

son, and revelation to compel every Christian to abandon it forever. Many who once owned slaves, and thought it not wrong, could not now for any earthly consideration be persuaded to own one. So it will be with all true Christians whenever their minds are properly enlightened upon the subject. But we are asked, 'Why talk about slavery here in Oregon?' We have no slaves here, and I see no use in talking about niggers here in Oregon, and especially the preachers, I think had much better preach the gospel, and let the nigger question alone. I would say to all such persons that the people of Oregon are as much interested in the knowledge and practice of the truth as any other people; and as to there being no slaves here, that is no reason why the subject should not be investigated, while it remains true that the principle of slavery is here, in many of the citizens of Oregon, both in church and state as violent as elsewhere. It is the principle that we should look at. If the civil authorities did not interfere, there are preachers and church members here in Oregon that would own slaves; are they not therefore as guilty in a moral point of view as if they did actually own them? A man may be a slaveholder and not own a slave, upon the same principle that he can be a thief and not steal, or a murderer and not kill, or an adulterer and not commit the act. He is not a thief because he steals, but he steals because he is a thief. It is not the act that leads to the disposition, but the disposition that leads to the act, and always precedes it, and this may be as firmly fixed in the heart without the act, as it is when the thing is executed. In the one case, an opportunity fails to present itself, and the act is stayed; in the other, an opportunity offers, and the act is performed. The principle, however, is precisely the same. As it regards preaching the Gospel, and not talking about niggers so much, I would inform all such persons that the subject of slavery is found in the Bible as well as any other subject; and if morals were not at such a low ebb, and so much guilt abroad in the land, there would be the same willingness to have light upon this subject as on any other, to understand the relation existing between man and man, and God and man, and a disposition to yield implicit obedience thereunto, constitutes the very quintessence of the Gospel.

If this communication should be published, it will then be public property, subject to a public investigation. It contains in substance what I have preached on a few occasions since I have been in Oregon. Some have professed to be hurt at me, but when asked to show from the Bible wherein a wrong interpretation, or misrepresentation, had been given, they have failed to produce the first text. So I now say, as to this article, if the premises are not sound, and the deductions conclusive, being abundantly sustained by truth, reason, and revelation, let the same, by the opposing party, be made to appear.

T. H. SMALL.
P. S.—The People's Press will please copy.

MOVEMENT TO ANNEX A PART OF NEBRASKA TO KANSAS.—An earnest movement is in progress in the southern portion of Nebraska to annex the South Platte to the Territory of Kansas. Meetings to consider the subject have been held, and much interest has been awakened. The Nebraska City News furnishes the following information in regard to the South Platte:

"South Platte, Nebraska, covers an area of territory extending from the Platte river to the Kansas line, one hundred miles North and South, by eight hundred miles or more East and West. It embraces the most fertile and productive lands not only of Nebraska, but of the entire West. It has always been considered by those acquainted with its great resources as the garden of Nebraska; and owing to the unfortunate political excitement connected with the early settlement of Kansas, it has not received that attention from the country at large that its incomparable resources and capacities justify demand.

It is proposed to separate this portion from Nebraska and annex to Kansas, forming an independent and sovereign State.—It is not our purpose here to repeat the arguments in favor of annexation to Kansas. Our readers at least are not unacquainted with them.—that the independence, sovereignty, and stability of a State organization is preferable to that of a dependent, limited, and unstable Territorial existence—that the Platte river is the natural boundary of a State—that a State organization will invite capital, increase emigration, raise the value of property, give us a participating hand in the disbursement of school funds, railroad grants, and in other general and specific favors; and, in short, that the proposed annexation will form one of the noblest and is destined to rank among the foremost in the confederacy of States."

THE GAME OF CHESS.—As there is much interest felt in this game at the present time, and we notice the formation of chess clubs all over the Union, we extract, says the Sacramento Union, the subjoined interesting information in relation to the game of chess from the correspondence of 'P,' in the New York Courier & Enquirer: "Some ascribe the origin of the game to China, but the Chinese themselves say they received the invention from Hindostan.—That it is very ancient there is no doubt.—Others say that it originated in Persia, and, although the Persians are as much inclined as other nations to appropriate the ingenious inventions of a foreign people, they unanimously agree that the game was imported from the west of India. The Arabic writers give the honor of the invention to the Indians."

The San Antonio Ledger says there are six Mexicans living there whose joint ages foot up 613 years.

The Oregon Argus.

W. L. ADAMS, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OREGON CITY:

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1859.

To the Republicans of Oregon.

There will be a Convention of the Republicans of Oregon at SALEM, on THURSDAY, THE TWENTY-FIRST DAY OF APRIL, 1859, for the purpose of nominating a Delegate or Representatives to Congress, and for the purpose of transacting such other business as may come before the Convention.

The Committee suggest that the following appointment be adhered to in electing delegates:—Cory 1, Coon 1, Jackson 4, Josephine 2, Douglas 4, Umpqua 2, Lane 6, Linn 6, Benton 4, Polk 4, Yamhill 4, Marion 7, Clackamas 5, Washington 3, Multnomah 4, Columbia 1, Clatsop 1, Tillamook 1, and Wasco 1.

The Committee also earnestly request that a full and complete organization of the Republicans be perfected in every county at an early day, and that the chairman of each county committee immediately send his name and post-office address to W. C. JOHNSON, Clerk of the Central Committee, at Oregon City.

W. T. MATLOCK,
W. C. JOHNSON,
L. HOLMES,
L. H. WAKEFIELD,
W. L. ADAMS,
Rep. Com.

Jan. 22, 1859.

What Will the Nationals Do?

The above query suggested itself upon the perusal of the leading article in the last issue of the Standard. It is intimated by that paper that the Nationals are to have a nominating convention, and that, when the signal is sounded for the struggle, they will be ready to run up the flag so ingloriously trailed in the dust at the close of the last campaign, and meet their enemies again on their old ground.

The article proceeds to state that the editor has been besieged with letters from numerous faithful Nationals, whose pluck, notwithstanding the whipping of last year, has not forsaken them, inquiring whether they are to have a chance to try their trusty swords on their Salem federal foes, or whether they are doomed to hang them up to rust for the want of some one to rally and organize the 'valorous few' for the coming political battle.

It also proceeds to intimate that the National Central Committee has forgotten that the party was organized, and that notwithstanding things are going decidedly awry in consequence of their neglect to look after its interests, still the dislike of the editor to say anything like dictation is such that he is going to let the matter go unremedied for half a moon longer, when he will proceed to 'advise a course' for its friends to pursue.

With this we are not at all disposed to grumble. In fact, in some particulars we are rather inclined to admire it. We like pluck in any party,—we like it in any politician, and especially when exhibited in defense of principles—but when a party is so pugnacious as to desire to have a fight with the absolute certainty of being badly whipped, and that too without there being any distinctive principle at stake in the contest, we involuntarily feel like exclaiming, Oh, Fudge! And we will say, although we claim no right to advise with the members of that organization, and are as averse to dictation as our amiable contemporary can be, that the National Democratic Committee have exercised much greater discretion by saying nothing and permitting their organization to expire under the cover of a decent silence, than by calling public attention to it only to expose its weakness.

The people (and we presume the Committee are acquainted with the fact) have learned, though the National organ may not, that the organization of the 'National' party is an utter failure. They found last year that an organization without principles and a party without issues will not do for this enlightened age. That the Nationals in every particular in which they differed with the Salemites last year—although they were minor differences involving no principle—were right, we are willing to admit, and we believe two thirds of the voters of the Territory would, if permitted to give an unbiased judgment, coincide with us in opinion—yet they were badly beaten, and why? Simply because Democrats who were becoming dissatisfied with the principles which modern democracy teaches, had nothing to gain by joining the Nationals—those who were Democrats upon principle, would not leave a party always victorious, merely to experiment on a nominal change—Republicans held no principle in common with them—nor was there in fact any issue upon which to build up a party, but a merely personal one. It therefore failed, as it deserved, and the people will not be drawn into the support of any such a sham and deception again.

If the Nationals are sincerely desirous of seeing the 'Federalists' (as they call the Democracy of the Territory) defeated, there is one, and only one, way to accomplish that end; and that is, make an issue with them upon principle. A hearty opposition to the pro-slavery Lecompton scheme last year would have added more than one thousand votes—which were not polled at all—to the National ticket.

In every issue which the Nationals make with their enemies the Republicans are with them, and they present other issues which involve principles they will not longer allow to be oversleighted by merely local, personal, and temporary ones.

The Republicans have given the Nationals a fair show, by yielding them the field for a trial of their strength. The result was, as we predicted and believed, an inglorious failure, and we think a second attempt will not only show their folly, but the insincerity of their professions of a wish to

overthrow the Salem faction.

We think, therefore, that the National Committee are decidedly right in doing nothing, and we think that a fortnight's reflection will lead our contemporary to the same wise conclusion.

Black Democracy vs. Popular Sovereignty.

Of all the terms and catch-words that political ingenuity has ever invented to hoodwink, blind, and deceive credulous people, the phrase at the close of the above caption can justly claim the honor of being the most distinguished. Like the word Democracy, of which it is in truth but a variation, it has plastered over and concealed more political villainy, and by the charm with which it is invested done more to draw the affections of the people of the Republic away from the Constitution as it was understood and interpreted by its framers, than all the other arrant humbugs with which our political history is studded. It has, we repeat, been made to palliate more knavery, justify more demagoguism, and excuse more downright political swindling, wickedness, and villainy than any other ten temporary hobbies which reckless politicians have got up and ridden.

If the Free States were to be cheated of the benefits of a fair, honorable compact such as the Missouri Compromise, popular sovereignty was the glorious equivalent which was to reconcile them to the loss.

If an old facile demagogue and dog-facé (such as Buchanan) was to be elected President, to advance the interests of slavery and give power and influence to Southern disunionists, the deed was to be accomplished by promising to the Free North the strictest fidelity to 'popular sovereignty.'

If a constitution, detested, abhorred, and hated by those who were to live under it, was to be thrust upon an unwilling people, and the black and slimy serpent of slavery to be suffered to fasten its chilling folds around the energies of a young free State, the damnable deed was to be done through a pretended election, in the honored name of 'popular sovereignty.'

But at last the role is played out and the game ended. The people who have been led captive to the charming chorus of popular sovereignty, and believed that it was a reality—that it was intended to mean something—have concluded to try a little practical as well as theoretical popular sovereignty; and although the result has shown that the lying demagogues who originated the miserable cheat with which they attracted admiration never intended what they said—to wit, to give the people of the Territories the right to govern themselves in their own way—yet the move will have the effect to clear the vision of those honest Democrats who supposed there was some truth in the blatant professions of their leaders.

At the present session of Congress, Mr. Morris of Illinois, who, to secure his reelection to the next Congress, had to pledge himself to a little practical popular sovereignty in the Territories, introduced a bill to authorize the organized Territories of the United States to elect by popular vote all their officers now appointed by the President—and in fact investing them with all the rights of States so far as their internal government is concerned. But how was this reasonable proposition met by the Democracy who have been shouting its praises for the last five years? Let the following quotation from an article in the Washington Union, the official organ of the President and the party, opposing the bill of Mr. Morris's answer; and let the reader also recollect that Buchanan removed officer after officer in Kansas for no other reason than that they obeyed the popular will in that Territory in defiance of his:

"A resolution has been offered in the House of Representatives, proposing the enactment of a law referring the appointment of Governors, Judges and other Territorial officers to the people of the Territories at the polls. This is the *ne plus ultra* of the theory of popular sovereignty. Blackstone has it down that every wise law is the result of the exercise of mankind in practical life, and is founded upon some good and sufficient reason; and that it follows as a sound principle, of legal construction and judicial interpretation, that when the reason of such laws ceases, then the law itself should become defunct, the maxim being *cessante ratione, cessant et ipsa lex*. This cannot be urged in excuse for such a law as is now proposed, that any evils have resulted from the present mode of appointing the chief officers of the Territories, which demand an abandonment of it; or that the mode of appointment now proposed would correct such evils as do exist, and would not itself be attended with like evils or greater evils. We cannot imagine a single evil that the proposed mode of appointing territorial officers would avoid, or a single practical advantage that it would accomplish. It lacks the most essential ingredient of every wise law—that of being founded upon sound practical reason. It is the suggestion of mere theory, regardless of experience and reckless of practical consequences. It is the proposition, not of statesmanship, but of mere idealism; unless, indeed, it be the cunning artifice of demagoguism. It is the quintessence of French republicanism, not proposed to be introduced into the government of stable and firmly-planted society in old States, where it would be comparatively innocuous; but into new, infant, immature, unstable, and rickety communities, where conservatism exists in no form, and where the sustaining hand of federal conservatism, stretched out to steady, strengthen, and to save, comes, a godsend."

There is much more of the same sort, but we give only a specimen to show true Black Democratic hatred to popular rights.

HEAVY BUILDING CONTRACT.—The Board of Commissioners for Yamhill county let the contract for the erection of the new Court House at Lafayette, on the 7th inst., to Rush Mendenhall, Esq. That gentleman undertakes the work for the sum of \$14,875.

The building is to be a two-story fire-proof brick, 37 by 56, and when completed will be the best court house, as well as one of the best buildings, in the Territory. It is to be completed by the first day of January, 1860.

Yamhill has been peculiarly unfortunate

in the loss of her county records by villainy, and we are glad to see that she is to have a building in which to keep them, proof against the visits of the burglar and the torch of the incendiary.

Other and extensive improvements at Lafayette are, as we learn, in contemplation, including among others, a building for educational purposes. Lafayette has looked so much like a Western town in cholera time, for the last two or three years, that we are glad to note these symptoms of returning vitality.

RELIGIOUS INTEREST.—The Methodists have been holding night meetings in Portland for several weeks. They have already added several members to their church, with a prospect of more conversions. There is also quite an awakening at Forest Grove, in which the Congregationalists, Methodists, and Free Will Baptists have all participated more or less. The Methodists and Free Will Baptists united and held meeting together in the Methodist meeting-house till last Sunday, when the Baptists took offense at what they thought looked like being 'sighted' in invitations to a proper participation in the ministerial services, and withdrew in disgust. The feeling was strong and the excitement was considerable upon the occasion of the split, and the inevitable tendency of course was to check, if not entirely to stop, the revival.

MURDER AT SALEM.—We are informed by a gentleman who left Salem on Sunday morning last that a man by the name of John Rowe murdered his wife on the night of the 11th inst., by cutting her throat with a knife.

She was a half-breed, and the two had lived together several years. Jealousy was the cause assigned by him, he averring that he 'loved her as his life,' and could not endure her infidelity to himself; but, as he is said to have been a man of intemperate habits, we imagine that whisky is chargeable with the principal agency in the commission of the crime. It was coolly done in the house, in the presence of the family, and the murderer made no attempt to get away, and is now, as we learn, safely lodged in jail.

GAME.—Joseph McMillen, who has a mill on the head waters of the Tualatin, some fifteen miles from Forest Grove, has been feasting on wild game this winter.—He has already saved about four thousand pounds of elk and deer meat, that have crossed his path while about his usual avocations. A man living in Chehalis valley brought a load of game to Portland last week, consisting of ten deer and over a hundred ducks and partridges. He told us his deer averaged him six dollars a head and his partridges three bits each. His whole load brought him over ninety dollars, making an average of about fifteen dollars a day for the time spent in killing his game and getting it to market. We have never seen a country before where a man could get rich by hunting.

The last mail brought a communication from Jo Lane, published in the Washington Union, stating that the population of Oregon is at least 90,000.

Such a statement could only have emanated from a jackass or a knave. Jo may take whichever horn of the dilemma will in his own opinion be most complimentary to himself.

We only regret that the disgrace which follows the blunders of such men makes up a portion of the reputation of their constituents.

TOWN LOTS IN LAFAYETTE.—Those who have bonds or deeds for lots in Lafayette, Yamhill county, would do well to notice an advertisement in this week's paper.

Bishop Scott delivered an able and instructive lecture last Monday evening in the Methodist church, before the Young Men's Literary Association of Oregon City. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather, there was a full house to hear him.

SELECT SCHOOL.—By reference to advertisement, it will be seen that Mrs. Taylor proposes to open a select school at her residence in this city, on Monday, 28th inst.

The new and beautiful steamer Carrie Ladd, built at this city last summer and run in the trade between here and Portland, commenced running last Saturday.

FOUND.—The old election returns from Jackson county, on the location of the seat of government question, are said to have been seen in the Statesman office at Salem. Those wishing to know more about the matter are referred to Nat. Lane and I. N. Smith.—People's Press.

DIED SUDDENLY.—In Eugene City, Feb. 4, Mr. George Dawson. Mr. Dawson was a stranger in this place, having been here but a few weeks. He came from New Hampshire to this coast, and has a brother in Boston carrying on the shoemaking business. He was a shoemaker, and had just commenced business here.—People's Press.

TAXES.—The Territorial tax was increased from one mill to one mill and three fourths, by the late Legislature. County Commissioners are required by the act to levy that sum, the coming year.—Czapka's Organ.

Wisconsin has set apart the avails of swamp lands, as a fund for normal instruction. The income of this fund is over \$18,000. It will soon reach \$25,000 and is to be expended under the direction of Hon. Henry Barnard, recently of Connecticut, and now Chancellor of the Wisconsin State University.

Annexation of Sonora, Chihuahua, etc.

The Washington correspondent of the San Francisco Bulletin says:

"A grand scheme for the colonization of Sonora, with a view to its ultimate independence of Mexico and annexation to the United States, has transpired. The Liberals of Mexico are likely soon to be in power, are willing to cede to the United States a right of way for a railroad through Chihuahua and Sonora to Guaymas, on the Gulf of California, and to make the latter essentially a free port. In anticipation of this treaty arrangement, a strong company—consisting of Gen. Law, Sam. Colt, of pistol fame, and many other capitalists—have waited for the purchase of lands along the line of the proposed railroad, the purchase and development of mines in the Territory, and generally to make all the money they can. It is their design, of course, to import many American laborers, who, under the liberal naturalization law of Mexico, will become citizens at once, and entitled to take part in controlling the Government. The ultimate construction of a line of railroad from seven hundred to nine hundred miles long, from the Gulf of Mexico to the Gulf of California is a part of the plan.

"Of course, if this enterprise is successful it will not be a year before the Americans in Sonora will revolutionize it, declare their independence, and seek annexation to the United States—a step which no wise administration in Mexico will seriously oppose.

"Judge Rose, of Texas, who has recently been appointed United States Consul at Guaymas, is an agent of the new company, as also, it is believed, is Major Ben. McCulloch, late Peace Commissioner to Utah, who has started for Sonora with him via Arizona."

Atlantic News.

We copy the following from the Washington correspondence of the San Francisco Herald, dated Jan. 4:

THE NEXT CENSUS.

The census of 1860 is, by law, to be taken next year, and an appropriation will be made at this session for the expenses.—The bureau will be organized next month. It is probable that the same system for the collection of statistics will be adopted, which was adopted for the last census.—Should the present number of representatives be retained as a limit, the non-slaveholding States will gain (according to some estimates) twelve members, and the slaveholding States will lose nine members; California will add four members to her present number.

THE NEXT PRESIDENCY.

Leading politicians, both in and out of Congress, have been more exercised of late upon the subject of the Presidential succession, than any other. Since Mr. Douglas was deposed by the Democratic Senators, from the Chairmanship of the Committee on Territories, his chance for the Democratic nomination in 1860 is very bad. He does not intend, however, to decline the position as a candidate, as he has not put himself in that position. It is generally supposed that he will act, in future, in harmony with the Democratic party, and abide his turn in 1864. It is supposed that the selection of a Democratic candidate will be left to the South; and among the most prominent names now in view, are those of Hunter, Breckinridge, Guthrie, Stephens of Georgia, Jefferson Davis, and Slidell of Louisiana.

The friends of Mr. Crittenden have conferred on the subject of a new organization in reference to the next election, but have not come to any conclusion. A portion of the American party is willing to join with the Republicans, to try a common candidate; but the Republicans are generally unprepared to yield their principles or their men, and they talk of selecting Seward, Chase, Fessenden, or Banks, as their nominee.

FILIBUSTERING.

A proposition has been started for a caucus of Southern members of Congress from the Gulf States to facilitate the progress of American ideas concerning Mexico. So you see all our filibustering propensities can have full scope, while we have ample time to think over Mr. Branch's proposition in the House authorizing a special loan of a million of dollars to enable the President to purchase Cuba.

DEATH OF GEN. GADSDEN.

You have doubtless heard ere this, of the death of General Gadsden, the purchaser of Arizona, and Minister to Mexico preceding Mr. Forsyth. You will also learn that in Forsyth's house has turned up a quantity of silver, obtained by the sacking of a Mexican church, which is anything but creditable for an American Minister.—It would seem that the disorganization of Mexico has a tendency to disorganize our Minister.

THE IRON INTEREST.

The Iron Convention in Philadelphia has been a large and influential body. It has made a strong effort for specific duties, and the substitution of iron in building ships and public edifices. It seems impossible for Congress to deny the specific duty.

PARAGUAY EXPEDITION.

The Paraguay Expedition is proceeding rapidly toward its destination, and has been frequently spoken of. You may soon expect to hear some very decisive news from that quarter.

INDIAN WAR IN CALIFORNIA.—The San Francisco Herald says: "We learn from official sources, that General Clarke, commanding the California Department of the Pacific Division, has determined on prosecuting a vigorous campaign against the Mojave and Pah Utah tribes of Indians, and their allies. To this end, the Quartermaster's, Ordnance, and Commissary Departments, have already been put into active requisition, and orders have been dispatched with remarkable promptitude to all the different posts that are located in the neighborhood of the Mojave country, or from which reinforcements may be required. The promptitude, vigor and energy, displayed by the veteran officer in command, is worthy of all praise, and cannot fail to exercise a moral effect on the savages which must be productive of beneficial results. They will learn, for the first time, that the exhibition of hostilities on their part will be to insure immediate and condign punishment."

OREGON.—Census returns from Oregon, which are regarded as authentic, have been received at Washington, and they claim only about 40,000 population, with 9,000 voters. This is the Territory which Mr. Buchanan recommends should be made into a State, as an exception to the general principle of requiring the requisite population for one Representative. Kansas has already thrown about 5,000 more votes than Oregon can, and her population is nearly double that of Oregon. She has formed one constitution to suit herself, and been admitted under it by one House of Congress, as was the case with Oregon; and she was again admitted by both Houses under another constitution, with the mere reservation of a right—so said the Administration leaders—to reject a certain land ordinance, upon which actual admission was contingent. More and better reasons, therefore, can be urged in favor of admitting Kansas than can be found in the service of Oregon. But the latter is Democratic, and the former is not; Oregon may help elect a Democratic President in the House of Representatives, and Kansas may defeat that project; Oregon will serve to piece out the Democratic domination in the U. S. Senate, and Kansas will hasten its overthrow—and herein are the real reasons of the President's one-sided recommendation. We doubt, however, if it prevails.—Boston Journal.

PARAGUAY.—The ruler of Paraguay

seems to have just waked up to the fact that the United States is in earnest in its demonstration. The 'Seminar,' which is said to be conducted by President Lopez himself, in its issue of Nov. 22, announces that 'the Republic is ready for war if war is to come,' and it continues its bold words, and calls upon neighboring States to rally for the mutual defense, as follows:

"We are resolved to maintain our rights with all the tenacity their justice authorizes. We shall stand firmly together, without being appalled by consequences, keeping ever in sight our outraged national dignity. We do not hesitate to say that this war, when it once shall have begun, will undoubtedly affect the security of our neighboring States, and that, to preserve their integrity and tranquillity, they must not admit into their political schemes a sentiment of entire indifference to the attack made upon the Republic of Paraguay."

A REMARKABLE CONFESSION.—Mr.

Spratt, who made a very able speech in the South Carolina Legislature in favor of the revival of the African slave trade, says of the discouragements which now surround the great institution of the South:

"Its friends, who speak for its integrity, and who claim the means to its extension, are looked upon as agitators, and I now—who speak truly what I believe for its advancement and the advancement of humanity, in which, under Heaven, I believe it is to be the most potent agent this world has ever seen—am sure that scarce a woman's heart in all this land responds to what I say, or that, from the pious and pure, whom most I would wish to please, if to please them were consistent with my duty, will rise one prayer for the measure we propose. These things being so, it is time that slavery should be roused to a consciousness of responsibility for its own preservation."

THE POSTAGE SYSTEM.—The Senate

Post Office Committee, it is said, will shortly bring forward a proposition changing the present system of ocean mail service, and abolishing the franking privilege.—Their intention is believed to be, to allow no more for the transportation of the ocean mails, in any service, than the postage received from that particular source. The department is understood to sanction the adoption of such a rule.

THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC RAILROAD.—

The stockholders of the Southern Pacific Railroad have recently held a meeting at New Orleans, and it is supposed have arranged matters so that the work on the road will be continued. It is stated that the entire liability of the company is about \$500,000. To meet the trust deeds of the company, amounting to \$327,000, there are in the hands of the Treasurer \$135,000, and \$110,000 can be obtained from other sources. It is said that nothing remains to be done but to relinquish the suit for forfeiture of the charter, which will be done.

BRITAIN SUPPORTING IDOLATRY.—The

Rev. Baptist W. Noel of London, in his recent work on the Government of India, makes the following singular, and doubtless authentic statement:

"In the Madras Presidency there are now 8,292 idols and temples, receiving from Government an annual payment of £28,678. In the Bombay Presidency there are 26,589 idols and temples under State patronage, receiving grants to the amount of £30,587 10s; to which must be added the allowance of temple lands—giving a total for the Bombay Presidency of £29,859 6s. In the whole of the Company's territories there is annually expended in the support of idolatry, by the servants of the Company, the large sum of £171,558 12s."

VITALITY OF SEEDS.—The idea is prevalent

that some seeds will keep for a long time. The Agricultural Gazette gives the following result of some experiments. The first figure shows the number sown, and the second the number that grew—all three-year old seed: Parsley, 130—42; caraway, 600—2; parsnip, 300—20; carrot, 800—79; stocks, 600—236; candy tuft, 100—11; rape, 450—233; turnip, 900—325; cabbage, 150—11.

Ministers of the Gospel are not allowed to hold seats in the North Carolina Legislature, and Rev. Wm. P. Taylor would likely have lost his seat, as a member from Chatham county, last winter, had it not been proven that he had not been for some time past "in the exercise of pastoral functions."