

into the Union, she retained the ownership of all the vacant lands within her limits. The Government of the State, it is understood, has assigned no portion of her territory to the Indians; but as fast as her settlements advance she lays it off into counties, and proceeds to survey and sell it. This policy manifestly tends, not only to alarm and irritate the Indians, but to compel them to resort to plunder for subsistence.

It also deprives this Government of that influence and control over them without which no durable peace can ever exist between them and the whites. I trust, therefore, that a due regard for her own interests, apart from considerations of humanity and justice, will induce that State to assign a small portion of the vast domain for the provisional occupancy of the small remnants of tribes within her borders, subject of course to her ownership and eventual jurisdiction. If she should fail to do this, the fulfillment of our treaty stipulations with Mexico, and our duty to the Indians themselves, will, it is feared, become a subject of serious embarrassment to the Government. It is hoped, however, that a timely and just provision by Texas may avert this evil.

No appropriations for fortifications were made at the two last sessions of Congress. The cause of this omission is, probably, to be found in a growing belief that the system of fortifications adopted in 1816, and heretofore acted on, requires revision. The subject certainly deserves full and careful investigation; but it should not be delayed longer than can be avoided. In the meantime there are certain works which have been commenced—some of them nearly completed—designed to protect our principal seaports from Boston to New-Orleans, and a few other important points. In regard to the necessity for these works, it is believed that little difference of opinion exists among military men. I therefore recommend that the appropriations necessary to prosecute them be made.

I invite your attention to the remarks on this subject, and on others connected with his Department, contained in the accompanying report of the Secretary of War.

Measures have been taken to carry into effect the law of the last session, making provision for the improvement of certain rivers and harbors, and it is believed that the arrangements made for that purpose will combine efficiency with economy.

Owing chiefly to the advanced season when the act was passed, little has yet been done in regard to many of the works beyond making the necessary preparations. With respect to a few of the improvements, the sums already appropriated will suffice to complete them, but most of them will require additional appropriations. I trust that these appropriations will be made, and that this wise and beneficent policy so auspiciously resumed, will be continued. Great care should be taken, however, to commence no work which is not of sufficient importance to the commerce of the country to be viewed as national in its character. But works which have been commenced should not be discontinued until completed, as otherwise the sums expended will, in most cases, be lost.

The report from the Navy Department will inform you of the prosperous condition of the branch of the public service committed to its charge. It presents to your consideration many topics and suggestions of which I ask your approval. It exhibits an unusual degree of activity in the operations of the Department during the past year. The preparations for the Japan expedition, to which I have already alluded; the arrangements made for the exploration and survey of the China Seas, the Northern Pacific and Behring's Straits; the incipient measures taken towards a reconnaissance of the continent of Africa eastward of Liberia; the preparation for an early examination of the tributaries of the river La Plata, which a recent decree of the provisional chief of the Argentine Confederation has opened to navigation; all these enterprises, and the means by which they are proposed to be accomplished, have commanded my full approbation, and I have no doubt will be productive of most useful results. Two of the officers of the navy were heretofore instructed to explore the whole extent of the Amazon river, from the confines of Peru to its mouth. The return of one of them has placed in the possession of the Government an interesting and valuable account of the character and resources of a country abounding in the materials of commerce, and which, if opened to the industry of the world, will prove an inexhaustible fund of wealth. The report of this exploration will be communicated to you as soon as it is completed.

Among other subjects offered to your notice by the Secretary of the Navy, I select for special commendation, in view of its connexion with the interests of the navy, the plan submitted by him for the establishment of a permanent corps of seamen, and the suggestions he has presented for the reorganization of the Naval Academy.

In reference to the first of these, I take occasion to say that I think it will greatly improve the efficiency of the service, and that I regard it as still more entitled to favor for the salutary influence it must exert upon the naval discipline, now greatly disturbed by the increasing spirit of insubordination, resulting from our present system. The plan proposed for the organization of the seamen furnishes a judicious substitute for the law of September, 1850, abolishing corporal punishment, and satisfactorily sustains the policy of that act, under conditions well adapted to maintain the authority of command and the order and security of our ships.

It is believed that any change which proposes permanently to dispense with this mode of punishment, should be preceded by a system of enlistment, which shall supply the navy with seamen of the most meritorious class, whose good deportment and pride of character may preclude all occasion for a resort to penalties of a harsh and degrading nature. The safety of a ship and her crew is often dependant upon immediate obedience to a command, and the authority to enforce it must be equally ready. The arrest of a refractory seaman, in such moments, not only deprives the ship of indispensable aid, but imposes a necessity for double service on

others, whose fidelity to their duties may be relied upon in such an emergency.

The exposure to this increased and arduous labor, since the passage of the act of 1850, has already had, to a most observable and injurious extent, the effect of preventing the enlistment of the best seamen in the navy. The plan now suggested is designed to promote a condition of service in which this objection will no longer exist. The details of this plan may be established in great part, if not altogether, by the Executive, under the authority of existing laws; but I have thought it proper, in accordance with the suggestion of the Secretary of the Navy, to submit it to your approval.

The establishment of a corps of apprentices for the navy, or boys to be enlisted until they become of age, and to be employed under such regulations as the Navy Department may devise, as proposed in the report, I cordially approve and commend to your consideration; and I also concur in the suggestion that this system for the early training of seamen may be most usefully engrafted upon the service of our merchant marine.

The other proposition of the report to which I have referred—the reorganization of the Naval Academy—I recommend to your attention as a project worthy of your encouragement and support. The valuable services already rendered by this institution entitle it to the continuance of your fostering care.

Your attention is respectfully called to the report of the Postmaster General for the detailed operation of his Department during the last fiscal year, from which it will be seen that the receipts from the postage for that time were less by \$1,432,699 than for the preceding fiscal year, being a decrease of about 23 per cent.

This diminution is attributable to the reduction in the rates of postage made by the act of March 3, 1851, which reduction took effect at the commencement of the last fiscal year.

Although in its operation during the last year the act referred to has not fulfilled the predictions of its friends by increasing the correspondence of the country in proportion to the reduction of postage, I should nevertheless question the policy of returning to higher rates. Experience warrants the expectation that as the community becomes accustomed to cheap postage, correspondence will increase. It is believed that from this cause, and from the rapid growth of the country in population and business, the receipts of the Department must ultimately exceed its expenses, and that the country may safely rely upon the continuance of the present cheap rate of postage.

In former messages I have, among other things respectfully recommended to the consideration of Congress the propriety and necessity of further legislation for the protection and punishment of foreign consuls residing in the United States; to revise with certain modifications, the act of 10th March, 1838, to restrain unlawful military expeditions against the inhabitants of contiguous States or territories; for the preservation and protection from mutilation or theft of the papers, records, and archives of the nation; for authorizing the surplus revenue to be applied to the payment of the public debt in advance of the time when it will become due; for the establishment of land officers for the sale of the public lands in California and the Territory of Oregon; for the construction of a road from the Mississippi valley to the Pacific ocean; for the establishment of a bureau of agriculture for the promotion of that interest, perhaps the most important in the country; for the prevention of frauds upon the Government in applications for pensions and bounty lands; for the establishment of a uniform fee bill, prescribing a specific compensation for every service required of clerks, district attorneys and marshals; for authorizing an additional regiment of mounted men for the defence of our frontiers against the Indians, and for fulfilling our treaty stipulations with Mexico to defend her citizens against the Indians "with equal diligence and energy as our own," for determining the relative rank between the naval and civil officers of our public ships, and between the officers of the Army and Navy in the various grades of each; for reorganizing the naval establishment by fixing the number of officers in each grade, and providing for a retired list upon reduced pay of those unfit for active duty; for prescribing and regulating punishments in the navy; for the appointment of a commission to revise the public status of the United States, by arranging them in order, supplying deficiencies, correcting incongruities, simplifying their language, and reporting them to Congress for its final action, and for the establishment of a commission to adjudicate and settle private claims against the United States. I am not aware, however, that any of these subjects have been finally acted upon by Congress. Without repeating the reasons for legislation on these subjects which have been assigned in former messages, I respectfully recommend them again to your favorable consideration.

I think it due to the several Executive Departments of this Government, to bear testimony to the efficiency and integrity with which they are conducted. With all the careful superintendance which it is possible for the Heads of those Departments to exercise, still the due administration and guardianship of the public money must very much depend on the vigilance, intelligence, and fidelity of the subordinate officers and clerks, and especially on those entrusted with the settlement and adjustment of claims and accounts. I am gratified to believe that they have generally performed their duties faithfully and well. They are appointed to guard the approach to the public Treasury, and they occupy positions that expose them to all the temptations and seductions which the cupidity of speculators and fraudulent claimants can prompt them to employ.

It will be but a wise precaution to protect the Government against that source of mischief and corruption, as far as it can be done, by the enactment of all proper legal penalties. The laws, in this respect, are supposed to be defective, and I therefore deem it my duty to call your attention to the subject, and to recommend that provision be made by law for the punishment not only of those who shall accept bribes, but also of those who shall

either promise, give, or offer to give to any of those officers or clerks a bribe or reward touching or relating to any matter of their official action or duty.

It has been the uniform policy of this Government from its foundation to the present day, to abstain from all interference in the domestic affairs of other nations. The consequence has been that while the nations of Europe have been engaged in desolating wars, our country has pursued its peaceful course to unexampled prosperity and happiness. The wars in which we have been compelled to engage, in defence of the rights and honor of the country, have been fortunately of short duration. During the terrific contest of nation against nation, which succeeded the French revolution, we were enabled by the wisdom and firmness of President Washington to maintain our neutrality. While other nations were drawn into this wide sweeping whirlpool, we sat quiet and unmoved upon our own shores.

While the flower of their numerous armies was wasted by disease or perished by hundreds of thousands upon the battle field, the youth of this favored land were permitted to enjoy the blessings of peace beneath the paternal roof. While the States of Europe incurred enormous debts, under the burden of which their subjects still groan, and which must absorb no small part of the product of the honest industry of those countries for generations to come, the United States have once been enabled to exhibit the proud spectacle of a nation free from public debt; and, if permitted to pursue our prosperous way for a few years longer in peace, we may do the same again.

But it is now said by some that this policy must be changed. Europe is no longer separated from us by a voyage of months, but steam navigation has brought her within a few days' sail of our shores. We see more of her movements, and take a deeper interest in her controversies.

Although no one proposes that we should join that fraternity of bloodies who have for ages lavished the potent and treasure of their subjects in maintaining "the balance of power," yet it is said that we ought to interfere between contending sovereigns and their subjects, for the purpose of overthrowing the monarchies of Europe and establishing in their place republican institutions. It is alleged that we have heretofore pursued a different course from a sense of our weakness, but that now our conscious strength dictates a change of policy, and that it is consequently our duty to mingle in these contests and aid those who are struggling for liberty.

This is a most seductive but dangerous appeal to the generous sympathies of freemen. Enjoying as we do the blessings of a free government, there is no man who has an American heart that would not rejoice to see these blessings extended to all other nations. We cannot witness the struggle between the oppressed and his oppressor any where without the deepest sympathy for the former, and the most anxious desire for his triumph. Nevertheless, is it prudent or is it wise to involve ourselves in these foreign wars? Is it indeed true that we have heretofore refrained from doing so merely from the degrading motive of a conscious weakness?

For the honor of the patriots who have gone before us, I cannot admit it. Men of the Revolution who drew the sword against the oppressions of the mother country, and pledged to Heaven "their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor" to maintain their freedom, could never have been actuated by so unworthy a motive. They knew no weakness or fear where right or duty pointed the way, and it is a like upon their fair fame for us, while we enjoy the blessings for which they so nobly fought and bled, to insinuate it.

The truth is that the course which they pursued was dictated by a stern sense of international justice, by a statesmanlike prudence and a far-seeing wisdom, looking not merely to the present necessities, but to the permanent safety and interest of the country. They knew that the world is governed less by sympathy than by reason and force; that it was not possible for this nation to become a "prophandist" of free principles without arraying against it the combined powers of Europe; and that the result was more likely to be the overthrow of republicanism here than its establishment there.

History has been written in vain for those who can doubt this. France had no sooner established a republican form of government than she manifested a desire to force its blessing on all the world. Her own historian informs us that, hearing of some party acts of twenty in a neighboring principality, "The National Convention declared that she would afford succor and fraternity to all nations who wished to recover their liberty; and she gave it in charge to the executive power to give orders to the generals of the French armies to aid all citizens who might have been or should be oppressed in the cause of liberty."

Here was the false step which led to her subsequent misfortunes. She soon found herself involved in war with all the rest of Europe. In less than ten years her government was changed from a republic to an empire; and finally after shedding rivers of blood, foreign powers restored her exiled dynasty, and exhausted Europe sought peace and repose in the unquestioned ascendancy of monarchical principles. Let us learn wisdom from her example. Let us remember that revolutions do not always establish freedom. Our own free institutions were not the offspring of our Revolution.

They existed before. They were planted in the free charters of self-government under which the English colonies grew up, and our Revolution only freed us from the dominion of a foreign power, whose government was at variance with those institutions. But European nations have had no such training for self-government, and every effort to establish it by bloody revolutions has been, and must, without that preparation, continue to be a failure. Liberty, unregulated by law, degenerates into anarchy, which soon becomes the most horrid of all despotisms. Our policy is wisely to govern ourselves, and thereby to set such an example of national justice, prosperity, and true glory, as shall teach all nations the blessings of self-government.

ment, and unparalleled enterprise and success of a free people.

We live in an age of progress, and ours is emphatically a country of progress. With the last half century, the number of States in this Union has nearly doubled, the population has almost quadrupled, and our boundaries have been extended from the Mississippi to the Pacific. Our territory is chequered over with railroads, and furrowed with canals. The inventive talent of our country is excited to the highest pitch, and the numerous applications for patents for valuable improvements distinguish this age and this people from all others.

The genius of one American has enabled our commerce to move against wind and tide, and that of another has annihilated distance in the transmission of intelligence. The whole country is full of enterprise. Our common schools are diffusing intelligence among the people, and our industry is fast accumulating the comforts and luxuries of life.

This is in part owing to our peculiar position, to our fertile soil, and comparatively sparse population; but much of it is also owing to the popular institutions under which we live, to the freedom which every man feels to engage in any useful pursuit, according to his taste or inclination, and to the entire confidence that his person and property will be protected by the laws. But whatever may be the cause of this unparalleled growth in population, intelligence, and wealth, one thing is clear, that the Government must keep pace with the progress of the people.

It must participate in their spirit of enterprise, and while it exacts obedience to the laws, and restrains all unauthorized invasions of the rights of neighboring States, it should foster and protect home industry, and lend its powerful strength to the improvement of such means of intercommunication as are necessary to promote our internal commerce, and strengthen the ties which bind us together as a people.

It is not strange, however much it may be regretted, that such an exuberance of enterprise should cause some individuals to mistake change for progress, and the invasion of the rights of others, for national power and glory. The former are constantly agitating for some change in the organic law, or urging new and untried theories of human rights. The latter are ever ready to engage in any wild crusade against a neighboring people, regardless of the justice of the enterprise, and without looking at the fatal consequences to ourselves and to the cause of popular governments.

Such expeditions, however, are often stimulated by mercenary individuals, who expect to share the profit or plunder of the enterprise without exposing themselves to danger and are led on by some irresponsible foreigner, who abuses the hospitality of our own Government by seducing the young and ignorant to join in his scheme of personal ambition or revenge, under the false and delusive pretence of extending the area of freedom.

These reprehensible aggressions but retard the true progress of our nation and do not benefit it. They should, therefore, receive the indignant frowns of every good citizen who sincerely loves his country and takes a pride in its prosperity and honor.

Our Constitution, though not perfect, is doubtless the best that ever was formed. Therefore let every proposition to change it be well weighed, and if found beneficial, cautiously adopted. Every patriot will rejoice to see its authority so exerted as to advance the prosperity and honor of the nation, while he will watch with jealousy any attempt to mutilate this charter of our liberties, or pervert its powers to acts of aggression or injustice.

This shall conservatism and progress blend their harmonious action in preserving the form and spirit of the Constitution and at the same time carry forward the great improvements of the country with a rapidity and energy which freemen only can display.

In closing this, my last annual communication, permit me, my fellow-citizens, to congratulate you on the prosperous condition of our beloved country. Abroad its relations with all foreign powers are friendly; its rights are respected, and its high place in the family of nations cheerfully recognized. At home we enjoy an amount of happiness, public and private, which has probably never fallen to the lot of any other people. Besides affording to our own citizens a degree of prosperity, of which on so large a scale I know of no other instance, our country is annually affording a refuge and a home to multitudes, altogether without example, from the Old World.

We owe these blessings, under Heaven, to the happy Constitution and Government which were bequeathed to us by our fathers, and which it is our sacred duty to transmit in all their integrity to our children. We must all consider it a great distinction and privilege to have been chosen by the people to bear a part in the administration of such a Government. Called by an unexpected dispensation to its highest trust, at a season of embarrassment and alarm, I entered upon its arduous duties with extreme diffidence. I claim only to have discharged them to the best of an humble ability, with a single eye to the public good; and it is with devout gratitude, in retiring from office, that I leave the country in a state of peace and prosperity.

MILLARD FILLMORE.
Washington, December 6, 1852.

From the Knoxville Courier.

An Incident.
The following is an incident which happened in 184—, and shows the remarkable tact which Mr. Calhoun possessed of suiting himself to circumstances.

On a fine pleasant morning, I, in company with two friends, were travelling from some point about a day's ride east, to W—'s Springs, N. C., and passed two men riding in a little one-horse wagon. One of the men—the driver—was, evidently, a carpenter, from the quantity of tools which he was hauling; but the other, showed by his very appearance that he was a very polished and intelligent man. We

journeyed on, within sight of each other, until noon, when, being before, we stopped at a house on the wayside to refresh our selves and horses. They passed on. After dinner we continued our journey, and after having travelled a mile we passed them at a house, where they had stopped for a similar purpose. We kept on to the Springs, where we arrived before them.— We found a great many anxious persons at the gate ready to meet us,—no, not us, for they were disappointed. We were interrogated as to what road we had come, and whether we had seen John C. Calhoun. The last of which inquiries we of course answered in the negative. After being conducted to our room and staying there a short time, we heard a considerable stir among the boarders and those who were awaiting Mr. Calhoun's arrival. And on going to the gate he saw the ye table "little one-horse wagon," and soon learned that the well dressed and polished man was a no less personage, than the South's Champion and South Carolina's boasted son John C. Calhoun! We afterwards learned the causes which induced him to accept a seat in so humble a vehicle. He was on his way from Washington city to Glenn Springs, S. C., and came on as far as Z—, a small town in N. C., in public conveyance. The next morning he found out that there were no public conveyances near there. He also failed in procuring any private carriage, and whilst standing with some men, hesitating what to do, a carpenter came up in a one-horse wagon, and enquired of the crowd the way to W—'s Spring; he said to the carpenter that he was going there and would show him the way, if he would give him a seat in his wagon, which the carpenter proudly granted, and soon the greatest man, south of Mason and Dixon's line, and an humble carpenter were conversing very familiarly on mechanics, in "the little wagon."

VERUS NARRATOR.

Congress—Wednesday.

In the Senate a resolution offered by Mr. Rusk was adopted, calling upon the Secretary of State for copies of correspondence respecting the encroachments of Indians upon the territory of Mexico.

Mr. Clemens introduced a resolution authorizing the President of the United States to con for the title of lieutenant general by brevet for eminent services.

The debate was resumed on the right of Mr. Dixon, from Kentucky, to a seat, and the question postponed until Monday next.

The Senate then adjourned.

In the House over the passage of a bill appropriating \$20,000 to compensate the messengers of the different States for bringing to Washington the official vote for President and Vice President, and the passage of the customary resolutions on the death of the Hon. Orrin Fowler, of Mass., a member, the House adjourned.

The Cuban Difficulties.

New Orleans, confirms the intelligence received here by the Isabel of the settlement of the Cuban difficulties. She reports that she was well received at Havana, and allowed communication with the shores was usual. She landed her passengers and mails, and her officers were treated with the utmost courtesy by the Spanish officials. The Captain of the port intimated to Captain Baxter that the difficulty regarding Purser Smith was now definitely settled, and that no further trouble would ensue.

The Havana papers exult greatly over the affidavit of Smith, as a triumph over the Yankees.

All excitement on this subject had subsided at Havana.

The Legislature of North Carolina has made another ineffectual attempt to elect a U. S. Senator. At the last ballot, the vote stood—73—Great excitement ensued.

The Fruits of a Half Century.

FIFTY years ago steamboats were unknown—now there are 3000 afloat on American waters alone. In 1800 there was not a single railroad in the world—now there are 10,000 miles in the United States, and about 22,000 in America and England. Half a century ago it took some weeks to convey news from Washington to New Orleans—now not as many seconds as it then did weeks. Fifty years ago the most rapid printing press was worked by hand power—now steam prints 20,000 papers an hour on a single press. Now is a great fellow, but will be much bigger half a century hence.

Terrible

A MAN named Wm. Haywood, living seven miles beyond Lexington, N. C., got drunk on Friday last, went home and laid down near the fire. One of his hands dropped into the fire, and not having sufficient power to remove it, was burnt off nearly to his elbow. When found he was still lying in this position, crying most piteously for help. His body on that side was literally baked, and at last accounts his physician had no hopes of his surviving more than a day or two.—Carolina Watchman, N. C.

LANCASTER LEDGER.

LANCASTERVILLE, S. C.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 15, 1852.

In consequence of the length of the President's Message, and our Columbia correspondent's letter, we are reluctantly compelled to withhold a number of editorials prepared for this paper.

The little space left us, admonishes us to be brief in our business notices, that we only are able to call attention to the advertisements of Messrs. Moore of Camden, and Rosser and Garside of this place.

We are requested to notify the Trustees of Franklin Academy, that a meeting will be held in the Academy room on Saturday next at 12 o'clock.

The Editor of the Lancaster Ledger is pleased to learn from an editorial in the Camden Journal of the 7th inst., that the Editor of the Journal is satisfied; the Editor of the Ledger is more pleased to say that he has never been dissatisfied.

The same excuse we make for a lack of editorial matter, must be our apology for the non-appearance of the remainder of "Leaflets from Memory."

SEVERAL Magazines, Periodicals, &c. have accumulated on our table, but we are unable to notice them this week. The British Reviews, Harper's Magazine, &c., will be noticed in our next.

Presents.

Our friend Billings made us a present the other day, but we shall not say what it was. If you are desirous of knowing, call at his store and purchase some of his jewelry, and our word for it, if you purchase some of each kind he has for sale, you will get what you want!

MR. M. S. SORRELL of Bel Air, sent us a present the other day, also. What think you it was? A gun? No, A Ring? No.—Perhaps a hat? No. Well what was it? Why a peck of first rate, well-tasted, super excellent APPLES. He has some of the "same sort" for sale.

Communications.

BEL AIR, Dec. 8, 1852.

MR. EDITOR:—Hearing that some of your citizens have been very successful in fox hunting this season, I hand you the following for their benefit:

On last Monday morning a friend and myself went out hunting—caught a Fox before sunrise, and on our way home, I killed a deer with my walking cane.

When any of your sporting friends beat that, send them to Bel Air, and I will show them many curious things.

M. S. SORRELL.

MR. EDITOR:—The people are saying some pretty tall things in your paper about picking cotton pkin it, &c. I cannot pick more than 100 lbs. per day, as I never was a fast hand to pick cotton; but when it comes to making it, I can say that I have made 2-317 lbs. on one acre of land this year, and have a small remnant to pick yet.

Does any one wish to try me with an acre in cotton next year, one acre for the other the land not to be mared?

J. C. SMALL.
Flat Creek, Dec. 1852.

Correspondence of the Ledger.

COLUMBIA, Dec. 10, 1852.

DEAR LEDGER:—The task of a Reporter is always an arduous one, but more particularly so as the season advances.

The Commencement of the South Carolina College, came off as usual on last Monday. The College was not only crowded but literally packed, and many were compelled to leave, for the reason that they could not find a place to stand, let alone a place to sit.

The exercises were very gratifying to the friends of the College, and did a great deal to close the mouths of its enemies.

The young men who ascended the rostrum, and delivered their addresses, reflected much credit on themselves and did honor to the Institution.

The Ball was a magnificent affair, and the foundations of several unions between the sexes were laid if actions speak the intentions of the mind. I am sorry, however, to say that all who attended were not "Sons," for there were many who appeared to have "business on both sides of the street," as they walked away from the festive scene.

On Thursday evening last, Professor Reynolds delivered his inaugural address, in the Representatives hall, before a crowded audience, and on Friday, the corner stone of the new College Chapel was laid, with appropriate ceremonies, and an address suitable to the occasion was delivered by the President, the Rev. Dr. Thornwell.

The bill to charter the Railroad Co., has received two readings in the House, and in a short time the iron horse will be seen dashing up in your midst, causing some astonishment among the natives.

The bill to restore the "Sutler's Law" has also been sent to the Senate. This bill provides that any man who can get six decent men to swear that he is a decent man and can give bond and security that he will keep a decent bar, can have permission to retail spirits at all the old field master-grounds, from 10 A. M. to 4 P. M. I must say that a man must be nearly out at the elbows in point of character, when it requires six men to swear that he is a man of sufficient character and morals to sell liquor, and as for a man keeping a decent grog shop, it is as impossible as it would be as impossible as for a blind man to keep a clean stable.

Some excitement has been caused relative to the N. E. R. R. crossing the track of the I. W. and M. R. R. The Bill has been agreed to by the Senate, but has not been taken up in the House. The President of the last named Road has entered a protest against the passage of the bill, declaring that it is an infringement on their right, guaranteed to that company by their charter. This is an intricate question, and involves many points of law, which I shall not attempt to unravel.

The bill to re-charter the Bank of the State has not been acted on as yet, but it will pass by a large majority. Bills to establish Incorporated Banks in the towns of Newberry and Chester, and also new banks in Columbia and Charleston have received two readings in the House as well as in the Senate.

Application has been made for a charter to establish a bank in Marion and Sumterville.

The Hon. John L. Manning has been elected Governor, and Col. Irby of Laurens Lt. Governor of the State, on the first ballot.— Ex-Governor Means carries the fondest and best wishes of the whole State, and all wish that valuable and useful life may be long spared to the State, and that when he has "shuffled off this mortal coil," he may hold a seat of honor in that Kingdom which exceedeth all others. So mote it be.

I am happy to inform my old comrades in arms of company "I," that the bill to exempt the "Palmetto Boys" from all military duty, will certainly pass, and they may sell their old muskets as soon as they see proper.

The "Homestead Bill," I hardly think will be repealed this winter, as the Committee to whom it was referred have made a strong report against the repeal.— What will become of the bill to increase the amount of property to be exempt from levy and sale, remains yet to be seen.

An unfavorable report has also been made on a bill to prevent the marital rights of the husband, from attaching to the estates of married women.

The bill to incorporate the "city of Bluffton," famously known as the birth place of the "Bluffton Boys," has passed the House.

A bill concerning the administration of derelict estates, and to prevent the sales for partition by ordinaries, has been sent to the Senate. The bill provides that Ordinaries in taking charge of derelict estates shall receive letters of Administration from the Commissioner or Master in Equity, and shall make annual returns to him in the same manner as is now proscribed by law, and that when he shall receive funds in his hands amounting to one thousand dollars, he shall deposit said funds in the bank of the State, and as a proof shall show his bank book to the commissioner.

The bill to arrange the State into Congressional Districts, and the bill to divide Pennington into two election Districts has been sent to the Senate, having had three readings in the House.

The bill to raise supplies has been read the first time in the House, but as it has not been printed, I am unable to give any particulars; the tax on negroes, however, is 53 cents instead of 56 cents, as it was last year.

The Joint Committee to nominate President and Directors for the Bank of the State, and the usual Committees to examine the Bank in Charleston, and its branches in Camden and Columbia have been appointed.

The evening session of Friday was quite a stormy one. This will not surprise you when you are informed that the question was the re-charter of the Bank of the State. A amendment after amendment was offered, in order to state off the question. A most formidable debate ensued, wherein much learning was displayed, and I am sorry to add some stinging sarcasm and satire. It grated most harshly on the ears of the audience, and must have entered into the heart's core of those for whom it was intended. When will our Legislators cease to use these dangerous weapons, which are certainly to be more dreaded than concealed weapons. Mr. Sullivan moved as an amendment, the following:—That the Bank of the State be re-chartered for the space of 21 years, from the expiration of its present charter. This was a new feature in the case, and was met by a furious opposition. The amendment was lost, and the bill which provides for its re-charter till 1871, was sent to the Senate by an overwhelming majority.

Mr. H. J. Dean, the Clerk elect, vice the Hon. P. W. Glover, elected Law Judge, was qualified and entered upon the discharge of his duties.

The law to declare and amend the law in relation to words of limitation in wills and deeds, was read the second time and sent to the Senate. This bill intends that the words used by the one who draws a deed, or writes a will shall be held in law, and not be broken by every lawyer who see fit to do so. Several bills have been laid on the table, among them was a bill in relation to the qualifications of Jurors, and another in relation to the bill to alter and amend the laws of the State which will be lost for want of time.

Who are married men have no more missing the good dinners the good wives will prepare for them on Christmas; and those who are still single are looking forward with great pleasure to the Holidays which they can spend with their would-be intended father-in-laws.

A bill to amend an act to provide for the inspection of flour has received the first reading in the House. The act is amended so that no inspection of any flour or wheat, rye, or corn, which has been previously inspected, in any part of any other State in the United States, by the authority of the laws thereof, shall be liable to inspection in this State.

A long and exciting discussion was occasioned on the bill to revise the principles upon which Joint Stock Banks should be incorporated, one clause in the Bill if it should pass will cause Banks to be taxed, as all real estate or stock in trade.

An amendment was offered by Mr. Ashmore to increase the Free School Fund to double the amount that it is now, which call,