

not now do what we proposed to do in the last Congress? We then voted through the Senate an enabling act, called "the Toombs bill," believed to be just and fair in all its provisions, pronounced to be almost perfect by the Senator from New Hampshire, (Mr. Hale), only he did not like the man, then President of the United States, who would have to make the appointments. Why can we not take that bill, and out of compliment to the President, add to it a clause taken from the Minnesota act, which he thinks should be a general rule, requiring the constitution to be submitted to the people and pass that? That unites the party. You all voted, with me, for that bill at the last Congress. Why not stand by the same bill now? Ignore Leecompton, ignore Topeka, treat both those party movements as irregular and void; pass a fair bill—the one that we framed ourselves when we were acting as a unit; have a fair election, and you will have peace in the Democratic party, and peace throughout the country, in ninety days. The people want a fair vote. They will never be satisfied without it. They never should be satisfied without a fair vote on their constitution.

If the Toombs bill does not suit my friends, take the Minnesota bill of the last Congress—the one so much commended by the President in his message as a model. Let us pass that as an enabling act, and allow the people of all parties to come together and have a fair vote, and I will go for it. Frame any other bill that secures a fair, honest vote to men of all parties, and carries out the pledge that the people shall be left free to decide on their domestic institutions for themselves, and I will go with you with pleasure, and with all the energy I may possess. But if this constitution is to be forced down our throats, in violation of the fundamental principle of free government, under a mode of submission that is a mockery and insult, painful as it will be to me, I must break all associations or connections rather than forfeit my principles. I have no fear of party associations being severed—I should regret to see social and political ties severed; but if it must be, if I cannot act with you and preserve my faith and my honor, I will stand on the great principle of popular sovereignty, which declares the right of all people to be left perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way. I will follow that principle wherever its legal and logical consequences may lead me, and I will endeavor to defend it against assault from any and all quarters. No mortal man shall be responsible for my action but myself. By my action I will compromise no man.

XXXVTH CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Dec. 16.

SENATE.—A resolution was adopted, that the Senate will, to-morrow, proceed to the election of a printer.

On motion of Mr. GWIN, a resolution was adopted calling on the President for all correspondence between the Departments and the present Governor of Kansas, together with all orders and instructions which have been issued to said officer.

Mr. GREEN proceeded to speak on Kansas affairs. Mr. DOUGLAS' speech, he said, took him by surprise, not only as to its matter, but as to its manner, and it was well calculated to prejudice the question pending before the people of Kansas. He wished to counteract, so far as might be in his power, the impression which had been made by that speech. The real issue now was, Ought Kansas, when her Constitution shall be presented, to be admitted into the Union, or ought the consideration of what the Senator from Illinois calls the "fundamental error of the President," to be regarded as sufficient cause for keeping Kansas out of the Union and keeping up the agitation of this most unfortunate question. The question was not whether we approve or do not approve of all the individual parts of the Leecompton Constitution, as to the provision in reference to the banks, taxations, etc.—These are matters with which we have nothing to do, but which are to be left to the people themselves to regulate. The only question for Congress to consider is, does the Constitution embody a republican form of government? Has anybody disputed that proposition and contended to the contrary? Certainly the Senator from Illinois has not done so. There seemed to be a want of clear understandings as to the relation which the Federal Government sustains towards a Territory. The inhabitants of Kansas are a people, and what enabling act is required to impart to them power to propose a change in their form of government? Is an enabling act to give them more political rights or more inalienable rights? That would be a solecism and a contradiction. From these considerations it must be argued that Congress would have no right to refuse to admit Kansas under the Leecompton Constitution.—The people of Kansas never proposed to form a State Government without the consent of Congress. The Convention was held in subordination to the Territorial Government. If admitted into the Union a State Government will take the place of the Territorial Government, and not without. If any attempt were made to subvert the present Government, and set up another in opposition to the Federal authority, we could subjugate it, but they do not propose to interfere with the Territorial Government until the assent of Congress is received. There were eight States in the Union which formed Constitutions without enabling acts for admission, two of which the Senator from Illinois, himself, voted for. Florida and California had no enabling act. If Mr. DOUGLAS could vote for these, there could be no reason why he could not vote for the admission of Kansas. The assent of Congress may be given any time. The organic act declares that the people of Kansas shall be perfectly free to form and regulate their domestic institutions in their own way. That way was to leave it to the action of the Convention, which was under no obligation to submit the Constitution, or any part of it, to the popular vote. They chose to submit the Slavery question, which was the great bone of contention, as a matter of policy and prudence, and not from any legal compulsion whatever. It was his (GREEN'S) opinion that the submission of that question alone was better calculated to get at the real will and judgment of the people than if the whole Constitution had been submitted. It has also been said that the people of Kansas were deceived, and that positive pledges and promises to submit the Constitution had been made and violated. That was a matter about which there has been a great deal of controversy, but as there was no positive evidence of this he did not think it proper to dwell upon it. In conclusion, he urged the importance of deciding the question speedily, so as to put

an end to the constant agitation which has so long embittered the feelings of the people in the different sections of the Union. He thought the Constitution met the approval of a majority of the people of Kansas, and if any of its provisions were objections to them, they would have the power of modifying or changing them at any time.

Mr. DOUGLAS replied that he was gratified at the tone and spirit in which the Senator from Missouri had discussed the question, but as that Senator seemed to have misapprehended his (DOUGLAS') position as laid down in his speech delivered the other day, he (DOUGLAS) would make a brief statement on one or two points, in order that the Senate and the country might see what his position really was.—First, he did not regard it as a fatal objection that there was no enabling act in advance.—Second, he did not take the position that it was a fatal objection that the Constitution was not submitted before it was sent to Congress for acceptance. The position he did assume was, that the regular mode of proceeding is by an enabling act, and that if the Territorial Legislature proceeds to call a Convention, without the consent of Congress to do so, that is irregular, but not so irregular that it necessarily follows that all the proceedings are vitiated. The Convention of any other body of men may send a petition to Congress for a change in the form of their Government, and Congress is at liberty to accept or reject the petition as it pleases. The Leecompton Convention was not an unlawful body and might send a petition, but it was not a Convention authorized to establish or institute a Government for Kansas. Many of the new States had been admitted without an enabling act being first passed by Congress. The schedule said that the Constitution should be submitted to all the people of Kansas for approval or disapproval. No Constitution could be considered as Republican which did not embody the will of the people who are to be governed by it and was not formed by their action. The next question, what is the best mode of ascertaining that will? He argued with the President that the best mode was to refer it to the people for acceptance or rejection by a fair vote. He (DOUGLAS) could not admit that a Constitution forced upon the people against their will was a Republican Constitution. It was no use to say it was a good Constitution. Congress had no right to cram a good thing down their throats against their will. The question was whether the people shall be permitted to form their own Constitution? The Senator from Missouri urged the importance of terminating this controversy.—Now he (DOUGLAS) would do anything that was right, and anything just, in order to terminate it. He would sacrifice everything but principle and honor and country, in order to close this unhappy agitation, but how are we to do it? It must be done upon principles of eternal justice and truth, or it will not stay closed. Congress must terminate it upon the principles of self-government, or they will not have a republican system of government. No system of patching-up and trickery will settle this question. Instead of having peace, it will only be the beginning of a new controversy.—It would be necessary to increase the army and use the military power of the Government, if the majority were to be subjected to the oppression of the minority. He trusted that there would be no outbreak, no violence—but he feared such a result if a majority of the people of Kansas were to be coerced into submission to the will of the minority. The Senator from Missouri had said that they could change the Constitution immediately after they became a State, but he (DOUGLAS) argued on the other hand that it could not be changed until 1864, and then only by a Convention to be called by two-thirds of the Legislature. It was a principle of law, when a constitution provides for its being changed at a particular time and in a particular mode, it excludes all other modes. Any Court in Christendom would thus construe it, and the only other mode of changing their constitution would be by revolution. This scheme, therefore, is a scheme of civil war, and leads directly to war. If he should vote to admit Kansas under the Leecompton Constitution, he should feel obliged, in consequence, to increase the army and enforce it at the point of the bayonet. He besought Senators to pause before they committed themselves to such a fatal error. This was not to be regarded as an Administration measure. Every man on the floor of the Senate was at liberty to vote for or against it without surrendering his party ties. The adoption of the measure would not only rend asunder the Democratic Party, but endanger the peace and perpetuity of the Union. The President was a frank man, and he did not believe that the President would ask his party to do that which he was unwilling to commit himself on paper. He did not believe the President would ask Senators to run their necks into the halter of disunion or civil war before he was ready to take the lead and point out the way. Then let us restore peace to the country by ignoring these irregular Conventions at Leecompton and Topeka, and authorize the people to go forward and form a Constitution and State Government for themselves. That, he (DOUGLAS) believed, would restore quiet in ninety days.

Mr. GREEN responded, denying that the people of Kansas would be compelled to retain their present Constitution unchanged until 1864, and argued that a Convention could be called at any time, to make such a change as a majority of the people might desire.

The further consideration of the subject was then postponed until Monday. Adjourned.

HOUSE.—The House met in the new hall. A communication was received from the clergymen of Washington, tendering their services to open the daily sessions with prayer.

Amid much confusion, the members proceeded to select their seats by lottery.

Mr. JOHNS, of Pennsylvania, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill for the payment of the invalid and other pensions. Memorials were presented from Messrs. BROOKS and WHITE, of Baltimore, contesting the seats of Messrs. DAVIS and HARRIS, and were referred to the Committee on Elections.

The Printing Committee reported in favor of printing 20,000 extra copies of the President's Message and accompanying documents.

The resolution of the Printing Committee was adopted; also a resolution to print 16,000 copies of the financial report of the Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. TAYLOR, of New-York, made an ineffectual effort to introduce a joint resolution for the payment of arrearages of salaries of members at the commencement of the session, instead of at the end.

A resolution was adopted instructing a Select Committee to inquire and report what additional number of messengers and pages are rendered necessary by the removal to the new hall, and what arrangements are necessary to

BRADFORD REPORTER.

E. O. GOODRICH, EDITOR.

TOWANDA:

Thursday Morning, December 21, 1857

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MONEY may be sent by mail, at our risk,—enclosed in an envelope, and properly directed, we will be responsible for its safe delivery.

♣ In accordance with our usual custom, we shall not issue the Reporter next week.—Our next issue, therefore, will be dated on the 7th proximo.

MEETING OF THE KANSAS LEGISLATURE.

The Message of Secretary STANTON to the Kansas Legislature, at the opening of the extra session is published. Mr. S. recommends to the Legislature that they limit their action to measures for securing a direct popular vote on the Constitution, which has been only partially submitted by the Leecompton Convention. In pursuance of this purpose he advises the passage of a law "directing an election to be held, either under existing regulations, or in pursuance of other suitable provisions to be expressed in the act, in which the people shall be authorized to vote for the Constitution, in either of the forms presented by the Convention, and also against that Constitution in both forms." This single act, he thinks, will be sufficient to meet the whole emergency and to dispel the excitement which pervades the Territory.

The correspondent of the St. Louis *Republican* states that the members of the Kansas Legislature now in session, have decided not to go beyond the recommendations of Mr. STANTON'S Message, but to provide for a full, fair and honest vote of the people upon the whole Constitution and then adjourn.

FOREIGN NEWS.

—The *North Star* arrived at New York, on Saturday last, bringing four days later intelligence. The detailed news from India and China by this arrival is interesting and important. The point may be thus summed up. Generals OUTRAM and HAVELOCK maintain themselves at Lucknow, and Col. GREATHED is on his march towards them with ample reinforcements. Around Delhi the districts are settling down into order. The Punjab is tranquil; the Madras Presidency is undisturbed; while that of Bombay is troubled only by the movements of original tribes. British supremacy in India may be regarded as again asserted. From China we receive the important intelligence that the British preparations are complete for another bombardment of Canton. It is asserted that the attack would be made towards the end of November. The Russian Ambassador has been refused admission to Peking; and the action of his celestial Majesty in this case seems to have convinced the British Plenipotentiary that all his attempts to negotiate a peaceful treaty would be futile.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

December 7, 1857, The Court of Oyer and Terminer, Quarter Sessions and Common Pleas was called at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, Judges WILMOT, President, and LONG Associate, present. The commission of Judge WILMOT, who was recently commissioned as President Judge of this Judicial District for the ensuing year, from the first Monday in December, and the commission of ALLEN M'KEAN, Prothonotary of the Common Pleas & Clerk of the Court of Oyer and Terminer, to take effect from December 1, 1857, were read in open Court after which Court adjourned to meet again at three o'clock in the afternoon.

In the afternoon Court was again called, pursuant to adjournment. The constables of the several townships made their usual returns. The following Grand Jurors appeared, and after being sworn, were sent out under the charge of the Court:

B. S. DART, Foreman; J. C. Beardley, Jacob Bowman, J. S. Clark, Darwin Cook, John Carman, C. G. Gridley, G. W. Brown, Chester Goodell, Stephen Harlow, William Howell, J. F. Seelye, Bascom Taylor, John M'Kee, William M'Cabe, John Nesbit, M. B. Porter, Miles Prince, George Parcel, William Peck, Seth Stevens;

who were in session until Thursday afternoon, at which time they were discharged. During the time they were in session, the following business came before them and was disposed of:

Com. vs. Wm. Heason—Larceny—Grand Jury return a true bill.

Com. vs. E. G. Chapman—Assault and battery. True bill.

Com. vs. G. D. Mace—Fornication and bastardy. True bill.

Com. vs. R. M. Johnson—Selling liquor on Sunday. True bill.

Com. vs. same—Selling liquor without license. True bill.

Com. vs. John Thorn—Larceny—True bill.

Com'th vs. Israel Cornell—Larceny. True bill.

Com. vs. J. Anthony, and O. Hiney—Larceny. No bill, and county for cost.

Com. vs. J. H. Lent—Larceny. No bill.

Com. vs. Levi Adams—Perjury—No bill, and prosecutor for cost.

Com. vs. Ducl Smith—Selling liquor without license. No bill, county for costs.

Com. vs. Hiram Devey—Assault and battery. True bill.

Com. vs. Henry M'Lean—Assault and battery with intent to kill. True bill.

Com. vs. R. Morley—Selling liquor without license. True bill.

Com. vs. S. Vanderpool—Selling liquor on Sunday. True bill.

Com. vs. same—Selling liquor without license. True bill.

Com. vs. C. Vanderpool—Selling liquor without license. True bill.

Com. vs. same—Selling liquor on Sunday. True bill.

Com. vs. same—Selling liquor to drunkards and minors. True bill.

Com. vs. S. C. Myer—Furnishing liquor to drunkards, &c. True bill.

Com. vs. Ann Whallon—Selling liquor without license. True bill.

Com. vs. S. Felton—Selling liquor without license. True bill.

Com. vs. H. Porter—Larceny. True bill. The following presentment was unanimously made by the Grand Jury:—

The Grand Jury are convinced that the public good demands that the sale and use of intoxicating liquors ought to be suppressed as much as possible under the laws having reference thereto, and therefore earnestly recommend that the officers whose duty it is to see that these laws are faithfully executed, be prompt and efficient in the discharge of their duties.

The following business came up, before the Court and Traverse Jury, and was disposed of in order as follows to wit:

Com. vs. Edward Mills—Indictment found at last Sept. sessions, on a charge of Fornication and Bastardy, with one Sarah Lucrecia Adams, daughter of Caleb Adams, of Ulster township, December 8th, 1857, deft. Pleads not guilty; whereupon a Jury was called and sworn, Morrow, district Atty., Mercier and Baird for Commonwealth, and Messrs. Elwell, Adams and D'A. Overton, for the deft. December 10th, after a full hearing Jury return a verdict of "not guilty." Defendant for costs.—Dec. 11th, Defendant sentenced to pay costs &c.

Com. vs. Henry M'Lean—Defendant indicted at the present sessions for an Assault and Battery, committed upon Milton Russ, in Springfield township on the 11th day of Nov. last. December 11th, Jury called and sworn, Morrow, District Atty, and Montague for Com'th., and Elhann Smith for the defendant. After hearing Jury return a verdict of guilty. Same day the said Henry M'Lean is sentenced to undergo an imprisonment in the Eastern Penitentiary for one year and nine months.

Com. vs. John Thorn—Indictment brought at the present session for Larceny, for stealing of one Lewis Wallace, an overcoat in Ulster township, in this county. December 11th, Defendant arraigned and pleads not guilty; whereupon a Jury called and sworn, Morrow, District Atty., and Lyman for Com'th., and D'A. Overton for defendant. After a hearing the Jury return a verdict of Guilty, and value the stolen property at \$2.00. The said John Thorn is sentenced to pay a fine of \$2.00 to Com'th., and costs of prosecution, and undergo an imprisonment in the County Jail for sixty days.

Com. vs. Israel Cornell—Indictment for Larceny—Bill found at the present session

charging the defendant with stealing from one David Rahm forty eels, in the township of Standing Stone, on the 22d day of September last. Defendant arraigned and pleads not guilty; whereupon a jury called and sworn, Morrow, District Attorney, and Mercier for Commonwealth, and Baird for Defendant.—After a hearing, the Jury return a verdict of not guilty. Defendant is thereupon discharged.

Com. vs. Reuben Morley—Indictment for selling liquor without license. Bill found at September sessions last. Defendant appears and pleads guilty, and is sentenced to pay a fine of ten dollars to com'th, costs, &c.

Com. vs. Richard M. Johnson—Indictment for selling liquor without license, brought up at the present sessions. Defendant appears and pleads guilty; whereupon he is sentenced to pay a fine of ten dollars and costs of prosecution, and same day also sentenced to pay a fine of twenty dollars to Commonwealth, and undergo an imprisonment in the County Jail for ten days and costs. Also an indictment brought at the present sessions on a charge for selling liquor on Sunday upon which the said Richard appeared and pleaded guilty.

Com. vs. Frederick Schrader—Assault and Battery—Indictment at Sept. sessions last.—Defendant appears and pleads not guilty. Jury called and sworn, Morrow, District Attorney, and Lyman for Commonwealth and Watkins for Defendant. Same day, Jury returns a verdict of not guilty and the prosecutor, Abner Hall, for costs.

On Saturday in the afternoon, Court adjourned to meet again on Monday, the 14th inst., at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Monday morning, Dec. 14, 1857, Court again assembled, Judges present, WILMOT and LONG—JOHN PASSMORE having recently appointed to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Hon. Aaron Chubbuck, also appeared, his commission being read in open Court. After which a hearing was had in the case of Joseph Ingham against The Barclay Railroad and Coal Co., and the report of the appraiser finally confirmed.

At the coming in of Court in the afternoon, the dockets were read over and judgments taken in the usual form in open Court. On Tuesday morning the following case was taken up in the Common Pleas:—

C. N. Shipman vs. Lewis Bortree—This being an issue to try the right of monies arising from sheriff's sale of the property of J. L. Quimby, Jury called and sworn and same day after a full hearing, return a verdict in favor of the Defendant.

Sarah Ogden vs. W. H. H. Brown, and others—Action in ejectment for the recovery of certain portions of land situate in Franklin township, Plaintiff claiming a right in land by her ship husband Elwell and Watkins for Plaintiff, and Mercer and Adams for the Defendant. December 16th, Jury called and sworn, and a hearing of the evidence was continued from day to day, until Saturday December 19th, at which time the cause was submitted to the Court and Jury with argument to the Court only on a question of law. The Jury thereupon by direction of the Court render a verdict in favor of the Defendant.

During the week, the petition of William Woolhizer was presented setting forth that Hamilton Woolhizer, a brother and resident of Litchfield, is a lunatic, and has become incapable of managing his estate and upon which an inquest was ordered, and same held before the Court and six Jurors and the said Hamilton Woolhizer is found by the inquest so held to be a "lunatic."

Also the petition of Mary Horans being presented setting forth that her son Cary Horans had become a lunatic, &c., upon which an inquest was ordered and held before the Judges of the Court and six Jurors, and the said Cary is found to be lunatic, and order made for his removal to the State Lunatic Hospital.

Susan Allport vs. Leland Allport—Application for divorce, December 18th, on reading depositions, and on motion of Mr. Watkins the Court decree a divorce to the said Susan Allport from the bonds of matrimony.

In the matter of the Pleasant Valley Methodist Episcopal Church of Springfield, December 19th, the Court make the final decree and grant the incorporation, as prayed for by the petition.

The Court makes the following order in reference to the Stay Law on execution:—

"That in all applications hereafter made to the Court, to obtain a stay of execution under act of October 13, 1857, on the ground that the party claiming the benefit of the act, is possessed of a freehold estate of a value above all encumbrances and exemptions sufficient to pay the judgment, &c., three days written notice of such intended application shall be given to the plaintiff, if he resides within the County, and if the plaintiff be not a resident within the County, then that like notice be given to the attorney of the plaintiff, if such attorney be marked of record," which order the Court direct to be filed, &c.

Com. vs. Wm. Henson—Indictment at the present sessions for Larceny. Defendant being charged therein with stealing one bushel of corn in the ear, in Albany twp., he appears and pleads guilty and is sentenced to pay a fine of one dollar and costs, and undergo an imprisonment in the County Jail for 30 days.

Solon W. Sturdevant is brought before the Court on a writ of *habeas corpus* from the jail of the County where he had been detained since September Term last by a decree of Court, for refusing to comply with the order of Court by not supporting his wife and family, or paying for their support the amount by said decree, &c. After a hearing it is adjudged by the Court that the said Solon be discharged from confinement, in consequence of the inefficiency of the return of the constable.

Mr. DOUGLAS' KANSAS BILL.—The bill introduced by Mr. DOUGLAS, in the Senate, provides for a Board of five persons, appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, to make an enumeration of the inhabitants of Kansas, and a fair apportionment of the members of the Convention to form the new Constitution. The election to be held on a day to be designated by the Board, to be not less than ninety nor more than one hundred and twenty days after the passage of the act. The Board is to be entrusted with the appointment of Judges and the selection of places of voting, the elective franchise to be confined to every free white male citizen of the United States, over twenty-one years of age, who may be a bona fide inhabitant of the Territory on the 21st of December, and who shall have resided three months prior to said election in the county in which he offers to vote. The Convention to assemble in not less than thirty nor more than sixty days after the election of delegates. The Constitution to be submitted to the legal voters for their free acceptance or rejection and unless adopted by all a majority of all the legal votes cast shall be null and void. The bill also secures the personal and political rights of the people, including those of the Speech and Press.

The circumstances of the arrest of an Irishman named PATRICK NUGENT, last winter, charged with the murder of a lad named CHAS. E. SAGE, of Cromwell, near Middletown, Conn., will be recollected; also, the acknowledged complicity of a sailor named BENSON, who, some months subsequently, went voluntarily to Cromwell, and confessed that he saw the deed done, and assisted NUGENT in disposing of the corpse. The people of the neighborhood have within the past day or two, been thrown into a state of the most intense excitement by the discovery that the supposed murdered boy is alive, and residing somewhere in the interior of Pennsylvania. The case is a very mysterious one, and is still further complicated by the fact that a headless body, soon after the alleged murder, was found in the Connecticut River, and buried, under the supposition that it was SAGE'S—It having several marks on it leading to that belief.

"Iranistan," the residence of P. T. BARNUM, near Bridgeport Conn., was totally by fire on Thursday night. The cost of the building was over \$100,000. It was erected eight years ago. The furniture originally cost \$20,000, but only about half of it had been returned to the house from New York, whither it was all removed some to years since.—The insurance on the house was between \$30,000 and \$40,000, and on the furniture \$1,000 all held by mortgages. Mr. BARNUM was preparing to recoupy the premises, and the fire is supposed to have been occasioned by the carelessness of workmen engaged in refitting and repairing.

A CARD.—The undersigned takes great pleasure in testifying to the fact that the leading Banks in our Country have really "resumed Specie payments," as was evidenced by a very pleasing scene, which took place on Wednesday evening last.

A large representation of our citizens, both young and old—there being a lady among the multitude, upwards of 80 years of age—including some well-tried friends from the surrounding Country—combined to besiege his Cottage on that evening, and poured in such admonitions as are calculated to warm and fortify the place for some time to come—and while the tables were made to groan under a rich and well served repast, in which all seemed to take an interest, there was also "the feast of reason and the flow of soul."

For this very liberal expression of kind feeling toward himself, his family, and the church which it is honor to serve as Pastor, he would tender, in their name, his warm and most grateful thanks—while his prayer and humble efforts will be continued for their present and eternal welfare. WM. SYM.

Towanda, 16, 1857.

REV. SAMUEL F. COLT delivered the Fourth Lecture of the Course, on Monday evening last. The attendance was not so large as formerly, owing to the inclemency of the evening, but those present enjoyed a rare intellectual treat.

The next Lecture will be delivered by Dr. WILLIAM ELDER, on Tuesday evening, Jan. 3. Dr. E. is one of the most eloquent and pleasing lecturers in the country, and gives general satisfaction wherever he goes.

Gov Walker's letter of Resignation.

The following extracts are from Gov. WALKER'S letter resigning the office of Governor of Kansas:—

WASHINGTON CITY, Tuesday, Dec. 15, 1857.

Hon. Lewis Cass, Secretary of State:

SIR: I resign the office of Governor of the Territory of Kansas. I have been most reluctantly forced to this conclusion, after anxious and careful consideration of my duty to my country, and to the people of Kansas, to the President of the United States, and to myself.

The grounds assumed by the President in his late message to Congress, and in recent instructions in connection with the events now transpiring here and in Kansas, admonish me, that as Governor of that Territory, it will no longer be in my power to preserve the peace or promote the public welfare.

At the earnest solicitation of the President, after repeated refusals, the last being in writing, I finally accepted the office, upon his letter showing the dangers and difficulties of the Kansas question, and the necessity of my undertaking the task of adjustment. Under these circumstances, notwithstanding the great sacrifice to me, personal, political and pecuniary, I felt that I could no more refuse such a call