THE PITTSBURGH GAZETTE.

PUBLISHED BY WHITE & CO

PITTSBURGH.

THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 7, 1850.

☞ ADVERTISERS are earnestly requested to hand in their favors before 5 P. M., and as early in the days as practicable. Advertisements not inserted for a specified time will invariably be charged until ordered out.

CINCINNATI:—C. W. James, No. Harrison street, Cincinnati, is our agent for the city. Advertisement and subscriptions handed to him will receive prompt attention.

PHILADELPHIA NORTH AMERICAN.

Advertisements and subscriptions to the North American and United States Gazette, Philadelphia, received and forwarded from this office.

☞ SEE NEXT PAGE FOR LOCAL MATTERS TELEGRAPHIC NEWS &c.

Whig State Central Committee.

☞ The members of the Whig State Central Committee are requested to assemble at Harrisburg, on the 13th of March inst. Punctual attendance is earnestly requested. M. McMICHAEL, Chairman.

GEO. H. HART, Secy.

The Letter List Controversy.

The Pittsburgh Daily Commercial Journal having placed at the head of its columns, a false and unfair statement, and continued it there for some days, intended to injure the business of this paper, and to sustain a charge of dishonest dealing on the part of the Postmaster of the city, we feel it to be our duty to give a plain and unvarnished detail of the facts connected with the advertising of the letter list, and to exhibit the true character of the statement published daily by the Journal.

That such a controversy is exceedingly disagreeable to us, our readers must be aware, from the forbearance we have exercised, under great provocations, and nothing but a sense of duty to ourselves, to our patrons, and the Post Office Department, could have induced us to make a statement, very little creditable, we think, to one of the parties, and somewhat annoying to the Whig community generally.

When Mr. ROSEBURG was appointed Postmaster of this city, after making some inquiries in relation to our circulation, he directed the List of Letters to be published in the Daily and Weekly Gazette. Shortly afterwards he called upon us and stated that the Department had directed a legal investigation to be made as to the relative amount of circulation between the different journals claiming the Letter List. We expressed our entire satisfaction with the order, and our willingness to give the required testimony at any time. A few days afterwards the investigation took place, before the Postmaster, under oath.—The evidence then taken, which was some time in April, 1849, as far as relates to the Pittsburgh Gazette and Commercial Journal, is as follows:—

[COPY.]

"B. Singerly, pressman of the Gazette, having been sworn, says,—That there is 888 Daily Gazettes printed, 2496 of the Thursdays Weekly Gazette, 168 copies of Saturdays Weekly Gazette, and 120 copies of the Tri-Weekly Gazette.

"R. Hays, Clerk of the Pittsburgh Gazette, deposes and says,—That the average circulation of the Gazette is 3672; all this number are subscribers on our books, except, perhaps, about 75—not, certainly, more than 75. We sell about 75 papers of our circulation to newsboys and transient customers, during each week. About 2200 of our papers are circulated in the city and county.

"Andrew Gamble, pressman of the Journal, having been sworn, deposes, that there is 1272 Daily Commercial Journals printed each day; tri-weekly, 93 papers; weekly, 316 papers.

"G. H. Thurston, clerk of the Journal, being sworn, deposes and says, that the regular subscribers to the Daily, Tri-Weekly, and Weekly Commercial Journal, amount, in the aggregate, to 1850, the balance being sold to news boys and transient customers."

This evidence was forwarded to the Department at Washington, and a few weeks after, the following reply was received, to wit:—

[COPY.]

"POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,
Appointment Office, May 16th, 1849.

"SIR—Your of the 26th ultimo, informing the Department of the evidence upon which you elected a paper to publish the list of uncalled for letters has been received.

"If the publishers of the Gazette will insert said list in their *weekly* and *tri-weekly* as well as in their *daily* edition, from the statement submitted by you, they are clearly entitled to the aforesaid list for publication.

"I am, very respectfully, your ob't servant,
"FITZ HENRY WARREN,
2d Assist. P. M. Gen'l.

Sam'l Roseburg, Esq.,
P. M. Pittsburgh, Pa."

The question having thus been legally and amicably settled, we supposed that the matter would there end, as every reasonable and right minded man will say ought to have been the case. Had the question been decided against us, after legal investigation, we most assuredly should have refrained from any further effort in the matter; and we can appeal to Mr. Roseburg, as our authority for saying, that we have left the decision of this question entirely to his own sense of justice based on the evidence before him. —And we can declare further, that could we have foreseen the vexation and annoyance both to ourselves and to the Department, and the obloquy thereafter brought upon the Whig party by the publication of the list in two papers, and the subsequent unmanly complaint made on account of its withdrawal from one, we should have declined to receive it at all. Its pecuniary value is as nothing compared with the mortification of being forced into such a miserable "loaves and fish" controversy. But to proceed with our history.

The editor of the *Journal* was not content with the decision in our favor by the Department. He commenced a system of beggarly importunity, by himself and friends, to induce the Postmaster to divide the printing between the *Gazette* and *Journal*, although the legal decision had given it to us. Worn out and excessively annoyed, Mr. Roseburg yielded, and agreed to alternate the list between the two papers. To this we objected, as not being just to us, nor within the meaning of the law, and referred the question to the Department. Mr. Roseburg saw his error, and was about to correct it, when he received orders from the Department to publish the list in two papers. This the Post Master General was authorised to do by a law passed by a Democratic Congress, and approved by a Democratic President, and the letters are now so published in most of the cities of the Union. We regretted the step, however, believing it to be one of very doubtful policy in this region, and so informed Mr. Roseburg—and had not the printing been previously decided as legally belonging to us, we should have declined it altogether. We did not, however, feel that we were called upon by even our duty to the Whig party, to yield our just rights to another, who was determined to succeed regardless of any annoyance to the Department, or mischievous effects which his course was calculated to bring upon the party.

Finding that the publication of the list in two papers gave dissatisfaction to the people, on account of its expense, Mr. Collamer lately, very properly, gave orders that the list should be hereafter published in but one, and as we were entitled to the list, by a previous decision, it was continued with us. It is but due to ourselves, however, to say, that when we were informed by the Postmaster of the decision of the Department, we expressed our willingness to enter into another investigation, if he desired it, but he declined.

Such is a succinct history of this disagreeable affair. Throughout, we acted with the utmost fairness to the editor of the Journal, and that paper has no ground whatever to complain of our conduct in the premises. He has also been treated with kindness, courtesy, and justice, by the Postmaster here, and the Department at Washington, while his own course has been troublesome and annoying in the extreme; and has been the foundation of no little complaint of the Whig administration and the Whig press. We leave this unvarnished history of the letter list controversy to the judgment of the public. If we have erred in the matter we are yet wholly unconvinced of it.

We have now a few words to say in regard to the "*statement*" referred to above, in relation to the comparative circulation of the Gazette and Journal, which is kept standing at the head of that paper. Its cause, if we interpret it aright, is revenge for loss of the letter list, for which we are wholly blameless—and its object is to injure the business of this paper. It is altogether an anomaly in newspaper controversies, and is of such a character that we cannot venture to express our opinion concerning it. We do not believe that there is another editor in the country who would resort to such a mode, either for annoyance or competition—and no upright and honorable business man will for one moment sanction it. If an editor chooses to resort to a system of puffing or boasting, by stating his circulation at the head of his columns—which no respectable paper, however, is guilty of, and which is a custom more honored in the breach than in the observance—we shall not question his right to do so, whatever we may think of his taste or judgment; but when an invidious comparison is instituted for the purpose of injuring a cotemporary, and a direct appeal is made for that purpose, the bounds not merely of propriety are passed, but of decency and honesty.

But the "statement" in the Journal is of a grosser character than even above depicted—it is false, and conveys a false impression. It states that it is founded on testimony in the hands of the Post master; while Mr. Roseburg says he has no such evidence before him. The only testimony he has we have given above. True, Mr. Roseburg says the editor of the Journal lately brought him a statement of his circulation, but, as it was not taken before him, in the legal manner, he could not receive it. He does not, therefore, admit that any such testimony is before him as the Journal asserts.

Further, the statement in the Journal conveys a false impression, by the manner in which it is worded. From it, the public would suppose that the circulation of both papers was counted at the same date, whereas, the Journal gives what it *avers* to be its present daily circulation, while ours is copied from the evidence in the hands of the Postmaster, taken nearly one year ago.

Were we disposed to boast of our circulation, we could point to an aggregate increase of many hundreds since the evidence was heard before the Postmaster, but we have the utmost repugnance to all such attempts to promote our business, and we believe this feeling is generally entertained by the public. We know how easy it is to run up a fictitious circulation, by scattering papers broad cast among news boys, by giving them away on steamboats, by wasting them in the office, and by keeping up a useless and burdensome exchange list. We could as easily wet down and print useless reams of paper, as any one else, were we disposed to boast of a circulation, which, while it would impoverish us, would not benefit our advertisers. All such efforts to bolster up a business, exhibit weakness instead of strength, and are a just cause of suspicion. We prefer to conduct our business with prudence and economy, and content ourselves with its legitimate and honest increase, which has been heretofore of a very flattering character, having more than quadrupled itself under our administration.

Having thus laid before our readers a plain statement of facts in relation to the letter list, and the unpleasant matters growing out of it, and having exhibited the turpitude and injustice of the Journal's attempt to injure us, we submit the whole matter to their judgment, with the assurance that they never had better reasons for being satisfied with the Gazette as a medium of advertising, and that we shall spare no legitimate means of rendering it increasingly worthy of their generous support.

The author of "Philandros" proves to be the very person we suspected. We knew of no other legal gentleman who would write and publish so dangerous an article, at such a time, apparently for the pleasure of having a tilt with his pen at the Gazette. T. H. BAIRD, Esq., avows himself the author of "Philandros," and we wish him all joy of its paternity. As the evil effects of his article have been sufficiently neutralized, and as it has met with the condemnation of all prudent citizens, we do not care to pursue it further, unless some of the legal gentlemen of the city choose to review it in our columns, as the Judge invites them to do. As far as we have heard, it has met with no more favor with the bar and bench, than with the community generally.

Our correspondent, "Metropolis," makes some suggestions which we hope the City Councils will take into due consideration. We hope no money will be spent about the Diamond which will not produce an improvement which will be a lasting credit to the city.

James Gordon Bennett, according to the Washington correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, is an applicant for the chargeship to Vienna, and is pressing his claims with great vigor.

Mr. Webster's plan of compromise, if he has any to offer, may be surmised by the following extract from his speech in the U. S. Senate, delivered August 10, 1846:

"My opposition to the increase of slavery in this country, or to the increase of slave representation in Congress, is general and universal. It has no reference to the lines of latitude or points of the compass. I shall oppose all such extension under all increase, in all places, at all times, under all such circumstances, even against all indicements, against all combinations, against all compromise."

NEW ARMY UNIFORM.—The Secretary of War has made a material alteration in the dress of the Officers, and Privates of the Army. The Officers hereafter, are to wear frock coats of the pattern now worn in the General Staff, Corps, and Arms, with epaulets and sashes. Officers of Dragoons, Artillery, and Infantry, are to wear dark blue pantaloons, with stripes. The stripe for Dragoons, to be of orange color; Rifles, light green; Artillery, red; and the Infantry, light blue mixed. The cap is to be of the material and nearly the pattern of the forage cap now worn. The privates are to wear frock coats of dark blue color—jackets of light blue mixed. Various other alterations are made, which we have not time to enumerate. The new style of dress has been adopted, says the Secretary of War, at the urgent request of a large number of Officers, who are desirous of having a uniform less expensive, less difficult to procure, and better adapted to campaign and other services.

HONORS TO A PRACTICAL PRINTER.—The Hon. Edward Gilbert, one of the members elect to Congress from California, and one of the proprietors of the Alta California, has accepted an invitation numerously signed by the most prominent citizens of Albany, New York, to receive a public dinner in that city at his convenience. Mr. Gilbert was a practical printer in Albany only three years ago, and this invitation is an honorable testimonial to the character he has earned for himself among her citizens.

In his letter of acceptance, Mr. Gilbert pays the following tribute to his original profession. He says:

"Trusting the citizens, other than printers, who have been pleased to sign the letter I have received, will excuse me, I should do injustice to my own feelings, and to truth, if I neglected to say, that if there be one fact in my life to which I turn with paramount satisfaction, it is, that I owe my public and private position to the profession I have pursued for a livelihood. It is to the *case* and the *composing stick* I am indebted—they were my tutor and my college; and the fame or good I have achieved belong to the silent but effective teachings of the 'Art of Arts.'"

PUBLIC BENEFACTIONS.—The following list of the receipts of some of the religious and benevolent Societies for January, which has been obtained from authentic sources, will be found interesting:

American Tract Society, (including $20,000 for publications sold,	$34,150
American Bible Society	32,209
American Board of Com. for Foreign Missions	27,557
Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions	15,468
American Home Missionary Society	6,997
American Sunday School Union, (exclusive of publications sold)	4,395
American Baptist Missionary Union	6,257
American For. Christian Union, from Jan. 10 to Feb. 10	2,455
The American Bible Society received from April 1st to January 31st inclusive	224,927
American Tract Society, from April 1 to January 31	224,016
American Board, from April 1 to January 31st	119,090
American Baptist Missionary Union from April 1st to January 1st, inclusive	45,006
American Sunday School Union, from March 1st to January 31st, inclusive	32,322
Episcopal Board of Foreign and Domestic Missions, from June 15th to Jan 15th	33,837

—*N. Y. Jour. of Com.*

THE SUPREME COURT.—The Supreme Court of the United States, after an arduous session of three months, in which many important cases were decided, adjourned on the 1st instant to meet again in this city on the first Monday of April next. It is understood that the decision in the Wheeling Bridge case will be given at the next term.—*Republic.*

Mr. Henry Grinnell's Artic expedition is likely to get under way. Several officers of experience have volunteered their services, and the benevolent projector of the enterprise says that he is determined to carry it out, cost what it may. Mr. Grinnell, by the way, has retired from active business.—*New York Post.*

A Washington correspondent of the Washington, Pa., *Commonwealth*, gives as an important item of news, the fact that 'Dr. Sturgeon," U. S. Senator, from the great State of Pennsylvania, actually *spoke* on the petition of Pennsylvanians and Delawarians, for a peaceably dissolution of the Union. It was a small subject, but the Doctor managed to make a big speech upon it—extending through three minutes and eleven seconds, by the town clock."

ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS.—We learn from Washington, that an appropriation of 5500,000 has been demanded by the government, on account of the deficiency of the pension fund. $400,000 has been demanded for removing the Florida Indians.

For the Pittsburgh Gazette.

The New Market House.

The public buildings of a city are among the first things that strike a stranger. If they are mean, he goes away with the impression that he has seen a mean place. Men imitate each other, and where the public authorities erect shabby buildings they set the fashion for private individuals. The County Court House is a credit to Pittsburgh, but the City Hall and the Market House are disgraceful in the extreme. I defy any person to pass through the centre square of the city—by a strange misnomer called "*the Diamond*"—without a feeling of disgust. It is true that *a diamond* is made of carbon, but still there is a vast difference between that gem and a coal hole.

Having long held the foregoing opinions, I rejoice to see the movement in the right direction recently made by the City Councils, for which they deserve the thanks of their constituents—They have resolved to erect a new Market House on the Diamond, and to invite plans from architects. I hope that the notice will be widely circulated, and that the peculiarities of the site may be thoroughly studied, before any plan is adopted. Whoever gives a vote in favor of erecting another eye sore in the centre of the city, ought to be held strictly accountable by the people and the press. It would be far better to endure the present nuisance, for a year or two, than to remove it in a hurry, only to put up another in its place. An opportunity is now afforded to erect a building, which, as Faneuil Hall is of Boston, shall be the heart's core of Pittsburgh.

The wile *shed* market houses which disfigure Philadelphia, have unfortunately been adopted as models in many other places; but a better taste is beginning to show itself. An extensive and handsome market house, built of brick, has recently been erected at Columbus, which is two stories high and in good architectural taste. Chicago has such a building, two hundred feet in length, with large halls in the second story, which is a credit to that young and enterprising city.

The Pittsburgh Diamond is a square of two hundred and sixty feet. A street of fifty feet wide, on each side of it, will reduce it one hundred and sixty feet. Market street must then pass through it. Without pretending to minute accuracy in the present communication, it is evident that two buildings, each of sixty feet front by one hundred and sixty feet deep, may be erected upon it. The ground covered by the two, would be about equal to that covered by that noble hotel the Monongahela House.

In the first place, extensive cellars should be constructed, under the whole, which would bring in a large rent for storage. In the first story, on one side of the street, should be the meat market, and on the other the vegetable market. In the second story of one of the buildings should be the city hall, with spacious chambers for the councils, and rooms for the accommodation of the city officers. The second story of the other building should be in one large room, for a town hall, for public meetings, and for any great occasion when the citizens generally might wish to assemble.

Each story should be of ample height, the windows, doors, and archways large, and the whole in good architectural proportion. The principal stairways should be carried up in two square towers, at the south end of the buildings; one of which should contain a good town o'clock, (a thing sadly needed in this city) and the other a large bell for a fire alarm. Every plan offered which includes a belfry in the form, so often seen, of a pepper box or a mustard pot, should be immediately rejected.

By throwing an iron arch across Market Street, to support a covered bridge, at each end of the edifice, the two buildings would be connected in the second story, and the general effect of the whole structure, as an architectural mass, would be very much improved. The building should be of brick, and the walls painted of a light stone color. If it should cost sixty thousand dollars, the rents would surely more than repay it. It is possible that motives of economy might render it expedient to erect one of the buildings at first, and to postpone the other for a time.

Pittsburgh is fond of being called the Birmingham of America. It is vain to hope for a town hall here, to compare with the magnificent town hall of Birmingham, which is one of the finest in Europe; but we may at least try to do some thing that we will not be ashamed of afterwards.

METROPOLIS.

WASHINGTON, March 2nd, 1850.

The President's levee at the White House last night, was perhaps the most brilliant of the season. The rooms were crowded to a most uncomfortable degree. The two daughters of Gen. Taylor were present, and aided in the ceremony of receiving the guests of the evening. It was such a gathering as can rarely be seen out of Washington, to which so many of the most distinguished men of the country, distinguished as well in other pursuits of life as in politics, are attracted by the power and patronage of the general government.

On Monday, Mr. Calhoun will speak, if he be able, and if not capable of the exertion, will be present while his colleague, Mr. Butler, reads from the manuscript copy, the address prepared by Mr. Calhoun, upon the Slavery question, as for comprehensiveness I may call all the issues included in the controversy concerning California, the Territories, the District, &c., &c. There is already a most intense anxiety manifested, to hear him. Mr. Webster will speak in the course of the week, probably about Wednesday. He has prepared himself for a great effort. He will probably direct the powers of his argument and eloquence against Mr. Calhoun's position. As in the contest with Hayne, in the times of nullification, he will be regarded as the champion of the Union, the antagonist of all its foes. I hope his triumph will be as signal and glorious as it was on that memorable occasion, but I doubt, I fear his mind has been much more occupied this winter with his law cases than with the cases of statesmanship.

Whether Mr. Benton intends to speak, I do not know, but I think that he will not, unless provoked to do so by something in Mr. Calhoun's speech.—Should he decide to fulminate, he will produce a great impression. Clay, Webster, Calhoun, and Benton, are the great authorities whom we in after years, and our posterity will consult for memorands of this mighty contest. Webster is capable of an effort which in the judgement of a succeeding generation will possess the highest attributes of genius and power; but either of the others will produce a greater effect upon an audience and his contemporaries. Mr. Webster will be quoted and referred to, long after the interest of the occasion has passed, but the others will be published and read most extensively now.

Mr. Calhoun, it is supposed, has regularly rehearsed his speech; and had it taken down by a stenographer from his sick bed, rendered from these notes, revised by himself, and then fairly written out.

As the past has been a fighting week, a week teeming with reports of, and preparations for duels, brawls, riots, massacres, and so on, so the coming one may be expected to be a sort of orators' festival.

The Supreme Court has adjourned, to meet again the 1st of April. At the beginning of that term the decision in the Wheeling Bridge case will probably be rendered.

The House, yesterday, by way of relief from the fatigues and monotony of its assiduous attention to public business thus far in the session, took up the private calander, and actually went through with some dozen cases of old claims, that have been pending probably since the youth of the federal constitution.

They (the House being a "plural unit") have also been talking a good deal this week of encouraging the growth of American hemp, and of how much it will suspend. Now, the reader will perceive that in such times as these, this is a delicate theme for Congress. It is said that you should never mention a rope in the family of a man who has been hanged; how tender a topic then must be the probable extent of the hemp crop in the present year for discussion before your Nashville Conventionists, your open disunionists, your Cingmans, and Inges, and Arkansas Johnsons,—when I reflect upon what I have seen and heard in this Congress, I wonder that the question should not be, how many will our American hemp suspend instead of how much it will suspend. But no matter, it is a useful production, and may possibly become very popular with what is now the party of peace, moderation, and concession.

JUNIUS.

BLACK AND WHITE.

COMPARATIVE PROGRESS OF THE WHITE AND COLORED POPULATION IN THE FREE STATES.

The following table shows the white and colored population of the Non Slaveholding States at the first United States census, in 1790, and the sixth census, in 1810. Of the colored population, 40,370 were slaves in 1790, and only 1,129 were slaves in 1810:—

1790.			1840.		
	Whites.	Colored.	Whites.	Colored	
Maine	96,002	538	500,432	1,355	
New Hampshire	141,111	793	284,629	557	
Vermont	83,114	272	291,928	730	
Massachusetts	373,254	5,463	729,030	8,669	
Rhode Island	58,666	4,421	105,587	3,609	
Connecticut	232,241	2,764	291,256	8,137	
New York	314,142	21,193	2,378,890	50,028	
New Jersey	169,954	14,185	351,588	25,731	
Pennsylvania	424,099	10,274	1,676,115	47,918	
Total	1,900,974	67,479	6,913,735	146,761	
Ohio, no census	—	—	1,519,132	17,342	
Indiana, do	—	—	678,698	7,165	
Illinois, do	—	—	472,254	3,929	
Michigan, do	—	—	371,699	707	
Wisconsin, do	—	—	30,749	195	
Iowa, do	—	—	43,921	188	
Total			9,617,065	171,451	

Increase of white population in 50 years, 7,716,091 or about 400 per cent: do of colored do, 104,377, or 150 per cent.

It will be observed that there was an actual diminution of the colored people in New Hampshire and Rhode Island, while in the other Free States the comparative increase of the colored population was much less than that of the whites.

The following shows the comparative population of whites and colored persons in the Free States and the Slaveholding States, at each census, from 1790 to 1840:—

	Free States		Slave States.	
	Whites.	Colored.	Whites.	Colored
Census of 1790	1,900,976	67,479	1,271,488	657,627
1800	2,501,265	83,410	1,570,928	893,041
1810	3,853,919	105,691	2,203,757	1,191,364
1820	5,030,701	122,001	2,842,369	1,538,128
1830	6,376,020	141,066	3,616,928	2,ründ,715
1840	9,617,065	171,456	4,632,640	2,501,794

PROGRESS OF EMANCIPATION IN THE FREE STATES

	Free Colored.	Slaves.
Census of 1790	27,109	40,370
1800	47,191	35,910
1810	76,193	27,219
1820	102,993	19,116
1830	137,529	3,557
1840	170,727	1,129

PROGRESS OF SLAVERY IN THE SLAVE STATES

Census of 1790	59,635	657,627
1800	61,241	893,041
1810	109,265	1,191,364
1820	135,304	1,538,128
1830	185,069	2,005,475
1840	215,568	2,481,795

Two Singular Cases—Diplomatic and Military Resignations—Senator Bell's Plan of Compromise.

I hear that the Hon. Henry Sullivan, British Charge to one of the States on the West Coast of South America, has resigned. This is the individual with whom Mr. Potter, our Consul at Lima, had the recent difficulty, at Valparaiso. It will be remembered that Mr. Potter was on his way to the scene of his consular duties, but made a short stay at Valparaiso, and, while there, his lady suffered some indignity, at the hand of the British Charge, who is said to be a nephew of Lord Palmerston. In resentment for this unmanly affront, Mr. Potter promptly administered personal chastisement. It is said that a few days after this painful and discreditable affair, a British ship came into port, the commander of which, on being informed of the circumstances, advised Mr. Sullivan to resign, as the best course left open to him. He took the advice.

I understand that the Senate confirmed, among other nominations, to day, that of Fletcher Ames, Esq., to be Surveyor of the Port of Boston. But the greater part of the day was consumed in disposing of the case of Lieut. Schaumburg. This is a remarkable case, both as respects the circumstances in which it originated, and the length of time it has been pending before the Senate.—I believe Lieut S. resigned his commission, in the 1st. dragoons, as long ago as 1836. He, however, almost immediately withdrew it, and contended that it had not been legally accepted. For a dozen years past, or something like it, he has been urging his claims for reinstatement, before the Senate. After a great deal of intermediate action not necessary to be here referred to, the Senate, last March, adopted a resolution restoring him to the army. But the action of the Executive did not correspond to the apparent intentions of the Senate, for, instead of Lieut. Schaumburg, another officer was nominated for promotion, on the next occurrence of a vacancy in the regiment. This nomination the Senate have declined to confirm or act upon, but, to day, by a close vote, it was resolved that, under the previous resolution, Lieut. S. was entitled to the appointment. It is probable that this will decide this long protracted contest.

The more I reflect upon it, the more reason I find for concluding that a proposition, based upon Senator Bell's suggestions, referred to in my letter of yesterday, must finally prevail for the settlement of the territorial questions. Perhaps it may be well to recapitulate here the heads of Mr. Bell's proposition. The basis is the admission of California. That, of course, the North desires. Then he would divide Texas, with her own consent, into three parts, the first part to constitute the State of Texas, now in the Union; the second to form another State, and be admitted at once; and the third part to remain attached to the second State until it shall attain the population requisite for representation in Congress, when it, also, shall be admitted as a State. Thus there will be formed, out of Texas, three States, two of which will certainly, and all will be probably, slave States. But it will be recollected the resolutions of annexation were a compact between the United States and Texas, in which the former guaranteed that five slave States might be admitted into the Union, from territories South of 36 deg. 30 min. The North, therefore, cannot and will not complain of an arrangement which produces this number of probable slave States from five to three. But Mr. Bell further proposes to purchase of Texas all her claims to territory North of the 34th parallel of latitude, and to organize it under territorial governments. The purchase can be readily agreed upon, but the point of government, for the present, had better be passed over. As to the claim of Texas to that territory, I am perfectly assured that it is a piece of impudent pretension: but perhaps it will cost much less to buy out her claims, than to resist them.

Mr. Bell acknowledges that his plan is but a compilation of ideas taken from Mr. Benton and others, but I confess I look upon it with a great deal of favor, no matter who may be its proprietor. The most important points in regard to it are these two, will the South accept it, and will Texas consent to the conditions which depend upon her acquiescence? I fear that neither of these interesting questions can be answered in the affirmative.

JUNIUS.

FROM WASHINGTON.

Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette.

WASHINGTON, March 1, 1850.

Two Singular Cases—Diplomatic and Military Resignations—Senator Bell's Plan of Compromise.

I hear that the Hon. Henry Sullivan, British Charge to one of the States on the West Coast of South America, has resigned. This is the individual with whom Mr. Potter, our Consul at Lima, had the recent difficulty, at Valparaiso. It will be remembered that Mr. Potter was on his way to the scene of his consular duties, but made a short stay at Valparaiso, and, while there, his lady suffered some indignity, at the hand of the British Charge, who is said to be a nephew of Lord Palmerston. In resentment for this unmanly affront, Mr. Potter promptly administered personal chastisement. It is said that a few days after this painful and discreditable affair, a British ship came into port, the commander of which, on being informed of the circumstances, advised Mr. Sullivan to resign, as the best course left open to him. He took the advice.

I understand that the Senate confirmed, among other nominations, to day, that of Fletcher Ames, Esq., to be Surveyor of the Port of Boston. But the greater part of the day was consumed in disposing of the case of Lieut. Schaumburg. This is a remarkable case, both as respects the circumstances in which it originated, and the length of time it has been pending before the Senate.—I believe Lieut S. resigned his commission, in the 1st. dragoons, as long ago as 1836. He, however, almost immediately withdrew it, and contended that it had not been legally accepted. For a dozen years past, or something like it, he has been urging his claims for reinstatement, before the Senate. After a great deal of intermediate action not necessary to be here referred to, the Senate, last March, adopted a resolution restoring him to the army. But the action of the Executive did not correspond to the apparent intentions of the Senate, for, instead of Lieut. Schaumburg, another officer was nominated for promotion, on the next occurrence of a vacancy in the regiment. This nomination the Senate have declined to confirm or act upon, but, to day, by a close vote, it was resolved that, under the previous resolution, Lieut. S. was entitled to the appointment. It is probable that this will decide this long protracted contest.

The more I reflect upon it, the more reason I find for concluding that a proposition, based upon Senator Bell's suggestions, referred to in my letter of yesterday, must finally prevail for the settlement of the territorial questions. Perhaps it may be well to recapitulate here the heads of Mr. Bell's proposition. The basis is the admission of California. That, of course, the North desires. Then he would divide Texas, with her own consent, into three parts, the first part to constitute the State of Texas, now in the Union; the second to form another State, and be admitted at once; and the third part to remain attached to the second State until it shall attain the population requisite for representation in Congress, when it, also, shall be admitted as a State. Thus there will be formed, out of Texas, three States, two of which will certainly, and all will be probably, slave States. But it will be recollected the resolutions of annexation were a compact between the United States and Texas, in which the former guaranteed that five slave States might be admitted into the Union, from territories South of 36 deg. 30 min. The North, therefore, cannot and will not complain of an arrangement which produces this number of probable slave States from five to three. But Mr. Bell further proposes to purchase of Texas all her claims to territory North of the 34th parallel of latitude, and to organize it under territorial governments. The purchase can be readily agreed upon, but the point of government, for the present, had better be passed over. As to the claim of Texas to that territory, I am perfectly assured that it is a piece of impudent pretension: but perhaps it will cost much less to buy out her claims, than to resist them.

Mr. Bell acknowledges that his plan is but a compilation of ideas taken from Mr. Benton and others, but I confess I look upon it with a great deal of favor, no matter who may be its proprietor. The most important points in regard to it are these two, will the South accept it, and will Texas consent to the conditions which depend upon her acquiescence? I fear that neither of these interesting questions can be answered in the affirmative.

JUNIUS.

NEW ORLEANS, Feb. 28.

Later from California.

Arrival of the Alabama—Inundation of Sacramento City—Great Loss of Property—Gold Washed Up—Fight with the Chilians—Cpt. Fremont and Lady.

The steamer Alabama arrived here to day from Panama. She brings sixty five passengers and dates from San Francisco to the 24th of January.

The Alabama brings four hundred and fifty thousand dollars worth of gold dust on freight and belonging to passengers.

A terrible and destructive inundation had taken place at Sacramento City, caused by the overflow of the river—a thing that has not happened before to so great an extent for may years. Nearly the entire city was covered with water. Large numbers of cattle and other property have been swept away—loss is very heavy, estimated in all to over one million of dollars. Although this calamity has proved exceedingly distressing to the citizens, yet it has proved exceedingly beneficial in other respects. The overflowing of the waters has washed out immense quantities of gold from the earth, where it had before remained undiscovered.

At the mines near Stockton, (the Chilians made quite a fierce attack upon the Americans working there. Several of the assailants were killed and a number wounded on both sides, and many of the Chilians taken prisoners. It is believed that this outrage will so incense the Americans that they will not rest until the offenders are driven entirely out of the country. The excitement had become intense.

Mrs Fremont has recovered her health, and herself and husband are about departing from Panama for the United States. They will doubtless leave by the next steamer.

The ship Prince de Joinville and barque Hermann had arrived at San Francisco from New York.

FORGERY AT CHARLESTON.—A respectable young man named Granger, was arrested at Charleston, on the 1st inst., for presenting three forged checks at the Union Bank, two of which were cashed. He had been but a short time married.

A Singular Story.

The Washington correspondent of Mr. Lippard's paper, the "Quaker City," communicates the following curious account of a recent remarkable dream of Mr. Calhoun's. We have not much faith in supernatural appearances, but if any thing could lead the ghost of the "Father of his country" to revisit the realms beneath the moon, it would be the thought that his beloved country was in danger of *Disunion*, which would be but another name for *Civil War*. We give the story for what it is worth:

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.

MR. EDITOR:—The other morning, at the breakfast table, our friend, the Honorable John C. Calhoun, seemed very much troubled and out of spirits. You know he is altogether a venerable man, with a hard, stern, Scotch Irish face, softened in its expression around the mouth by a sort of sad smile, which wins the hearts of all who converse with him. His hair is snow white. He is tall, thin, and angular. He reminds you very much of Old Hickory. That he is honest, no one doubts; he has sacrificed the brightest hopes of political advancement—has offered up on the shrine of that iron necessity which he worships, his ardent ambition—even the Presidency of the United States.

But to my story. The other morning at the breakfast table, where I, an unobserved spectator, happened to be present. Calhoun was observed to gaze frequently at his right hand, and brush it with his left, in a hurried and nervous manner.—He did this so often that it excited attention. At length one of the persons composing the breakfast party—his name I think is Toombs, and he is a member of Congress from Georgia—took upon himself to ask the occasion of Mr. Calhoun's disquietude.

"Does your hand pain you?" he asked.

To this Mr. Calhoun replied in rather a flurried manner—"Pshaw! It is nothing! Only a dream which I had last night, and which makes me see perpetually a large black spot—like an ink blotch—upon the back of my right hand. An optical delusion I suppose.

Of course these words excited the curiosity of the company, but no one ventured to beg the details of this singular dream, until Toombs asked quietly—

"What was your dream like? I am not very superstitious about dreams, but sometimes they have a good deal of truth in them."

"But this was such a peculiarly absurd dream," said Mr. Calhoun, again brushing the back of his right hand—"however, if it does not too much intrude upon the time of our friends, I will relate it."

Of course the company were profuse in their expressions of anxiety to know all about the dream. In his singularly sweet voice, Mr. Calhoun related it.

"At a late hour last night, as I was sitting in my room, engaged in writing, I was astonished by the entrance of a visitor, who entered and without a word took a seat opposite me, at my table. This surprised me, as I had given particular orders to the servant, that I should on no account be disturbed. The manner in which the intruder entered, so perfectly self possessed, taking his seat opposite me, without a word, as though my room, and all within it, belonged to him, surprised me as much surprise as indignation. As I raised my head to look into his features, over the top of my shadowed lamp, I discovered that he was wrapped in a thin cloak, which effectually concealed his face and features from my view. As I raised my head he spoke.

"What are you writing, Senator from South Carolina?"

"I did not think of his impertinence at first, but answered him voluntarily—

"I am writing a plan for the Dissolution of the American Union, (you know gentlemen that I am expected to produce a Plan of Dissolution in the event of certain contingencies.)"

"To this the intruder replied in the coolest manner possible:

"Senator from South Carolina, will you allow me to look at your hand, your right hand?"

"He rose, the cloak fell, and I beheld his face. Gentlemen, the sight of that struck me like a thunder clap. It was the face of a dead man, whom extraordinary events had called back to life. The features were those of George Washington, yes, gentlemen, the intruder was none other than George Washington. He was dressed in the revolutionary costume, such as you see preserved in the Patent Office."—

Here Mr. Calhoun paused, apparently much agitated. His agitation, I need not tell you, was shared by the whole company. Toombs at length broke the embarrassing pause. "Well, w-e-ell, what was the issue of this scene?" Mr. Calhoun resumed:

"This intruder, as I have said, rose and asked to look at my right hand. As though I had not the power to refuse, I extended it. The truth is, I felt a strange chill pass over me at his touch. He grasped it, and held it near the light, this affording me full time to examine every feature of his face. It was the face of Washington. Gentlemen, I shudder as I tell you, I felt a horrible *dread alone* look of that visage. After holding my hand for a moment, he looked at me steadily, and said in a quiet way:

"And with this right hand, Senator from Carolina, you would sign your name to a paper declaring the Union dissolved?

"I answered in the affirmative. "Yes," said I, "if a *certain contingency* arises. I will sign my name to the Declaration of dissolution." But at that moment, a black blotch appeared on the back of my hand, an inky blotch, which I seem to see now. "What is that?" cried I, alarmed I know not why at the blotch upon my hand.

"That," said *he*, dropping my hand, "that is the mark by which Benedict Arnold is known in the next world."

"He said no more, gentlemen, but drew from beneath his cloak an object which he placed upon the table—placed it upon the very paper on which I was writing. That object, gentlemen, was a skeleton.

"There," said *he* "there are the bones of Isaac Hayne, who was hung in Charleston, by the British. He gave his life, in order to establish the Union. When you put your name to a Declaration of Dissolution, why you may as well leave the bones of Isaac Hayne be. for you. He was a Carolinian, and so are you. But there was no blotch upon his right hand."

"With these words the intruder left the room. I started back from the contact with the dead man's bones and—awoke. Overworn by labor I had fallen asleep and been dreaming.—Was it not a singular dream?"

All the company answered in the affirmative. Toombs muttered, "Singular—very singular!" at the same time looking rather curiously at the back of his right hand—and Mr. Calhoun, placing his hand between his hands, seemed buried in thought.

REN