

PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION—KANSAS TROUBLES.

We publish this morning a proclamation by the President of the United States in relation to lawless disturbances, which are seriously apprehended in Kansas.

Late advices received at Washington represent the danger of a bloody civil war in Kansas as more imminent than has generally been supposed.

When the history of this Kansas agitation comes to be fairly written, remarks the Washington Sentinel, an amount of cunning, deception, fraud, and trickery, on the part of the anti-slavery party will appear, that will astonish the country. In making this declaration, we do not mean altogether to exempt from censure the pro-slavery settlers in that Territory and their sympathizers residing without its limits. Removing into that Territory under the Constitution of the United States, and trusting to the protective efficacy of the carefully prepared bill under which it was organized, they have, in some instances, carried with them their slave property, and in many more instances purchased lands and built houses with the ultimate purpose of removing their slaves.

They have been met on the threshold by hirelings and emissaries of the New England Emigrant Aid Society, whose appointed mission it was to exclude slavery from Kansas by every expedient of cunning, every resource of fraud, and every form of outrage. That pro-slavery men should, under such circumstances, have sometimes been betrayed into acts of indiscretion, is not at all to be wondered at. The wonder, indeed, is, that they should have pursued so moderate a course. They have had to struggle not only against the free-soil bands in the Territory, but against nearly the whole of New England, led on by political fanatics and hypocritical persons. The intense zeal and the fierce determination of these men may be judged of from the Kansas sermons which have been preached by their casting persons. One of these sermons by the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, pastor of the Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, we alluded to in our last. They believe that the "Sharp ride," is the best moral agent.

The rumor has for some time prevailed that large sums have been invested, by subscription, in Sharpe's rifles, wherewith to arm the anti-slavery men in the new Territory, and we see, in late newspapers, evidences that systematic and earnest effort is being made by the sham authorities to procure help from all the non-slaveholding States. They have addressed communications to the governors and legislatures of these States. One of these communications, addressed to the governor of Ohio, was recently transmitted by him to the legislature of that State, and which led to the presentation of highly inflammatory resolutions. One of these resolutions reads as follows:

"Resolved, That our Representatives be requested to vote for the immediate admission of A. H. Reeder to a seat in the House of Representatives in Congress, as a delegate from Kansas, until such admission of Kansas as a State."

Without any opportunity to examine into the facts of the case, the mover of the above resolution gravely requests the Ohio members of Congress to vote for the immediate admission of Governor Reeder. Whether entitled or not to his seat, he is to have it; and whether informed or ignorant of the facts, the Ohio members are requested to give it to him. This is legislation with a vengeance.

One feature, however, in the proceedings of the Ohio Legislature pleased us. It was the speech of Mr. Sawyer, made after the reading of Governor Chase's communication. Mr. Sawyer in the course of his remarks said:

"He had heard the Governor, in a public speech, on another occasion, recommend the use of Sharpe's rifles to prevent slavery in Kansas, and offered to give fifty dollars to aid abolitionists to go to Kansas and shoot down the slaveholding citizens; and now, as Governor of Ohio, he is inciting the very difficulties which we all so much deprecate. Why, sir, where was his voice when our own citizens were shot down in the streets of our own cities by a mob, and in a neighboring State? Not a word was heard from him then. He belonged to a party which respected the white citizen more than the negro, but the Governor would embroil the country in a civil war, in order to befriend the negro?"

The abolitionists are taking much pains to circulate the rumor that Kansas is soon to be invaded by bands of armed men from the Southern States. We do not believe a word of it. This is but a pretext by which they seek to justify their active preparations for war. They have already put themselves without the pale of law. They refuse to recognize the Government and the authorities existing in Kansas. They have, without any show of right, sought to establish and to put into operation their own government, and to set up and instal in power their own officers, elected under no law but mob law. All resistance made by these men to the regular, established, and legal government, and officers of Kansas, is rebellion, and they merit the treatment of rebels. If it shall be found necessary to get the aid of "border ruffians" to quell them, then we hope their aid will be procured.

The following is a communication which the spurious free-soil Governor of Kansas has addressed to all of the free-soil Governors of the Union:

"Lawrence City, K. T.,
January 21, 1856."

To his Excellency, Gov. Clark:
SIR:—We have authentic information that an overwhelming force of the citizens of Missouri are organizing upon our border, amply supplied with artillery, for the avowed purpose of invading our Territory, demolishing our towns and butchering our free State citizens. We hope to be able to hold out until assistance can reach us. We respectfully request, on behalf of the citi-

zens of Kansas, that such steps may be taken by the people of the States, as humanity suggests, to prevent the successful carrying out of so inhuman an outrage.

C. ROBINSON,
Governor elect of Kansas.
On the 9th instant, Gov. Clark, of New York, sent in to the Legislature of that State now in session at Albany, the above communication—the reading of which created much excitement in the House.

It remains to be seen whether Congress will sustain the President, in his efforts to preserve law, order and right in Kansas.

POSTSCRIPT.
Highly Important News.

BLOODY CONFLICT ANTICIPATED.
Yesterday, after the above was in type, we received, through the Columbia Times, the following highly important Dispatch from Washington, under date of the 16th instant.

Governor Shannon will leave this city for Kansas on Monday next, and takes out with him instructions from the War Department to Col. Summers, to use the United States Troops if necessary, to enforce the Proclamation of President Pierce. Twelve hundred troops stationed at Fort Leavenworth and Fort Riley were ordered to hold themselves in readiness for action if called out.

It is evident that a bloody conflict is anticipated, hence the timely and efficient preparations being made.

By the President of the United States of America.

A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas indications exist that public tranquility and the supremacy of law in the Territory of Kansas are endangered by the reprehensible acts or purposes of persons, both within and without the same, who propose to direct and control its political organization by force: It appearing that combinations have been formed therein to resist the execution of the territorial laws, and thus, in effect, subvert by violence all present constitutional and legal authority: It also appearing that persons residing without the Territory, but near its borders, contemplate armed intervention in the affairs thereof: It also appearing that other persons, inhabitants of remote States, are collecting money, engaging men, and providing arms for the same purpose: And it further appearing that combinations within the Territory are endeavoring, by the agency of emissaries and otherwise, to induce individual States of the Union to intervene in the affairs thereof, in violation of the constitution of the United States:

And Whereas all such plans for the determination of the future institutions of the Territory, if carried into action from within the same, will constitute the fact of insurrection, and from without that of invasive aggression, and will, in either case, justify and require the forcible interposition of the whole power of the general government, as well to maintain the laws of the Territory as those of the Union:

Now, therefore, I, Franklin Pierce, President of the United States, do issue this, my proclamation to command all persons engaged in unlawful combinations against the constituted authority of the Territory of Kansas or of the United States to disperse and retire peaceably to their respective abodes, and to warn all such persons that any attempted insurrection in said Territory or aggressive intrusion into the same will be resisted not only by the employment of the local militia, but also by that of any available forces of the United States; to the end of assuring immunity from violence and full protection to the persons, property, and civil rights of all peaceful and law-abiding inhabitants of the Territory.

If in any part of the Union, the fury of faction or fanaticism, inflamed into disregard of the great principles of popular sovereignty which, under the constitution, are fundamental in the whole structure of our institutions, is to bring on the country the dire calamity of an arbitrament of arms in that Territory, it shall be between lawless violence on the one side and conservative force on the other, wielded by legal authority of the general government.

I call on the citizens, both of adjoining and of distant States, to abstain from unauthorized intermeddling in the local concerns of the Territory, admonishing them that its organic law is to be executed with impartial justice; that all individual acts of illegal interference will incur condign punishment; and that any endeavor to intervene by organized force will be firmly withstood.

I invoke all good citizens to promote order by rendering obedience to the law; to seek remedy for temporary evils by peaceful means; to discountenance and repulse the counsels and the instigations of agitators and of disorganizers; and to testify their attachment to their country, their pride in its greatness, their appreciation of the blessings they enjoy, and their determination that republican institutions shall not fail in their hands, by co-operating to uphold the majesty of the laws and to vindicate the sanctity of the constitution.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed to these presents.

Done at the city of Washington, the eleventh day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty six, and of the independence of the United States the eightieth.

FRANKLIN PIERCE,
By the President:
W. L. MARCY, Sec'y of State.

For President, Millard Fillmore, of New York, [subject to the decision of a National Convention.]—[Fay. Argus.

A National Convention of what? Will Banks and his confederates be admitted?—[Ral. Register.

Mr. Cullum, Clerk of the House of Representatives, has appointed W. Perry Ingram, of Kentucky, Chief Clerk.

CONGRESS.

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE.

FEB. 12.—The Speaker announced the following committees in pursuance of a resolution passed some time ago authorizing him to appoint the standing committees of the House:

Committee of Elections.—Messrs. Washburn, of Maine, Stephens, Watson, Spinner, Oliver, of Missouri, Hickman, Colfax, Smith, of Alabama, and Bingham.

Of Ways and Means.—Messrs. Campbell of Ohio, Howard, Cobb of Georgia, Jones of Tennessee, Davis of Maryland, Sage, Phelps, Campbell of Pennsylvania, and Dewitt.

On Claims.—Messrs. Giddings, Letcher, Bishop, Jones of Pennsylvania, Dunn of Indiana, Knowlton, Taylor, Gilbert and Marshall of Illinois.

On Commerce.—Messrs. Washburne of Illinois, Wade, Millson, McQueen, Tyson, Kennett, Pelton, Commins and Eustis.

On Public Lands.—Messrs. Bennett of New York, Harlan, Cobb of Alabama, Lindley, Callen, Walbridge, Brenton, Maxwell and Thorington.

On the Post Office and Public Roads.—Messrs. Mace, Norton, Flagler, Barclay, Day, Powell, Walker, Wood and Herbert.

On the District of Columbia.—Messrs. Meacham, Dodd, Goode, Cumber, Dick, Harris of Maryland, Bennett of Mississippi, Trafton and Bell.

On the Judiciary.—Messrs. Simmons, H. Marshall of Kentucky, Barbour, Caskie, Galloway, Harris of Alabama, Leake, Wakeman and Tappan.

On Revolutionary Claims.—Messrs. Ritchie, Murray, Smith of Virginia, English, Fuller of Maine, Allen, Clawson, Cragin and Emrie.

On Public Expenditures.—Messrs. Deane, Covode, Kelly, Mott, Pearce, Vail, Elliott, Waldron and Branch.

On Printing.—Messrs. Nichols, Cragin, and Flagler.

On Private Land Claims.—Messrs. Porter, Horton of Ohio, Thorington, Etheridge, Bowie, Sandidge, Herbert, Robinson and Horton of New York.

On Manufactures.—Messrs. Clark of Connecticut, Knight, Crawford, Bliss, Durfee, Edwards, Dowdell, Campbell of Kentucky, Covode, Kelly, Mott, Pearce, Vail, Elliott, Waldron and Branch.

On Agriculture.—Messrs. Holloway, Bell, Ready, Grow, Campbell of Ohio, Morgan, Sabin, Cullen and McMullen.

On Indian Affairs.—Messrs. Pringle, Orr, Billingshurst, Greenwood, Leiter, Caruthers, Hall of Massachusetts, Todd and Herbert.

On Territories.—Messrs. Grow, Giddings, Purviance, Richardson, Houston, Granger, Zollieffer, Morrill and Perry.

On Revolutionary Pensions.—Messrs. Broom, Albright, Edmundson, Miller of New York, Miller of Indiana, Craig, Knapp, Woodruff and Hall of Iowa.

On Invalid Pensions.—Messrs. Andrew Oliver of New York, Pike, Florence, Savage, Welsh, Talbott, Dickson, Lumpkin and Robbins.

On Roads and Canals.—Messrs. Knox, Hughton, Ruffin, Scott, Peck, Barksdale, Moore, Bradshaw and Rust.

On Military Affairs.—Messrs. Quitman, Allison, Sapp, Faulkner, Williams, Stanton, Denver, Buffington, and Washburne of Wisconsin.

On the Militia.—Messrs. Kunkel, Foster, Whitney, Harrison, Hoffman, Wright of Mississippi, Parker, Watkins and Hall of Massachusetts.

On Naval Affairs.—Messrs. Benson, Davis of Massachusetts, Stranahan, Beocock, Winslow, Haven, Seward, Boyce and Millward.

On Foreign Affairs.—Messrs. Pennington, Bayly, Clingman, Aiken, Fuller of Pennsylvania, Matteson, Sherman, Burlingame and Thurston.

On Patents.—Messrs. Morgan, Chaffee, Smith of Tennessee, Paine and Eddy.

On Public Buildings and Grounds.—Messrs. Ball, Todd, Puryear, Keitt and Roberts.

On Revision and Unfinished Business.—Messrs. Sabin, Knowlton, Warner, Clark of New York, and Shorter.

On Accounts.—Messrs. Thurston, Cadwalader, Nichols, Buffington and Carlisle.

On Mileage.—Messrs. Sneed, Brooks, Kelsey, Evans and Woodworth.

On the Library.—Messrs. Aiken, Tyson, and Pettit.

On Enrolled Bills.—Messrs. Pike and Davidson.

On Expenditures of the State Department.—Messrs. Brooks, Smith of Tennessee, Parker, King and Damrell.

On Expenditures in the Treasury Department.—Messrs. Waldron, Wells, Alexander K. Marshall of Kentucky, Kidwell and Clawson.

On Expenditures in the War Department.—Messrs. Cragin, Valk, Jewett, Rivers, and Covode.

On Engraving.—Messrs. Kelsey, Damrell, and Wright of Tennessee.

On Expenditures in the Navy Department.—Messrs. Harris of Illinois, Wheeler, Washburne of Wisconsin, Underwood, and Wright of Tennessee.

On Expenditures in the Post Office Department.—Messrs. Pettit, Cox, Williams, Burnett, and Reade.

On Expenditures on Public Buildings.—Messrs. McMullen, McCarty, Swope, Trippie and Stewart.

FEB. 13.—The House voted for printer as follows: Follett 33, Wendell 73, Deerees 12, Sargent 8, Farnham 8, J. J. Coombs of Ohio 9, Gen. Webb 5, scattering 9. Necessary to a choice 81. No election.

A second ballot was then taken, and resulted as follows: Wendell 91, Follett 26, Deerees 15, Sargent 8, Coombs 8, Webb 7, Farnham 3, scattering 2. So Wendell was declared to be duly elected printer for the House.

SENATE.—On motion of Mr. Mason, a resolution was passed filling the vacancies of regents of the Smithsonian Institute with the names of George E. Badger of N. C., and Prof. Felton of Mass. Many petitions from Naval officers, complaining of the action of the Naval Board, were referred to the committee on Naval Affairs.

FEB. 14.—In the Senate, the annual re-

port of the Superintendent of the Court Survey, was presented. Mr. Weller introduced a bill, providing for an overland mail from some point on the Mississippi river to San Francisco. The Senate then discussed the action of the Naval Retiring Board last summer, and adjourned until Monday. In the House, Mr. Florence presented the memorial of Gov. A. H. Reeder, contesting the seat of Gen. Whitfield, a delegate from Kansas. It was read, and, along with all other contested seats, viz: Allen, of Illinois, Gallegos, of New Mexico, and Eustis, of Louisiana, referred to the Committee on Election. The contested movement created considerable excitement in the House. The special Kansas Message of President Pierce was referred to the Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, after which the House adjourned until Monday.

POLITICAL.

SOUTH CAROLINA AND THE NATIONAL CONVENTION.

Until recently South Carolina has been much divided in regard to the propriety of sending delegates to the Cincinnati National Democratic Convention. Now, there appears to be much unanimity on the subject. We copy the following letter to show the reasons which have produced the change in the public mind of South Carolina, on the subject, addressed to a gentleman of S. C. NEW ORLEANS, February 8, 1856.

MY DEAR SIR: I was one of the members of the Legislature who declined to join an appeal to the people, asking them to send delegates to the Cincinnati Convention. I opposed the movement—first, from my unwillingness to see the State change its policy in regard to these canons, but mainly because at that time I could not see to what section of the Democratic party we could safely ally ourselves. Our nearest ally undoubtedly seemed to be the President; but who were his friends and supporters in the Democracy of the North? In New York, unquestionably our most dangerous enemies. Who were his bitterest opponents in the same region? As unquestionably the best friends we have beyond our own borders, the Hards of New York. Neither in the Middle States, the North or the West, was Mr. Pierce considered as representing a section of the party. And even in the South we were casting about with the names of Buchanan, Dallas, Douglas and Dickinson, and perhaps jointly, and then, as in Alabama and Mississippi, mentioning Mr. Pierce. In this confusion, the question was natural—where might we fall in the ultimate action of the Convention? I think, therefore, I feared justly for the interests of the South, and the good name of our own State.

I confess frankly that Mr. Pierce has entirely solved this difficulty, and I, for one, can no longer hesitate in the conviction that it is our duty and our interest, and the duty and interest of every Southern State, to send delegates to that Convention, instructed and pledged to vote for Mr. Pierce without alternative.

The wheels of government were stopped by our enemies on an issue involving the vital interests of the South. In the very heat and fury of the contest, Mr. Pierce threw the weight of the Executive branch into the scale of Southern and constitutional right. This act proves that, with a pure and constitutional construction, there may be joined a heroism in statesmanship as lofty in courage and daring as the heroism of the battle-field or the quarter-deck. Mr. Pierce's annual message is the most brilliant and virtuous political act which has illustrated the country for thirty years. For it he deserves the gratitude, the confidence and the support of the South, and of every true lover of the country, and I trust South Carolina will manifest her appreciation of his worth by endeavoring, in all just ways, to effect his re-election to that office, in the honors of which he has placed himself side by side with Jefferson, Madison and Monroe.

As a member of the Legislature, the laws of the State confer on me the privilege of voting for the President—a privilege they unrighteously deny to the people of Richmond. I believe I cannot exercise that privilege more worthily than by casting my vote for Franklin Pierce. This I will certainly do, unless the people of Richmond give me most manifest instructions to the contrary. Very respectfully,

JOHN S. PRESTON.

THE CONTRAST.

The following extracts, the former from the Wilmington Commercial and the latter from the Fayetteville Argus, both Whig and Know-Nothing papers, exhibit in strong colors the difference between those who would sink party for country and those who would sink country for party.

From the Wilmington Commercial.
"And what is the duty of the American Party or Know-Nothings in this fearful crisis? Is it not now seen that no affinity or brotherhood can be held by them with the northern wing of that array without doing wrong to the South? Why do we say this? From the fact that not a solitary member of the northern Know-Nothing or American Party voted for Mr. Aiken, the Southern Candidate."

"For our part we think it is high time to discard prejudices as to the names of parties, and to cease to cherish unwise affection for them. If there is a constitutional democracy, as there certainly is, the President and his Cabinet being the head of that party, why should not all constitutional men at the South go with them in sustaining the rights of our beloved region—Southern Rights—Constitutional Rights—and no others? We are confident this will be the case throughout the Southern States, with the exception of those who are unwilling to give up the name of party, though all the nature of their principles are embraced under another name. These citizens remind us of a friend of ours who, when a child, was very fond of chicken. Being pressed to eat some other edible, equally as palatable, perhaps to him, he cried out 'Well, say it is chicken, or I won't eat it.'"

From this patriotic picture turn to the

following palpable non-truths uttered by the Fayetteville Argus:

From the Fayetteville Argus.
"The Democrats were at heart in favor of Banks. They wanted him elected. He was the favorite of Pierce and Forney; and the application of the plurality rule accomplished their wishes, as they knew it would when Mr. Clingman moved it."

THE TRICK.

Developments go to show that the election of Banks as Speaker, was the result of sneaking trickery. On Friday, Messrs. Whitney, Valk, Brown, &c., "National Americans" from the North, voted for Mr. Aiken to be Speaker. On Saturday, these same gentlemen, with Davis, of Maryland, voted for Fuller, and thereby really for Banks—showing that the movement of the day before was intended to throw dust in the eyes of the Democrats. The Washington Star says that it is generally believed that if the votes of Whitney, Valk, Brown, &c., had been necessary on the final trial to secure the election of Mr. Banks, he would have received them; their purpose of creating the impression at the South that the Simon-pure Know Nothings of the North were disposed to stand by the right of the slave-holding States, having, as they thought, been secured by their act of so long preventing an organization, under the pretence of indisposition to drill under the command of Mr. Giddings.—[Richmond Enquirer.

THE APPROPRIATION BILLS.

In the U. S. Senate, on the 7th, the following resolution, reported by Mr. Hunter from the finance committee was taken up for consideration:
Resolved, That the Committee on Finance be instructed to prepare and report such of the general appropriation bills as they may deem expedient."

Messrs. Seward, of N. Y., and Wilson and Sumner of Massachusetts, opposed the motion and argued that the House of Representatives possessed the exclusive right to originate appropriation bills, and to raise money. Messrs. Toombs and Hunter advocated the resolution, which was finally adopted.

The New York Express thus refers to the projects which Senator Seward and his allies have in hand:

"The first—to fan a war passion about Central America—in order, as he gives out (see his speech) to take, that is, annex, (free) Canada. (The 'Cause of Freedom' demands, perhaps, that we and the British should cut each other's throats.)"

The second—to keep the \$70,000,000 appropriation bills in the House of Representatives—to use these appropriations for what, in New York, is called, 'The Cause of Freedom,'—but plunder, and knavery in general.

We who, in New York, know Senator Seward's associates and table companions—and we who see them in Washington and in Albany, thronging around him, better understand his zeal to start the Appropriation Bills in the House, and better comprehend his logic—than others, in other States, not trained in the New York Seward and Weed Seminaries."

OUT AT LAST!

The last "Raleigh Register" publishes a list of delegates from various States to the K. N. National Convention, to be held at Philadelphia on the 22d instant; and in this list we see the names of John H. Haughton and John F. Hoke, as delegates at large from North Carolina. This is the first public announcement of the names of delegates from this State; yet it was pretended that, at the meeting of the K. N. Council or Convention in this place, last October, all secrecy was removed from K. N. proceedings. We are satisfied from this, and from other circumstances, that this removal of secrecy is all humbug, intended to mislead and deceive.

We are not surprised to find Mr. Haughton's name among the delegates; but we call upon the "Register" to inform the public by what authority he records John F. Hoke as a K. N. delegate from North Carolina. Our understanding of Capt. Hoke's position is, that he has withdrawn from the Order; and that he supported Mr. Craig for Congress. And as Capt. Hoke's personal, and, as we have supposed, political friends, we call upon him also, with all due respect, to state whether he is a delegate to the Convention referred to or not.

Among other delegates in this list of the "Register," we find the name of Gov. W. F. Johnson, of Pennsylvania. Now, this man Johnson is a Sewardite, and a base, blood-thirsty abolitionist—as we have no doubt many of the delegates are from the free States. It is well remembered that, some four years ago, during his term as Governor of Pennsylvania, Mr. Gorsuch, of Maryland, was brutally murdered in the former State, by abolitionists and free negroes, while endeavoring to reclaim his slaves;—and it is also well remembered that this same Gov. Johnson happened to pass by the spot where Gorsuch lay weltering in his blood; that he looked at him, said nothing, proceeded to the seat of government, took no steps to punish his murderers, but continued with greater violence than before his advocacy of abolition doctrines. These are facts, which no one can dispute. He, it seems, is to sit in the Philadelphia Convention side by side with Southern gentlemen!

It is notorious that every State Council of the Know Nothings in the free States has repudiated the 12th section of the Philadelphia platform. It is notorious also, that not one Know Nothing member of the House from the free States voted for Mr. Aiken for Speaker; that Mr. Fuller dodged; and that the six Know Nothings from the free States, who voted for Mr. Fuller on the last ballot, might, if they had so chosen, have defeated Mr. Banks. Under these circumstances, Southern men—slaveholders—are again going into Convention with Northern Know Nothings. It requires no spirit of prophecy to predict the result. The Southern delegates will either have to withdraw, or submit to such action, both as to the nominee and the platform, as will be deeply humiliating to themselves and injurious to their section of the Union.—[Raleigh Standard.

General Intelligence.

LATER FROM CALIFORNIA.

The steamship *Prometheus* arrived at New Orleans on the 11th inst., bringing dates from San Juan to the 5th instant, and from San Francisco to the 21st ult.

Agricultural accounts are better in California. The news from the mines is encouraging. The Legislature is in trouble about the election of United States Senator, several prominent candidates having withdrawn for the purpose of effecting harmony.

More fighting has occurred at Walla-Walla River between the United States troops and the Indians, in which the former lost 23 killed and wounded. Nicaragua is quiet, and the government has suspended relations with United States Minister Wheeler.

At present the forces of Walker number over 1,000 strong adherents to his cause and plans, and all seem to promise to make him a name in history.

President Rivas has, with a sort of *coup d'état* propensity, issued a decree suspending all official communication between Nicaragua and the United States through the United States Minister. He has also recalled his plenipotentiary, Parker H. French.

An extensive coal range had been discovered near Stockton; it is much greater than that discovered in Coral Hollows.

THE PUBLIC LANDS.

A report (not yet published) prepared at the General Land Office, in compliance with a resolution of the House of Representatives, shows the amount of territory subject to the act of August, 1854, to graduate and reduce the price of public lands to actual settlers and cultivators.

Of the first class, one dollar an acre, there are 18,768,759 acres; second, seventy-five cents, 15,654,148; third fifty cents, 11,540,920; fourth, twenty-five cents, 6,485,827; fifth, twelve and a half cents, 25,114,353 acres.

This land is divided among the following named States; Ohio, 70,495 acres; Indiana, 458,700; Illinois, 1,283,610; Wisconsin, 1,906,757; Michigan, 8,785,890; Iowa, 505,480; Missouri, 13,850,020; Arkansas, 14,212,610; Louisiana, 7,806,340; Mississippi, 7,602,043; Alabama, 14,039,502; Florida, 6,848,560; in all, 77,561,007 acres.

ELECTION OF PUBLIC OFFICERS.—The Legislature of Virginia has elected, by a vote nearly unanimous, the following officers to serve two years from this date—all Democrats:
Public Printer—Wm. F. Ritchie.
Secretary of the Commonwealth—Geo. W. Munford.

State Treasurer—John S. Calvert (in place of J. B. Stovall, who declined a re-election).
Auditor of Public Accounts—Geo. W. Clutter.

Second Auditor—Wm. A. Moncre (in place of Mr. Jackson, who declined a re-election).
Register Land Office—Stafford H. Parker.

Superintendent of Penitentiary—Charles S. Morgan.
General Agent and Store-keeper of Penitentiary—James C. Spotts.

COTTON MILL DESTROYED.—The Peconock steam cotton mills, at Bristol, Rhode Island, were destroyed by fire on the 8th inst. Loss \$110,000, upon which there was an insurance for \$70,000. A large number of operatives were thrown out of employment, and a meeting of citizens has been held for their relief.

PAPER AND RAGS.—There are in the United States 750 paper mills in actual operation, having 3,000 engines, and producing in the year 250,000,000 pounds of paper, which is worth, at ten cents per pound, \$25,000,000. To produce this quantity of paper 400,000,000 pounds of rags are required, 14 pounds of rags being necessary to make one pound of paper. The value of these rags, at four cents per pound, is \$16,200,000.

FIRE.—The Yorkville Enquirer regrets to learn that the dwelling-house of Mr. M. A. Fairies, near Ebenezer in that district, was entirely consumed by fire on Sunday last. Mr. Fairies and his wife were absent in attendance upon worship, and had left the house in charge of several small children, who in their absence were unable to render any service. All the furniture, clothing, provisions, &c., of the family were destroyed.

The Worcester Spy says, "we learn that Rev. Mr. Gibson, of this city, christened a child, a few days since which was the fourth child of its mother born within a year."

The first *Shad* of the season was taken from the waters of the Cape Fear, on Friday last. Simultaneously with Lent, come these watery wags—like a piece of kindly consideration on their part for which we ought to be grateful.—[Wilmington Herald.

ON INTEREST.

A paragraph on interest from Henry Ward Beecher's pen:
"No blister draws sharper than interest does. Of all industries, none is comparable to that of interest. It works day and night, in fair weather and in foul. It has no sound in its foot-steps, but travels fast. It gnaws at a man's substance with invisible teeth. It binds industry with its film, as a fly is bound upon a spider's web. Debt rolls a man over, binding him hand and foot, and letting him hang upon the fatal mesh until the long legged interest devours him. There is no crop that can afford to pay interest money on a farm. There is but one thing raised on a farm like it, and that is the Canada thistle, which swarms new plants every time you break its roots, whose blossoms are very prolific and every flower of a million of seeds. Every leaf is an awl, every branch a spear, and every single plant is like a platoon of bayonets,