The Press.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1858.

FIRST PAGE.—Napoleon III and Count de Montalembert; Poetry, by Fanny Kemble; Senator Douglas, of Illinois, at Memphis, Tennessee: The Slaver Echo Case—the bills thrown out by the Grand Jury: General News: The Courts.

The News.

The distracted condition of Mexico continues to attract great attention. The fact that seven Americans were recently executed at Zacatecas by the Government authorities seems to be fully established, and a rich English banker at the same place was threatened with instant death if he did not pay a bill of exchange which had fallen into the hands of Vidaurri. The occurrence is thus related by a correspondent of the New York *Times*, writing from the city of Mexico:

"The case is this: A highly-respectable gentleman, and the richest banker and merchant in the northern States of this republic (?) William Newall, Esq., of Zacatecas, had drawn a bill payable to the order of one Castro, at San Luis Potosi. As is usual with bills of exchange all over the world, and as is most especially necessary in a disturbed country like this, this exchange appears to have been drawn with 1st, 2d, and 3d bills. At San Luis Potosi, after the defeat of Vidaurri, the third bill of this exchange was found in the luggage of Vidaurri. The Government General, Marquez, seized it, and on his entrance into Zacatecas he presented it at the counters of Mr. Newall for payment. Mr. Newall protested that the bill was given by him; that it was to be paid at San Luis; that the probabilities were the 1st or 2d had already been paid, and that therefore this 3d of exchange had no value whatever; that he sold it as he would have sold exchange to any person, and had no knowledge that it was to pass into the hands of Vidaurri, &c., &c. But General Marquez wanted the money, and demanded that the worthless 3d of exchange should be paid forthwith. Mr. Newall declined, and was at once thrown in prison and informed that he would be shot at 6 A. M. of the following day. This extreme was averted, fortunately, by the payment of the bill by a friend of Mr. Newall, and he was set at liberty."

A correspondent of the New Orleans *Picayune* says:

"Delays are dangerous, and the sooner we set to work to regulate these people, and get them ready for annexation—if it be possible—the better it will be for us and for them also. We cannot annex to our Union seven or eight millions of what we call colored people, only, in part civilized, without ruining our institutions; but we can send an armed force and then regulate afterwards a native force—like the Sepoys in the East Indies—collect their revenues, set the people to work, and by proper management they may hereafter become fit for annexation at some future time, and useful then to themselves and to us also; but left to themselves, without a new training, they will be a nuisance and an evil to us in time to come, provided other nations are willing to let them alone, which we have no reason to expect, because their subjects here are constantly applying to them for protection."

The Washington *Union* complains that bands of Indians who invade our territories find secure retreats in the territories of Mexico, and says:

"The Government of Mexico should be required to maintain order and secure a complete ascendency over the feeble tribes who now command absolute jurisdiction over the States referred to. We ought not, in other words, to be called upon to respect a territory which is used by a hostile people to rob, plunder and murder within our own jurisdiction. If Mexico cannot enforce her laws upon her borders so as to protect our frontier inhabitants, the right to exercise the means of self-protection becomes obvious indeed.

"It would, indeed, *seem impossible much longer to postpone decided action in regard to Mexico*. The descent of that country is rapid, and it promises nothing in the way of improvement in the future. Its central Government is almost absolutely helpless, while its border States are wholly at the mercy of hostile Indians. In the management of the latter we are not only directly interested, but *we have a clear right, on principles of self-protection, to intervene, and command the enforcement of order.*"

Another point of interest in our relations with Mexico arises from the fact that some time ago an American citizen was kidnapped at a trading house about one mile and a half north of the boundary line of Sonora, and imprisoned at Guaymas, and the commander of the Saranac has been instructed to release the prisoner at all hazards, even if the town must be battered down. Nothing has been yet heard of the result of the undertaking.

The message of the President, which may be expected to-day or to-morrow, is said to be a document of unusual length. A large portion of its space, it is conjectured, will be devoted to Mexican and Central American affairs, and the overland mail routes, the Indian wars, the Pacific Railroad, and the tariff will probably be discussed. Whether the "step in advance" on the slavery question is to be taken in the message or not, remains to be seen. From present indications, the approaching session of Congress will be a working one, and not upon many important questions.

The Grand Jury of the United States Circuit Court in South Carolina has refused to find bills of indictment against the crew of the slaver Echo, and the discharge of the prisoners, sixteen in number, has been asked for. The indications are that they will be suffered to go unwhipt of justice.

The contest in Virginia for the Democratic nomination for Governor has resulted in the selection of Hon. John Letcher.

The Secretary of the Treasury has prepared his estimates for the expenses of the General Government for the next fiscal year, ending the 30th of June, 1860. It will be presented to Congress to-day or to-morrow. He estimates the whole expenditure of the national Government at the sum of $73,217,947 46, as follows:

Civil list, foreign intercourse, and miscellaneous, including expenses of collecting the revenue from sales of public lands and expenses of courts	$11,629,585 11
To supply deficiencies in the revenues of the General Post Office	6 282,900 00
Pensions	852,000 00
Indian Department	1,866,419 49
Army proper, &c., including miscellaneous objects	15,658,386 23
Military Academy	181,938 00
Fortifications, ordnance, &c	2,165,766 00
Naval establishment	18,500 370 80
Total	52,241,315 63

To the estimates is added statement showing:

1. The appropriations for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1860, made by former acts of Congress, of a specific and indefinite character, as follows, viz:

Miscellaneous, including expenses of collecting revenue from customs	$5,624,410 14	
Compensation to the general Post Office for mail service	700,000 00	
Arming and equipping the militia	200,000 00	
Civil station of Indians	10 000 00	
Interest on the public debt	1,963,314 36	
		8,497,724 50

2. The existing appropriations, part of which will be required for the payment of the liabilities of the present fiscal year, but which will not be drawn from the Treasury until after June 30, 1859, and the balance applied to the service of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1860, viz.:

Civil list, foreign intercourse and miscellaneous	$4,270,957 24	
Interior Department, (pensions and Indian,)	1,603,602 88	
War Department	3,861,691 76	
Navy Department	3,245 255 45	
		12,478,907 28
Total		$73,217,947 46

Senator Douglas arrived at New Orleans on the evening of the 3d instant, and had a most enthusiastic reception.

A few weeks ago some of the citizens of Cincinnati made a movement to stop the omnibuses from running on Sunday, and the mayor complied with their wishes by fining the proprietors of the coaches for a violation of the Sunday law. The proprietors appealed to the courts in vindication of their rights, and the court has decided against the mayor. The court rested its decision upon the ground that the omnibus was a public convenience, and its work a public necessity.

The Spruce and Pine Street Passenger Railway goes into operation to-day.

The number of interments in this city for the week ending December 4, was 208.

A man named John Barrett was found badly injured and insensible on Saturday morning, about one o'clock, at the corner of Twelfth and Willow streets, and died in a few hours after.

Good News from Beale—Arrival of Mr. Edwards.

Henry B. Edwards, Esq., first assistant of Lieut. Beale's wagon-road expedition, arrived at Washington on Friday evening last, having left the camp on the south side of the Canadian river, above Chateau's old trading post, on the 16th of November last. He reports the health of Lieut. Beale's party as good, and as having met with no obstacles on the route, the road being in excellent condition the whole distance. Mr. B. is waiting for his escort, which was some hundred miles in the rear, and it was his intention to move on immediately upon its arrival. When Lieut. Beale left Fort Smith, he was advised not to undertake the expedition by those whom he had calculated to employ as guides, from the fact, as stated by them, that the Indians had burned the grass upon the Plains. This information, however, did not deter him, as he had set out to perform his mission, and he was adverse to a life of inactivity. He will proceed at once to Albuquerque, and from thence to Leroux Spring, where he will stop to recruit his animals and men.

Mr. Frank Green, who has charge of the Nesho mail—than whom there is no more energetic and persevering man—was induced, at the earnest solicitation of Lieut. Beale and his party, to remain and pass with them through the Camanche country, it being impossible, as demonstrated by the recent battle between Major Van Horne and these Indians, that a force so small as that accompanying Mr. Green could pass with safety. The outfit of Mr. G. is of the most perfect kind, and had it not been for the unfortunate disturbances at present existing among the Indians, his contract would have been carried out with credit to the Government and himself.

All the accounts which have appeared of the difficulties which Lieut. Beale will experience with the Indians, and other obstacles, amount to nothing. We had full confidence in his ability to go through with his expedition successfully, and the information we have received from Mr. Edwards fully satisfies us that our opinion is correct.

The Tariff—No. 1.

Intending to present our views upon this subject plainly, and addressing them to practical people and practical uses only, we wish, first of all, to relieve ourselves of certain misconceptions to which the discussion is usually liable. In the first place, we do not write in the interest of capitalists or of manufacturers. We are not hostile to either of them; but they can take care of themselves, and if they cannot, our help would be unavailing. We have another reason for this: The largest capitalists and the greatest manufacturers in the world are free traders. Having the command of the money which commands the machinery, and skill that defies all competition, the *let-alone* policy is both principle and practice with them, and as they need none of our help, it is not in their behalf that we would interfere.

In the next place, it is not for the general benefit of all the races and nations of the earth that we concern ourselves; and, of course, we are not about to enlist in the advocacy of any of these general abstractions which either assume or look towards all the interests of all the world at once. Millennial and cosmopolitan theories we leave to the scholars and students who have the leisure to cultivate them, and to wait for their realization.

With us it is primarily a question of the interests of LABOR, and, resultingly, of our own country's welfare. These are the things which need the helpful care of the Civil Government of the country, and they are entitled to both assistance and defence from all who have the power, either of official station to protect them, or of that public opinion which induces its exercise. So far as capital and enterprise in its holders are tributary to these ends, they are just claimants upon the Government and the public. In all that concerns their separate interests, they are both independent and indifferent. Money, and the ability to manage it, are never in so good a condition for making great gains as when labor and its immediate concerns are in the worst circumstances.

In 1850 there were eleven millions of people in the United States between the ages of fifteen and sixty. One million (in round numbers) were engaged in manufacturing, mining, and the mechanic arts, (counting only those establishments which produced above $500 worth of products per annum;) and the wages of this million of people—three fourths of them men, one fourth women—amounted to two hundred and thirty millions of dollars, which sum was almost exactly one fourth of the value of the commodities which they produced.

There were at that time another half million of persons engaged in arts and trades, not working in factories; there were two and a half millions employed in agricultural labor, and one million in work not agricultural; making altogether five millions of persons occupied in productive industry. Allowing this army of producers an average of fifty cents a day, their earnings for the year would amount to seven hundred and fifty millions, which is about the one fourth of the total annual product of the nation's industry, and probably a sufficiently correct estimate of its value. It is, at least, near enough to the truth for our purposes.

The agriculturists and manufacturers whose capital, labor, and care are concerned in carrying on these industries, and who depend upon them for their own support, must cover at least two more fourths of the grand annual product. This great interest of above two thousand millions per annum, with the cumulative wealth, beyond the consumption of the *producers, which it yields to the nation*, is the matter about which we concern ourselves. Every topic which we shall touch in our treatment of the general subject will be regarded as subsidiary to it, and will be considered only as it bears upon this primary and chief matter of our study.

Regarding the productive labor of the nation as the proper and principal subject of its concern and care, and the wealth and prosperity resulting from it as the sum of all the objects for which a nation is politically organized, and for which it takes a separate and independent existence among the Governments of the earth, we proceed to lay down a few economical propositions for the use which they will serve in our discussion—propositions, although abstract in form, yet so plain, pertinent, and practical, that they must command an instant assent and acceptance:

First. That nations are composed of individuals.

Second. That whatever contributes to the welfare, prosperity, and happiness of the individuals composing the nation, contributes, in proportionate degree, to the welfare, prosperity, and happiness of the nation at large.

Third. That the wealth of a nation consists of the aggregate wealth of the individuals composing the nation.

Fourth. That the thrift of each individual requires that his income be greater than his outlay; his earnings greater than his expenses.

Fifth. That, in like manner, the thrift of a nation requires that, in its dealings with the rest of the world, its income shall be greater than its outlay; its sales greater than its purchases; its exports greater than its imports.

Sixth. That an individual, to thrive, must sell his surplus products for more than he pays for those which he purchases for consumption.

Seventh. That, in like manner, a nation, to thrive, must sell its surplus productions for more than the value of its imports.

Eighth. That the balance against an individual, in the exchanges of products which he makes with his neighbors, must be paid out of his capital, diminishing its amount, and, to that extent, its reproductive powers—tending to bankruptcy.

Ninth. That the debtor nation must, in like manner, settle the balance of its exchanges with other nations out of its capital, thereby diminishing its amount and its reproductive powers—tending to general business embarrassment.

Tenth. That the debt-balance of an individual, measured as it is by the dollar of account, must be paid in money, or in its convertible equivalent of his other capital.

Eleventh. That nations, in their dealings with each other, and in paying balances due to each other, require money in settlement, and recognise nothing as money except gold and silver.

Twelfth. That whatever an individual buys, beyond the amount of what he sells, is too dear at any price, no matter how cheap.

Thirteenth. That whatever a nation buys, beyond the value of what it sells to other nations, is, in like manner, too dear at any price, no matter how cheap.

Fourteenth. That the maxim of trade—"buy cheap and sell dear"—does not warrant the buying cheap first, and risking the selling dear afterwards; or, the buying cheap without the certainty of selling dear, and to the full amount of all that is so bought.

Fifteenth. That a prudent individual will observe frugality, and practise home industry, at a low rate of remuneration for time and labor, rather than purchase *commodities* at a cheaper rate than he can himself produce them, if he cannot carry to market his own products to an equivalent or greater amount.

Sixteenth. That a nation must practise the like frugality, and create by its home industry the commodities required for its consumption, rather than purchase them, however cheap, from other nations, who do not take their equivalent in its productions.

Seventeenth. That a balance of trade against an individual suspends his business, reduces his capital, cripples his productive industry, and impoverishes him.

Eighteenth. In like manner, a balance of trade against a nation throws it into a monetary revulsion, withdraws its active capital, suspends its industry, and drives it into bankruptcy.

While we insist upon the truth and force of these propositions, as applied to the business of nations, we would have it understood that we do not enter into the speculative controversy, so long and so fruitlessly pending between political economists, upon the "balance of trade" question. We speak here only of a real and effective indebtedness, arising upon international trade; and we do not look for its evidence, or for its amount, to the custom-house accounts of imports and exports. We do not rely upon their valuations or their apparent balances, and we are, therefore, unincumbered in our argument by the thousand and one insoluble questions which arise from them.

But while we would avoid the "debatable ground" of this subject, as leading to endless disputes, we will take leave to say, that so far as the valuation of the imports and exports of the United States (officially reported) go, the apparent balance against us is certainly not more than the real difference of our exchanges, because it is not more than our known foreign debt at this time.

Before the year 1821, the Treasury reports did not give the value of our imports—for all time prior to that year we have only their *estimated* amounts. From the year 1821 till June, 1857, as they stand in the Treasury report last published, their valuation is taken from official documents. The same thing is true of the movements of specie as they are given in the reports.

Now, from 1821 till June, 1857—as appears by the report of last year—our total imports, including specie, amounted to five thousand three hundred and eight millions of dollars, and our exports, including specie, to five thousand and twenty millions—a balance of two hundred and eighty-eight millions against us. Well, in the year 1856 Mr. GUTHRIE, Secretary of the Treasury, reported the amount of American bonds and stocks held by foreigners at two hundred and twenty-two millions. That we have added sixty-six millions to this account since the 30th of June, 1853, admits of no reasonable doubt; and, as the official tables show that no part of this amount came to us in the shape of specie, it must have come in merchandise, and, as a subsisting balance of debt, must represent at least as great a "balance of trade" to all intents and purposes.

We, nevertheless, say again, that we do not rely upon the national account current of imports and exports for our data, for which there are many sufficient reasons, among which are, that there are many influences at work to vitiate the register, under ad valorem tariffs; especially the temptation to undervalue imports is too great to be resisted, and the temptation to overvalue exports, which pay no duty, is also a strong one. We reject these tables, therefore, for the reason that they are not reliable, and especially because we have reason to suspect them of *underrating* the difference against us in our exchanges with Europe.

In our next article we will give our own estimate of our international account, with reference to its effects upon our industry and prosperity, and upon our currency, as the thermometer of our welfare.

Senator Douglas in Tennessee.

We have read the speech of Senator DOUGLAS at Memphis, Tennessee, on the 29th of November, as reported in two of the newspapers of that city, the *Appeal* and the *Avalanche*, and lay before our readers this morning such portions of it as may be interesting to those who are curious to know what the distinguished Senator may say before a Southern audience, omitting only those passages which simply reiterate such generalities as have no bearing upon the questions in issue. When we remember that Senator DOUGLAS spoke to a Southern audience, and that he was approaching a region from which he has been most bitterly denounced, we do not go too far in saying that he has been as bold and as frank in Tennessee as in Illinois, and that he has been quite as clear and resolute in the assertion of the principles by which he has been guided in the past, and by which he intends to be guided in the future, as his best friends could have desired.

The reports in all the Memphis papers inform us that Senator DOUGLAS was received with extraordinary enthusiasm, and that his speech, even those portions of it which might be supposed to awaken the sensibilities of the South, gave the utmost satisfaction. He seems to have kept steadily in view the record of his life on the great principle of Popular Sovereignty, and, while looking forward, has not failed to look back upon the early stand he took upon this question, in Congress and before the country. We do not doubt that when he shall be welcomed by the people of Louisiana he will be equally ready and frank to speak out his opinions. The organs of extreme Southern opinion continue their war upon Senator DOUGLAS as well as upon his platform; but the reception of the man and the acceptance of his doctrine by the people of the South, assure our belief that the extremists and fanatics of the South, like those of the North, are not the power of the country.

HON. J. C. MCKIBBIN.

Two weeks ago a telegram, dated at St. Louis, calculated in its character to place the above gentleman in an unpleasant position, was widely published in the Atlantic States. It now appears to have been based upon anonymous communications, as THE PRESS predicted in anticipation of the arrival of the mails. Mr. MCKIBBIN's friends at San Francisco, who were cognizant of all the circumstances, have, over their own *signatures*, given the story its proper quietus. We subjoin their card, published in the San Francisco *Herald* of October 22, as a complete vindication of Mr. MCKIBBIN:

"Two anonymous communications have recently appeared in the columns of the *National*, respecting a misunderstanding which has arisen between Joseph C. McKibbin and Geo. Fen Johnston. It is obviously improper that such affairs of the kind should be obtruded on the public attention, but as the publications in question are marked by undue personality, with an evident political intent, and as they contain several flagrant errors, which are calculated to prejudice the reputation of an absent party, we consider it a duty to our duty to offer a brief and temperate reply.

"It is true that Mr. McKibbin and the undersigned, on the day named in the *National*, proceeded to the county of Marin, with the view of holding communication with Mr. Johnston; but Mr. McKibbin (we give his own lang uage) 'had no idea of prejudicing Mr. Johnston in his present position, and only sought, in the course he pursued, to relieve himself of misrepresentation. Being compelled to leave the State on the steamer of the 20th inst., he was unwilling that Mr. Johnston's action should remain altogether unnoticed.'

"But it is not true that the 'friends of Mr. McKibbin expressed a *great anxiety* to obtain the identical pair of pistols used in the unfortunate affair between Johnston and Ferguson.' It is not true that Mr. McKibbin and his friends knew that Mr. Johnston was in custody when they left this city. And it is not true that any person was requested to carry '*a peremptory challenge*' to Mr. Johnston. Knowing that 'the public always remember the charge, and seldom the reply,' we must, nevertheless, say that '*only one* letter was addressed to Mr. Johnston, and that was simply a communication of inquiry, couched in the most unexceptionable language. In it nothing was said about a challenge, and Mr. Johnston's friend was so informed and assured.

"Surprise is expressed in the *National* that so so long a time should have elapsed before Mr. McKibbin held communication with Mr. Johnston. In reply, we do not consider it necessary to say more than that Mr. McKibbin's pledged political engagements, and Mr. Johnston's own absence, rendered such communication, prior to the day in question, entirely impracticable.

"WILLIAM A. ADDISON,
"CHARLES KINCAID.

"San Francisco, Oct. 21, 1858."

PHILADELPHIA TRADE CIRCULAR.—The second number of this monthly newspaper of trade and commerce has appeared. We find four or five leading articles from *The Press*, copied into its columns, with only the following impudently cool acknowledgment: "In making up this paper, the publishers have freely availed themselves of the columns of some of our best conducted journals, such as the *North American*, *Press*, *Ledger*, &c.; it was not deemed necessary to give credit for each individual article, but we deem it no more than fair to express our indebtedness in these general terms." We submit that this systematic conveyancing is unfair towards all concerned. It is as unfair that our contemporaries should labor under the onus of *our* dullness, as that we should be accredited with *their* surpassing brilliancy. If the *Trade Circular* desire to act honestly by all parties, it will credit each of the "best conducted journals" with its own particular articles. By doing this, the *Circular's* original remarks will be distinguishable from those which it merely steals.

WE are advised, through the politeness of Col. James Page, that a meeting of the friends of the late General Rufus Welch will be held at the Franklin House on Tuesday next, the 7th instant, for the purpose of effecting arrangements for placing a suitable monument over his remains. Col. L. B. Lent, of the National Circus, has kindly offered the committee the use of his building for the purpose of a benefit.

THOMAS & SONS' SALES THIS WEEK.—ELEGANT AND VALUABLE BOOKS, *this evening, (Monday,)* at the auction rooms.

SUPERIOR CABINET FURNITURE.—To-morrow (Tuesday) morning, at George J. Henkel's, Walnut street.

ELEGANT AND VALUABLE BOOKS.—A consignment direct from London, to be sold Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings. Now arranged for examination with catalogues.

REAL ESTATE, STOCK, &c.—A large sale to-morrow evening at the Exchange; sixteen properties, besides stocks, &c.

FURNITURE at the auction store, Thursday.

PRINT WORKS AND MACHINERY, Friday. See Thomas & Sons' catalogues and advertisements of the six sales.

☞ Catalogues of Mr. Gratz's wines also ready

FANCY FURS AND CLOAKS.—B. Scott, Jr., auctioneer, 431 Chestnut street, sells this morning fancy furs, Paris-made cloaks, &c., now ready for examination.

PEREMPTORY SALE—Walnut-street residences. See Messrs. Thomas & Sons' advertisement for to-morrow evening.

BY MIDNIGHT MAIL.

Letters from Washington.

[Regular Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5, 1858.

Since yesterday noon members have crowded here, and it is not improbable that now that there is a quorum of both houses present. You see them in the hotel halls, gathered in knots of twos and threes, busily going over the points of the recent Congressional canvasses, rehearsing the issues made, rejoicing over victories and bewailing defeats, and discussing the great questions to come up during the session to begin to-morrow. These intercourses have developed one thing, and that is, that the bitterness which we were led to believe existed against anti-Lecompton Democrats among Southern politicians is a myth, for if it did exist at any time, as the *Union* alleged, it has worn away. One or two utraists still cry out against Judge Douglas, and yet when they talk of Pennsylvania, are loud in eulogy of organization and in condemnation of anti-Lecompton Democrats. But these men are incorrigible, and it is as fruitless to essay to get them upon a conservative platform as it is to straighten a gnarled and twisted oak. It is enough to say that John G. Jones and Gov. Bigler are their patterns of political honesty and public virtue.

It is startling to contemplate the deep-rooted aversion in Pennsylvania to the present Administration, but the contempt into which it has fallen here is unspeakable. Southern men deride it—they for whom Mr. Buchanan has spurned old associations and bartered everything—they look upon it much as a Saxon baron would regard his buffoon—a thing to amuse but not to lead them. I thought, as doubtless did many others, that these would at least be faithful to him, but for the nonce I had forgotten how uncompromisingly and certainly Southern men adhere to and guard their peculiar interests. They have started a new paper here—the *Southern Citizen*—which has only a weak parallel in fanaticism, bravado, impracticability, high-sounding nothings, and an altogether Chinese gong operation, which may frigh ten very feeble intellects, in the Boston *Liberator*. This new dodge will accomplish little of good for them, while it may be a firebrand for fierce and consuming agitation.

But the day of extremists I hope is passed. Their cry of wolf has frightened, but their trick has been discovered, and it can frighten no longer.

It is stated that Mr. Buchanan will recommend specific duties. The statement is from the best authority. It would be a matter of heartfelt rejoicing for the industrial interests of the North if something practical were done for them, and valuable time were not thrown away upon abstractions, like those of Boyce, of South Carolina, that there shall be free trade and direct taxation. Several of the members have intimated to me that, whatever is recommended from the Executive or the Secretary of the Treasury, they will insist on the matter being taken up and considered and acted on at an early day.

Mr. Buchanan, in his message, will take high ground upon the Monroe doctrine. Protectorate over Mexico may not be directly alluded to; but it is stated that he is inclined toward that movement. The policy or impolicy is worthy of the most serious inquiry. Iceland is no longer a republic, but is a dependency of the Danish crown, and Denmark pays a million a year for the honor. England protects the Canadas, and is largely out of pocket in the undertaking. So I might go on, but in a letter it is difficult to deal with such a subject.

I am at a loss to know what Mr. Buchanan will tell us of the massacre at Panama in 1856. Shall New Granada loiter on the road, or shall she be forced to the fullest reparation at the shrine of justice? Palmerston was hurled from power because the English suspected him of complicity with a foreign potentate to defraud English subjects of their rights, or rather to curtail their rights. That nation sent her navy against the sovereign of the Sicilies, and at the cannon's mouth demanded reparation for injustice done her one or two subjects in the Cagliari affair, and months did not intervene before reparation was made. Here years have flown by, and still the blood of Americans, spilled under the very eyes of the New Granada authorities, remains unavenged, the insult unappeased. But so it is; we are such a great nation, our Administration so top-loftical, one citizen, or a couple of dozens of them, so insignificant that they may be slaughtered and quartered, hammered out or flattened out, as was Baron Munchausen, or as they say one of the nabobs of India does to those of his rebellious subjects he gets hold of, and dried in the sit, for flags to affright the skies; and yet, without a Lord Ross telescope, the affront would be as imperceptible and unnoticed as the caverns in the moon.

Glancy Jones will have to undergo the severest ordeal of his life when his nomination to the Austrian Court comes up for confirmation before the Senate. He may have fainted when he lost the State Treasurship of Pennsylvania; he may have cried like a child when he learned that glorious old Bigler, sweating to the juggernaut and honesty of Berks, had defeated him for Congress; but a less phlegmatic and thick-skinned politician would die outright at the blow now lifting to come down upon him with terrible force. If he be rejected, then Wanner is to be tried for it. Who is to go to Nebraska in place of Gov. Richardson is not known. Wouldn't Mr. Hughes, of Indiana, do? Who more faithful to Locompton than he?

THURSAIR.

WASHINGTON, December 5, 1858.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

There will be no delay in getting to work to-morrow. The session will last but three months, and the Speaker for the Thirty-fifth Congress was chosen last year, and is now on the ground, comfortably quartered at the corner of Eighth and E streets. The President's message will be communicated to-morrow, unless some new decision is arrived at during to-day. It will be very long and very interesting. The revenue part of it will be unsatisfactory, but this was to have been expected. When an Administration runs hopelessly and recklessly into debt, mainly to bolster up its own follies, it is like an individual who tries to hide his immoralities and wrong-doings by giving expensive entertainments. The world sees the object and condemns it; and in the case of the Administration, in this country at the least, the account must be rendered.

One of the subjects that will excite most interest during the short session is the Oregon and Washington war debt, amounting perhaps to six millions of dollars. I am endeavoring to obtain some facts in reference to this extraordinary claim which will be of great interest. It is believed that Capt. Gram, of the United States engineers, made a report more than a year ago, in which the injustice of the claim was fully set forth. By some manœuvre the publication of this paper has been prevented; but a new effort will be made on the one hand to obtain the money, and on the other to give the country the facts.

The well-known Dr. Hitchcock, of San Francisco, who, you will recollect, was a leading member of the Know-Nothing Convention which assembled in Philadelphia in 1856, and placed in nomination Fillmore and Donelson, has been appointed to an important office by Mr. Buchanan in California. This selection of Hitchcock over the heads of deserving men in the Golden State shows how anxious the Administration is to strengthen itself with any organization that is willing to endorse its Kansas policy.

An amusing story is told of a mistake of Postmaster General Brown's, in regard to the appointment of a postmaster at Jerseyville, Illinois. Tom excellent Philadelphia-born Democrat, Charles S. Jackson, so well known and beloved in your city, was removed from the post-office at Jerseyville, and another person appointed in his place; but in the hurry to designate the successor a ridiculous mistake was made. The person it tended to be appointed was Jacob E. Whitneck, instead of which Mr. Brown forwarded the name of Jacob W. Whitehead. Mr. Jackson, the incumbent of the office, knowing of no such person, informed the Postmaster General that probably a mistake had occurred. In about two weeks the mistake was corrected, the simon-pure name was sent on, and a man was put in Jackson's position who represented about a dozen Danite votes out of 1,600 in the county.

There will be a quorum in the Senate, Mr. *Breckinridge having arrived*, and both our Senators from Pennsylvania. Senator Bigler will no doubt, as soon as the Senate meets, send forward to the Vice President, to be read by the Secretary, the following extract:

"Make my special regards to Governor Walker, and say to him THAT HE HAS THE POPULAR HEART WITH HIM THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY EXCEPT ON THE EXTREME SOUTH. Should his programme succeed, he WILL HAVE THE MOST ENVIABLE PRESIDENCE OF ANY MAN IN THE NATION. *The Administration is a little* WEAK AT THE THROAT, *and winter under Southern thunder, but they must stand up to the work.*"

The speech of Mr. Douglas at Memphis, laid and outspoken as it was, has made a great impression here. It is regarded as one of the boldest and bravest of his movements. One of the participants in this ovation tells me that Douglas is his unquestionable choice of the Democrats and of hers of Americans in Tennessee, and that such men as ex-Senator Jones, Hon. W. H. Polk, Hon. J. Knox Walker, &c., are already in the field canvassing his cause. The bitter attacks of the Nashville *Union*, (the Postmaster General's organ,) upon Douglas, are not responded to by the people.

The New England Republicans are making a movement for the Presidency, anticipating the reaction of the people against Congressional intervention, and ready to follow out the view of the Representatives in favor of the Crittenden-Montgomery amendment. Many of their most astute leaders propose taking (to use Jefferson Davis' language in reference to Mr. Buchanan) a step in advance, and therefore do not be surprised if either Hon. John J. Crittenden, of Kentucky, or Hon. John Bell, of Tennessee, shall become the favorite of the Republicans of New England. PIONEER.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3, 1858.

The citizens of Washington are a little disappointed in their attempts to get up public receptions for distinguished Congressmen. To be sure, the night-serenade to Glancy Jones, of a few weeks ago, called together a rabble, and it was chronicled a success by the dignified *Union* and its little shadow, the *Star*. An attempt was then made to give Senator Brown—a straightforward, honest man—a public dinner, but Mr. Brown very sensibly declined to eat at the expense of the people of the District. The friends of Mr. Seward next essayed to give him a reception and serenade, and the arrangements were nearly complete, when news of the intended ovation came to the ears of the Senator, and he insisted, with unusual pertinacity, that the idea should be relinquished at once, showing his good sense also. After these failures, no more attempts will be made to "receive" public men here this winter, unless Mr. Douglas should prove an exception.

The numerous friends of Senator Crittenden would like to show him how devoted they are in their attachment to him, upon his return, but there will be no public display in the matter. There is a clique here, however, who are determined on making Mr. Crittenden our next President; and that he is not unwilling to be a candidate is easily to be seen by his recent movements at the North.

The triumph of the conservatives in the South Carolina Legislature, by the decisive vote of 92 to 54, over the fire eaters, greatly pleases conservative politicians here; and it is alleged that the final result is due, to a great extent, to Senator Hammond. It shows conclusively that the recent speech of Mr. Hammond meets with the approbation of a great majority of the voters of South Carolina. Mr. Hammond is expected here to-morrow, and he will take a much higher position in the Senate than the one he occupied last session. His speech on Kansas, or rather slavery—the "mudsill" speech—was simply a blunder. His late speech shows the man and his capabilities. Henceforth he will be a leading and influential man among Southern politicians.

POPULATION OF THE SEVERAL STATES, THE RATIO OF REPRESENTATION, AND THE NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES ALLOWED TO EACH AT THE TIME OF THEIR ADMISSION, RESPECTIVELY.

STATES.	When admitted.	Population.	Ratio of representation at time of admission.	Number of representatives before next apportionment.
New Hampshire	June 21, 1788	141,899	.....	3
Massachusetts	Feb. 6, 1788	378,717	.....	8
Rhode Island	May 29, 1790	69,110	.....	2
Connecticut	Jan. 9, 1788	238,141	.....	5
New York	July 26, 1788	340,120	.....	6
New Jersey	Dec. 18, 1787	184,139	.....	4
Pennsylvania	Dec. 12, 1787	434 373	.....	8
Delaware	Dec. 7, 1787	59 096	.....	1
Maryland	April 28, 1788	319,728	.....	6
Virginia	June 26, 1788	748,308	.....	10
North Carolina	Nov. 21, 1789	393,751	.....	5
South Carolina	May 23, 1788	249,073	.....	5
Georgia	Jan. 2, 1789	82 548	.....	3
Vermont	March 4, 1791	85,539	.....	2
Kentucky	June 1, 1792	73,077	.....	2
Tennessee	June 1, 1796	77,262	.....	2
Ohio	Nov. 29, 1802	42,01	33 000	1
Louisiana	April 8, 1812	76 556	33,000	1
Indiana	Dec. 11, 1816	63 897	35,000	1
Mississippi	Dec. 10, 1817	75,612	35,000	1
Illinois	Dec. 3, 1818	55,162	35 000	1
Alabama	Dec. 14, 1819	144 317	35,000	1
Maine	Mar. 15, 1820	298,335	35 000	1
Missouri	Aug. 10, 1821	65,586	35,000	1
Arkansas	June 15, 1836	52,240	47,700	1
Michigan	Jan. 26, 1837	200,000	47,700	1
Florida	March 3, 1845	54,477	70,680	1
Texas	Dec. 29, 1845	250,000	70,680	2
Wisconsin	May 29, 1848	305,391	70,680	2
Iowa	Dec. 28, 1846	81,920	70,680	1
California	Sep. 9, 1850	107,000	70,680	2
Minnesota	May 11, 1858	136,464	93,420	2

VYX.

Public Entertainments.

We have done with Italian Opera, for a few weeks, for Piccolomini is expected early in January. Maurice Strakosch, we understand, has not lost money at the Academy of Music, and would have been yet more successful, had Mr. Junca been able to sing, as was promised and expected. A severe attack of bronchitis incapacitated him, much to the regret of those who had heard him a couple of months ago, at Signora Parodi's "Farewell Concert" (the Seventeenth) at Musical Fund Hall. There is a rumor that Mr. Strakosch will return in the spring. He will be very welcome, if he brings with him that admirable vocalist, Madame Colson, who is undeniably one of the very best singers ever heard in this city, and who performs almost as well as she sings.

John Drew's farewell performances at Walnut-street, during the past week, came to a close on Saturday evening, and were very well attended. He leaves New York for California this day, and we heartly say *Bon voyage!* Mr. and Miss Richings have returned from a short starring visit to New York, and we noticed that the Gothamite critics spoke very eulogistically of Miss Richings' performances, not only as a vocalist, but as an actress. This evening, Miss Davenport, who has not played in this city for three years, commences a brief engagement at Walnut-street Theatre, appearing as *The Countess*, with Conway as *Huon*, in Knowles' play of "Love." It is noticeable of this lady that she commenced her career as an "Infant Phenomenon"—she first appeared, in this country, in 1834, at the Park Theatre, New York! [illegible] *Richard the Third* [illegible] the only person now upon the stage, who has fulfilled the promise of early years.

"Our American Cousin" enters into its third week, at Arch-street Theatre, this evening. It seems as if Mr. Wheatley could run it, if he pleased, to the end of the season. We have seldom seen a comedy so well acted in all its parts. Mr. Wheatley's caricature of an English nobleman is lively and amusing, and Mr. Clarke, as the sharp Vermonter in England, is a finished study, from first to last. We must not omit Mrs. John Drew, as the baronet's daughter; the ludicrous aspect and acting of Mr. Johnson as the stuck-up gentleman's gentleman; and the touching, because truthful, pathos exhibited by Mr. Dolman, as the lawyer's clerk, the finest and best sustained acting, on the whole, in the play. We hear no more of Miss Laura Keene's fine "situation" as claimant of the sole right to this drama, and should like to know on what legal ground, the complainant having failed to prove her case, Mr. Wheatley was obliged to pay a large sum ($1,500, we hear) into court.

The National Circus, Walnut street, under Mr. Lent's management, has fairly grown into popularity. The horses are well trained, and the performers are active, skilled, and fearless. The clowns, Long and Gardiner, have a rival, on a small scale, in a Lilliputian Grimaldi, young "Dan." The little girl, Elise, who rides so admirably, deserves especial attention, and we will place with her, as eminently worthy of commendation, Mrs. Whittaker, Mr. Hemmings, and Mr. and Mrs. Wood. As us