

soon after. The entire British army, west of Princeton, would have fallen a prey to Washington, if Cadwalader and Ewing had been able to cross at their respective places; but neither reflecting this, the posts at Bordentown, Burlington, and Mount Holly, escaped. Meantime, aware that the royal generals might concentrate their forces and cut off his retreat, Washington decided to recross the Delaware every day with his prisoners. Accordingly, before night, the captured Hessians were transferred to Pennsylvania. The news of this great victory spread with inconceivable swiftness; but such was the opinion of British invincibility, that, at first, few persons could be found to believe the tale. Aware of the great incredulity, Washington hastened to dispatch his prisoners to Philadelphia, where, on the day succeeding the battle, they were paraded through the streets, to the amazement, not less than to the delight of the inhabitants. The effect of the victory on the country was electric. The charm of British invincibility was broken forever. Men no longer regarded the cause of the Colonies as hopeless; but, encouraged by this decisive success, looked forward confidently to a glorious issue. In a word, the battle of Trenton changed the wavering into friends; made those who had been hostile neutral; and convinced the patriot that God was on his side, and that his country would yet be free.

The victory struck terror to the heart of the British army. Cornwallis, who was about to leave for Europe, abandoned his voyage in alarm, and hurried back from New York to assume command of the troops on the Delaware. His first step was to withdraw his forces from the exposed points and concentrate them at Princeton and toward New Brunswick. Nor was this precaution idle. Washington, having recruited his troops, and being re-inforced, crossed the Delaware again on the 30th of December, and took post at Trenton. To drive him from thence Cornwallis advanced from Princeton, and, on the 3d of January, 1777, assaulted the American lines, established on the south side of the Assinpink. Three times he endeavored to carry the bridge which separated him from his foe, and three times he was repulsed. At last night put an end to the contest. In the darkness, Washington abandoning his position, marched on Princeton, intending to cut off the royal general from his communications. A battle ensued at this place, which was scarcely decided in favor of the Americans, when Cornwallis, hurrying up from Trenton, compelled the victors to draw off to the high grounds in the direction of Morristown. The British General, completely baffled, fell back to the Raritan, abandoning all his posts on the Delaware. The result of this splendid series of operations on the part of Washington, was to deliver New Jersey from the enemy in the short space of ten days. Thus, when supposed to be annihilated, the American general, like some fabled genius, had suddenly risen up, saved Philadelphia, recovered all he had lost in the preceding two months, and given an impetus to victory which never ceased until the red cross of Great Britain sunk into dust on the plains of Yorktown.

When hereafter the military genius of Washington is called in question, let the story of Trenton be remembered. Napoleon always spoke of this ten day's campaign as one of the most able on record. Botta, the Italian historian, said of it, "Achievements so astonishing gained for the American Commander a very great reputation and were regarded with wonder by all nations, as well as by the Americans; every one applauded the prudence, the firmness, and the daring of Washington; all declared him the savior of his country; all proclaimed him equal to the most renowned commanders of antiquity."

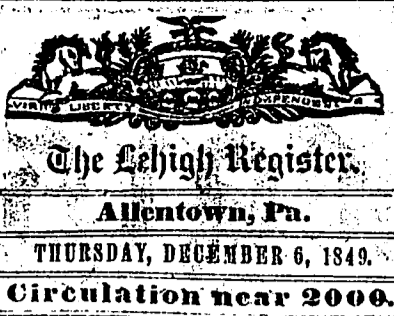
**The North and South.**  
The following table, which has required some labor in preparation, shows how some of the principal national offices have been divided between the North and South, from the commencement of the government to March 4th, 1840. The figures denote the number of years during which these offices have been filled by citizens of each section. The short presidential term of General Harrison and some fractions of years, have been omitted.

	Northern.	Southern.
Presidents,	12	48
Vice Presidents,	40	20
Chief Justices,	11	48
Secretaries of State,	20	40
" of Treasury,	16	11
" of War,	31	25
" of Navy,	40	19
Postmasters General,	35	25
Attorneys General,	20	39
Speakers of the House of Representatives,	23	37

In the sixteen Presidential elections, 3156 electoral votes have been cast, 1915 by Northern States, and 1511 by Southern States; 790 votes have been given by the North for Northern candidates, and 1190 by the South for Southern candidates, and 1155 by the North for Southern candidates, and 321 by the South for Northern candidates.

**Change of Fortune.**—There is now living in New York, in extreme want, a man who at one time had one hundred and eighty thousand dollars, amassed by a few week's successful gambling. For some years he lived in the utmost luxury, having over four hundred suits of clothes, but the smiles of fortune deserted him, and at last has been reduced to beggary. In threadbare coat, and without either energy or character, he may be daily seen in Broadway.

**Hon. John S. Estell.**—We learn that the Hon. John S. Estell has left Philadelphia for Washington, to claim his seat as the representative elect from the fourth Congressional district, and will carry with him documentary evidence of his election by the voters of the district. Mr. Robbins, who is in possession of the certificate of election, will also be there to claim his right to represent the district.



THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1849.

Circulation near 2000.

**Our Court.**  
The business of the court is progressing slowly. President Jones, is on the bench, but, in the families of both associates Haas and Ruhe, deaths have occurred, which prevents the disposal of much business, dependant upon them. The court, however, is organized, the grand jury sworn in, and John Weidner, Esq., appointed foreman. A number of bills have been found and other trifling business disposed of. In our next we will give full proceedings.

**Cold Weather has Come.**  
We have had a beautiful Autumn, the weather up to Sunday last has been delightful, but winter has come. In the afternoon it commenced to snow tightly and during the evening and night was intermingled with rain and sleet. Monday set in with rain and continued all day. Nature has prepared every thing for it; the forests have cast their leaves; the fields look brown and sear; the farm yards and barns are well filled by the provident farmer, in order to well supply his stock during the winter. It is necessary for us to enquire, whether all the citizens of Allentown, and the little towns and villages in our immediate vicinity have prepared themselves with a good stock of coal, wood, a hog or two, a side of beef, potatoes, flour, corn, &c., for the winter? If you have not done so, lose no time in doing it, and above all, where there is a poor neighbor, assist him or her with the necessaries of life. This kindness and timely charity may rise an erasing brother or sister from the error of their ways, and learn them to seek the paths of virtue, which are the paths of peace.

**Thanksgiving Day.**  
In pursuance of previous notice the grand worthy Patriarch of the grand division of Sons of Temperance, the different divisions met on Thursday last, (Thanksgiving day) in Allentown, for the purpose of joining in a general procession and of expounding the important cause of Temperance. At about 1 o'clock, the celebrated Easton Brass Band, who by invitation, were present upon the occasion, proceeded to the room of Jordan Division, from where they escorted the division to the house of Mr. George Keiper, where the Rev. Mr. David R. Thomas, in behalf of Jordan Union, Daughters of Temperance, presented a beautiful banner to the Jordan Division, accompanied by an eloquent and very appropriate address. Mr. J. D. States, who received the same, responded in an equally eloquent manner. From here the Division moved to the Lawn of Mrs. Greenleaf. At about 2 o'clock the procession was formed in the Lawn, under the Chief Marshalship of Dr. J. H. Romig, assisted by Marshalls Foutle, Weiser, Hunt and Helrich, after which the procession, headed by the Brass Band, marched in full regalia through the principal streets of the Borough, and finally to the German Reformed Church, which was soon crowded to overflowing, where addresses were delivered by the Rev. Mr. Stern, in the German, and by Messrs. E. J. Paxson and S. Pickands, in the English languages. Thus ended the proceedings of the Temperance celebration, nothing happening to mar the feelings of those present on the occasion. In the evening the members of the Easton Brass Band gave a Concert in the Court House which was very numerously attended. The music both vocal and instrumental was such as done honor to the members, and in particular to the brothers Seitz.

**Districting the State.**  
On our next Legislature will devolve the duty of districting the State. This is an important matter to the people, and it is to be hoped that the wishes of the people in the different sections of the State will be consulted in this matter, and that it will not be done with a view to benefit or promote the success of any particular party. Heretofore this has been a great game with politicians of all parties in our legislature, who, regardless of the inconvenience to the people, cut up the State into districts to suit and promote the success of their particular party, even when remonstrated with by their constituents, and petitioned by the people who elected them, they have turned a deaf ear and pursued their own course for the purpose of bringing about some political aggrandizement to themselves, or to a clique of faction of their party. The people should submit to this trickery and disobedience on the part of their servants no longer. Let him who disobeys find a political death, from which he cannot awake, and the voice of the people will no longer be unheeded by those they place in power.

**U. S. Flying Artillery.**  
The great duties performed by this arm of the service during the Mexican war, has been widely recognized, and, as an instance of what it was capable of achieving, the New York Courier and Enquirer mentions the following: "The lamented Col. Duncan, of the U. S. Army, had drilled his men to such perfection in artillery, and to such celerity of movement, that on one occasion, when his guns were under their sheds, the horses of the light battery in the stable, and the harness hanging up, he accomplished the feat of harnessing up, moving his guns two hundred yards, forming in battery, and firing a round, in the space of a minute and a half from the time the first command was given.

**The Third of December.**  
This was the day set apart for the meeting of Congress. We hope our Representatives will apply the knife of reform, by lopping off all useless offices, of which there are hundreds and perhaps thousands; reducing the salaries of others to a fair compensation, and use the time for which they are so dearly paid, for the benefit of the whole people, instead of using it for their own political promotion. Let Congress reduce their salaries to five dollars a day. Let the army and navy be reduced to one half its present number; we need no large standing army, or navy in times of peace; they are the power that crushes Europe to the very dust, and in the hands of monarchs are the means of subduing and crushing the republican spirit, so loudly manifested in many parts of the Continent. Besides it has a tendency to create a kind of aristocracy through its officers, who live lazily on the public pay, and have few opinions or feelings in common with the industrious citizens, which largely increases the public expenditures of the government.

**Pennsylvania and New Jersey Bank.**  
Thompson, whose caution can always be depended upon in the way of Bank frauds, failures, &c., gives in his Bank Note Reporter of the 1st instant, the following cutting remarks: "We protest against Mr. Phelps owning, controlling and using the Union Bank at Dover, New Jersey. We protest against Mr. Bruen's owning, controlling and using the Commercial Bank, at Perth-Amboy, New Jersey. If Dover and Perth-Amboy want banks, then the people of those places should manage and use those banks. If high toned operators in real estate, cotton or iron, borrow a hundred thousand, it should be anywhere else than of a two-penny New Jersey bank. When you tell us that Mr. Bruen can redeem the notes of his bank, or that Mr. Phelps can redeem the notes of his bank. We tell you that the notes of a bank should never rest upon the success of any one man; for we have seen great men 'fall like leaves in wintry weather,' and we have seen too many bank notes as worthless as fallen leaves. We do not make war on banks that are Jersey banks, but when we find one of the Jersey blues, in Wall or Cedar or Cliff streets, we intend to show it the ferry and invite it over. Some small amounts of the Susquehanna County Bank Notes have changed hands at 25 cents on the dollar, and we make that our quotation for the present. There has been nothing done in the notes of the State Bank at Morris, at over 121 cents on the dollar. The notes of the Chester County Bank, Pa., are returned to us from Philadelphia, marked no go. We have dashed this Bank in our list, and advise the rejection of its notes. The notes of the Walter Joy's Bank are redeemed at the same rates as all New York County notes, so also are the notes of the Merchant's Bank, at Canandaigua. In these banks we have a proof positive, that the notes of banks secured by N. Y. or U. S. Stocks are good, despite whatever may befall the bank.

**The Quaker City.**  
This is the title of a weekly paper published in Philadelphia by George Lippard, the celebrated author of "Washington and his Generals, or Legends of the Revolution"; "The Quaker City"; "Paul Ardenheim"; &c. Terms \$2 invariably in advance, new volume commencing January 1850. The Quaker City being barely in existence more than a year, enters upon its second volume with 15,000 subscribers, an evidence that it is admired for its independent course. It is pledged to no party or sect, and pursues a fair and independent course upon all matters of public interest.

**Protest Against Austrian Ferocity.**  
The Washington correspondent, "Alpha," of the New York Tribune, says, "it is rumored here in the best informed circles, that at an early day in the session, a resolution will be introduced into the Senate suspending all intercourse of a diplomatic nature with Austria growing out of her barbarous and brutal inhumanity towards the Hungarians. Such a proposition would be favorably entertained by many of our citizens, and would be one of the most popular propositions that could be introduced into Congress. The sympathies of the whole United States are enlisted in behalf of the Hungarians, and their prejudices aroused against their fiendish and brutal persecutors. A suspension of diplomatic intercourse with a people who have set at defiance all usages of Christian warfare, would not have a deleterious effect upon other Monarchical powers of the Old World. Judging from the tone of Mr. Webster's speech at the New Hampshire celebration in Boston, it would not be either strange or inconsistent at seeing him sustain the measure. Gen. Taylor, it is said, will also go for it. We sincerely trust that this proceeding, dictated by every motive of humanity, may receive a favorable consideration. What will become of Col. Webb in such an event?"

**Mail Robbery.**—A man named Charles Gearhart, was taken in irons, on board the steamer Clipper, this morning, on his way to Danville, Columbia county, Pa., to answer a charge of robbing the post office, at that place, a month or six weeks ago. He was engaged by the postmaster as clerk in the office during the temporary sickness of the regular clerk, and while thus engaged, he pilfered some \$4000 in money and drafts, of which about \$3000 was found in his possession when arrested at Mount Vernon, Ohio, *Wheeling (Va.) Argus*, Nov. 28.

**Acquittal.**—John H. Bossler, editor of the Fayette County Democrat, has been acquitted of the crime of which he has been charged before the United States District Court, at Pittsburg of robbing the mail.

**Pittsburg Iron Convention.**  
The Convention continued in session until Friday evening the 23d inst., when it adjourned sine die. On Thursday the whole day was spent in discussing the following resolution reported by the committee on business: Resolved.—That we consider it necessary to the proper protection of the iron interests, that a duty of 20 dollars per ton be levied on all bar or common manganitic iron. With regard to pig iron, the committee suggested that all pig iron imported from other countries should, upon its arrival in this country, be deemed and taken to be worth 15 dollars per ton, without regard to its cost or value abroad, and that a duty of 9 dollars per ton be levied thereon; and that upon proper and satisfactory evidence being made out to our custom-house officers, that pig iron has increased in value above 15 dollars per ton in the country where the same was made, that in that case, for every rise amounting to 1 dollar per ton, the duty in this country shall be reduced one dollar. This plan, it is thought, will in ordinary times prevent an entire prohibition of the foreign pig iron, and keep the competition of this and other countries nearly equal at all times, and guard against extraordinary fluctuations of the value of pig iron, in this and other countries. The committee believe that no better plan of policy can be pursued. A number of substitutes were offered, a lengthy discussion arising on each, until the whole were finally laid on the table. On Friday, George R. Clapp finally offered the following resolution as a substitute for all others, which was unanimously adopted: Resolved.—That it is the sense of this Convention, at the present state of the foreign market, that it will require a duty of 10 dollars per ton on pig iron, and 20 dollars per ton on common bar, and a corresponding increase on all other iron and manufactures of iron, in proportion to cost of make, to protect the American market. Judge Dempsey complained that the Pittsburg iron men had not taken as much interest in the Convention as was expected, and suggested that it should be considered a Blast Furnace Convention. This called forth quite a spirited controversy, and it was finally resolved that the convention be considered as a convention of all persons interested, directly or indirectly, in the manufacture of iron in all its branches. Mr. Tassay offered a resolution, which was adopted, that the several delegates, on their return home, collect statistics, &c., and forward them to the committee of commerce, and to the members of Congress.

**Southern Manufactories.**  
The increase of manufacturing in the South is exciting great congratulation among the people and the press of that section of the Union. We are right glad to see an enterprise so essential and expedient succeeding so well. Our only wonder in past times has been that the South should trust altogether to other markets than her own manufactures, when her capacity for creating them is unquestioned. There is no reason why cotton and wool should not be worked into fabrics on southern soil, where they are grown, rather than sent thousands of miles, and brought back in cloths, at a loss of double transit. Besides, there is much material which the South can manufacture with profit, which cannot find a market elsewhere. The refuse of her cotton, sufficient to make all her negro cloths, is of this kind. There is capital enough in the South, and nothing is wanting to put it in manufacturing motion but enterprise.

**The Boys and Girls.**  
The following piece of advice we find in that excellent paper the Montgomery Ledger, which we recommend to our young readers: "We wish our young friends whose parents supply them with the Newspaper, to read it attentively and regularly. Be industrious and after you have performed all the little duties your parents or guardians give you to perform, read the Newspaper—read it aloud to your father, mother, brothers and sisters, that they may correct you of your errors in reading. Never say you have no time, but be active at your work, and resolve to make time for so important a duty. You will thus repay your kind parents for their attention by making good use of the papers and books they buy for you: We wish our young friends to read more than they do—to try and take delight in the improvement of their minds. Come, wake up, there should be no sleepy boys and girls, where the 'Register' comes. We want to see you all grow up to be good and intelligent men and women."

**Wabash and Erie Canal.**—This canal has been completed to Terre Haute, and the water let into it to that point. When finished to Evansville, it will be the largest canal in the United States, and one hundred miles longer than the great Erie canal. It commences at Toledo on Lake Erie, crosses a portion of Ohio, enters the State of Indiana near the north eastern corner, and runs diagonally, with considerable of a curve, across the State to Evansville on the Ohio. Toledo, Peru, Lafayette, Logansport, and Terra Haute, are the principal points as far as completed.

**Single District System in Kentucky.**—The convention now in session in Frankfort to form a new Constitution for Kentucky, has adopted a provision, that all cities or towns in the State shall, whenever their population is sufficient, have a separate representative from the county in which they may be situated; and that, whenever any city or town shall be entitled to more than one representative, it shall be divided into districts, so that every representative shall be elected from a separate district. This is the system we ought to have here in Pennsylvania.

♠ A ploughman on his legs is higher than a gentleman on his knees.

**Original Letter of Gen. Washington.**  
Under this heading the Richmond Republican of the 17th inst., publishes part of a letter which it is said, was found among the papers of the Hon. Hugh Nelson, and that the first part of the letter, including the date, was gone. Fortunately there is no difficulty in supplying the first part, including the date, &c. The whole letter, with the others, was published in a pamphlet, in London, by Dew in 1779. In 1777, it was published in Philadelphia, under the title of "Letters from General Washington to several of his friends, in June and July, 1776; in which he set forth an interesting view of American politics at that all important period." This edition was followed by another in 1786, with a new title, viz., "Epistles domestic, confidential, and official, from Gen. Washington written about the commencement of the American contest, when he entered on the command of the Army of the United States," &c. New York printed by G. Robinson, corner of William and John streets, and J. Bulk Nbs. 116 Cherry street, and sold by James Rivington, No. 156 Pearl Street. There were probably other editions, and the book is by no means rare. It is difficult to account for the re-production at this day of these letters, or any of them, as original when the imposition may be so easily detected by those who have preserved or have access to the record of the times. On the 3d of March, 1797, when Gen. Washington was about to retire to private life, in a letter to the Secretary of State, he declared the letters, of which that now re-produced is one, to be a base forgery, and that he never saw nor heard of them until they appeared in print and he requests his letter containing this declaration may be deposited in the office of the Department of State as a testimony of the truth to the present generation and to posterity. This letter was communicated by the Secretary of State to the editor of the United States Gazette, on the ninth of March, 1797, and was published in many of the papers of the day. The republication of it, as follows, will be of interest to those at least who have been misled as to the authenticity of the letter first above referred to: To the Editor of the United States Gazette.

**DEPARTMENT OF STATE,**  
PHILADELPHIA, March 9th 1797.  
SIR: I enclose you the copy of a letter which I received the 3d instant, from the late President of the United States. The letter itself will satisfy you of the propriety of its being published. The original, as is desired, is deposited in this office. I am, sir, your obedient servant,  
TIMOTHY PICKERING.

**PHILADELPHIA, March 3, 1797.**  
DEAR SIR: At the conclusion of my public employments, I have thought it expedient to notice the publication of certain forged letters, which first appeared in the year 1776, and were obtruded upon the public as mine. They are said by the editor to have been found in a small portmanteau that I had left in the care of my mulatto servant named Billy, who, it is pretended, was taken prisoner at Fort Mifflin in 1776. The period when these letters were first printed will be recollected, and what were the impressions they were intended to produce upon the public mind. It was then supposed to be of some consequence to strike at the integrity of the motives of the American Commander, and to paint his inclinations as at variance with his professions and his duty. Another crisis having occurred in the affairs of America, the same weapon was resorted to to wound my character and deceive the people. The letters in question have the dates, addresses, and signatures here following: "New York, June 12th, 1776. To Mr. Lund Washington, at Mount Vernon, Fairfax county, Va., G. W." "To John Parke Custis, Esq., at the Hon. Benedict Calvert's Esq., Mount Airy, M. D. June 18 1776. G. W." "New York, July 8th, 1776. To Mr. Lund Washington, at Mount Vernon, Fairfax county, Va., G. W." "New York, July 16th, 1776. To Mr. Lund Washington, &c. G. W." "New York, July 15th, 1776. To Mr. Lund Washington, &c. G. W." "New York, July 22d, 1776. To Mr. Lund Washington, &c. G. W." "June 24th, 1776. To Mrs. Washington, G. W."

At the time when these letters first appeared, it was notorious to the army immediately under my command, and particularly to the gentlemen attached to my person, that my mulatto man Billy, had never been one moment in the power of the enemy. It is also a fact that no part of my baggage or any of my attendants were captured during the whole course of the war. These well-known facts made it unnecessary during the war to call the public attention to the forgery by any express declaration of mine; and a firm reliance on my Fellow citizens, and the abundant proofs they gave of their confidence in me, rendered it alike unnecessary to take any formal notice of the revival of the imposition during my civil administration. But, as I cannot know how soon a more serious event may succeed to that which will this day take place, I have thought it a duty that I owe to myself in my country, and to truth, now to detail the circumstances above recited, and to add my solemn declaration that the letters, herein described are a base forgery, and that I never saw or heard of them until they appeared in print. The present letter I commit to your care, and desire that it may be deposited in the office of the Department of State, as a testimony of the truth to the present generation and to posterity. Accept, I pray you, the sincere esteem and affectionate regard of, dear sir, your obedient,  
Geo. Washington.

Timothy Pickering, Sec. of State.

\*The letter, part of which is now published as "original," is the seventh and last in this collection.

California Gold.—Three millions seven hundred and thirty thousand dollars of California gold had been received at the United States Mint in Philadelphia, up to last week.

**Washington Caucus Nominations.**  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 1, 1849.  
The Democratic members of the House of Representatives, met in caucus this evening. The following named gentlemen were nominated to be balloted for on the organization of the House: For Speaker—Hon. Howell Cobb, of Georgia. Clerk—John W. Forney, of Pennsylvania. Sergeant-at-Arms—Newton Lane. Doorkeeper—D. F. Brown, of Ohio. Postmaster—J. M. Johnson, of Virginia. The Whig members also met in caucus, and after nominating the Hon. Robert C. Winthrop, of Massachusetts, for Speaker, adjourned over to Monday morning, to complete their nominations.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3, 1849.  
SENATE.  
In conformity with the Constitution of the United States, the first session of the thirty-first Congress commenced this day. The Senate was called to order at 12 o'clock P. M. by its presiding officer, Hon. Millard Fillmore, the Vice President of the United States. The following Senators were present: Messrs. Felch, Hamlin, Jefferson Davis, Mangum, Downs, Walker, Dawson, Cass, Foote, Henry Dodge, A. C. Dudge, Jones, Butler, Hunter, Mason, Atchison, Cooper, J. Davis, Green, Phelps Smith, Upham, Hall, Clay, Norris, Sturgeon, Bell, Baldwin, Miller, Clark, Chase, Badger, Corwin, Peirce, Calhoun, Miller, Wilmot, uler. Total 38.

After a very impressive prayer by the Rev. Mr. Slicer, the Chaplain, of the last Senate. Hon. Mr. Mangum, presented the credentials of the Hon. Henry Clay, of Kentucky, elected to serve for the term of 6 years from the 4th of March 1849. Mr. Clay was duly qualified and took his seat. His appearance in the Senate again produced the most profound sensation. "On motion," it was resolved, that the Senate hereafter meet at 12 o'clock, M. On motion the Senate adjourned.

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**  
At twelve o'clock, M., Mr. Campbell, the Clerk of the House for the last Congress, (and who, by the tenor of his appointment, continues to hold office until a successor is elected) rose and said, that as the hour of twelve o'clock had arrived, he would, in pursuance of usage, call over the list of the members by states, for the purpose of ascertaining the names of those present, and whether a quorum was in attendance. The Clerk proceeded to call the roll by States, commencing with the State of Maine. Two hundred and twenty-one members answered to their names. The following are the absentees: Hon. Henry Nes, of Pennsylvania; David Wilmot, Pa.; A. H. Shepherd, North Carolina; T. B. King, Georgia; G. W. Julian, Indiana; W. J. Alston, Alabama; D. Hubbard, Alabama; A. G. Brown, Miss.; M. P. Geary, Tenn; and Mr. Morton of Virginia. The Clerk then announced that a quorum being present, it was competent for the members to proceed to the election of a Speaker. Whereupon, it was moved, by Mr. Boyd of Kentucky, that the members proceed to the election of a speaker of the House for the Thirty-first Congress, the members voting *vice versa*. Tellers having been appointed—

The Clerk then proceeded to call the roll alphabetically, and having called it through, the tellers reported that the whole number of votes given was 221; necessary to a choice 111; of which on

**FIRST BALLOT.**  
Hon. H. B. Cobb, of Georgia, 103; Hon. R. C. Winthrop, of Mass., 96; Hon. M. P. Geary, of Tenn., 6; Hon. David Wilmot, of Pa., 3; Scattering, 13.

The House then proceeded to a

**SECOND BALLOT.**  
Cobb, 102; Winthrop, 96; Wilmot, 8; Geary, 6; Scattering, 9.

The House then proceeded to a

**THIRD BALLOT.**  
Cobb, 102; Winthrop, 96; Wilmot, 7; Geary, 6; Scattering 10.

Hon. Mr. Holmes, of South Carolina, then moved to adjourn.

A division being called for, a vote was taken, and the motion lost. Yeas 97, nays 108.

Another ballot was taken, with the same result as the third.

At three o'clock a motion prevailed to adjourn over till 12 o'clock to-morrow.

**Wonders of the Telegraph.**

Scarcely a day passes that we do not hear of some new and wonderful use to which the Telegraph is adapted. The following, from the *National Intelligencer*, is the latest.

We were present a few evenings ago at the Cost Survey Astronomical Station, on Capitol Hill, which was put in Telegraphic connexion with Cincinnati, for the purpose of determining the longitude between the two places. The electrical clocks in this city and Cincinnati, having been introduced into the completed circuit, "every beat" at Cincinnati was recorded at "almost the same instant" Saxton's revolving cylinder in this city, and every beat of the clock here was recorded in like manner upon Mitchell's revolving plate at Cincinnati. At the instant a star passed the meridian at Washington, by the touch of a key the record of the passage was made upon the desk at Cincinnati, as well as upon the cylinder at the Washington station, and the difference of the time of the two clocks would of course indicate the difference of longitude. The distance between the two cities, it must be recollected, is upwards of 600 miles; this distance was annihilated, and events happening at the one were instantly recorded by automatic machinery at the other. The interchange of star signals was soon interrupted, however, by the intervention of a cloud at Cincinnati, and the remainder of the evening was occupied by the gentlemen present in a philosophical discussion on the subject of the velocity of the transmission of electricity. We were never more impressed with the power of the Telegraph to annihilate space, and bring into instant, mental communication individuals separated by hundreds of miles.

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SENATE.  
In conformity with the Constitution of the United States, the first session of the thirty-first Congress commenced this day. The Senate was called to order at 12 o'clock P. M. by its presiding officer, Hon. Millard Fillmore, the Vice President of the United States. The following Senators were present: Messrs. Felch, Hamlin, Jefferson Davis, Mangum, Downs, Walker, Dawson, Cass, Foote, Henry Dodge, A. C. Dudge, Jones, Butler, Hunter, Mason, Atchison, Cooper, J. Davis, Green, Phelps Smith, Upham, Hall, Clay, Norris, Sturgeon, Bell, Baldwin, Miller, Clark, Chase, Badger, Corwin, Peirce, Calhoun, Miller, Wilmot, uler. Total 38.

After a very impressive prayer by the Rev. Mr. Slicer, the Chaplain, of the last Senate. Hon. Mr. Mangum, presented the credentials of the Hon. Henry Clay, of Kentucky, elected to serve for the term of 6 years from the 4th of March 1849. Mr. Clay was duly qualified and took his seat. His appearance in the Senate again produced the most profound sensation. "On motion," it was resolved, that the Senate hereafter meet at 12 o'clock, M. On motion the Senate adjourned.

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**  
At twelve o'clock, M., Mr. Campbell, the Clerk of the House for the last Congress, (and who, by the tenor of his appointment, continues to hold office until a successor is elected) rose and said, that as the hour of twelve o'clock had arrived, he would, in pursuance of usage, call over the list of the members by states, for the purpose of ascertaining the names of those present, and whether a quorum was in attendance. The Clerk proceeded to call the roll by States, commencing with the State of Maine. Two hundred and twenty-one members answered to their names. The following are the absentees: Hon. Henry Nes, of Pennsylvania; David Wilmot, Pa.; A. H. Shepherd, North Carolina; T. B. King, Georgia; G. W. Julian, Indiana; W. J. Alston, Alabama; D. Hubbard, Alabama; A. G. Brown, Miss.; M. P. Geary, Tenn; and Mr. Morton of Virginia. The Clerk then announced that a quorum being present, it was competent for the members to proceed to the election of a Speaker. Whereupon, it was moved, by Mr. Boyd of Kentucky, that the members proceed to the election of a speaker of the House for the Thirty-first Congress, the members voting *vice versa*. Tellers having been appointed—

The Clerk then proceeded to call the roll alphabetically, and having called it through, the tellers reported that the whole number of votes given was 221; necessary to a choice 111; of which on

**FIRST BALLOT.**  
Hon. H. B. Cobb, of Georgia, 103; Hon. R. C. Winthrop, of Mass., 96; Hon. M. P. Geary, of Tenn., 6; Hon. David Wilmot, of Pa., 3; Scattering, 13.

The House then proceeded to a

**SECOND BALLOT.**  
Cobb, 102; Winthrop, 96; Wilmot, 8; Geary, 6; Scattering, 9.

The House then proceeded to a

**THIRD BALLOT.**  
Cobb, 102; Winthrop, 96; Wilmot, 7; Geary, 6; Scattering 10.

Hon. Mr. Holmes, of South Carolina, then moved to adjourn.

A division being called for, a vote was taken, and the motion lost. Yeas 97, nays 108.

Another ballot was taken, with the same result as the third.

At three o'clock a motion prevailed to adjourn over till 12 o'clock to-morrow.

**Wonders of the Telegraph.**

Scarcely a day passes that we do not hear of some new and wonderful use to which the Telegraph is adapted. The following, from the *National Intelligencer*, is the latest.

We were present a few evenings ago at the Cost Survey Astronomical Station, on Capitol Hill, which was put in Telegraphic connexion with Cincinnati, for the purpose of determining the longitude between the two places. The electrical clocks in this city and Cincinnati, having been introduced into the completed circuit, "every beat" at Cincinnati was recorded at "almost the same instant" Saxton's revolving cylinder in this city, and every beat of the clock here was recorded in like manner upon Mitchell's revolving plate at Cincinnati. At the instant a star passed the meridian at Washington, by the touch of a key the record of the passage was made upon the desk at Cincinnati, as well as upon the cylinder at the Washington station, and the difference of the time of the two clocks would of course indicate the difference of longitude. The distance between the two cities, it must be recollected, is upwards of 600 miles; this distance was annihilated, and events happening at the one were instantly recorded by automatic machinery at the other. The interchange of star signals was soon interrupted, however, by the intervention of a cloud at Cincinnati, and the remainder of the evening was occupied by the gentlemen present in a philosophical discussion on the subject of the velocity of the transmission of electricity. We were never more impressed with the power of the Telegraph to annihilate space, and bring into instant, mental communication individuals separated by hundreds of miles.