The Easton Gazette.

Next door to Campbell's Drug Store,
EASTON, MD.

SATURDAY MORNING . . . JANUARY 7, 1859.

We understand that the President and Directors of the Maryland & Delaware R. R., have made a contract for the construction of the entire road, (including materials) with Messrs. D. Mitchell Jr., & W. R. Maffet, of Athens, Pa. These Gentlemen have had much experience both as Engineers and contractors. They made a thorough examination of the line of the road, on foot, and think very highly of the location, both for cheapness of construction and the prospect of a large amount of business.

Although not officially advised of the terms of the contract we have reason to believe that owing to the unusually low prices of labor and materials, the amount of cash required for each section, has been reduced to a sum which can be raised by those who are interested in the road, leaving the appropriation which is due from the State for the purchase of cars and engines.

The new stock required to complete the road to Greensborough is only about $35000 and the company expect to raise this in time to commence operations during the month of march.

Many of our farmers have been unable to get their corn to market this season and much that was sent, was in bad order and sold at a loss in some instances of one third of the price of sound corn. Whenever navigation is closed the roads are in fine order for hauling, and the Delaware R. R., is now carrying a large amount of grain some of which is hauled a distance of 15 or 20 miles.

Although there ought to be no doubt of the payment of the appropriation at this session, yet we are gratified to find that the construction of the road is no longer dependent upon the action of the Legislature.

The Directors intend to bring the whole subject before the community at an early day, and we hope our citizens will come up to the work, and open a communication which no ice can obstruct.

LEGISLATIVE.—Wednesday last being the day appointed by the Constitution of the State, the members of the Legislature assembled at Annapolis on that day. There was but little done. All the Senators were present with the exception of Dr. Duvall, of Montgomery, who was detained by sickness. In the House all the members were present except W. A. Wisong, of Balt. city; E. A. Jones, of Prince George's and Col. Jacobs, of Worcester county. On motion G. W. Goldsborough, of Caroline county, was elected speaker temporarily. Both Houses adjourned to the next day, (Thursday) at 12 o'clock.

Messrs. Ford, of Baltimore county; Freaner of Washington and Kilbourn, of Anne Arundel, have been named in connection with the speakership, and for clerk, the contest appears to be between Messrs. Kidd, of Cecil, and Ware, of Baltimore county.

Messrs. Goldsborough, of Talbot, and Brook, of Prince George's, are named in connection with the presidency of the Senate, and for secretary, Jonathan Pinkney, of Anne Arundel, and W. B. Kilgour, of Allegheny.

SAD ACCIDENT.—A sad accident occurred near Easton on Christmas day evening. We have not heard the particulars of the accident, but from information received, it appears that Mr. W. P. Dulin had a loaded revolver lying on a bed, in the room where himself and his little child, wife and another lady were, and in a playful manner he pointed it at the ladies, when it by some means went off, the ball taking effect in the cheek of his wife, and penetrating the head just below the brain and stopping in the back of the neck. Drs. Chamberlaine and Anderson were called in and rendered medical aid.—When Mr. D. saw the damage he had done he became almost frantic with distress. At first her physicians entertained but little hope of her life, but we are glad to hear that she is recovering, and notwithstanding it appears almost impossible for one to recover from such an accident, her attendants have strong hopes of her restoration.

This is one among the many thousand accidents which occur from the careless use of fire-arms. They cannot be too carefully handled.

HORSES RAN OFF.—On Friday morning of last week, while the stage, containing the Southern mail, on its way to Easton, was waiting at the Wye Mills post office for the change of mail matter, the horses took fright and ran off. Fortunately there were no passengers in at the time. The horses and stage were found in the woods near Wye Landing, with not as much damage done as might be supposed.—The mail bags were safe and through the perseverance of Mr Jno. Gale, the driver and contractor, damages were repaired at Wye Mills and the mails distributed in the Easton post office a little after night fall.

THE DORCHESTER CONTESTED ELECTIONS.—On the 22d ult., Judge Spence decided that Mr. Kerr, the American candidate, was justly elected to the office of Sheriff. The case was dismissed, and Mr. Cowart, Mr. Kerr's opponent, ordered to pay all costs. The election of Mr. Handy, democrat, as State's Attorney, was confirmed by the Judge. After the decision sustaining the election of Mr Handy C. F. Goldsborough, Esq., moved for his admission as an attorney of the Circuit Court, he having been admitted to practice in the County Court, when he was duly admitted.

HEAVY FIRE.—The citizens of St. Michaels were aroused from their beds about 3 or 4 o'clock, on Saturday morning, the 24th ult., by the alarm of fire, which proved to be the steam mill, owned by Wm. P. Blades, Esq. The mill with about 650 bushels of grain, the dwelling house and most of the furniture of Mr. Thos. Dyott, were all consumed by the flames Mr. Blades estimates his loss at $5500 and Mr. Dyott estimates his at $2000. Mr. Blades is well known in the county and with Mr. Dyott, will be deeply sympathized with.

FIRE IN SNOW HILL.—A fire was discovered issuing from the cellar window of the store-house occupied by Mr. W. H. Richardson, in Snow Hill, Worcester county, on the 14th ult. The house was a large two story frame building, and before the doors could be forced open the room became suffocating, from smoke and heat. In connection with the store, was a hatter's shop. The second story of the building was occupied by the Masonic order, and everything was destroyed—house, goods, the books of the Lodge, &c.

SUDDEN DEATH.—A negro man, belonging to Mrs. Mary Hughlett, died very suddenly while sitting before the fire, on her farm near Easton, on the night of the 28th ult.

NEW STORE.—See advertisement of the new Hardware Store of Mr. T. C. Nicols, Jr. Walk in and examine for yourselves.

CONGRESS.—In the Senate, on Wednesday last, a bill was submitted for the abolition of the franking privilege. The debate on the President's Message was then resumed. The House after debate took one ballot for Speaker with the usual result. The Republicans voted in a solid phalanx for Mr. Sherman, giving him within three of the number necessary to a choice, whilst their opponents scattered their votes on a dozen candidates.

MILITARY SPIRIT IN MILES RIVER NECK.—We learn that an effort is being made to form a troop in Miles River Neck. We are in hopes that the spirit may be encouraged and that the company may speedily uniform. As the citizens of Easton appear to have a distaste to military tactics (judging from the slack interest lately taken in the effort to raise a company,) and let it be seen that Easton district is not entirely indifferent in such matters.

We respectfully decline publishing the article of "High, Low, Jack and the Game," on account of its personal bearing. Anything that is calculated to amuse or benefit, we would be glad to receive from this correspondent, but the one referred to would do neither, except, perhaps, a few that are personally interested.

THE GAS LAMP.—Anderson & Co., are now pow making lamp fixtures which are calculated to suit all classes. They have a burner which can be drawn to a small taper or made to give sufficient light for ordinary use. See advertisement.

A protracted meeting has been going on during the past week, in the M. P. Church in this town, but as yet none have presented themselve at the altar to receive the prayers of the Church.

AMERICAN FARMER.—The January number of this old and highly esteemed Agricultural work has been received. Single copy per year $1.—Address Worthington & Lewis, Baltimore, Md.

We are indebted to Hon. Jas. A. Stewart M. C., for a copy of the President's Message.

[Reported for the Easten Gazette.]

THE AMERICAN TRACT SOCIETY

The numerous friends of this *benevolent, national, conservative* Institution will be gratified to learn that its success has never been greater than during the past half year.

The Virginia Agency embraces Md., D. C., Va. and N. C. In this field we have nearly 100 Colporteurs at work, say 20 in Md. and D. C., 40 in Va. and nearly as many in N. C.

They report having sold (the past six months) 30,587 volumes; 11,680 vols. were given to the poor; 1,222 meetings for religious purposes were held; 3,180 families were found destitute of religious books except the Bible, and 2,661 had no Bible; 6,104 families were reported as neglecting evangelical worship. The whole number of families visited by the Colporteurs was 44,453.

Within the territory of this field there are nearly 3,000,000 souls—one third of whom must be reached by this or a similar agency, in other words by *fire-side preaching!* The regular ministry, already overburthened, cannot so extend their labors as to perform this work.

The Colporteur work appeals both to the Christian and Philanthropist. Where the most ignorance is found there is the greatest poverty. Within the last six months many an entire family has been visited who knew not the alphabet, and in the same neighborhood others have been found who are willing, if encouraged, to lend their assistance in teaching these poor people. By the efforts of the Colporteur and the gift of a small library, the *Sabbath School* can be formed—old and young be taught to read and in a short space of time the intellectual and moral condition of the people be elevated and improved. Many instances might be mentioned of whole neighborhoods that have been thus evangelized and elevated, and now have schools and churches that a few years ago were sunk in the depths of ignorance and degradation!

The history of Colporturage by this Society is little else than a history of such events, and what it has done with the blessing of God it will continue to do if the friends of the cause sustain it!

It is NATIONAL in its character, as its name imports. It knows no *North*, no *South*, no *East*, no *West*! Its *object* is *one*, and *only one*: to bless the *whole* country with a *pure, evangelical literature!* To carry on the waves of its benevolence *"the bread of life"* to all the hungry, starving poor *in our own country*, and as far as possible throughout the world!

And as it is not *sectional* neither is it *sectarian*. Like our glorious republic, it was founded upon the principle of UNION! A *union* of evangelical Christians and philanthropists of every name. It was founded by the purest men that ever lived, men who looking beyond the little line of *sectarian interests* could live and labor for the *salvation of the country and the world!*

This great and noble institution of benevolence, that has been so wonderfully blest of God for the salvation of men, perhaps was never under so heavy pecuniary embarrassment as at the present moment. The loss by the recent fire is much greater than was at first anticipated, and in addition to this heavy loss there are claims coming due soon, for paper, &c., to the amount of 47,000 dollars.

Will not the friends of Christ and the friends of this cause everywhere come to our help in this time of calamity, and enable the society to go on with its work without much delay or diminution.

Remember the words of the Lord Jesus how he said, *"It is more blessed to give than to receive."*

Remittances can be made to
G. W. KENNEDY, Gen'l. Ag't. A. T. S.,
Oxford, Md.

P. S.—The Agent expects soon to make a tour of the *Peninsula*, when he hopes his numerous friends and the friends of the cause will *respond liberally* to his appeal.

In the solicited proposals for coveying the mails under the regular spring lettings, there are in Maryland 115 public routes, amongst which are three from Annapolis, nine from Baltimore, three from Cambridge, six from Frederick, one from Georgetown, D. C. three from Hagerstown, four from Port Tobacco, three from Princes Ann, three from Snow Hill, three from Upper Marlboro', and six from Washington, D. C. Delaware has eighteen routes. Five hundred and forty routes are described in Pennsylvania.

HON JUDGE MASON, of Iowa, who makes himself so popular with the Inventors of the Country while he held the office of Commissioner of Patents, has, we learn, associated himself with Munn & Co., of the Scientific American office, New York.

MOVEMENT OF THE AMERICAN PARTY.—The National American Central Committee assembled at the American House, in Philadelphia, on the 21st ult., pursuant to a call from the chairman, "to take into consideration matters of general importance, as appertaining to the approaching election of President and Vice-President of the United States." The following is the official report of what took place:

The Committee was called to order by the Hon. James Brooks, Chairman.

The Hon. Erastus Brooks moved, that the vacancy in the committee occasioned by the death of Vespasian Ellis be filled by the appointment of Blanton Duncan, of Kentucky, and that he act as Secretary. Adopted.

Mr. Brooks then presented the resolution adopted by a meeting of National Union men in the city of Washington as follows:

Resolved, That a committee of ten be appointed by the Chair, which shall be empowered to confer with the Executive Committee of the American party and the Executive Committee of the Whig party, and such other persons as are favorable to the formation of a National party on the basis of the Union, the Constitution, and the enforcement of the laws, and to report some place for the formal inauguration of such a movement, and report to a subsequent meeting to be called by the Chair, and that the chairman of this meeting shall be the chairman of said committee.

COMMITTEE.

Hon J J Crittenden, of Kentucky; Hon J M Harris, of Maryland; Hon C M Conrad, of Louisiana; Hon J Clemens, of Tenn; Hon E Etheridge, of Tenn; Hon J Hill, of Georgia; Hon J A Gilmer, of North Carolina; Hon G Briggs, of New York; Hon J A Rockwell, of Connecticut; Hon E R Jewett, of New York.

Mr. Brooks also offered the following resolutions which were adopted:

Resolved, That the Chairman and Secretary of the National Central American Committee be authorized and requested to prepare and address to the American people upon the duty and necessity of establishing some political organization in 1860 upon the basis of the Union, the Constitution, and the enforcement of the laws.

Resolved, That a committee consisting of A. H. H. Stuart, of Virginia; Hon A Kennedy, of Maryland; Hon James Bishop, of New Jersey; Hon B Duncan, of Kentucky, the chairman. (Hon Jacob Broom,) be appointed to confer with the Washington Union Committee, on Friday, December 23d, at 7½ o'clock P. M., to inaugurate some movement favorable to the formation of a party upon the basis set forth in the foregoing resolution.

Upon motion, Hon Erastus Brooks, was added to the committee.

Letters were received from Hon A B Ely, of Mass; Hon K Rayner, of North Carolina; and Hon F K Zollicoffer, of Tenn.

Upon motion, the committee then adjourned subject to the call of the Chairman. JACOB BROOM, Chairman.

B. Duncan, Secretary.

General Assembly of Maryland.

The following is a list of the members of the Legislature of Maryland, which met at Annapolis on Wednesday last. The Senate is composed of *twenty-two* members—10 Americans and 12 Democrats—showing a Democratic majority of 2. The House of Delegates consists of *seventy-four* members—28 Americans and 46 Democrats—Democratic majority of 18. Dem. maj. on joint ballot, 20.

THE SENATE

Counties.	Names of Senators.	Terms of Services.
Anne Arundel—	T. Franklin, D.	2 years
Calvert—	Thomas J. Graham, A.	2 "
Charles—	John F. Gardiner, D.	2 "
Caroline—	Tilghman Nuttle, A.	2 "
Frederick—	Anthony Kimmell A.	2 "
Prince George's—	J. B. Brooke. D.	2 "
Queen Anne's—	S. J. Bradley, A.	2 "
St. Mary's—	Oscar Miles, D.	2 "
Washington—	John G. Stone, A.	2 "
Somerset—	James F. Dashiell, A.	2 "
Montgomery—	W. Duvall, D.	2 "
Alleghany—	T. J. McKaig, D.	4 "
Baltimore City—	C. Yellott, A.	4 "
Cecil—	John J. Heckait, D.	4 "
Carroll—	John E. Smith, A.	4 "
Dorchester—	C. F. Goldsboro', D.	4 "
Harford—	Franklin Whittaker, A.	4 "
Howard—	John S. Watkins, D.	4 "
Kent—	D. C. Blackiston. D.	4 "
Talbot—	H. H. Goldsborough, D.	4 "
Worcester—	Teagle Townsend, D	4 "
Baltimore County—	A. A. Lynch, D.	4 "

Total 12 Democrats and 10 Americans.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Alleghany.—Josiah H. Gorden, D., Wm. R. Barnard, D., David W. McCleary, A., Asa Beall, A.

Anne Arundel.—Richard C. Mackubin, D., E. G. Kilbourne, D.; B. Allein Welch, D.

Baltimore City.—Charles L. Krafft, Thos. Booze, Robert L. Seth, Wm. A. Wisong, George R. Berry, F. C. Crowley, Robt. A. McAllister, Thomas M. Smith, Robt. Turner, Marcus Denison, all Americans.

Calvert.—Benjamin Parran, D., Jas T. Briscoe, D.

Cecil.—James W. Maxwell, D., Wm. R. Miller, D., Alex'r Wilson, A.

Charles.—Barnes Compton, D., Francis B. F. Burgess, D.

Caroline.—G. W. Goldsborough, D., H. Straughn, A.

Carroll.—Bernard Mills, D., John W. Gorsuch, A., David Rroop, of Abm. A

Dorchester.—William Holland, D., John R. Keene, A., Z. W. Linthicum, D.

Frederick.—Andrew Kessler, Jr., D., W. E. Salmon, D., John A. Johnson, D., David W. Naill, A., Thomas J. Clagett A., Jonathan Routzahn, A.

Harford.—Wm F. Bayless, A., Joshua Wilson, A., Richard G. McCoy, A.

Howard.—John R. Brown, D., William Turner, D.

Kent.—P. F. Rasin, D. Albert Medders, A.

Prince George's—Ethan A. Jones, D. Richard Wootton, D. E. Pliny Brian D.

Montgomery—Chas. A. Harding, D, Howard Griffith, D.

Queen Anne's—Wm. S. Starkey, D, W. Henry Legg, D.

St. Mary's—Clark J. Durant, D, George H. Morgan, D.

Talbot—Alexander Chaplain, D, J. Lawrence Jones, D.

Washington—Geo. Freaner, D, Martin Eckle, D, Jas Coady, D, John C. Brining, D, Andrew K. Stake, A.

Worcester—G. W. Jacobs, D, Geo. W. Landing, D, L. P. Dennis, D.

Baltimore County—John T. Ford, D, Tho. C. Worthington, D, Robert M Denson, D, Pleasant Hunter, D, Leonard G Quinlin, D, Thos. W Renshaw, D.

Somerset—Edward Long, D, and three Americans.

Total—46 Democrats and 28 Americans.

On Tuesday the 27 ult., the President sent his Message to both Houses of Congress. It was read in the Senate, and laid on the table in the House, till an organization is effected. We give below an abstract of it made up by *The Sun*, which gives a good idea of its contents:

The President's Message.

The President opens his discourse with the usual acknowledgement of the favor of divine Providence, recognizing the general health, good harvest and prosperity. As this is no partisan theme we presume there will be universal concurrence in the President's view.

The late Harper's Ferry raid is the next subject of remark. Avoiding details, the President speaks in general but forcible terms of the dangerous element of abolitionism in our public affairs. He warns the arch-agitators of the day of the consequences that may ensue from their doctrines and says they must not be surprised should their heated partisans attempt to carry them into practical effect. Deprecating disunion sentiments, he recognizes the peril of the times, refers to the value of the Union, the estimation in which it was held by the earlier statesmen of our country, and hopes that the present excited state of public feeling will result in general harmony, and the supremacy of a national over a sectional spirit.

Congratulation is expressed upon the final settlement of the question of slavery in the Territories by the Supreme Court of the United States. It is maintained that by this co-ordinate branch of the government the right is positively established for every citizen to go into the new territories with or without slaves as he may elect, and to enjoy protection fo his property, should there be at any time an attempt to deprive him of it or interfere with him in the possession of it. When a territory is prepared to apply for admission into the Union it must come, in the language of the Kansas Nebraska bill, "with or without slavery, as its constitution may prescribe."

All possible means have been employed to repress the attempt to revive the slave trade, and investigation has proved only the importation of the cargo of the Wanderer. A review of the history of the slave trade is entered upon, as it existed under the laws of this country, and its total extinction by Congress recognized and approved. To allow the present construction of the clause in the constitution, on which it is attempted to question the power of Congress to prohibit the slave trade, the President declares would be to make the clause itself an absolute nullity, and all that has been done under it a mere usurpation.

The effects of the restoration of the slave trade are reviewed at length, and its consequences to master and slave regarded as equally deplorable. The inhuman and exhausting exactions of labor from the slave in Cuba are pointed out as the natural consequences of the ability to supply his place at a low figure. The obligation upon us to consider the effect upon Africa is presented, and the utter extinction of all hopes of African civilization is predicted as the reopening the slave trade. By abolishing every market for African slaves consists the main hope for the gradual improvement of Africa.

The wisdom of the course pursued by this government towards China has been vindicated, says the President, by the event.—The course of Mr. Ward is approved, in refusing the humiliating conditions of etiquette demanded, and the result is spoken of as highly satisfactory. The treaty has been concluded and ratified under favorable circumstances, and no doubt exists that the subsequent conventions it was necessary to hold will also be ratified.

The difficulties with Paraguay have been amicably adjusted, and treaties concluded with that republic will be submitted to the Senate. The fitting out of the naval force in anticipation of a necessity for its employment in the waters of La Plata is mentioned, and a happy effect in favor of our country is believed to have been produced in that remote portion of the world.

Our relations with Spain are briefly adverted to; an appropriation is recommended in the Admistead case, and the acquisition of Cuba by fair purchase commended to the attention of Congress

The President sketches briefly the history of recent affairs on the Pacific relative to the San Juan question, which facts have already been stated. No immediate difficulty is apprehended. Our title to the island is not doubted.

The condition of Mexico, its distracted governmental authorities, the outrages perpetrated upon American citizens, and the general disadvantages which attend upon the present state of public affairs in that country, constitute a considerable portions of the message. The President is reluctantly brought to the conclusion that the only possible means of redress to the United States and of real relief to the Mexican people, is to enter the territory with a military power equal to the task to be performed.—He accordingly asks from Congress the authority to do so with regular troops or volunteers, or both.

The President asks authority also to employ the naval forces at his command for the protection of American citizens and their property in transit over the several isthmian routes. And also for the protection of American merchant vessels, their crews and cargoes in the ports of Mexico and the Spanish-American States. The objection heretofore urged that such an authority would be a transfer of the war-declaring power, is met with argument at some length. The question is asked if in all cases we must wait until the mischief is done before a remedy is applied. The belief is expressed that the mere knowledge that such power was conferred upon the President of the United States would tend greatly to repress the evil. It is urged that the same power was conferred in relation to Paraguay and should be extended to the present case.

The President refers to the adjournment of the last Congress without passing the postal appropriation bill and states that but for the fact that Congress had ceased to exist, and about half the States would be unrepresented, he should have at once called them together to perform the duty imposed upon them. He states how by economy and financial arrangement the difficulties have been overcome, and recommends the payment of interest to the contractors who have been obliged to borrow money at interest in default of the government. It is suggested that the dereliction of Congress in this matter will have had one good result if it should lead to the passage of a law requiring all the States to elect their representatives prior to the fourth of March at which the existing Congress expires.

The construction of a Pacific railroad is earnestly pressed upon congressional attention.

In view of the financial reverses which the country has sustained the executive departments of the government have devoted themselves to the utmost retrenchment that the country would admit of, and the severest scrutiny is invited to this particular with a view to a further reduction of expenses.

The aggregate receipts with balance on hand in the treasury for the fiscal year was $88,060,787. The public expenditures amounted to $83,751,511. Of this sum $17,405,285 were applied to the payment of interest on the public debt and the redemption of treasury notes. The expenditures of all other branches of the public service was therefore $66,346,226. Balance on hand $3,339,275 on the 1st July, 1859.

In the anticipation of a deficiency, and to provide against injury to the credit of the government, an increased tax on imports is recommended.

The estimated expenditures for the next fiscal year are about the same as the expenses of the past.

The President refers to the report of the Secretary of War, and states that a great reduction has been made in the expenses of this department.

A deficiency of about $7,000,000 in the Post office Department had to be met from the general revenue. The message intimates that the time has arrived for determining the question whether this department shall become a permanent and ever-increasing charge upon the treasury, or shall be permitted to resume the self-sustaining policy which had so long controlled its administration.

In conclusion the President recommends to the just liberality of Congress the local interest of the District of Columbia.

Reports of the Departments.

The following is a condensation of the Reports of the several Departments of the General Government:

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.—Secretary Cobb reports $83,751,57, as the amount expended during the fiscal year ending June 30, 1859. The aggregate means provided for the same year were $88,090,787 11. Hence, deducting the expenditures from the aggregate means during the year, a balance remained in the treasury on July 1st, 1859, of $4,339,275.54.

Mr. Cobb says:

"I do not doubt that the actual receipts into the treasury for the present and next fiscal years will be fully equal to the estimates. The only remaining question in connection with the estimates to be considered is the probable demands upon the treasury during this period. If the appropriations made at the present session do not exceed the amount contained in the estimates, it is believed that they can be met with the ordinary and extraordinary receipts already provided for by law. The estimated balance that will be in treasury on the 8th of June, 1861, is only $3,530,196 61, and leaves no margin for additional appropriations. If, therefore, the appropriations should exceed the estimates, or Congress should determine to provide within this period for the payment of any portion of the public debt, it will become necessary to make provision for such contingencies. The idea of increasing the public debt to meet the ordinary expenses of the government should not be entertained for a moment. If additional demands are created upon the treasury by the legislation of the present Congress, provision must be made to meet them by such increase of tariff duties as may be required for that purpose.

The public debt on the 1st July, 1858, as stated in my last annual report, was $25,155,977.66 The act of June 14, 1858, authorized an additional loan of $20,000,000, which has been accordingly negotiated.—Of this $18,620,000 had been paid into the treasury, and the stock issued therefor on the 1st of July, 1859, the commencement of the present fiscal year. A portion of the remainder has been since paid, and the stock therefor issued. The balance will doubtless be soon completed, which will make the permanent public debt $45,155,677 66."

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.—The Secretary says: Since the commencement of the present administration twenty steam vessels have been added to the navy. The Secretary recommends a further increase of the navy.

For the support of the navy and marine corps, and all other objects under the control of the navy Department for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1859, the estimates were $14,616,298,23; appropriations, $14,508,354 23; expenditures, $14,659 267 76.

For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1860, the estimates were $13,500,370 80; appropriation, $10,464,789 55.

The estimates for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1861, are $11,244,845 63: that is to say, for the navy proper, $9 977,115 58; for the marine corps, $699,736 05; and for all other objects, $56,991.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR.—The authorized strength of the army is 18,165 men, all told. On the first of July, the date of the last complete returns, the actual number reached 17,498. Of this number there are not more than about 11,000 men available for active service in the field. This little force has been engaged, with its usual activity and efficiency, since the date of my last report, in the discharge of its arduous and multifarious duties, being required to man about 130 permanent garrisons, posts, and camps, scattered over an area of three millions of square miles. Under these circumstances it has been obviously impossible to give that ample and perfect protection to our whole frontier which our citizens have a right to expect, and which it is the duty of government to afford. Indian depredations have been committed on our southern and Mexican border, which may almost have been prohibited for the want of men. [illegible] REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.—Secretary Thompson makes a lengthy report in reference to Indian affairs, pensions, the District of Columbia, wagon roads, the Texas boundary, the distribution of documents, the judiciary, the Patent office and agriculture. He has also something to say about the public lands, remarking that during the five quarters ending September 30, 1859, 16,618,183 acres of the public lands were disposed of: 4,970,500 acres were sold for cash, yielding $21,074,756; 8,617,440 acres were located with bounty land warrants; 1,712,040 acres were approved to the several States entitled to them, under the swamp grants of March 2, 1849, and September 28, 1850; and 6,315,203 acres certified to States, as falling to them under the grants for railroad purposes.

During the same period of time 13,817,221 acres surveyed and prepared for market, and 19,783,563 acres proclaimed and offered at public sale.

The aggregate quantity of public land that has been surveyed, but not yet proclaimed or offered at public sale was on the 30th of September, 1859, 56,970,941 acres and the estimated quantity which had been offered at public sale, and remained subject to private entry at the various land offices, was 80,000,000 acres.

POSTMASTER GENERAL'S REPORT.—The Report of Postmaster General Holt, urges upon Congress the necessity of making an early appropriation to meet all the existing liabilities of the Post Office Department.

The actual (paid) expenditures of the Department in the fiscal year ending June 30th, 1859 amounted to $11,458,085,63.—To this must be added the ascertained liabilities of the Department, which could not be paid, owing to the failure of Congress to make the usual appropriations, and which now constitute a deficiency to be provided for to June 30th, 1859, $4,296,000,20—making a grand total of actual (paid) expenses and liabilities of $15,754,092,89.

This sum includes $789,599,56 appropriated by special acts of Congress out of the general treasury, which, being deducted, leaves the actual (paid) expenditures $10,668,484 07 instead of $11,458,083,63, and the total of expenditures and liabilities $15,964,493,33 instead of $15,754,092 89.

If there be added to $11,458,083,63 the sum of $55 76, closed by suspense, and the sum of $627 26 gained on the bad debt account be subtracted, then the actual expenditures, as adjusted in the Auditor's Office, will be $11,457,512 38.

The gross revenue for the year 1859, including receipts from letter-carriers and from foreign postages, amounted to $7,968,484. Excess of expenditures for 1859, $6,996,009,20. Total value of postage stamps and envelopes issued to postmasters during the year 1859, $6,621,533 34.

In the way of retrenchment, Mr. Holt thinks the franking privilege ought to be paid for out of the national treasury, and that publishers of newspapers ought to be made to pay the postage on their exchanges.

[*From the New York Day Book.*]

HON. EDWARD EVERETT, we learn is to continue to write for the *New York Ledger* during the ensuing year. It seems from this that both Mr. Everett and Mr. Bonner are well pleased with their previous arrangement in behalf of the Mount Vernon Fund. The *Ledger* very truly says:

"Mr. Everett's noble disinterestedness in undertaking such onerous tasks, in the midst of engrossing cares and labors for the purpose of furthering the object so dear to his heart, deserves the most cordial recognition from every person who takes an interest in the rescue of the Home of Washington from the auctioneer's hammer and the speculator's ruthless gripe. No other such spectacle of persistent, disinterested devotion to a great and noble public enterprise has been exhibited during the present century at least, as that which Mr. Everett has shown in this Mount Vernon movement.—His course has elevated the patriotic tone of the whole country, and set in action sentiments and emotions which have drawn closer the bonds of union from one end of the land to the other."

In this connection, we take pleasure in stating that the *Ledger*, as a family paper, is one which we can cordially recommend to the patronage of our friends.

THE HARPER'S FERRY INSURGENTS.—Two more of the prisoners arrested on account of the Harper's Ferry affair—A. S. Stevens and Albert Hazlet—are awaiting their trial. Attorney Hunter has informed the counsel of Stevens that his trial will come off probably during the present month. Stevens is an intelligent and powerful built young man of 28 years, who formerly belonged to Norwich, Conn. He was badly wounded during the attack on the armory, when he was dangerously shot, receiving five balls in his body, three of which the surgeons could not extract. He was next in command under Capt. John Brown, and acted as drill master in place of Col. Forbes. He is to be tried on the same charges as Brown and their mutual confidential relations were such that, at Brown's request, Stevens occupied the same cell with him throughout his imprisonment.

JEROME BONAPARTE AT THE POINT OF DEATH.—A Paris correspondent says:

The ex-King Jerome Bonaparte is dying. The wonderful vitality which has hitherto sustained the old man under repeated attacks that very few men of his age could have resisted has at last given way, and it is not improbable that before this letter becomes fairly afloat on the wide waters of the Atlantic he may have breathed his last. The Emperor and Empress were both with him yesterday. This morning appears a bulletin in the *Moniteur* stating that his position is eminently critical, and from a private source I learn that his constitution and frame are so thoroughly prostrated that suffocation must inevitably follow one or other of the violent fits of coughing by which he is attacked.

Prices Current.

BALTIMORE, Jan. 4, 1860.

WHEAT.—About 500 bushels were offered, Sales as follows:
Fair to white, [illegible]
Fair to prime red, 1 18@1 22
Good, to prime, 1 25@1 30
Corn.—Fair to prime white, 66@72 cts
Yellow, do. 77@80 cts
Oats—Maryland, 43@45 cts.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 4, 1860.

WHEAT—White, [illegible]
Red, 1 34@1 36
Corn—New yellow, 75 cts
Old, do 88 cts