commending to her, with all my heart, the due consideration of her own example in times now gone by.

Fellow citizens, there are some diseases of the mind as well as of the body, diseases of communities, as well as diseases of individuals, that must be left to their own cure; at least it is wise to leave them so, until the last critical moment shall arrive.

I hope it is not irreverent, and certainly is not intended as reproach, when I say, that I know no stronger expression in our language than that which describes the restoration of a wayward son—"he came to himself." He had broken away from all the ties of love, family, and friendship. He had forsaken every thing which he had once regarded in his father's house. He had quitted his natural sympathies, affections, and habits, and taken his journey into a far country. He had gone away from himself, and out of himself. But misfortunes overtook him, and famine threatened him with starvation and death. No entreaties from home followed him to beckon him back; no admonition from others warned him of his fate. But the hour of reflection had come, and nature and conscience wrought within him, until at length "he *came* to himself."

And now, ye men of the new States of the South! You are not of the original thirteen. The battle had been fought and won, the revolution achieved, and the Constitution established, before your States had any existence as States. You came to a prepared banquet, and had seats assigned you at table, just as honorable as those which were filled by older guests. You have been and are singularly prosperous; and if any one should deny this, you would at once contradict his assertion. You have bought vast quantities of choice and excellent land at the lowest price; and if the public domain has not been lavished upon you, you yourselves will admit that it has been appropriated to your own uses by a very liberal hand. And yet in some of these States—not in all—persons are found in favor of a dissolution of the Union, or of secession from it. Such opinions are expressed even where the general prosperity of the community has been the most rapidly advanced. In the flourishing and interesting State of Mississippi, for example, there is a large party which insists that her grievances are intolerable, that the whole body politic is in a state of suffering, and all along, and through her whole extent on the Mississippi, a loud cry rings that her only remedy is "secession," "secession." Now, gentlemen, what infliction does the State of Mississippi suffer under? What oppression prostrates her strength or destroys her happiness? Before we can judge of the proper remedy we must know something of the disease; and, for my part, I confess that the real evil existing in the case appears to me to be a certain inquietude, or uneasiness, growing out of a high degree of prosperity and consciousness of wealth and power, which sometimes lead men to be ready for changes, and to push on to still higher elevation. If this be the truth of the matter, her political doctors are about right. If the complaint spring from over-wrought prosperity, for that disease I have no doubt that secession would prove a sovereign remedy.

But I return to the leading topic on which I was engaged. In the department of invention there have been wonderful applications of science to arts within the last sixty years. The spacious hall of the Patent Office is at once the repository and proof of American inventive art and genius. Their results are seen in the numerous improvements by which human labor is abridged.

Without going into details, it may be sufficient to say that many of the applications of steam to locomotion and manufactures; of electricity and magnetism to the production of mechanical motion; to the electrical telegraph; to the registration of astronomical phenomena; to the art of multiplying engravings; the introduction and improvement among us of all the important inventions of the Old World, are strikingly indicative of this country in the useful arts.

The net-work of railroads and telegraph lines by which this vast country is reticulated have not only developed its resources, but united emphatically, in metallic bands, all parts of the Union.

The hydraulic works of New York, Philadelphia, and Boston surpass in extent and importance those of ancient Rome.

But we have not confined our attention to the immediate application of science to the useful arts. We have entered the field of original research, and have enlarged the bounds of scientific knowledge.

Sixty years ago, besides the brilliant discoveries of Franklin in electricity, scarcely any thing had been done among us in the way of original discovery. Our men of science were content with repeating the experiments and diffusing a knowledge of the discoveries of the learned of the Old World, without attempting to add a single new fact or principle to the existing stock. Within the last twenty-five or thirty years a remarkable improvement has taken place in this respect. Our natural history has been explored in all its branches; our geology has been investigated with results of the highest interest to practical and theoretical science. Discoveries have been made in pure chemistry and electricity which have received the approbation of the world. The advance which has been made in meteorology in this country, within the last twenty years, is equal to that made during the same period in all the world besides.

In 1793 there was not in the United States an instrument with which a good observation of the heavenly bodies could be made. There are now instruments at Washington, Cambridge, and Cincinnati equal to those at the best European observatories, and the original discoveries in astronomy within the last five years in this country are among the most brilliant of the age. I can hardly refrain from saying, in this connexion, that La Place has been translated, explained, and in some instances his illustrations improved, by Bowditch.

Our knowledge of the geography and topography of the American continent has been rapidly extended by the labor and science of the officers of the United States army, and discoveries of much interest in distant seas have resulted from the enterprise of the navy.

In 1807 a survey of the coast of the United States was commenced, which at that time it was supposed no American was competent to direct. The work has, however, grown within the last few years, under a native superintendent, in importance and extent beyond any enterprise of the kind ever before attempted.

These facts conclusively prove that a great advance has been made among us, not only in the application of science to the wants of ordinary life, but to science itself in its highest branches—in its application to satisfy the cravings of the immortal mind.

In respect to literature, with the exception of some books of elementary education, and some theological treatises, of which scarcely any but those of Jonathan Edwards have any permanent value, and some works on local history and politics, like Hutchinson's Massachusetts, Jefferson's Notes on Virginia, the Federalist, Belknap's New Hampshire, and Morse's Geography, and a few others, America had not produced a single work of any repute in literature. We were almost wholly dependant on imported books. Even our Bibles and Testaments were, for the most part, printed abroad. The book trade is now one of the greatest branches of business, and many works of standard value and of high reputation in Europe as well as at home have been produced by American authors in every department of literary composition.

While the country has been expanding in dimensions, in numbers, and in wealth, the Government has applied a wise forecast in the adoption of measures necessary, when the world shall no longer be at peace, to maintain the national honor, whether by appropriate displays of vigor abroad, or by well adapted means of defence at home. A navy, which has so often illustrated our history by heroic achievements, though restrained in peaceful times in its operations to narrow limits, possesses in its admirable elements the means of great and sudden expansion, and is justly looked upon by the nation as the right arm of its power: an army, still smaller, but not less perfect in its detail, which has on many a field exhibited the military aptitudes and prowess of the race, and demonstrated the wisdom which has presided over its organization and government.

While the gradual and slow enlargement of these respective military arms has been regulated by a jealous watchfulness over the public treasure, there has, nevertheless, been freely given all that was needed to perfect their quality; and each affords the nucleus of any enlargement that the public exigencies may demand, from the millions of brave hearts and strong arms upon the land and water.

The navy is the active and aggressive element of national defence; and, let loose from our own seacoast, must display its power in the seas and channels of the enemy: to do this, it need not be large; and it can never be large enough to defend by its presence at home all our ports and harbors. But, in the absence of the navy, what can the brave hearts and strong arms of the army and militia do against the enemy's line-of-battle ships and steamers, falling without notice upon our coast? What will guard our cities from tribute, our merchant vessels and our navy-yards from conflagration? Here, again, we see a wise forecast in the system of defensive measures, which, especially since the close of the war with Great Britain, has been steadily followed by our Government.

While the perils from which our great establishments had just escaped were yet fresh in remembrance, a system of fortifications was begun, which now, though not quite complete, fences in our important points with impassable strength. More than four thousand cannon may at any moment, within strong and permanent works, arranged with all the advantages and appliances that the art affords, be turned to the protection of the sea coast, and be served by the men whose hearths they shelter. Happy for us that it is so, since these are means of security that time alone can supply; and since the improvements of maritime warfare, by making distant expeditions easy and speedy, have made them more probable, and at the same time more difficult to anticipate and provide against. The cost of fortifying all the important points on our whole Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico frontier will not exceed the amount expended on the fortifications of Paris.

In this connexion one most important facility in the defence of the country is not to be overlooked; it is the almost instantaneous rapidity with which the soldiers of the army, and any number of the militia corps, may be brought to any point where a hostile attack may at any time be made or threatened.

And this extension of territory, embraced within the United States; increase of its population, commerce and manufactures; development of its resources by canals and railroads, and rapidity of intercommunication by the means of steam and electricity, have been accomplished without overthrow of or danger to the public liberties, by any assumption of military power; and, indeed, without any permanent increase of the army, except for the purpose of frontier defence, and of affording a slight guard to the public property; or of the navy, any further than to assure the navigator that, in whatsoever sea he shall sail his ship, he is protected by the stars and stripes of his country. All this has been done without the shedding of a drop of blood, for treason or rebellion. All this, while systems of popular representation have regularly been supported in the State Governments and in the General Government; all this, while laws, national and State, of such a character have been passed, and have been so wisely administered, that I may stand up here to day and declare, as I now do declare, in the face of all the intelligent of the age, that for the period which has elapsed, from the day that Washington laid the foundation of this Capitol to the present time, there has been no country upon earth in which life, liberty, and property have been more amply and steadily secured, or more freely enjoyed, than in these United States of America. Who is there that will deny this? Who is there prepared with a greater or a better example? Who is there that can stand upon the foundation of facts, acknowledged or proved, and assert that these our republican institutions have not answered the true ends of Government beyond all precedent in human history?

There is yet another view. There are still higher considerations. Man is an intellectual being, destined to immortality. There is a spirit in him, and the breath of the Almighty hath given him understanding. Then only is he tending towards his own destiny, while he seeks for knowledge or virtue, for the will of his Maker, and for just conceptions of his own duty. Of all important questions, therefore, let this, the most important of all, be first asked and first answered: in what country of the habitable globe, of great extent and large population, are the means of knowledge the most generally diffused and enjoyed among the people? This question admits of one, and only one, answer. It is here; it is here in these United States; it is among the descendants of those who settled at Jamestown; of those who were pilgrims on the shore of Plymouth; and of those other races of men, who, in subsequent times, have become joined in this great American family. Let one fact incapable of doubt or dispute satisfy every mind on this point. The population of the United States is 23,000,000. Now, take the map of the continent of Europe and spread it out before you. Take your scale and your dividers, and lay off in one area, in any shape you please, a triangle, square, circle, parallelogram, or trapezoid, and of an extent that shall contain 150,000,000 of people, and there will be found within the United States more persons who do habitually read and write than can be embraced within the lines of your demarcation.

But there is something even more than this. Man is not only an intellectual, but he is also a religious being, and his religious feelings and habits require cultivation.

Let the religious element in man's nature be neglected, let him be influenced by no higher motives than low self-interest, and subjected to no stronger restraint than the limits of civil authority, and he becomes the creature of selfish passions or blind fanaticism.

The spectacle of a nation powerful and enlightened, but without christian faith, has been presented, almost within our own day, as a warning beacon for the nations.

On the other hand, the cultivation of the religious sentiment represses licentiousness, incites to general benevolence, and the practical acknowledgment of the brotherhood of man, inspires respect for law and order, and gives strength to the whole social fabric, at the same time that it conducts the human soul upward to the Author of its being.

Now, I think it may be stated with truth, that in no country, in proportion to its population, are there so many benevolent establishments connected with religious instruction—Bible, Missionary, and Tract Societies, supported by public and private contributions—as in our own. There are also institutions for the education of the blind, the deaf and dumb; of idiots; for the reception of orphan and destitute children; for moral reform, designed for children and females, respectively; institutions for the reformation of criminals, not to speak of those numerous establishments in almost every county and town in the United States for the reception of the aged, infirm, and destitute poor, many of whom have fled to our shores to escape the poverty and wretchedness of their condition at home.

In the United States there is no church establishment or ecclesiastical authority founded by Government. Public worship is maintained either by voluntary associations and contributions, or by trusts and donations of a charitable origin.

Now, I think it safe to say that a greater portion of the people of the United States attend public worship, decently clad, well behaved, and well seated, than of any other country of the civilized world.

Edifices of religion are seen every where. Their aggregate cost would amount to an immense sum of money. They are, in the general, kept in good repair, and consecrated to the purposes of public worship. In these edifices the people regularly assemble on the Sabbath day, which is sacredly set apart for rest by all classes from secular employment, and for religious meditation and worship, to listen to the reading of the Holy Scriptures, and discourses from pious ministers of the several denominations.

This attention to the wants of the intellect and of the soul, as manifested by the voluntary support of schools and colleges, of churches, and benevolent institutions, is one of the most remarkable characteristics of the American people, not less strikingly exhibited in the new than in the older settlements of the country.

On the spot where the first trees of the forest are felled, near the log cabins of the pioneers, are to be seen rising together the church and the school house. So has it been from the beginning, and God grant that it may thus continue!

"On other shores, above their mouldering towns,
In sullen pomp the tall cathedral frowns;
Simple and frail, our lowly temples throw
Their slender shadows on the paths below;
Scarce steals the wind, that sweeps the woodland track,
The larch's perfume from the settler's axe,
Ere, like a vision of the morning air,
His slight-framed steeple marks the house of prayer.

* * * * * * * *

Yet Faith's pure hymn, beneath its shelter rude,
Breathes out as sweetly to the tangled wood,
As where the rays through blazing oriels pour
On marble shaft and tessellated floor."

Who does not admit that this unparalleled growth of prosperity and renown is the result, under Providence, of the Union of these States, under a general Constitution, which guaranties to each State a republican form of Government, and to every man the enjoyment of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, free from civil tyranny or ecclesiastical domination?

And to bring home this idea to the present occasion, who does not feel that, when President Washington laid his hand on the foundation of the first Capitol building, he performed a great work of perpetuation of the Union and the Constitution? Who does not feel that this seat of the General Government, healthful in its situation, central in its position, near the mountains from whence gush springs of wonderful virtue, teeming with Nature's richest products, and yet not far from the bays and the great estuaries of the sea, easily accessible and generally agreeable in climate and association, does give strength to the Union of these States; that this city, bearing an immortal name, with its broad streets and avenues, its public squares and magnificent edifices of the General Government, erected for the purposes of carrying on within them the important business of the several Departments; for the reception of wonderful and curious inventions, the preservation of the records of American learning and genius; of extensive collections of the products of nature and art, bought hither for study and comparison from all parts of the world; adorned with numerous churches, and sprinkled over, I am happy to say, with many public schools, where all children of the city, without distinction, are provided with the means of obtaining a good education; where there are academies and colleges, professional schools and public libraries, should continue to receive, as it has heretofore received, the fostering care of Congress, and should be regarded as the permanent seat of the National Government. Here, too, a citizen of the great republic of letters, a republic which knows not the metes and bounds of political geography, has indicated prophetically his conviction that America is to exercise a wide and powerful influence in the intellectual world, and therefore has founded in this city, as a commanding position in the field of science and literature, and has placed under the guardianship of the Government, an institution "for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men."

With each succeeding year new interest is added to the spot; it becomes connected with all the historical associations of our country, with her statesmen and her orators, and, alas! its cemetery is annually enriched with the ashes of her chosen sons.

Before us is the broad and beautiful river, separating two of the original thirteen States, and which a late President, a man of determined purpose and inflexible will, but patriotic heart, desired to span with arches of ever-enduring granite, symbolical of the firmly cemented union of the North and the South. That President was Gen. Jackson.

On its banks repose the ashes of the Father of his Country, and at our side, by a singular felicity of position, overlooking the city which he designed, and which bears his name, rises to his memory the marble column, sublime in its simple grandeur, and fitly intended to reach a loftier height than any similar structure on the surface of the whole earth.

Let the votive offerings of his grateful countrymen be freely contributed to carry higher and still higher this monument. May I say, as on another occasion, "Let it rise; let it rise, till it meet the sun in his coming; let the earliest light of the morning gild it, and parting day linger and play on its summit!"

Fellow-citizens, what contemplations are awakened in our minds as we assemble here to re-enact a scene like that performed by WASHINGTON! Methinks I see his venerable form now before me, as presented in the glorious statue by Houdon, now in the capitol of Virginia. He is dignified and grave; but concern and anxiety seem to soften the lineaments of his countenance. The Government over which he presides is yet in the crisis of experiment. Not free from troubles at home, he sees the world in commotion and in arms all around him. He sees that imposing foreign Powers are half disposed to try the strength of the recently-established American Government. We perceive that mighty thoughts, mingled with fears as well as with hopes, are struggling within him. He heads a short procession over these then naked fields; he crosses yonder stream on a fallen tree; he ascends to the top of this eminence, whose original oaks of the forest stand as thick around him as if the spot had been devoted to Druidical worship, and here he performs the appointed duty of the day.

And now, fellow-citizens, if this vision were a reality; if Washington actually were now amongst us, and if he could draw around him the shades of the great public men of his own days, patriots and warriors, orators and statesmen, and were to address us in their presence, would he not say to us, "Ye men of this generation, I rejoice and thank God for being able to see that our labors and toils and sacrifices were not in vain. You are prosperous, you are happy, you are grateful; the fire of liberty burns brightly and steadily in your hearts, while DUTY and the LAW restrain it from bursting forth in wild and destructive conflagration. Cherish liberty, as you love it; cherish its securities, as you wish to preserve it. Maintain the Constitution which we labored so painfully to establish, and which has been to you such a source of inestimable blessings. Preserve the union of the States, cemented as it was by our prayers, our tears, and our blood. Be true to God, to your country, and to your duty. So shall the whole Eastern World follow the morning sun to contemplate you as a nation; so shall all succeeding generations honor you, as they honor us; and so shall that Almighty Power which so graciously protected us, and which now protects you, shower its everlasting blessings upon you and your posterity."

Great father of your country! we heed your words; we feel their force as if you now uttered them with lips of flesh and blood. Your example teaches us; your affectionate addresses teach us; your public life teaches us your sense of the value of the blessings of the Union. Those blessings our fathers have tasted, and we have tasted, and still taste. Nor do we intend that those who come after us shall be denied the same high fruition. Our honor as well as our happiness is concerned. We cannot, we dare not, we will not betray our sacred trust. We will not filch from posterity the treasure placed in our hands to be transmitted to other generations. The bow that gilds the clouds in the heavens, the pillars that uphold the firmament, may disappear and fall away in the hour appointed by the will of God; but until that day comes, or so long as our lives may last, no ruthless hand shall undermine that bright arch of Union and Liberty which spans the continent from Washington to California.

Fellow-citizens, we must sometimes be tolerant to folly, and patient at the sight of the extreme waywardness of men; but I confess that when I reflect on the renown of our past history, on our present prosperity and greatness, and on what the future hath yet to unfold; and when I see that there are men who can find in all this nothing good, nothing valuable, nothing truly glorious, I feel that all their reason has fled away from them, and left the entire control over their judgment and their actions to insane folly and fanaticism; and, more than all, fellow-citizens, if the purposes of fanatics and disunionists should be accomplished, the patriotic and intelligent of our generation would seek to hide themselves from the scorn of the world, and go about to find dishonorable graves.

Fellow-citizens, take *courage*; be of *good cheer*. We shall come to no such ignoble end. We shall live, and not die. During the period allotted to our several lives we shall continue to rejoice in the return of this Anniversary. The ill-omened sounds of fanaticism will be hushed; the ghastly spectres of *Secession* and *Disunion* will disappear, and the enemies of united constitutional liberty, if their hatred cannot be appeased, may prepare to sere their eyeballs as they behold the steady flight of the AMERICAN EAGLE, on his burnished wings, for years and years to come.

President FILLMORE, it is your singularly good fortune to perform an act such as that which the earliest of your predecessors performed fifty-eight years ago. You stand where he stood; you lay your hand on the corner-stone of a building designed greatly to extend that whose corner-stone he laid. Changed, changed is every thing around. The same sun, indeed, shone upon his head which now shines upon yours. The same broad river rolled at his feet, and bathes his last resting place, that now rolls at yours. But the site of this city was then mainly an open field. Streets and avenues have since been laid out and completed, squares and public grounds enclosed and ornamented, until the city which bears his name, although comparatively inconsiderable in numbers and wealth, has become quite fit to be the seat of government of a great and united people.

Sir, may the consequences of the duty which you perform so auspiciously to-day equal those which flowed from his act. Nor this only; may the principles of your administration, and the wisdom of your political conduct, be such as that the world of the present day, and all history hereafter, may be at no loss to perceive what example you have made your study.

Fellow-citizens, I now bring this address to a close, by expressing to you, in the words of the great Roman orator, the deepest wish of my heart, and which I know deeply dwells in the hearts of all who hear me: "Duo modó haec opto; 'unum, UT MORIENS POPULUM ROMANUM LIBERUM RELINQUAM; hoc mihi majus a diis immortalibus dari nihil 'potest: alterum, ut ita cuique eveniat, ut de republica 'quisque mereatur."

And now, fellow-citizens, with hearts void of hatred, envy, and malice towards our own countrymen, or any of them, or towards the subjects or citizens of other Governments, or towards any member of the great family of man; but exulting, nevertheless, in our own peace, security, and happiness, in the grateful remembrance of the past, and the glorious hopes of the future, let us return to our homes, and with all humility and devotion offer our thanks to the Father of all our mercies, political, social, and religious.

The conclusion of these important ceremonies was announced by a salute of artillery from the public reservation at the north end of the Capitol, and the military and civic associations returned in excellent order to their respective places of rendezvous, where they were dismissed.

The Military of Washington, having provided breakfast and dinner for their brethren from Baltimore and Alexandria at the National Hotel, there spent an agreeable time with them; and the Temperance Division handsomely entertained their guests at Temperance Hall, where many fine sentiments were delivered.

The glorious day closed with a display of fireworks from the Mall south of the President's house.

The Sunday Schools of Washington generally celebrated the day in the fine groves around our city.

We understand, also, that in Alexandria, Georgetown, and various other places in this vicinity, the Day was observed in an appropriate manner; all without a single accident to mar its pleasures or cloud its festivities.

There was one feature in the pageant of the late celebration of the Anniversary which was peculiar to this city, and which possessed for us, as we doubt not it did for all other spectators, peculiar interest, and on which we beg to bestow a brief special notice. It was the body of illustrious veterans who have, on the land and on the water, through many a hard-fought day, sustained the honor of their country and its untarnished flag. We could not but regard with profound feelings of admiration and gratitude these war-worn veterans, as they silently marched along the avenue, headed by the tall and noble form of that heroic Chief who had so often led them to victory, accompanying now the First Magistrate of the Nation on the peaceful and auspicious errand of laying the foundation of new Halls of Legislation—Halls for the Representatives of the States and of the People, who are henceforth to come together in this city of WASHINGTON from the shores of the Atlantic, the far off Pacific, and all their intermediate regions, to deliberate on the common weal, and to enact laws for the common government of this vast and united Republic.

The Hon. SAMUEL F. VINTON, well known for many years as a distinguished Representative in Congress, was on Thursday week nominated by the General Whig Convention of Ohio as their candidate for Governor of that State. The vote given to him in the Convention was nearly unanimous. Candidates for other State offices were also nominated, whose names will be given when we receive a reliable report of them. The election is to take place on the second Tuesday in October.

FROM THE ISTHMUS OF PANAMA.

The Panama Herald of June 16th chronicles amongst the arrivals at Panama, during the week ending that day, Gen. HITCHCOCK, U. S. A., Hon. W. DUER, U. S. Consul for Valparaiso, and J. G. MCPHEETERS, U. S. Navy Agent for the same place.

The portion of the Panama railroad between Navy Bay and Gatune is nearly finished.

Arrangements had been made to celebrate the coming anniversary of American Independence at Panama with appropriate exercises. O. ELLSWORTH was selected as marshal, A. B. CORWINE as orator, and EDWARD J. GREEN to read the Declaration of Independence.

MORMON TRIALS AND ARRESTS.—The trial of STRANG and his Mormon confederates is in progress at Detroit. The prisoners are charged with counterfeiting, obstructing the mails, and stealing United States timber. Fourteen of the Mormons charged with the murder of Mr. BENNETT, on Beaver Island, have been examined at Mackinaw and committed for trial. The testimony produced against them corroborated the revolting particulars heretofore published. There are some thirty more connected with the transaction to be arrested yet.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

At the Port of New York during the month of June, 1851.

IMPORTS.

Foreign merchandise liable to duty, entered for consumption	$8,097,631
Foreign merchandise liable to duty, warehoused	1,043,345
Free articles, exclusive of specie	668,706
Total imports of foreign merchandise	$9,809,682

EXPORTS.

Domestic produce	$3,778,289
Foreign merchandise	265,290
Total exports	$4,043,579

SPECIE.

Exported	$6,462,367
Imported	121,234

RECAPITULATION.

Excess of *imports* of merchandise	$5,763,103
Excess of *export* of specie	6,341,133

LIBERATION OF DEBTORS IN MARYLAND.

At Baltimore, on the morning of Friday week, the persons confined in jail for non-payment of debts were brought on a writ of habeas corpus before Judge FRICK and Judge LEGRAND to decide whether, under the new Constitution of Maryland, which provides that "no person shall be imprisoned for debt," and which went into effect on that day, they ought not to be discharged from imprisonment. The question was submitted without argument, and the Court decided that the debtors must be discharged, and the Warden of the Jail was directed to discharge the parties accordingly.

CONNECTICUT.—The Legislature of Connecticut adjourned on Wednesday *sine die*, having elected no United States Senator in the place of Mr. BALDWIN. A series of resolutions approving of the Compromise Measures, including the Fugitive Slave Law, passed the House by a vote of 113 to 35, but in the Senate they were indefinitely postponed. Ten new banks were chartered during the session, and the capital stock of three of the old banks was enlarged.

RUMOR OF ANOTHER CUBA EXPEDITION.—The New Orleans correspondent of the Natchez Courier writes:

"I told you the other day that the Cuba movement had not been abandoned. I can only inform you that in less than two months, unless the Government should succeed in again defeating the plans, you will hear of the sailing of the expedition. The men are raised, the officers appointed, and the steamers engaged for transportation. They are to start from three different points, and will rendezvous without the jurisdiction of the United States. The number of men to start in the first place will not exceed one thousand, and they will be divided into regiments of two hundred and fifty each."

Hon. CAVE JOHNSON, late Postmaster General, has been appointed by the Governor of Tennessee to the office of Judge, made vacant by the death of Judge MARTIN.

CENSUS OF GREAT BRITAIN.—It appears from the late census returns in England that the male population of Great Britain and Islands in the British seas is 10,184,887, females 10,734,844, total 20,919,531, as follows: England and Wales, 8,754,554 males, and 9,151,277 females; total, 17,905,821. Scotland, 1,363,622 males, 1,507,162 females; total, 2,870,784. Islands in the British seas, 66,511 males, and 76,406 females; total, 142,916.

The population of London is: males 1,104,356, females 1,258,785.

The inhabited houses in Great Britain and the Islands number 3,675,451, the uninhabited 165,603. Building, 29,109. In London the inhabited houses number 307,722, the uninhabited 16,889, and 4,817 building.

On the 1st instant a band of emigrants from Sweden, numbering one hundred and eighteen, passed through Boston on their way to the West, *via* the Western railroad. They came from the vicinity of Gottenberg, and propose to locate themselves as farmers in some of the Western States. The procession was led off by thirteen wagons filled with baggage, with the women and children upon the top. The men followed, many of them with their guns. In the first wagon was displayed the American flag. The whole company had a remarkably comfortable and respectable look.

The United States mail steamship *Arctic* sailed from New York for Liverpool on Saturday with one hundred and twenty passengers and $780,000 in specie.

PILFERINGS AT THE GOSPORT NAVY YARD.—It has been discovered at Portsmouth (Va.) that large quantities of copper, scrap-iron, &c. have been pilfered from the Gosport navy yard and Iron Foundry, and sold to dealers, who shipped it to Baltimore. A Mr. Wilburn and J. A. Spaulding are implicated, and, after a preliminary examination, have been held to bail. The discovery caused much excitement in Portsmouth, and a committee of the employees in the navy yard had endeavored to force from Wilburn a disclosure of the names of the persons from whom he purchased the copper, but he evaded the demand by saying they were all negroes. The Herald, to which we are indebted for the above information, says it is impossible to conjecture, from this disclosure, to what extent the navy yard has been plundered. The conveyance of a dray-load of miscellaneous articles of copper, concealed in large bags, from the store of Wilburn, in Gosport, to that of Spaulding, in Portsmouth, led to the discovery.

NAVAL.—The U. S. ship *Saratoga*, Com. WALKER, arrived at Macao on the 8th of April from the United States—all well.

The U. S. sloop-of-war *Falmouth* arrived at San Francisco from the Feejee Islands on the 17th of May. Since leaving San Francisco about six months previous she had visited the Sandwich, Marquesas, Society, Navigator's, and Feejee Islands.

ANOTHER BLOODY TRAGEDY NEAR LYNCHBURG.—In the Richmond Republican of Friday we have an account of another bloody and serious rencontre between some young men of the town of Lynchburg and county of Amherst, by which it is said two of the combatants were instantly killed, and a third party supposed to have been mortally wounded. The Republican says:

"We understand that a young gentleman of Lynchburg or vicinity by the name of Williams, who had eloped with a daughter of Richard G. Morris, Esq., of Amherst, was attacked on Monday last at Lovingston, Nelson county, where the parties accidentally met, by a son of Mr. Morris, whereupon a general melee took place between Williams, his brother, and a Mr. Hill, on one side, and young Mr. Morris on the other. Revolvers were used by all parties, and it is said that Messrs. Morris and Hill were instantly killed, and one of the Messrs. Williams mortally wounded. The sad occurrence took place at a public dinner table, and it is said that a lady who was in the room at the time was also near being killed. We trust that this account may turn out to be exaggerated, though the news comes in a pretty direct way."

DESTRUCTION OF A VESSEL BY FIRE.—The British ship Mowey, Capt. Myhill, arrived at New York, reports: June 15, lat. 42.00, lon. 46.30, spoke the British brig Fanny, of and for Liverpool, from Mobile, which vessel reported having seen during her passage a ship on fire, having about two hundred and fifty persons on board. It was blowing fresh at the time of speaking the Fanny, and the captain of the Mowey did not heave to near enough to distinctly understand the particulars, although requested by the captain of the brig to do so. All that could be learned under the circumstances was that she had been entirely consumed, and that the passengers and crew were probably lost with her. The burning ship, it appears, was bound to Mobile.

CALIFORNIA.

"Our city is built up again," says the Alta California of May 31, published at San Francisco. "In our last issue for the States we told of its destruction—now of its resurrection. We have streets again, blocks again, houses, stores, business, excitement, bustle, progress, prosperity. Three-fourths of the streets are again lined with habitations, although not four weeks have elapsed since the fire. So, too, it is of Stockton. Accounts from there are very encouraging. Her people have not been disheartened by their great calamity, but have made much progress in remedying, by the erection of new buildings, the destruction wrought by the fire." This is truly marvellous, and reveals a most gratifying extent of resources and energy. Nor have these two fires had as much effect as was anticipated in raising prices, owing to the quantity of goods on shipboard and since arrived.

The Alta California gives the following summary of news and prospects:

"The Whig and Democratic parties have each made their nominations, and the contest for State officers and Congress is now fully opened. The Whig nominations were made with much unanimity, and probably the Democrats will give quite as undivided a support to their nominees.

"Very encouraging reports come in from the various mining regions, and the amount of dust shipped home shows that our mines have not given out or run short, notwithstanding the dry winter.

"Rumors of Indian difficulties and skirmishing in the northern part of the State are rife. The despised Indians have proved themselves not lacking in courage, and it is deeply regretted that a few individuals have had the power and the want of principle which has made a war with these wretched creatures quite probable. There never has existed, in the nature of the case, any necessity for such a deplorable condition of things.

"The prospects of agriculture are very good, much better than was at one time anticipated. The late rains have materially increased the probabilities of good crops. This employment of a portion of our citizens is certain to be an increasing and profitable one.

"The Indian Commissioners have met with excellent success in their efforts to pacify the Indians, and only need the sustaining arm of Government at home, with reasonable appropriations, to render the state and nation a most excellent service.

"The first execution under the laws of this State took place in Stockton on Thursday last. It was for murder. Crime has been considerably checked of late, and there is some hope of a better state of things in the future."

The nominations for State officers and members of Congress, made by the Democratic and Whig Conventions, respectively, are as follows:

	Dem.	Whig.
Governor	John Bigler.	Pearson B. Reading.
Lieut. Governor	Samuel Purdy.	Benj. F. Moore.
Just. Supreme Court	S. Heydenfeldt.	Tod Robinson.
Treasurer	Rich'd Roman.	J. M. Burt.
Comptroller	W. S. Winslow.	Alex. G. Abell.
Attorney General	S. C. Hastings.	Wm. D. Fair.

Dr. WOZENCROFT, one of the Indian Commissioners, returned to San Francisco on the 30th of May, from the Stanislaus river. We have already had accounts of his treaties with the Indians. The Indians of El Dorado county, the seat of the disturbances, had been invited to meet the Commissioners at or near Johnson's old ranche by the 5th of July.

About twenty overland emigrants had reached Sacramento city. They had wintered at Salt Lake, and were the first who had crossed the plains and mountains this season.

Another whaling ship, the Nile, had been dispatched from the port of San Francisco.

The Sacramento Times of May 31st says that "some hundreds" of emigrants from China had arrived at Sacramento city during the week.

The Sonora Herald says that nearly all the small creeks around there are beginning to dry up, and the mining is made difficult. The same paper has the following:

"MORE BIG LUMPS.—Mr. Peter Mehen has just brought to our office two more large lumps taken out of Holden's garden within a few days. One weighs 58¼ ounces, the other 8 pounds 4 ounces troy, lacking 16 grains. They are quartz and gold combined."

The volunteers who, under Col. RODGERS, were engaged in suppressing the Indian outrages, had been but partially successful. A letter in the Placer Times, dated Diamond Springs, May 25, says:

"A member of company B arrived this forenoon direct from the seat of war. He reports that his company attacked the Indian rancheria on the South Fork of the American yesterday, and, after a desultory conflict of several hours, retreated with the loss of one killed and three wounded, one of them mortally. The Indians are said to be assembled there in large numbers, and fought with boldness. The conduct of the troops engaged is said to have been marked with much enthusiasm and courage. They had taken out no provisions, nor provided with re-enforcements; consequently they were compelled to retreat by the cover of night. Twelve Indians certainly, and fifteen it is thought, were killed and wounded."

ALABAMA.—The following is a list of the candidates for Congress in Alabama. The election takes place on the first Monday in August:

First District.—C. C. Langdon, of Mobile, Union Whig; John Bragg, Southern Rights Democrat. *Counties.*—Mobile, Washington, Baldwin, Clarke, Monroe, Conecuh, Butler, Wilcox, and Marengo.

Second District.—Jas. Abercrombie, of Russell, Union Whig; John Cochran, of Barbour, Southern Rights Dem. *Counties.*—Covington, Dale, Henry, Coffee, Pike, Barbour, Macon, Montgomery, and Russell.

Third District.—Sampson W. Harris, of Coosa, Southern Rights Dem.; Wm. S. Mudd, of Jefferson, Union Whig. *Counties.*—Dallas, Lowndes, Autauga, Perry, Bibb, Jefferson, Shelby, and Coosa.

Fourth District.—John Erwin, of Greene, John A. Winston and Wm. S. Inge, of Sumter, all anti-Compromise Dem.; Gideon Frierson, of Tuscaloosa, and Wm. R. Smith, of Fayette, Union Dem. A Convention is to be held at Carrollton. *Counties.*—Greene, Sumter, Pickens, Tuscaloosa, and Fayette.

Fifth District.—Francis H. Jones, of Lauderdale, Union Dem.; David Hubbard, of Lawrence, Southern Rights Dem. *Counties.*—Limestone, Lauderdale, Franklin, Lawrence, Morgan, Marion, and Walker.

Sixth District.—W. R. W. Cobb, of Jackson, Union Dem.; Robt. Murphy, of DeKalb, Union Dem. *Counties.*—Madison, Jackson, Marshal, DeKalb, Blount, and St. Clair.

Seventh District.—Alexander White, of Talladega, Union Whig; Jefferson Faulkner, of Tallapoosa, Union Dem.; W. H. Garrett, of Cherokee, R. G. Earl, of Benton, J. L. M. Curry, of Talladega, George Reese, of Chambers, T. A. Walker, of Benton, Southern Rights Dem. A Convention will probably be held. *Counties.*—Cherokee, Benton, Talladega, Randolph, Chambers, and Tallapoosa.

CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATES IN INDIANA.

1st District—LEMUEL Q. DEBRULER, Whig; JAS. LOCKHART, Democrat.

2d District—ROGER MARTIN, Whig; CYRUS L. DUNHAM, Democrat.

3d District—JOHNSON WATTS, Whig; JOHN L. ROBINSON, Democrat.

4th District—SAMUEL W. PARKER, Whig; WM. DAILY, Democrat; GEORGE W. JULIAN, Freesoil.

5th District—THOMAS A. HENDRICKS, Democrat.

6th District—ELI P. FARMER, Whig; WILLIS A. GORMAN, Democrat; GEORGE N. CARR, Independent Democrat.

7th District—EDWARD W. MCGAUGHEY, Whig; EZRA READ, Democrat.

8th District—DANIEL MACE, Democrat; (Whig was to have been nominated on the 1st of July.)

9th District—SCHUYLER COLFAX, Whig; GRAHAM N. FITCH, Democrat.

10th District—SAMUEL BRENTON, Whig; JAMES W. BORDEN, Democrat.

RAILROAD ITEMS.—We observe by the Georgia papers that the East Tennessee and Georgia Railroad was opened a a few days since from Dalton to Cleveland, thirty miles towards Knoxville. The event was celebrated by a large concourse of people, and Gov. TROUSDALE, of Tennessee, accompanied the first train to Cleveland.

On the 4th of July the opening of the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, from Nashville to Murfreesboro', a distance of thirty-two miles, was to be celebrated by a great barbecue, at which it is supposed not less than 10,000 would be present.

On the 11th of July a great meeting of the people of North Carolina is to be held at Greensboro', in Guilford county, to celebrate the breaking ground upon the "North Carolina Railroad," to run from Goldsboro' (on the Wilmington Railroad) to Raleigh, and thence to Greensboro', Salisbury, and Charlotte, where it unites with the Columbia and Charlotte Railroad.

Bonds of the Alexandria and Orange Railroad Company, to the amount of $360,000, have recently been negotiated with an eminent banking firm in this city.