

Legislation has been recommended by me on previous occasions to cure defects in the existing organization, and to increase the efficiency of the army, and further observation has served to confirm me in the views then expressed, and to enforce in my mind the conviction that such measures are not only proper but necessary.

I have, in addition, to invite the attention of Congress to a change of policy in the distribution of troops, and to the necessity of providing a more rapid increase of the military armament. For details of these and other subjects relating to the army, I refer you to the report of the Secretary of War.

The condition of the navy is not merely satisfactory, but exhibits the most gratifying evidences of increased vigor. As it is comparatively small, it is more important that it should be as complete as possible in all the elements of strength; that it should be efficient in the character of its officers, in the zeal and discipline of its men, in the reliability of its ordinance, and in the capacity of its ships. In all these various qualities the navy has made great progress within the last few years. The execution of the law of Congress, of February, 28, 1855, to promote the efficiency of the navy, has been attended by the most advantageous results. The law for promoting discipline among the men is found convenient and salutary. The system of granting an honorable discharge to faithful seamen on the expiration of the period of their enlistment, and permitting them to re-enlist after a leave of absence of a few months, without cessation of pay, is highly beneficial in its influence.

The apprentice system recently adopted is evidently destined to incorporate into the service a large number of our countrymen hitherto so difficult to procure. Several hundred American boys are now on a three years' cruise in our national vessels, and will return well trained seamen. In the ordnance department there is a decided and gratifying indication of progress creditable to it and to the country. The suggestions of the Secretary of the Navy in regard to further improvement in that branch of the service I commend to your favorable attention.

The new frigates ordered by Congress are now afloat, and two of them in active service. They are superior models of naval architecture, and with their formidable battery add largely to public strength and security.

In concert in the views expressed by the Secretary of the Department in favor of a still further increase of our naval force.

The report of the Secretary of the Interior presents facts and views in relation to internal affairs over which the supervision of his department extends, of much interest and importance.

The aggregate sales of the public lands, during the last fiscal year, amount to nine millions, two hundred and twenty seven thousand eight hundred and seventy eight acres, for which has been received the sum of eight millions eight hundred and twenty nine thousand four hundred and fourteen dollars.

During the same period there have been forfeited with military scrip and land warrants, and for other purposes, thirty million one hundred thousand two hundred and thirty acres, thus making a total aggregate of thirty nine million three hundred and eighty eight thousand one hundred and eighty eight acres. On the 30th of September last, surveys had been made of sixteen million eight hundred and seventy three thousand six hundred and ninety nine acres, a large proportion of which is ready for market.

The suggestions in this report in regard to the complication and progressive expansion of the business of the different bureaux of the department; to the pension system; to the colonization of Indian tribes, and the recommendation in relation to various improvements in the District of Columbia, are especially commended to your consideration.

The report of the Postmaster General presents fully the condition of that department of the government. Its expenditures for the last fiscal year were ten million, four hundred and seven thousand eight hundred and sixty eight dollars; and its gross receipts seven millions six hundred and twenty thousand eight hundred and one dollar—making an excess of expenditure over receipts of two million seven hundred and eighty seven thousand and forty six dollars. The deficiency of this department is thus seven hundred and forty four thousand dollars greater than for the year ending June 30, 1853.

Of this deficiency, three hundred and thirty thousand dollars is to be attributed to the additional compensation allowed postmasters by the act of Congress of June 22, 1854. The mail facilities in every part of the country have been very much increased in that period, and the large addition of railroad service, amounting to seven thousand nine hundred and eight miles, has added largely to the cost of transportation.

The inconsiderate augmentation of the income of the Post Office Department under the reduced rates of postage and its increasing expenditures, must, for the present make it dependent to some extent upon the treasury for support. The recommendations of the Postmaster General, in relation to the abolition of the franking privilege, and his views on the establishment of

mail steamship lines, deserve the consideration of Congress. I also call the especial attention of Congress to the statement of the Postmaster General respecting the sums now paid for the transportation of mails to the Panama Railroad Company, and commend to their early and favorable consideration the suggestions of that officer in relation to new contracts for mail transportation upon that route, and also upon the Tehuantepec and Nicaragua routes.

The United States continue in the enjoyment of amicable relations with all foreign powers.

When my last annual message was transmitted to Congress, two subjects of controversy, one relating to the enlistment of soldiers in this country for foreign service, and the other to Central America, threatened to disturb good understanding between the United States and Great Britain. Of the progress and termination of the former question you were informed at the time; and the other is now in the way of satisfactory adjustment.

The object of the convention between the United States and Great Britain of the 19th of April, 1850, was to secure, for the benefit of all nations, the neutrality and the common use of any transit way, or interoceanic communication, across the Isthmus of Panama, which might be opened within the limits of Central America. The pretension subsequently asserted by Great Britain, to dominion or control over territories, in or near two of the routes, those of Nicaragua and Honduras, were deemed by the U. States not merely incompatible with the main object of the treaty, but opposed even to its express stipulations.

The exports of domestic articles of those provinces during the last year amounted to more than twenty two millions of dollars, exceeding those of the preceding year by nearly seven millions of dollars; and the imports therefrom, during the same period, amounted to more than twenty one millions—an increase of six millions upon those of the previous year.

The improved condition of this branch of our commerce is mainly attributable to the above mentioned treaty.

Provision was made, in the first article of that treaty, for a commission to designate the mouths of rivers to which the common right of fishery, on the coast of the United States and the British Provinces, was not to extend. This commission has been employed a part of two seasons, but without much progress in accomplishing the object for which it was instituted, in consequence of a serious difference of opinion between the commissioners, not only as to the precise point where the rivers terminate, but in many instances as to what constitutes a river. These difficulties, however, may be overcome by resort to the umpirage provided for by the treaty.

The efforts perseveringly prosecuted since the commencement of my administration to relieve our trade to the Baltic from the exaction of some dues by Denmark, have not yet been attended with success. Other governments have also sought to obtain a like relief to their commerce, and Denmark was thus induced to propose an arrangement to all the European powers interested in the subject; and the manner in which her proposition was received, warranting her to believe that a satisfactory arrangement with them could soon be concluded, she made a strong appeal to this government for temporary suspension of definite action on its part, in consideration of the embarrassment which might result to her European negotiations by an immediate adjustment of the question with the United States.

This request has been acceded to, upon the condition that the sums collected after the 16th of June last, and until the 16th of June next, from vessels and cargoes belonging to our merchants, are to be considered as paid under protest and subject to future adjustment. There is reason to believe that an arrangement, between Denmark and the maritime powers of Europe on the subject, will soon be concluded, and that the pending negotiation with the United States may then be resumed and terminated in a satisfactory manner.

With Spain no new difficulties have arisen, nor has much progress been made in the adjustment of pending ones.

Negotiations entered into for the purpose of relieving our commercial intercourse with the Island of Cuba of some of its burdens, and providing for the more speedy settlement of local disputes growing out of that intercourse, have not yet been attended with any results.

Soon after the commencement of the late war in Europe, this government submitted to the consideration of all maritime nations two principles for the security of neutral commerce: one, that the neutral flag should cover enemies' goods, except articles contraband of war; and the other, that neutral property on board merchant vessels of belligerents should be exempt from condemnation, with the exception of contraband articles. These were not presented as new rules of international law; having been generally claimed by neutrals, though not always admitted by belligerents.

One of the parties to the war—Russia—as well as several neutral powers, promptly acceded to these propositions; and the two other principal belligerents, Great Britain and France, having consented to observe them for the present occasion a favor-

able opportunity seemed to be presented for obtaining a general recognition of them both in Europe and America.

Their proposition was doubtless intended to imply approval of the principle that private property upon the ocean, although it might belong to the citizens of a belligerent State, should be exempt from capture, and had that proposition been so framed as to give full effect to the principle, it would have received my ready assent on behalf of the United States. But the measure proposed is inadequate to that purpose. It is true that it adopted, private property upon the ocean would be withdrawn from one mode of plunder but left exposed, meanwhile, to another mode, which could be used with increased effectiveness. The aggressive capacity of great naval powers would be thereby augmented, while the defensive ability of others would be reduced.

Though the surrender of the means of prosecuting hostilities by employing privateers, as proposed by the conference of Paris is salutary in terms, yet, in practical effect, it would be the relinquishment of a right of little value to one class of States, but of essential importance to another and far larger, class. It ought not to have been anticipated that a measure, so inadequate to the accomplishment of the proposed object, and so unequal in its operation, would receive the assent of all maritime powers. Private property would be still left to the depredations of the public armed cruisers.

Several of the governments, regarding with favor the proposition of the United States, have delayed definite action upon it, only for the purpose of consulting with others, parties to the confederation of Paris, in view of the satisfaction of stating, however, that the Emperor of Russia has entirely and explicitly approved of that modification, and will co-operate in endeavoring to obtain the assent of other powers; and that assurances of a similar import have been received in relation to the disposition of the Emperor of the French.

The present aspect of this important subject allows us to cherish the hope that a principle so humane in its character, so just and equal in its operation, so essential to the prosperity of commercial nations, and so consonant to the sentiments of this enlightened period of the world, will command the approbation of all maritime powers, and thus be incorporated into the code of international law.

My views on the subject are more fully set forth in the reply of the Secretary of State, a copy of which is herewith transmitted, to the communications on the subject made to this government, especially to the communication of France.

The government of the United States has at all times regarded with friendly interest the other States of America, formerly, like this country, European colonies, and now independent members of the great family of nations. But the unsettled condition of some of them, distracted by frequent revolutions, and thus incapable of regular and firm internal administration, has tended to embarrass occasionally our public intercourse, by reason of wrongs which our citizens suffer at their hands, and which they are slow to redress.

Unfortunately, it is against the republic of Mexico, with which it is our special desire to maintain a good understanding, that such complaints are most numerous; and although earnestly urged upon its attention, they have not as yet received the consideration which this government had a right to expect. While reparation for past injuries has been withheld, others have been added. The political condition of that country, however, has been such as to demand forbearance on the part of the United States. I shall continue my efforts to procure for the wrongs of our citizens that redress which is indispensable to the continued friendly association of the two republics.

The peculiar condition of affairs in Nicaragua in the early part of the present year, rendered it important that this government should have diplomatic relations with that State. Through its territory had been opened one of the principal thoroughfares across the Isthmus connecting North and South America, on which a vast amount of property was transported, and to which our citizens resorted in great numbers, in passing between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of the United States. The protection of both required that the existing power in that State should be regarded as a responsible government; and its minister was accordingly received. But he remained here only a short time.

Soon thereafter the political affairs of Nicaragua underwent unfavorable change, and became involved in much uncertainty and confusion. Diplomatic representatives from two contending parties have been recently sent to this government; but, with the imperfect information possessed, it was not possible to decide which was the government de facto; and, awaiting further developments, I have refused to receive either.

Questions of the most serious nature are pending between the United States and the Republic of New Granada. The government of that republic undertook, a year since, to impose tonnage duties on foreign vessels in her ports, but the purpose was resisted by this government, as being contrary to existing treaty stipulations with the United States, and to rights conferred by charter upon the Panama Railroad Com-

pany, and was accordingly relinquished at that time, it being admitted that our vessels were entitled to be exempt from tonnage duty in the free ports of Panama and Aspinwall. But the purpose has been recently revived, on the part of New Granada, by the enactment of a law to subject vessels visiting her ports to the tonnage duty of forty cents per ton; and, although the law has not been put in force, yet the right to enforce it is still asserted, and may at any time, be acted on by the government of that republic.

The Congress of New Granada has also enacted a law, during the last year, which levies a tax of more than three dollars on every pound of mail matter transported across the Isthmus. The sum thus required to be paid on the mails of the United States would be nearly two millions of dollars annually, in addition to the large sum payable by contract to the Panama Railroad Company. If the only objection to this exaction were the exorbitancy of its amount, it could not be submitted to by the United States.

The imposition of it, however, would obviously contravene our treaty with New Granada, and infringe the contract of that republic with the Panama Railroad Company. The law providing for this tax was, by its terms, to take effect on the first of September last, but the local authorities on the isthmus have been induced to suspend its execution, and to await further instructions on the subject from the government of the republic. I am not yet advised of the determination of that government. If a measure so extraordinary in its character, and so clearly contrary to treaty stipulations, and the contract rights of the Panama Railroad Company, composed mostly of American citizens, should be persisted in, it will be the duty of the United States to resist its execution.

I regret exceedingly that occasion exists to invite your attention to a subject of still graver import in our relations with the Republic of New Granada. On the fifteenth day of April last a riotous assemblage of the inhabitants of Panama committed a violent and outrageous attack on the premises of the railroad company, and the passengers and other persons in or near the same, involving the death of several citizens of the United States, the pillage of many others, and the destruction of a large amount of property belonging to the railroad company.

I caused full investigation of that event to be made, and the result shows satisfactorily that complete responsibility for what occurred attaches to the government of New Granada. I have, therefore, demanded of that government that the perpetrators of the wrongs in question should be punished; that provision should be made for the families of citizens of the U. States who were killed, with full indemnity for the property pillaged or destroyed.

The present condition of the Isthmus of Panama, in so far as regards the security of persons and property passing over it, requires serious consideration. Recent incidents tend to show that the local authorities cannot be relied on to maintain the public peace of Panama, and there is just ground for apprehension that a portion of the inhabitants are meditating further outrages, without adequate measures for the security and protection of persons or property having been taken, either by the State of Panama, or by the general government of New Granada.

Under the guarantees of treaty, citizens of the United States have, by the outlay of several millions of dollars, constructed a railroad across the Isthmus, and it has become the main route between our Atlantic and Pacific possessions, over which multitudes of our citizens and a vast amount of property are constantly passing—to the security and protection of all which, and the continuance of the public advantages involved, it is impossible for the government of the United States to be indifferent.

I have deemed the danger of the recurrence of scenes of lawless violence in this quarter so imminent as to make it my duty to station a part of our naval force in the harbors of Panama and Aspinwall, in order to protect the persons and property of the citizens of the United States in those ports, and to insure to them safe passage across the Isthmus. And it would, in my judgment, be unwise to withdraw the naval force now in those ports, until, by the spontaneous action of the republic of New Granada, or otherwise, some adequate arrangement shall have been made for the protection and security of a line of inter oceanic communication so important at this time, not to the United States only, but to all other maritime States both of Europe and America.

Meanwhile, negotiations have been instituted by means of a special commission, to obtain from New Granada full indemnity for injuries sustained by our citizens on the Isthmus, and satisfactory security for the general interests of the United States.

In addressing to you my last annual message, the occasion seems to me an appropriate one to express my congratulations in view of the peace, greatness, and felicity which the United States now possess and enjoy. To point you to the state of the various departments of the government, and of all the great branches of the public service, civil and military, in order to speak of the intelligence and the integrity, which pervades the whole, would be to indicate

but imperfectly the administrative condition of the country, and the beneficial effects of that on the general welfare.

Nor would it suffice to say that the nation is actually at peace at home and abroad; that its industrial interests are prosperous; that the canvas of its mariners whitens every sea; and the plough of its husbandmen is marching steadily onward to the bloodless conquest of the continent; that cities and populous States are springing up, as if by enchantment, from the bosom of our western wilds; and that the courageous energy of our people is making of these U. States the great republic of the world. These results have not been attained without passing through the trials and perils, by experience of which, and thus only, nations can harden into manhood.

Our forefathers were trained to the wisdom which conceived, and the courage which achieved independence, by the circumstances which surrounded them, and they were thus made capable of the creation of the republic. It devolved on the next generation to consolidate the work of the revolution, to deliver the country entirely from the influence of conflicting transatlantic partialities or antipathies, which attached to our colonial and revolutionary history, and to organize the practical operation of the constitutional and legal institutions of the Union.—To us, of this generation, remains the not less noble task of maintaining and extending the power of the United States.

I shall prepare to surrender the Executive trust to my successor, and retire to private life with sentiments of profound gratitude to the good Providence which, during the period of my administration, has vouchsafed to carry the country through many difficulties domestic and foreign, and to enable me to contemplate the spectacle of amicable and respectful relations between ours and all other governments, and the establishment of constitutional order and tranquility through out the Union.

FRANKLIN PIERCE.
Washington, December 2, 1856.

INQUIRER & CHRONICLE.



BEDFORD, Pa.
Friday Morning Dec. 5, 1856.

"Fearless and Free."

DAVID OVER, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

TREASON ABOVE PAR.

On last Tuesday we had another adjourned court here. We had heard it was called for the sole purpose of removing Mr. JAMES McMULLIN, the Crier of the court, and appointing some one of the faithful in his stead. We said nothing in our paper however, because of the fuss kicked up on a former occasion when we announced that the adjourned court last fall was called merely for the purpose of naturalizing some foreigners. We believed what we stated then, and we believe it yet, although our democratic friends will not admit it. We believe also that this last court was called for no other purpose than the political one above mentioned, of removing and appointing officers. True, there were a few other unimportant matters attended to, but they were of little or no consequence, and could have been attended to just as well at last or next court. But these removals it seems could not be made at last term for the reason that Judge Noble was unwilling to do so, until next court, because the thirst for the spoils was such that unhappy consequences might ensue; and more than this, it is not unlikely that certain promises had to be fulfilled within a specified time. The time had arrived when his Honor Judge Snively might lawfully take his seat, and he hastens to distinguish himself by an act which his predecessor had repudiated and spurned. We trust the Americans, and old line whigs who voted for Mr. Snively, will duly appreciate this liberal and magnanimous commencement of the new administration.—Mr. McMULLIN, had served as Crier for a long series of years, to the entire satisfaction of all concerned, but he has been removed for the purpose of punishing him for his political principles and rewarding a political friend. His only sin consisted in his belonging to the American party. His successor is Mr. A. J. Baylor, who distinguished himself by getting elected judge of our borough election last spring as an American, and then turning traitor to his party before the fall elections. Hence we headed this article, "treason above par." Henry Nicodemus, another renegade from the American party, has been appointed clerk to the county Commissioners. The only two offices worth anything are given to such men as these, whilst the democrats who have always stood firm to their party, get nothing are put off with the most insignificant places. Not only is treason above par, but fidelity is below par. Men who from principle adhere to their party are removed and repudiated, because they do adhere whilst

traitors and renegades are rewarded because they have no principle but a desire for office and because they are traitors and renegades. Our friend, Wm. Leary, was at this same court appointed Tipstave, in the place of Levi Agnew, American, removed. As Mr. Leary was no traitor we suppose he deserved no better place than this. The old line democrats no doubt feel proud to serve under such distinguished characters as Nicodemus and Baylor.

We trust the Union is now safe for a while, and we predict there will be no more adjourned courts until some political maneuver makes it necessary to call our distinguished Associates together again. Every man, we presume, will explain these appointments to suit himself. We incline to the opinion that at least one reason which influenced them, was the known political standing of the senior Associate, who was acting by the principle that "a fellow feeling makes us wondrous kind."

The President's Message.

To the exclusion of almost everything else, we this week lay the President's Message before our readers. It is a commonplace document, and unworthy to emanate from the Chief Executive officer of this nation. It is a defence of his weak and unbecoming administration, which has been condemned before the people. He calls all who voted against the Locooco party, and who condemned the repeal of the time-honored Missouri Compromise, fanatics, traitors, &c. The Message, like its author, will be condemned by every right thinking man in the country.

The old, respectable, and conservative *National Intelligencer*, holds this language in reference to it:

"Whatever repugnance may be felt in the Free States, north and west, to slavery in the abstract, or to its practical extension north of the line prescribed to it by the legislative act of 1821, we have too high an opinion of the general respect felt in those States for the Constitution and its Compromises, and for the indefeasible rights of the Southern States, to give credence to the sweeping charge of the President. It is as unjust, we think, to attribute to them any such sentiment or purpose as it would be to impute to the patriotic people of the South a desire to overthrow the Government because one or two newspapers and a few monomaniacs in a particular locality rail against the Union of the States and advocate its dissolution. There are doubtless causes of complaint, not all of them imaginary, both North and South, but we have too much faith in the general loyalty of both sections to admit the justice of the President's allegation. In the most violent debates of the last session we heard Northern Senators, distinguished for their extreme opinions on the Kansas question, not only publicly repudiate the remotest wish or intention to interfere with slavery in the States, but avow their readiness to shoulder their muskets to defend the people of the South, if need be, in maintaining their authority at home.

We are not extenuating the extravagancies of fanatics in the North or in the West; but, with all deference to the President, we must say that he has gone too far in imputing revolutionary sentiments or designs to so large a portion of the people of the Free States. It is not to be wondered at, perhaps that the President should feel warmly and speak strongly on a subject in which his own official course has been so severely condemned; but when the angry contentions of the day shall have subsided the uncharitableness of many present views will be rectified, and among them the one advanced in the message from which we now feel constrained in justice to dissent, and on which we will say no more. We will only add that we should be happy to see the day when neither the word slavery nor any allusion to the institution will find a place in the President's Message to Congress."

The Philadelphia *Star* disposes of it in this wise:

"PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.—As we expected little from the last dying speech and confession of President Pierce, we have not been disappointed. It is full of weak sophistries, unmeaning generalities and ridiculous arguments, unworthy a stump speech before an election, to say nothing of a public document emanating from a President under the requirements of the Constitution. If any one has the courage to read it, let him do so, but not by our advice. It will be time sadly misspent. There was not a stump speaker of the smallest calibre one month since, who could not have given a more comprehensive argument than this message contains. The fact is, Mr. Pierce finds he has made a great mistake in trying to outdo a more sagacious Judge Douglas in subservience to the South, and being ashamed to acknowledge that he was duped, tries to brazen it out. The country understands the whole matter and will laugh at the untoward efforts of the President to discomfit himself. He concludes by saying that he shall 'prepare to surrender the Executive trust to his successor, and retire to private life, with sentiments of profound gratitude to the good Providence'—and to all the people will respond "Amen!"

PHILADELPHIA MARKETS.
Flour—\$6.50 a 62 1/2 per bbl. Wheat, red, \$1 50 per bush. White, \$1 60.

The most important looking person, we have seen for months past, was his Honor, J. G. Hartley, after causing the removal of James McMullin, as Court Crier, and Levi Agnew, his kindman, as Tipstave. The adjourned Court was called for that purpose, and he had, and was willing to do, the bidding of the dirty hounds, Bowman and Cessa. He looked like the frog in the fable, from the fact that he owes his present place to the Americans, after he had joined the Locooco into his support also, and then deserted the party that elected him; and now, he had the extreme satisfaction of appointing a renegade like himself, to the high and lofty position of Court Crier!—Like the frog, dear John, don't swell so, and bust! for you are nothing uncommon, so you ain't, after all!

We had almost forgotten to state that the office of Court Crier has been divided, and the Cellular part of the House, the cutting of the wood, &c., given to Charles Merwine, another renegade! The old steadfast members of their party, must expect nothing, as long as there are those kind of creatures in existence.

PANORAMA.—Our citizens will have the pleasure of witnessing an exhibition of the "Grand Scored Panorama of the Pilgrim's Progress," on Wednesday evening next. It is one of the best exhibitions of the kind in the United States, and is very highly spoken of by the press wherever it has exhibited. We hope our citizens will generally attend. The *New York Tribune* says—

"We attended, on Monday evening, a private exhibition of the Panorama of the Pilgrim's Progress, which has just been completed by the talented artists, Kyle and Dallas. The figures and architectural drawings of Mr. Dallas, especially in the Palace Beautiful and Vanity Fair, are executed with great spirit and a breadth of effect quite above the reach of ordinary panoramic landscape. Mr. Kyle, in the Valley of the Shadow of Death and the "Land of Beulah," gives evidence of a fine poetic imagination. The entire work has been highly praised by the artists of our city, who have passed resolutions testifying to its superior artistic character."

FLATTERING, VERY.—We understand that our friend, Wm. M. Hall, who had signed a remonstrance against the removal of Mr. James McMullin, as Court Crier, scratched his name off, because he didn't know it was to be signed by the citizens generally, and he didn't want it alongside of that of "Tom, Dick and Harry," &c.— This is flattering, very! to our denizens. What right has the name of a merchant, mechanic, and laborer, to appear alongside that of *distinguisht lawyers!*

CONGRESSIONAL.

Congress met in Washington, on Monday week, nearly all the members of both Houses being present. The usual preliminary business having been disposed of the Senate adjourned, after learning that the President's Message would not be brought in until Tuesday. In the House, the new members from Vermont, Virginia and Illinois were qualified, after which Mr. Phelps presented the credentials of Whitfield, as a delegate from Kansas, and moved that he be sworn. Mr. Grow of Pennsylvania, objected to the reception of the credentials, when a debate took place between Messrs. Grow and Phelps upon the merits of the question, at the close of which the motion was rejected by a vote of 97 yeas to 104 nays. Mr. Grow then moved to reconsider the vote and lay the motion on the table, when all kinds of parliamentary expedients were resorted to by the opposition to defer the question, when at seven o'clock, an adjournment took place with the question still pending upon Mr. Grow's motion. Mr. Hickman, and Brown and Fuller of Pennsylvania, voted in favor of giving Whitfield a seat.

Mr. Mason (Va.) said Slavery agitation had brought the people of the South to believe that the preservation of that institution rested with them alone. Fremont's friends had carried out their views, it would have led to an immediate and final dissolution of the Union.

Mr. Wilson (Mass.) had never asserted the power of Congress to abolish Slavery in the States, nor had he ever uttered the sentiment that those with whom he acted intended to assume such power.

Mr. Brown replied, the South was not called upon to bear everything. Though unwilling to break up the Union, their self-respect might compel them to assert and maintain their rights.

Mr. Trumbull (Ill.) denied that the Fremont party held the views charged upon them by Mr. Brown; they everywhere disavowed such sentiments. The President's Message contained a most unwarrantable assertion bearing upon this matter.—The President says the Missouri Compromise was unconstitutional. The Supreme Court sustains the power of Congress to legislate for the Territories, the power is broad and unqualified, and it is a new discovery to say that Congress does not possess it. Mr. T. defended the Republicans from Mr. Mason's charge of hostility to the South, and showed that all they had done or proposed to do was in strict accordance with the Constitution. If they could not elect whom they chose in a lawful manner, then the Constitution carried with it the elements of its own destruction.