THE SPIRIT OF DEMOCRACY

MORRIS & WILLIAMS...PROPRIETORS
JERE. WILLIAMS.....EDITOR.

WOODSFIELD, OHIO, APRIL 2, 1856.

FOR PRESIDENT,
JAMES BUCHANAN,
OF PENNSYLVANIA;
Subject to the decision of the Democratic National Convention.

Democratic Presidential Electors for Ohio.

SENATORIAL ELECTORS.
WILLIAM KENNON, Jr., of Belmont.
ALEXANDER F. MILLER, of Butler.

CONGRESSIONAL ELECTORS.
1st. SHELDON J. KIRTLAND, of Hamilton.
2d. HENRY F. SUDAM, of Hamilton.
3d. DAVID CLARK, of Montgomery.
4th. J. H. THOMAS, of Darke.
5th. EDWARD ROSSER, of Williams.
6th. MICHAEL H. DAVIS, of Clermont.
7th. WILLIAM CROSSEN, of Warren.
8th. WILLIAM KERSHNER, of Clark.
9th. GEORGE E. SEENA, of Seneca.
10th. LEVI DUNGAN, of Jackson.
11th. ALFRED MCVEIGH, of Fairfield.
12th. JACOB SLYH, of Franklin.
13th. JOHN TIFFT, of Huron.
14th. JOHN C. MYERS, of Ashland.
15th. JOSEPH BURNS, of Coshocton.
16th. JAMES M. GAYLORD, of Morgan.
17th. BENJAMIN F. SPRIGGS, of Noble.
18th. ALPHONSO HART, of Portage.
19th. HENRY H. DODGE, of Cuyahoga.
20th. GEORGE G. GILLETT, of Ashtabula.
21st. GEORGE COOK, of Harrison.

DEMOCRATIC STATE TICKET.

FOR JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT,
RUFUS P. RANNEY.
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS,
WAYNE GRISWOLD.
COMMISSIONER OF COMMON SCHOOLS,
HIRAM H. BARNEY.

☞ We are nuder obligations to Hon. GEO. E. PUGH for a copy of his remarks on the eligibility of Mr. Trumbull to a seat in the U. S. Senate.

A few plain Words about Parties.

The long and warmly contested controversies between the old Whig and Democratic parties, were differences of opinion about the construction of the Constitution, or different measures of policy, which always were, or at least meant to be, in conformity to the spirit of the Constitution. These issues have been settled, by the judgment of the people, in favor of the Democrats, and the Whig party no louger has an existence. Other parties have sprung up in its stead, and other issues are raised, but of a very different and dangerous kind. The Constitution is not now, as formerly, the touchstone by which measures are to be tested. The anti-Democratic factions, endeavor to assimilate the Constitution to their measures instead of conforming them to the Constitution.

In the North, and especially in Ohio, little is to be feared from the National Know Nothing or Fillmore party. It is the Fusion or self-styled Republican party that threatens mischief to our country. In some dark and hidded recess, Northern Know Nothingism, Free Soilism and the rest of the horde of isms exchanged the kiss of brotherly affection, and hand in hand march to the work of evil. In our own State they have been successful, and strut for a brief period in official robes. Their actions here plainly show what might be expected of them if the National as well as State Government should fall a prey to them.

The most prominent issue presented by them, and that upon the proper determination of which, more than all other questions combined, depends the existence of the Union is, whether the people of certain localities shall determine for themselves their peculiar and local institutions, or whether Congress shall, by invading the Constitution, force upon them its views, with or without their consent. It is not whether slavery is right or wrong; nor whether it is a blessing or a curse; but whether the people who are affected by it shall determine for themselves its existence or non-existence; whether the principle of self-government is true or false; whether the Constitution, or the mistaken views of factious men, shall be the source of Congressional power

Such is the issue as presented to the people, and odious as the Fusion side of it may be, the principle which underlies it is more odious still. It is nothing less than inveterate hostility toward fifteen States of this Union by the remainder; a crusade upon the South by the North. It is the very danger against which WASHINGTON warned us in his farewell address, when he said: "*Indignantly frown upon the first dawning of every attempt to alienate any portion of our country from the rest, or to enfeeble the sacred ties which now link together the various parts;*" and when he warns us against "*the organization of geographical or sectional parties as dangerous to our institutions.*"

Upon these subjects the Democratic party need not be misunderstood. Its views are not so narrow or selfish as to neither see nor acknowledge anything but evil in that portion of our country south of a certain line. It has other criterions than geographical position by which to determine good and bad. It does not propose to make the North the conscience keeper of the South, or to "awaken the seared consciences of political prostitutes in one section of the Union to a tender sensibility about the moral condition of the other," and thus find a pretext for intermedling with that which according to the Constitution and common sense is none of their business. It does not make sectional selfishness, the waging of war against a portion of our country, the stirring up of strife and discord among the States, necessary qualifications for office. It does not lose its identity by allying itself to every miserable mushroom *ism* that folly or fanaticism produces.

Its platform is broad as the Union and national as the Constitution. Democracy is the same in Maine and Texas, in Florida and Oregon. In this particular our party stands alone. It stands between the Constitution and its enemies, and proclaims justice to every section of the Union. Its work is to remove the festering prejudices which exist between the States, to allay the fanatical excitement, and to restore to our country its wonted harmony; and it is a work in which every true patriot and friend of the Union should be engaged. The preservation of the Constitution and of our liberty and security is the same thing. "It is not the regular tread of the sentinel soldier before his door, that gives to the American citizen his consciousness of security and safety. He looks to the flag of his country and finds it there. It is not in the strong arm of a hireling soldiery that he looks for the power to bind him to his country, but in the rights and blessings enjoyed by him under his country's Constitution. Convert these into emblems of injustice and degradation, and he will despise them." If the government is made an instrument for grossly injuring the people of any section of the country, how can they be expected to maintain it? Will not disunion follow? To prevent this is the mission of the Democratic party: To preserve the Constitution and to peacefully administer its blessings with justice and equality to North and South, East and West.

Driving them in.

Mr. E. B. Bartlett President of the order of Know Nothings for the United States has revoked the Charter of the State Council of this State, in consequence of its action at the late convention, at Columbus. The books and records are to be handed over to the new Council, which consists of that portion which withdrew from the Convention and passed resolutions endorsing the Philadelphia nominations. Hereafter no Subordinate Council will be acknowledged that does not agree to support Fillmore and Donelson.

How do you like it gentlemen; you who complain so loudly of the influence of the Pope of Rome? Is Pope Bartlett any better? Mr. Barlett wants you to vote for Fillmore and Donelson, and you must either obey him or be turned out of the order in disgrace; and, according to the penalties of your obligation, be posted as "perjurers" and men "unfit to be trusted."

WHOLESALE DRY GOODS.—We refer our readers to the advertisement of Messrs. *Wilson, M'Elroy & Co.*, in another column of this week's paper. It has been reduced to a certainty that dry goods can be purchased in Pittsburgh on as favorable terms as in the Eastern Markets, and probably on more advantageous terms, if we take into consideration the saving of a trip to Philadelphia or New York. Our Merchants have of late become convinced of this fact, and consequently we notice that many of them are procuring the greater portion of their stocks from Pittsburgh houses. To those dealing in Dry Goods, we would recommend the firm of Wilson, M'Elroy & Co., as eminently deserving of their patronage. They are gentlemen possessing a high character in business circles.—*Ex.*

The Democracy of Malaga Township in Readiness.

The Democracy of Malaga township held a meeting, in' Miltonsburg, on Saturday evening last, and nominated their candidates for township officers. As the Know Nothings had assembled and nominated their candidates, the gallant Democracy of Malaga were determined to meet them on equal grounds. Mr. Barnet Mann acted as chairman of the meeting, and after its object was explained, candidates were put in nomination and voted for, resulting in the choice of the following ticket:

Justice of the Peace—Thomas Fowler, Esq.
Trustees—Simon Dorr, Barnet Mann and Henry G. Morris.
Township Clerk—Isaac E. Shankland.
Treasurer—William Hobough, Esq
Assessor—Isaac Shankland.
Constable—Isaac Shankland.

The meeting passed off harmoniously, and the ticket gave universal satisfaction. Do your duty, men of Malaga, and you will succeed easily.

Columbus Correspondence.

COLUMBUS, March 22, 1856.

Editor Spirit of Democracy:

[The following letter was 6 days in reaching us, which accounts for the delay in publishing it. We would be pleased to hear from our friend again.—*Ed.*]

MR. EDITOR:—Things in and around the Capital City move along about as usual. The waters run as in other days, the Sun rises and sets as in times gone by, and the Moon sheds her pale and silver light upon the towering domes and glittering spires as in former years: in fact no perceptable change is beheld in things that are seen, notwithstanding the Legislature has been in session since the 7th of January—that august body, composed mostly of those men who made such strong protestations and promises, under circumstances of the most solemn character, and in dens and caves of the earth, that they would effect such wonderful revolutions, and work such mighty changes. All of this, indeed, so far as law-making is concerned, may yet come to pass, but whether for the better or worse is yet to be learned.

The odious tax bill has just passed with a large majority. The bill originated in the Senate, and it may be said that it was conceived and brought forth by Alfred Kelley. After it came to the House, some important and wholesome amendments were appended; and if it had passed with these amendments, it would have been less objectionable, although in my opinion, it would still have been, as it now is, unconstitutional. When the Senate learned the amendments made by the House to the bill, its progeultors became exceeding angry. A caucus was held in the evening in secret conclave, when no doubt King Alfred expressed his dissatisfaction, gave his instructions and issued his mandates, consequently on the following day, a motion was made to take up the bill and refer it to a select committee of five, which was quickly done. In due time it was reported back, stripped of the amendments made by the House, and presented to that body arrayed in all its primitive glory, and strange as it may appear, the report of the select committee was agreed to, and thus the bill passed in its original impurity.

This law, in its practical operation, will drive from the tax duplicate, about one-eighth of the taxable property of the State; to this extent, relieving Bankers, Stockholders and Speculators, and throwing the burden of taxation upon the farmer. To make this bill look plausible, it allows the deduction of indebtedness from credits; but its injustice is in the fact that it exempts millions of dollars held by the privileged order. It is a law most truly for the rich man.

The Kansas resolutions were finally passed a few days since. Mr. Corry moved an amendment requesting our representatives in Congress to vote for the immediate restoration of the Missouri Compromise, which caused some squirming among the republicans; but they refused to vote for the measure!

A resolution also passed, requesting the State House Commissioners to discharge the hands at work on the State House, and also to enter into no more contracts for said building until ordered by the Legislature.

It is a maxim that charity should begin at home, and as there is to be an adjourned session, which with the present one, will cost the people of the State about $180,000, it would be preposterous indeed to suppose that this valuable body would not make ample provisions for itself, especially as this may be the last chance they may have for some time to come. Hence their sagacity and foresight in their action in reference to the State House.

The important bills for the protection of quails, jay-birds, wood-peckers, peewees, rabbits, hares and fish, are still engaging the attention of the House, and I think they will be passed before adjournment, which will occur, according to joint resolution, on the 9th of April.

It is evident to every casual observer that members are fast sinking under the onerous duties of the present session; hence the necessity of adjournment, that they may have a respite until next January, and have the whole of 1857 to finish their business. H. H.

WHISKEY RIOT.

Some fifteen, or twenty ladies of Sharon a few days ago, made sad hovoc in the prospects of an old soldier in the cause of King Alchohol. It seems that, in the village of Sharon, an *old man* kept the *red eye* for sale, and was not over scrupulous to whom he sold, but let it "flicker" when ever the half dimes were forked over. This course of procedure being not in accordance with the law in such cases made and provided, and that not being enforced by the citizens of the place, the ladies concluded to take it into their own hands, and acted accordingly, and destroyed the whole.

The old man has been here to seek vengeance in the law, but how he will succeed, or who will give him aid and comfort is hard to say, but this we will premise, that when the old man undertakes to prosecute the ladies in a case of that kind, he will find that

"Jordan am a hard road to trabble."

Noble Co. Star.

Washington News.

Correspondence of the Spirit of Democracy.

WASHINGTON, March 21, 1856.

The Kansas question has been laid upon the shelf for a time, by the adoption of Mr. Dunn's resolution appointing a commission to proceed to the territory to investigate the matter of dispute between Messrs Whitfield and Reeder; and its to be hoped that the vexed question is now in a fair way for a permanent, if not a speedy, adjustment. The commission will consist of three members of Congress, who will have full power in the premises and whose duty it will be to travel through the territory and collect all the facts in the case. A more onerous and thankless duty never fell to the lot of a committee of the House, but there should be no shrinking or dodging now. The people have been long enough harassed with the Kansas trouble, and it is their right to demand that all the causes which have led to the unhappy differences shall be properly investigated and measures taken for their removal. The Committe will not be ready to report until late in the session.

The question of a revision of the Tariff will be agitated in a few weeks.

We are enjoying beautiful weather, and the work upon the public buildings, so long delayed by the protracted cold term has been resumed.

Indisposition of your correspondent must excuse failures for the past two weeks. MONROE.

For the Spirit of Democracy.

Solution of "D's" Problem.

MR. EDITOR:—Please insert the following solution of the arithmetical problem in the "Spirit" of March 26.

	Acres.	Oxen.	Weeks.	
(1)	4	12	6	1st condition.
(2)	1	3	6	
(3)	5	3	30	
(4)	5	90	1	
(5)	5	35	2	2nd condition.
(6)	5	70	1	

If 4 acres with the growth for 6 weeks, will keep 12 oxen 6 weeks, then will the grass of 1 acre with its growth for 6 weeks keep 3 oxen for 6 weeks, and the grass of 5 acres with its growth for 6 weeks keep 3 oxen 30 weeks, or 90 oxen for 1 week. (4)

Again by the second condition of the question, if the grass of 5 acres with its growth for 2 weeks will keep 35 oxen 2 weeks, then will the grass of 5 acres with its growth for 2 weeks keep 70 oxen for 1 week. (6)

By a careful comparison of (4) and (6) we see that the growth of 5 acres 4 weeks is sufficient to keep 20 oxen 1 week, the growth of 1 acre 4 weeks will keep 4 oxen 1 week, Consequently, the growth of 12 acres in 4 weeks will keep 48 oxen 1 week, and the growth of 12 acres in 8 weeks will keep 96 oxen 1 week or 12 oxen 8 weeks.

By (4) we have seen that the grass of 5 acres with its growth for 6 weeks, will keep 90 oxen 1 week, but the grass that grows on 5 acres in 6 weeks, will keep 30 oxen 1 week, then the grass alone of 5 acres will keep 60 oxen 1 week, or 5 acres will keep 10 oxen 6 weeks and 1 acre will keep 2 oxen 6 weeks, or 12 oxen 1 week, and 12 acres will keep 144 oxen for 1 week or 18 oxen for 8 weeks.

Therefore A puts in 18 oxen and pays $72. And B puts in 12 oxen and pays $48.

Yours truly,
B. POWELL.

Switzerland tp., March 29th.

Know Nothing State Convention—Platforms.

We give below the platforms of the two wings of the Know Nothing Convention, held at Columbus a few days since. The majority report was adopted by a vote of 134 to 46. Those in favor of the majority report have been read out of the party by President Bartlett.

MAJORITY REPORT.

WHEREAS, the American Organization in Ohio had its origin in, and has been maintained for, purposes of reform: And whereas, a true regard for the honor of the American name, the security of American rights, and the prosperity of the American people, require a steadfast maintenance of the great principle of freedom upon which American institutions are based.

We, therefore, the Delegates of the Councils of the American Order in Ohio, in State Council assembled, fully approve of the action of those Delegates from Ohio in the National American Council and Convention recently assembled at Philadelphia, in refusing to accept the platform or support the nominations then and there made, and WE hereby repudiate those nominations, and embrace this occasion to re-affirm substantially the platform adopted by the State Council at its session in Cleveland in June last, as follows:

We proclaim to the world the following principles of the American party of Ohio.

1st. The unlimited *Freedom of Religion*, disconnected with politics—Hostility to Ecclesiastical influences upon the affairs of Government—Equality of rights to all Naturalized Emigrants who are *thoroughly Americanized*, and owe no temporal allegiance, by reason of their religion, higher than that to the Constitution.

2nd. We propose no proscription on account of birth or creed, but welcome exiles and immigrants from other lands to free participation in the benefits of American institutions, and the privileges of American citizenship, with such restrictions as are needful to make sure that those who avail themselves of this liberality, understand and will defend these institutions against all aggression, civil or ecclesiastical, to which end the laws regulating naturalization should be properly amended.

3rd. Opposition to all political organizations composed exclusively of foreigners, and to all attempts to exclude the Bible from schools supported by the Government.

4th. Slavery is *local* not *national*. We oppose its extension into any of our territories, and the increase of its political power, by the admission, into the Union, of any Slave State or otherwise; and we demand of the General Government an immediate redress of the great wrongs which have been inflicted upon the cause of Freedom and the American character by the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, and the introduction of Slavery into Kansas in violation of law, by the force of arms, and the destruction of the elective franchise.

5th In humble imitation of the wisdom of Washington, we oppose intervention in the affairs of Foreign States; yet on all proper occasions, we will not withold our sympathy from any people aspiring to be free.

6th. We support American industry and genius against the adverse policy of Foreign nations, and facilities to internal and external commerce by the improvement of Rivers and harbours, and the construction of National Roads connecting the Atlantic and the Pacific Oceans, and uniting the various sections of the Union.

7th. The *Union of these States should be made perpetual by a faithful allegiance to the Constitution.*

Signed by the Committee.

MINORITY REPORT.

The undersigned, members of the Committe on the State of the Order appointed by the President of the State Council, beg leave to submit the following minority report.

We recognize the National Council as the paramount authority of the American Order, and deem a refusal to support candidates nominated by the convention assembled in accordance with its rules a virtual abandonment of our organization.

The solemn obligations which the majority of our Order took upon themselves, at the height of the anti-slavery excitement, resulting from the passage of the Nebraska Bill, to maintain, as pre-eminent in importance, the principles of the American Order, have not, in our opinion, lost any of their force by the present juncture of affairs. The question of slavery extension, is each day losing the character of an impending danger, from the fact that the operation of the laws of population and of nature, render it impossible that any of the territory of the United States will be subjected to the evils of that institution. We therefore can never consent to become absorbed by a party which profeses to have only that one object, and which repudiates in one locality, and ignores in another, the principles of the American party.

We continue to maintain the opinion that the restoration of the Missouri Compromise would be a proper vindication of national faith, and not inconsistent with the rights of either section, North or South; and if that issue is now impracticable, it has been made so by the treacherous desertion of the pretended devotees of freedom.

We can not sanction the course of that portion of our delegates who seceded from the American National Convention, nor can we become parties to the constructing of a merely sectional organization, and therefore recommend to the members of the American Order, that they preserve it in its full integrity and its entire nationality, and support the nomination of Millard Fillmore for President and Andrew Jackson Donelson for Vice President of the United States.

Signed by the Committee.

The Delaware River Disaster.

The burning of the Delaware River Ferry, and its horrid result, still excite the attention and horror of the residents of Philadelphia, Camden and that vicinity. The mystery that surrounds the fate of many of the passengers, contributes to keep the public in anxious and painful suspense.

Monday evening's *Bulletin* states: By daylight this morning the work of dragging the river was recommenced. The steam ferryboat John Fitch and a number of small craft, were engaged in the work. The wharves were crowded with anxious lookers-on, and as each body was taken from the water, the excitement was rendered still more intense. During the morning the bodies of a number of persons were taken from the river and conveyed to the Sixth Ward Station House, where they were ranged side by side upon benches, presenting a ghastly spectacle.

As each body was brought in, the friends of those who are missing crowded around anxious to learn whether the lifeless corpse was that of the object of their anguish. When the remains were recognized, bitter tears were shed. The bodies, with the weeping relatives of the dead and the missing ones, made up a picture that wrung the stoutest hearts, and the like of which we hope never to be compelled to witness again. The lamentations of some of the relatives were dreadful to hear.

The excitement along the wharf continues to increase as the bodies are brought ashore, whilst around the Cherry street Station House the crowd is intense. The street is literally jammed with people of both sexes, and the Police have their hands full to keep the throng back.

The Coroner designs putting a six pounder field-piece in requisition this afternoon, for the purpose of causing the bodies still under the water to rise to the surface.

The number of bodies recovered up to this time, is eighteen. As several of these are of persons who were not before missed, it swells the estimated aggregate loss seriously. The total number of victims will be more apt to exceed fifty than to fall short of that terrible aggregate.

☞ The *Guernsey Jeffersonian* contains an article of ours credited to the *Cadiz Sentinel*. When we write an article worth copying we like to have credit for it. Don't you, Bro. M'Gonagle?

THE OHIO LEGISLATURE.—"Blessed am dey dat expec' nuttin' (good,) fur dey aint a gwine to be disappinted."

OHIO LEGISLATURE.

From the Ohio Statesman.
March 21.

SENATE.—The bill to protect the property of married women was reported back by Mr. Brown, and passed. Yeas 28, nays 2.

The bill to provide against the stealing of timber, was read the third time and passed. Yeas 18, nays 11.

Mr. Wilford introduced a bill supplementary to the School Law. Read the first time.

The bill to amend the Liquor Law was taken up and Mr. Phelps moved to except beer, cider, and pure wine from its provisions.

The Senate rejected Mr. Phelps' amendment. Yeas 7, nays 12. The bill was ordered to be engrossed.

HOUSE.—The bill to amend the tax law was read the third time.

Mr. Slough moved to recommit, with instructions to strike out the twelfth section, which exempts the State Bank of Ohio and its branches from the provisions of the bill.

The motion to re-commit was lost, and thereupon the bill being on its third reading, Mr. Corry rose and addressed the House in opposition to its passage.

A call of the House was had, and the bill was put upon its passage. Yeas 55, nays 32. So the bill passed. Adjourned.

March 22.

SENATE.—The Senate went into committee of the whole, and considered the bill to regulate the Lunatic Asylums of the State.

HOUSE.—Mr. Slough introduced a bill supplementary to the Act to preserve the purity of elections.

Mr. Monroe reported back the bill to provide a House of Refuge, with amendments. Ordered to be printed.

The bill for the protection of game was ordered to be engrossed.

March 24.

SENATE.—The bill to amend the act to prevent the sale of intoxicating drinks in places of public resort, was read the third time and discussed at length.

Mr. Lawrence spoke in favor of the bill and against the amendment.

HOUSE.—The bill to regulate the duties and define the powers of the Fund Commissioners was considered.

The House again resolved itself into committee of the whole. It rose and reported that some progress had been made in considering the bill to regulate the salaries of county officers and the fees.

March 25.

SENATE.—Mr. Taylor, of Mahoning, reported back the bill to amend the liquor law with amendments. The amendments were agreed to with the exception of that which provided for the exception of ale, cider and pure wine. The vote on that was Yeas 15, Nays 15. The President voted in the Negative, so the amendment was disagreed to.

The bill passed—Yeas 20; Nays 10.

Mr. Lawrence voted in favor of the bill and against the amendment.

The Senate spent the afternoon in committee of the whole on the bill to create the Bank of Ohio and other banks.

HOUSE.—The bill to prescribe the duties of the Auditor and Treasurer of State passed. Yeas 74; Nays 13.

The bill to prescribe the duties of the Fund Commissioners in certain cases, was read the third time and passed. Yeas 72; Nays 19.

The bill supplementary to the act to authorize free banking was read the first time. Also the bill supplementary to the act to incorporate the State Bank. Also the bill to amend the Liquor law.

The bill relative to giving a trial by jury in contested elections was passed. Yeas 67, nays 16.

March 26.

SENATE.—The bill to amend the act for the incorporation of villages was read the third time and passed—yeas 22, nays 0.

The Senate went into Committee of the Whole and considered the bill to create the Bank of Ohio, and other banks.

HOUSE.—The bill to amend the act to create a permanent Agricultural Fund, was read the third time and passed.—Yeas 76, nays 4.

The bill to define the jurisdiction and regulate the proceedings of the Probate Court was read the third time and passed Yeas 84, nays 1.

March 27.

SENATE.—Mr. Kelley reported back the Sinking Fund Commissioners Bill with the House amendments. The amendments were agreed to. He reported back the Treasury bill. The Senate refused to agree to the House amendments and a Committee of Conference was asked for.

The Bill to enable mortgagors of real estate to waive appraisement of the same on judicial sale was passed.

Upon the motion of Mr. Brazee, the Senate resolved itself into Committee of the Whole.

The Committee rose and reparted back the bill to organize the Bank of Ohio and other Banks.

HOUSE.—Mr. Plumb introduced a bill to establish a State Asylum for Idiots.

The bill to empower the Board of Public works to adopt on the part of the State, that part of the Sandy and Beaver Canal, lying between Sandyville and Boliver, was read the third time and passed. Yeas, 63; Nays, 32.

The House resolved itself into Committee of the Whole on the bill to amend the School Law.

The Committee rose reported progress, and had leave to sit again.

March, 28.

The bill to prevent kidnapping negroes was read the third time and passed.—Yeas 22; Nays 5.

The bill to regulate foreign Insurance Companies was read the third times and passed. Yeas 20, nays 6.

HOUSE.—After the presentation of petitions and second reading of bills, Mr. Egly moved the indefinite postponement to the Maine Law Bill.

Mr. Parsons moved that it be referred to the committee on Temperance, which was agreed to—yeas 70, nays 21.

The bill to amend the act relative to the division of townships into election precincts was read the third time and passed—yeas 89, nays 20.

Mr. Smith, of Knox, reported back the Fees and Salaries bill with amendments.

Mr. Yaple moved its indefinite postponement, which was lost—yeas 28, nays 60.

The Fees and Salaries bill passed.—Yeas 70, nays 26.

Congressional Proceedings.

WASHINGTON, March 24.

SENATE.—Mr. Seward offered a resolution, which was adopted, requesting the President to communicate to the Senate all the information in his possession relative to the revolutionary proceedings in Nicaragua, especially the seizure of the Transit Company property.

The Senate then resumed the consideration of the deficiency bill.

Mr. Weller's Pacific Railroad bill was made the special order for April 14th.

The bill creating a public printing, book binding and engraving establishment was made the special order for April 14th.

HOUSE.—The Speaker announced the Kansas Investigation Committee. It consists of Messrs. Campbell of Ohio, Howard of Michigan, and Oliver of Missouri.

A joint resolution was passed, after some debate, giving new members of Congress books of equal value to those which the former Congress received. About $1000 each.

WASHINGTON, March 25.

SENATE.—The Senate resumed the consideration of the Deficiency bill. A long debate ensued.

Mr. Hunter reported a bill providing that the Spanish-milled or Mexican quarters, eighths, and sixteenths be received at the United States office at 20, 10 and 5 cents, and made legal tender for all sums not exceeding five dollars. These fractions, when received, are to be recoined. It also authorizes the President to issue a proclamation legalizing a new cent piece, to be formed either by a reduction in copper of the present cent, or by alloying it with some other metal.

HOUSE.—Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, asked the House to excuse him from serving as head of the commission to proceed to Kansas and take testimony.

Mr. Campbell was excused, and Mr. Sherman appointed to fill the vacancy.

WASHINGTON, March 26.

SENATE.—On motion of Mr. Butler, the committee on Post Office Affairs was instructed to inquire into the expediency of discontinuing the franking privilege to members of Congress, and in lieu thereof allowing them money to pay their postage.

The Senate then resumed the consideration of the deficiency bill, which was amended and passed. Adjourned.

HOUSE.—The House took up a bill from the Senate removing the restriction on federal courts, to confine persons guilty of violating the laws of the United States within the judicial district where convicted. Considerable debate ensued.

WASHINGTON, March 27.

SENATE.—On motion all matters connected with the action of the Naval Board, were made the special order of Monday. Also on motion made by Mr. Pugh, the Committee on Judiciary was instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing for allowance of writs of error, from the Inferior Federal Courts, to the Supreme Courts, of the United States in criminal cases.

The invalid pension bill was passed.

Mr. Harlan made a decided anti-Nebraska speech, combatting Douglas' report.

Mr. Collamer, Geyer and Seward, will speak in succession on the same subject. Adjourned until Monday.

HOUSE.—The House resumed consideration of the bill defining the rights of voters and the duties of the commissioners of elections in the city of Washington.

Humphrey Marshall's amendment pending, requiring in addition to the general qualifications of foreigners, to have been naturalized twelve months before voting at municipal elections; a parliamentary struggle being made between the friends and foes, for the above amendment, involving many motions and yea and nay votes, till 5 o'clock.

The House being wearied with the struggle, adjourned by five majority.

The Kansas Commission.

The Kansas commission are all western men. Campbell, of Ohio, was elected chairman, because he was the leader of the anti-Nebraska party in the last Congress, and the leader of the House in this, as chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. Howard, who is regarded as an able lawyer, was generally the choice of the Republicans, who objected to Dunn, because of the latter's course concerning the Speakership.

Mr. Oliver, of Missouri, was recommended to the Speaker by prominent Nebraska representatives, as their choice for the minority member of the committee. The vacancies thus created in the Committees of Ways and Means and Elections will probably be temporarily filled. The investigation will consume at least two months, as the committee are for thorough scrutiny. They will take a clerk and stenographer with them, and two or three marshalls to subpœna witnesses.

Mr. Sherman of Ohio, has been appointed in place of Mr. Campbell, who resigned.