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### Personal Explanation of Mr. Badger.

U. S. SENATE.

WEDNESDAY, March 9, 1853.

Mr. BADGER. I desire to ask a few minutes of the time of the Senate this morning, for the purpose of making what is commonly called a personal explanation. It is the first time in the course of my service in the Senate—which has now extended into the seventh session—at I have ever troubled myself with any matters which have happened outside of the Chamber, and have ever thought any personal concern of mine important enough to excite the attention of this body. I am in the habit of looking on every assault made against me in the public press with indifference, bordering very strongly on contempt, and perhaps have carried the matter rather further than a just consideration of what is due to my position and to my constituents exactly warranted. But a case has now arisen which I feel myself bound to make an exception to the general rule of silence, indifference, and contempt, which I have observed, because it is necessary to do so, both in justice to myself and to Mr. Mangum, my late colleague in this body. A friend has transmitted to me a slip which I hold in my hand, taken from a political newspaper printed in the town of Wilmington, North Carolina, which I ask may be read as the basis of the observations which I have to submit to the Senate.

The Secretary read it as follows: "THIS WEEK—The close of business on Thursday night virtually concludes the present Administration of national affairs. At twelve o'clock on Friday, Franklin Pierce will take the oath of office as President of the United States.

"The present Congress will also end at the same time, and there is great reason to fear that it will go out without having done anything for our river or bays. The only chance now is with the Senate, and both the Senators from this State turn their backs upon the affair and upon us. Wing or Democrat, Federalist or Republican, we must have a Cape Fear Senator, if we hope to have anything done for the interests of this portion of the State. Messrs. Badger and Mangum care for us about the value of a chew of tobacco. Perhaps, however, Mr. Ashe may yet be able to effect something through others; but it is an uphill business, when even the urgent resolutions of the Legislature of their own State cannot induce our North Carolina Senators to cooperate with him. That they have refused to do so, we know."

Mr. BADGER. The second session which I served in this body, I was called upon by the inhabitants of Wilmington, and others who were immediately interested in the navigation of Cape Fear river and below that town, to endeavor to secure some appropriation for turning lights and buoys for that river. I set myself to work, as of course I was bound to do, and endeavored to have that measure of just relief extended to the people of that portion of the State; and I was successful in procuring the first and, so far as I know, the only effectual measure for giving security to the navigation of that stream. On that and on every occasion, it has been my custom rather to endeavor to do what the interests of my constituents required, than to make a public exhibition of myself on this floor as their friend, always preferring to have measures adopted for their relief rather than to make speeches by which I might hold myself forth as their special champion. This winter my attention was early called to the necessity for an appropriation in respect to the entrance of Cape Fear river, the case made being this: The Government of the United States had established certain jetties to protect the site of Fort Baswell, the effect of which had been to make that side of the entrance firm, but to turn the current to Bald Head, on the opposite point; and by washing loose sands to precipitate them into the channels, and so to promote a rapid filling up, the consequence of which was that the channel was shallowed from twenty to twelve feet, and was losing its present depth at the rate of nine inches a year. The Legislature of the State adopted a resolution on the subject, which I had the honor to present here, and had referred to the Committee on Commerce. I felt the absolute necessity for something being done, and done promptly; that it was a condition of things not only that required relief, but which did not admit of delay in affording that relief.

I learned afterwards, from my friend who is at the head of the Committee of Commerce, [Mr. Hamlin], that the committee had declined to report any separate measure, and would allow these things to be considered only upon a general bill. I thought that was unjust to the particular locality of which I have spoken, and having provided myself with a communication from Professor Bache, showing not only the necessity of the work, but that it was indispensable that it should be immediately commenced, I procured the unanimous consent of the Committee on Naval Affairs to report an amendment proposing an appropriation of \$50,000 for the object. At the same time the committee unanimously concurred in reporting a similar amendment for removing wrecks from the Savannah river, in the State of Georgia; and as I was called upon by you, sir, to relieve you in part from the oppressive labors brought upon the Chair by the close of the session, it was agreed between me and the late Senator from Georgia [Mr. Charlton] that the amendment should be offered by him. I assigned to several of my friends on this floor, particularly my friends on the Democratic side of the Chamber—among whom it gives me great satisfaction to say that I have many warm ones—that this was a measure not only right and proper in itself; not only requiring immediate provisions by law, but that I felt a personal interest and anxious personal desire that the amendment should be adopted. The two amendments were proposed by the late Senator from Georgia. They were adopted. They were sent to the House of

Representatives, which refused its concurrence. The honorable chairman of the Committee on Naval Affairs, [Mr. Uwin], who was upon the two Committees of Conference between the two Houses upon the Navy appropriation bill, knows, that at my earnest instance, he made it a point to insist upon those amendments; and my friend from Georgia, also, [Mr. Dawson], a member of the committee, who is not upon present, joined him in insisting upon it and feeling the present necessity, as well as yielding to my personal wishes and solicitation on the subject, offered in committee that he would surrender the appropriation for the river in his own State, if the House committee would agree to permit this appropriation for Cape Fear to pass.

In all these proceedings I had the cheerful, hearty and anxious concurrence of Mr. Mangum, my late colleague, who in each and every respect acted as an American Senator and as a North Carolinian, feeling it his special duty to provide for what was necessary for any and every portion of the State which jointly with me he represented on this floor.

In these proceedings, Mr. President, I discharged nothing more than I felt to be my duty. I desired no thanks, I expected no commendation. At least I knew I should receive none from the quarter from which the extract which has been read comes. But I did think, and do think, that it is a little hard, when a gentleman has thus endeavored to procure what is desired for a particular locality in his State, that he should be falsely denounced as having utterly refused to cooperate with the gentleman who represents that district in the other House, in endeavoring to procure this relief, and turned his back in scorn and contempt to the application.

Mr. President, I feel desirous, now and ever, to vindicate myself from the suspicion that under any circumstances I could permit personal or political considerations, public or private, to induce me to neglect any duty which belongs to me as an American Senator, and especially any duty which belongs to me as a Senator from the State of North Carolina. This communication remarks, that it is absolutely necessary, in order to have these things done, that the Cape Fear portion of the State shall have a Senator upon this floor. I have no doubt that there are many gentlemen there who could represent the State on this floor with far greater ability than myself, and possibly with greater ability than my late colleague; but this I venture to assert, that no man from that or any other section of the State, can ever represent it with truer devotion, and more earnest and unflinching attention to the promotion of every interest of North Carolina of which the General Government has charge; and I will add another thing, that if any gentleman shall be sent here from the Cape Fear region, and he expects to procure the aid or assistance of the Senate in promoting measures of internal improvements, whether of harbors or rivers, which he may deem essential in his own State, he will have to adopt a different system of tactics, and avow a different system of principles from those which have generally been avowed by the representatives of that portion of the State. It is not the most persuasive method of getting gentlemen who represent other portions of the country to do any thing for North Carolina, to announce that he who asks the assistance or favor is utterly opposed to doing anything for any other portions of the country.

Mr. President, I am sorry to have trespassed upon the Senate, and especially that I have been obliged to make this statement containing necessarily so much egotism; but I felt that it was due to myself. I did not choose that my constituents in North Carolina, my Democratic constituents, who are just and honorable men, should, by anything in the party press, suppose me to be the unworthy person which I am represented in that publication to be. I take this method, in justice to my late colleague and myself, of putting this matter right, being one of the official reporters of the Senate, this explanation will appear in its columns, and be read by hundreds in North Carolina who never otherwise would see it. I believe I might appeal, if necessary, for confirmation of what I have said to the honorable Senator from California, [Mr. Gwin], the chairman of the Committee on Commerce, [Mr. Hamlin], and to other Senators, but I have done.

Mr. GWIN. I consider it an act of duty to the honorable Senator from North Carolina, to corroborate every word he has stated with regard to this matter. He brought that subject to the notice of the Committee on Naval Affairs before the House of Representatives, and he always pressed it upon me as an important measure, and manifested an earnest desire to have the subject considered when we met at the proper time. When the naval appropriation bill came from the House of Representatives, it was at so late a period in the session, that without being fully considered, I am sure without being considered at all in the Committee on Finance, it was reported without amendment, and the responsibility was thrown upon the Naval Committee, of proposing amendments to it. And I will say that when the Naval Committee met for the purpose of proposing amendments which they had prepared to the bill, the first one that came up was the amendment for the appropriation for the improvement of Cape Fear river, and in order that it should have that consideration to which the committee thought it entitled, when the bill came up for consideration in the Senate, I gave way, as chairman of the Naval Committee, to allow the Senator from Georgia, [Mr. Charlton]—the honorable Senator from North Carolina, [Mr. Badger] being in the chair—to make a motion to consider this amendment first, so that if there was any contest with regard to it, there might be a full and fair opportunity of discussing it, in order to show the necessity of the appropriation.

Further than that: the amendment passed this body, as is known, without any serious opposition; and when the Committee of Conference was raised, the Senator from North Carolina came to me, and I believe to the Senator from Georgia [Mr. Dawson] also, who was a member of the Committee of Conference, and urged, with all the earnestness and power he possessed, the necessity of this appropriation, and he brought reasons to bear on my mind which were imperative, for insisting upon it. It is well known that I voted against the river and harbor bill on ac-

count of its partial operation. I looked upon this as an improvement that was necessary, because the obstruction was created by the Government itself. Not only did I advocate it in the Committee of Conference, as I stated to the Senator that I would, but the committee broke up on this special item, and the one connected with the naval depot at New Orleans. And when a second Committee of Conference was called, of which I was a member, that committee on three different occasions were prepared to separate, because the Senators from Georgia and Louisiana refused peremptorily to give up this appropriation at the earnest suggestion of the Senator from North Carolina. There never was a greater injustice done to any man than that of saying that he has not exerted himself, from the beginning to the end, in order to get this appropriation. He may not have spoken in the Senate on this subject, it is true, but he did speak to that portion of the body to whom the power of bringing the measure forward was intrusted—the Committee on Naval Affairs.

Mr. BADGER. I was in the chair, Mr. GWIN. I will say further, that when the first committee broke up, and we came back and reported that we could not agree, it is well known that the Senator from North Carolina moved that we should adhere to our amendment; and he withdrew that motion at my solicitation, in order that we might agree with the House on all the amendments which we were willing to give up. And then he intended to move to adhere, and make it imperative upon the House of Representatives to reject the bill, or agree to this amendment. But, at the earnest solicitation of the chairman of the Committee on Finance, and other members of the Senate, I retained the floor, and made the motion to insist, and agree to another committee of conference. The Senator from North Carolina voted against that motion, because he wanted to adhere, and make it imperative upon the House of Representatives to lose the bill, or else give this appropriation among others which they had refused. I have always said, and always will say, that although the Senator from North Carolina does not make much noise about his State here in the Senate, yet, when the interests of his State are before a committee, he attends to them with as much zeal and fidelity as any member of the body attends to the interests of his constituents. I have never known him to be wanting on any occasion.

Mr. HAMLIN. I think it but just that I should bear testimony to what has fallen from the Senator from North Carolina, so far as the action of the Committee on Commerce is concerned, and so far as his application to the subject before the committee is concerned. An actual report was made to the Senate, embracing estimates for all appropriations for harbors, rivers, and lakes; and at that communication were estimates for the two places he has named; Cape Fear river and the Savannah river. So earnest was the Senator from North Carolina to have these subjects separate and distinct from all others, that he came personally before the Committee on Commerce and solicited its separate action. In the judgment of the committee, there was no difference between these cases and others contained in the general estimates, except in degree; and if there was a more urgent necessity for these cases, there was still an urgent necessity for other cases; and while I, as chairman of the committee, was in favor of separate reports in the case, the committee overruled me, and were unwilling to separate it from a general bill. I think the Senator from North Carolina has erred in one particular, and I think the Senate has a right to complain, but not his constituents; and that was, taking the matter from the appropriate committee to which it belonged and carrying it to a committee which had not the subject before them, and getting an appropriation here somewhat by indirection. I do not find fault with him. I did not know that the recommendation of the Committee on Naval Affairs had been made until it was accepted. The Senator from North Carolina knows very well that I opposed a similar appropriation when offered by the Senator from New York; and he also knows very well that I would have opposed his proposition if I had been in my place when it was offered. But inasmuch as it was adopted by the Senate at the earnest solicitation of the Senator from North Carolina, I withdrew the motion to reconsider it.

Mr. BORLAND. I hope I will be permitted to say one word in connection with this subject. As is well known, I have as little political sympathy with the Senator from North Carolina as any other member of this body. I am proud to say, however, that personally our relations are, and always have been, of the most pleasant character. In regard to this particular matter, it so happens that I can speak to one point of some importance. When the appropriation came before the Senate, or rather when I knew it was coming before the Senate, I expressed an opposition to it; not that I objected to the removal of the obstructions, but I objected to it as a separate measure, and insisted that it should take its stand among the appropriations for removing obstructions in other rivers and harbors. The Senator from North Carolina came to me, and made an appeal in behalf of this particular work, and put its character and its necessity in such a light before me, that I yielded to his request; and I must be permitted to say, however it may reflect on me generally as a legislator, that I was as much influenced by my personal relations and kindness for him as any conviction of the impolicy of the work.

### Archbishop Hughes and Mr. Meagher.

INTERESTING CORRESPONDENCE.

It will be remembered that some weeks since, T. P. Meagher, Esq., the Irish patriot, made a speech at a dinner of the Meagher Guards, of New York, in which he referred to certain attempts that had been made to silence him in regard to Gov. Kossuth, and the principles of civil and religious liberty; and that he repelled with a good deal of indignation such attempts to restrict his freedom of opinion and of speech. An interesting correspondence is said to have passed between him and Archbishop Hughes, upon this subject, the substance of which is thus given in the New York Times:

The Archbishop wrote to Mr. Meagher, referring to the speech in question, and desiring some explicit information as to the persons referred to

as having thus denounced him. He said that by many he had been understood as referring to the Bishop and other officers of the Roman Catholic Church; and his language was so vague as to give no sufficient warrant for the contradiction of the rumor. He requested, therefore, that he would give him some more definite information upon the subject.

Mr. Meagher replied by saying that he had often been asked for similar explanations from various quarters; but he had uniformly refused to give them. The official position and personal character of the Archbishop, however, entitled him to a more full and definite statement of his meaning, which he was quite willing to give. The language used, he said, was intended to be broad enough to cover the cases of all, of whatever character or description, who had denounced him for avowing his devotion to the principles of civil and religious liberty. He had been educated in the Catholic schools of Ireland; and one of the lessons most thoroughly impressed upon his mind in those schools, was, that England was guilty of outrageous tyranny in requiring, in any form, from the Irish people, conformity to the doctrines and worship of the Established Church. He there learned that freedom of conscience was one of the inalienable rights of man; that religious worship was a thing with which Government had no right to interfere; and that any law making dissent in matters of religion from the religion of the State a crime, punishable by law, was an outrage upon justice and humanity.

He believed these principles to be just and true; and he could not conceive that any consistent Catholic should hold them to be true for Ireland, and false for the rest of mankind. And yet the Archbishop must be aware that certain papers in the United States, claiming to be representatives of the Catholic Church, and to have the support and sanction of its high authorities—of which he named the New York Freeman's Journal, the Buffalo Celt, the Boston Pilot, and the Pittsburg Shepherd of the Valley—had denounced him in the most violent terms for having avowed these opinions, and declared his readiness to stand by them in their application to whatever cases might arise. He thought the Archbishop ought to declare explicitly whether the views of those papers met his approbation. For himself, he considered them utterly false—at war with the principles of liberty—at war with the Archbishop's principles as set forth in his lecture on the "Catholic Church"—an American, and calculated to place the Catholic Church in a false position before the country and the world.

### Spirits Speaking to the Churches.

On Saturday evening last, Rev. Dr. Tyng, of this city, delivered a discourse to his congregation, on the modern Spiritual phenomena. The learned divine treated the subject with great seriousness, and in a manner which merits our careful consideration, though we cannot sympathize with his fears. He frankly admitted the facts and repudiated the idea of their being merely some new development of electric or magnetic forces. He contended for the *Spiritual origin* of the manifestations, but insisted that the "Adversary of souls" was employed in their production. This conclusion he rested, not on the intrinsic nature of the facts, but on the alleged disagreement of the manifestations with several verses which he cited from different portions of the Old Testament. It was maintained that the biblical quotations, from the ancient Hebrew Scriptures, contained *God's law*, and that since the mysterious phenomena did not comport with the strict letter of its teachings, they must depend on Satanic agency. Others may be inclined to think that God's law is written as distinctly in the bodies and souls of living men, as in the Pentateuch, and that the Divine word is still eloquently spoken in the Providence that still governs the world, as in the recorded experience of the Past.

Dr. Tyng spoke with great apparent concern, and warned his people against pursuing the investigation for scientific purposes, or under the delusive idea that the mysterious power is harmless. He announced the fact that there were mediums among the communicants in his church, and that for three weeks past he had personally *assisted with his adversary almost incessantly*. It had disturbed his meditations by day and his sleep by night, and the speaker was understood to remark that if the annoyance continued to increase, he should be obliged to relinquish his ministry. He desired the earnest prayers of his people and begged their forbearance for speaking so plainly.

There was no denunciation of mediums or others, but the whole discourse evinced a candid and loving spirit, a profound solemnity of feeling, and the most painful apprehensions. Our respect for Dr. Tyng's sincerity is not diminished by our widely different estimate of the new developments. We trust that the Doctor's apprehension arose from a misapprehension of the whole subject. We, at least, have no suspicion that our Heavenly Father has resigned the world and the church into the hands of the Adversary, or that he will ever withdraw his Divine guardianship.—*Spiritual Telegraph*.

The Express quotes a part of the Spiritual Telegraph's paragraph about Dr. Tyng's lecture on the "Rappings," and civilly adds:

"Of course we have no means of knowing whether all this is true or not—pobly believing what a newspaper says, that professes to be edited by Spirits."

Now, the Telegraph "professes to be edited" by no other "Spirits" than such as edit the Express, saying only, that those who edit the Telegraph appear to have some brains. If they may be very sadly in error, but their veracity will suffer nothing in comparison with that of the Express.—*N. Y. Tribune*.

An Iowa paper says that the people there have added another measure to their armaments. It is called "the drunkard's weight or measure."

It is as follows:

2 glasses make	1 dram.
8 drams make	1 drubkard.
3 drubkards make	1 grocery.
4 groceries make	1 jail.
5 jails make	1 penitentiary.
6 penitentiaries make	1 h—ll.

### Runaway Marriages.

The Legislature of our State every winter attempts some tinkering of our laws respecting Marriage, but generally succeeds in doing very little mischief. We urge no action at all on the subject; but, whenever any change shall hereafter be made in these laws, we ask that a provision be inserted for the discouragement and repression of Runaway Marriages.

The popular notions on this subject, fomented by the "yellow-covered" literature of the day, are exceedingly lax and mistaken. The young Miss who elopes from the parental roof to marry some adventurer who was probably unknown to her last year, is often represented as a girl of rare spirit, who does a remarkably clever and admirable thing. We hold, on the contrary, that in a great majority of cases, her elopement is unwisely, giddy, ungrateful, imprudent, and evinces a lascivious appetite and reckless disposition. Why should she desert and distress those who have loved, nurtured and cherished her through all her past years, to throw herself into the arms of a comparative stranger, who has done nothing for her, and whose professions of affection have yet to undergo the first trial? It is every way unworthy of pure and gentle maidenhood to do so.

We can imagine but one excuse for her elopement—namely, the efforts of parents or guardians to coerce her into marrying some one she does not love. To avoid such a fate, she is justified in running away; for no parent has or ever had a right to constrain a daughter to marry against her will. But where the parent are willing to wait, until her choice is ascertained to or she attains her legal majority. Then, if she chooses to marry in opposition to her parents' wishes, let her quit their home openly, frankly, in broad daylight, and in such manner as shall kindly but utterly preclude any pretence that her act is clandestine or ill-considered. No one should be persuaded or coerced to marry where she does not love; but to wait a year or two for the assent of those who have all her life done what they could for her welfare, no daughter should esteem a hardship.

There is some truth to be told about the common run of masculine prowlers by night about garden walls and under bed-room windows, in quest of opportunities to pour seducting flatteries into the ears of simple misses; but we have not time to tell it now. As a general rule, they are licentious, good-for-nothing adventurers, who would much rather marry a living than work for it, and who speculate on the chances of "bringing the old folks round" after a year or two. A true man would not advise, much less urge, the woman he loved to take a step which must inevitably lessen the respect felt for her, and violate the trust reposed in her by those who had loved and cherished her all her days.

The marriage of girls of fourteen to seventeen years is a very prevalent cause of personal and transmitted evil and suffering. Prematurely taxed with the care and nourishment of children, their constitutions give way, and at thirty they are already on the downward of life. Eighteen is the youngest age at which any one should marry; twenty to twenty-three is much better.—*N. Y. Tribune*.

### The Spiritual Rappers.

The correspondent of the Greenville Patriot, writing from Washington City, says:

"The Spiritual Rappers are more talked of in the city than the President or his Cabinet. In almost every circle, the chances are two to one that the topic of conversation is the rappers.—Such men as Gov. Talmadge, Gen. Hamilton and Gen. Thopson will take their bible out of their desks and converse with the spirits of their departed friends and relatives! There is a good deal, too, of these experiments going on in private houses. I met, the other day, Mrs. General Bayle, of Virginia, who was telling some very extraordinary feats of supernatural powers performed by her daughters. Senator Mason of Virginia, told her that her head was turned, that she had got on the wrong side of the Potomac, and had lost her reason. But after seeing the experiments, the grave Senator became deeply interested, and doubted. Mr. Secretary Corwin saw the performances of the Misses Fox, and was amazed. Gov. Talmadge is in constant correspondence with Mr. Calhoun, through these spiritual rappers. He says that a pen held by a rustic boy writes for Mr. Calhoun, like Mr. Calhoun, in his style of thought, &c. These are very strange things. I mentioned some time ago that I was going to test the rappers by calling the spirit of a friend who was living, Gen. McQueen said that he had been done. A gentleman inquired about a young lady living, called up her spirit, asked when and where she died, how many children she had left, &c. Answers were given—she had one child, &c. But, in fact, the young lady was only eighteen years old, and was then living and single! General Thompson lost his cloak in Charleston—the spirit told him he had lost his cloak, and that it was found, that he had written about it, and it was safe. It turns out, however, that the cloak was not found. So the spirits lie as well as tell the truth. My own opinion is, that it is all humbuggery."

### Blacks in the West Indies.

The London Times thus refers to the result of the emancipation of Slaves in the British West India Islands: "Our legislation has been dictated by the presumed necessities of the African slaves. After the Emancipation Act, a large charge was annexed upon the colony in aid of civil and religious institutions for the benefit of the enfranchised negro, and it was hoped those colored subjects of the British Crown would soon be assimilated to their fellow citizens.—From all the information which reaches us, no less than from the visible probabilities of the case, we are constrained to believe that these hopes have been falsified. The negro has not acquired with his freedom any habits of industry or morality. His independence is little better than that of an uncaptured brute. Having accepted few of the restraints of civilization, he is amenable to few of its necessities, and the wants of his nature are so easily satisfied, that at the current rate of wages he is called upon for nothing but filial or desultory exertion.—The blacks, therefore, instead of becoming intelligent husbandmen, have become vagrants and squatters."

It is now apprehended that with the failure of cultivation in the island, will come the failure of its resources for instructing or controlling its population. So imminent does this consummation appear, that memorials have been signed by classes of colonial society hitherto standing aloof from politics, and not only the bench and the bar, but the bishop, clergy, and ministers of all denominations in the island, without exceptions, have recorded their conviction that, in the absence of timely relief, the religious and educational institutions of the island must be abandoned, and the masses of the population retrograde to barbarism."

### Liquor Law in Sweden.

In Sweden, whoever is found drunk is fined, for the first offence, \$3; and for the second, \$6; for the third or fourth, imprisonment is added to the fine, and deprived of the right of voting at the elections, or holding office, and exposure to the church on Sunday. If the same individual is found committing the same offence a fifth time, he is imprisoned six months and condemned to hard labor. If a professor of religion, it is still more severe, and he is cut off from the church. Whoever is convicted of intoxication, is fined \$3, which sum is doubled for every offence. An ecclesiastic who falls under the offence, loses his benefice. It is strictly forbidden to give or sell spirituous liquors to students, servants or apprentices. Whoever is found drunk in the streets, or making a disturbance in a public house, is imprisoned and fined; one-half of the fine goes to the informer, and the other half to the poor. Twice in a year these ordinances are read aloud in the churches by the clergy, and every tavern-keeper is bound to keep a copy hung up in the principal room of his house, under heavy fines. Under these regulations, scarcely a drunkard is to be found.

### The Pacific Railroad.

The following are the amendments in relation to this important measure, which passed both Houses of Congress:

"Sec. 15. And be it further enacted, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby authorized, under the direction of the President of the United States, to employ such portion of the corps of topographical engineers, and such other persons as he may deem necessary, to make such explorations and surveys as he may deem advisable to ascertain the most practicable and economical route for a railroad from the Mississippi river to the Pacific Ocean; and that the sum of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, be, and the same is hereby appropriated out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to defray the expense of such explorations and surveys."

"Sec. 16. And be it further enacted, That the engineers and other persons employed in said explorations and surveys shall be organized in as many distinct corps as there are routes to be surveyed, and their several reports shall be laid before Congress on or before the first Monday in February, eighteen hundred and fifty-four."

The Table Experiment.—We have heard much and read much about the table's turning round under electric or some other influence, and though we could not, in the face of testimony say it was not true, we didn't exactly understand how it could be. But on Monday evening last we saw it with our own eyes, a better pair than which no man peeps with, and we know there was no collusion or humbuggery about it, for the table continued to turn when every hand was elevated at least half an inch from its surface.—Whether the discovery will ever be of any benefit we cannot say, but there can be no doubt of its truth.—*Warrenton News*.

The Rev. John H. Lacy, Pastor of the Baptist Church of this place, has resigned and is now making arrangements to go to Africa in the capacity of a Missionary. Mr. Lacy is a gentleman highly esteemed by all who know him, for his christian virtues and amiability of disposition, and this whole community will join his Church in deep regret over the loss of so able and so good a Divine. Heaven's blessing attend him, in his efforts to enlighten the benighted African.—*Milton Chronicle*.

Number of Office Seekers.—In answer to a statement made, that there are 46,000 offices in the United States, and that 120,000 persons have made application for them, the Providence Journal remarks:—"As for putting the whole number of applicants at 120,000, this is nonsense.—The number from Virginia alone will be greater, and every tenth man in New Hampshire expects to be a foreign minister at least."

An Antidote for Poison.—Mr. Porter, of New York, some time since, swallowed a large quantity of corrosive sublimate, through mistake. Fortunately for the sufferer, a bottle of sweet oil stood on the same shelf from which he had taken the poison, and he seized and drained it of its contents. The effect was instantaneous. The action of the mercury was arrested, and Mr. P. has now nearly recovered.

The laws of Brazil do not permit imprisonment for debt, and it is next to impossible by law to force an unwilling debtor to pay till credit is given for four, eight and twelve months, and even two years, but the state of public opinion is such, that failure to meet pecuniary engagements is rare.

At the State Fair at Poughkeepsie, some years since, hundreds of the female part of the crowd, to the great inconvenience of others, stood up at full length on the seats in the great tent, as Hancock was about to deliver his Address. One of the policemen, an old-fashioned sort of a gentleman, thought them all down in a moment, by giving the order,—"The ladies will all sit down—the gals may stand up!"