The Edgefield Advertiser.

LABORDE & JONES, Editors.

"We will cling to the pillars of [illegible] and if it must fall we will p[illegible] the ruins."

[illegible] Printer.

VOLUME I. — EDGEFIELD C. H. [illegible] 21, 1836. — No. [illegible]

The Edgefield Advertiser,
IS PUBLISHED
EVERY THURSDAY MORNING.

TERMS.—Three Dollars per annum if paid in advance,—Three Dollars and Fifty Cents if paid before the expiration of Six Months from the date of Subscription,—and Four Dollars if *not* paid within Six Months. Subscribers out of the State are required to pay in *advance*.

No subscription received for less than *one year*, and no paper discontinued until all arrearages are paid, except at the option of the Editors.

All subscriptions will be continued unless otherwise ordered at the end of the year.

Advertisements conspicuously inserted at 62½ cents per square for the first insertion, and 43¾ cents for each continuance. Advertisements not having the number of insertions marked on them, will be continued until ordered out, and charged accordingly.

All communications addressed to the Editors, (POST-PAID) will be promptly and strictly attended to.

GENERAL ORDERS.

HEAD QUARTERS,
CHERRY HILL, FEB. 25, 1836.

THE Quota of arms which the State is entitled to receive annually from the Federal Government is proportioned to the effective militia force exhibited in the general return, filed in the War Department; and it is believed that the State has received, heretofore, greatly less than her just proportion, from the want of a full return. It is, therefore, ordered that each Captain or officer commanding a company, do forthwith make out a return, setting forth,

1st. The number of commissioned officers in his company.
2d. The number of non-commissioned officers.
3d. The number of effective privates.
4th. The number of non-effective privates; and
5th. The number and description of public arms, if any; and that he immediately cause the said return to be delivered to the Colonel or officer commanding the Regiment to which he belongs. The Colonels or officers commanding regiments, will cause these company returns to be immediately consolidated, adding the field and staff officers, and cause these regimental returns to be delivered to the Brigadier Generals, or officers commanding the brigades to which they respectively belong, without delay. The Brigadier Generals, or officers commanding brigades, will cause the regimental returns to be consolidated, and adding the brigade staff, cause these brigade returns to be immediately delivered to the Major Generals, or officers commanding the divisions to which they respectively belong, who will immediately consolidate the brigade returns, adding the division staff, and cause them to be delivered to the Commander-in-Chief—who will be disappointed if he does not receive complete returns from every division by the 20th of March next. The preparation of a company return is the work of fifteen minutes, at most; and that of the consolidated regimental, brigade, and division returns, cannot require more [illegible] after the subordinate returns are received; and yet, to the reproach of our militia officers, and to the manifest detriment of the State, it has been impossible to obtain a full return of the militia for many years past. Let this reproach exist no longer. Every community should at least know its own strength. All officers, according to rank, will extend this order.

GEO. McDUFFIE.

March 17 6—f

NEW DRUG
AND
CHEMICAL STORE.
HAMBURG, S. C.

B. WINDING offers for sale, Wholesale and Retail, at his New Store, *DRUGS, MEDICINES, CHEMICALS, DYE WOODS and DYE-STUFFS, PATENT MEDICINES, PAINTS, OILS, PERFUMERY, &c. &c.*

Where may at all times be had a general assortment of articles in the above line, recommended to be of Superior Quality, and will be disposed of on very *moderate terms.*

Persons wishing to purchase are invited to call.

Hamburg, S. C. March 31, 1836 8—i

NOTICE.

I WILL attend at the following places, to collect taxes for the year 1835.

On Monday, 11th April, at Hatcher's Pond,
" Tuesday, 12th " " Ridge,
" Wednesday 13th " " Williams'
" Thursday 14th " " Mt. Willing,
" Friday 15th " " Pope's,
" Saturday 16th " " Coleman's,
" Monday 18th " " Cothran's,
" Tuesday 19th " " Richardson's,
" Wednesday 20th " " Allen's
" Thursday 21st " " Dunton's,
" Friday 22nd " " Sheppard's,
" Saturday 23d " " Mosely's,
" Monday, 25th " " Liberty Hill,
" Tuesday 26th " " Tucker's,
" Wednesday 27th " " Collier's,
" Thursday 28th " " Cloud's,
" Friday 29th " " Beach Island,
" Saturday 30th " " Hamburg,

On Monday 2nd of May I will attend at Edgefield Court House, after which time my Books will be closed for the present year.

B. F. GOUEDY,
Tax Collector E. D.

March 31, 1836 8—c

CAUTION.

THE Public is warned not to trade for a Note of Hand, given by the subscriber to Telly F. Sullivan, for Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars; dated about the 14th March last, and payable the 25th December next. The consideration for which the Note was given, having failed, I am determined not to pay the same or any part of it, unless compelled by law.

ANDERSON ARNOLD.

Laurens District, April 7. 9—d

Information Wanted.

THOMAS REYNOLDS, now I understand, in South Carolina, emigrated to Georgia, and drew a Lot of Land in Lee County, No. 253, in 24th District, the Subscriber is anxious to know where he now is. Any information upon the subject, to Mr. William Prothro, Sen., at Edgefield Court House, S. C., will be thankfully received.

LABURN MORGAN.

☞ The Columbia Telescope will give the above two insertions, and forward his account to this Office for payment.

March 24, 1836 7—2

Poetry.

[FOR THE EDGEFIELD ADVERTISER.]

The Seminole War—No. 2.

Brave Nullifiers, fierce and bold,
You did not join this war for gold,
Your case does seem most hard;
You left your homes, and wives, and friends,
And hasten'd to the darksome glens,
The dearest rights to guard.

But fate consigned you to a place*
The last amidst the human race,
Where [illegible] be found,
That spot by nature was design'd,
For actions of another kind,
No place for fair renown.

Dame nature, in creating shows,
Spread wide the Orange and the Rose,
And made a fertile land;
Said here I will ordain a change,
I'll give fish, fowl, and beasts a range,
No residence for man.

No prowling Savage dare to stay,
They only dart and snatch their prey,
And leave these stygean lands;
Thro' lakes and ponds they take their chase
The water to their knees and waist,
Through hosts of buzzing bands.

This spot, (though strange, is surely true,)
This cursed spot, was chose for you,
And all its plagues you bore;
Condemn then not your cruel fate,
(When seen aright her ways are straight,)
But all her works adore.

You, only you, could brave that place,
And guard from harm the wretched race,
Who but for you must die;
Then fear ye not, ye little band,
Of chivalrous sons from freedom's land,
Your fame shall ever fly. J. H.

* Camp McRea.

Miscellaneous.

MRS. SOMERVILLE, THE FEMALE ASTRONOMER.

This lady is, we believe, a little over 40 years of age. She was born in Scotland. When about fifteen years old, she happened to overhear her brother repeating, as a school exercise, the demonstration of a proposition in geometry. Her attention was arrested, and her genius then felt the first conscious impulse of its master spring. She instantly procured a copy of Euclid, and found delight in exploring its pages.

Some time afterwards she inquired of Professor Playfair if there would be any harm in a young lady studying Latin. He asked her why she wished to study Latin—She replied, "Because I long to read Newton's Principia."

He encouraged her to make the unusual and, as it was then thought, daring attempt. Besides the Latin, she is possessed of every modern scientific language, and is, without doubt, one of the very first astronomers of this age. Her name shining over England, together with that of La Place on the continent of Europe, and Bowditch in America constitutes the great constellation of astronomical science of the present day.

How inscrutable are the workings of genius! Where it has not been kindled by nature, no art ignites it. It is beyond the power of circumstance to quench its flames. Astronomy and Mathematics have found their most illustrious votaries in our times—not in the chairs of professorships with learned titles and rich endowments, not in the silent retreats of academical [illegible], but in the legislative halls of revolutionary France, on the deck of an American merchantman, and amid the cares of a nursery.

A friend of ours, when visiting Mrs. Somerville's family, happened to ask her husband what was contained in certain drawers he was opening. He replied, "Mrs. Somerville's diplomas." She has received them from literary and scientific societies in all parts of the world, except America.

The following anecdote will show the opinion entertained of her by La Place, with whom she had long been in the habit of corresponding on scientific subjects. She has been twice married, first to a Mr. Clegg,—afterwards to Dr. Somerville, her present husband. The incidents of her domestic history were unknown to La Place; and he once told a friend there were probably but two women in the world who could read his "Mechanique Celeste"—one of whom was Mrs. Clegg, the other Mrs. Somerville.

But, besides her wonderful attainments in this department, Mrs. Somerville is an accomplished scientific and practical musician, first rate painter in oils, a learned chemist, and a thorough mineralogist and botanist.

At the same time, this extraordinary woman is a pattern of social and domestic virtue, discharging in a most extraordinary manner, every duty to her friends and family. Her society is delightful, her manner engaging, and her heart evidently the abode of every amiable affection and Christian grace.—*Torch Light*

A TENDER HEARTED WIFE.—A 'broken hearted woman,' as she calls herself, Mrs. Laura Hunt, of Broadalbin, Mont. co. N. Y. notifies the public through the Amsterdam Intelligencer, that her dear husband Josiah Hunt, has left her bed and board, and strayed to parts unknown—and she forbids all girls, old maids or widows to meddle with or marry him, under the penalty of the law. She earnestly entreats all editors throughout the world, to lay the foregoing information before their readers. Mrs. Hunt will perceive that we have complied with her request.—[*Courier and Enquirer.*

And we too.—[*N. Y. Transcript.*

And we three.—[*Cincinnati Mirror*

And we four.—[*Standard.*

And we five.—[*Western Methodist*

And we six.—[*Zion's Herald.*

And we seven.—[*Maine Free Press*

And we eight.—[*Me. Free Press.*

And we nine.—[*Woodstock Whig.*

Leave her bed and board, the villian! and we ten.—[*National Eagle.*

And strayed to parts unknown, the vagabond! and we eleven.—[*Alb Gaz.*

And we make up the dozen.—[*N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.*

He left her *bed!* O, the *vagrant!* and we a *Baker's dozen.*—[*Pittsburgh Statesman.*

And we start him again.—[*Miner's Journal.*

Keep him moving. Salt River is too good for him.—[*Jackson Courier.*

May he have corns on his toes and pains in his ribs all the days of his life. Leave a woman's *bed* and *board*, the graceless knave! We'll give him the sixteenth kick.—[*Carlisle Republican.*

Oh, the vagabond! he deserves an additional kick, and we'll give him the seventeenth.—[*Cleareland Herald.*

Break a woman's heart, the fiend!—Take that too.—*Painesville Telegraph.*

The fellow deserves to have his head combed with a three legg'd stool, his shins rubbed down with brick bats, and his eyelids buttoned back to the blaze of a July sun; give him another shove, and *Hunt* him, ye spinsters!—*Washington Mirror.*

We will join hands with our nineteen brethren—we will *score* him—a wretch—we hope that all girls, old maids, or widows, in our neighborhood, will shun him.—*Edgefield Advertiser.*

A QUAKER'S LETTER TO HIS WATCHMAKER.—I herewith send thee my pocket clock, which greatly standeth in need of thy friendly correction: the last time he was at thy friendly school, he was no ways reformed, nor even in the least benefitted thereby; for I perceive by the index of his mind that he is a liar, and the truth is not in him; that his motions are wavering and irregular: that his pulses are sometime very quick, which betokeneth not an even temper, at other times it waxeth sluggish, (notwithstanding I frequently urge him,) that when he should be on his duty, as thou knowest his usual name denoteth, I find him sleeping and slumbering—or, as the vanity of human reason phraseth it, I catch him napping, hence I am induced to believe he is not right in the inward man. Examine him, therefore, and prove him, I beseech thee, thoroughly; that thou mayest, being well acquainted with his inward frame and disposition, draw him from the error of his ways, and show him the path wherein he should go. It grieveth me to think, and when I ponder thereon, I am nearly of opinion that his body is foul, and the whole mass is corrupted. Cleanse him therefore with thy charming physic, from all pollution, that he may vibrate and circulate according to the truth. I will place him for a few days under thy care, and pay for board as thou requirest it. In thy last thou charged me with one eighth of a pound, which I will pay when thy work deserves it. I entreat thee, friend John, to demean thyself on this occasion with a right judgment, according to the gift which is in thee, and prove thyself a workman that need not be ashamed. And when thou layest thy correcting hand upon him, let it be without passion, lest thee drive him to destruction. Do thou regulate his motion for the time to come, by the motion of the light that ruleth the day, and let him learn from the unerring guide, the true calculation of his table and equator, and when thou findest him converted from the error of his ways, and more conformable to the above mentioned rules, then do thou send him home with a just bill of charges drawn out by the spirit of moderation, and it shall be sent in the root of all evil to thee.

MEASURING CORN.

The following rule for ascertaining the quantity of shelled Corn, in a house of any dimensions, is by William Murray, Esq. of South Carolina, and was read before the St. John's Colleton Agricultural Society, and communicated, by them for publication in the Southern Agriculturist.

"*Rule*—Having previously leveled the Corn in the house, so that it will be of equal depth thro'out, ascertain the length breadth and depth of the bulk; multiply these dimensions together, and their products by 4; then *cut off one figure* from the right of this last product. This will give so many bushels and a decimal of a bushel of shelled Corn. If it be required to find the quantity of ear Corn, substitute 8 for 4, and cut off one figure as before.

Example—In a bulk of Corn in the ear, measuring 12 feet long, 11 feet broad and 6 feet deep, there will be 316 bushels and 8 tenths of a bushel of shelled Corn, or 633 bushels and 6 tenths of ear Corn—as;

12	12
11	11
132	132
6	6
792	792
4	8
316,8	633,6

The decimal 4 is used when the object is to find the quantity in shelled Corn, because that decimal is the half of the decimal 8, and it requires two bushels of ear Corn to make one of shelled Corn. In using these rules a half bushel should be added for every hundred, that amount of error resulting from the substitution of the decimals.

[From the N. Y. Com. Advertiser.]

EXECUTION OF FIESCHI AND HIS ACCOMPLICES FOR AN ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF THE FRENCH KING.

On Monday evening, 29th Feb., as was expected, the Court of Peers condemned Fieschi, Morey, and Pepin to death, Boireau to twenty years imprisonment with hard labor, but acquitted the remaining prisoner, Bescher, who during the same night was discharged. The effect of the sentence upon the prisoners was various. Fieschi appears to have been thunderstruck at first, became [illegible] possession, and was described even as cheerful. Morey, the old man, received the communication of his doom with resignation: but all the feebleness of Pepin's character was made manifest when it came to his turn to learn his lot.

On Friday morning, at ten minutes past eight o'clock, the awful sentence of law was carried into effect upon Fieschi and his accomplices.

Pepin was the first to descend from his vehicle. He mounted the scaffold with a firm step, and exhibited in his entire deportment a degree of calmness and resignation that formed a strong contrast with the weakness and irresolution displayed by him during his trial. On reaching the fatal platform, he bowed to the assembled multitude, resigned himself into the hands of the executioner, and in another moment ceased to exist.

The appearance of the next prisoner, (Morey) who ascended the scaffold excited an intensely painful feeling among the populace. In consequence of his extreme debility, he was actually lifted on the scaffold by the executioner and his assistants, by whom he was strapped to the fatal board. The knife then descended, and almost before the countless and breathless multitude could perceive the signal given for its fall, the wretched criminal was a headless corpse.

Fieschi, though he saw the axe raised, colored with the blood of his accomplices, never showed the slightest emotion of fear, or horror, but continued to converse with those around him till the assistant executioner laid his hand upon his shoulder as indicating that the fatal moment had arrived.—He mounted the steps with extraordinary rapidity, and placing himself in the attitude of an orator, pronounced the following words, with a clear and firm voice: "I am about to appear before my God. I have told the truth; I die content. I have rendered a service to my country, by pointing out my accomplices. I have told the truth and no [illegible] I call upon Heaven to witness. I am happy and satisfied. I demand pardon of God and man—but above all of God. I regret my victims more than my own life." Upon this he turned quickly round and delivered himself into the hands of his executioners.

The entire of the fatal ceremony occupied but the brief space of five minutes, it being exactly fifteen minutes after 8 o'clock when the reaking axe fell upon the last of the criminals.

There is an American gentleman residing in Paris of the name of Thorne, whose wealth is so immense as to enable him to vie in splendor with the richest of the English residents. A late account from Paris states that one of his recent balls, was probably the most brilliant ever given in the Capital. On the day of the fete he sent 24,000 frances to the proper official characters to be distributed to the poor. An amusing incident occurred during the evening. A letter was received from the Police office informing Col. Thorne that by means of forged invitation, fifty thieves had obtained admittance into his saloons. The consternation was excessive. The gentlemen felt their pockets, and the ladies held fast to their jewelry.

The Dutchess of Southerland trembled for her diamonds, and the Duke of Devonshire took snuff with an embarrassed air out of a gold box.

No losses however occurred, the gaiety of the evening was soon restored.—*Albany Daily Adv.*

THE CROUP.—Dr. Fisher, in the last number of the Medical and Surgical Journal, recommends to mothers and nurses, when a child is seized with that dangerous disease, the croup, to apply immediately and perseveringly, until medical aid can be obtained, to the throat and upper part of the chest, sponges of napkins dipped in water as hot as can be borne, and wrung out so that the water may not ooze from them. The remedy was first suggested by a German physician, and has been practised with decided and uniform success.

BEET ROOT SUGAR.—Several gentlemen have associated for the purpose of cultivating the Beet, and introducing the manufacture of the Beet root Sugar. They have sent a person to France for the purpose of obtaining information in relation to the manufacture. *Boston Daily Advertiser.*

After the late conflagration of the Arsenal in Frankfort, Kentucky, a brass field piece was taken out of the rubbish uninjured. This piece was captured from Burgoyne, at Saratoga, surrendered to the British by Hull re-taken by Harrison at the Thames; presented by Congress to Governor Shelby, and by the Gov. to the State of Kentucky.

Many thousand bushels of *coffee* are lying in South street covered by a temporary shed, having deen dug out from the ruins of one of the stores, so nicely burned by the late fire, that it only requires cleaning and grinding to be fit for use. This affords to grocers a fine opportunity for speculation.—*N. Y. Daily Adv.*

Congressional.

SPEECH OF MR. CALHOUN,
OF SOUTH CAROLINA, ON THE ABOLITION PETITIONS.

In the Senate of the United States,
Wednesday March [illegible]

The question of receiving the petition from Pennsylvania for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, being under consideration.

Mr. CALHOUN rose and said: [illegible] the Senate is fully made up on the [illegible] of these petitions. With the exception of the two Senators from Vermont, all who have spoken have avowed their conviction, not only that they contain nothing requiring the action of the Senate, but that the petitions are highly mischievous, as tending to agitate and distract the country, and to endanger the Union itself. With these concessions, I may fairly ask, why should these petitions be received? Why receive, when we have made up our minds not to act? Why idly waste our time and lower our dignity in the useless ceremony of receiving to reject, as is proposed, should the petitions be received? Why, finally receive, what all acknowledge to be dangerous and mischievous? But one reason has or can be assigned—that not to receive would be a violation of the right of petition, and of course, that we are bound to receive, however objectionable and dangerous the petitions may be. If such be the fact, there is an end to the question. As great as would be the advantage to the abolitionists, if we are bound to receive; if it would be a violation of the right of petition not to receive, we must acquiesce. On the other hand, if it shall be shown, not only that we are not bound to receive, but that to receive, on the ground on which it has been placed, would sacrifice the constitutional rights of this body, would yield to the abolitionists all they could hope at this time, and would surrender all the outworks by which the slave-holding States can defend their rights and property HERE, then a unanimous rejection of these petitions ought of right to follow.

The decision, then, of the question now before the Senate is reduced to the single point, Are we bound to receive these petitions? or to vary the form of the question, Would it be a violation of the right of petition not to receive them?

When the ground was first taken, that it would be a violation, I could scarcely persuade myself that those who took it were in earnest, so contrary was it to all my conceptions of the rights of this body, and the provisions of the Constitution: but finding it so earnestly maintained, I have since carefully investigated the subject and the result has been a confirmation of my first impression, and a conviction that the claim of right is without a shadow or foundation. The question, I must say, has not been fairly met. Those opposed to the side which we support, have discussed the question as if we denied the right of petition, when they could not but know that the true issue is not as to the *existence* of the right, which is acknowledged by all, but its *extent* and *limits*, which not but one of our opponents has so much as attempted to ascertain. What they have declined doing, I undertake to perform.

There must be some point, all will agree, where the right of petition ends, and that of this body begins. Where is that point? I have examined this question carefully, and I assert boldly, without the least fear of refutation, that stretched to the utmost, the right cannot be extended beyond the presentation of a petition, at which point the rights of this body commence. When a petition is presented, it is before the Senate. It must then be acted on. Some disposition must be made of it before the Senate can proceed to the consideration of any other subject. This no one will deny. With the action of the Senate its rights commence—rights secured by a direct provision of the Constitution, which clothes each House with the right of regulating its own proceedings, that is, to determine, by fixed rules, the order and form of its action. To extend the right of petition beyond presentation, is clearly to extend it beyond that point, where the action of the Senate commences, and as such, is a manifest violation of its constitutional rights. Here then we have the limits between the right of petition and the right of the Senate to regulate the proceedings, clearly fixed, and so perfectly defined as not to admit of mistake, and I would add, of controversy, had it not been questioned in this discussion.

If what I have asserted required confirmation, ample might be found in our rules which embody the deliberate sense of the Government to this day. Among them the Senate has prescribed that of its proceedings on the presentations. It is contained in the 24th Rule, which I ask the Secretary to read, with Mr. Jefferson's remarks in reference to it:

"Before any petition or memorial addressed to the Senate shall be *received*, and read at the table, whether the same shall be introduced by the President or a member, a brief statement of the contents of the petition or memorial shall verbally be made by the introducer."—Rule 24.

Mr. Jefferson's remarks: "*Regularly, a motion for receiving it must be made and seconded and a question put, whether it shall be received*; but a cry from the House of 'receive,' or even a silence, dispenses with the formality of the question."

Here we have a confirmation of all I have asserted. It clearly proves that when a petition is presented, the action of the [illegible] Senate, and that it [illegible] out alteration, in all the subsequent changes and modifications of the rules, we have the strongest evidence of the deliberate sense of this body in reference to the point under consideration.

I feel that I might here terminate the discussion. I have shown conclusively that the right of petition cannot possibly be extended beyond presentation. At that point it is met by the rights of the Senate; and it follows as a necessary consequence, that so far from being bound to receive these petitions, so far would a rejection be from violating the right of petition, were it left perfectly free to reject or receive at pleasure; to deprive us of which would violate the rights of this body, secured by the Constitution.

But on a question of such magnitude, I feel it to be a duty to remove every difficulty; and, that not a shadow of doubt may remain, I shall next proceed to reply to the objections our opponents have made to the grounds I have taken. At the head of these, it has been urged, again and again, that petitioners have a right to be heard, and that not to receive petitions is to refuse a hearing. It is to be regretted that, throughout this discussion, those opposed to us have dealt in such vague generalities, and ventured assertions with so little attention to facts. Why have they not informed us, in the present instance, what is meant by the right to be heard, and how that right is violated by a refusal to receive? Had they thought proper to give us this information, it would at least have greatly facilitated my reply; but as it is, I am constrained to inquire into the different senses in which the assertion may be taken, and then to show that in not one of them is the right of petition in the slightest degree, infringed by a refusal to receive.

What then is meant by the assertion that these petitioners have a right to be heard? Is it meant that they have a right to appear in the Senate Chamber in person to present their petition, and to be heard in its defence? If this be the meaning, the dullest apprehension must see that the question on receiving, has not the slightest bearing on such right. If they have the right to be heard personally at our bar, it is not the 24th rule of our proceedings, but the 10th, which violates that right. That rule expressly provides that a motion to admit any person whatever within the doors of the Senate to present a petition, shall be out of order, and of course excludes the petitioners from being heard in person.—But it may be meant that petitioners have a right to have their petitions presented to the Senate, and read in their hearing. If this be the meaning, the right has been enjoyed in the present instance to the fullest extent. The petition was presented by the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. Buchanan) in the usual mode, by giving a statement of its contents, and on my call was read by the Secretary at his table.

But one more sense can be attached to the assertion. It may be meant that the petitioners have a right to have their petitions discussed by the Senate. If this be intended, I will venture to say that there never was an assertion more directly in the teeth of facts than that which has been so frequently made in the course of this discussion—that to refuse to receive the petition is to refuse a hearing to the petitioners. Has not this question been before us for months? Has not the petition been discussed day after day, fully and freely, in all its bearings? And how, with these facts before us, with the debates still ringing in our ears, any Senator can rise in his place and gravely pronounce that to refuse to receive this petition is to refuse a hearing to the petitioners—to refuse discussion, in the broadest sense, is past my comprehension. Our opponents, as if in their eagerness to circumscribe the rights of the Senate, and to enlarge those of the abolitionist (for such must be the effect of their course) have closed their senses against facts passing before their eyes; and have entirely overlooked the nature of the question now before the Senate, and which they have been so long discussing.

The question on receiving the petition, not only admits the discussion, but admits it in the most ample manner; more so, in fact, than any other except the final question on the rejection of the prayer of the petition, or some tantamount question. Whatever may go to show that the petition is or is not deserving the action of this body, may be freely urged for or against it, as has been done on the present occasion.—In this respect there is a striking difference between it and many of the subsequent questions which may be raised after reception, and particularly the one made by the Senator from Tennessee, (Mr. Grundy,) who now is so strenuous an advocate in favor of the right of the petitioners to be heard. He spoke with great apparent complacency of his course, as it respects another of these petitions. And what was that course? He who is now so eager for discussion, to give a hearing, moved to lay the petition on the table—a motion which cuts off all discussion.