

# ATHENS POST.

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TERMS.—\$2 a year, payable in advance, or \$3 at the expiration of the year. No paper sent out of the country unless prepaid, except at the option of the Publisher. For advertising the names of candidates for office \$5, Cash.

Athens, Friday, March 3, 1854.

Our commercial letters this week are full and interesting.

Mrs. Humphrey's School commences next Monday, the 6th instant.

DIVINE SERVICE.—There will be Divine Service on Sunday next, at the Christian Church, by the Rev. Mr. Gay, at 10 and at 3 o'clock.

MAP OF THE SEAT OF WAR.—We are indebted to the enterprising publishers of the Charleston Courier, for a supplement containing a convenient and accurate map of the Seat of War in the East.

At the meeting of the Board of Directors East Tennessee and Georgia Railroad, on Friday last, Maj. C. WALLACE was re-elected President, and R. C. JACKSON, Secretary and Treasurer. M. B. PARHAM, Esq., was re-elected Engineer in Chief. A resolution was adopted directing the Chief Engineer of this road to proceed at once to the survey and location of the Cleveland and Chattanooga road. We regard the holding of this link as of great importance to the interests of the East Tennessee and Georgia Company—this or some other connection that will avoid the detour now necessary to be made to reach Chattanooga and points beyond by railroad—and that its construction cannot be undertaken at too early a day. It will bring us in independent and direct communication with the Nashville and Chattanooga and Memphis and Charleston roads, and secure to the East Tennessee and Georgia Company a greater amount of passenger business than has been anticipated by its most ardent friends—a continuous stream of travel, requiring the very fullest capacity of a single track to accommodate. Then let the direct connection be made, and let the enterprise be commenced as soon as possible.

DEATH OF GEN. ARMSTRONG.—General Armstrong, formerly of Nashville, and one of the proprietors and editors of the Washington Union, died in that city on Friday, of Congestion of the Brain.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE LEGISLATURE.—The 6th instant has been fixed upon as the time for the adjournment of the Legislature, which has been in session since the first Monday of October, being three days over five months, and the longest session on record. In our next issue we shall probably be able to publish the captions of the acts that have been passed.

The Georgia Legislature adjourned on Friday the 17th instant.

A subscriber whose paper has been sent to Calhoun, writes to let us transfer to Calhoun. He forgot, however, to sign his name to the letter, and we cannot make the desired change until we hear from him again.

FIRST DISTRICT.—The difficulty between the whig candidates for Congress in the 1st District has been adjusted—Col. Watkins, Kyle, and Anderson having withdrawn, Col. Nathaniel G. Taylor was unanimously nominated by the Greenville Convention.

Gen. Sam. Milligan is announced as the democratic candidate for Congress in the 1st district. A very clever man, but he will not be able to overcome the immense majority against him, unless there should be a rather more serious defection on the other side than is generally anticipated.

LEGISLATIVE.—The bill to increase the salaries of Judges has passed both houses, and is now a law. It raises the salary of Supreme Court Judges from \$1800 to \$2500, and the salaries of Chancery and Circuit Judges from \$1500 to \$1800.

A resolution was introduced in the House approving the course of Jas. C. Jones in the Senate of the United States touching the Nebraska bill, and the House having refused to suspend the rule, it lies over. Mr. Lamb also introduced a resolution approving the same measure, and instructing our Senators and requesting our Representatives to support it, which lies over.

The Senate's bill to establish a system of Common Schools has been defeated in the House.

The Greenville Spy suggests the name of Maj. T. C. Lyon, of Knoxville, as a candidate for Chancellor, when the election comes before the people. We have a very high appreciation of Maj. Lyon as a gentleman and a jurist, and we regret that the Spy man could not mention his name in connection with such disparaging terms of the able and estimable man who now fills that important post. We know Maj. Lyon well, and we are confident no one will more promptly discountenance such remarks about the present incumbent than he.

BREAK IN THE WESTERN AND ATLANTIC RAILROAD.—We learn that a portion of the trestle work, near Carterville, on the Western and Atlantic Railroad, has given way from the pressure of the recent high waters. This break has prevented the running of through freight trains for several days, and caused a heavy accumulation of freight on both roads. But the damage is not entirely repaired, will be in a few days, when we may look out for a general clearing out of the depots on both lines.

The mail train from the South on Wednesday evening arrived in due time, and we presume the break on the Western and Atlantic Railroad, mentioned in another place, has been repaired.

We were glad our Knoxville correspondent did not write his letter, which appears this week, on Sunday. A gentleman of his leisure ought to be able to find time enough for such business through the week. In regard to the authorship of the letters, "Men," and "The Spy in the Capital," if any one should succeed in finding out, we hope he will tell.

## THE "SUNDAY MAILS."

It is known to our readers that the mail trains on the East Tennessee and Georgia Railroad, up to within a recent period, were running regularly both ways over the road seven days of the week, in obedience to a necessity occasioned by the mode of running the roads South of us. Shortly after the election of the present worthy and efficient President of the Company, the seventh day service on the East Tennessee and Georgia Road was discontinued, but not on the roads below. We have not the remotest doubt the President of the Company, whom we have long had the pleasure to number among our warmest personal friends and well-wishers, was in this actuated by the purest motives, and such as no one could have any disposition to censure him for. But while we appreciate the motive, we must beg to express our dissent from the expediency of the step. The Sabbath we regard as a glorious institution, if only for its political value to the world and as far from advocating a wanton or unnecessary violation of the customs of society, or the willful desecration of any day that may have been set apart for rest and relaxation from labor and toil, or for more solemn, it may be sacred, purposes; but there are some things that cannot be conveniently dispensed with even on Sunday. We believe the running of the mail and passenger trains on Sunday is indispensable at this time and imperatively demanded by the convenience of the travelling public and the interests of the Company, neither of which it is right or wholesome to overlook. As the regulation exists at present the mails are delayed twenty-four hours at each end of the road, frequently to the great detriment and hurt of business interests, and one-seventh of the passenger travel is driven from the road to some other mode of transit, and the interests of the Company must suffer to that extent, at least, if no more. To be brief—as long as the roads below continue to transport the mails and passengers on Sunday, the duty devolves on the management of this road, no matter how adverse their feelings may be to such a course, to have the trains run over this road on the same day. When the Sunday service below is discontinued, we shall just as promptly advocate its discontinuance on this line. The railroad is a great public carrier, and its management must bend to the necessity of a policy calculated most largely to accommodate the public and at the same time best promote the interests and prosperity of the Company.

As we have recently learned, it is now the duty of the Superintendent of Transportation (not the President) to regulate and determine the running of the road, we hope that officer will at once give the matter his attention, and see the necessity, the urgent necessity, of resuming the plan of running the trains every day in the week. By so doing we are confident he will meet the public expectation and best subscribe the interests of the Company.

"BOYS OF POOR PARENTS."—We have never yet known a democrat to be brought forward for any prominent office but the organs of that party at once announced that he was born of poor and honest parents, and was left an orphan at an early age. And if there happens to be a candidate on the other side who may have had the misfortune to have been the inside of a school-house, or college, they so promptly denounce him as an aristocrat, with all the advantages of high birth and education!—thus appealing to the most grovelling and contemptible prejudices of which the human mind is susceptible. The latest instance we have seen is that of the Knoxville Statesman in announcing Gen. Sam. Milligan as the candidate of his party in the 1st Congressional District. Not satisfied with manufacturing him into a very extraordinary sort of man just at this time, to which no one will object, but it needs go back, behind the statute, as the lawyers say, and show there was a time when he was nothing at all. In the same breath, and in accordance with democratic usage, his competitor, Nat. Taylor, is held up as a gentleman of high birth and very aristocratic pretensions. Talk about *snobism* and *flaunt*! Why this is the very worst species of it and ten times more contemptible than that prevalent among the "aristocracy." We believe the time is at hand when the people, in making selections for prominent offices, may be safely appealed to on the ground of merit and qualification—when the accident of birth and parentage, whether high or low, may be quietly left out of view—and the pan-brothers, horn-blowers, and foglemen of party had as well begin to realize the fact.

CORN vs. PORK.—The following extract which is taken from the Patent Office Report, will show the corresponding prices of Pork to that of Corn:

Corn 25 cts per bu.	Pork \$3.00 per 100 lbs.
20 "	3.60 "
25 "	4.20 "
30 "	4.80 "
35 "	5.40 "
40 "	6.00 "
45 "	6.60 "
50 "	7.20 "

THE RABEN GAP ROAD.—What has become of the Raben Gap Road? We have not heard a word of it for the last month. Did it die at the passage of the famous omnibus bill?

We learn that Wm. M. Cowan, of Charleston, Bradley county, died at that place on Tuesday evening last, of typhoid fever. He was an honest, upright man, and leaves a family and a large circle of friends to mourn his loss.

Our friend Duff, Knoxville, has our thanks for compliment and something more substantial.

Attention is directed to the Card of John W. Thomas, City Hotel, Murfreesborough. A friend of ours, recently returned from Nashville, informs us that Mr. Thomas is a most excellent landlord and keeps a No. 1 house. Those of our friends traveling in that direction, who may wish to tarry a few days in the pleasant and thriving town of Murfreesborough, should give him a call. If there is anything that can console a man for his absence from home and its endearments, it is the attentions and comforts he finds at a good hotel.

## JOHN M. BOTTS.

The Hon. Jno. M. Botts is out in a long letter against the passage of the Kansas Nebraska Bill, or rather the abrogation of the Missouri Compromise. He urges that the net will produce but "Dead Sea" fruit to the South, though brought forward expressly as a Southern measure. We make a short extract from the letter, that the reader may have a taste of the style:

"After the most careful examination of this portentous question, I am satisfied that it is the most mischievous and pernicious measure that has ever been introduced into the halls of Congress.

"As a Southern man, I raise my voice against it. I oppose it, because it involves a breach of faith on the part of the States who have for thirty odd years enjoyed the advantages obtained by them in the formation of the States of Missouri and Arkansas. I oppose it, because it necessarily and unavoidably begets another angry and sectional controversy, which there are none left among us strong enough in the confidence of the people to allay. I oppose it, because it uproots and destroys the compromise measures of 1850, to which the North is no more pledged than to the South to the compromise now proposed to be abrogated. I oppose it, because it would be an act of infatuated madness on the part of the South to accept it. I oppose it, because it will be impossible ever again to obtain as favorable terms from the North, with their seven millions majority of white population, as we obtained when that population were nearly approximated equality. I oppose it, upon the ground that it places a barren privilege in the hands of the South, for which not only no equivalent is offered, but by which she must be an ultimate and great loser.

It is not the least strange chapter in this history that those who now denounce the unconstitutionality of the Missouri Compromise, should all have waited until its most prominent advocate had retired from their midst, and descended to the tomb before they could find the valor to assail his work: it is a libel upon his memory that, from prudential considerations, they did not see fit to utter during his life, but although he was killed by the unkindness of friends, he must be laid on, he has left those behind him who will be prompt to protect his fame. By almost superhuman efforts, such as went far to carry the most distinguished man of the age to his grave, we have just extinguished a conflagration that threatened the destruction of the noblest state that was ever launched upon the waters, and we have scarcely had time to realize the result, and exchange congratulations on our safety, when one, more rash and vile and frantic than the rest, seizes a blazing torch in each hand, rushes madly into the magazine of powder, flourishes his firebrands aloft, and bidding defiance to all consequences, calls upon us to imitate his example. These may follow him who choose, except in the eyes of his friends, to whom I prefer the hose to the flambeau.

THE SECURITIES REVENUE.—A short time since, Secretary Guthrie, head of the Treasury Department, and some other honest souls, were in a peck of troubles about the thirty millions surplus in the Treasury.—What to do with it, or how to get rid of it, was a most perplexing question; and some of them even went so far as to ensure the preceding administration for bequeathing the present one such a vexatious legacy—a government out of debt, at peace with all the world, prosperous at home and respected abroad, and a Treasury overflowing with a surplus of thirty millions! No former administration had to encounter such a state of affairs at its inception. But democracy is equal to anything and up to all emergencies; and even the question of the surplus is about to be settled to the satisfaction of everybody individually and the whole country collectively, as will be seen by the following plan of disbursement, said to have been concocted and agreed upon in Cabinet Council after anxious and mature deliberation:

For the Galuden treaty,	\$20,000,000
For French spoliation,	5,000,000
For Galphin claims,	5,000,000
<b>Total,</b>	<b>\$30,000,000</b>

A clean sweep and Swartwort, the very prince of financiers Galphin, himself could not have fixed it up better. The whole thirty millions absorbed by three items! It is quite evident that the next administration will not be perplexed with much of a surplus at the outset.

THE OCEAN BANK.—We notice that the bill to charter the Ocean Bank has passed both houses of the Legislature.

THE QUESTION IN A NUTSHELL.—A temporary pu as the Nebraska question as follows:

Nebraska is as yet a savage land, and after its establishment it as a territory will remain as such probably years. Then whence is the advantage of legislating it a territory belonging to the South. Permitting it to become a slave territory or a slave State does not make it so. If it is suited for slave culture, nature will secure its settlement by slaveholders. If otherwise the immigration from the free States will prevent the necessity of any present legislation to that effect.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 23. The U. S. Senate on Thursday, passed the Bill appropriating \$3,000,000 for six steam frigates.

Mr. Toombs spoke in support of the Nebraska Bill.

The House of Representatives debated the Wisconsin Land Bill.

The Gadsden Treaty will probably be ratified without amendment.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24. Senators Hunter, of Virginia, and Butler, of South Carolina, made admirable speeches in the U. S. Senate, on Friday, in support of the Nebraska and Kansas Bill. Judge Butler had not concluded his speech when the Senate went into Executive Session.

In the House of Representatives, business of a miscellaneous character was transacted.

NEW YORK, Feb. 24. Cotton in New York, on Friday, was stiffer, and prices had advanced a quarter of a cent. Rio Coffee was firm, and the sales comprised 600 bags at 11 cts. Flour was easier, and \$5.25, changed hands. State was worth \$8.25, and Ohio \$8.50. 1300 bags of South-west were disposed of at from \$8.37 a \$8.75 per bbl. In the wheat market there were more sellers than buyers. 6000 bushels of Southern White were sold at \$2 per bushel.

MORE SLANDER.—It is asserted, with what truth we do not pretend to say, that all of the ladies who sweep the streets with their long dresses, have big feet and thick ankles.

Hon. F. K. Zollkofer is entitled to our thanks for valuable favors.

## WAR AT LAST!

The New York Tribune of the 21st has an interesting article on the prospect of a general European war. We quote a portion of it. After deprecating the evils which will inevitably grow out of such contests, the article speaks of the retarding of reform, and oppression of the masses, the Tribune continues as follows:

Still there is no evil without its attending good; and if this war shall force the Czar to mind their own business in future, it will be a gain to Europe worth some part at least of the expenditure it will cost. There is reason to hope that such may be the result. He challenges the world to deadly combat. Even Napoleon proved unequal to the requirements of such a struggle in his German campaign 1812, and a Nicholas cannot surely regard himself as the superior in Military capacity of the first French Emperor, however lightly he may esteem the second. Superficially, the Autocrat would seem to be rushing blindly on disaster, and courting humiliation.

But he doubtless knows what he is about, or thinks he does. He knows that every European despot, big or little, regards him as the only reliable support of what is termed Order, and that the reduction of Russia to her normal insignificance in Christendom would be mourned in every Court from Stockholm to Naples. He knows, therefore, that he has powerful though covert allies in the very councils of his ostensible enemies; that if Francis Joseph does not now declare himself in favor of the Czar, he will be a man without a country, and certainly do not un-blessed the Turks will be bereft of half their proper force by a dread of damaging him too much.

And yet, we can hardly see how he can even hope to triumph in the war into which he is now plunging. That his fleets are not to be despised, except from the coast, and his land forces, would seem to be beyond doubt. And how then can he expect to seize the great object of his ambition, Constantinople? Suppose he can bring into the field One Million men, send half of them across the Danube, instigate rebellions in Servia, and among all the Christian races of Europe—Turkey, it would still be a miracle of good luck to advance to Constantinople with the adjacent waters covered by the Allied Fleets and with One Hundred Thousand choice French and English troops united with the whole force of the Turks in its defence. If Russia has never yet carried her arms to the gates of Stamboul when the Porte was without allies, who can believe that she will be able to do so in defiance of banded Europe!

It is not likely that the War now begun will be a short one. If Napoleon could never consent to sit on a dishonored throne—that is, to make peace when his last battle had not been a victory—how can Nicholas afford to recoil before the formidable combination which now confronts him? To seem compromised in the eyes of his Russians is a necessity of his positions and humiliation abroad would very possibly be fatal to his despotism at home. And besides, a War which one or two battles is to finish is seldom so long in coming to a head as this has been. The very fact that the Czar has provoked it so wantonly will render his escape from it more difficult. To be moderate and conciliatory now would imply the severest censure now all has done or meditated for the last twelve months.

Either the war now commencing is to be one of the most eventful and memorable in History, or the age of gory conflict, of mutual human slaughter, has passed, and that of all-potent Diplomacy has replaced it. A few months must determine whether this is to be a war of politicians or a war of extermination. Present appearances do not favor the former hypothesis.

DUTY ON RAILROAD IRON.—It is said that an effort will be made to reduce the duty on iron at the present session. The Virginia delegation met that of many of the Western and South-western States all favor the project, in consequence of the large number of railroads now building in those States. In Virginia alone over 1,000 miles are under contract or in contemplation.

MR. MARY OF THE NEBRASKA BILL.—A Washington letter, reports that Mr. Mary, said to a "Soft" Member that the President expected his (Mary's) friends would support the Nebraska bill. The Member replied that he was willing to go anywhere for Mr. Mary, but he could not, consistently with his own feelings, go to the devil—that to support the Nebraska bill was equivalent to going to his Satanic Majesty. He recommended that the President had better use his influence with Messrs. Kittredge and Morrison of New Hampshire, and that Cushing should talk to Banks of Massachusetts, the three being dead against the bill.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 23. Up to noon on Thursday, in New Orleans 4000 bales of Cotton had been disposed of at irregular rates. Rio Coffee was active, and the sales comprised 10,000 bags, at from 10 1/4 to 11 cents per lb. Flour was dull at \$7.50 per bbl. Corn was active at 85 cents per bushel.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 24. 200 bbls. of Flour were disposed of at Baltimore on Monday. Prior to the reception of the Baltic's advices, it was quoted at \$8.25, and subsequently at \$8 per bbl.—After the reception of the foreign advices no sales of Grain were effected.

The Turkish commandant at Rahova is Gengo Aga, the same who led the storming party at Missolonghi nearly 30 years ago.

NEW YORK, Feb. 26. The Senate of Rhode Island has annulled the sentence of Gov. T. W. Dorr.

The Ohio Legislature has again failed to elect a U. S. Senator.

Smith's baggage master of the New Haven and Springfield Railroad has been arrested, charged with robbing the mails to the amount of \$100,000.

Wm. and Clara Harris have been arrested in New York charged with the murder of Dr. Lutener.

Alfred Tiler has been arrested at Onondaga, N. Y., charged with the murder of his wife. T had endeavored to create the impression that his wife was murdered by burglars.

BONNETS.—Show us a lady's bonnet, and we'll tell you what sort of an institution she is. If it is showered with red ribbons, cups, bows, &c., she is as full of love and poetry, as a country inn of politicians and loafers. If it goes in for simple wrinkles, plain colors, and a couple of modest knots, she is a perfect jewel, sweet, sunny, mild, but as affectionate as a freshly nursed kitten. If it is "stuck all over" with a paradise of clover, three story ostrich feathers, wax holylock and juniper berries, put it square down that the calico is a single establishment, and will never see a fortieth birthday. Bonnets are a true index of woman.

## KNOXVILLE CORRESPONDENCE.

KNOXVILLE, Feb. 27th, 1854.

Dear Sir—I intended to write you yesterday, but a second reflection led me to refrain lest some of your most conscientious readers might remember that I wrote my last on the Sabbath, and might consider me in the vile light of a Sabbath-breaker. Is it Sabbath-breaking to write a social letter to a friend? That's a question I want settled sometime between now and next Sunday. How could one spend a long Sabbath like yesterday, here in this solitary retreat, without writing to you, or some other well known friend? The social principle is too strong; flesh and blood can't bear it, without wife or children or friends to cheer one the whole five long day. The day was too rainy, the winds were too boisterous and March-like, and the streets too muddy, to allow of going over to my usual place of worship, or even to step down the shorter distance and hear that good young minister, Mr. Huffaker, preach at Temperance Hall.

I read yesterday, with greater care than ever before, Christ's sermon on the Mount. Let the man who cannot or will not go to church on the Sabbath-day, turn to the sacred pages of St. Matthew and read that sermon. He will lose nothing, then, by staying away from public service. I mean no disrespect to the ministry, and certainly do not undervalue the importance, nay the indispensableness, of their functions; but I must say what I feel, that the reading of that sermon on yesterday, several times over, did me more good than any sermon I could have heard at church. And I fancy it would have been so with others, who no doubt were in their accustomed seats on yesterday. I have been to all the churches at Knoxville several times in the last year; and I notice at all one sign of intention to the services which argues badly for the benefit the hearers are receiving, let the service be in itself as excellent as it may. I allude to the habit of looking round at any movement in the congregation—as a person coming in, or leaving. I see the oldest and most pious worshippers doing so. I want to say to you, "you come here to worship God, in this his holy temple; and your doing so with your heart and your soul is altogether independent of the presence or the absence, the coming in or going out, of this man or that woman. Then why your curiosity? Poor erring mortal, undeceive yourself if you believe you came here solely to worship the Most High, and know that no inconsiderable part of your indictment was mere idle curiosity to see who would be here, and what worship would be done. Better stay at home and read the sermons." Yes, THE SERMON! It is my proof of inspiration, of the truth of the scriptures, of another world beyond "this visible diurnal sphere," because it is too lofty, too pure, too holy for poor human nature to originate. It is incontestably a gift from God to man. Then there is a God, and the rest follows.

I wish I had some news to write you in stead of this dull philosophy, or religion, or whatever it is. But really I have not. There has not occurred anything of striking interest since my last, except perhaps a temperance meeting at the court house one evening about the middle of the week, designed to produce some harmony of action among the several temperance organizations of the city. I intended going to the meeting, as I belong to one temperance organization; but as I was taking my new hat down from the top of a wardrobe, a heavy plank box rat came tumbling down unbidden on my head; and had it not been for remarkable toughness of the cervical vertebrae and uncommon thickness of the left parietal bone, this correspondence would have been ended *eo instante*. The blow stunned me, in fact, so that I could not get to town; and a certain numbness, and dullness of intellect (I fear) are yet the consequences. Reader, if this letter is duller than you think it ought to be, lay it on the rat pad and don't go to blaming me with it. In fact the blow knocked all the news I felt out of me, and has kept me from going over to the city since to get any more. The only news I have heard since the accident was from a celebrated young bore—the bore, par excellence—of Knoxville, whose well known visage is a sign of dizziness wherever he appears, who called the other night at my retreat and gave me the important intelligence that the Turks had taken Constantinople!—"Ah, indeed"—"yes, I believe Mr. Gibbon told me of it," said I. "Gibbon" said he; "I did not know such a man lived in town."

The Corporation of this city has determined to erect gas-works, and light the place with gas. I am opposed to it. By the single rule of three, I want this sum worked out: If the aforesaid young bore, with dark streaks, could make his way the whole distance to my retreat, what would become of me, and others who live in the heart of the city, if the streets were lighted with gas? Ans. Bored to death.

This city is determined to be a city in reality as in name: instance, the gas-lights soon to be provided. We have now another long sought desideratum in our new market house, which was opened recently. I understand that a gentleman came in the other morning with a wagon load of produce and had his servants to arrange the various articles most tastefully in their respective stalls, and stood waiting in the cold wintry air at day-break in expectation of the eager throng of hungry denizens who he thought would come rushing to the market place.

"Up rose the sun; the mists were curled back on the solitary world  
Which lay around; behind!"

And before him by the city of Knoxville, and the hum of business smote the morning air, and he smote the ground with the end of his walking cane as he paced to and fro in the heat of impatience to keep his toes from freezing; "Morn came and went," and brought nobody to the market house. He ordered his driver to carry the produce back home, and rode away himself, and has since been heard to mutter soliloquizing and half angrily, something about "God forsaken scenes," as he rides in sight of the market house on his way to and from the city. We hope the next experiment will be more successful. Near the market house is a long brick building, which I am told is erected by a distinguished lawyer of this city for a tipping house, ten pin alley, and other delectable amusements leading to recreation.

I intended in some epistle to give you a sort of summary of the recent improvements and present condition of Knoxville; but I see an article in Brownlow's Whig, of last Saturday, which contains all, and more too, than I could have said. I am glad to see "Groucher" speak so encouragingly of Knoxville, and hope that in his appropriate character as a peace-maker, he may lead all breaches which have heretofore separated him and his Knoxville foes. I pass his office often since fixing my retreat where it is; and I confess that my prejudices against him, which at one time were high, are yielding to what I believe a more correct opinion of him. Not that he has not faults; but he has virtues too.

The river is again high from the rains of yesterday; and the day before, and steamboats are plying actively. The "Jefferson" came up yesterday evening, bringing several passengers and heavy freight. Bales and boxes and barrels and hogsheads are to be dived up on the wharf and there is a rolling of them over, turning, lifting, hauling, whipping, cranking, wheel rattling, hallooing, cursing, &c., &c., which altogether is deafening and most disagreeable to a man whose skull has been cracked by a rat-rat. I wonder if the world won't some time get tired of all this turmoil about bales, barrels, boxes, and such like trumpery? I wish the world would, and would substitute something more convenient to handle and less profuse of noise in their stead. I am for reform generally.

If a kind Providence smiles on me, I expect to go on a visit to your classic styled little town about a week hence. But I must travel *inog*, of course.

Truly yours,  
MEM.

AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP.—The American Law Register, in treating of American citizenship, observes:

"It does not, probably, occur to the American families who are visiting Europe in great numbers, and remaining there, frequently, for a year or more, that all their children born in a foreign country are *citizens*, and when they return home, will return under all the disabilities of aliens. Yet this is indisputably the case; for it is not worth while to consider the only exception to this rule that exists under the law of the United States, viz: the case of a child so born, whose parents were citizens of the United States, on or before the 14th of April, 1802."

HOMESTEAD BILL.—The Homestead Bill, reported in Congress a few days ago, by Mr. Dawson, provides that any person who is the head of a family and a citizen of the United States, shall be entitled to enter, free of cost, one quarter section of vacant and unappropriated public lands, or a quantity equal thereto to be located in a body in conformity with the legal subdivisions of the public lands, and after the same shall have been surveyed. Five years residence is required upon said land, after the date of entry before a patent shall issue therefor and the land to be exempt from all liability for any debt contracted prior to the issuing of the patent. Residents of any State or Territory not naturalized are to be placed upon the same footing as citizens provided they have filed their declaration of intention, and shall become citizens before the issuance of the patent. No individual is to be permitted to make more than one entry, and existing pre-emption rights are to be in no way interfered with.

ANOTHER CHANCE FOR THE SURPLUS.—It is stated by the Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Inquirer, that it is the intention of Dr. Gwin to move an amendment to the Gadsden Treaty, for the purchase of Lower California and Sonora, for a certain sum.

Jerry Clemens writes as follows to John Van Buren, in regard to the Nebraska Bill:

"I think I have seen enough to be certain that the Nebraska bill, as reported by Mr. Douglas, will pass, and I think I can foresee the consequences. That they will be anything but agreeable seems too clear to admit of a doubt. A floodgate will be opened, and a torrent turned loose upon the country which will sweep away in its devastating course every vestige of the compromise of 1850. I do not speak of its immediate effects—I look beyond. For the present it may be looked upon at the South as a boon and by a portion of the North as a triumph over fanaticism. The word peace will be upon the lips of its advocates everywhere. Like the Angel of the Lord who stood among the myrtle trees and said, 'We have passed and to fro through the earth, and behold all the earth sitteth still and is at rest'—even so we shall have it proclaimed that the country is at rest, that all is peace—and I greatly fear that they will soon find they have raised a spirit which will wing its way through storm and tempest to the funeral pyre of the republic.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 24. The mail routes are now open, and the mails from the North have all resumed their regularity.

On Monday night last an awful gale swept over the Delaware breakwater. It was the severest ever known in that section of the country. The hurricane was accompanied by thunder and a snow storm. Thirteen vessels were ashore, the crews of four of them were frozen to death.

STOCKS.—The Augusta Constitutionalist of Wednesday says, that stocks are generally in good demand. The sale of 200 shares Georgia Railroad, advertised for last Wednesday, did not take place, but was indefinitely postponed. A sale of 100 shares Bank of Brunswick has been reported to us at 118, and several sales of Georgia Railroad at 105.

The substitute for the Maine liquor law passed in the Maryland House of Delegates on the 16th inst. It merely provides for taking the votes of the people on the question. The result is to be communicated by the Governor to the Legislature next session.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26. In the Senate on Saturday, Senators Butler, Brown, and Dodge of Iowa, made speeches in support of the Nebraska bill. Senator Cass will speak on Monday on the same subject. Butler's speech was very able and original.

The House was not in session on Saturday.

The Nebraska Bill will pass both Houses of Congress.

The Boston Courier has an article respecting Rail Roads in that State, designed to show that they have already been multiplied to such an extent that it is impolitic to invest additional capital in these enterprises, at least or some time to come.

Mr. BUCHANAN.—The recent slight, or what some may consider insult, applied by the British Court to Mr. Buchanan, refusing him admission to the opening of Parliament because he claimed what was awarded to every other Envoy in London, the right to wear on that occasion the costume he wears when appearing officially before the head of his own Government, again opens the "clothes" question for public consideration. We believe that Mr. Buchanan's course was one dictated alike by self-respect and patriotism, and that the mass of the American people will cordially sustain him. On this head, the following extract from the Sunday Courier may be taken as embracing the predominant popular sentiment on the question:

"Our country is represented abroad by a very distinguished and spickled set of gentlemen, called diplomatic agents, who are paid full salaries for doing nothing; and who, for lack of something better to do, are making a precious fuss about their clothes. Mr. Marcy, our Secretary of State, took lessons from the Tribune, and recommended all our ministers, plenipotentiaries, attaches, charges, &c., to dress themselves like gentlemen, as they did at home, when they happened to be invited to a court party or show, and not make fools of themselves by putting on laced coats, breeches and swords, like the aristocratic flunkies, with whom they had to associate. Our representatives abroad did not all like to give up the gold lace and splendid trimmings which they felt themselves entitled to wear, and they accordingly put on a black velvet dress with ruffles, something in the style of the stage Hamlet's costume, but fought a duel with somebody who didn't like his wife's dress. Mr. Mason, our minister to Louis Napoleon, has caved in to the gold lace; but Mr. Buchanan in England has refused to dress himself in livery, and, in consequence, he and his Secretary, D. M. Sickles, and all his attaches, were not permitted to witness the grand show of the Queen opening Parliament. If our ministers and charges have nothing more important to do in Europe than to dress themselves in court suits to please Louis Napoleon, Queen Victoria, and the King of Prussia, it strikes us that they had better be kept at home, and the cost of maintaining them abroad be applied to improving our harbors and rivers, or some other useful purpose."

THE CENSUS.—The time occupied in taking and completing the Census of 1850 was three years and five months. In 1840 it was published in one year after it was commenced. In 1830 in two years after it was taken. The expense of taking Census 1790, was \$14,377. In 1800, \$65,109. In 1810, 178,444. In 1820, \$208,556. In 1830, \$278,546. In 1840, \$833,376. In 1850, \$1,319,027. The latter sum includes only the expenses incurred previous to the recent orders by Congress of several hundred thousand copies of an abstract of the Census, which must increase the cost of the whole work to over a million and a half of dollars.

A Buffalo correspondent of the New York Express says that there is no truth in the report that any "engagement" exists between Ex-President Fillmore and Miss Porter, of Niagara, as stated from Washington by the Washington gossipers. The Ex-President is leading a very quiet life—and if he is thinking anything of matrimony, nobody knows any thing about it.

The Russian fleet in the Black Sea, consists of 69 vessels of all kinds, with 2,440 guns. Of the vessels, 11 are line of battle ships; 4 three deckers; 7 frigates, and 37 brigs, besides several steamships.

A FOUL BUSINESS.—One of the exhibitors at the National Poultry Show at Barnum's Museum is George P. Barnum of Massachusetts, near Boston, whose sales of poultry, including a few fancy rabbits and pigs, last year, amounted to \$22,000. Of this amount \$17,000 were sent off southward from Boston, by Adams and Co.'s Express. A sample of his Suffolk pigs are in the Museum. They are great curiosities.

There were 537 deaths in New York last week, and 99 in Boston.

A member of the Maryland Legislature recently introduced a bill "to restrain youths in the practice of drunkenness, swearing, and the use of fire crackers, by summary legal process, in cases where the parents of said youthful offenders failed to restrain them."

The St. Louis Republican states that from the 1st of January last to the evening of the 31st of February, thirty-eight steamboats have been badly damaged or totally destroyed on the western rivers. Eleven were consumed by fire, thirteen sunk and on jetties lost, and fourteen badly damaged by snagging and other accidents.

There are thousands of respectable females in New York, according to the Tribune, whose wages do not average 25 cents per day. This indicates an unjust and sad state of things.

Sam Slick says, "I don't like preaching to nerves instead of the Judgment."

Gen. Houston in his lecture at Providence on Tuesday evening, said—"From early boyhood I have lived on the borders of civilization, and have seen much of Indian life and character; and never knew an Indian treaty violated but when, after sifted to its bottom, it was found that its first violators were white men."

For the information of the conductors of the press generally, we have to inform them (says the Washington Star) that the law limits the amount to be paid by the head of either Department in Washington for newspapers (for his department) to \$100. The consequence is, that they are unable to pay for the papers addressed to them as heads of departments from all quarters of the country, unless formally ordered to be sent.

FROM CHINA.—The China overland mail is telegraphed, with dates to the 26th December. From Mingho and Amoy the dates are to the 22d. The insurgents have burned a large portion of Shanghai; and had also captured Tearing, a city only eight miles from Peking. Trade is reported dull. The death of the Emperor of Japan, and the seizure of New Caledonia by the French, are both confirmed.

DEATH OF THE POISONER.—The negro woman who poisoned the family of the late Colonel Wingfield, at Richmond, Va., and who drank of the coffee in which the arsenic had been dissolved, for the purpose of proving her innocence, has since died of its effects. The family are slowly recovering.

A DARK DAY COMING.—There will be an extraordinary eclipse of the sun on the 26th of May next, such as none but the oldest inhabitants have witnessed in this vicinity. It will be similar to the great eclipse of 1655, when