two years president, in a deliberate report to the directors, which was adopted by them, and thereby made the report of the President and Directors to the Stockholders, had asserted that these contracts were made *before his term of office*; consequently this fault attached to the Morehead's administration. Did I seek to evade in on account of the apparent probability that its result would injure my personal and political friend? Let every member of the committee testify. At this stage of the proceeding, no one could suppose that Mr. Fisher would have made the assertion in this deliberate manner, without knowing that the facts would sustain the assertion. We called for the written contracts. It turned out that all the contracts for the eastern end of the road, which we could find, amounting to $51,275, were made months *after* Mr. Fisher's term of office commenced at $1 25 per cord. The two purchases made by the preceding administration for 2500 cords of wood, on the Western end, were at $1 50 per cord. In Mr. Fisher's communication he *does not question a fact stated in the majority report* as to wood. How could he?—They were taken from the contracts and his reports; but he changes the issue. He had said the purchases were made *before* his term of office. The date of the contracts proved the contrary. In his "communication" he seeks to throw the censure on the chief engineer,—says he "found many cases where large contracts had been promised but no written agreement made at the time." Look to the contracts, table No 6, attached to majority report, from which it will be seen that no large written contract was made before January, 1856, some 6 months after Mr. Charles Fisher was made president.—Let me commend to Mr. Fisher the study of his apologies—"A crooked pathway requires circumspect walking."

As to his commentary on the majority report as to right of way over Andrews's lot at Raleigh, the report shows that Andrews purchased the lot including the right of damages for way over it, *after* the road was located, for $250, and that Mr. Fisher has paid him for right of way over this lot $700 in part. This was done in Nov. and Dec. 1855, and no deed has yet been taken.—These are the facts reported, and they stand uncontradicted.

The report shows that on the 8th July, 1852, Gen. Traverger undertook to do certain work at and near Haw River, *without* charge to the company, from which he probably expected in some way to derive benefit to himself, and that on the 19th April 1857, upon his application to the Board of Directors, stating that this work had cost him $1084 and that he had expended $1028 in conveying water to the place, building water station, &c., the Board paid him $2,000. The report states that we learned that the water was of little or no value to the company, being only two miles from Graham station and four miles from the shops. This passage he omit quotes, and then, in his usual strain of disrespect to me, (in this case going out of the way to slur the Treasurer,) he says "that this worthless water has, during the dry summer been our chief dependence for the running of all our trains." If this be so, it did not come to our knowledge, and meaning is be true, it was the general, including the water station, $1028.—Was the whole sum of $2,000 paid for it?—or was part of it a donation?

As to the facts reported in relation to the running of the express train, Mr. Fisher's communication exhibits nothing worthy of notice (excepting certain remarks as to the chairman, characteristic of Mr. Fisher's taste and sense of decorum in a document addressed to the Speaker of the Senate. Such as this, "The statement he" (the chairman) "gives, as that of the master mechanic, was never given by him as its root, but is the chairman's own account *made up* from separate questions to the master mechanic.—The chairman cannot comprehend, and this is not his fault—how should he?—that two trains on a road are not chilled to rest the double of one train," &c. "His estimates and comparisons, as to the passenger traffic, are in the same manner erroneous."

He does not venture to point out wherein they are erroneous. The accuracy of the figures and facts, are proved by his own report. The conclusion deducible from them is irresistible—that that train has cost much more than it has come to, independent of the great wear and tear to the road and machinery. If the small increase of travel during the panic year arose from this train, [illegible] the greatest increase in freights?

In regard to the majority report as to the shops, he quotes this passage: "We do not find that Colonel Gwynn, or any other Engineer, recommended that the town which must necessarily grow up around the shops for the residence of the officers, &c, should be built by the railroad company." On this he proceeds to remark. "Here is a very plain issue. The fact is stated in my report that this "town" was built on plans to be approved, adopted and handed to me. He had my report, yet he makes the statement above, which he either knew or refused to know—which he pleases—the facts that the plans and estimates for every building at the company shops, except those for the hotel and master of the road, and for the store house of Messrs. Jno. M. Worth & Co., were prepared under the eye of the chief engineer, Col. Gwynn, and adopted." We called for these alleged plans. None such could be produced. We called for Col Gwynn's reports as to the shops, and read all that were produced. No such plans were seen by us, but Mr. Fisher had inserted there were such plans, &c., and therefore the chairman knew *he was to assert to know*. Didn't Mr. Fisher assert that all that surplusage of wood was bought before his term of office? Mr. Fisher should read and study that moral. But I suppose he will say, why didn't you ask me?—I could have set informed you. Because you would not come, when asked to come, and because you would not answer questions when interrogated. Had you appeared before the committee when asked to appear, questions enough were made ready for you. Perhaps you acted discreetly in dodging them. We inquired of the book keeper, who ought to have had these plans, if there be any. But the committee did not intimate that Mr Fisher planned the town. Does he mean to arrogate the sovereign control of everything connected with the N. C. R. R.? We supposed the Directors ordered the building of the town, and we could see no good reason for it. Mr. Fisher has not furnished any.

He says the chairman "knows that the day work of Dudley and Ashley, which he published at length, was done under contract made by Colonel Gwynn. He knows that one day and "job" work of Jas. G. Moore, which he published at length, was done under contract made by Col Gwynn." I know no such thing. Col Gwynn tendered his resignation on the 15th of January, 1856.—The "day work done up to the 1st of June 1856" by Dudley and Ashley amounts to $1,459 99

"Work done by day, up to close of 1856" 4,555 33

$6,015 23

This taken from the account of Dudley and Ashley, placed to their credit by order of Mr. Fisher, on the 21st Dec. 1858, is all the chairman knows, and all he could find out. *An exact copy of these accounts as settled being set forth* for such inferences to be drawn from them as the facts might warrant, with our commentary only as to—

First. The statement of the Treasurer and book keeper, "that the written contracts, under which this work was done, if any exist, are not file with them."

Secondly. Most of them are without date and one of them contains items for work done by the day, in the year, 1856, amounting to more than $6,000.

Thirdly. The credit for all these bills are entered on the books, 21st Dec. 1858, by order of the president, who appears to have passed on them without any estimate by any disinterested party competent to make it."

Mr. Fisher's tirade impeaches none of these facts. I suppose the president of the road is not the custodian of its records.—We required for the contracts of the officers, who should have them if any exist. Mr. Fisher would not appear before us when asked to do so, or he would have been asked whether any such contracts existed, and many other questions which he would probably have refused to answer.

It is not true as stated by Mr. Fisher, that the chairman "wholly forgets that the chief engineer was in office till Jan. 10th, 1856" and it is equally untrue that Moore's estimates are "set forth as enormously extravagant." The account is "set forth and no remark made as to its extravagance." The facts being truly set forth, we left the General Assembly and the public to judge.

In relation to the hotel the report set forth a copy of the resolution of the directors, ordering the erection of a hotel, to cost not exceeding $8,000. We state that it was a brick building and we set forth a copy of the carpenter's bill for work on it, not including timber, amounting to $6,711 08.—We saw by this resolution of the Directors that a committee, consisting of Mr. Fries and others, were, by the resolution, associated with the president to carry out this resolution. Mr. Fries being a member of the Legislature, was asked by us, not what the president represents us as asking, but why a building was erected *costing so much more than the amount limited by the Directors*. We did not undertake to decide whether the hotel was too large or too small. We found the Directors had decided *how much should be expended* in its erection; and from what we could learn, one had been built costing, as we believed, full twice as much. If they had prescribed a plan the execution of which required twice the amount of their limit, we should blame them for the absurdity. We said nothing as to its being too large or too small, and Mr Fisher therefore had no reasonable pretext for lugging before the General Assembly the opinion of the excellent hostess, as to its not being large enough.—His remarks warrant the inference, that the country from Columbia to Goldsboro' is a desolated desert, with nothing on the way to "refresh the physical exhaustion of the tired traveler." The rest of his observations are mere assertions—the same strain of vituperation which abounds every where.

As to station agents, he says—"The chairman states three cases where station agents are in default and *says states* all of them. The one at Goldsboro' *will be* only a little over two thousand—not over five thousand as he represents. *Will be!* Will he when? We gave the figures furnished us by the proper officer. If he made any mistake—which is improbable—why impute it to us? We were stating then existing facts—not what the balance *will be* at some future period.

He says "The one at Smithfield was an appointment of a former term and the loss was owing to uncollected freights at his death." In what is this at variance with the report? We did not state when he was appointed. It may be that this agent was appointed during a *former term*. I have not the means here of determining. I should not be surprised if it turns out like the wood, bought *before* his term of office.

As to the third case, he, of course, says "the chairman made an untrue and incorrect statement." He had introduced the subject by saying the chairman had *misstated all of them*. This must be improved, and is reiterated when he reached the third one. Any one who will take the trouble, will see that he misstates the report, and shows nothing wherein the report was incorrect, excepting as to his own mistrefital—and winds up, "I neither expect nor propose that the road shall lose this."

In the conclusion of Mr. Fisher's communication he says: "I have been arraigned before this General Assembly on the charge of incompetent management of the work entrusted to my hands, and a proposal was made by my enemies to proceed upon an investigation." Who made the proposal? I offered the resolution of inquiry. Does he mean to magnify me into "enemies"? If he means that *I* was his enemy, he is greatly mistaken. I had never had any transaction or correspondence or intercourse with him. I entertained not an unkind thought against him, and he would find it difficult to imagine any motive I could have to injure him. He adds, "let it be carefully noted, 1st. The charter of this corporation gives no authority to the Legislature to make any such inquisition," &c. "I might have said to the proposal to examine, made by those whom I might have suspected did not intend to examine fully or fairly, You are exceeding your jurisdiction the charter gives you no such authority, look to the reports of the State's men, if you wish to see its condition."

In his letter to Mr. Drake he says the chairman "moved in the Senate an investigation without warrant of law, in his opinion," &c. Now this is an untrue assertion. I entertained no doubt but that the people, through their representatives, had a right to investigate the management of a corporation, three-fourths of the stock of which was theirs. The Legislature which adopted my resolution unanimously must have thought so—I did not think, and no member of the Legislature could have thought, this examination was asked as a *favor* of the President, or they would not have unanimously authorized the committee to send for persons and papers, and to examine witnesses on oath. In Mr Fisher's letter of the 22nd December, he distinctly admits it, without restriction or limitation, in these words:—although, as you remark, our charter does not authorize such an investigation in terms, yet, as a State work, this right must belong to the sovereign power, and most clearly may be and ought to be exercised at its pleasure." So *I* thought—and hence I did not feel that he was at liberty to withdraw his book-keeper and books at pleasure, and to answer or refuse to answer at pleasure. I felt that this right belonging to the sovereign power, was for the time vested in the committee of which I was a member. Hence the committee, or as Mr. Fisher prefers to express it, the chairman, when speaking about "steps necessary to coerce the attendance of the President," did not know, as Mr. F. says he did, that what he said was "nonsense," nor did he or the committee feel that this expression "might do to impress some with his consequence."

The review of the President's official reports made by the committee, proves that if his statements, in his report of July, 1856, and in his memorial to the Legislature in the winter of 1856–57, had been true, there ought now to be a surplus in the Treasury exceeding $300,000, instead of $41,205 36—as stated in his report of Jan 20th, 1859. This review he does not deem of sufficient importance to warrant a reply.

His allegation that the investigation was conducted by me only to arraign and censure his conduct, is without color of truth. The investigation as to the wood, if his statement had been true, would have brought censure on somebody *before* his term of office. The remark is an insult to every member of the committee, including Mr. Green, who frankly and honorably admitted, on the coming in of his minority report, everything necessary to the vindication of his associates.

Speaking of the chairman, he says: "He commences by proposing in his place a proceeding not warranted by the act of incorporation, as he states in his first letter to me." Now, that letter was signed by each member of the committee. It did not state that the proceeding was not warranted by the act of incorporation, but alluded to the fact that it contained no specific provision to this effect—that Mr. F. might raise the issue, if he thought proper, as to the jurisdiction of the Legislature. I never doubted the power of the Legislature. The remark, pointed at me only, points also to the whole General Assembly which unanimously adopted my resolution, and authorized the committee to send for persons and papers and examine them on oath.

He says, I proposed, in the midst of my duties as a legislator, for a few weeks to undertake the Herculean labor of investigating the affairs of a large corporation through nine years of its existence—"an absurd impossibility," &c.

If my proposition had contemplated taking up each item—each voucher—each transaction, and investigating it—which it did not—then it would have been absurd; but in pronouncing my proposition absurd, after its unanimous adoption by both branches of the Assembly, this epithet applies to *every member* of the Assembly. Nobody but Mr. F. ever thought of the course of investigation which he wished to dictate to the committee, the adoption of which he knew would accomplish the purpose which, with *professions* to the contrary, he steadily pursued throughout—to wit: rendering the investigation futile. Actions speak louder than words.

Hear him: "Being allowed by courtesy of its authorities to proceed as he pleases in this adventure, he rapidly grows arrogant; takes the papers and books into possession, and the men into custody; grants leave of absence and orders attendance at his pleasure. But, not satisfied with this, in which he is indulged as harmless flourishing in the way of 'brief authority,' he applies to the Senate for still further authority—this already potential chairman—to send for persons and papers and examine under oath, although he had, Sir, I pray you mark, all he required of both, which we could give, freely subject to his commands."

Now, Mr. F. admits he kept away his book keeper and books, not deigning to make any "explanation" to the committee. He admits he did not attend the committee on the two last occasions when asked to do so, and on the last occasion he *refused* to appear. It seems to me that he is of nonsense memory.

He asks, "Is a single inaccuracy or misstatement shown in my reports? Not one." Another evidence of a sad defect of memory. He stated that the vast excess of wood was purchased *before his term of office*.—This was untrue. It was a mis-statement by which he excused his own administration, and slandered that of his predecessor. His report of 1856 represented that $350,000 would pay the debts of the Company, finish all constructions, &c.—so that the future earnings would be dividends. The $350,000 was supplied by loans. His subsequent reports show net earnings to the amount of $460,681.67, and yet there has been no dividend. He sets out in his report extraordinary, that the net surplus, 1st January, 1859, was $41,205.36—as to which *we know* that $27,665.25 consisted of unpaid stock, worth very little; and as to the resources and liabilities set forth, he refuses to exhibit the details—from which refusal, and his habitual inaccuracy, credulity itself must draw the inference that *this* report would not bear scrutiny.

JONATHAN WORTH.

N. C. Asylum for the Insane.

The Directors of this institution held a meeting at the Asylum on Saturday last, present, Jno. A. Taylor, of New Hanover; D. T. Taylor, of Beaufort; S. E. Williams, of Caswell; and A. M. Lewis, K. P. Battle, M. A. Bledsoe, W. H. Harrison, and W. R. Cox, of Wake. A. M. Lewis, Esq., was called to the Chair in the Board, who was prevented by sickness from being present.

We learn that the members of the Board examined the building and wards, and found them in good condition. Since the last meeting of the Board, in November, 1858, 26 patients have been admitted and 15 discharged. There are now in the institution 155 patients, 99 males and 56 females.

We learn that the Executive Committee was directed to take the initiatory steps towards erecting a wall around the buildings.

Moses A. Bledsoe, W. R. Cox, and W. H. Harrison, Esqrs., were appointed the Executive Committee to act in the absence of the Board.—*Raleigh Standard.*

STRANGE PHENOMENON.—The Philadelphia Press says that during the exceedingly hot sun of Sunday, a very curious circumstance occurred. A whisky hogshead—which had been lately full of the liquid—standing on the pavement at the corner of Girard avenue and Vienna street in that city, suddenly exploded with a report like the thunder of artillery, and filled the air with vapors redolent of the oldest rye. It created something of an excitement in the neighborhood, several superstitious folks imagining that the world was about to terminate. The most disappointed of all were several loafers, who loving whisky "not wisely but too well," had been attracted by the aroma that scented the air. The excitement did not last long.

North Carolina Whig.

CHARLOTTE:

Tuesday, March 29, 1859.

Religious Notice.

The Rev. Mr. Meynardie will preach at the Court House, on next Sunday, the 3d of April.

New Goods.

Our merchants are now in the receipt of their New Goods, and judging from the number of boxes their supply must be very large. Messrs. T. H. Brem & Co. is the only house that has spoken through our paper. In entering their store one may well imagine that they are entering Stewart's New York establishment.

The Live Giraffe.

Attention is called to the advertisement of R. H. Whittaker, Editor of the above paper. We owe him an apology. His liberal offer, to aid in the purchase of Mount Vernon escaped our notice or we would most certainly have inserted it sooner.

Hon. Wm. A. Graham's Letter.

Our readers will find in to-day's paper the letter from the Hon. Wm. A. Graham to the Whig Central Committee of New York.

Day of Thanksgiving and Prayer.

Thursday last was observed in Columbia, by the wish of the City Council, as a day of thanksgiving and prayer. From the proclamation of the Mayor we learn that this is the usage of Columbia. It would be well if more of our towns and cities would adopt this usage.

Davidson College.

We learn from the North Carolina Presbyterian, that the next commencement at Davidson College, N. C., will take place on Thursday the 14th July, 1859. On the morning of that day Mr. J. C. Chambers, of Yorkville, S. C., will deliver the oration before the Alumni Association. On the Wednesday preceding Commencement day, Wm. Eaton, Jr., of Warrenton, N. C., will address the Literary Societies. And on the Tuesday previous the Annual Sermon before the graduating Class will be delivered by Rev. Robert L. Dabney, D. D., Union Theological Seminary, Va.

The Next House of Representatives.

The New York Herald classifies the members of the next House of Representatives, elected and to be elected, as follows, these members to be elected being classified as they attended the last House:

	Elected	*To be Elected.*	*Total.*
Democrats	36	65	101
South Americans	2	13	15
Black Republicans	101	3	104
North Americans	4	1	5
Fishy Democrats	11	1	13

Total members of Congress 237

According to this classification, the next House will stand:

Democrats	101
Black Republicans	104
Americans, South	15
Americans, North	5
	20
Doubtful Democrats	12
	237

Counting all the doubtful Democrats as faithful, including such men as Clarke and Haskin, of New York, who were elected by Black Republican votes, and the result would be as follows:

Democrats	113
Opposition	124
Opposition majority	11

From this exhibit it is plain that unless the Democrats gain six votes at the least in the elections yet to be held for the House, the party will be in a minority in that body.

Jno. Minor Botts.

This gentleman delivered a most thrilling speech at New York on the 22nd ult. He handled the democratic party with gloves off. He also draws a vivid comparison between the situation of the country under Whig and under democratic rule. His remarks relative to the tariff comes in good time, and there is no democrat who is not hopelessly tied to his party, but must acknowledge the truth of his statements. We hope soon to be able to lay extracts from it before our readers.

Great Loss of Human Life.

We learn from the New York Evening Post, that in February last, an accident occurred on the sea of Azoff, which involved the life of 3,000 persons. It appears that some 3,000 inhabitants of Taganrog, relying upon the promise of fair weather, made by the genial atmosphere and the cloudless sky, proceeded to the sea to indulge in the sport of fishing beneath the ice, a favorite pastime of that region. The atmosphere continuing serene, the party were lulled into a feeling of security and ventured further than usual upon the ice, in the hope of obtaining a good haul. Suddenly a breeze sprung up from the East, which growing bolder, ons by degrees, whirled the loose snow and fine particles of ice in all directions, and before long succeeded in detaching the ice from the shore.—The large ice field then broke into numerous pieces, which, with their terrified and helpless human freight, drifted towards the open sea. No assistance could be rendered the unhappy beings by their frantic relatives and friends on shore, and within two hours not a sign of life was visible on the surface of the sea.

On the following day a cake of ice drifted in shore, upon which were five of the unfortunates—three of them dead, and the other two numb and insensible. The two latter—a girl and an old man—were restored by means of the usual appliances; the girl, however, survived but a few hours; the man recovered, but lost the use of his tongue—a consequence, probably, of the freight caused by the scene he had passed through.

Another Warning.

An interesting son of the Hon. W. R. Robertson, near Winnsboro, S. C., aged about 8 years, was killed on the 6th instant, by the accidental discharge of a gun. While some boys with whom he was playing were examining a gun to see if it was loaded, and while one of them was examining to see if a cap was on the tube, little Edward ran up and applied his mouth to blow in the muzzle, when the gun exploded, discharging the whole load of shot in his mouth; killing him instantly. Thus warning after warning comes upon us, and yet parents will suffer their children to handle firearms.

Lieut. General Scott.

We learn from the National Intelligencer, of the 26th instant, that this veteran had arrived at Washington, on his return from his Southern tour, in good health. He had met with a most glorious reception at Natchez.

Great Snow Storm in Jefferson Co.

We learn from the Albany Argus that one of the severest snow storms of the winter occurred in Jefferson County, N. Y., on Saturday last. A large quantity of snow fell, which was badly drifted, and on Monday morning still remained in immense drifts, obstructing the roads. The thermometer, on Monday morning, at Pierrepont Manor, was only 14 degrees above zero.

FOR THE NORTH CAROLINA WHIG.

MR. EDITOR: Public attention is being attracted to the affairs of the N. C. R. R., by the investigation of the Legislative committee on that subject. I am glad to see it. If the people do not hold these irresponsible state corporations to a strict accountability, they may expect to see the heavy taxation, by which they are kept up, perpetuated forever. Aye worse, we may expect to see them sold out to greedy capitalists for nothing, and the whole investment sunk.

I propose that each stockholder and taxpayer along the line keep a sharp look-out, and whenever he hears or sees anything wrong, let him publish the facts and demand an explanation. I am about to state something, which have come to my ears. I have no knowledge on the subject—but rumor is doing much with the matter, it may be to the unjust prejudice of the chief authority of the Road.

Mr. Jefferson McKibbin, a subordinate at the Concord station, was lately sick for some time. He employed, as was right, another person, a Mr. Blackwelder, to do his work for him during his illness, expecting and agreeing to pay Mr. B. out of his own pocket. Meanwhile Mr. Fisher came along and out of sheer kindness, without being asked by Mr. McKibbin, he promises to pay Mr. Blackwelder and, perhaps, has paid him, without curtailing anything from Mr. McKibbin's salary.

Is this so? If it be, it is very easy to see how the money goes and no dividends comes. Two men paid to do the work of one!!

If this practice is general, no doubt sickness is very common among the subordinates and very profitable. It may be that Mr. Fisher deserves credit for his unsolicited kindness to a man who is not much in need of it, but I submit that the credit to which this incident, if true, entitles him, is that of fitness for the head of some of our numerous charitable institutions instead of a Railroad.

I have heard, again, that Mr. Fisher has ordered all money to be paid and all accounts to be rendered to him henceforth, instead of to Mr. Mendenhall, as heretofore used. I suppose this order is one of the results of the quarrel, which has lately broke out between these two gentlemen. I care nothing about that. I am only anxious that my own little interest and the large interest of the State, may not suffer by reason of Mr. Fisher's quarrels with anybody. And now I ask, if every thing passes into the hands of the President of the Road, what check we will have upon him? I have always under-stood that the several agents accounted to Mr. Mendenhall and paid their moneys into the Treasury, of which he is the keeper—and that he could pay out nothing without the warrant of the President, which he retains as a voucher. This system creates some check upon these officers—the one upon the other. But suppose our responsibility-taking President adds to his various other employments—such as general superintendent, engineer, agent, section-master, &c., that also of Treasurer—suppose he seizes the power of the purse and blends it with that of the sword, which, in spite of *ex-officio bonds* to keep the peace, he seems determined to use on every body that crosses him—suppose this Mr. Editor, and might not Mr. Fisher so smuggle up the affairs of this company as to bid defiance hereafter to every investigating committee? He could pay as he pleased and account as he pleased. Mr. Mendenhall, I believe, gave a heavy bond for the faithful discharge of his office. Mr. Fisher gives none. What is to hinder him from pocketing the contents of the Treasury and visiting Europe, leaving the company without any resource? Besides, I would like to know whether the Treasurer's office henceforth is to be a mere sinecure? Do they expect to pay Mr. Mendenhall, while another performs his duties? Or is it intended, as in the case at Concord station, that both shall be paid, while one works?

By the way, I hear much complaint about the neglect of duty on the part of the Agent at Charlotte, Mr Welch, and I know that several times within the last four or six weeks he has failed to be at the office in the morning and passengers have had to pay their money to the conductor, to be by him accounted for or appropriated at pleasure.

Now with no check on the President or the conductors, it is easy to see what is to become of the Road.

I want these things looked after, Mr. Editor. These officers must understand that the vigilant eye of a sleepless public is upon them all, from the highest to the lowest.

"A STOCKHOLDER."

From Washington.

WASHINGTON, March 24.

The Grand Jury has returned a true bill against Mr. Sickles. His trial has been fixed for April 4th.

Much concern has recently been manifested by several foreign Ministers, regarding the Arizona movement; and it has been stated that the Administration is opposed to it, on the surmise that it is connected with Gen. Walker; but an assurance has been given that such is not the case.

As a consequence the opposition raised against the expedition has ceased, as it is claimed that the Administration cannot be adverse to legitimate colonization in the United States.

A company is now forming in Washington. Gen. Henningsen will probably be in Richmond to-morrow.

Official dispatches show that the emigration from Bremen, during the year 1858, was: To New York 12,457, in 71 ships; the entire number to the United States being 23,127. In 1857 the number was 49,570, and 1856, 35,688. During the last 10 years the emigration from Great Britain and Ireland has been 2,950,000, and from Germany 1,200,000; from France scarcely 200,000. In 1857, while England sent out 212,000, and Germany 110,000, France numbered only 18,000, including about 8 or 9,000 to Algiers. In the last 10 years one-half of the French emigration have gone to Algiers, and not more than 100,000 Frenchmen, have, during this period, emigrated to the New World.

Letter from the Hon. William A. Graham.

From the N. Y. Express.

The following letter was read to the Whig General Committee at its session on the 4th instant. The sentiments expressed will receive the hearty endorsement of the conservative men of the country:

HILLSBORO', N. C., Feb. 25, 1859.

GENTLEMEN: I regret that my absence from home and indispensible engagements have thus long delayed the acknowledgment of your letter of the 7th instant, transmitting a resolution of the Whig General Committee of the city of New York, and requesting my views on the present aspect of affairs. I still more regret the want of leisure at present which would enable me to respond to this request in a befitting manner.

You do me but justice, gentlemen, in classing me in the "Old Guard," which was wont to be marshalled under the lead of Clay and Webster, and which, in every time of public emergency and national danger, has appeared, itself the life-guard of the Constitution and a Constitutional Union; which, whether in or out of power in a party sense, has ever been loyal to the Government and relied upon to extricate it from difficulties and save it from antagonisms of factions and sections. Most heartily do I concur with your committee that there should be an end of agitation on the subject of slavery. In the Constitution formed by our fathers they mutually agreed to stipulations on this topic, which in the first half century of the Republic were rarely misunderstood. Upon successive enlargements of our borders and the institution of new States and Territories it gave rise to divisions of the most serious character. These, upon two memorable occasions, were composed under the auspices of Henry Clay; and, if the settlements thus made were not approved by all, they were acquiesced in, and regarded as final by the great majority of the American people.

Without designing to censure those entertaining and acting on a different opinion, I more than doubt the wisdom of re-opening this controversy since the compromise of 1850. It has been productive of no results but violent, factious, and disgraceful contentions in the distant territories and sectional alienation among the States. It excited hopes in the South and fears in the North which have been alike disappointed, and which never can be realized. The law of soil and climate turns out to be nearly the same in effect with the law penned by Clay. Practically, therefore, there is no longer an existing cause of discussion on this vexed question, and agitation must die out unless new fuel shall be found for the flame. The political organization which may aspire to guide the future destinies of the nation must consequently appeal to public sentiment on topics more expansive and general than opposition to or zeal for the establishment of slavery in a Territory which must soon become a State and regulate its own institutions. The period is passed when this issue, like the rod of Aaron, can be permitted to swallow up all questions of national policy, to obstruct, as for years it has done, the attention of Congress to the national interests, and to proscribe as unworthy of trust all who do not subscribe to the tests of political orthodoxy set up by extremists on either side.

In view of this approaching calm in the public mind I cannot but regard the quickened appetite for the acquisition of Cuba, and the very extraordinary measure recommended to obtain it, as a new party device, having for its object to introduce a new test of party fealty, instead of that which is about to expire. It should ever be borne in mind that the extension of their territories was not one of the objects for which the people of the United States entered into the Federal Union. It is true that in the progress of our history magnificent domains have been acquired, adding greatly to the national commerce and power, but always of territories lying contiguous to our own, on the mainland of the continent, by treaties made with the assent of the fair sovereign for a reasonable equivalent, or by conquest in war. These, however, have been but incidents in our course, and "to form a more perfect union, establish justice, increase domestic tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity," still remain the great purposes for which the Government was established. I do not know that, under all circumstances, I should say, with Mr. Calhoun, that "to us Cuba is forbidden fruit." The time may come when it may be expedient and necessary to enlarge our boundaries, and even to cover islands of the sea. But let all such events be the results of time and necessity, and effected without injustice or loss of national character. The administration of Mr. Fillmore promptly refused the overture of England and France for a stipulation that neither of the parties would acquire this island, and at the same time declared that the United States would never consent to its transfer from Spain to any other European Power; and the enforcement of this declaration is all that our interest or honor requires. The present limits of the United States comprehend an empire of sufficient magnitude to satisfy every just aspiration for national grandeur, and care should be taken neither to sully our good name, nor to burden the present population of the country with exactions of hundreds of millions to purchase more lands, to the end that we may boast more extended domains. And when we know of a certainty that Cuba is not for sale, and that propositions for its purchase are offensive to its proprietors, it is not only idle, but mischievous to appropriate moneys for its purchase, and therefore seizure in the event of refusal.

Whig policy, gentlemen, is founded on no one idea, which may form the subject of a temporary excitement, expending all its energies now upon Kansas and now upon Cuba. It builds its structure on no narrow platform, formed to be interpreted in different sections with different meanings; but it looks to all the great interests of the nation confided to the General Government, and seeks to adorn them by the means committed to its power. While abstaining from the exertion of powers denied, it contemplates the free and beneficent exercise of those conferred for the public good. It endeavors to allay sectional excitement, and to promote sentiments of harmony and union by doing justice to all sections. Economical in fact, not in idle railing or boasting, it estimates the amount required for an efficient public service, and appeals to an intelligent people for its contributions—not by direct taxes, but by duties distinctly levied and honestly paid on foreign imports, with discrimination when necessary in favor of American against foreign interests.—When last invested with authority, under the mild and just rule of Fillmore, it gave due attention to all the national interests at an annual cost of less than fifty-two millions of dollars—although there was an overflowing Treasury, which it constantly but vainly besought Congress to reduce, and the complaint then made in a higher quarter that this amount of expenditure was extravagant, calling for the intervention of Democratic reform, when under its auspices we have seen expenditures mount up to eighty millions per year, in a time too of profound peace, proves what was said long ago by the most philosophic of statesmen, that "the art of gaining power and that of using it well are often found in different persons."

But our system of policy is too well understood by the country to need detailed exposition, and in my opinion the people are ready to return to it, as to the safe and tried paths of experience, if all who approve it in sentiment will co-operate in action. They want not war, nor rumors of war, but peace, except when a resort to arms may be necessary for the defence of American interests and power. They are actuated by no lust for conquest and dominion. They are wearied of sectional agitation, and desire if possible a restoration of fraternal feeling. Instead of extravagance, they require retrenchment, not by sudden efforts, made in dread of popular displeasure, which threaten to destroy wholesome public institutions, but by a well considered reform and correction of abuses, beginning with those practiced under the eye of Congress itself—in the department of public printing, for example. They desire, in fine, a more conservative, national, and healing influence in the public councils, and need but a union of effort on the part of all entertaining these sentiments to effect the object of their wishes.

I am, with sincere respect, gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
WILL. A. GRAHAM.

To Messrs. J. P. Phenix, Willis Blackstone, A. M. Bainger, D. L. Levy, and A. K. Smith, Committee.

DAVID WEBB, Esq., Cor. Secretary.

Cadet Appointments by the President.

James M. Wright, son of Colonel George Wright, 9th infantry, brevetted for meritorious conduct in Florida, and at Contreras, Cherubusco, and Molino del Rey.

Henry H. Lee, son of the late Colonel Frances Lee, brevetted for gallantry at Contreras, Cherubusco, and Molino del Rey.

Josiah H. N. Field, son of the late Captain George P. Field, killed while leading his company at the storming of Monterey.

Thomas Ward, son of a soldier who died in the army, after a service of thirty years.

Samuel C. Clark, son of Major M. Lewis Clark, Missouri battalion distinguished at Sacramento, grandson of Governor W. Clark, of Missouri, and grand-nephew of General George Rogers Clark.

Thomas Rowland: father died of disease contracted in the Mexican war, ancestor distinguished in the revolution.

George D. Ramsay, Jr., son of Maj. George D. Ramsay, ordnance corps, brevetted for gallantry at Monterey.

James B. Washington, lineal representative of George Washington.

James B. Taylor.

Edward Y. Buchanan.—*Wash. Union.*

GREAT MORTALITY.—A correspondent writing from French's Creek neighborhood, in Bladen county in this State, gives us the following particulars of the ravages of scarlet fever in that immediate vicinity. The following deaths have occurred:—"On the 19th of January, J. F. Flanagan, aged 21 years. On the 26th January, Mary E. Flanagan, aged 15 years. On the 1st of February, John Shepherd Elwell, aged 15 years. On the 4th Feb., Robert Mann Brower, aged 4 years and 4 months. On the 25th Feb., Matilda Lucas. On 1st March, D. F. Barnhill; and on the 3d March Cristilla Barnhill." Our correspondent adds—"All the above named died of scarlet fever, which has been and is now raging in this vicinity with unprecedented severity."—*Raleigh Spirit of the Age.*

THE "UNION" INDICTMENT OF CONGRESS.—The last Congress was actually not a model of legislative efficiency, but not it deserves all the abuse which the Washington Union heaps upon it, is more than its least charitable critics will affirm. It is the opinion of that paper it has incurred as well the wrath of heaven as the censure of man.

Inexplicable as may seem this criminal indictment against Congress in the column of the Administration organ, and this violent vituperation of Democratic Representatives by a paper that professes regard for the interests of the party, we are at a loss whatever for an explanation of its motive and policy. It is an attempt to precipitate an issue between a Democratic President and a Democratic delegation in Congress, with the view of shifting the responsibility of present embarrassments from the Administration to the Representatives of the party. We detected the game several weeks ago, and now that it is resumed with such an exhibition of energy, and acrimony—*Wash. States.*

THE FRANKING PRIVILEGE.—From some statistics furnished by Senator Iverson, in the Senate, a short time since, it appears that the Hon. Stephen A. Douglas sent out, during the first session of the late Congress, three hundred and forty-five thousand four hundred documents or speeches under his Congressional frank! This, estimated at the ordinary letter rates, amounts to $10,362. The envelopes, folding, &c., would perhaps add a thousand dollars more, and with some other incidental expenses necessarily involved, it is probable that the public treasury has been taxed twelve thousand dollars to send out the speeches of this "honorable" gentleman alone.

SUDDEN DEATH OF A YOUNG LADY.—The Cleveland Herald records the following sudden death:

Miss Smith, daughter of George P. Smith, a young lady of nineteen years, peculiarly winning by her cheerfulness and vivacity, was in attendance on Monday evening upon the singing rehearsal under Mr. Hall, in the basement of St. Paul's church. She had been, during the evening, more than ordinarily cheerful and happy—the life and delight of her mates. Suddenly she had some affection of one foot, and in a laughing manner said her foot was asleep. Her friends told her to get up, but she said she could not, adding, "it is true, although I do laugh." When assisted to rise, she fell back unconscious, and never revived. She died about 12 o'clock. The attack was not at the close of the rehearsal, about 9 o'clock. She was carried home in a carriage, but never spoke again. The physicians called say that there was enlargement of the lungs and that she died from paralysis of the lungs.