The Press.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1857.

THE WEEKLY PRESS.

THE WEEKLY PRESS, No. 18, for SATURDAY, December 12, is now out. The present number contains, besides THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, and the REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, a vast amount of valuable reading, among which will be found the following:

EDITORIALS.
THE WASHINGTON UNION IN ARMS, AND EAGER FOR THE FRAY.
DELUSIONS.
THE TWO GREAT LEADERS OF THE KANSAS-NEBRASKA WAR.
K.-O. B.
THE ADMINISTRATION POLICY AS TO UTAH.
DR. CHARLES MACKAY.
THE ADMINISTRATION AND THE SOUTH.
THE KANSAS CONSTITUTION.
CALIFORNIA ON THE PANIC.
THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE.
THE CALCUTTA INDICTMENT.
CONCILIATION AND CONCESSION.
RIGHTS AND WRONGS OF COPYRIGHT.
KANSAS SLAVERY QUESTION.
A NEW READING.
THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.
COUNTERFEIT BANK NOTES.

POETRY.
THE TWO FOUNTAINS—By S. D. PATTERSON—(Original).
BRAHMA—(Original).

OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS.
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.
REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY ON THE STATE OF THE FINANCES.

TALES.
GORGEON.—By CHAS. D. GARDETTE.—(Original).
A VISIT TO NENA SAHIB.

MISCELLANEOUS.
WIT AND HUMOR.
COLUMN FOR THE YOUNG.
CHARADE.—(Original).
DOMESTIC MARKETS.
THE LOST ARTS.

NEWS.
IMPORTANT FROM THE UTAH EXPEDITION.
LATEST INTELLIGENCE BY TELEGRAPH AND MAILS, FROM WASHINGTON, CALIFORNIA, EUROPE, &c.
CRIMES AND CASUALTIES, PERSONAL AND MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE.
FOREIGN MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.
THE WIFE OF TWO LIVING BROTHERS.
FOREIGN ITEMS.
FOREIGN MARKETS.
CORRESPONDENCE.
CORRESPONDENCE FROM WASHINGTON.
CALIFORNIA LETTER.
LETTERS FROM A SEBASTOPOL DIVER.
THE CITY.
MONEY, GRAIN, CORN, CATTLE MARKETS, &c.
WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE PHILADELPHIA MARKETS.
MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.
ANOTHER SOLDIER GONE.
AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.
PURIFICATION OF ALKALINE SOIL BY THE BEET.
MORE SORGHO SUGAR.
PRESERVING TENDER PLANTS DURING WINTER.
POSITION OF POSTS.
MISSOURI WINE.

THE WEEKLY PRESS is furnished to subscribers at $2 per year, in advance, for the single copy, and to clubs of twenty, when sent to one address, $20, in advance. Single copies for sale at the counter of THE PRESS office, in wrappers, ready for mailing.

Persons sending clubs of twenty or over will please bear in mind that the paper thus ordered cannot be directed to each subscriber, unless the club price of $1.20 per annum is paid, *and paid in advance*. This is in accordance with our published rules, and some of our friends have overlooked it. Our heavy lists compel us to adhere to this rule.

FIRST PAGE.—The Post Office; Later from Yucatan; Reports of the Secretary of the Interior and of the Navy; Items of News.
FOURTH PAGE.—The City, &c.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

This able document is in type, but was unavoidably crowded out of this morning's issue. It will appear to-morrow.

THE REPORTS OF THE HEADS OF THE DEPARTMENTS.

The reports of the heads of the various departments of the Government, accompanying the President's Message, are full of important suggestions. They show that the whole of the vast machinery of the Federal Government is actively at work, and forcibly impress the reader with the vastness of the interests under its direction and control. In view of the important topics prominently brought before the attention of the country, we cannot but regard the next four *years as destined* to mark one of the most important *eras* in the history of the Government. [illegible] Secretary Cobb, the military affairs; and the Secretary of the Treasury treats at length, and with great ability, the questions coming within the scope of his department. Among other important suggestions, he proposes to bring under the operation of a compulsory bankrupt law banks and corporations. It was said of the American army at Buena Vista, *that* they were fairly whipped, over and over again, by the Mexicans, but they did not know it, or at least acted as if they were unacquainted with the fact. Their bravery and perseverance under adverse circumstances greatly redounded to their honor and the glory of American arms. We have, however, too many cases of banks and railroad companies being bankrupt without appearing to know it, and in this condition they perform those extraordinary prodigies of financiering, which inflict wide-spread and lasting injury and ruin upon a too confiding public, and finally involve the whole nation in terrible disasters. If a plan can be devised, as suggested by Secretary Cobb, to protect the community from such dangers, it will be productive of great public benefits. Mr. Cobb clearly points out the advantageous working of the Independent Treasury system, and commends the striking example it furnishes to the favorable consideration of the State Governments of the Union—advises the withdrawal of all notes under the denomination of twenty dollars from circulation—discusses the tariff and our national finances, and makes a number of valuable suggestions.

The Secretary of War, Mr. FLOYD, gives a graphic description of the condition of the important department over which he presides with distinguished ability, and ably directs the attention of Congress to its necessities. In consequence of the threatening aspect of the Mormon complication, and the never-ending difficulties with the Indians, the duties of this department are daily increasing in importance and responsibility. For the first time in our history, an armed rebellion of serious magnitude, and in a remote and almost inaccessible region, has been organized against the Republic, and great exertions and heavy expenditures will be required to subdue it. On this question, however, we trust the whole Union will be cordially united in strengthening the arms of the Administration against the peculiar and graceless traitors who have trampled upon the laws and defied the powers of the National Government. The suggestions of the Secretary, to provide for some method by which the American regular soldier, when really meritorious, can rise from the ranks to the station of a commissioned officer, and to make promotion in the higher grades depend upon merit rather than seniority, will strike a responsive chord in the public heart. These great reforms would do much to promote the efficiency of our military organization, and they richly deserve the attention of Congress. The great project, ably advocated by Mr. BUCHANAN, of a Pacific railroad, assisted by grants of land or money, being considered constitutional in view of the war-making power, is also considered by the Secretary of War, and the necessity of a speedy completion of other military roads urged upon Congress.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior vividly portrays the vastness of the public domain—advocates an important change in our Indian policy—and ably discusses a number of important subjects. We publish it at length this morning. It will amply repay an attentive perusal.

We yesterday published an abstract of the report of the Postmaster General, and to-day publish one of the report of the Secretary of the Navy. These documents also abound in important information and practical suggestions.

No reader of these reports can fail to be deeply impressed with the vivid picture they give us of the growing greatness of our country and the vastness of its interests. However exciting the Kansas question may become, we trust it will not be allowed to divert Congress from a proper degree of attention to any of the other great subjects presented for consideration, but that each will, in turn, receive that degree of careful consideration which a due regard for the welfare of the nation requires.

OUR PRINCIPLES ENDORSED.

The President in his Message says: "Under the earlier practice of the Government, no Constitution framed by the Convention of a Territory, preparatory to its admission into the Union as a State, had been submitted to the people. I trust, however, the example set by the last Congress, *requiring* that the Constitution of Minnesota 'should be subject to the approval and ratification of the *people* of the proposed State,' *may be followed on future occasions*. I TOOK IT FOR GRANTED that the CONVENTION of *Kansas* would *act* in ACCORDANCE *with this example*, founded, *as it is*, on CORRECT PRINCIPLES; and *hence*, my *instructions* to Governor WALKER, in *favor of submitting the Constitution to the people*, were expressed in *general* and UNQUALIFIED terms."

Thus the President concurs with and he sustains us in affirming: First. That the submission of the *whole* Constitution of Kansas (as in the example of Minnesota) is founded on correct principles, and consequently that the Convention which refused to allow that submission violated those principles. Second. That it was so plainly the *duty* of the Convention to have submitted the whole Constitution to the people, that he *took it for granted* the Convention of Kansas would have done so; and consequently, that their refusal to do so was a violation of their duty, and of his just expectations, and, let us add, the just expectations of a large portion of the Democratic party. Third. That as the President rightly took it for granted the Convention would submit the whole Constitution to the people, he gave corresponding instructions to Governor WALKER, and thus the latter was warranted in giving the people the same "general and unqualified" assurance, which, in refusing to carry out, the Convention violated correct principles, the President's just expectations, the terms of his instructions to Governor WALKER, the pledges and assurances of the latter, and, in fact, their own solemnly signed and published pledges to the Democratic party and to the people of Kansas.

A LESSON FROM THE CRISIS.

It is admitted on all sides that we have been living too fast. Nor is the fault alone with us on this side of the Atlantic. Every where, the cause has been the same, and the effect the same, too. In Europe, there may not have been quite as much *personal* extravagance, for the habit of accumulation largely prevails there, but there has been quite as much speculation, if not more. The desire of increasing capital by out-of-the-way means, of making fortunes in a hurry, is more decided, and always has been, in England than America. And thus may several panics be accounted for: that of 1825, when John Bull, in investments in foreign mines and loans to foreign countries, actually parted with $400,000,000 of hard money, not a shilling of which ever came back; in 1837, when speculations in joint-stock banks absorbed the earnings of thousands, flooded the country with paper money, and thereby led to reckless over-trading; in 1845, when the Railway mania converted England into one great arena for gambling; and now, in 1857, when the granting of excessive credits, the negotiation of indifferent paper, and investments in railway and other stock, in various parts of the world, but particularly in the United States, have brought England as near ruin as she ever was since first she aimed at becoming a great commercial nation.

To the disasters which have taken place, *we* have largely contributed, no doubt. We are just recovering from the shock, and will come out of the crisis more frightened than hurt. We are a young nation, with our vital energies fresh and strong, and therefore our recuperative power will enable us to renew our strength, like a young eagle, before the older and less vigorous nations of Europe can do. Is the tornado to pass us by, and leave behind no subject for serious reflection and regret? *Are* we so careless, or so proud, that we shall recklessly and thoughtlessly turn from the grave lesson which passing events ought to teach us? Are we, in a word, to learn nothing from our sufferings?

Personal extravagance, in which both sexes largely indulged, only a little while ago, unquestionably has been checked, and by the simplest force—namely, the want of money. Those who had accustomed themselves to extravagances of various kinds, and were compelled to retrench, have discovered how easily they could dispense with numerous superfluities to which they had been accustomed. [illegible] adhere to the reductions which circumstances *compelled* them to make? If they do, there need be little fear for the future. A nation which lives within its means must ever hold a high place in the world; and so will its people, if they act on the same honest principle.

THE TRUE AMERICAN PRINCIPLE.

On February 24th, 1854, Senator HUNTER, of Virginia, in repelling the idea that Congress should exercise the power of regulating slavery in the Territories, and in advocating the Kansas-Nebraska Bill, said:

"But it has often been said by those who admit that Congress has the power of governing the Territories, that it is a power to be exercised, not in reference to the rights of the States, but in reference to the good and welfare of the people of the Territories. Now, if in exercising this power, we are to be confined to the single consideration of the good and welfare of the people of the Territories, then I say the *whole subject of government* ought to be left to the people of the Territories. THAT IS THE AMERICAN PRINCIPLE."

What Senator HUNTER thought *"the true American principle"* in 1854, we still believe to be such, and have not as yet seen any good reason to change our views.

PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENTS.

PARODI'S ENGLISH CONCERT.—There will be, at the Musical Fund Hall, this evening, what promises to be the very best Concert of the season. Mad'lle Parodi takes her farewell of Philadelphia, for a time, and gives, on this occasion, a musical entertainment abounding in novelty. With the exception of "La Marseillaise," which is rather musical declamation than actual singing, the only foreign piece in the whole programme is the familiar and favorite "Di tanti palpiti," from Rossini's opera of "Tancredi." She will sing "Jerusalem, thou that killest the Prophets," from Felix Mendelssohn's Oratorio of "St. Paul," another English solo, and join with Miss Milner in Mendelssohn's beautiful duet "I would that my love," besides, as a finale, giving our national "Star-spangled banner," as a duet, also with Miss Milner. There will be several performances by Henri Vieuxtemps, the violinist, besides his well-known and extraordinary instrumentation, on one string, of a fantasie from Bellini's opera of "Norma." On this occasion, the two English vocalists, (Miss Milner and Mr. Ernest Ferring,) wisely eschewing Italian music, will exclusively sing English songs. Miss Milner, besides singing with Mad'lle Parodi, in two duets, will give two solos, and a duet, from Wallace's "Maritana," with Mr. Ferring. This able tenor will himself give "My Sister Dear," from "Masaniello," and Haydn's "In native worth." These English vocalists possess not only fine voices, but have the advantage of having been well instructed in the best, because the most classical school. They have freshness of voice, as well as an excellent manner of expression. Altogether, this Concert will be greatly attractive. The musical world here will be sorry to learn that, under present arrangements, it is Parodi's last public appearance for some time in this city.

Mrs. E. L. Davenport's benefit is to take place at the Arch street Theatre to-morrow evening.

Shocking Brutality of a Step-Mother.

[From the Lancaster (Pa.) Express of Tuesday.]

One of the most heartless and shocking cases of brutality we were ever called upon to record, came to light this morning. A woman—a fiend—named Rebecca Jane Tomlinson, residing in East King street, above Church, at the house known as the Indian Queen tavern, was brought before Alderman Leonard to answer the charge of cruel and barbarous treatment to her step-child, Jane Tomlinson, aged ten years.

Officer Gormley, in whose hands the warrant was placed for the woman's arrest, on proceeding to the house, found every door and avenue leading into it barricaded, and it was with the greatest difficulty that he finally secured her and brought her to the alderman's office.

The child was brought into the office and presented so sad and terrible a picture that no pen could portray the ghastly spectacle. Its face was frightfully emaciated, its eyes sunken far in their sockets, and there was scarcely a square inch of its face and body that was not black and blue, and scratched and scarred by its unnatural and fiendish mother. One of its eyes—the left—was black and cut, and swollen almost shut from a recent blow, while the other was black and bloodshot; the lower lip was cut and bleeding, and two of the lower teeth knocked out. The child could not stand without the aid of a crutch, which lameness is said to have been caused by its ill-treatment.

Some eight or ten neighbors were present to corroborate the complaint. It was testified by one of the witnesses that on passing the house lately, he saw this woman go into the house, and seeing the child sitting on a step, she snatched it by the hair and dragged it around the room several times, beating and maltreating it in a most frightful manner. Another testified that on several occasions she tied the child's hands with a rope, and compelled it to remain sitting in a chair all night. Other testimony was given, all of which exhibited the process of refined cruelty by which helpless little Jane was reduced by blows and starvation from a strong, healthy child, to almost an idiot.

Mrs. Tomlinson, this fiend in human shape, was required to give bail in the sum of $300 to answer the charge, but the wretch found no sympathy anywhere—the evidence of her brutality was too plain to every eye.

BY MIDNIGHT MAIL.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Hon. D. E. Sickles not read out of the Democratic Party in New York—The Meade Case and the Circumlocution Office—Our Affairs at Madrid—Hon. John McKeon not removed—Judge Douglas's Speech—Naval Storekeeper of Philadelphia.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, December 9, 1857.

The Democratic General Committee for New York city met on Tuesday evening, and, after full consideration, rescinded the resolution expelling Hon. D. E. Sickles from its membership for his course against Mayor Wood, and denounced their chairman for declaring that he had been expelled. The rescinding resolutions were adopted by a vote of 51 to 43. The committee, after performing this act of justice, adjourned *sine die*.

The celebrated Meade case, arising out of the treaty with Spain, by which we acquired the Floridas, is now up for argument in the Court of Claims. In this, as well as in other similar cases, it is more than apparent that the Circumlocution Office, so vividly depicted by Dickens, is not confined in its operation to England alone. There are claims against this Government which have been pressed for half a century, some probably for a longer time, and though involving the payment of a few thousands of dollars, have been examined, reported upon, and discussed, until each has cost the United States hundreds of thousands of dollars. This Meade case will foot up against the United States a bill for printing of documentary evidence, reports, speeches, &c., of not less than $5,000,000.

There surely ought to be a regular and fixed procedure in all such cases, and a court of final resort for decision one way or the other.

Hon. Mr. Dodge, our Minister at Madrid, having resigned his commission, will soon return to the United States. Democrats, prominent in the party, and now on the lookout for good places, are each urging his peculiar fitness for this place. The successor of Mr. Dodge will have entrusted to his care questions of vital interest to our people. Though a coldness exists at this time between Mexico and Spain, nevertheless a large party in the latter kingdom will, more or less, always be involved in the constant revolutionary changes in the Mexican Confederacy. Santa Anna seeks again the supreme dictatorship with Spanish aid, but I think he will do so unsuccessfully. Yet, Mexico is crumbling to decay, and to our minister at Madrid will be confided the task of preventing any encroachment by Spain upon our Monroe doctrine by interference in the civil broils of Mexican States, and annexation of any of them under its sway. Then there is the knotty and delicate question of the annexation of Cuba, and others of like importance. Mr. Belmont, of New York, Mr. Carlisle, of Washington, and other gentlemen, are named for this place.

The *Union* has a despatch this morning, that Hon. John McKeon, United States District Attorney for the Southern district of New York, has been removed. This is not true. Mr. McKeon has not been removed; but it is true that the President has expressed his determination to remove Mr. McKeon for the part he took against the election of Mayor Wood, and probably some others for the same cause.

There is but one opinion of Judge Douglas's speech in the Senate, to-day, on the Kansas question, and that is of unmeasured praise of its lucid argument, and the force of his illustrations. It is unanswerable.

Major Jack Cummings, of Snyder county, Pennsylvania, an old and tried friend of Mr. Buchanan, has been tendered the office of naval storekeeper, in place of Joseph Severns, of the Philadelphia *Evening Argus*, who will be removed at the expiration of his term. X. Y.

NEWS OF LITERATURE.

Mason Brothers, of New York, will immediately publish A Life of Aaron Burr, by Mr. Parton, containing the true and full history of that remarkable man's private and public life. They also have in the press two new volumes of "Mason's Library of Standard Tales," containing Theodore Hook's "Cousin William," and "Gervase Skinner." In a few days they will publish The New York Almanac and Yearly Record for 1858.

This book owes a great deal to its American editor. It is not alone that it contains two hundred pages more than the English edition, with which it simultaneously appears, but the quality of Mr. Duyckinck's additions is very high. Mr. Willmott's idea was to present a richly illustrated volume of British poetry; Mr. Duyckinck's, to complete it by adding good specimens from the leading American writers. Among the poets whom he introduces are Washington Alston, R. H. Dana, Samuel Woodworth, R. H. Wilde, Charles Sprague, Mrs. Sigourney, J. G. C. Brainard, E. C. Pinkney, C. C. Moore, W. C. Bryant, J. R. Drake, Fitz Greene Halleck, R. W. Emerson, C. F. Hoffman, Ralph Hoyt, W. G. Simms, N. P. Willis, P. P. Cooke, J. G. Whittier, E. A. Poe, H. W. Longfellow, O. W. Holmes, W. D. Street, H. T. Tuckerman, J. R. Lowell, [illegible] others. Nor has his labor stopped with simply selecting. They are en route, [illegible] Some English poets, omitted by Mr. Willmott, are here introduced by Mr. Duyckinck, to whom we are therefore indebted for specimens of Ebenezer Elliott, Caroline Bowles, John Clare, Horace Smith, George Darley, J. Blanco White, Samuel Ferguson, William Motherwell, D. M. Moir, W. M. Thackeray, W. E. Aytoun, Matthew Arnold, and W. C. Bennett. He also has given additional poems from W. Spencer, Wordsworth, Heber, Tennyson, and Kingsley. It is odd enough that neither English nor American editor has given anything from John Wilson, John Gibson Lockhart, William Maginn, or "Father Prout."

The additional poems here do not suffer, by comparison, with respect to their illustrations, most of which are by American artists, among whom we recognise Darley, Casilear, Hill, and Hoppin. The British artists whose drawings, most beautifully engraved, grace this book, are D. Maclise, J. Daziel, Birkett Foster, John Gilbert, William Harvey, H. Weir, J. Tenniel, Edward Duncan, J. D. Harding, J. E. Millais, Corbould, F. R. Pickersgill, C. Stanfield, W. Mulready, J. R. Clayton, D. Edwards, G. Dodgson, W. L. Leitch, F. M. Brown, J. Godwin, and A. Hughes. Most of these are already world-famous names—the rest give evidence here of ability which must speedily ripen into distinction.

Looking only twenty years back, when those literary ephemera, the Annuals, were in prosperous career, we find only mere collections of steel engravings, to illustrate which poetry and prose were written "to order." Mere picture-books, as they were, they had their day. But such volumes as this before us, which really are valuable, as making Art and Poetry mutually illustrate each other, possess a *permanent* value. They are of the highest class, and it is a good symptom of our intellectual improvement, when, in such "hard times," a publisher is willing to risk a large expenditure on their production. Not that Messrs. Harper need have any doubt as to the success of the undertaking. Its merit will command a sale for it, and "The Poets of the Nineteenth Century"—like a beautiful woman, in rich and graceful attire—receives to be admired by all.

CITY POLICE.—DECEMBER 9.

[Reported for The Press.]

FLOGGING A SKELETON.—A tall and spare individual, James Daniels by name, and supposed to be a native of one of the Eastern States, was arraigned for an assault and battery on Reuben Hanby, who has been exhibiting himself somewhere in the northern part of the city as "The Genuine, Original Living Skeleton." The prisoner wished to be heard in explanation of his conduct, and permission being granted, he commenced as follows:

"Yesterday, being out of work, I thought I'd take a walk through the city, to amuse myself, for want of anything better to do, and it struck my 'ention that I had never seen so many shows of living skeletongs. But what is there quoer about that (thought I)—seeing that these are the very starvation times that oughter be favorable to the skeletong crop, if they aint good for anything else. Why, you know that you cant buy oven there hoss meat sassagers for less than'——

Here the magistrate, apprehending a still wider digression, requested Mr. Daniels to speak to the point.

"Well," resumed James, "presently I came to a great big starin pictur that looked like a starved gallinipper smashed up against a wall. Now, you see, ever since these bank-bustin times commenced, and old Ike Coleman's soap and candle factory suspended operations, I thought I was about the boniest individual to be seen on this conternent. But when I seed that pictur, says I to myself, 'good! here's a feller that's leaner than I am. I'll step in and shake hands with him. It will do me good to look at him.' So I paid my fip (here the narrator heaved a tremendous sigh,) and walked in. 'Which is the skillitung?' says I. 'I am,' says a feller in very tight pantaloons and jacket. I looked at him, and I'll be 'leeted to Congress, gents, if the feller was nigh as lean as I am myself! I felt a leetle riled then, I confess, and I spoke right out—'Dern me if you ain't a piece of bogus composition, (says I;) D'ye call yourself a skillytung by profession and follow the business for a living, charging me a fip for a sight, when I kin see my own shadow in any mud-puddle for nothing?' I felt then like I could lick all the 'natomies that ever was dug up by the doctors; so I pitched right into him and knocked all the skin off of my knuckles against the infernal scare-crow's bony carcass."

On this confession, Mr. Daniels, the amateur "skillitung," was bound over to answer for the assault and battery. W.

Among the letters detained for non-payment of postage, at the St. Louis (Mo.) post office, are: Edmund Crendy, Philadelphia, and Fr. Wittrock, Manayunk, Pa.

The Bridgeport *Farmer* is informed that Gen. Tom Thumb, who is now in France, is dangerously ill, and not expected to live.

A $500 lump of gold has been taken from a mine in Cabarrus county, N. C.

THE LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

Removal of F. Stanton, Secretary of Gov. Walker.

[SPECIAL DESPATCH FOR THE PRESS.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9, 1857.—F. STANTON, Secretary of Gov. WALKER, and acting Governor of Kansas, has been removed, and J. W. DENVER, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, appointed to supersede him. It is believed that STANTON has been removed because he called the Territorial Legislature of Kansas together to take action on the Calhoun Constitution.

THIRTY-FIFTH CONGRESS,

FIRST SESSION.

U. S. CAPITOL, WASHINGTON, Dec. 9, 1857.

SENATE.

The galleries were densely crowded again this morning, in expectation of a speech from Senator Douglas.

Mr. PUGH gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill for the improvement of the navigation of the Ohio river.

Mr. MASON offered a resolution, which was debated and passed, inviting the clergy of the District to officiate gratuitously as chaplains of the Senate.

Mr. GWIN gave notice of his intention to introduce bills providing for the construction of a Northern, Southern, and Central Pacific Railroad; also a bill to organize the Territory of Arizona.

Mr. DOUGLAS said he was yesterday under the impression that the President had approved the action of the Lecompton Convention, and under that impression he felt it to be his duty to state, that while he concurred in the general views of the Message, yet so far as it did approve or endorse the action of that Convention, he entirely dissented from it, and would give his reasons for such dissent.

Upon a more careful and critical examination of the Message, he was rejoiced to find the President had not entirely approved the action of that Convention. He was also rejoiced to find that the President had not recommended that Congress should pass laws receiving Kansas into the Union as a State under the Constitution framed at Lecompton. It is true, the tone of the Message indicates a willingness on the part of the President to sign any bill Congress may pass receiving Kansas as a State into the Union, under that Constitution; but it was a very significant fact that the President had refrained from any endorsement of the Convention, and from any recommendation as to the course Congress should pursue in regard to the admission of Kansas. Indeed, the President had expressed deep mortification and disappointment that the whole Constitution was not submitted to the people of Kansas for their acceptance or rejection. He proceeded to show that Congress could not properly receive Kansas into the Union under the Lecompton Constitution. Not only the slavery question, but all others must be submitted to the people of Kansas, as they are guaranteed to establish all their "domestic institutions" for themselves. On this principle the whole Constitution must be submitted to ascertain whether or not it meets with their approbation.

Mr. DOUGLAS contended that the people of Kansas ought to have an opportunity to vote against the Constitution if they chose to do so. He compared the "freedom" allowed by the Lecompton Convention to the "freedom" at the election in Paris when Louis Napoleon was elected President. The reason assigned why the people of Kansas were not allowed to vote on the acceptance of the Constitution prepared was, that if they had the chance they would vote it down by an overwhelming majority. He believed they would, and thought that it was a clear violation of the organic act thus to force the obnoxious Constitution upon the majority.

When Mr. Douglas concluded, much applause was manifested by the spectators in the galleries.

Mr. MASON moved that the galleries be cleared, remarking that the decorum of the Senate had been frequently violated in this way.

Mr. HAMLIN hoped the motion would not prevail.

Mr. CLAY thought the applause commenced on the floor of the Senate, and it would be hard to punish the spectators for following that example.

Mr. BIGLER trusted the motion would be withdrawn.

Mr. MASON acquiesced, but hoped that the next time the offence was repeated, it would not be allowed to passed with impunity.

Mr. BIGLER replied to Mr. Douglas. He said the Lecompton Convention was called according to law, and had been recognised by the President and the Governor of the Territory. It was their right to submit a Constitution to the people, or send it to Congress without such submission. If it was right in itself, republican in form, and the people of the Territory had fairly decided on the slavery question, it would not be wise to keep them out of the Union, simply because the whole Constitution had not been submitted to them. To do so, it would be inconsistent with the doctrine of "non-intervention." There was nothing in the Constitutional Convention, to justify such a course. It would be the duty of Congress to look at the question as it came before it, and to do the best it could by looking at the happiness of the entire country. He had long been under the impression that it would be best both for the Union and Kansas, if that State should be admitted at the first allowable opportunity, in order to localize the strife. He would have preferred that the whole Constitution had been submitted to the people, but persons outside of the Territory have no right to interfere with the slavery question there. He believed the people of Kansas would now have an opportunity to decide whether they will have a free or slave form of government. He could not, however, determine his entire course until then, the people of Kansas shall make such a decision. He said the position assumed by Mr. Douglas, to-day, was in utter derogation of that which he occupied when he voted for Mr. Toombs's bill which proposed to admit Minnesota without submitting it to a vote of the people. He this occurred only a short time ago. He could not understand how Mr. Douglas had so readily become sensitive regarding the rights of that people, after having attempted such an infringement upon them.

Mr. MASON exposed and replied to what he characterized as a fallacy in the remarks of Mr. Douglas.

Mr. DOUGLAS explained, and said he had been misapprehended.

Mr. BIGLER remarked, that in conversation recently with Colonel Henderson, who was an active member of the Convention, he understood him to say there were two Constitutions, virtually.

Mr. DOUGLAS. If there are two, I should like to see the other.

Mr. BIGLER. I say, precisely similar.

Mr. DOUGLAS. If precisely alike, what difference does it make if you may vote for either?

Mr. BIGLER. One for the free and the other for the slave State. That is the difference.

Mr. DOUGLAS. It makes no difference how many copies they make. The simple question is, they only allow the people to vote on slavery, and nothing else. The Senator from Pennsylvania had assumed an air which I thought unnecessary, and rather intimated to me that he spoke by authority.

Mr. BIGLER. I expressed my own views, deliberately formed, and they are in concurrence with those of the President.

Mr. DOUGLAS. I may have misunderstood him. I am certain he did not speak for the President. I know that, for the President has just spoken for himself in the Message, in which he condemns the Convention for not submitting the Constitution to the people, and refuses to recommend us to receive it. The President is a bold, frank man, and if he intended to give us an administration measure, he would say so. It is not respectful to assume that we will do what he will not recommend us to do. Of course, I know that the Senator from Pennsylvania did not speak by authority.

Mr. BIGLER. I think I am safe in saying, and I think the Senator from Illinois will agree, that the President upholds in his Message the doctrine that the Convention had the right to form a Constitution, and submit it to the people for approval, or send it to Congress for approval. I think it is deducible from the Message that the President does not hold that, because the entire Constitution was not submitted to the people, Kansas should be kept out of the Union.

Mr. DOUGLAS. I infer from the Message that the President does hold that the Convention had the right to form a Constitution, and send it here, but that was only the right to petition for redress of grievances under the Federal Constitution, and not because the Legislature had the power to constitute that a legal Convention.

Mr. BIGLER. Where did you get that?

Mr. DOUGLAS. A gentleman (meaning Mr. Trumbull) yesterday read from a speech made by Mr. Buchanan twenty years ago, to show that a Legislature had no right to create a Convention to supersede the then existing Government, and to attempt it would be gross usurpation. The Democratic party has held that doctrine ever since, and asserted it a year ago, by endorsing his (Mr. Douglas's) report from the Committee on Territories. Three hundred thousand copies were circulated as a party document, at a cost of twenty-five hundred dollars paid for a hundred thousand of them. (Laughter.)

Mr. BIGLER entered his protest, and claimed the statute of limitation. He could not consent that Mr. Douglas should hold the President responsible for principles laid down twenty years ago under entirely different circumstances. It is not half so long since Mr. Douglas declared the Missouri line was the best compromise, and in 1848 he proposed to extend it to the Pacific ocean, yet he repealed the whole of it.

Mr. DOUGLAS denied the right of Mr. Bigler to offer a statute of limitations. None but the authorized attorney of the party can thus interpose. As the Senator has denied his authority to speak for the President, he cannot file that plea. Mr. Douglas approved of the statute of limitations. He needed one very much himself. He had never boasted that he had never changed his opinions. He felt every year a little wiser than the year before. Has the President ever withdrawn that opinion?

He denied the right to plead a statute of limitations against the Cincinnati Convention, until the Charleston Convention meet. He stood now where he stood last year, because he believed he was right. It was true he voted for the Toombs bill, and was ready to vote for it again. By doing so there would be no quarrel. It would not do to taunt him with once voting for a measure he would not vote for now.

Mr. BIGLER said he had not taunted the Senator, who had complained that a great wrong was done by not submitting the entire Constitution to the people, when he had voted to put a State Constitution into operation without submitting any part to the people.

Mr. DOUGLAS replied that his explanation was in the language of the President, who, in his instructions to Governor Walker, took it for granted that the Constitution was to be submitted to the people. Mr. Toombs's bill being silent on that subject, he took it for granted that the Constitution would be submitted to the people. If the President was right in taking that ground, why was not he (Douglas) right?

Mr. BIGLER said he did not intend to hold the Senator from Illinois to anything which did not appear on the journals. At a private meeting, before Mr. Toombs's bill was introduced, it was held that, in view of all the difficulties surrounding the question, it would be better that no provision to submit the Constitution to the people should be inserted in the bill; and it was his understanding that the Convention which the bill proposed would make a Constitution, and send it to Congress, without submitting it to the people.

Mr. DOUGLAS, in reply, said he would not like the Senator from Pennsylvania, to insinuate what he would not openly declare. If he was present at the meeting referred to, and sanctioned such a doctrine, let him say so.

Mr. BIGLER said if he was constantly at fault, it was painful, indeed. Perhaps he had wrongfully spoken on the subject. He had told the Senator he did not intend to reflect upon him.

Mr. DOUGLAS remarked that he would release Mr. Bigler from secrecy, and asked him whether he knew that he (Douglas) had either publicly or privately agreed that the Constitution should be adopted without consulting the people.

Mr. BIGLER stated what his distinct recollection was. He remembered very well that the subject was discussed in the house of the Senator from Illinois. He was not sure that Mr. Douglas participated in the debate, in which it was argued that under all the circumstances there ought not to be a proviso in Mr. Toombs's bill requiring the Constitution to be submitted.

Mr. DOUGLAS remarked that the point he made was, that when the bill was silent on that subject, it was understood, as a matter of course, that the Constitution was to be submitted. That he was a party to force on the people a Constitution without their consent, was not true.

Mr. BIGLER explained that he had called Mr. Douglas's attention to his course on Mr. Toombs's bill because it was in derogation of his doctrine laid down to-day. When the Senator from Illinois introduced his preparatory bill for Minnesota he provided that a Constitution should be submitted. If the inference was that a Constitution would be submitted where such a bill is silent, why was the clause inserted in the Minnesota bill? He did not impugn the Senator's patriotism or honorable motives or courage. He had not a more constant admirer than himself, and one who oftener defended him.

Mr. HALE wanted to know some of the very peculiar circumstances which rendered the fair exercise of the elective franchise extremely difficult. (Laughter.)

Mr. BIGLER said that no one had said more on this subject than Mr. Hale, and of the violence and keeping the free-State people from the polls. He (Mr. Bigler) was interested in getting Kansas into the Union.

Mr. DOUGLAS said that, in order to prevent wrong impressions, he would ask Mr. Bigler, whether he meant to be understood as saying that he, (Douglas,) in his own house or elsewhere, had expressed himself in favor of a Constitution without being submitted to the people?

Mr. BIGLER. I made no such allegation.

Mr. DOUGLAS. You left it to be inferred. I will not allow it to be inferred that I so declared in my own house. If I did not, acquit me of it.

Mr. BIGLER. I repeat, that I have no recollection of the Senator participating in the debate alluded to.

Mr. DOUGLAS. If I had nothing to do with it, I don't know what my house had to do with it. (Laughter.) What I said was truth, and that only what I said is on record.

On motion of Mr. GREEN, the further consideration of the President's Message was postponed.

Adjourned.

HOUSE.

After the usual preliminary business, the House resumed the consideration of the two propositions pending relative to the election of printer.

The proposition submitted by Mr. Houston was that the House proceed to the election of printer, with a proviso that the House retains the right possessed by Congress to modify the existing laws on the subject of the public printing, the printer who may be elected under this resolution receiving said election with and upon the condition above set forth, and that a committee be appointed to examine the whole subject and report such change or improvement as they may deem advisable.

The other proposition, by Mr. Smith, of Virginia, as a substitute, provided for a similar examination, and that the election be postponed until the committee make a report.

Mr. BANKS moved to lay Mr. Houston's resolution on the table.

The resolution was negatived—yeas 82, nays 100.

The vote was then taken on Mr. Smith's substitute, which was rejected—yeas 91, nays 118.

The question being upon Mr. Houston's original resolution, it prevailed by a majority of 40.

The House then proceeded to the election of Printer, when Mr. Bocock nominated James B. Steadman and Mr. Washburne, of Maine, nominated George M. Weston.

The vote was then taken, and stood—

James B. Steadman	121
George M. Weston	80
Scattering	4

The former was declared elected.

The members then selected their seats by lottery, and the House adjourned.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Removal of Secretary Stanton, of Kansas, for Violation of Instructions—General Denver nominated as his Successor—The Position of the Ohio Democratic Delegation on the Kansas Question.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The Administration, having been advised, by telegraph, that Acting-Governor Stanton had called a special meeting of the Territorial Legislature of Kansas, the President, to-day, forthwith removed him, and nominated to the Senate, as his successor, General Denver, now Commissioner of Indian Affairs, who left Washington for the West last week. The reason for the removal is, that Mr. Stanton has violated the instructions heretofore given to both Governor Walker and himself, to do no act which could possibly delay the free-State people from the polls. It is deducible from the Message that the President does not hold that, because the entire Constitution was not submitted to the people, Kansas should be kept out of the Union.

Mr. BIGLER said he did not intend to hold the Senator from Illinois to anything which did not appear on the journals. At a private meeting, before Mr. Toombs's bill was introduced, it was held that, in view of all the difficulties surrounding the question, it would be better that no provision to submit the Constitution to the people should be inserted in the bill; and it was his understanding that the Convention which the bill proposed would make a Constitution, and send it to Congress, without submitting it to the people.

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Mr. DOUGLA