-THE WASHIN

WASHINGTON CITY.

TUESDAY MORNING, APRIL 28, 1857.

Mr. HENRY M. LEWIS, Montgomery, Alabama, is our general travelling agent for the States of Alabama and Tennessee, assisted by C. F. LEWIS, JAMES O. LEWIS, and SAMUEL D. LEWIS.

Mr. ISRAEL E. JAMES, No. 182 South Tenth street, Philadelphia, is our general travelling agent, assisted by WM. H. WELD, JOHN COLLINS, JAMES DEERING, J. HAMMITT, R. S. JAMES, THOS. D. NICE, R. W. MORRISON, E. W. WILEY, WM. L. WATERMAN, ALEX. H. CARSON, D. K. MUNTN, BEN. F. SWAIN, T. ASHMAN, and P. DAVIS.

OFFICIAL.

APPOINTMENT BY THE PRESIDENT.

Benjamin D. Heriot, reappointed navy-agent at Charleston, South Carolina.

THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND NEW ORLEANS.

We find in a late number of the New Orleans True Delta a bill of complaint against the federal government, chiefly levelled at the late administration, but in some degree implicating the present, from which we extract the paragraphs below:

> FEDERAL VIEWS OF NEW ORLEANS.—The treatment New Orleans habitually experiences at the hands of federal authority leads irresistibly to the conclusion that no more is deemed necessary in regard to her interests at Washington than to bestow a few offices on the least popular or most worthless and plastic of her population. Particularly is this conduct characteristic of southern men occupying high positions or discharging administrative trusts in the federal city, as our columns abundantly testified during the career of President Pierce, when, save the Navy Department, scarcely another bureau appeared to understand that there was any such place on the map, while the Secretary of War appeared to be engaged in perpetual study of how he might best humiliate and injure it. In fact, under the late administration of the War Department, every indication was given that there was a settled purpose to ignore the existence of New Orleans, no matter how much the public service might suffer in consequence.
>
> We are told that Gov. Floyd intends to deal justly with New Orleans, and we shall receive the assurance with confidence until we have convincing proofs to the contrary.
>
> Therefore we the more confidently call his attention at this moment to an order we have heard has been issued in Florida, to make the requisitions for provisioning the army on the northern cities.
>
> If such an order has been issued—and we are not disposed to doubt that it has—we respectfully ask from the Secretary of War an explanation of the fact. We desire to know whether Gen. Gibson, or some other piece of respectable antiquity, thus continues to proscribe this city, and him to say that for provisioning the army of the Union at our own doors, within a few hours' sail of this, the best provision market on the globe, New Orleans shall not be considered eligible, or whether the order in question is a standing one in the department?

Premising that the Secretaries of the departments, during the pressure of the extraordinary business which always engrosses them in the first months of their service, are obliged to leave matters of ordinary routine very much to the heads of bureaus and to subordinate officials, and cannot reasonably be expected to mature measures of radical reform in the policy of their departments, even where they are expedient, we cheerfully lay before the public, in response to the True Delta, what we understand to be the facts of the case; and we do so with greater pleasure as they serve the double purpose of explaining the policy of the late Secretary of War, as well as the particular transaction in regard to army supplies in Florida, animadverted upon and misunderstood by our New Orleans contemporary. We understand the fact to be that the army supplies for Florida, Texas, and the extreme South *are* chiefly purchased in New Orleans, and that such supplies as have not been purchased there have been obtained elsewhere, for the obvious reasons which we are about to suggest.

In the first place, it is not true that New Orleans has been habitually avoided by the War Department in its purchases for the army in the South. On the contrary, the commissary at New Orleans was remitted the following sums for disbursement in that city in the last four years; the supplies purchased therewith being almost entirely for use in Florida, Texas, &c.:

During the year 1853	$145,000
During the year 1854	123,300
During the year 1855	130,000
During the year 1856	189,000

In addition to these sums, considerable amounts have been sent to the commissary stationed at San Antonio for disbursement in the department of Texas. The same has been done, though not in amounts so large, as to the officers and agents of the War Department in Florida.

It is true, however, that particular articles of provisions have been purchased by the department elsewhere than in New Orleans. *Salt meats*, for instance, have been purchased in higher latitudes than New Orleans, for obvious reasons. Economy is promoted by purchasing them *directly* from the packers, thereby saving the profit of the New Orleans dealers or commission merchants, who themselves purchase in the packing districts.

As to the article of *flour* the department has made its purchases for the most part in Richmond flour, this being found by experience far the best article for use in southern latitudes, being superior to all other flour in preservative qualities. In fact, no other will keep for any length of time in hot climates. The officer of the War Department stationed in Baltimore has usually made the purchases of flour for Texas Florida, and the extreme South *directly* from the mills of Richmond; sometimes, when convenience of shipment required, from agents of the Richmond millers in Baltimore, and occasionally from their agents in New York.

In general the meat and bread part of the army ration is purchased in higher latitudes than New Orleans, in order to avoid the risk of damage to those articles from the moisture and heat of the climate during the period they are kept in store for sale by dealers there. Nevertheless New Orleans has always had a share in the disbursements for the army, generally equal to, often greater than, her due proportion; as the remittances there for the last four years, to say nothing of the large disbursements in that city during the Mexican war, abundantly show. In conclusion, we can assure the True Delta that no order has been issued for the purchase of army supplies in Florida inconsistent with the principles of policy and the facts we have indicated above, and we think we can assure our friends in New Orleans, and the South generally, not only that full justice to the South and New Orleans is intended, but that no injustice to the South or New Orleans is meditated by the present head of the War Department.

Among the distinguished strangers now in this city is General Gideon J. Pillow, of Tennessee. He is stopping at Brown's Hotel.

Senator Gwin is shortly expected at Vicksburg, Mississippi, on a visit. Mr. Gwin formerly resided at Vicksburg.

BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD.

We noticed a day or two ago a friendly *passage* between our friends of the St. Louis Republican and the Baltimore American. It was natural that each should stand up for the credit of his city, and sustain the valid claims of each for rapid advancement, expanding commerce, and increasing tastes for literature, science, and all the refinements of the highest order of intellectual cultivation. We beg to intervene in the same friendly spirit, and to say that they both have abundant cause to feel a glow of pride at the rapid advancement, wonderful increase of the commercial resources, and still more wonderful exhibitions of successful enterprise, which mark the history of each city. But we must say to our Baltimore friends that the increase and expansion of St. Louis, in commerce, in population, and manufactures, have been greater than those of Baltimore. The truth is, the growth of St. Louis, like that of Chicago, would almost be a miracle anywhere out of the United States. It is already fixed as the great centre of trade of the Mississippi valley, and its enlargement and growth are beyond the sober calculation of any man. Its manufacturing resources are just beginning to be developed, and when the system of railroads radiating from that point is completed, that great source of wealth, both to individuals and the city, will increase at railroad speed.

Then, again, our friends of the Baltimore American may, with pride and with justice, point to the Baltimore and Ohio railroad as a proof of her enterprise, and an illustration of her judgment and foresight. And it is precisely upon that point that we desire to say a few words. We have always considered it one of the boldest enterprises of modern times. Considering the physical character of the country through which the road is carried, its great extent, and the extraordinary difficulties encountered in every mile of its length, we have always looked upon it as one of the greatest triumphs of engineering science and skill which have ever been presented; and it seems to us that the care and success with which it is managed are as great as the judgment and wisdom which were engaged in its construction. We have travelled over the road five times during the last two months—twice whilst it was impeded by snows, which appeared to present obstructions impossible to be overcome, and yet, such were the energy, tact, and judgment engaged in its management, that these difficulties were surmounted with a perseverance and promptitude that perfectly surprised us. The company have placed the travelling trains under the command of an order of men not always found in that position. They are skilful, persevering, energetic and untiring in all the duties of their situation. In fact, they are *gentlemen*; and this they demonstrate to every one who travels over the road. It makes the journey through that extraordinary region of mountain scenery, combining everything of the bold and the picturesque, either in winter or summer, one of the most agreeable and delightful which the country affords.

We will also add that the Parkersburg branch, which diverges at Grafton, and is about one hundred miles long, is now finished and open to travel. From Parkersburg there is railroad connexion to Cincinnati, and thence to St. Louis the splendid broad-gauge Mississippi and Ohio railroad is just about being finished, which will greatly shorten the distance, and facilitate the transit between the East and the West.

OFFICIAL VOTE OF CONNECTICUT.

The Hartford Courant contains official returns of the Connecticut election. The aggregates are as follows: For Governor Holley, Union—*i. e.*, fusion—31,702; Ingham, dem., 31,156. Holley's plurality, 546. His majority, 496, there having been a few scattering votes.

The fusion candidate for lieutenant governor is elected by 649 plurality, and by 613 majority; the fusion candidates for the other State offices, by pluralities a little larger—the highest being for Wildman, treasurer, 858.

For Congressmen.

1st district	Ezra Clark, jr., fusion	8,410
	R. D. Hubbard, dem.	7,973
	Clark's plurality	437
2d district	Samuel Arnold, dem.	9,398
	John Woodruff, fusion	8,906
	Arnold's plurality	492
3d district	Sidney Dean, fusion	6,082
	James A. Hovey, dem.	5,060
	Dean's plurality	1,022
4th district	Wm. D. Bishop, dem.	8,403
	Orris S. Ferry, fusion	8,387
	Hubbard's plurality	16

Scattering votes in the 1st district, 62; in the 2d, 12; in the 3d, 5; in the 4th, 2.

DEATH OF MAJOR YANCEY.

The Richmond Enquirer announces the death of the venerable Major Charles Yancey, of Buckingham, one of the oldest and most distinguished members of the democratic party in Virginia. He was the last link connecting the present generation with the great men of the days of the revolution, being the last of those who were the associates and legislative cotemporaries of Madison, Taylor of Caroline, and the other great men who framed and participated in the debates of the famous legislature of '98 and '99. Elected at an early period of his life a member of the legislature, Mr. Yancey was the intimate personal friend of those great fathers of the republic, Jefferson, Madison, and Monroe, Washington, Henry, Marshall, Spencer, Roane; in a word, all the great representative men of Virginia were actively discharging the great duties and works of their eventful lives when Mr. Yancey entered public life.

KENTUCKY.

The democratic convention of the tenth district, Kentucky, met at Covington on Thursday last, and nominated Col. John W. Stevenson for Congress. The Cincinnati Enquirer says:

> "The candidates for the nomination were all eminent and able democrats. John W. Stevenson and Henry Clay Harris, of Campbell; Hiram Kelsey, of Owen; O. P. Hogan, of Grant; Judge Cox, of Carroll; H. J. Abbott, of Gallatin, were severally placed in nomination, but during the progress of the ballot were all withdrawn, and the whole vote concentrated on J. W. Stevenson, who, amid general applause and the liveliest tokens of approval and satisfaction, was unanimously adopted as the candidate of the convention. A committee was then appointed to wait on Mr. Stevenson and inform him of his nomination; pending which Major Harris and Messrs. Hogan and Kelsey were called on and responded in eloquent and effective speeches. Colonel Stevenson then appeared and returned thanks in one of the most eloquent, impressive, and beautiful speeches we ever heard. The triumph of this admirable gentleman and staunch democrat is one of the most certain events in the future."

DISTRIBUTION.

Since the know-nothings have revived the question of the distribution of proceeds of the sales of the public lands amongst the several States, everything tending to elucidate the former measure of distribution will be read with interest by the people. Let the democracy everywhere beware of this insidious, impolitic, and unconstitutional movement. It is a scheme of know-nothingism. The party itself was originally organized with the hope and the expectation of drawing off from the democratic party a sufficient number of our incautious men to enable them to beat us. It is the same policy now. They start a question through which they artfully appeal to the mere feelings of interest and selfishness of the community. By this stratagem they hope to detach from our ranks some whose respect for principle and adherence to the settled policy of the party are not quite proof against every temptation. Especially is this the case in Virginia. Under the pressure of heavy, but not insupportable taxes, bound for the support of her great system of internal improvements, there may be some few who would be willing to look to almost any source for relief. The appeals of the know-nothings are made especially to such persons. The authority of some of the greatest names belonging to the political history of our party is quoted by them as sanctioning the doctrine of distribution. They have used the name of Mr. Calhoun as being in favor of the measure without knowing his true reasons for supporting the resolution to *deposite* the surplus revenue in the treasuries of the several States, but not thereby to consider it or to make it an act of *distribution*. These reasons are given in the following interesting letter of General Duff Green, to which we call the special attention of our readers:

To the Editor of the Union:

It is sometimes permitted to individuals of humble station to give detailed explanations of facts and circumstances indispensable to a right understanding of matters in controversy. Chance having placed in my hands the Raleigh Register containing the speech of one of the candidates for Congress in Virginia, I find that the chief issue in the pending elections is the distribution of the proceeds of the sales of the public lands, and that Mr. Calhoun's opposition to it, as proposed by Mr. Clay, is attributed to personal rivalry and political jealousy, and that this charge is urged by assuming that the appropriation of alternate sections in aid of railroads in the new States, and the transfer of the public deposites from the pet banks to the treasuries of the several States, were acts of distribution, properly urged as precedents, justifying that now proposed.

As I was the intimate personal friend of Mr. Calhoun, and advised and consulted with him at the time, and know the views and motives which induced him to advocate the appropriation of alternate sections in aid of railroads and the transfer of the public deposites, and as these views and motives, when understood, will vindicate him from the charge of inconsistency in his opposition to Mr. Clay's distribution scheme, now revived by the opposition in Virginia and North Carolina, I, with your permission, will briefly review a few facts connected with the issues in question.

Mr. Calhoun was the author of the declaration of the war of 1812, and, by the energy and force of his character, contributed as much or more than any other member of Congress to its vigorous prosecution and successful termination. He was in Congress what Jackson was in the army, and thus became identified with the popular feeling. He was emphatically the man of the people, and, as such, was elected Vice President in 1824; when Mr. Adams was elected President by the vote of Mr. Clay, as was charged, regardless of the popular preference for General Jackson. In the canvass of 1828 Mr. Calhoun and his friends took an active part in support of General Jackson, in opposition to the re-election of Mr. Adams, and was again re-elected Vice President by a popular vote so decided as to identify him with General Jackson.

Mr. Crawford, of Georgia, had been a candidate in 1824, nominated by the congressional caucus, and as such was actively opposed by the friends of General Jackson, and Mr. Adams, as well as by Mr. Clay and Mr. Calhoun. Mr. Van Buren had been his active partisan. In the canvass of 1828, *after it was ascertained that Gen. Jackson would be elected*, Mr. Van Buren united in his support, and in the organization of the cabinet was appointed Secretary of State. In 1829, during the first year of General Jackson's first term, he was nominated by the editor of the New York Courier and Enquirer, then his partisan, as a candidate for the succession in 1832. Upon the meeting of Congress, in December, 1829, it was ascertained that Mr. Van Buren could not get the support of the party, and he and his partisans resolved to run General Jackson for a second term, and a part of their tactics was to induce General Jackson to believe that Mr. Calhoun would be a candidate in 1832, and that I would support him with the influence of my paper, (the Telegraph.) Mr. Calhoun was next, if not equal, to General Jackson in the affections of the people, and Mr. Van Buren saw that he could not inherit the party influence but by a breach of the personal and party relations between General Jackson and Mr. Calhoun, and hence the intrigues which resulted in the dissolution of the cabinet, and the creation of the Globe newspaper, as the organ of the combination. General Jackson was re-elected in 1832, and Mr. Van Buren, having been nominated by a party convention gotten up for that purpose, was elected Vice President. The payment of the national debt left a surplus of near forty millions in the Bank of the United States as the depository, which surplus, it was seen, would be increased by the accruing revenue. Having superseded Mr. Calhoun with the party by the nomination for Vice President, Mr. Van Buren saw in Mr. Clay his chief competitor for the presidency in 1836; and, knowing the relations between Mr. Clay and the Bank of the United States, he saw that the power and influence of that bank would be exerted in support of Mr. Clay; and that, by seizing upon the public deposites, and distributing some forty millions of dollars into local banks, with the prospect of as much more to result from other accumulations of surplus revenue, he would cause the seizure and distribution to become a party measure, in which the whole power and influence of the pet banks would be enlisted in his support as the party candidate. With this view, he induced General Jackson to go to Boston, where he met a caucus of Mr. Van Buren's partisans, of whom the late David Henshaw and Mr. Poinsett were two, in which the measure was discussed and agreed upon, and the ink was scarcely dry on the diploma, by which Mr. Webster and his partisans made General Jackson a doctor of laws, before he issued the order for the removal of the deposites.

It was supposed that the removal would compel the Bank of the United States to curtail her discounts, and that the consequence would be a monetary crisis, rendering the removal unpopular. To prevent this the Secretary of the Treasury, by order of the President, instructed the pet banks to discount freely on commercial paper. This enabled the Bank of the United States to enlarge the line of her discounts; and as the failure to obtain a renewal of her charter made it necessary to sell out her branches, that bank did enlarge its discounts and sold her branches, receiving payment chiefly in the notes of the pet banks. This accumulation of local bank paper enabled the Bank of the United States to run upon the pet banks for specie; but the effect of breaking the pet banks would have been to render the bank notes held by the Bank of the United States of no value, and therefore, instead of demanding payment in specie, the Bank of the United States invested these notes in the banks of the States, then entering upon a system of railways and canals, and made large advances upon shipments of cotton and other American produce to Liverpool; the purpose being, as avowed by Mr. Biddle, to establish an agency in London for the sale of American securities, and an agency in Liverpool for the sale of American produce. Why this purpose failed I may hereafter explain. My object in the previous detail is to show the necessity, and to justify the transfer, of the public deposites from the pet banks to the treasuries of the several States; and to show that so far from being an act of distribution of the proceeds of public lands, as proposed by Mr. Clay, or by the present advocates of such a measure, that transfer was intended to prevent speculation in the public lands, and was as much opposed to the principle of distribution as it is possible for any measure to be.

I know that the removal of the deposites from the Bank of the United States is generally attributed to a fixed hostility on the part of General Jackson to banks and banking. I may hereafter examine this delusion more in detail. I now quote statistical facts which speak for themselves.

In 1830 the bank capital in the United States was $145,192,268; in 1837, during General Jackson's second

term, it had increased to $290,772,091. In 1830 the loans and discounts were $200,451,214; in 1837 they had increased to $525,115,720. In 1830 the bank circulation was $61,223,898; in 1837 it was $149,185,890. So much for General Jackson's opposition to banks and banking. We will now see what effect this transfer of the public money to the pet banks had upon the sale of the public land.

From 1823 to 1832, inclusive, the average sales of the public lands were but 1,345,130 acres per annum, whereas in 1830 the sales were 15,999,804, and in 1836 the sales were 25,167,833 acres!

It was thus apparent that the transfer of the public money to the pet banks enabled the partisans of Mr. Van Buren, who managed the pet banks, to purchase the public lands with the notes of those banks; and that, if the public deposites were permitted to remain in them, a few individuals might, through their agency, monopolize the public land without money and without price.

The process was as follows: A and B, political partisans of Mr. Van Buren, having the control of one of the pet banks, wishing to purchase public land, gave their own promissory notes to the bank, and received the bank notes of the bank; these notes were paid to the receiver of public lands, *and by him deposited with the same bank*. By the same process, again and again repeated, the public lands were being transferred to Mr. Van Buren's partisans, at the rate of more than *twenty-five millions of acres per annum*. Mr. Calhoun did me the honor to consult me as to the best means of arresting this abuse; and it was upon my suggestion, in a letter written at Annapolis, that he advocated the transfer of the public money from the pet banks to the States. I urged that it was a question of a proper custodian of the public money. He and I concurred in the wish to separate the government from banks; we saw that the use of the public money by the banks had a tendency to create fluctuations in the currency; we saw that it was impossible to save the public lands unless we could take the surplus revenue from the pet banks; and we saw that we could not deprive the pet banks of the public deposites unless we enlisted an influence stronger than the pet banks and the public deposites combined; and, therefore, I suggested, and he adopted, the expedient of transferring that surplus to the States. I repeat, that the transfer of the surplus revenue to the States was not an act of distribution of the public lands, but was adopted as a necessity, and as the only means of preventing the transfer of the public lands to private individuals, who had combined to use the pet banks as the agents for the consummation of their fraudulent speculations.

I have thus given a plain, unvarnished statement, hoping that there is sufficient intelligence to see the truth, and that there is sufficient regard for truth in a portion of the conductors of the public press, which has given currency to the errors which it is intended to correct, to induce them to publish what I have written; intending, if this be done, to show, in a subsequent communication, that the appropriations of alternate sections of land in the new States in aid of railroads does not justify a claim for a distribution by the old States; and that, if it did, the old States have within their constitutional control a measure which, as an aid to their credit, and to internal improvements, is much more efficient than the proposed distribution of the public lands would be.

DUFF GREEN.

UNION OF THE NEW YORK DEMOCRACY.

Among the encouraging signs of the times (says a cotemporary) we notice the good feeling which at present exists among the time-honored and powerful society known as the Tammany Association. The recent election of sachems for the society is thus spoken of by the democratic press in New York:

"The election resulted in the success of a ticket nearly every member of which we believe is in favor of a reform in our political organization. Such in fact was the predominant sentiment of the active members on both tickets, and it was mainly a contest among individuals of the same party as to which interest belonged the most positive and determined friends of such reform. This was the principal feature. On this was based the contest, and we have no doubt that the new council of sachems will be as determined in their efforts for reform as the old, and that through the action already initiated a reorganization will be effected which will result in a complete and thorough union of the party, and make us, as we should be, one and indivisible.

"The election was spirited, but there were none of those angry and acrimonious feelings exhibited which too often enter into contests of this kind. All was fair, manly, and above board; and the defeated candidates were ready to join the exultation of the victorious as though themselves had been the victors. When the result was proclaimed, three cheers were proposed by the old war horse of democracy for the successful candidates, which were given with a will; three more for the President of the United States; three more for the new collector of the port, Augustus Schell, and three times three for union, harmony, and victory. Such was the feeling which actuated the members of the old Tammany Society on this occasion."

NORTH CAROLINA.

It gives us great pleasure to announce to our readers that the democrats of the fourth district, North Carolina, have renominated Hon. L. O'B. Branch for Congress. The Raleigh Standard says:

"We have heard of no opposition to him, and we anticipate none. He has made an able and faithful representative; and we trust that, like his nomination at Franklinton, his re-election in August next may be agreed upon by acclamation.

"Mr. Branch will no doubt visit every county in the district between this and the day of election, to render in person an account of his stewardship, and to express his views upon public affairs at length before the people."

Among the resolutions unanimously adopted by the nominating convention were the following:

"1. *Resolved*, That the election of James Buchanan to the presidency, the sound and conservative character of his cabinet, the views and purposes announced in his inaugural, together with the experience and wisdom of a life successfully devoted in high public station to the service of his country, assure us of the South and of the Union that peace, justice, and order will prevail in the land during the continuance of the present administration.

"2. *Resolved*, That our congratulations are especially due to those patriotic northern democrats who, before the decision of the Supreme Court in the Dred Scott case, manfully sustained the true principles of the constitution as now declared by that august tribunal, and lent their aid to the repeal of the Missouri restriction; and that we give especial greeting to our brother democrats of Connecticut, and regard the result of the late election there as the dawn of a brighter day for them and for the country.

"3. *Resolved*, That Franklin Pierce, by his sterling patriotism and strict adhesion to the principles of the constitution, in executing the laws of the country even at the cannon's mouth, has endeared himself to the hearts of all good and patriotic men in every section; and that we renew to him in his present retirement the good wishes and respect of the people of this district. Let others pay their worship only to the rising sun—we will also gaze with ardor and with admiration upon his setting beam.

"6. *Resolved*, That the public lands are the common property of all the States; and that the lands and their proceeds should be held by the general government to aid in defraying the common charge and expenditure, and in reducing the tariff taxes on the people; and that we are therefore now, as heretofore, opposed to a distribution of said lands or their proceeds among the several States.

"7. *Resolved further*, That we are opposed to any policy which unduly favors a portion of the States in this or any other respect at the expense of the others, or which squanders the lands on corporations or particular States.

"8. *Resolved*, That the Hon. L. O'B. Branch, by his integrity, ability, and unflinching democracy and independence, has sustained the good name and high reputation of his State and district, and has endeared himself to his constituents of all classes by his courtesy and attention to their wishes; and instructed by their unanimous desire, and moreover impelled by a sense of merited honor and confidence, we hereby renominate him for Congress.

KANSAS AFFAIRS.

A telegraphic despatch from St. Louis, dated the 25th, says:

"Secretary Stanton has published an address to the people of Kansas in the Lecompton Union. He says the administration has recognised the authority of the territorial legislature and the validity of the territorial laws, and has especially recognised the act providing for a constitutional convention. He presumes that convention will submit the vital question of the domestic institutions of the State to the subsequent vote of the people, and thinks that Congress will then admit the Territory immediately into the Union as a State. He recommends a general amnesty for past and present prosecutions, and expects the presence of Governor Walker about the middle of May."

BRITISH EAST INDIES.

The following statistics, which we translate from a late number of the "*Annales du Commerce Exterieur,*" published in Paris, convey some idea of the immense commercial movements that are going on in the British East Indies, and of the almost marvellous amount of capital embarked in the thousand speculations which serve as the handmaids of industry and enterprise in developing the great natural resources of that distant portion of England's colonial dominions. Even with the figures and other positive data before one's eyes, it is almost impossible to conceive the vast extent of commercial operations and the almost limitless field of enterprise of which that colossal monopoly, the East India Company, is the soul and centre:

COMMERCIAL HOUSES AT CALCUTTA.—We first proceed to indicate the number and nationality of mercantile and commission houses established at Calcutta. According to information collected on the spot, there are at present about 51 establishments of this sort, as follows: Houses—British, 24; American, 8; French, 9; German, 6; Greek, 4. To the above houses of the first class may be added no inconsiderable number of others, conducted by natives, Arabs, Jews, and Persians. These houses, although ranking as second class, transact an immense amount of business, and control a large trade. Besides these, there are also in Calcutta 13 exchange brokers, 7 shipping and freight agents, 6 silk commission houses, 7 indigo commission houses, and 8 general commission houses.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.—This body was organized April 19, 1834, and is known as the Bengal Chamber of Commerce. It is composed of a president, vice president, five judges, a secretary, and a committee of three members. The actual number of members is 89. This chamber takes cognizance of commercial matters, examines and settles disputes between merchants, &c.

INSTITUTIONS OF CREDIT.—There are in Calcutta five first-class banks, under the following names: Bank of Bengal, established in 1839, with a capital of 10,700,000 rupees* of the colony, (rupee sicca,) divided into 2,675 shares, at 4,000 rupees each. Government Savings' Bank, established November 1, 1833. Agra and United Service Bank, founded in 1833, with a capital of 7,500,000 rupees, distributed into 15,000 shares, at 500 rupees each; reserved capital 1,200,000 rupees. This bank has branches at Agra, Lahone, Madras, Bombay, and Canton. Northwestern Bank of India, established in 1844, with a capital of 2,205,600 rupees, divided into 5,514 shares, at 400 rupees each. This bank has branches at Mysone, Bombay, and London.

Oriental Bank Corporation, organized in 1842. This bank has branches at Ceylon, Mauritius, Melbourne, Sydney, Bombay, Madras, and Singapore.

We must also include in the preceding list the banks which are represented at Calcutta. These are: The Commercial Bank of India, established at Bombay in 1845, the London and Eastern Banking Corporation, Mercantile Bank of India, London, and China, Delhi Bank, Semla Bank, Dacca Bank.

Our attention is next directed to the steamboat companies organized for the purpose of supplying steam-tugs to vessels ascending and descending the river Hougly, from Sangor to Calcutta, and *vice versa*.

Calcutta Steam-Tug Association, founded in 1836, with a capital of 500,000 rupees, in 500 shares of 1,000 rupees each. The steamers of this company are:

Twarkanath, 250 tons, 150-horse power.
Frances Gordon, 210 tons, 130-horse power.
Andrew Henderson, 200 tons, 110-horse power.
Forbes, 300 tons, 120-horse power.
Powerful, 240 tons, 150-horse power.
Union, 283 tons, 150-horse power.
Rattler, 250 tons, 150-horse power.

Eastern Steam-Tug Association:

Alligator, 250 tons, 120-horse power.
Satellite, 270 tons, 130-horse power.

The nine steamers which compose the effective force of this service are found to be totally inadequate to the demands of commerce. Indeed, to avoid detention masters are obliged to engage their services long in advance of the time they shall be needed. The average price of towing is 350 rupees per day, (nearly $175.)

Effective service of the Peninsular and Oriental Company, established at London in 1840, with a branch at Calcutta:

Line between India and China.

1st. Between Calcutta, Madras, Ceylon, Anden, and Suez:

Bengal, 2,200 tons, 470-horse power.
Bentinck, 2,000 tons, 520-horse power.
Hindostan, 2,000 tons, 520-horse power.

2d. Between Bombay and Aden:

Malta, 1,200 tons, 450-horse power.
Pottinger, 1,400 tons, 450-horse power.

3d. Between Bombay, Ceylon, Singapore, and Hong-Kong:

Singapore, 1,200 tons, 470-horse power.
Cadiz, 970 tons, 220-horse power.
Erin, 800 tons, 280-horse power.
Achilles, 1,000 tons, 420-horse power.

4th. Between Calcutta, Penang, Singapore, Hong-Hong, and Shanghai:

Pekin, 1,200 tons, 430-horse power.
Formosa, 750 tons, 180-horse power.
Shanghai, 600 tons, 160-horse power.
Chusan, 750 tons, 100-horse power.

5th. Between Hong-Kong and Canton:

Lady Mary Wood, 600 tons, 260-horse power.
Tartar, 450 tons, 150-horse power.
Canton, 400 tons, 150-horse power.

Government Steamers for the Conveyance of Despatches, Letters, and Troops.

1st. Between Calcutta, Arracan, Moulmein, and Rangoon.

Sesostris, 876 tons, 220-horse power.
Terrasserim, 769 tons, 220-horse power.
Fire Queen, 579 tons, 220-horse power.

2d. Fluvial navigation.

Jumna, 200 tons, 60-horse power.
Megna, 200 tons, 60-horse power.
Thames, 200 tons, 60-horse power.
Hoorungota, 200 tons, 60-horse power.
Berhampooter, 200 tons, 60-horse power.

To these add three large transports, which are towed by the steamers.

Docks and Ship-Yards for Building and Repairing Vessels.

There are at Calcutta 10 docks, in complete order, belonging to the different companies, where vessels in want of repairs can find every facility for the most thorough overhauling. To these may be added one grand dock belonging to the government.

Coal Mining Companies.

Bengal Coal Company, established in 1843, with a capital of 1,186,000 rupees, divided into 1,186 shares of 1,000 rupees each. The mines of this company are situated at Raneegunge, about 150 miles from Calcutta. Over 1,500 *batteaux* are employed annually in conveying the coal from these mines to feed the depots at the capital of Bengal.

Burlhoom Coal Company, the property of Messrs. Erskine & Co. These mines lie at Mungulfore and Rogonatheuck. A large number of *batteaux* are also employed in floating the coal from these mines to the depot at Howrah.

These mines are exceedingly productive, furnishing an excellent quality of coal for the railroads, the steamers of the peninsular company, steam-tugs, and other vessels, besides supplying the furnaces and manufacturing establishments of the interior.

We have also translated, from the same publication, in connexion with the preceding statements, a very full and interesting exposé of the financial condition of the British East India Company; the commerce of the presidency of Bengal from May 1, 1855, to April 30, 1856; the opium sales of the East India Company the first six months of 1856; and the navigation and commerce of Great Britain in the countries comprised in the charter of the company during the first nine months of 1856. These, however, will form the subject of another article.

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*The rupee is equal to about 50 cents.

The democracy of Yazoo city, Mississippi, won a signal victory over pseudo-Americanism on the 6th instant. The Southern Sun is eloquently exultant over this remarkable triumph of liberal principles in the very stronghold of Mississippi know-nothingism. Out of the thirteen vacancies for the offices of school commissioners and selectmen, the democrats elected TWELVE.

DEPARTMENT NEWS.

STATE DEPARTMENT.

Commerce and Money Affairs.—Frankfort-on-the-Maine.—An intelligent correspondent at this place, under date of 18th March, writes as follows:

"There is just now a dull time in commerce and politics. Commerce is languid, and there is no movement on the exchange. All is quiet. There are no fears for the *moment*, but some anxiety exists as to what may *come next*. The rates of public securities are as low as in 1850 and 1851. The threatened calls to pay up instalments on the hundred joint stock banks and other enterprises that have started into existence within the past year impair confidence and check speculation, although there is now a greater abundance of money than for a long time.

"The only public effects that have not so much suffered from this state of things are Darmstadt Commercial and Industrial Bank stock and the Austrian National Bank stock.

"American securities seem to be disappearing from the German market. The distrust against the States is general. Our credit has been shaken by the failure of several railroad companies to pay the interest on their bonds, and much more by the late repudiation of the California loans. Like many other stubborn people, the Germans cannot think it lawful or possible that a debt contracted by the legal authorities of a State can be declared invalid by a judge after having been voted by a legislature and issued by a government. The holders of the stock here think the general government should endeavor to correct the injustice of such proceedings, as they seriously affect the American character, and thereby present obstacles to international commerce. Although the government has not noticed the vagaries of individual States, it might not be altogether wrong to do so.

"The German Diet is now waiting the result of the negotiations regarding Neufchatel *in order to make up an opinion*. It was rather hasty in sanctioning the pretensions of Prussia last fall, and now it is leaning towards the prudent system of *delay*.

"The Schleswig-Holstein question, which has been under a course of diplomatic treatment between Denmark and the courts of Berlin and Vienna for the last three or four years, will most likely be brought before the Diet; and if the Danes should not submit, it is possible an army will be sent to Holstein in order to carry into execution the Diet's decrees. I say it is *possible*, but I do not believe it probable, as other European powers might not hesitate to overlook the present fashionable doctrine of non-interference. This Danish question is having an influence on public funds—not that it has a direct influence on the large bankers, but it indirectly affects them through the influence it has on timid capitalists, who imagine everything is going to ruin. There are other clouds in the political horizon which exercise a depressing effect on the stock exchange. It is evident there is *some anxiety*, for were it otherwise, with the present supply of money, government securities ought to be much higher than the quotations current."

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

The New Post Office and Custom-House at Galveston, Texas.—The Secretary of the Treasury has appointed Lieut. Wm. H. Stevens to be superintendent, and John T. Todd to be assistant superintendent, of construction for the new post office and United States custom-house to be erected at Galveston, Texas.

Ordered.—Captain S. Barron, United States navy, has been assigned to duty as a member of the Light-House Board, in place of Captain S. F. Du Pont, ordered to the command of the steam frigate Minnesota.

INTERIOR DEPARTMENT.

Withdrawal of Lands in Iowa.—The President of the United States has approved of the recommendation of the Commissioner of the General Land Office for the withdrawal of that portion of the Iowa lands heretofore directed to be sold on the 4th proximo, upon which the Indians have recently committed depredations by murdering the settlers, destroying their homes, &c.

Appointment.—Frederick Depru has been appointed a watchman in the Pension Office, in place of G. B. Pomeroy, removed.

Official Interview.—A delegation of Christian Indians waited upon the Commissioner of Indian Affairs on Saturday morning last at his office in the Patent Office building. Four sections of land in Kansas were secured to these Indians under the provisions of the recent treaty with the Delawares. This land being surrounded by white settlers, the Indians find their position uncomfortable, and consequently desire to sell it, and become incorporated and identified with the Delaware Indians.

NAVY DEPARTMENT.

Resignation.—Lieut. Theodoric Lee, of the United States navy, has resigned his commission.

The Naval Courts.—The case of Lieut. George E. Stevens, who was dropped by the action of the late naval retiring board, will be the next one taken up by court No. 1. Purser I. D. Shamm will act as counsel for Mr. S. The case of Lieut. Chandler is still under examination in court No. 2, and the examination of witnesses in the case of Lieut. Baldwin before court No. 3 had not been concluded.

TRIAL TRIP OF THE STEAM FRIGATE NIAGARA.

The United States steam frigate Niagara, after a short trial trip, sailed from Sandy Hook, New York, for England on Friday night last. We are indebted to the Journal of Commerce for the following interesting letter:

UNITED STATES SHIP NIAGARA,
At Sea, April 24, 1857.

The Niagara left her anchorage in New York harbor at 4.15, p. m., April 22d, and under steam alone in two hours passed the outer buoy of Gedney's channel—a distance of twenty miles, (pilot's measurement.) She was making 26 revolutions of the propeller, not three-fourths of her power.

The wind (a top-gallant breeze) was ahead; the tide against her; and after she passed the narrows she had a head sea to contend against—yards squared and all top-hamper aloft.

After leaving Sandy Hook she steamed about 170 miles to the southward and eastward, making an average of about 9 knots, still working at three-fourths power and less, and using about 33 tons of coal in 24 hours. Sail was then made, when, with a light royal breeze on the quarter, her speed was increased to 12 knots. At 8, p. m., the 24th, her head was put towards New York; wind N. W., being ahead and quite fresh; royal top-gallant yards aloft, with quite a heavy head sea. Speed, with 33 revolutions, 7 knots. The ship has not yet been put to her speed under steam or sail, but the indications are that she will be completely successful. She is very stiff and buoyant, rolls very easily, and requires much heavier and stouter masts to enable her to carry the sail she will bear.

On deck we have carried 150 tons of coal, which is more than the weight of her spar-deck battery, and from her great stability and buoyancy it is certain she can carry a gun-deck battery also, if it be desired to alter her for that purpose. Her upper masts, being made of *white* pine, are so light and trifling that we shall not be able to do full justice to the ship in making the passage to England. The top-gallant masts have to be very tenderly cared for.

On the whole, then, with stouter spars above her lower masts, her battery on board and journals worn smooth by a few days' steaming, I do not doubt she will equal the anticipations of Mr. Steers.

Her engines and machinery work beautifully, and are a great credit to James Murphy & Co., the contractors.

The Niagara not being bound for the port of New York, but being about to proceed on special service, it was not thought desirable to put the engines to their greatest power. They have, however, been worked up to 45 revolutions—the sea tolerably smooth, everything aloft as before—a three or four knot breeze ahead; speed, 10½ knots. The engines are capable of making 55 revolutions.

Dr. Edward Dixon, the editor of the Scalpel, (says the New York Herald,) writes to us to express his dissent from the conclusions arrived at by the investigating committee at Washington, that the deaths at the National Hotel resulted from miasmatic influences. The grounds on which he differs from them are: firstly, that miasmatic diseases are not so uniform in their results or in the seat of the attack; secondly, that they usually determine their precise character by some well-defined form of fever; thirdly, that attacks of miasmatic fever usually yield to nature or to medical treatment sooner than the time at which these cases have generally terminated; and fourthly, that poison of a definite nature, either mineral or vegetable, acts always directly upon the stomach or intestines, where the persons recently attacked have been chiefly affected.