[illegible] during the week.—A lady, whose love of intrigue and busy meddling disposition, have often led her into inconvenient scrapes, has of late, so it appears, after having given up as useless her attacks upon the imperial heart, consented to play a somewhat doubtful part in a pusuit, which, however, has hitherto proved fruitless, but to which the good offices of the lady in question had, for a time, given a coloring of probable success. Now the lady, who was celebrated all over Europe for her grace, wit, and beauty, has of late exchanged this reputation for the no less enviable one in this country of being the most rapid, expert, and graceful disseminator of men's money, and dissipator of their hoarded cash, who had ever existed in this world from the days of Cleopatra, down to those of Mdlle. Guimard of the last century, and the Dame aux Camelias of this. In return for good offices rendered during the last year, the lady of course was in expectation of the most magnificent New Year's gift, which the well known generosity, *toute Imperiale* (as the Archbishop of [illegible] it when he begs) of the Emperor, in the like case was capable of procuring, and waited at home the whole morning of the 1st of January with a palpitating heart for the result of those various hints thrown out by all French ladies during the last week of December, and which are never lost when sown upon fruitful soil. Madame de C—— had received a magnificent *parure* of diamonds Madame H—— an agraffe of rubies and pearls representing an eagle feeding a dove, worth more than fifty thousand francs. Surely she who had done more for the Emperor's benefit than either of those ladies would not be forgotten. Nor was she; for while musing thus, the Court messenger arrived with a present of such apparent importance that he could scarcely lift it. The lady opened the morocco case with avidity—it contained a splendid necessaire of silver, richly chased and engraved with all kinds of compliments and charming suggestions concerning the lady's beauty, amiability, and excellent qualities. The lady was disappointed.—She was, as usual, in a severe strait, which required immediate relief. A silver necessaire is a very good thing in its way, but will not produce, on emergency, enough to cancel the imprudent gambling debts, the hush-money, the peace-money and other small expenses to which persons in our friend's position are liable; moreover, upon her brother's suggestion, who happened to come in at the moment of the reception of the Imperial *cadeau*, she began to doubt whether it, after all, was real silver. A scratch with the yataghan, which, as officer of Spahis, the brother carried at his belt, soon confirmed the horrid suspicion—the silver departed leaving a yellow substance beneath!—The fact was plain, Ruolz and Elkington stood revealed! The lady wept in very spite, while the young officer laughed in greatest glee. In a moment the necessaire was repacked and sent back to the palace, with a note of thanks, bitter, sharp and violent—such as ladies in the like position alone can write—to which an answer, cold and polite, was returned a few hours after, to express the regret which the writer felt at his present not being accepted, as he had endeavored to satisfy the lady's well known taste for solid worth rather than outward show, and had commanded Thornire to silver over the gold necessaire he had sent her, in order not to attract too much attention by the costliness of the present, as none but himself could know the value of the services which she had rendered the donor.

To describe the rage and mortification of the lady would be impossible; and what renders the story more piquant, is the pig-headed injury of the brother, who, knowing nothing—brothers and husbands never do—insists on an explanation of the services rendered by his sister, or else upon some sort of satisfaction to be got out of some sort of adversary, he knows as yet neither from whom or for what, but only judges by the tittering and inuendoes with which his tale of domestic sorrow is greeted that there must be something to avenge somewhere.

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

While the civilized world is agog about benevolent demonstrations in regard to certain races who have to work for their own benefit, or who live in unknown and unexplored regions, those who beg for work, starve under the eye of the Lady Sutherland's of the day for bread, and a noble race of men are being annihilated within the borders of the U. States for the want of National care and from the absence of Christian influence, Do our readers wish an explanation? Look westward!

The Indian affairs of this continent, in their national, political and social aspect, demand (and so far as we are concerned will have) a thorough overhauling. In Congress the idea prevails that Indian appropriations are charities, instead of being a niggardly remuneration for our public domain. The delegation from Ohio, for instance, will "hem" and "ha!" about an appropriation of a few thousand dollars to the Indian, while their constituents receive their daily bread from the generous soil, taken by force from a weak people! The people of the United States who witness the annual product of our immense cultivated territory with pride! We send its surplus to starving Ireland. We spend the surplus revenue lavishly. And yet, we are taught by a contracted "Committee of Ways and Means," that those from whom we have taken this territory should not have money enough to buy blankets for their women and children, and do not deserve that "sympathy" which in meaning less resolutions we extend to the rest of mankind.

[illegible] without the chance of hearing, or the right of appeal. One of their tribe is incarcerated in a dungeon at the instance of a greedy agent, and the Indian and the tribe have no right of action!

There is a petition now on file to remove the Indians *farther East*—one to remove them further *West*—one further North—one further South!

What a field is presented in this subject for the benevolent. See in the pages of our history, the records of oratory, bravery and heroism of the Indian. While our morbid philanthrophists are filling the world with writings about the natural level of a race of animal organization and brute tendencies, they can find no words for those who have given evidence of the intellectual character and spiritual instincts of their race. The Pacific Railroad is soon to be cut through the hunting grounds of the roving tribes of Indians. The people of Florida are to be murdered by a tribe driven to desperation by the meanness of a Government which will acquire in the acquired domain ten times the amount of a liberal appropriation for their removal.

Our Indian affairs are wrongly managed. If it were not for the Hon. R. W. Johnston and Hon. W. K. Sebastian, of Arkansas, we do believe that the moral sentiment of Congress would soon be ready for a proposition to kill the "first born" of the Indian tribes, that the race might be exterminated. "The Indians bother us so," is the exclamation even now. Gentlemen, when you go home ask your constituents who are living upon land taken from the Indian—"do we owe the Red Man anything."

We intend at the proper time to take up this whole subject. In the meanwhile we have our eye upon the matter, and nothing will escape us. We are for justice to the Indians, and to those people whose lives are in danger—we mean the people of Florida.—*Cotton Plant.*

PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 1853.

Mr. Badger stated that in proposing the committees the other day there was an oversight in regard to the Committee on Printing, that committee having been omitted. As it might be necessary in the course of the present Executive session to have such a committee, he would ask the unanimous consent of the Senate to have it appointed at once, and begged leave to submit the following: Messrs. Borland, Hamlin, and Soul.

The committee was appointed accordingly.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION.

Mr. Badger asked the favor of the Senate to be allowed to make a personal explanation. It was the first time in the course of a long service that he had ever troubled himself with any matters outside of the chamber, having ever been in the habit of looking, so far as he was personally concerned, on all personal attacks with an indifference bordering on contempt. A case, however, had arisen which might well form an exception, not only from a sense of justice to himself, but to his late colleague, (Mr. Mangum.) who was also compromised by the statement.

Mr. B. then sent to the Chair an extract from a paper published at Wilmington, (N. C.) which had lately been called to his notice. The extract in question read as follows:

"The close of business on Thursday night virtually concluded the present administration of national affairs. At 12 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 bars. The only chance now is with the Senate; and both the Senators from this State turn their backs upon the affair and upon us. Whig or Democrat, Federalist or Republican, we must have a Cape Fear Senator if we hope to have any thing 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 thro' others, but it is an uphill business when even the urgent resolutions of the Legislature of their own State cannot induce our N. Carolina Senators to co operate with him. That they have refused to do so we know."

Mr. Badger then went on to show the gross injustice of the charge, and to point out in detail the active exertions made by himself as well as his colleague in endeavoring to secure for the inhabitants of Wilmington, that had a particular interest in the improvement of Cape Fear river, the necessary appropriations to effect that object. He went into a minute detail of the course pursued by him, showing how zealously he had struggled on all occasions to further the interests of his State, and particularly of that interest which he had been charged with neglecting.

Mr. Gwin rose to corroborate every sentence that had fallen from Mr. Badger, and bore testimony to the active personal solicitations of that Senator to the committee of which he (Mr. G.) was chairman, in endeavoring to secure the appropriation, which had been effected mainly by his personal exertions, and had passed the Senate, but had been specially excepted to by the House, and by the committee of conference on the part of the House.

Mr. Hamlin, as chairman of the committee of conference, also bore testimony to the zealous co operation of Mr. B. in endeavoring to secure the appropriation for the improvement alluded to.

[illegible] ed the guest at the personal examination of Mr. B., who had shown the great necessity that existed for the improvement of Cape Fear river.

THE STATE'S DIRECTORS.

In this section, where so deep interest is taken in the progress of the N. C. Railroad, we hear continued complaints of the appointments, recently made by the Governor and Council, of Directors on the part of the State. For ourselves, we are sure we have no disposition to find captious fault with any of Gov. Reid's official acts; but the complaints in this case appear so rational and just, that we cannot choose but give them voice.

The prime complaint is, that the new Directors have been chosen so largely from the "Young America" class of the Democracy, who have very little personal interest in the Road, to the neglect of such men as Graves, Saunders, Hawkins, Coleman, Ellis, Nixon, Jones, Trollinger, and a host of others, Democrats identified with the interest of the Road—to say nothing of the Whigs who took stock and exerted themselves to the utmost, in the way both of influence and money, for the great enterprise. If it were possible, the Governor ought not to know Whig or Democrat in appointments of this kind; but it is impossible for him to be thus oblivious, and we look for nothing else from a Democratic Executive than for most of his appointments to be from his own party.—We do not blame him for it. The blame lies against him for not appointing to the Directorship those who have borne the burden and heat of the day—who struggled hard and risked large amounts of their means; who have successfully breasted the storms gone by, and who will continue to stand by the great work in all weathers. The State is *in for it* now, and it really appears to us to be the *true policy for the State* to have those to manage the Road who will be likely to establish it on the best footing.

The present Board of Directors were selected by the individual stockholders, on account of the extraordinary exertions which they had made for the Road, and because they were men who felt the greatest solicitude for its success. After the next annual meeting of the stockholders, (when, we learn, the State's Director's are to come in,) eight out of the present twelve will of course retire. It would, therefore, have been competent for the Governor to have appointed some of the present Board as Directors on the part of the State. Could he have found any better material? By so doing, he would have said that in their past management they had secured the confidence of himself and of the community. By declining to appoint any of those who were selected by the stockholders for their devotion to the Road, is there not a reflection plainly implied that they have not done their duty to the Company and the State? Now, these suggestions may never have entered Gov. Reid's mind; still they are such as will naturally arise in the minds of men deeply interested in the work. It cannot be pleaded that it was the Governor's business to care for the State exclusively, and therefore necessary to appoint *disinterested* men altogether; for, we repeat, in best caring for the Road you bestow the best care for the State.

We have understood that the amendment to the charter, passed at the recent session of the Legislature, requires all directors to be *bona fide* holders of stock. And we have heard it said that some of the newly appointed Directors own no stock in the Road. Besides, they are inexperienced in such matters, and, with few if any exceptions, have never shown to the public either interest or devotion to the Road,—at all events, they have never exhibited a tithe of the interest, or made a tithe of the sacrifices, of the older—aye, and abler—men over whose heads they have been appointed.

We do not know that all this grumbling will do any good in the way of remedy for the error; but it will give voice to the honest sentiments of numerous citizens, and afford the satisfaction of having our "protest entered upon the journal."—*Greensboro' Patriot.*

ANOTHER HOTEL IN CHARLOTTE.

We learn that Mr. James A. Sadler, who has been not inaptly styled the "Prince of Hotel Keepers" has sold to H. B. Williams his beautiful front lot on which, in part, the old Hotel stands, and that Mr. Williams designs covering said lot, as it joins his large brick building, with a house three stories high, to be connected with the two upper stories of the large building, and the whole to be converted into a Hotel. It is then to be called Saddler's Hotel, and kept by "mine host" James A. Sadler. When completed, it will be the most splendid establishment of the kind in North Carolina. Success attend it.—*Charlotte Whig.*

Newspapers and their Patrons.—A great portion of the community suppose, says an exchange, that newspapers can publish everything that occurs, far and near, and this whether it refers to public or private matters. Indeed it has now come to pass that matters of a purely private and personal nature, where a single individual is to be alone benefitted, the custom, prevails to trot off to some one, or all the newspapers to obtain a "notice." If an individual has a notion in his head; if he imagines he has made a discovery or an invention; if he has constructed a machine, or received a package of goods; if he has come possessed of some novel toy; bought a calf with two heads or five legs, he expects any newspaper is to open its columns at any length and enlighten the public on the same simply because he "is a subscriber," or "buys the paper every day." If people want their private business or pleasures advertised, then let them pull out their cash and pay for it; pay what and *all* it is worth. It costs publishers money and a good deal of it; they pay cash down for everything they have and use—for labor, paper, &c., and it is only from those whom they individually benefit that they can obtain the means to meet their outlay.

BOSTON, March 6.—Miss Corcoran, the young girl whose mysterious disappearance has caused a fortnight's excitement in Charlestown, and several riotous demonstrations, returned to her home on yesterday—and thus ends the affair.

PUZZLE.

Stand	take	to	takings
I	that you	turn	all my

[illegible] Road Subscription, have pounced down upon Beaufort, N. C., and bought 720 acres of land on that magnificent harbor, with a view to the location of the Eastern terminus of a Rail Road from this place, to connect with the Road to the Coal Region!

The News of Saturday last says, that "the agent of that firm returned to Newbern on his way to New York, on Thursday evening last, and that the object of his visit to Beaufort was to select a proper point for the terminus of a Railroad from Fayetteville, to run in nearly a direct line from that town to Beaufort Harbour. We learn further, that the examination of the harbour, &c., was very satisfactory, and that the agent, acting under full authority from the Company, selected the point to the westward of Beaufort, and above Shepard's point, known as White Hall, owned for some time past by Gen. Henry Cutler, Proprietor of the Washington Hotel in Newbern. General Cutler's place, we understand, consisted of about 1200 acres of land with some improvements. We learn further, that the agent has contracted with Gen. Cutler for the purchase of six-tenths of this place, designing it as the Eastern terminus of the Railroad in question. The place was purchased some time since, by Gen. Cutler at a mere nominal price to what its value will be, should this enterprise be carried into effect; and he has now sold the six tenths of it, reserving upon that very important advantages, at a great advance on the original cost. The contract is completed, writings drawn, &c.

"In short, there is now little reason to doubt, that it is the intention of the Company in question to avail itself of the very loose and indefinite powers conferred by our Legislature at its last session upon the Fayetteville and Western Railroad Company, to build a Railroad, commencing almost anywhere, and terminating at a similar point, and subscribe so largely to the Stock as to secure the construction of the road. As Fayetteville is to be connected by a Railroad with the Coal Fields to the North and West of that Town, the main object of the Company, (who are largely interested, we understand, in these Coal fields) is to furnish a direct and certain means of putting their Coal into the best harbor in the State. What an opportunity will this offer not only for getting the North Carolina Coal to the best distant markets, but of supplying the steam vessels with that necessary article on their routes, North and South, to New York, Charleston, New Orleans, &c! It cannot be denied, that although it is a bold enterprise, and one of immense magnitude, it is yet a promising one."

(The rather querulous tone of the News, as to our rail road charter, is owing to the fact that a direct line from this place to Beaufort will leave Newbern some 25 miles to the left.)

This is truly a magnificent enterprise, not on account of the probable cost, for that will be comparatively small, for a rail road of 125 miles over a level country; but for the results to which it will lead.—Let any one look at the Map and see, that from Beaufort, by Fayetteville, through the whole extent of Western North Carolina, through Tennessee, to Memphis, and thence to San Francisco, on the Pacific, *is a direct line*, and *the shortest route that can be found to the Pacific from any State north of North Carolina!*

It is within 36 hours of New York.

A rail road from Beaufort to Deep River, followed as it undoubtly and speedily will be, by a continuation west, and by the Pacific road, (which only wanted a few votes to carry it through Congress at the late session, and whose speedy construction is a fixed fact,)—what a magnificent prospect does it all open to North Carolina! Let us rejoice, as we do most heartily, that the day is dawning upon her. It is true that she is to be indebted to the capitalists of other States for most of the work; but in that she is not unlike all other parts of the country. The finger of New York enterprise is felt from one end of the continent to the other; and why not in North Carolina?

It is some satisfaction to us in Fayetteville to know that the game was started here, tho' bagged by others. To Maj. Duncan G. MacRae is the credit due of originating the scheme of a rail road to the Coal Region, of preparing the Charter and procuring its passage by the Legislature, and of struggling manfully to get the stock taken. We hope the result will prove that he has accomplished a great good in his day and generation, for the community for whose benefit his labors were exerted.

CONTINUATION OF THE F. & W. PLANK ROAD.—We understnnd that a notice will appear in our next of the opening of books for subscriptions to continue the F. & W. Plank Road from Salem to the Virginia line, via Bethania and Mount Airy. At the Virginia line the Road will connect with the Turnpike in that State, now nearly completed. We further learn that it is determined by the people of the up country that the work shall at once go ahead to Mount Airy.—*Fay. Ob.*

Shooting by a Lady in a Ball Room.—At Oldtown, Maine, on Tuesday evening, while a party were dancing at Grey's Tavern, a very respectable young lady discharged both barrels of a double-barrelled pistol at a man named Wm. Bowman, of Upper Stillwater. One of the balls entered Bowman's shoulder, and the young lady with whom he was dancing had her face badly burned by the powder. The lady who fired the shots went home without being arrested. Public sympathy is strongly in her favor, as Bowman had inflicted upon her an irreparable wrong, and then refused marriage.

THE INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

We give place, in to day's paper, to President Pierce's Inaugural Address, and we commend it to the careful perusal of our readers. It is a clear and sensible State paper, and does its author great credit. Of the subjects touched upon Mr. Pierce's views receive our hearty concurrence; and if he shall carry into pratice in his administration, his policy as we understand it to be here set forth, we promise him and his political friends that our humble voice shall be heard in his praise.

That portion of the address devoted to the foreign policy of his administration, and particularly to the acquisition of new territory, looks to us as rather indefinite and vague; and as leaving room for *Cuban Patriots* to hope for his protection in case they should fall into the hands of the Captain General, as did certain of our countrymen a year or two back. Perhaps, however, our judgement is influenced in this view by party prejudices: We hope it is so, and that the President's views on this subject are as virtuous as the declaration of his principles in regard to the Compromise measures are clear and manly. He is worthy of all praise for the bold and righteous stand which he takes in regard to the rights of the South. It is so much better than we had expected of him, that we find it not in our heart to quarrel with him about a matter which only admits of a slight suspicion. With these feelings we have only to add that, under the over-ruling Providence of the Great Governor of the whole earth, we trust that Mr. PIERCE'S administration may prove even more successful for good than that of his immediate predecessor, Mr. FILLMORE. And are there any who are unconscious of feelings of gratitude to the Giver of all Good, as they contemplate the scenes, the trials, and difficulties through which the country passed during his administation, and in which he was the principal agent.

☞ We observe that some of the Democratic papers in commenting on that part of President PIERCE'S Inaugural Address referring to his foreign policy, institute a comparison between what he says may be *expected* of him, and the policy pursued by President FILLMORE while in Office.—Comparisons are said to be odious, and it strikes us that it is truly so in this particular case. There are but few fair minded men, we think, who will not readily accord to Mr. FILLMORE great prudence and sound judgment in his management of the foreign affairs of the Government.—The honor of the Country suffered nothing while in his keeping, notwithstanding some are disposed to revile him on that point. Suppose he only did his duty and nothing more—and who will deny him that—Mr. PIERCE has only promised; and shall he be praised more for his pretty *promises*, and Mr. FILLMORE less for his noble *deeds!* *Promises* are cheap, and when evasively given, dog cheap. They at least form an unsafe rule by which to judge a man—especially unsafe by which to condemn another whose works proclaim of what sort they are.

Let us wait awhile, until we shall have had time to try President PIERCE by the same rule—until he shall have passed through such a furnance as Mr. FILLMORE was tried in; and then, if any are in doubt, a comparison will be worth something.

We sincerely hope that Mr. PIERCE may have the uncommon honor to retire from his present position of great trial four years hence, carrying with him the admiration of his countrymen of all parties.—Should his administration prove so successful, the historian of the past and present days of American glory, will group together three of her sons more fortunately virtuous than the rest. It is hardly necessary that we should give the names—WASHINGTON, FILLMORE, PIERCE.

☞ Read the article in this paper from the Fayetteville Observer, headed "Another great operation." The signs of the times in North Carolina have a most favorable and encouraging aspect at present. These favorable indications are confined to Eastern sections, but yet they are not without interest to every portion of the State. Western North Carolina is also rich in undeveloped resources, and these movements in the East are only preparing the way for greater things hereafter.

Correction.—We have been informed it was not true that the "*Regulators*" placed a log against the door of Judge Ellis' residence, as related in our last.—The report was current for several days, and up to the time of our last publication we had not heard it contradicted. It probably originated in the fact that the "Regulators" usually play off on our most prominent citizens.

[illegible] who can make it convenient is afraid [illegible] invited to be present.

Free Negroes at the North.—A bill has passed the Illinois Legislature prohibiting the entrance of free negroes into that State under penalty of being *sold into slavery*. The bill authorises the admission of slaves if brought in or sent in by their masters.

☞ The senior editor of the Southern Patriot, who is on a visit at Washington, writes home that Gen. JAMES HAMILTON, of South Carolina, has become a convert to Spiritual Rappings. The Cheraw Gazette is shocked at the idea, and not without cause; for Mr. HAMILTON is a man of great mind—too great, we believe, to be wrought upon by such a shallow humbug.—Why, what good or useful thing has the spirit rappers developed or revealed? Is the world any better by their services? Have they increased the sources of spiritual felicity? Have they illumined any thing hitherto obscure in the moral or physical condition of the world? Have they added any thing to the stock of political, social, or commercial happiness of the country?

There is one strange thing about it, and it is this: That whereas those who died fools, have become wondrous wise; and those who were accounted wise before their departure to the eternal world, have become, through their representations, the mediums, most astonishing simpletons and knaves. If these are the legitimate fruits of death, then it is well for fools to shuffle off this mortal coil, as the speediest way to attain unto that wisdom they can never reach in life. Whilst those more blessed—those who are wise, or are so esteemed, will doubtless shudder at the thought of the grim monster, not so much on account of his power to destroy the body, as of his want of sufficient power to save them from the hands of the wretched *mediums*.

☞ Mr. WM. MURPHY is now having the foundation of a new store house laid on a piece of ground adjacent to the house heretofore occupied by the Murphy firm. The old building is to be remodeled and connected with the new; and all to have an ornamental granite front. When completed it will be the most magnificent establishment in Town. The corner stone of this building is to be laid down on Monday or Tuesday next, and as Mr. M. is preparing a box, papers and other things to be deposited in the corner stone, he invites those wishing to contribute articles suitable for that purpose, to send them in during the present week.

TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT FILLMORE FROM HIS CABINET.

We have much pleasure in giving publicity to the following correspondence, which reflects equal honor upon President FILLMORE and the members of his Administration. It has, we presume, rarely happened that so great a degree of harmony has existed between a President and every member of his Cabinet. It may be supposed by some that the relations of Mr. WEBSTER and Mr. FILLMORE, as candidates for the Presidency, formed an exception to this remark. We have, however, the best reasons for believing that their friendly and confidential intercourse, personal and political, was never for a moment interrupted.—*Nat. Int.*

LETTER TO PRES'T FILLMORE.

WASHINGTON, March 3, 1853.

SIR: As our connection with you is about to terminate, we cannot forbear to give utterance to the feelings of unmingled satisfaction with which we look back upon our official and personal intercourse. We have witnessed with admiration your untiring devotion to the public service, and your patience and assiduity in the discharge of the incessant and laborious duties of your office. Near observation has afforded us innumerable proofs of the enlightened and comprehensive regard for the best interests of the whole Union, which you have brought to the execution of the high trust which devolved upon you under circumstances of peculiar embarrassment. For the fidelity to its best interests which you have thus manifested, the country, we believe, will yet, with one voice, do you ample justice.

We have the greatest pleasure in adding that the unbroken harmony which has prevailed in your Cabinet, and between yourself and all its members, has greatly facilitated the performance of our arduous labors.

With our united best wishes that your health may be preserved, and that the country may long have the benefit of your patriotism, experience, and high intelligence, we remain, dear sir, your sincere friends.

EDWARD EVERETT,
THOMAS CORWIN,
A. H. H. STUART,
C. M. CONRAD,
J. P. KENNEDY,
J. J. CRITTENDEN,
S. D. HUBBARD.

To his Excellency MILLARD FILLMORE,
President of the United States.

REPLY OF PRESIDENT FILLMORE.

WASHINGTON, March 4, 1853.

GENTLEMEN: Your kind note, which was handed me last evening, was as unexpected as it was gratifying. While I cannot flatter myself with the idea that I am justly entitled to all the praise which your friendship has so generously bestowed, I am frank to confess that I do feel a consciousness that I have spared no pains to merit it. Of this, however, you are the best judges. You have been my daily companions, and can best appreciate the motives with which I have discharged my official duties. But if [illegible] is due to you, and to those who preceded some of you, as my official advisers, to say that the success of my Administration is chiefly owing to the wisdom, harmony, fidelity, and ability of my counsellors; and that the country, as well as myself owes them a debt of gratitude which [illegible]