The Susquehanna Register.

H. B. FRAZIER, EDITOR.

MONTROSE, PA.

Thursday Morning, April 13, 1854.

WHIG STATE TICKET.

Governor.

JAMES POLLOCK, of Northumberland.

Canal Commissioner.

GEORGE DARSIE, of Allegheny.

Judge of Supreme Court.

DANIEL M. SMYSER, of Montgomery.

REMOVAL.

The Register Printing office is removed to the building on Chestnut street, between the Odd Fellows' Hall and the residence of James W. Chapman.

☞ V. B. PALMER is the American Newspaper Agent is the *only authorized Agent* for this paper in the cities of Boston, New York and Philadelphia.

"The Artful Dodger."

The plan of operations, as settled upon by the Democratic party, is to run Gov. Bigler upon all sides of the Nebraska question, and even astride of it, if it shall appear necessary to obtain votes. Before the assembling of their Convention, it was evident to the most careless observer that no one could run successfully with the weight of the Nebraska bill upon his back; and while dodging that, there was equal danger of bringing upon their heads the whole power and force of the national administration; and fearing to be placed in the position of the animal between the two bundles of hay, unable to eat from either, they resolved to tie so loosely that they could feed from both, and be out of the wind, let it blow from whatever corner it might. Consequently, when the minions of the national administration appeared in sheals at the Convention, for the purpose of getting the traitorous scheme endorsed, they found the minds of the members *seriously exercised*. They were willing to endorse the President and his administration, of which the Nebraska bill was the corner stone—were willing to endorse Senator Broadhead, although he had both spoken and voted for the bill—were willing to do almost any thing to accommodate the administration; but they were not willing to apply the knife to their own throats, and have *fela de se* written upon their tombstones. Some members of the Convention, more daring than the rest, attempted to obtain a vote upon a set of resolutions, prepared in Washington, and which were satisfactory to the administration; but the Convention was not to be caught committing itself in such a manner as would prevent the party from playing fast and loose, and keeping a position such as would not lose them votes from either side. And while some members who wished to take ground openly and boldly with the administration, were attempting to obtain a vote upon the resolutions designed to accomplish that object, a motion to adjourn was made and carried amid much excitement. Thus the Nebraska question was left untouched; the consideration of whether millions of square miles now free, should be opened to the curse of human bondage, was decided to be of too small moment to occupy the time of the Convention.

Efforts are now being made, in different parts of the State, by the Governor's friends, to make him look a friend and an enemy of the bill, depending on the weathian to be affected. In this county a great effort is made by the friends of Gov. Bigler to create the impression that he is opposed to the bill, and numerous bar-room conversations are detailed, wherein, it is said, he expressed himself in opposition to it. And the organ of the party in this county, after vibrating like a magnetic needle while traversing a mineral region, has apparently settled into a sort of quasi opposition to the measure, though the editor complains that his readers still profess to be in doubt as to which side of the question he occupies. If any one will take the trouble to look back, a short time, he will easily discover the *cat* under the meal tub.—Mr. Speaker-Editor was chairman of the committee to draft resolutions, occupying the seat of a gentleman who was known to be hostile to the Nebraska bill, and who made no secret of his hostility; and he appointed the Speaker his substitute, requesting him to support resolutions against the measure. But the committee appeared to have the same fear of the administration that the Convention had of the people: no condemnatory resolutions were reported by the Convention, the enemies of the measure (if represented at all in the Convention) having less nerve to speak for freedom than its friends to speak for slavery.

But there were many and very potent reasons why the Convention did not take a stand against the bill: it was known to be an administration measure, a majority of the Democratic delegation in Congress were its warm and enthusiastic supporters; resolutions against the measure that had been introduced into the State Senate had been stove off by a *party* vote, the main drift and tendency of the leading papers of the party in the State were in favor of the bill, the party leaders were setting their sails to catch a breeze from the same quarter, and to have passed resolutions against it would have brought the whole force of the administration against them at the next election.—That the profession of opposition to the measure from the majority of the party is all pretence, is very clear, from the course taken by the Legislature. When the vote in the Senate could be kept off no longer, it was passed. fifteen Whigs and three Democrats voting for the resolutions, and fifteen Democrats against them; and one of the Democrats who voted with the majority stated before the vote was taken, that he was opposed to the resolutions, but might be compelled to vote for them under instructions, *and he did vote for them under instructions.* The House have since refused to pass the Senate resolutions by nearly a party vote.

And now, after dodging and avoiding the issue in every possible way, so as to save the votes from both sides, they very pathetically ask the dear people why they should be compelled to commit themselves, and aver that it is of no great importance, or if it is, that it has no relation to State politics, and consequently the opinion of Gov. Bigler upon that question, can be of no account, either one way or the other. How the Governor has changed his tune since 1851! Then the whole salvation of the nation depended upon the opening of our jails as slave-pens for Southern slaveholders, and Governor Johnston was denounced in the most unmeasured terms, because he was going to vote the bill that was to accomplish that desirable object. Then it was all very pleasant and proper to bring the whole power of a pro-slavery national administration to bear in his favor, because his opponent dared to think and act as became a Northern freeman; but now, when the north is forced to speak out, and speak so as to be heard, Gov. Bigler is mum; and some of his friends cannot see why the Nebraska question need enter at all into the State election.—We think there are several reasons why it should, and be the culminating point of the next canvass. It is one of more vital importance than all others that have been presented to the American people for the last quarter of a century. The Missouri Compromise of 1820, provided that all territory North of 36 degs. 30 min. should be free: the Nebraska bill repeals the act of 1820, and opens a new and fertile territory of hundreds of thousands of square miles in extent, to the blight of Slavery, giving the lie to all our professions of love of liberty and equal rights, so long the boast of Americans. Should the question remain open till after the Pennsylvania election, the result will no doubt be decisive of the measure. Pennsylvania gives more votes for the bill than any other Northern State; a majority of the Democratic papers as well as members of Congress support the bill, and the Governor dodges the question, not knowing which will be the strongest side. Let Gov. Bigler be re-elected, and the members returned who support the bill, and it will be claimed, from Maine to Louisiana, as a Nebraska victory—a democratic triumph. With what intense interest did the people look for the returns of the elections in New Hampshire, Connecticut, and Rhode Island; and although the Democrats of those States declared that the Nebraska question was not involved in the issue, yet the people did not believe them, but voted in a manner that their would-be masters at Washington understood them most fully.

We have more to say upon this subject another time. We believe there are thousands of Democrats in the State who are heartily and honestly opposed to the extension of slave territory, and are not in favor of dodging a question of such momentous moment to the welfare of the country; and, unless we are greatly in error, before Gov. Bigler has played out his game of hide and seek, he will be constrained to admit that honesty is the best policy.

☞ The *Washington Union* asserts that the distribution of forces in the recent election contest in Connecticut was as follows: "On the one side Democrats; on the other Whigs, Maine-law-men, Abolitionists, Native Americans, and the *orthodox Clergy* of the State."

If the Democratic party has become so corrupt that the orthodox Clergy unite in solid phalanx against it, is not the hour of its dissolution approaching?—When the measures of a party are such that those men whose peculiar duty it is to inculcate the principles of the Gospel, and to enforce their precepts by example, feel compelled to use their influence against it, every reasonable man—every one who believes there is a right and a wrong in politics, as in every thing else—will be apt to examine such measures very carefully, in order to discover their real character. We imagine it would require no extraordinary degree of perspicacity to discover that the clergymen have not stepped aside from their legitimate avocation, in their warfare against the Nebraska bill; for their commissions require them to do battle against sin and iniquity wherever found.

☞ It appears that E. B. Chase is becoming known in Harrisburg, as he is sure to be after a short residence in any place. The Harrisburg *Democratic Union* says of him: "His course shows where he stands, and it would be superfluous to '*read*' a man out of the party, who, by his own showing, cannot be considered in it. That he was elected by Washington influence, independent of his own merits, is a fact too well known here to be disputed. That he has repaid the kindness of his Washington friends by treachery of the rankest kind, is a fact also well understood."

The Ladies Keepsake.—The April number of this monthly is a most excellent one. A variety of tales, sketches, and poems, chosen with much taste, constitute its literary attractions, while its fine engravings and colored plates, with the handsome style in which the whole is got up, make it very attractive in appearance. Each number contains 32 large pages with a fine steel engraving, and a richly colored flower plate will be added quarterly. All this for $1,00 a year. John S. Taylor, publisher, No. 17 Ann-Street, New-York.

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Register.

SUSQUEHANNA DEPOT, April 15, 1854.

FRIEND FRAZIER:—The following communication was addressed by myself to the Editors of the *Montrose Democrat*, in reply to a personal attack, which appeared in that paper under the signature of "Contributor"—somebody who skulks behind an assumed name. That the editors of the *Democrat* considered "Contributor's" article personal, is shown by this notice of said article, which appeared in the *Democrat* one week previous to the publication of "Contributor's" communication, to wit:

☞ "We have received a communication from 'A Contributor,' but its length precludes an insertion this week. As the writer appears to be influenced in a great measure by personal feeling, and as the manner in which he discusses the subject of the "Nebraska Bill" appears to us to be far less effective than that of Judge Douglas, whose speech we published two weeks since, we have some hesitation in appropriating so much space to his communication as we necessarily must if we insert it. We may, perhaps, give it a place next week, as we by no means desire to restrict a free discussion of any public question."

Yet allowing the attack of a skulking correspondent, they utterly refused to publish my communication under my own name. Will you give it a space in your paper?

L. P. H.

SUSQUEHANNA DEPOT, April, 11th, 1854.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—A friend called my attention to an article in your paper of last week signed "Contributor" and purporting to have been written at Lanesboro. That friend considered an allusion made to myself in said article of such a character as to demand of me a notice. I therefore crave the same medium through which "Contributor" made the personal attack, for a reply. I dislike much to be dragged before the public or enlist in the least degree in a discussion with one, or a half dozen it may be, who skulk behind an assumed name. What benefit the friends of the Nebraska Bill suppose will accrue to them by parading my humble name before the public as associated with those unfriendly to Wm. Nebraska, I am unable to conceive. From reading "Contributor's" article one might suppose the highest ambition of his other life was to have a personal newspaper controversy with myself and that all *dead* Bill Nebraska needed to restore him to life was that I should be branded as "a traitor to my country, an enemy of the Union, and a clog to republicanism."

Now, "Contributor!" whether a limb of the law in limbo" "Post-Master of the faith on both sides of the question," "County Office holder who delivers funeral sermons and is in favor of the Gadsden Treaty," "Esq." "D." or "Strong minded woman who has serious intentions of matrimony"—whoever you may be, permit me to suggest an *oral* discussion of the Nebraska question, if discuss the question you must. Because I must confess that I have an almost instinctive abhorrence of a newspaper controversy, and that horror has been somewhat cultivated of late by looking at your article. Then "Contributor," our ungrammatical expressions, stale ideas, and "distinguished highfaluting," would be inflicted on no one who might not desire the punishment. In the meantime, you had better keep to yourself your arguments, if you desire the discussion; for should they reach Washington, the bill might be rushed thro' by acclamation and the use of the discussion pass away with the occasion.

Let us imagine the "Oral Discussion" for a moment. First, I having the affirmative, lead off as follows. The Institution of Slavery which in the days of Washington was but a *little evil*, which Jefferson set bounds to as far as Ohio, Illinois and the great Northwest is concerned, by his ordinance of 1787—the "Wilmot Proviso" of that period, saving those States for freedom, the Institution which Washington declared in his last most sacred paper, his Will and Testament, to be his deepest regret, has now become a *giant aristocratic monopoly*; more controlling, powerful and heartless than the "old U. S. Bank" ever was or could become. Slavery has a property representation in Congress, such that if the city of New York had the same, she would send nine instead of four representatives to Congress, whereas the "Bank" had none.

Slavery has capital to the amount of about 200-000,000 almighty dollars in slaves, with a pecuniary interest affecting in its different ramifications every species of real or personal estate held within the limits of fifteen great States of the Union, having so interwoven itself with the property and political interests of those States as to become a part and parcel of the very State governments themselves; whereas, the Bank had only $35,000,000, with no State political power.

Slavery is guarded by 350,000 chivalrous gentlemen, whose early education and habits render it utterly impossible for them to obtain a living by honest industry—"to take care of themselves"—and is likewise guarded by the "cotton merchants" of Philadelphia, New York, Boston, and the *manufacturing lords* of Great Britain, for whose interest slavery was first established in this country; whereas the Bank was only guarded by "Nick Biddle" and the money changers and speculators of the principal cities of the Union, together with such men as are now in favor of "Galphin Claims" and "Gadsden Treaties."

The death throck of the U. S. Bank monopoly shook the nation from centre to circumference, and all the nerve and energy of the great Jackson were demanded to save the credit, yea, the very government from ruin. They were the death struggles of a party bound together and sustained by the strongest and most enduring of all earthly ties, to wit: *a great pecuniary interest*; and be it remembered, that same, *more mighty interest* gives strength, and binds together in one indissoluble bond the great slave oligarchy of this nation, making them, on all questions of protection policy, or aggression, a *single unit*.

It was thought and known that the Bank was grasping at the reins of government—was building up and tearing down—making and unmaking Presidents; and had the power to effect a commercial crisis, and hence was dangerous to the rights and liberties of the great masses of the people. But where in all the "Bank-monster" history, did she stalk boldly into the councils of the nation, and there ask, demand, and receive of the leaders of both the great political parties, the abrogation of the writ of personal liberty—the *habeas corpus*, the nullification of the right of trial by jury; and when did she offer the corrupt bribe of $5 only on every decision in her favor in a court of justice?

When did the giant bank repudiate her solemn agreements—her compacts of 34 years standing?—'Tis true the Bank of Susquehanna County did so in part, but the old U. S. Bank, unlike that of Susquehanna County, and the Slavery monster, was never guilty of the attempt. Lastly, when did the Bank, (bad as it was,) degrade the high dignity of the American citizen, and compel us freemen to *hunt, catch, chain*, and *carry back* negroes, (always paying for the privilege) as the whim of a tyrant's caprice might dictate.

Now, sir, if to sincerely desire my country should be free from the control of this monster monopoly and all others, that the people should rule, constitutes me "a clog to republicanism" then I am a "clog."

If to earnestly use my efforts to prevent the extension of the blight and mildew of slavery over free territory, constitute me an enemy of union—then I am a disunionist.

If to believe Slavery the sum total of all villainies combined, the biggest of all monopolies, and that *all constitutional* means should be used for its annihilation, together with being opposed to the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, render me traitorous to my country, then I am a traitor.

You then, sir, or madam, "Contributor," might perhaps reply as follows: "*You, sir, are an Abolitionist*," and thereupon the decision of the question would be given in your favor, and as you have the applause of an admiring audience, I am then certain you will not be displeased by my suggestions of an *oral* discussion.

Yours respectfully,

LEONARD P. HINDS.

For the Register.

Susquehanna County Teachers Association.

The Susquehanna County Teachers' Association, held its fifth session at the meeting house near U. Burrow's, in Gibson, on Friday afternoon and evening, March 31st, 1854.

The Association was called to order by the President, and the Rev. Willard Richardson addressed the throne of grace. The Secretary then called the roll, and read the report of the meeting, which was accepted. There being no miscellaneous business presented for the consideration of the Association, the President called upon the Rev. E. E. Guild, to address the meeting, which he proceeded to do in a lecture of uncommon clearness, strength, and originality. We refrain from giving a synopsis of it, as the lecturer partially consented to furnish it for publication.—Suffice it to say, that it amply sustained the author's well known reputation for independent thinking and practical reasoning.

The Chairman of the Business Committee then submitted a formal report on text-books, which was laid on the table. On motion, it was then taken up and considered in Committee of the whole.

The association was then addressed by S. U. Hamilton, C. W. Deans, W. W. Haywood, S. J. Northrop, S. W. Tewksbury, B. F. Tewksbury, S. T. Scott, and Rev. Willard Richardson. On motion the discussion was then laid over, and the association adjourned to meet at 7 o'clock in the evening.

EVENING SESSION.—After partaking of refreshments furnished by the good friends of education, living near by, the Association again assembled and was called to order by the President. On motion the discussion on text-books was again resumed, and S. U. Hamilton addressed the meeting thereon. W. W. Haywood, then moved that the subject be laid over indefinitely; but after some discussion he withdrew his motion, and B. F. Tewksbury, moved that S. U. Hamilton C. W. Deans, and A. B. Kent, be appointed a committee to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the Association on the subject of Text-Books, and report a list of school books for the consideration of the Directors, Teachers, and the public generally. In the absence of the committee the propriety of having a Teacher's Institute, and the time it should be held were taken up and discussed by Wm. W. Haywood, B. F. Tewksbury, C. W. Deans, and S. T. Scott with uncommon unanimity of feeling and sentiment.

The Committee on resolutions and list of text-books, now gave notice that they were ready to report, and presented the following through their chairman, S. U. Hamilton, which was unanimously adopted.

Whereas: In our opinion the want of uniformity in text-books, is the greatest hindrance to the success of our common schools—Therefore

Resolved. That we will use our best endeavours to procure the adoption of a uniformity of books in the schools of this county; and as a preparatory step we suggest the following list of books for the consideration of Directors, Teachers and community generally, hoping that by such consideration, and future discussion we may conclude upon some series of books worthy of general adoption in our Common Schools.

TEXT BOOKS. Spelling—Towns', Sanders', or Webster's. Reading—Towns', Sanders,' or Mandeville's series. Geography—Olney's, Smith's, Morse's, Mitchell's, with outline maps. Arithmetic, Mental—Colburn's, Emerson's, or Thomson's. Written—Adams', Colburn's Sequel, Thomson's or Perkins'. Grammar, Bullion's, Brown's, Smith's, or Weld's. Physiology—Cutters first book of Anatomy and Hygiene.

Resolved. That we are well aware there are many good books not named above, but our object is to ascertain what books may be generally and uniformly used to the best advantage.

Miscellaneous business being next called for by the President, B. F. Tewksbury, offered the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Association are due to the Rev. E. E. Guild for the able and satisfactory manner in which he discharged his duty in the capacity of lecturer before it.

Resolved, That the principles presented and illustrated by the lecturer form the only true basis of educational improvement and reform.

The attendance on the meeting in the afternoon was exceedingly meagre, many not seeming to be fully aware of the true character of the Association, but in the evening the assemblage exceeded all expectations, being larger, by far, than at any previous meeting. It manifested its deep and heart-felt interest in the cause of universal popular education by an attentive listening to the proceedings of the Association till nearly ten o'clock at night.

By unanimous consent it was agreed that the next meeting be held at Montrose on the afternoon and evening of Monday the 24th of April, 1854.

The thanks of the Association are tendered to the liberal proprietors who proffered such ample accommodations for its meeting.

Meeting then adjourned to meet as above stated.

S. T. SCOTT, President.

B. F. TEWKSBURY, Rec. Sec.

NEWS AND NOTIONS.

—St. Peter's Church at Rome can hold 54,000 persons.

—In Chicago house rents are higher than in New York City.

—Young gentlemen who dress in bob-tail coats and tight pants have received the appellation of 'Shanghais.'

—Henry Ward Beecher says that "dress doesn't make the man; but when he is made he looks better dressed up."

—"What's whiskey bringing?" inquired a dealer in that article. "Bringing men to the poor-house, to the penitentiary and the gallows," was the instant reply.

—It was a Portland lady that said she would make a poor sailor, and to which a nautical friend replied, but you would make an excellent mate though.

—The "know-nothings" are out to have all the fun to themselves. Another new organization has been introduced into the city called the "say-nothings."—*Washington Sentinel.*

—The title 'Czar,' is a corruption of the word Cæsar, that was originally assumed as a title of honor by the grand Dukes, and recently assumed by the Emperors of Russia.

—The English army is said to have taken with them to Turkey a quantity of balloons with apparatus for inflation. They will be used for purposes of observation and reconnoitre.

—A paper states that a new fashioned carpet-bag has just been invented, in which a man upon a journey can stow himself away, and travel on, passing for baggage, and thus escape the payment of fare.

—The present Congress, exclusive of vacancies, consists of two hundred and ninety members, and their aggregate pay for one week is $10,000. The average continuance of the daily sessions is about three hours.

—It seems that Henry Ward Beecher was in Washington on Sunday, and made a direct reply to the attack on the clergymen who petitioned Congress in reference to the Nebraska bill, before a crowded audience.

—All the clergymen in Concord, New Hampshire, have put their names at the head of a memorial from citizens of that place, praying that President Pierce will veto the Nebraska bill if it passes Congress.

—Secretary Marcy, in reply to an inquiry from a gentleman in New York, has written a letter stating his belief "that every person born in the United States must be considered a citizen of the United States notwithstanding one or both of his parents may have been an alien at the time of his birth.

—Since the Nebraska scheme was introduced, Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island have spoken through their Legislatures, and New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Connecticut through the ballot-box. New England is on the record *unanimous*. Six "settlers" for the new territory.

—There is a talk that Santa Anna will divorce his present wife if he can negotiate a marriage with one of the daughters of the Queen Dowager of Spain. His present wife was born in Westerloo, Albany Co., N. Y., and her maiden name was Lapaugh.

—About four-fifths of the words in the English language are monosyllabic. The doxology, "From all that dwell below the skies," contains fifty words, all but ten of which are monosyllabic.

—It may be interesting to editor's and other poor men to learn that "seedy" black coats may be restored to their original color by saturating the rusty parts with an infusion of logwood, applied with a sponge, "dry and press off with a hot iron."

—Several earthquakes have taken place in Calabria lately, attended with great loss of life. One village, containing nine hundred inhabitants has been completely destroyed. Altogether, three thousand lives have been lost according to the last accounts.

—The Richmond Whig argues the necessity for adopting a more efficient system of education in that State. It says:

"Every decade exhibits a rapid and fearful increase of this mass of ignorance. In 1840 the number of the unlettered in Virginia amounted to 60,000. In 1850, it exceeded 80,000. At this rate it will not require many centuries to extinguish all knowledge of letters in the State."

—A letter from the East in the London Morning Chronicle has the following statement:—English Cotton Shirts, on which the concise contents of the Koran are roughly printed in blue are now selling in the Turkish camp. They are eagerly bought up at tenfold their value, as the Turkish soldiers attach to those tatlismanic extracts the gift of making the wearer invulnerable in battle.

—Ex-Bishop Ives' new work is announced from the press of the publisher of the Boston Pilot, to be issued in a week or two, simultaneously with its publication in London.—Its title is, "The Trials of a Mind in its Progress to Catuolicism, in a letter to his Old Friends, by L. Silliman Ives, L. L. D., late Bishop &c." It will contain more than two hundred pages.

Practical Democracy.

An article is going the rounds of the Democratic press which lauds Mr. Pierce very highly for not conferring office on his brother, a respected, wealthy and intelligent farmer of New Hampshire. The writer of the article is evidently some Englisman accustomed to the nepotism of the Court of St. James. That the President should not bestow office on his brother is not to be wondered at, such an act being of a nature to add greatly to the increasing unpopularity of his administration. Nor is it strange that Henry Pierce feel no disposition to accept accept any office in his brother's power to bestow. This aversion to office is very general among intelligent men who have won competence by their own exertions. The race for appointments by the President is entered upon only by needy young men, ambitious lawyers, broken down editors and politicians with here and there a better exception. So far from its being a good sign that honest, competent men of easy means are averse to serving the public, we look upon it as one of the worst results of the clique rule which now infests not only the State and Federal capitals, but every county town in our country.—*Daily Register.*

Whig State Committee.

In pursuance of the Directions of the late Whig State Convention, I have selected the following gentlemen to compose the State Central Committee for the present year:

Col. A. G. Curtin, of Centre Co., *Ch'n.*
Gen. Wm. Larimer, Allegheny "
Col. C. O. Loomis, " "
Frederick Lenning, Philadelphia. "
Joseph R. Myers, " "
Hon. Wm. B. Reed, " "
Stephen Miller, Dauphin Co. "
J. Covode, Westmoreland "
T. E. Franklin, Lancaster "
Hon. H. M. Fuller, Luzerne "
H. D. Maxwell, Northam'n "
L. A. Mackey, Clinton "
D. Taggart, Northumberland Co. "

WM. F. JOHNSTON,
Chairman Whig State Convention.

SKETCHES IN WASHINGTON.

Come with me gentle reader, to the Capitol of the United States, and let us take a glance for a few moments at the assembled wisdom of the nation, in the Hall of the House of Representatives. Ah! here we are in the ladies gallery and this daily session has already commenced. The clerk and old chaplain, Mr. Slicer has already hurried thro' his morning prayer—he does not take long about it; it would be dear at 25 cents a day—and after assuring the sinning Representatives, for the fiftieth time since the beginning of last December, of the unavailing wakefulness of the "watchman on the tower," unless the Lord be with them, he bundled his umbrella under his arm, and sped in hot haste to the Senate Chamber, to sanctify the meeting of that august body by his presence. The clerk, in loud and monotonous voice is reading the journal of yesterday—a dreary farce, for nobody listens to him; the members being as you observe, for the most part, engaged in vigilant perusal of the reportorial rehash of their eloquence of yesterday in the columns of the *Daily Globe*. And so you think them a very ordinary looking set of men? well so they are. It cannot require any very marked ability to get elected to Congress, one would think, judging from the calibre of the men before us. And yet here and there in the noisy crowd, you may pick out a man whose talents would do honor to any legislative body that the world has known since the things called "Parliaments" and "Congresses" have existed.

Yonder is one of them—that spare wan looking man, with a head about the size of a child's of twelve years old, a low forehead with dry brown hair combed carefully down over it, the sallow and beardless face, the small nose and compressed lips. That is Alexander H. Stephens, of Georgia, a very inferior looking man, you would say, and yet, as a parliamentarian and a debater, he has no peer in the present House. The first tone of his shrill piercing voice, as he shrieks out, "Mr. Speaker," rivets the attention of members; the newspaper is cast aside, the pen drops from the hand, and every word that falls from his lips is listened to with breathless interest. Away there, far to the left of the Speaker, that rough hardy old fellow with the ragged white locks, and bulldog countenance, is Joshua R. Giddings, of Ohio, the oldest member of the House. Ever pregnant with abolition harangues, a ready and fluent debater, he misses no opportunity to obtrude his peculiar sentiments on the ear of the House; and from his known honesty and sincerity he seldom fails to obtain an attentive and respectful hearing. To his left sits another noted abolitionist—Gerrit Smith, of New York. Yes, that is he, in the blue coat with metal buttons, and the ample and spotless shirt-collar turned down over the black cravat. His countenance is pleasing and benevolent, but deficient in firmness and his style of speaking chaste and persuasive, although his tone would, perhaps, better suit a camp-meeting or a revival than a legislative body.

Gerrit Smith is a great man among the motley crew of "Reformers" now gathered together in Washington—a very whale among minnows. He is a "land-reformer" and abolitionist—preaches teetotalism at the Temperance Hall—and for aught I know to the contrary, he may be a believer in vegetable diet, phonography, and spirit rappings. On the opposite side of the Hall is a cluster of New York "Hards." I need hardly tell you who the short, thick-set young man with red face and coarse black hair is, for every New Yorker knows Mike Walsh. Beside him sits Maurice of Brooklyn—the gentlemanly looking little fellow, with ample moustache and stylish dress. And there immediately in front of Mike is the *lion* of the House, with luxuriant moustache and beard, piercing eyes, and flowing locks. Observe the gaudy pink silk neckerchief, and then the pattern of the pants—the envy of Beau Hickman—an ingenious mingling of snakes and terrapins, done in black upon a grey ground. There is not such another pair of pants in the House; no, nor in all Washington. Beau would give one of his ears to be possessed of them. That is Caleb Lyon, of Lyonsdale—poet, orator, and traveller, and a pleasant, good hearted fellow, with all his eccentricity.

The tall, stiff, grey-headed man is Peckham, of Albany, who has been very much bepuffed in the newspapers, but has not yet distinguished himself in any way. Peck and Oliver of the rank and file of the "Hard" faction, complete the group—ordinary looking men enough, and with no claims to particular note.

But see—the business of the day has commenced in good earnest. The good tempered looking little man down there in front who is shouting at the top of his voice, endeavoring to make himself heard above the din of the Speaker's descending hammer and the laughter and cries of "Order!" from all parts of the Hall, is Colonel Tom Florence of Philadelphia—a jovial hatter he, who likes better to address the House than any other man here, and has more difficulty in obtaining a patient hearing. He is silenced at last, and retires to his seat with a mortified air. The Colonel is always warring upon some measure that may remotely benefit New-York, and has shown so much jealousy of the Empire City since he came here three years ago, that his motives are always suspected by the House. The three industrious scribes in the centre of the area perched high aloft on long-legged chairs, with revolving seats, and desks of wondrous mechanism—evidently designed for use, not ornament—are official reporters for the *Congressional Globe*. Throughout the session they are constantly on the move—ever changing places. The most persevering of them remains on the chair but seven minutes at a time, and then rushes frantically to a side desk to translate those bewildering fly-tracks into copy for the printers. Pity it is that the labors of the fleet fingered gentry cannot be submitted to the public without first undergoing elaborate revision and pruning by honorable members. Then, indeed, might the *Congressional Globe* become a welcome addition to the literature of the country, instead of being as now, a "flat, stale and unprofitable production" at best.

But come we will linger here no longer. A debate is commencing on that dryest of all conceivable subjects—the Indian appropriation bill. We will perhaps pay another visit to the House when a more interesting subject is on the *tapis*.

S. W.

☞ A California correspondent of the Boston *Watchman and Reflector* thus speaks of the climate of that State:—"The mean temperature for 1853, was fifty-one and one-third degrees; the extreme depression was forty degrees, or eight degrees above freezing point; the greatest elevation was eighty-eight degrees. Snow, we have none, except upon the high hills; and thunder only occurred twice during the year. We had forty-four days on which rain fell. Our nights are always just such as are favorable to rest. We never have your chilly nights of winter, or oppressively hot nights of summer. It is not customary to make any change in the amount of bed-clothing during any part of the year. To-day, while you are chilled with frost, and surrounded with snow, our hills are green, flowers are in bloom, and our markets stocked with fresh garden vegetables, such as onions, beets, lettuce, etc."

PRIVATEERING.

For a month past or more there has been a good deal said about equipping and arming privateers in ports of the United States, to act against the French and English, both of them with Russian commissions, and under the Russian flag. This has been again and again denied; but here and there a Journal that sticks to the supposition with a good deal of tenacity, as being at least probable, if not true. We were not much believers in it—we are not now, because first, we do not wish to believe, and because we have seen as yet no proof of it. As a pendent to this story, is that of a Russian invasion of Canada through the United States: the Russian troops to be introduced as emigrants, and to be here organized, and armed, and marched into that country. This we believe less than the other story, but enough has been said to frighten the Canadians, who seem to be in a sort of panic about the report, which we think to be a most unfounded one.

As to privateering against any of the belligerents, should a war grow out of the Eastern question, we devoutly hope that none of our fellow citizens will engage in it, for or against any of the parties. Privateering is at best but a very miserable business—by at best, we mean, when the citizens of a country engage in it, against the commerce of a country with which their own is at war.—For neutrals to engage in it is worse than filibustering, for filibusters always put down on their programme a large amount of philanthropy, love of liberty, hatred of tyrants, sympathy for the oppressed, &c., &c. leaving out, all the private incentives, such as want of employment, hopes of bettering their circumstances, &c., &c. Privateering does not admit of this. The motive is too obvious and to simple, too allow of any mystification. It is entered into for profit and plunder, and for nothing else. There is no chivalry about it no heroism, no romance. The privateer does not fight if he can help it, and his great'st glory and most heroic achievement, is to pounce upon some rich and defenseless prize. Now and then they fight, and fight bravely too, as the General Armstrong did at Fayal. That we say is the general rule—the exceptions are few.

It has been proposed in the British Parliament that no privateers shall be commission'd in the event of a war with Russia, and the proposition was promised ministerial consideration. Perhaps on this occasion the British Government may go against privateering, for the reason that England has a vast commerce that might be terribly cut up by privateers, whilst Russia has comparatively little. But what will the Czar say to this?—Will he be willing to meet his antagonists half way, and agree to proscribe this barbarous mode of warfare, when to make it will be greatly to his advantage? We doubt it.

All remember, we suppose, that at the commencement of the war with Mexico, it was surmised, if not apprehended, that the Mexican Government would attempt to do in Europe precisely what it has been said the Czar will attempt to have done in the ports of the United States; and will remember too, the stand taken by the Government and country here—that all foreigners not Mexicans, committing depredations on our commerce under color as letters of marque, should be treated as pirates, as they undoubtedly would have been had they embarked in that highwayman occupation on the high seas. When caught but little formality would have been observed. A strong rope and a hoist towards the yard-arm would have been all, and every voice in the country would have said 'serve 'em right.' But there was nowhere any attempt, we believe, to make that kind of piratical war on our commerce. Some fear of the consequences, assisted by correct notions upon the subject, we suppose restrained those who would not have been unwilling, under better auspices, to enrich themselves at the expense of our merchants and ship-owners.

We cannot be mistaken, we think, in supposing that public sentiment in this country is overwhelmingly against this suggested privateering under Russian flag against French and English commerce, should the expected war take place in Europe. The morality, the religion, and the conscience of our people are against it, we believe, or, if not, at all events ought to be. This we do not say because we are somewhat anti-Russian, with respect to the great Eastern question, but because we go for what is right and legal, and are as much opposed to any American privateering against Russian commerce as we are *vice versa*.

We could say more about this matter than we now say, and would say more, were we at all apprehensive that the reported Russian-American privateering was going to assume any more seriousness, and solidity than mere talk. Among the things we might say would be this: that if American capital, vessels, citizens and seamen were to be employed against French and English commerce, in and from American Ports, those ports being open to the privateers, for refitting, selling prizes, &c., then in less than three months, we should be most certainly at war with France and England—a state of things, judging from what has been said of late in high places, about the smallness of our Army and Navy, not by any means desirable. We will have, it is likely, in the course of the war, difficulties with those Powers about our rights as neutrals, which rights, as in time past, will not be much regarded, we fear. The questions that may arise from this will not be complicated and embarrassed, we trust, with any about privateering.

Acceptance of Whig Nominees.

Mr. Edie, Chairman of the Committee appointed by the Whig State Convention to notify the nominees of their selection, publishes in the Somerset Whig, their letters of acceptance. Mr. Darsie's letter accepting the nomination for Canal Commissioner says:—

'I fully appreciate this mark of confidence of the convention, and frankly accept the nomination, with the assurance that, if elected, I shall endeavor to discharge the duties of the office with fidelity.'

Judge Pollock's letter says:—

'A nomination unsolicited and unexpected and conferred under circumstances so gratifying to myself, ought not to be declined. In accepting the nomination thus tendered I yield my own, to the wishes of my friends, and assure you that the selection of some other candidate would have given me more pleasure than to be myself the nominee.'

'The Resolutions of the Convention, and the principles they embody and sustain, meet my cordial approval.'

Judge Smyser's letter details the reasons which govern him in accepting the nomination He thinks that 'while judicial honors may be aspired to, as the fit rewards of well directed ambition, they should not be sought after or obtained through those means which are generally considered legitimate in the pursuit of political preferment.'

☞ The medical properties or effects of green lettuce are not generally known. The eater of this salad takes a portion of a narcotic substance similar in its properties to opium, which it contains; and any one will discover that his head is affected after indulging freely in the article. Eaten at night, it causes sleep; eaten during the day, it soothes, calms, and allays the tendency to nervous irritability.

JOHN HOWARD PAYNE.

The remains of this gifted son of genius, who breathed his last across the Atlantic, far away from "Home, Sweet Home," are to be brought to the United States and interred in the Congressional Cemetery, in this city, where a monument is to be erected commemorative of his memory. Mr. Payne, we believe, was a native of Massachusetts. From early boyhood he had a fondness for literature, and it was his especial delight to "court the muses." His beautifully touching and inimitable song entitled "Home, Sweet Home," is as familiar to the people of his beloved country as household words. The two poetic productions from American pens, the "Star-spangled Banner," by Francis S. Key, and "Home, Sweet Home," by John Howard Payne, will have an enduring reputation—will be appreciated and esteemed.

"While the earth bears a plant
Or the sea rolls a wave."

The patriot, the lover of his country, recites and listens to the singing of the inspiring effusion of Key with a delight and enthusiasm which beggars description. The "stars and stripes," the flag of the United States, is a theme which produces the most tumultuous sensations, the most pleasurable emotions in every American heart. *Amor Patriæ* is a virtue, and which we think is particularly a shining one in countries having written constitutions, in which equal rights and privileges are guarantied to all. But, there are other virtues beside love of country, and among these we would name a fondness and affection for one's *home*, to delight in the sweets of the domestic circle, to sit at the family fireplace, and there by words and acts of obedience, tenderness and affection, impart comfort and joy to venerable and doating parents, to walk out and look even with fondness upon the tall oaks in the park, and with sad, with melancholy interest, upon the weeping willows in the family burying-ground; in short, to *love* the endearments of *home* is a virtue which requires but a little cultivation, for it is both natural and irresistible.

The gifted and lamented Payne possessed this virtue to an eminent degree, and fortunately for his country and friends, he was endowed—we had almost written inspired—with the genius, the poetic talent, to embalm in immortal verse the beauty, the excellence, and value of it. No one can listen to the singing of "Home, Sweet Home," without the foundation of his or her heart's affections being moved and melted. All that is mortal of Payne will ere long reach the metropolis. Let all unite in doing honor to his memory. "*Honor virtutes premium.*"

Whilst upon this subject we think it not inappropriate to quote (from Memory) a touching and heart-moving piece of prose poetry from the life of Lord Nelson, the great naval commander, written by Southey. The author states that when Nelson, who at that time was a midshipman, and of tender years was about to leave his friends and home to embark on a cruise, he gave evidence of his affection for his relatives, the place of his birth, and the scenes of his childhood *by* weeping. Southey then presents the reason with this *gem*, which none can read without admiring:

"The pain which is felt when we are first transplanted from our native soil, when the living branch is cut from the parent tree, is the most poignant which we have to endure through life. There are after-griefs which wound more deeply, which leave behind them scars never to be effaced, which bruise the spirit and sometimes break the heart, but never do we feel so keenly the want of love the necessity of being loved, and the sense of utter desertion, as when one first leaves the haven of HOME, and is, as it were, pushed off upon the stream of life."

☞ Observer, of the Ledger, in