NEW PUBLICATIONS.

THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW, April, No. cxcii.—The opening article is a description by Dr. Dalton of the Metropolitan Board of Health, of New York, and its operations within the last two years, or since the creation of the Health Law of 1866. Up to a recent period Americans, with their exaltation in space and their sense of a world before them "where to choose," have ignored the fact that populations were crowding and heaping around their ports, with all the disgusting incidents of continental cities. Their very liberty, with its careless contempt of provision, aggravated the evil to a worse than European neglect; long after France and British cities had partially perceived the mischief, and were combating it with the very instinct of self-preservation, our government lay supine, absorbed in other difficulties, and let the ulcer grow. Two years since, however, the aforesaid Health Law took shape, covering a Sanitary District composed of New York City, Brooklyn, and several tributary counties, and providing for a Health Board furnished with large discretion and with the first terrors of a cholera summer the Commissioners threw themselves into efficient action. After examining with much care the existing sanitary conditions of the metropolis, and discovering the miserable state of things which Dr. Dalton depicts in the first half-part of his paper, the Board commenced a spirited fight with the *mal aria*. The first cholera victim had been an occupant of a large tenement house in a notoriously insalubrious condition, and in immediate evacuation by order of the Commissioners, and its prompt cleansing and disinfection, had the cheering result of entire immunity throughout the season, although the occupants were only excluded for a few days. The practical application of disinfectants was soon reduced to a general system by means of telegraphy, the co-operation of the police department, and a corps of trained workmen, who could generally be thrown upon any given point within an hour from the time when the complaint was forwarded from the station-house. The infected building was prepared for fumigation by the peremptory removal of the tenants. Nothing was to be carried out but the clothes actually worn. The windows and chimneys were closed, and chlorine or sulphurous acid gas set free in quantity in the chambers successively. The house thus filled with gas being left undisturbed for eight or twelve hours, the tenants were finally admitted. In this way, with the ease of finished system, the encroachment of cholera was prevented. In 1867 new and enlarged powers were given to the Board, and a tenement-house law passed which is intended to establish on a permanent basis improvements which would otherwise have been but temporary.

Prof. E. P. Evans's account of the present state of Pompeian discovery is a succinct compilation of the annals of the enterprise, inspecting Professor Fiorelli's history and journal, in Latin and Italian, and the French, English and German works of Monnier, Dyer and Overbeck, are laid under contribution to make up this synopsis, which is the best, latest and most readable that we know of.

Mr. Charles Eliot Norton, the acting editor, inserts two contributions, a bomb and a ballade. The first is his essay on "Religion," wherein he presents the modern idea of liberty as scattering the old edifice of respectand authority which is the church. His letter-article is a spice of graceful platitude about the visit of Mr. Dickens.

Mr. Charles Francis Adams, Jr., in his chapter on "Boston," completes his theme, prophesying the return of commercial activity to that beautiful harbor. His paper is the most immediately practical in the volume, and appears to say the last word in the argument. His plea is of the most reasonable, being simply for enlarged discussion, and the introduction of some definite system and policy which shall adjust American commerce according to the natural geographical advantages of our great seaboard cities. "Whatever is attempted," he concludes, "let it be attempted knowingly and systematically, in obedience to some natural law, and in response to some acknowledged demand."

"Quotation and Originality" is a collection of the wise saws and modern instances which have accumulated in the commonplace book of Ralph Waldo Emerson, since his last disburthening. It is by no means in his best writing; it is more disjointed than is usual even with him; but it is a valuable mass of half-digested rumination as could be found under the tongue of no other man living.

Professor Lowell contributes in a style as parabolic and florid as that of his original, a rich meditation on Shakespeare. It is crammed full of new observations and discenes put forth with the elasticity of new. He stirs again the troubled question of Hamlet's insanity. His amiable weakness in doing this we should pass over were it not that he shares it with the whole world of commentators, whom some infection from the mania play attacks in common with the central theme: all seem to have their eyes sealed to the fact that Shakespeare, who in his masterpiece tragedy even closer than there lays down his little hints and pencil-sketches for the authentic view of things, has furnished his hero with a speech that sets the moot point—or was intended so—in a light as clear as heaven. Hamlet, just before his death, in a moment of unquestioned sanity, declares that he is at times possessed with a sore distraction, that certain rudenesses offered to Laertes were involuntary, the effect of his madness, and as injurious to himself as to the recipient, that in such a case his madness is poor Hamlet's enemy, and that he disclaims, in "this presence," from any purposed evil to "his brother." This elaborate declaration, in the presence of his last hour, was never intended to court fishing; and only needs to be coupled with his warning of intended dissimulation to the soldiers, to show the fact that Shakspeare meant to delineate such a complication as his myriad-faculty would best enjoy—the actor really overtaxing by his part, and infected with real touches of the insanity he at first assumed.

Other studious papers are Mr. Cabot's on Hegel, Prof. Whitney's plea for fresher methods than the oriental ones in studying Vedic literature, Mr. Raphael Pumpelly's review of "Western Policy in China," and Mr. John Torrey Morse's "Expatriation and Naturalization." Thirteen literary works are very ably reviewed in the "Critical Notices" at the close.

This superb number is varied, rich and compact. It amply vindicates our national scholarship. The *North American Review* is palpably superior to any like enterprise undertaken with the vehicle of the English language.

THE WILMOT PROVISO.

Letter of Judge Brinkerhoff, of Ohio to Senator Wilmot.

MANSFIELD, Ohio, April 1, 1868.—*Hon. H. Wilmot.*—DEAR SIR: Your note of the 31st ult., inclosing a slip cut from the New York *Sun*, on the authorship of the Wilmot Proviso, and requesting a statement of my recollection in regard to the matter, is before me.

Before proceeding to comply with your request, allow me to say a word or two relative to the article in the *Sun*. The idea is there put forth that the Wilmot Proviso originated at a dinner party of New Yorkers, Hunkerers, at which John Van Buren, Samuel J. Tilden, a Western member of Congress or two, Mr. Wilmot, and others, were present; and this dinner party is represented as having taken place in 1847. Now, the Wilmot Proviso was introduced in Committee of the Whole of the House of Representatives on the 8th of August, 1846; and there was not then a member of Congress, from the West or elsewhere, of the name of Howe. [See House Journal, First Session, Twenty-ninth Congress, p. 1285.] As the proviso was introduced in Committee of the Whole, and there added to a pending bill by way of amendment, and as none in 1847 of proceedings in such body is kept of proceedings in such Committee, and the results of the action of the Committee alone are reported to the House, it does not appear by whom the proviso was offered. It was, in fact, offered by Mr. Wilmot, of Pennsylvania, under the circumstances hereafter to be mentioned. What may have occurred at a New York dinner party, in 1847, I, of course, do not know; but I am as satisfied as I can be of anything that the idea of such a proviso originated among members of the House of Representatives, in Congress, and on the side of that body.

By reference to the House Journal you will see that the proviso was attached by way of amendment to a pending bill appropriating money to enable the President to open negotiations for peace with Mexico. During the progress of the war we had already acquired by possession of New Mexico and California, and it was everywhere well understood that these were to be retained by the United States as permanent acquisitions. The representatives of the slaveholding interest in Congress confidently calculated that these would eventually become slaveholding States, and so add to the political strength of that interest; while on the other hand, many Democrats from the free States held, and avowed, that no such results were determined, if possible, to prevent it. Prominent among the latter were Hale, of New Hampshire, Hamlin, of Maine, Preston King, Hathbun, Jenkins and Grover of New York, Dillingham, of Vermont, and Wilmot, of Pennsylvania. And, as for myself, I was conscious of having rendered myself, by a speech on the question of the annexation of Texas, somewhat notorious for zeal, if not for discretion, in favor of the policy of limiting the further extension of slavery.

As for Mr. Wilmot, he, up to the time of the introduction of the Proviso, was not generally known among the members of the House as being in favor of this policy, but I had more than once conversed with him on the subject, and knew that he felt and thought as I did in regard to it. In addition to this, he had become a favorite among Southern members, for the reason that he was the member from Pennsylvania, of either party, who had voted for the bill, when it first passed, largely reducing protective duties on imports.

The session of Congress was about to close, the 9th of August had arrived, and under a joint resolution already passed, both Houses were to adjourn at noon on the 10th. The President had sent in a special message asking the appropriation above referred to. The message was referred to a committee, which was then absent from the House and engaged in the consideration. It was easy to foresee that a bill in accordance with the recommendations of the message would soon be introduced and pushed through the House with all the promptitude which a Democratic majority and the force of party discipline, could command; and that an appropriation of money to negotiate a peace would, if unencumbered, insure the purchase of Mexican territory for the benefit of the slaveholding interest.

Under these circumstances, having consulted with no one, I sat down and drew up the proviso in the exact language in which it now appears on page 1285 of the journal, adopting in the draft, as nearly as I could from memory, the language of the ordinance of 1787 for the government of the territory northwest of the Ohio river, with such additions as seemed necessary to adapt it to the purpose aimed at. I then proceeded to the Capitol, and, first showing it to Messrs. Preston King and Hamlin, I asked them if they would not, if I should succeed in obtaining the signature of Mr. Wilmot, introduce it in the House. Having read it, they both expressed a hearty approval of his paper, and promised to do so. But Wilmot, you know, is the favorite of the Southern members, and he can go into the chair when I cannot; and he, I know, is all right, for I have talked with him. But he may not be office it." Of course, no one then knew whom the Speaker would select as Chairman of the Committee of the Whole; but it was taken for granted that he would be some one under the pro-slavery influences. Concurring in my suggestions, Mr. Vinton volunteered to inform the members of his party from the North of what was going on, and to rally them to the vote when it came. I then took the proviso to Mr. Wilmot, and requested him to read it. Having done so, he said, "Well, those are my sentiments," to which I responded, "I know it. And now will you offer that as an amendment to the special appropriation bill now concerning the committee, at the proper time when the bill comes in?" He replied, "I have no objections," and copied my draft, and returned to me the original now before me. I then passed on to a group of members of the House, who were engaged in earnest and exciting conversation, and joined them. Among them certainly were Hathbun, Preston King and Hamlin; and Grover, Hale, Jenkins and Dillingham, of New York, and Wilmot, of Pennsylvania. And, as for myself, I was conscious of having rendered myself, by a speech on the question of the annexation of Texas, somewhat notorious for zeal, if not for discretion, in favor of the policy of limiting the further extension of slavery.

The Assassination of Mr. McGee—Whelan's Conversation with Doyle.—The Montreal papers publish reports of an conversation between Whelan and Doyle, who occupied adjoining cells in the jail in Ottawa, on the 16th inst., as it is reported by Detective Cullen and a prisoner named Hess, who overheard it. After speaking of persons he had seen in the court-room on that day, Whelan said to Doyle: "It'll go bloody hard with me; I'll either swing or get penitentiary for life; I don't care. I'm prepared for the worst. Turner swore bloody hard against me; swore we were all bloody Fenians. There were fourteen witnesses examined: he swore that he was an Englishman."

Doyle—"You're in a bad fix."

Whelan—"I don't care a d—n; all I depend on is a good jury."

Doyle often said—"What will happen to me? What will become of me? I have done nothing to me.

Whelan answered him nothing would happen to him, as they could prove nothing against him.

Doyle said—"I wish you'd never done it, and I wish you'd never come near me that night.

Whelan said—I would not have come near you only I was drunk.

Doyle—Jim, I'm sorry for you: the whole world will know it.

Whelan—Yes, I'm a great fellow: I shot this fellow: have you here, and here I am myself, which makes three of us.

Doyle asked him what he said—at the same time witness (Detective Cullen) turned round to Hess, bowing his head to call attention to the words.

Whelan again repeated the same, using the words: "I shot him like a dog. You're here; I'm here. I'm a great fellow; my name will go down to posterity."

Doyle—Jim, Jim, I am sorry for you.

Whelan—I did not care a——, only for my poor mother.

Doyle said—Is she alive?

Whelan—Yes; and my brother is in prison, too.

Doyle—What for?

Whelan—Fenianism: for firing the police barrack in Tullough, Ireland. What a fine family my mother had—what a fine lot of boys! Only one thing, they were fond of Irish. One was shot at the firing of the police barrack, one is in prison for the same, and I is in this place.

Whelan then sung a couple of songs, and there was a long silence.

Doyle said—Jim, Jim, I do not know what they'll do with me.

Whelan answered—You are all right, my boy. They can do nothing to you. They may keep you a week or perhaps a fortnight. Life is sweet: I wish I was as safe as you.

Whelan said they have traced me step by step since I came into the country; they swore bloody thing I have done they have traced it: it all came out in the court to-day; that O'Reilly is a——. I thought I'd faint when Turner came up, but I bore it up like a man; there was not the slightest sign on me.

Doyle—Ah, he's the last man I ever thought they'd bring up as a witness against me.

Whelan—He will, but his evidence amounts to nothing—all he knows is what was said and done in Montreal, but what's to come is the worst. All I depend upon is a good jury.

Whelan said—during the time the above conversation occurred—John, you and me must quit talking about what you know. You understand those——ears—might be listening around.

Doyle—All right.

There was a long silence and a talk about indifferent matters. Then Doyle called to Whelan and asked what would his (Doyle's) wife and children do?

Whelan said—They're all right! You'll get out in a few days. They have your pension if you're kept.

Doyle said—No; they'd lose it.

Whelan—We are four married men.

Doyle—Who?

Whelan—Enright has three or four children; Murphy has two; you have two; I have none.

Doyle said—You're the best off.

Whelan—Yes, the old woman can scratch for herself. I saved Cullen's life one time. A fellow had him covered at fifteen yards.

Sketch of the Interior, Siege of Abyssinia.—The Emperor Theodore, Mr. Dalton tells us, was born about 1820, in the province of Kwara, which is situated to the west of Lake Tsana, and of which his uncle was Governor. His mother was, according to some, of low extraction; but according to others, she was of good birth, and could even trace her descent from the Queen of Sheba, the orthodox ancestress of Abyssinian royalty. Kassa, for such is the Emperor's real name, soon distinguished himself by his bravery and talent for war, and on the death of his uncle he acquired the government of the province of Kwara. He soon enlarged his dominions to the compass of adjacent provinces, and at length, after several years of varying fortune, he defeated Ali Ras, of Amhara, whose daughter he had previously married, and effected the conquest of that province. The element of religion, which is so singularly blended in Christian Abyssinia, he also used by the prayer which he publicly offered up after his victory, and which is as follows: "I praise Thee, O God, that Theodros manifested Thy goodness to a poor sinner like me. Whom Thou humbled is humbled, and whom Thou exalteth is exalted. Thine is the power and glory, forever and ever."

Being now installed at Gondar as Ras of Amhara a rank usually carried with it the nominal allegiance of the whole of Abyssinia, Kassa sent to claim tribute from Gobie, Tshoa of Tigre. This being refused, he marched with an army against him, and, having defeated him in the battle of Derasske, he had himself crowned as Negus Theodoros, or King of Kings of Ethiopia. His assumption of the name of Theodoros appears to have been made in consequence of an ancient prophecy that an Emperor of that name would raise the kingdom of Ethiopia to the highest pinnacle of greatness. He then attacked the Wolle Galles, a Shamoodic race, and, after a long and bloody war, defeated them in a battle, in which their King, Adara Billo, was slain. With the capture of Magdala he found himself master of the whole of Abyssinia with the exception of Shoa, which he had virtually made an independent State. Against this kingdom he now directed his army, and marched to the Shoan Frontier. Ensnaffu, the reigning under his sway the Emperor Theodore, was at the head of his troops. His next project was to drive the Turks from the Abyssinian possessions on the coast, and to acquire for Abyssinia an outlet on the Red Sea—a commercial project which, if it had proved successful, would have raised Massowah was taken by the Turks by treachery, however. This, however, he was never in a position to attempt. His conquered provinces, and the Shoan Frontier, were in his character which soon developed itself so alienated his subjects that he was finally killed by a party of them. Kassa knew he seems to hold little territory beyond that in the immediate vicinity of Magdala, and that he had made his capital.

Theodoros appears to be a man of great talent, courage and energy, with a singular power of command over officers. Mr. Dalton, who saw him at Magdala, describes his personal appearance was that of a man about forty-five of middle stature, very slender, and with a head of the negro about him. His features are altogether of a type of nobility, and his face is very pleasing. His complexion is dark, and his hair is arranged in large plaits extending from the crown of the head, which is high and tends to be prominent. His eyes are very fine, full of fire, quick and piercing. His nose has a little of the Roman about it, being slightly arched and pointed. His mouth is closed, and has the smile which during the conversation continually played upon it, was exceedingly pleasant, and very fascinating. He has very little mustache or beard. His manner is peculiarly pleasant, gentle and very polite, and his general expression, even when his features were at rest, was one of intelligence and benevolence. On the whole, the physiognomist could find in the features of Theodoros no trace of the lowering glance of his eye. I watched for the keen flash of anger, which I had heard of, and expected upon what he could be capable of, but they did not strike me as remarkable. I felt that he could set savagely under irritation." Besides a note, "I have take occasion to remark that, though Theodoros consumes a vast quantity of brandy, he is no drunkard; that is, I never heard of him being overcome with drink. He always stops at a certain point.

Important Whisky Seizure in Cincinnati.—

(From the Cincinnati Times, of the 27th.)

About half-past nine o'clock this morning, as Lieutenant Birchmann and Sergeant Bernfelt were making their official round, they noticed some men unloading a lot of whisky from the United States Distillery. Having a close eye over the boat, the officers sent for Assistant Internal Revenue Assessor Cox, who, in the name of the United States, took possession of the boat and her cargo, consisting of 300 bbls. whisky, the whole lot valued at about $40,000. The seizure was one of the most important ever made in this city, and reflects the highest praise on the officers for the skillful manner in which they managed the affair.

Crops in Maryland.—

(From the Cambridge (Maryland) News.)

The incessant rains have greatly retarded our farmers in their spring work. Plowing is almost entirely suspended, the soil being too wet to admit of any kind of cultivation. Many kinds of early vegetables which usually yield a fine profit to those engaged in raising them for market, are rotting in the ground. Very few of the farmers have finished seeding their oats, and before the soil is in condition to receive them, it will be too late in the season for the oats to mature. The fruit was not seriously injured by the severe cold well.

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Special Notice.

Having completed our removal to New Store, No. 1222 CHESTNUT Street, we are now ready to offer, at lowest cash prices, a new stock of handsome

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With all other kinds of goods in our line of business.

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Blinds repaired, Curtain Cornices, Shade Trimmings and Fixtures, Fletcher Tassels and Cords, Shade Stubs and Letters, Philadelphia and Boston Shade Cloth, Hollands, &c., &c.
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NEW SPRING AND SUMMER STOCK NOW OPEN.
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Myers's Mourning Store,
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CARRIAGE BUILDER.
Repairing done at reasonable rates. Finished Carriages also, orders taken for Carriages of every description.
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Three squares south of Market, and one square west of Broad.
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A Certain Cure for Consumption and all Diseases of the Lungs or Bronchial Tubes.
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Having been used for thirty years with the most astonishing success, these pills are now recommended to the public as a safe and certain remedy for all those painful disorders to which the female constitution is subject. They will at any time bring on the menses with perfect ease, and are not injurious to the constitution. Sold by druggists generally. Price $1 per box. Ladies' Pocket Book, containing 12 boxes, $1 25. Sent by mail on receipt of price. Address
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ALEXANDER SCOTT,
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300 PIECES HEMMED HUCK TOWELS.
300 CHIEFS—Purchased at Auction—18 and 20 inch hem., sold in Boston at $2 25 and $2 50 per doz.; our price, $1 50 and $1 75 per doz. Gents' Hemmed Stitched Linen Handkerchiefs, only 25 cents; worth 37½ cts. Bargains in Linen Goods.
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Pocket Books, Portemonnaies, Cigar Cases, Portfolios, Dressing Cases, Bankers' Cases.

Rosewood or Mahogany Writing Desks.

Ladies' & Gents' Satchels and Dressing Cases in all styles.

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NAVAL STORES.

NAVAL STORES.—STORE, MIDDLE NO. 1 LAND PLE STREET, BETWEEN WATER AND DELAWARE, for sale. JAS. CHESHER, NO. 1 South Water street.

OIL.—100 BBLS. SPERM OIL; 1,000 GALS. Sperm Oil; 500 Gals. Whale Oil; 1,000 Gals. Linseed Oil; 1,000 Gals. Lard Oil; 1,000 Gals. Neatsfoot Oil. For sale by COCHRAN, AGENT, 116 S. Front and Dock streets.

BOILER-FUNNING AND SMOKE PIPE WORK.—Sheet Iron Boilers, Smoke Pipes, Smokers, Smokers, Iron Stacks Made and Set up and for sale by COCHRAN, AGENT, 116 S. Front and Dock streets.

BOARDING.

SUMMER BOARDING—ELIGIBLE ROOMS WITH board, for the season, at 1822 Locust street. West Philadelphia.

THE IMPEACHMENT TRIAL.

CLOSE OF YESTERDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

TESTIMONY OF HON. THOMAS WILLIAMS.

Mr. WILLIAMS, of Pennsylvania, member of the managers, followed Mr. Stevens in a speech which he read from manuscript.

Mr. President and Senators of the United States: Not used to the conflict of the forum, I appear in your presence to day in obedience to command of the Representatives of the people, and I shall endeavor to acquit myself of responsibility when I have never felt before. The accusation which you are called upon to try is a mighty privilege, the presence of which, if I have any appreciation of the duties and rights it involves, I feel in the consciousness of its dignity, and of the fact that the world has ever seen—to do justice to the high and honorable position they have assigned to name of the American people for high crimes and misdemeanors against the state, the dignity of the oath upon, himself a slave. In everything but the pomp, paraphernalia, and inheritance of royalty, to these crowned kings, and more than all, that great world public, which, in the language of Burke, it attains its eyes to catch with the electrical power of the world, and which is felt in every fibre of the heart, and which, in the language of Burke, it is felt in the chosen of anarchy and the convulsions of despair—all remains one of the colossal proportions of the issue you are assembled to try.

I cannot but remember, too, that the scene before me is without an example or a parallel in human history. Kingdoms, it is true, have been overturned, and royal heads have fallen upon the scaffold, but in two instances only in the history of the world have such crimes been involved, and in no instance is it to be found in a free state, or a state in which, to a large extent, the people have a constitutional control, or a vote, or a voice, at the same time with the sublime task of vindicating an outraged law, of punishing the offender, of protecting the oppressing judgment upon the evidence, of the exercise of such a power during the recess of the Senate.

Second, That the power to supply even an accidental vacancy was only to continue until the Senate was in a condition to be consulted, and to advise and act upon the case, and

Third, As a *corollary* from these two propositions, that if the power of appointment in case of the tenure in question, be as it is seriously conceded by the Attorney-General, to be in the President, it is not to be exercised in the face of a Senate in session, and to place to the President and senate, and so on the President, the responsibility of the exercise of the power, and the duty of the Senate, who make the appointment, the argument upon which is, that it is a power of such magnitude, and so fraught with the sublime task of vindicating an outraged law, of punishing the offender, of protecting the oppressing judgment upon the evidence, of the exercise of such a power during the recess of the Senate.

The great occasion was not sought by us. The world knows that we have shrunk from it, and that they did not cease hate for fight and transient popularity, to place us in the front of the battle, and to place us in the front of the battle, and to place the exercise of power on the part of the Executive, following each other in rapid succession, and culminating at last in the attempt to make the Senate, and so on the people, it was impossible for them to decline. With the opinion of the Senate, however, he was never in a position to attempt. He conquered and thus this bill and its provisions were left for that session of Congress.

From the above statement you will see that the idea of attaching a probibitory proviso to the bill, as an amendment to which it was obtained, was simultaneously in the minds of several members, and that I am entitled to no greater, and no exclusive merit. I thought it very great, and no exclusive merit. I thought it very great, and no exclusive merit. I thought it very great