The Press.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1859.

FIRST PAGE.—Miss Browster's Art Novel; Glances at New Books; Personal and Political. FOURTH PAGE.—News Items; Marine Intelligence.

Pennsylvania's Position in the Union.

A letter written by Mr. CAREY, our well-known political economist, to a friend in Massachusetts, and first published in the Boston *Transcript* of the 26th November last, is attracting very general attention among the politicians who are concerned with the forecast of the coming Presidential campaign. The subject of the letter is the proverbial preponderance of Pennsylvania in our national elections. It is a fact that no candidate for the Presidency has yet been elected by the popular vote of the Union against or without the vote of Pennsylvania, except the elder ADAMS. In 1824, she gave her twenty-eight electoral votes to JACKSON, which secured his plurality of fifteen in the electoral college. In the seventeen Presidential elections of the past, her vote has uniformly indicated the choice of the nation, except in the case of JOHN ADAMS. Yet, it is also true that in no instance has her electoral vote, of itself, determined the result; that, in the majority of cases the successful candidate has always been larger, sometimes greatly larger, than the number of her electors in the college.

Mr. CAREY, looking for the causes of a fact so steady and regular in its manifestation, traces them to conditions, circumstances, and facts, where they have not heretofore been looked for. It is obvious enough that a State which never held more than one-seventh of the electoral power of the Union could not think constantly, by her own proper power, determine its Presidential elections. It must, therefore, be ascribed to some constant cause of concurrence with her political action on the part of other States, whose votes, with hers, make up the constitutional majority which she is observed to lead or carry with her.

For the natural cause of such concurrence and sympathy of political action, Mr. CAREY indulges, and finds it, as he believes, in the law of emigration, or that tendency which determines men to choose their new residences in climates nearly resembling those which they were accustomed to previously to their removal.

The circumstantial, or, in philosophical language, the accidental cause of Pennsylvania's constant supremacy in the politics of the nation, is in the fact that she is one of a number of States which are the balance of power in the Union. The States which lie north of her northern line of latitude are so nearly balanced against those which lie south of her southern line, that her power, combined with that range of central States of which she is the exponent, easily determines the contest in favor of the one or the other party. Divided at the North and South are, and have ever been, the middle or central States as they lie geographically, and the moderate and conservative as they always are politically, must have the power to hold the antagonists, on either side of them, at arms-length, and to settle their disputes by the exertion of the balance of power principle, and thus maintain the position of political supremacy in the Union.

To present Mr. CAREY's views upon the subject of emigration, and its political results in our history, we extract his own very brief and general statement:

"To begin, let me ask your attention to the simple law which governs the movements of men, who by the process of peaceful emigration are seeking improvement of their condition. Look where you may, you will see that such persons seek the neighborhood of the approximate to which they have been accustomed—the Highlander going to Canada; and the Irishman coming to our middle States, leaving to the Spaniard and the Portuguese the south. Look at the immigration that has been among ourselves—the people of New England having overrun New York north of the highlands, a part of northern Pennsylvania, the northern third of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa, and having settled the three northern tiers of States of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Maryland, having meanwhile colonized nearly all the remainder of the four Western States, and being the principal occupants of Kansas, not of the whole, of the Territories which are now to enter the Union as the States of Kansas and Nebraska. The Virginia and North Carolina have fallen to the Territories that are now Kentucky, Tennessee, and Missouri, while South Carolina and Georgia have taken possession of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and most of Arkansas and Texas. Arrived at conclusion of this, we find the Union divided into *four great zones*, the white population of which, as ascertained by the last census, may approximately thus be stated:

Northern Atlantic	8,000,000
Northern Central	5,700,000
Southern Atlantic	4,000,000
Southern	2,300,000
	20,000,000

"Nearly three-tenths of the voting population, as here is shown, sympathise much with Pennsylvania, and hence it is, and not merely by reason of her own intrinsic strength, that *as she goes, so goes the Union*. Not only are the tendencies of this portion of our people, as now exhibited, eminently conservative, but, as reference to history shows, they have been more consistently in accordance with the ideas of the men who made the Revolution, than those of any other. Hence it is, that they have uniformly been so much in harmony with North Carolina, Kentucky, and Tennessee, as well as with those of the better days of Virginia, all of these, with Missouri, now passing so rapidly to the grand freedom, constituting the Southern centre."

The propositions of our author here given are seen, and, in all respects, so important for other purposes as well as for those of national politics, that we have taken the pains to subject the data on which they are made to rest to a careful examination. Let us state the results in our own way. After examining the facts and figures as thoroughly as our time and resources allowed, we found that *State boundaries*, as they exist between the north and north-central zones, could not be made to conform to the facts of the case, as they turned up under examination. Nor do they serve, with mathematical accuracy for the limits of the more southern zones. As lines of latitude and lines of equal temperature were not consulted in the location of State boundaries, it was not to be expected that exact correspondences between isothermal and territorial lines should occur. Adopting the four zones of Mr. CAREY, however, on grounds that seem to us entirely conclusive, we locate them thus:

Taking the southernmost point of Connecticut for a starting point, the southern line of the north zone will fall at about 41½ degrees of north latitude. This line, carried westwardly, will cut Pennsylvania a little south of Wilkesbarre; Williamsport, and Mercer, on the Ohio boundary, and will throw all the Pennsylvania counties north of it into the north zone. The same line, carried through the State of Ohio, will pass by Warren, Norwalk, and Defiance, on the Indiana border, throwing something between one-fourth and one-fifth of Ohio into the north zone. The same line, continued westwardly, will throw about one-seventh of the State of Indiana, one-fourth of the State of Illinois, and three-fourths of Iowa into the northern zone. For the southern line of the north-central zone we adopt the thirty-ninth degree of north latitude. This line enters at Cape May, passes by Annapolis and Bladensburg, in Maryland, and through Hardy and Barbour counties, in Virginia, and enters Ohio at the mouth of the great Kanawha river. Two or three counties of Ohio, about one-seventh of the southern end of Indiana, and one-fifth of southern Illinois (Egypt), will fall south of this line, and entering Missouri above the mouth of the Illinois river, and emerging at the mouth of the Kansas river, throws the northern two-fifths of Missouri, or all north of St. Louis, into the north-central zone.

This south-central zone, if bounded on the south by the thirty-fifth degree of latitude and by the thirty-ninth parallel on the north, will embrace the southern half of Delaware, the southern half of Maryland, nearly all of Virginia, North Carolina; all of Kentucky, Tennessee, the southern corners of Illinois and Indiana, the southern three-fourths of Missouri, and the northern half of Arkansas.

To the south zone will fall South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, the southern half of Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas.

Carrying these lines out to the Pacific coast, the northern one-fourth of California falls into the north-central, the middle half into the south-central, and the southernmost one-fourth into the south zone.

Now let us look at Mr. CAREY's law of emigration as the census of 1850 exhibits the facts involved in it:

In Michigan the whole number of immigrants was 237,006. Of these, there were born in the north zone:

New England, New York, (and British America, 14,008)	178,717
Born in north-central zone	33,105
Born in the south-central	1,584
Born in the south zone	401
Born in Europe	39,023

Thus, of the inhabitants not born in the States, five-sevenths were from the north zone, including Canada; one-seventh from all the States south of the north zone, and one-seventh Europeans.

In Wisconsin there were 242,876 immigrants. Of these, 202,758, or five-sixths of the whole number, were born in the north zone and in Europe. In the north-central zone 31,066, or a little less than one-sixth of the whole, and in all the more Southern States only 4,413, or about one-fifteenth.

Passing from these two new States, which are high up in the north zone, to two which lie low in the south zone, we have the following facts from the census:

In Alabama the whole number of immigrants 183,324
Born in the south zone ..... 108,720 or 7-12
" " south-central ..... 64,143 or 4-12
" " New England ..... 1,861 or 1-80
" " all the other States 2,307
" " Foreigners 6,538

In Mississippi the whole number of immigrants 155,793
Born in the south zone 88,242
" " south-central 62,465
" " New England 923
" " all the other States 3,482
" " Europeans 5,500

Here only one-thirty-fifth of the whole number of immigrants in Mississippi were born in the States north of 39 deg. north latitude.

From these instances, we think the truth of Mr. CAREY's general proposition is well sustained. Emigration is ruled by climatic laws. We proposed to exhibit the same law as it applies to the Western States which lie in the two middle zones, but must content ourselves now with stating that their statistics bear as closely upon the proposition under consideration as those of the States on the extreme North and South given above.

The emigration from Europe supports the theory well. Of those from England, Ireland, and Scotland only one in fourteen were found in the States lying south of 39 degrees north latitude, northwest the south political zone, while of the Germans, one in seven are in that zone, as it is determined by the lines of latitude; but one half of these are in Texas and Missouri, and even here the climatic law most probably prevails, for while the isothermal or lines of equal temperature correspond very nearly with the parallels of latitude as far west as the Mississippi river, those which enter the Atlantic coast at the 40th and 35th degrees of north latitude deflect rapidly beyond the Mississippi southward, falling as low in middle Texas as the 85th and 80th. So that while a large portion of Missouri is in the north-central zone, as determined by geographical lines, a very large portion of the north and west of Texas is in the same zone, as determined by its mean annual temperature. If this point holds, as we suppose it must, then the German emigration is no exception. One-half of the number must be subtracted from the States of Texas and Missouri, and this will restore the average to one in fourteen of the foreign immigrants settled in the south zone.

It will be recollected by our readers that the isothermal lines in that part of Europe from which our emigrants come lie about ten degrees farther north in Europe than they do in the Atlantic States of the Union. Great Britain and Prussia lie above the fiftieth degree, and all the rest of Germany above the forty-fifth of north latitude. Their emigrants to this country find their customary temperature above the thirty-fifth and fortieth parallels here, and accordingly the census reports thirteen out of fourteen of them residing in the States above these lines, or, more accurately, within the isothermal lines of their native countries. This fact obtains so accurately that the Danish and Norwegian immigrants, whose native countries are above the sixtieth parallel, are found in this country in our most northern regions. From Sweden there were 2,449 in the north zone; in the south only 436. From Norway there were in the north *zone 11,705; in the south zone but 211, and* 105 of these were in Texas. And while there were 147,711 from British America, only 1,067 of them were found south of the thirty-ninth parallel.

We are accustomed to speak of man as a cosmopolite, and perhaps too hastily conclude that he is so much less governed by climate than animals and plants are, that he is at once independent and regardless of temperature. But the statement evidently needs correction. The *species* is adapted to all climates, but the families and kindreds are governed by it in their migrations. This to us is a new and surprising result of this investigation. We are helped by it to understand the distinction of the African race among us. It is a question of geography much more than of institutions with all the races. In a new country like ours, where immigration has the power to determine the institutions, sentiments and pursuits, avocations and opinions, natural temperament and civil polity, go together, and this may be the reason why the controlling influence of climatic laws has not before exhibited itself to observation.

The next step in the theory we are considering is, that the emigrants from Europe, and especially from the Eastern States of the Union, carry with them the characteristics of the several regions from which they remove, and so give a similar complexion to their political creeds and industrial policies. We have laboriously examined the votes of the zones, as we have located them, in the last Presidential election, and we obtain the following results:

In those sixteen counties of Pennsylvania which lie, according to our division, above 41½ degrees of north latitude, and within the north political zone, FREMONT had 39,916 votes, FILLMORE 1,107 and BUCHANAN 24,908. FREMONT's plurality over BUCHANAN, in these counties which belong to the north, and, as we see, voted with it, was 15,008, or as 40 to 25. In the balance of the State, BUCHANAN's vote was 205,802, FREMONT's 107,694, or nearly two to one.

In those sixteen counties of Ohio which lie north of the political line, FREMONT had 39,488 votes, BUCHANAN 22,042—a plurality of 17,446. FREMONT's plurality in the whole State was but 16,023. Again, in the State election of last October, the whole Republican majority was 18,600, while in the Western Reserve—the counties which we give to the north zone—the majority of that party was 15,000, showing that, outside of these counties, the Democrats had 1,500 majority.

In the nineteen counties of Illinois which lie above the line of the north-central zone, FREMONT had 41,847 votes; BUCHANAN had 16,122—plurality over BUCHANAN, 25,725. In the other counties, BUCHANAN's plurality over FREMONT was 34,784. Not a county in Illinois south of 40 degrees gave FREMONT a majority, and some of them, in the extreme south of the State, gave him no more than 2, 5, and 9 votes respectively; but these last lie all below the 39th parallel, and belong, therefore, bodily, to the south-central zone.

In the twelve counties of Indiana which are north of the line assumed, FREMONT had 15,835 votes; BUCHANAN, 12,752; but in the whole State BUCHANAN's plurality over FREMONT was 24,295.

Iowa gave FREMONT a plurality of 7,784 votes, but in the counties lying south of the north zone BUCHANAN's plurality over FREMONT was above 4,000 votes.

Looking at the States and parts of States lying in the north zone, we find the following results: For every forty votes cast in them respectively for FREMONT, BUCHANAN had, in Vermont, 11; in Massachusetts, 15; in northern Illinois, 16; in northern Ohio, 22; in Maine, 23; in northern Pennsylvania, 25; in New York, 28; in Michigan, 29; in northern Indiana, 32. These proportions, it strikes us, indicate the political sympathies of the people among whom they occur to be closely connected with their respective nativities; and we may here state that the rule holds as well of the people of the north-central zone, where the institutions are very similar to those of their northern sister States, and yet their political biases are as distinct and different as if they were separated from each other by some cause of quarrel or opposition of interests.

We confess that we are greatly surprised to find geographical and climatic lines running through the politics of our people with so near an approach to mathematical accuracy as our figures have shown us; but we can see no error in the process by which these remarkable results are arrived at. The subject is a study for the curious and capable. Our data are not all given, nor, it may be, are they quite clearly presented, but we submit the statement in the confidence that it is substantially correct. The practical influences remain to be drawn, which can now be very briefly given:

The popular vote of the north zone in 1856 (making the necessary deductions and additions, to adjust the returns of the States to the lines which cut them) was 1,625,913
The popular vote of the south zone 404,151
Do do south-central 715,766
Together 1,119,917
Plurality of north over south and south-central 505,996
The popular vote of the north-central zone (making the necessary additions and subtractions) 1,341,862
Balance of power as popular votes as between the north zone and the south and south-central 505,996

In the electoral college these several regions stand thus:

NORTH ZONE—Maine 8, New Hampshire 5, Vermont 5, Connecticut 6, Rhode Island 4, Massachusetts 13, New York 35, Michigan 6, Wisconsin 5, Iowa 4, Minnesota, 4—making 95 electoral votes.

SOUTH ZONE—South Carolina 8, Georgia 10, Alabama 9, Mississippi 7, Arkansas 4, Louisiana 6, Texas 4, Florida 3—51 electors.

SOUTH-CENTRAL ZONE—Delaware 3, Maryland 8, Virginia 15, North Carolina 10, Kentucky 12, Tennessee 12—60 electors.

NORTH-CENTRAL ZONE.—New Jersey 7, Pennsylvania 27, Ohio 23, Indiana 13, Illinois 11, Missouri 9, California 4—94 electors.

This geographic division puts the balance thus: The south and south-central against the north zone, 111 electors against 95—or a plurality of 16. But Ohio voting out of geographic order, gives to the north a majority of 7.

The north-central zone has 94 votes when Ohio is in line, or 71 without her—leaving a clear majority of 47 to determine the issue between the extremists who lie upon her north and south borders.

Now, if this doctrine of climatic and political sympathy holds good in logic and in experience, Pennsylvania's position in the region that rules the Union is demonstrated and accounted for; and it is presumed that the National Conventions of the coming Presidential campaign will consider the subject, and provide for the struggle with reference to it.

Whoever will look carefully for the reason of dividing the south-central from the more Southern slave States, may find it in their past history, and in the clear indications of their future destiny.

This subject invites further observations. It has its range through the whole field of ethnological science and of civil history.

Page's Venus.

We have heard much of this picture—first a report that it had been rejected by the Committee of the National Academy of Arts in Paris, on the ground of nudity; and next, chiefly through the violent abuse of a New York journal, itself distinguished for occasional indelicacy of language, which persistently declared that it was unfit for public exhibition. The world of Paris is not noted for undue squeamishness in matters either of art or morals, and that a picture should be deemed unfit for the inspection of the virtuous Parisians, among whom *posés plastiques*, naked women in every variety of sensuous and voluptuous attitudes, form a portion of the nightly entertainments, was sufficient to intimate to our minds something even beyond Titian in the respect of sensuous and *lascivious suggestion. Added to this the fact that* the *New York Herald*, a journal noted above all others for its habitual disregard of the decencies and proprieties of journalism, should have made it an object of such furious assault, the mind could hardly reject the conviction that the picture had in it at least a tinge of immorality.

But this is not the case. Almost alone among similar subjects, both in painting and sculpture, the picture is utterly free from the slightest suggestion of indelicacy. The figure is wholly nude, but the attitude and the expression of the features indicate a childlike and innocent unconsciousness of such nudity, only in the divine Aphrodite or the unfallen Eve, is this possible. The Venus of the Greek mythology was supposed to have been born of the foam created when Saturn flung into the sea the mutilated remains of *Uranos*. She was presented to the minds of her worshippers, not only as perennially young and beautiful, but as pure in her undraped loveliness as the foam from which she sprang. The sea, her mother, was represented as always calm in her presence. Throughout the entire religion of antique mythology, she seems almost the only gentle influence which their gods and goddesses exerted.

The Venuses of Mediæval Art differ, in respect of purity and ideality, from those of the Greeks. It is recorded, with every aspect of authenticity, among the art traditions of the middle ages, that the most famed of the Venuses of Titian were portraits of celebrated courtezans of Florence and Venice—mistresses of patron dukes, lovely and profligate Aspasias of the beautiful City of the Sea. The works themselves sustain this tradition of their origin, being, in many cases, lascivious, and even gross in expression and suggestion.

Mr. Page's picture was evidently founded upon the Greek ideal of the subject. To this he has added the ripe glowing color of the Mediæval school, and has thus wedded the classic purity and perfection of Greek form to the dreamy enchantment of Mediæval color. No work of art is audience, except this of Mr. Page's, has even aimed at this; probably no artist living would, in treating the same subject, have accomplished it so effectively.

The first impression made upon the beholder of the picture is that of wonder at the statuesque rotundity of the form. It stands out from the sunny back-ground of air and ocean as if it were a living and breathing creation. The goddess is depicted as balancing herself upon a fairy, dreamlike shell, which is propelled by two ambient, wingless cupids, in whose favor the laws of gravitation seem to have been temporarily annulled. One leg is thrown forward as if to preserve the equilibrium which the rocking of the shell in some measure disturbs, and the perfect illusion of perspective which this feature presents we have never seen equalled upon canvas. It is impossible to persuade the eye that it does not project beyond the limb on which the figure rests. Something of the same illusion is frequently given by the stereoscope, but in the latter case the *fact* only is presented, without its *poetry* and *beauty*, while in the picture both are preserved. The left arm, which is a miracle of grace, is lifted, either in wanton caprice or to aid in balancing the figure, while the right, pendant at her side, collects and caresses the long, golden, wavy hair which the Venetians loved, and painted from Palma Vecchio's daughter. Far across the water come the galleys of Æneas and the Trojans, from the horizon and across the intervening sea; but so entirely is Venus the picture that we lose interest in the galleys, and can but regard them as trivial accessories. We do not care for the story; we forget Æneas and his warriors, and take no thought of the Latin shore they are nearing—not even though imperial Rome rose thereafter upon it, and it became the golden land of art and song, of conquest and glory, and the cradle of our religion.

But while the conception of the picture is of the highest and most imaginative order, and the drawing, with a few unimportant exceptions, such as, since Delaroche and Scheffer, no artist has equalled, it is the wondrous color which we regard as its chief merit. Mr. Page, as is well known, has mastered the secrets and style of Titian, and in this he has approached more nearly to his illustrious example than any artist of modern times. The flesh glows with that inner light which gives such life and vitality to Titian's works, and seems almost to radiate from the canvas. In the subtle art of blending tints Mr. Page is without a living superior. The modelling of the neck and breast, the faint and delicate suggestions of shadow fading away imperceptibly into light, the soft and modulating play of the muscles of the figure, are given with a felicity which almost seems to have been the product of inspiration.

A picture of the same subject, by the same artist, has been for a few years one of the Art treasures of the Athenæum at Boston. Years ago Mr. Page, then a young man upon the threshold of his career, was for a short time a resident of that city, where he formed the acquaintance of most of the distinguished literary men and scholars who have given to Boston its title of the Modern Athens. Among these there has been, ever since, the most profound faith in his genius, and the conviction that he would accomplish much for American Art.

It must have been to Mr. Page, in his voluntary exile of nearly twenty years, a source of much thankfulness that, at least among a few of his countrymen, his labors were appreciated. He has never touched the popular nerve in this country until the appearance here of the picture now on exhibition. When first exhibited in New York, notwithstanding the unaccountable hostility of the *Herald*, the galleries were thronged, as if the Arts were holding high carnival. For weeks the enthusiasm was at the highest pitch, and it is said that between fifty and one hundred thousand persons must have visited this Venus. In Boston, the excitement created by its exhibition was proportionately strong. The Art Committee of the Athenæum in that city tendered the free use of their galleries for its special exhibition, and, during the few days that it remained there, the learning, the respectability, and the fashion of the tri-mountaine city turned *out en masse, and did substantial honor to* the weird magician of color. If the report of these triumphs reach the artist, they must echo upon the banks of the Tiber, and under the shadow of the Vatican, where he is still at work. It is not too great a reward for all these years of seclusion and labor; and we hope that, among the echoes, there may be one from Philadelphia.

A SALE OF VALUABLE OIL PAINTINGS—This morning, at 10½ o'clock, at salesroom of B. Scott, Jr., auctioneer, 431 Chestnut street. Included in the collection there will be found a number of pleasing landscapes, figure pieces, fancy sketches, marine views, and coast scenes, together with copies of celebrated pictures, to which we would direct the attention of purchasers.

☞ We are requested to call the attention of buyers to the large and desirable sale of boots and shoes, to be sold this morning, at 10 o'clock precisely, at the auction store of Philip Ford, No. 530 Market street, below Sixth, being the last sale of the season. Buyers will do well to attend.

THE LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

XXXVITH CONGRESS.—FIRST SESSION.

U. S. CAPITOL, WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.

SENATE.

Mr. IVERSON, of Georgia, gave notice of his intention to introduce bills amending the act establishing the Court of Claims, and changing and regulating the mode of appointing cadets to the West Point Military Academy.

A message was received from the President of the United States transmitting executive communications, whereupon the Senate went into executive session.

On the doors being reopened, Mr. BRIGHT, of Indiana, submitted a resolution for the appointment of the standing committees. Each committee was then appointed by resolutions, adopted by a strict party vote, of 31 yeas to 19 nays, excepting Mr. Pugh, of Ohio, who voted nay.

The following are the

STANDING COMMITTEES:

On Foreign Relations—Mr. Mason, chairman; Messrs. Douglas, Bigler, Polk, Crittenden, Seward, and Sumner.

On Military Affairs and the Militia—Mr. Davis, chairman; Messrs. Fitzpatrick, Johnson of Arkansas, Hammond, Nicholson, Wilson, and King.

On Finance—Mr. Thomson, of New Jersey, chairman; Messrs. Clay, Bayard, Pugh, Dorkee, Harlan, and Grimes.

On Commerce—Mr. Clay, chairman; Messrs. Bigler, Toombs, Clingman, Saulsbury, Hunter, and Chandler.

On the Judiciary—Mr. Bayard, chairman; Messrs. Pugh, Benjamin, Green, Powell, Foster, and Trumbull.

To Audit and Control the Contingent Expenses of the Senate—Mr. Johnson of Tennessee, chairman; Messrs. Dixon and Powell.

On Post Offices and Post Roads—Mr. Yulee, chairman; Messrs. Gwin, Rice, Bright, Hale, and Anthony.

On Revolutionary Claims—Mr. Toombs, chairman; Messrs. Crittenden, Durkee, Nicholson, and Ten Eyck.

On Printing—Mr. Fitch, chairman; Messrs. Davis, and Anthony.

On Engrossed Bills—Mr. Lane, chairman; Messrs. Biglee and Harlan.

On Public Lands—Mr. Johnson of Arkansas, chairman; Messrs. Pugh, Lane, Johnson of Tennessee, Bigler, Harlan, and Binnham.

On Claims—Mr. Iverson, chairman; Messrs. Mallory, Bragg, Simmons, and Foot.

On Enrolled Bills—Mr. Haun, chairman; Messrs. Saulsbury and Binghem.

On Private Land Claims—Mr. Benjamin, chairman; Messrs. Polk, Wigfall, Grimes, and Ten Eyck.

On the District of Columbia—Mr. Brown, chairman; Messrs. Mason, Johnson of Tennessee, Yulee, Kennedy, Hamlin, and Wilson.

On the Library—Mr. Pearce, chairman; Messrs. Bayard and Collamer.

On Pacific—Mr. Sebastian, chairman; Messrs. Haun, Fitch, Rice, Doolittle, Hemphill, and Clarke.

To Audit and Control the Contingent Expenses of the House—Mr. Slidell, chairman; Messrs. Thomson of New Jersey, Toombs, Stillmore, Trumbull, and Hemphill.

Mr. BIGLER of Pennsylvania corrected a misunderstanding on the part of some reporters, in regard to his response to Mr. Pearce, about the disbursement of the money from the head of the Territorial Committee. He said he was still a party to the transaction nor uglied it.

Mr. SAULSBURY, of Delaware, introduced a bill making an appropriation to facilitate the acquisition of Cuba by purchase. Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

On motion of Mr. HALE of New Hampshire, a resolution was adopted instructing the Post Office Committee to inquire if it be not practicable, in some manner, to avoid the expense of the mail transportation of the mail between Washington and Boston.

On motion of Mr. FOOT, of Vermont, a resolution was adopted instructing the Committee on Finance to inquire into the practicability of adopting some more efficient and economical method for the erection of public buildings of the Government thru'out the country, and of providing an appropriation for the purpose of accomplishing that object.

Mr. BAYARD, of Delaware introduced several bills which he proposed to report as Chairman of the Committee thereto, relative to the administration of justice in certain states, expunging the jurisdiction of the courts, and providing for the appointment of commissioners, concerning seamen, and amending the act regulating the carriage of passengers in steamships and other vessels.

Another executive session was held.

On the morning of the 19th the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. DAVIDSON, of Louisiana, said he had no use for the indulgence of harsh language, and certainly had no desire to wound the feelings of any gentleman. He likened himself to a spirited horse, and therefore he would never trespass on that right as applied to others. He was a strict constructor of the Constitution, and to force slavery into the Territories. All they ask, and which they have a right to have, is that their rights shall be protected in common Territories of the country. He belonged to the national Democracy. Gentlemen said he was for a dissolution of the Union, inside of the organization. He was willing to let Republicans do what they wanted the House to organize, he would never consent to do it. In the election of a man whose mantle is stained by blood spilt in accidents, he would never vote for him under any circumstances, and did not believe in it now, but when the people are excited and political passions transported without reason, there was no other remedy. It was no longer the politicians sent here to manufacture public opinion, who took the lead in this grievous evil. It was the who of Southern people who were crying out against the Republicans who advise the slaves to rise in the South and commit murder. He observed that the Representatives of the North who said that they had been elected by a majority in the face of a decent community, either to endorse or expunge the resolution, of that book.

He had been asked whether he would consider the more speech of Mr. Stewart as sufficient cause to secede from the Union, and he answered certainly not. He would wait for an overt act. But that overt act had been committed. It was the necessary result of the fact of John Brown's raid, for which, before God and high Heaven, the Republicans are responsible. He ardent desire was that the Union should be preserved, the bitter cup would pass away, and all the climate and the Union would be saved. He (Davidson) was a slaveholder, and he was willing to meet the slavery question.

Mr. COBB of Alabama, made a cool-natured speech, in which he said he was willing to vote for a member for thirteen years to find that he was obliged to nominate a man who endorsed Helper's book. His people had behaved with forbearance and generosity to the North, sitting in Congress, Philipse, Helper, and others, and of John Brown's raid, and yet his constituents praised for the perpetuity of the Union, and for the compromises made, but what now done with compromises. He hope Mr. Sherman would withdraw the resolution SHIT settlement of Helper's book. Gentlemen on the Republican side, he asked, would they vote for the Constitution and to protect it in the rights of slaves? Gentlemen on the other side of filling that chair? We Democrats have twenty-five to fill it. (Laughter.) You have as many who endorsed Helper's book. We Democrats have voted for the election of that work. He did not care what Mr. Bingham or Mr. Sherman say, and the Republicans could not escape from it. He wished to tell his constituents he doubt the sincerity of the Republicans, and the election of a conservative Speaker. The occupation of that chair by Mr. Sherman would be sufficient cause for his people to doubt the sincerity of the Republicans. Let the Republicans organize, and a little more money. (Laughter.) Let us have the Speaker, and we will give them enough to last till the fourth of March, 1861.

Mr. ETHERIDGE, of Tennessee, in reply to Mr. Cobb, said he never proposed to elect a Speaker, or on the basis proposed by the latter, were to come from?

Mr. COBB replied. We will get the Democrats. You South Americans come over and help us, and we think we can persuade others to do likewise. (Laughter.)

Mr. ETHERIDGE said he and his friends had refused to contribute their votes for any candidate over to the Democrats, unless they could show that by doing over an election can be effected. It was demonstrated that the Democrats could not succeed on any one candidate. There was not a man on the Democratic side who could get the requisite number of votes for Speaker. A week ago, he said, the Southern Opposition could put one of their number (Mr. Gilmer) in a position where the Democrats could not do it. They could put one of their friends in a similar position. Could the gentleman from Alabama place one of his friends in such a position that the Southern Opposition can, by some over, elect him? When Mr. Cobb could show this, then it would be time for the Opposition to consider the proposition.

Mr. COBB. I wanted a straightforward answer to my question. Will he vote for the Democratic nominee, if we can get one? I felt this morning. The whole military encampment will be disbanded on Saturday night when Gen. Taliaferro and his staff will also depart, and the national Democrat will be left without a leader. There was no sense in this thing, and he moved to adjourn.

Mr. WINTERSMITH, of North Carolina, desired one more ballot, and if there was no election he intended to offer a resolution, that from and after to-morrow morning, as gentleman might choose, no further vote shall be taken till the 4th of January next.

Mr. BURNETT, of Kentucky, said he would unite on any one resolution, though he preferred a Democrat. He asked whether Mr. Cobb, for the last four years, had nominate Mr. Millson for Speaker, and was not Mr. Millson the friend of his, and Mr. Etheridge did not vote to day, the sam man he then was?

Mr. ETHERIDGE remarked that, politically, Mr. Millson was a Democrat. He had voted against the repeal of the Missouri Compromise yet he supported the administration on the Lecompton question. There was a difference with gentlemen who was unfavorable, it was voting for the Lecompton Constitution, which the people of Kansas scorn and repudiate, and voting for Mr. Millson, who was not a please.

Mr. BURNETT, during his remarks said the reason why he appealed to Mr. Etheridge to unite on the vote for Mr. Millson, was that he wanted to see a united South, which, he said, was not much to rebuke the conduct of Helper's book.

Mr. ETHERIDGE ignored all political and sectarianism lines, and until Mr. Burnett could rally the Democratic forces, he should not attempt him (Mr. Etheridge), who was elected in defiance of that party, and therefore vote for Mr. Millson, because Mr. Millson voted against the bill (Laughter and applause.)

Mr. BURNETT in reply, said Mr. Etheridge was here at the time, and with Mr. Millson, he came to the House. Gentlemen talk, yet a collegian could come for Mr. Etheridge to be spoken. (Laughter and applause.)

Mr. HILL, said he was born and raised in a Whig, when he yielded the floor to Mr. Burnett he did not expect that the latter would stigmatize the organization which he belonged to, as the "miserable Know Nothing party." He had voted for Mr. Millson because he respected that gentleman as a Democrat, and he was from a Nebraska bill, and because Mr. Millson was incapable of a compromise. He was willing to let the Democratic party stand with sentiments rather peculiar and rather inconsistent with the Democratic creed, and he hoped that he would never, so help him God, consent to destroy the structure under which we live, merely because we and did not believe in it now, but when the people are excited and political passions transported without reason, there was no other remedy. It was no longer the politicians sent here to manufacture public opinion, who took the lead in this grievous evil. It was the who of Southern people who were crying out against the Republicans who advise the slaves to rise in the South and commit murder. He observed that the Representatives of the North who said that they had been elected by a majority in the face of a decent community, either to endorse or expunge the resolution, of that book.

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