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TERMS.

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The Easton Gazette.

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ADVERTISEMENTS,

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From the Philadelphia Album, 1831.

Swiss Chant.

(FROM THE GERMAN OF SCHILLER.)

The following constitutes the opening scene in Schiller's Drama of William Tell, and consists as you will see, properly, of three Songs; which are chanted successively by a Fisher-Boy, a Shepherd, and a Hunter. The position of these three characters when they sing—the first paddling his boat along the banks of the lake, the second tending his flock in the green dales above, and the third still higher up on the summit of the Alps—gives a very impressive effect to their responsive melodies. To relish the scene described in the Hunter's Song, you will recollect that a rain storm between the top and bottom of high mountains is a phenomenon of frequent occurrence in Switzerland. A spectator standing upon the top of the Alps may see the tempest gather and disgorge below him, while he is himself wrapped in sunshine, and the clear, cold glaciers lie sparkling around him. The following is the scene in which the play opens:—

(Country, Switzerland. High, rocky banks around the lake or sea of Lucerne. A bay opens in upon the land; at a little distance from the banks stands a cottage, and a Fisher-Boy is seen paddling along his boat. Above the sea lie green meadows and dales, and the village and hills of Schweitz lie off in the sunlight. To the left of the spectator high and precipitous rocks appear, surrounded by clouds. To the right the glaciers of the Alps appear. Before the scene opens, the lowing of cows and the harmonious tinkling of the bells upon the flocks are heard, which continue for a time after the scene opens.)

FISHER-BOY—*(sings in his boat.)*

The smiling sea invites to bathe—asleep
The boy lies on the green shore of the deep;
There on his ear
Sweet strains arise,
Such, angels hear
In paradise.
And as with rapturous joy he wakes from rest,
The dallying waters play around his breast;
And now thou art mine,
Cries a voice from the main,
My arms shall entwine
The mountain swain!

SHEPHERD—*(on the hills above the sea.)*

Farewell, sunny meads?
Summer's gone from the dell,
And the flock no more feeds—
Sunny pastures farewell!
We go up the mountain, we return to the plain
When the cuckoo's shrill notes shall call us again—
When the earth smiles with flowers in her new array—
When the fountains flow softly in beauteous May.
Farewell, sunny meads!
Summer's gone from the dell,
And the flock no more feeds—
Sunny pastures, farewell!

HUNTER—*(on the rocky summit of a mountain.)*

The heights echo with thunder, the foot path shakes—
Dark is the dizzy way that now the hunter takes.
O'er ice-plains he goes,
Undaunted by fears,
Where green never grows
And spring never cheers;
And a deep sea of clouds rolls under his feet
Shrouding cities and men in one misty sheet;
For a monument is seen,
While the tempest forms,
A fissure between
The commingling storms—
And there the fields and gay haunts of men
Gleam brokenly up on the hunter's ken.

Harford, April 4, 1831.

From the Philadelphia Album, 1831.

What Makes the Man.

Whether there be such thing as natural superiority of mind over another, is a question which has received its share of controversy. The fallacy of the doctrine of *innate ideas*, and the error of that school of philosophy which would have taught us, man came into this world a logical and abstruse reasoner, a tracer of the remotest causes from the most indistinct effects, may be considered as having been long ago definitively settled by the acute and ingenious reasoning of Mr. Locke. The point, however, continues yet to be questioned, and with such plausibility too, whether, in the soil where the seed of literature and science are sown, there be not as great a variety of grades in richness and fertility, as there are varieties in shapes or sizes, or differences in quantity and extent, in the brains of individuals.

There is no doubt much difference in the susceptibility of minds. There are varieties and remarkable distinctions in the various associations which arise on the presentation of the same objects to the cognizance of different minds. The poet views the verdant lawn, the gentle rivulet, or the meandering stream, in a different light from the rest of human kind. In the one, he sees a thousand rural delights; and imagination pictures by the side of the other, some loving wain, breathing his sighs upon the winds, or tuning his lay to her,

"Whose form is fresher than the morning rose,
When the dew wets its leaves; unstained and pure
As is the lily or the mountain snow."

A thousand fancies press upon his mind, and he leaves not the spot till it is hallowed by the fictitious charms his genius has thrown around it. Lead thither the moralizing man, and gratitude to Him whose benevolence has created all these, is the first emotion that stirs within him. Show him the mountain torrent, dashing from rock to rock and spreading its foam upon the remotest wave, and he reads from it a lesson to the man who is hurried down his course of life by the frequent agitations of violent and unrestricted passion. Show him the gently gliding rivulet, mildly murmuring down its shallow channel, and he sees as on a canvass before him, the pictured life of the man of calm and peaceful habits.—Take there the *busy* man, and he perceives and calculates at a glance, the declination of every plain that is spread before him. He enumerates the power, the weight, the impetus of every thing around him. Here he lays out his *site* for mills, and there he points out the circumvallation which nature herself has afforded him for the better effectuation of his purpose. The Chemist obtains his specimen from every flinty rock; the Geologist examines every *layer* that is open to his investigation. And thus you may pass through the whole routine of avocations that have been practised since the herding of men together, and no two will be likely to correspond in the emotions which are excited in them by an observance of the same scene of nature. Why is all this difference, asks the embryo philosopher? Says the schoolman, the composition of one man's brain differs from that of another. Another answers, nature hath peculiarly endowed individuals; and so arranged the brains of different men, that the same objects should not create in them the same train of reflections. The Phrenologist expounds the quere after the *modus* of his own tenets, and descries in the various protuberances on the heads of different subjects, the causes of different feelings, habits, and propensities. And thus runs the matter between the learned disputants. Another class of philosophers, and by no means the smallest of the number, are those who deny any thing like partiality, in any shape, in the dispensations of dame nature. They resolve the whole matter into the simple force of habit, circumstance, or education.

Between these it becomes a difficult matter for the inquirer in mental science to form a definite opinion. There is one course, however, which may be pursued without danger of great error, and which we would recommend to every one who has not yet enlisted under the banner of any particular sect. It is the wise course which the poet Horace has commended in his oft quoted sentence—

"In medio tu tutissimus ibis."

Take a middle path—allow nature some credit, and fill up no small space with the force and effect of habit, of early associations in life, of circumstance and education. With the joint operation of all these, you may easily solve the difficulty, and discover why it is, that one man deals most largely in dull and drawling prose, whilst another mingles the soul of poetry with every thing he undertakes. The one is, perhaps, born and bred amidst the noise and bustle of a metropolis—whilst the other has been cradled among the rocks, or lulled to sleep by the roar of the mountain cataract: the one has been accustomed to meet in his daily walk the cold and speculating miser—whilst the other has revelled in the sweet bonds of affection and friendship, and has never learned the language of distrust. These and a thousand other circumstances, reveal the arena of the mind's philosophy. Study well the early part of a man's life, and you may with considerable accuracy predict his future career.

"Watch well the wheels of nature's mazy plan,
And learn the future—from the past of man."

Constitution of the Provisional Government of the Confederated States of America.

Hon. Jeff. Davis, of Miss., made President and Hon. A. H. Stephens, of Ga., Vice President.

On a comparison of the instrument with the Constitution of the United States it will be found to be almost a transcript of the latter, both in its provisions and language. The only points of difference not embraced in the intelligence by telegraph are:

Article 1, section 4, provides that upon all questions each State shall be entitled to one vote and shall be represented by any one or more of its deputies who may be present. The same article says that the members of Congress shall receive a compensation for their services, to be ascertained by law, and paid out of the Treasury of the Confederacy."

Sec. 5. The President may veto any appropriation or appropriations in the same bill.

Every order, resolution or vote intended to have the effect of a law, shall be presented to the President and before the same shall be approved by him, or being disapproved by him shall be repassed by two-thirds of the Congress, according to the rules and limitations prescribed in the case of a bill.

Article 2, section 1, states that in case of the removal, death, resignation or inability, both of the President and Vice President, Congress may fill the vacancy. Section 5, same article, allows the President a compensation at the rate of $25,000 per annum, during the period of the Provisional Government, and that he shall not receive, during that period, any other emolument from the Confederacy, or any of the States thereof.

Article 2, section 2, makes the President Commander-in-Chief of the army and navy of the Confederacy, and of the militia of the several States, when called into the actual service of the Confederacy.

Article 3, section 1, provides that the Judicial power of the Confederacy shall be vested in one Supreme Court, and in such Inferior Courts as the Congress may, from time to time, ordain and establish. Each State is to constitute a District, in which there shall be a District Court, which shall have the jurisdiction vested by the laws of the United States, as far as applicable, in both the District and Circuit Courts of the United States, appeals to be taken directly from the District Courts to the Supreme Court.

Article 5, provides that the Congress may, by a vote of two-thirds, at any time alter or amend the Constitution of the Confederacy. And article 6, that Congress shall have power to admit other States.

A SPECK OF WAR BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA AND GREAT BRITAIN.

—The troubles of the "Republic of Georgia" appear likely to begin much earlier than was either expected or desired by those who have precipitated upon her the responsibilities of an absolute independence. It will be seen from the very significant paragraph below, which we clip from the Savannah Republican of Monday last, that the new Republic is just now in the pleasant employment of a probable difficulty with England:

Various reports have been in circulation with regard to an alleged outrage perpetrated recently, by parties whose names we have not heard, upon the person of Captain Vaughn, of the British ship Kalos, now lying in our port. The accounts are so contradictory that we forbear any further reference to the matter until the facts shall have been ascertained. We may say, though, that if the circumstance as related to us be true, we stand in a pretty fair way for a national trouble with the British Government.—Such things, however, generally gather as they go from mouth to mouth, and we hope the affair will turn out to have been greatly exaggerated.

A subscriber has cut the following from an ancient copy of the Balt. *American*, and forwarded it with a request to publish:

MR. CALHOUN.—The following toast was given by the Vice President of the United States, at a public dinner on the 4th of July, in his own district of Pendleton, S. C.:

By John C. Calhoun.—"The State and General Governments—each imperfect when viewed as separate and distinct governments, but, taken as a whole, forming one system, with each checking and controlling the other, unsurpassed by any work of man, in wisdom and sublimity."

Respectfully Dedicated to Hon. John J. Crittenden

BY WM. H. HAYWARD.

AIR—*"Hail Columbia, Happy Land," or President's March."*

Hail, glorious Union! noble, grand!
Hail, our Union! let it stand,
The Constitution and the laws.
Equal rights to every one,
Guaranteed by Washington;
Let justice be our pride and boast,
Dividing lines be henceforth lost,
Repeal all laws that are not wise,
The South has rights no one denies.
Firm, united, we must be—
As brothers live in unity,
The North and South together bind
With the Stars and Stripes entwined.

Shall Columbia's sons be found
Battling on this Heaven-blest ground,
State against State arrayed
With secession, cursed fire-brand,
Take our forts with sword in hand,
Can no compromise avail?
Shall this great Republic fail
As transmitted by our sires?
Divide the Union—Hope expires.
No! let us in council meet,
The words of Washington repeat;
The people now must all arise,
Congress every help denies.

Behold the *chief!* Kentucky's son,
The statesman, patriot, Crittenden,
To whom all eyes now brightly turn,
Adopt his platform sound and true,
Save our Union, nation too,
His Compromise will firmly stand,
And bless with peace our native land,
Then truth and justice will prevail,
Discord, secession, dire will fail.
Then our flag will proudly wave,
Every Stripe and Star we save,
And then with our own Washington,
Bless the name of Crittenden.

Mr. Louisville Prentice on Secession.

Ex-Secretary Floyd says that he will not, if God helps him, permit Mr. Lincoln to be President of the United States. Can't you *help yourself*, Governor, as you did when you were in arm's length of the public money?

A South Carolina paper advised the State to adopt a flag with the cross upon it, the emblem of the Christian religion. But she has adopted the Crescent, the emblem of Mohammedism.

A letter writer says that Gov. Floyd is subject to fits of abstraction. Certainly the public money was when he was Secretary.

The Charleston Mercury says that "South Carolina is a law to herself." Many would like to see that law *executed*.

We are considerably afraid that the only strong Government now in this nation is that of South Carolina.

Those fellows who go for submitting unconditionally to South Carolina have the impudence to call other people submissionists.

The fruits of Secession, which South Carolina thought so beautiful and tempting, turn to be apples of Sodom. We hope she may enjoy the pies and dumblings they will make.

Why did'nt South Carolina, instead of choosing the rattlesnake as her emblem, take the cotton-mouthed snake? The latter is quite as venomous as the former.

Kentucky is determined to resist aggression and maintain her rights, but she does not see in the conduct of the Northern States any good cause of her making an ass of herself.

The students of the Nashville Medical College have presented a gold-headed cane to Gen. Jo. Lane. Pity the General's own head is not of as much account as the cane's.

Many of the South Carolinians not only have Yankee arms in their hands when they muster in warlike parade, but Yankee arms around their necks in the privacy of their own homes.

THE SECESSION QUESTION TO BE TESTED IN COURT.

—The St. Louis Democrat has been furnished with an extract from an answer about to be filed in the Circuit Court of that county at the suit of a well-known New Orleans bank against a prominent city banker of St. Louis, to recover a large sum:

The defendants state in their answer that the plaintiffs are an association of persons, citizens of the State of Louisiana, domiciled and doing business therein, and acknowledging allegiance thereto, and have abjured all allegiance to the United States of America; that said State of Louisiana has seceded from and revolted against the United States of America, and is at war with the same; that the plaintiffs, and all other persons who are citizens of said State and domiciled therein and acknowledging allegiance thereto, are alien enemies of the United States of America and of the State of Missouri, and have no right to maintain any suit in the courts of the State of Missouri.

This defence, if persisted in to the last resort, would carry the question of the right of a State to secede to the Supreme Court of the United States for settlement. Its prosecution opens the door to a variety of legal questions, and will be watched with interest.

Here is the whole story in a nut shell. The author is not unknown to fame and as you would guess, somewhat addicted to pomology:

SECESSION CONSUMATED.

Yankee Doodle took a saw,
With patriot devotion,
To trim the Tree of Liberty,
According to his notion.

Yankee Doodle on a limb,
Like another, noodle,
Cut between the tree and him,
And down came Yankee Doodle,

Yankee Doodle broke his neck,
Every bone about him,
And then the Tree of Liberty
Did very well without him!

THE SMILE.

Columbia looked down and wept,
She thought of battles lost and won,
But yet she smiled upon her child,
Her gallant Major And Her Son.

An Australian says that cobwebs are a complete cure for dysentery. He takes them in pills, four a day. They are also used for fever and ague.

Why is the best article of malt liquor like the last song in a concert programme? Because it is the *fine ale*.

From the American Messenger.

The Little Grave.

"It's only a little grave," they said,
"Only just a child that's dead;"
And so they carelessly turned away
From the mound the spade had made that day.
Ah, they did not know how deep a shade
That little grave in our home had made.

I know the coffin was narrow and small;
One yard would have served for an ample pall;
And one man in his arms could have borne aw:
The rosewood and its freight of clay;
But I know that darling hopes were hid
Beneath that little coffin-lid.

I know that a mother stood that day
With folded hands by that form of clay;
I know that burning tears were hid
'Neath the drooping lash and aching lid;
And I know her lip and cheek and brow
Were almost as white as her baby's now.

I know that some things were hid away,
The crimson frock and wrappings gay;
The little sock and the half-worn shoe,
The cup with its plume and tassels blue;
And an empty crib, with its covers spread,
As white as that face of the guileless dead.

'Tis a little grave; but Oh, have care,
The world-wide hopes are buried there;
And ye, perhaps, in coming years,
May see, like her, through blinding tears,
How much of light, how much of joy,
Is buried up with my only boy.

From the American Messenger.

There's no God up here.

A lady, with her little boy and his nurse, was recently spending some months at a fashionable watering-place. She was a professed Christian, and when *at home*, was accustomed to attend church regularly, and to live, outwardly at least consistently with her profession.

But at the Springs she had been less strict, mingled more in gay society, and partaken with apparent eagerness in fashionable amusements. Her little son, though but four years old, did not fail to observe the change, and it soon had its effect upon his pliant character. When told one evening to kneel at his mother's knee, and repeat his usual prayers before retiring to rest, he closed his eyes for one moment, and then opening them, jumped up, exclaiming, "Oh no, mamma, I must'nt pray till we go home; there's no God up here, you know."

What a reproof to that erring mother came thus from the lisping tongue of her infant child, and what a lesson of practical infidelity had she been unconsciously instilling into his susceptible mind. How many professing Christians thus practically deny their Saviour before their children, and instead of leading their little ones to Jesus, teach them to doubt his very existence; instead of feeding them with the bread of divine truth, poison or starve them by the influence of their own example. Where should there be consistency, if not before our own households, in the presence of those for whom God has made us in a great measure responsible? The little ones around our knee will be in the main what we make them by our daily example; the household servants who minister to our daily comfort look up to us as their guides and models in the practical duties of religion; and both will judge, not only our own sincerity, but the character of the religion we profess, not so much by our *words* as by the tenor of our daily *lives*. If the latter be inconsistent and worldly, to our households we *deny Christ*, whatever professions we make to the contrary, and at our hands may be required the blood of immortal souls. F. R. F.

From the American Messenger.

A Mother's Prayers.

Some few years since an East Indian trader was attacked while cruising in the Indian Ocean by a piratical schooner, and the attack being sudden and unlooked for, the merchantman fell an easy prey into the hands of the pirates. The captain and several of the crew were slain during the conflict, and the rest being gagged and heavily ironed, were laid in the pirates' boat for removal to their own vessel, and then the murderous gang proceeded to the ship's cabin, intending there to complete the work of destruction, and see of what treasures they could possess themselves.

As they descended the companion-way they heard a soft voice, evidently engaged in supplication: and the chief, directing his followers to halt at the entrance, went noiselessly forward to ascertain whence the voice proceeded. Bending low to avoid observance, he peeped into a door that stood ajar, and there knelt a fair young woman, with a beautiful boy at her side, one arm clasped caressingly around the child, and the other raised in earnest supplication. "Oh God of all mercy," said the beseeching voice, as the face of tearful agony met the pirate's view, "save the life of my child, if such be thy holy will; but rather let him perish now by the assassin's knife, than fall a *living* prey into such hands, to be trained up to a life of sin and infamy. Let him die now, if such be thy decree; but Oh, let him not live to dishonor thee, and perish at last eternally." The voice ceased, choked with tears of agony; and there stood the pirate transfixed to the spot by the tumult of his own emotions. In imagination he was again a child; his own pious mother's prayers and instructions, for long years forgotten, rose before him, and God's Spirit sent such an arrow of conviction to his heart, that instead of carrying out his murderous designs, he sank upon his knees, and cried out for mercy.—After assuring the lady that no harm should be done her, he hastened to the deck, unbound the captive crew, and restoring them to their ship, returned with his men to their own.

Shortly afterwards he surrendered himself to the British East India government; but so great was the remorse he suffered for his past crimes, that before his trial came on, he was attacked with fever that in a few days proved fatal. Before his death he made a full confession of the crimes of his past life, manifesting the deepest penitence in view of his guilt, and he expired humbly trusting in Jesus for mercy and acceptance with him. Thus were his pious mother's prayers answered at last, and her erring child saved, as we may trust, even at the eleventh hour. What a heritage for good are the prayers of a Christian mother. F. R. F.

The Charleston correspondent of the New Orleans Delta writes as follows, in repudiation of the exploded idea of "reconstruction:"

"The opinion is steadily gaining ground here that the Southern Confederacy must be a Gulf Confederacy. There is danger that the Border States will be continually chasing the phantom of "reconstruction." This the people of Georgia, Florida and South Carolina—for I see enough to know the current of public opinion of these States—will never agree to. We shall know all, however, in two months from this time."

A Western editor cautions his readers against kissing short women, as the habit has made him round shouldered.

THE SWINDLE OF THE AGE.

Over $6,000,000 Abstracted.

EXPOSURE OF THE PARTIES CONNECTED WITH THE ROBBERY.

The select committee to whom was referred the resolution of the House, adopted on the 24th day of December last, directing them to inquire into and report the facts in relation to the fraudulent abstraction of certain bonds held by the Government in trust for the Indian tribes, from the Department of the Interior, and to whom were also referred the communication of the Hon. John B. Floyd, late Secretary of War, and the letter of the Hon. Robert McClelland, late Secretary of the Interior, have submitted their report.

The report opens by describing the bonds, United States stocks, and securities, which were abstracted. They were held in trust for certain Indian tribes.

The report then speaks of Godard Bailey, the clerk in whose hands the bonds were placed, saying: The evidence shows that Mr. Bailey came to Washington a bankrupt in fortune, and a political adventurer seeking office. He brought with him, however, the highest testimonials of confidence and respect from various distinguished men in Alabama, where he lived, and in South Carolina, where he was born, and had previously resided.

THE ABSTRACTED BONDS.

All the stocks, including those that were abstracted, were kept in the room in the Interior Department, occupied by Mr. Bailey, in a safe, the key of which was in his sole possession.—The extract marked "B" will show the character and respective amounts of the abstracted bonds, as well as the States by which they were issued, except in this—that the whole amount, as shown by said abstract, is 872, of $1000 each, when, in fact, Mr. Bailey delivered to Mr. Wm. H. Russell 870 only.

* * * * * * * *

BAILEY AND RUSSELL'S NEGOTIATIONS.

The report goes on to show that W. H. Russell and Godard Bailey had negotiations, during which Bailey delivered to Russell these bonds in instalments, both parties of course knowing that the bonds were not their property.

Mr. Bailey's motives for stealing the bonds are not clearly ascertained, but the committee are, however, constrained to express the conviction that behind the events that have been made conspicuous, and beneath the exterior of the transactions that have been described, is a purpose which although successfully hidden, was none the less powerful and efficient, and has given unity and vitality to the schemes now partially exposed.

MR. BAILEY'S CONFESSION.

A part of the evidence adduced is found in a communication from Mr. Bailey, dated December 1st, 1860, and addressed to the Hon. Jacob Thompson, Secretary of the Interior, containing a statement that a portion of the bonds constituting the Indian Trust Fund, amounting to $870,000, were no longer in his possession. This confession was, on the 13th of December, placed in the hands of Mr. Wagner, with a request that it should be delivered to the Secretary of the Interior five days before the expiration of his term of office, or, as Mr. Wagner understood it, five days before the fourth of March. On the 20th of the same month, Mr. Bailey addressed a note to Mr. Wagner, requesting that the note previously committed to him (Mr. Wagner) should be given to the Secretary of the Interior immediately upon his return from North Carolina.—Mr. Thompson arrived on the afternoon of the 22d of December.

AUDITOR FULLER THE CAUSE OF THE EXPOSURE OF THE FRAUD.

Mr. Bailey, in the exercise of forethought prudent to avoid detection, made up his stock account for the current year, showing on its face that all the bonds were safely in his custody, and had caused its presentation to the second Auditor, Mr. Fuller. That officer refused to approve it for the reason that the soupon account, designed to be a check upon it, did not accompany it. It is, perhaps, to this refusal that may in part be attributed the early disclosure of the fraud.

The report next speaks of the disposition of the stolen bonds. It appears that they were sold by Mr. Russell and his agent to certain parties in New York, Baltimore, Chicago, &c.

RUSSELL'S BUSINESS MAN MAKES HIMSELF SCARCE.

An important witness, Jerome B Simpson, who would be found in New York, it was expressed could not be obtained. He had acted in that city as the confidential business agent of Russell, Majors & Waddell, and knew, it was believed, all the details of their business transactions with the Government, and of the abstraction of the bonds. The most active and diligent search for him proved unavailing. As none of his acquaintance remember to have seen him since about the day following Mr. Russell's arrest, and as no trace of him has yet been discovered, it is evident that he absconded or concealed himself to avoid the responsibility of his acts, and an appearance before the committee or the courts.

RUSSELL DON'T LIKE TO FACE THE MUSIC.

When Mr. Russell was brought before the Committee, he wanted to write his testimony.

Various interrogatories were proposed, which were promptly and freely answered. But when asked, "Did you ever, directly or indirectly, give to any person any consideration, or make to any person any present for services rendered to you connected with your business with the War Department?" Mr. Russell declined to respond before consulting with his counsel.

Upon this suggestion the examination was at once suspended.

On the 23d of December he again appeared, and was reminded of what had been said to him on a previous occasion, and more fully admonished that he was not required to answer any questions that might criminate himself. He then evaded the questions asked him.

THE ACCEPTANCE ISSUED BY THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

When the iniquitous act perpetrated by one of the subordinate officers of the Interior Department, in the abstraction of bonds, was made known, it was discovered at the same time that acceptances, unauthorized by law, and deceptive and fraudulent in their character, had been issued by the Secretary of War, in favor of Messrs. Russell, Majors & Waddell.

If your Committee could rest here, and could feel justified in expressing the belief that there are no other outstanding liabilities, and that no further demands would be made upon this or any future Congress, in connection with these extraordinary proceedings, they would deem this an occasion for congratulation to the House.—But, unfortunately, there are transactions of a similar character, but of a still greater magnitude, that claim your attention.

In 1858, the Secretary of War commenced the issue of acceptances, and at the same time wrote to various banks and individuals urging their purchase or discount. One of his letters, and one from Colonel Drinkard, Chief Clerk of the War Department, to James T. Soutter, Esq., President of the Bank of the Republic, will be found included in the testimony taken in New York.

These letters and representations are important, as showing the means adopted by the Secretary of War to get the paper he issued into circulation.

MORE THAN $6,000,000 OF ACCEPTANCES ISSUED.

In relation to the acceptances issued unconditionally by the late Secretary of War, your Committee deem it their duty to state all the facts they have been able to discover, as fully as possible. They amount in the aggregate to the enormous sum of $6,179,395. Add thereto the conditional acceptances which have already been thrown back upon the Government through the agency of Mr. Bailey, and the sum total is $6,977,895. This estimate is based upon data furnished by the War Department. It appears therefrom that acceptances to the amount of $810,000 were returned to the Department for cancelation. Mr. Russell, however, claims to have returned only $200,000 or $250,000. He further states that the acceptances which he did return were those which had matured in his own pocket, and could not therefore be negotiated. But this assertion is positively contradicted by the endorsements on the returned acceptances, and by the testimony of Mr. Irvin, a clerk in the War Department.

From the careless and irresponsible manner in which business was transacted by that gentleman and the late Secretary of War, and from the fact that it was the habit of Governor Floyd to issue acceptances at the Department or at his house, or at whatever place he happened to be, it is a matter of great uncertainty whether or not the $810,000 should be deducted from the sum heretofore stated. The probability is, that when the acceptances were returned to Governor Floyd by Mr. Russell, he accepted others at the same time for the same amount, of which there was no registry made. It is deemed safest to proceed upon the supposition that the acceptances made in the place of those returned were registered. Upon the hypothesis, the $810,000 must be deducted from the $6,179,395 of unconditional acceptances made and registered in the War Department. This would leave of them, so far as is shown by the records of that Department, $5,339,395 still in circulation; and to this amount, the $798,000 of conditional acceptances received by Mr. Bailey in lieu of bonds, and the aggregate is $6,137,395. Here, then, confining the statement to the records of the War Department, is a deficit of $6,173,395 to fall upon the holders of the acceptances, or to be assumed in some way by the Governor.

WHAT WAS DONE WITH THE ACCEPTANCES.

The evidence shows that the acceptances have been sold in various parts of the United States wherever a bank or private individual could be induced to purchase. Inasmuch, however, as the amount of those that have been traced directly into the hands of present holders constituted but a small fraction of the sum still unaccounted for, and as owners are daily filling additional claims at the War Department, it is deemed unnecessary to give a detailed statement of the discovered acceptances, or to make other mention of them than to refer to the papers relating thereto presented by the War Department, and to the general evidence.

It is proper, however, to remark, in this connection, that while your committee do not deem it necessary to give said details, the data in the War Department fixes the *minimum* amount of outstanding acceptances known to that Department at $1,445,000.

FURTHER LIGHT ON GOV. FLOYD'S PROCEEDINGS.

Mr. Richard B. Irvin, the faithful and intelligent clerk to whom reference has been made elsewhere in this report, says in his evidence:—"There may, of course, be other outstanding acceptances, of the whereabouts of which the Department has no knowledge." There will also be found embraced in his evidence, given upon being recalled before the committee on the 6th instant, a letter addressed by R. A. Barnes, Esq., President of the Bank of the State of Missouri, under date of January 24th, 1861, to the Hon. Joseph Holt, Secretary of War, which is of interest, and will throw light upon the conduct of Gov. Floyd's proceedings and assurances in regard to the acceptances. Mr. Irvin still further testified to the receipt of other letters by the War Department since the papers furnished to the committee by that Department were transmitted, of a character similar to Mr. Barnes'. This branch of the inquiry is evidently prolific, and could be pursued to a great length, if necessity required or time would permit.

IMPORTANT TESTIMONY OF SENATOR BENJAMIN—BUCHANAN NOTIFIED OF GOV. FLOYD'S SYSTEM OF ISSUING ACCEPTANCES.

Mr. Benjamin, who promptly appeared at the request of the committee, and testified with commendable and courteous frankness, states, that during the first session of the present Congress, some twelve or eighteen months ago, he was written to by the attorney of Duncan, Sherman & Co., of New York, and his opinion requested as to the legality of acceptances issued by Governor Floyd, to Russell, Majors and Waddell.—It was mentioned in that letter that these 'drafts' as they were then called, were offered for negotiation with the assurance that they were issued with the approbation of the President and Attorney General. Mr. Benjamin visited the President and submitted the inquiry to him. The President replied that he knew nothing about the matter, that they had been issued without any knowledge of his, that he did not know by virtue of what law they were issued, but he (Mr. Benjamin) might rely, if Governor Floyd had issued them, he had issued them properly, and that he had better apply to him, (Governor Floyd) to escertain by virtue of what law he was acting.

GOV. FLOYD REFLECTS.

Mr. Benjamin visited Governor Floyd, and expostulated with him about this swindle. Two days afterwards Mr. Benjamin received a note from him, informing him that he was obliged for the frank statement he had made to him, and that upon reflection he had determined he would accept no more.

The report closes by showing that Gov. Floyd, even after Mr. Benjamin's expostulation and his own "reflection," continued to issue acceptances.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NEW LEGISLATION.

Your committee have now reported, as far as ascertained, all the material facts connected with the abstraction of Bonds from the Interior Department, and with a series of transactions unprecedented in their character, and remarkable for alternate exhibitions of fraud and folly.

As one of the results of the examination they have made, they submit a bill to provide for the more certain and effectual punishment of crimes, such as those that have been brought to their notice, and also amendatory of the second section of the act of Congress, approved January 24th, 1857, entitled, "An act more effectually to enforce the attendance of witnesses on the summons of either House of Congress, and to compel them to disclose testimony."

They also beg leave to suggest that the fluctuations of the stock market, and the delay and uncertainty in the collection of the interest on the bonds, seem to demand some further legislation in regard to the Indian Trust Fund, as a measure of obvious justice and humanity to the Indians.

All of which is respectfully submitted, on behalf of the Committee.

J. N. MORRIS, Chairman.