

The National Intelligencer,

A N D
WASHINGTON AVERTISER.

Vol. 1. WASHINGTON CITY, PRINTED BY SAMUEL HARRISON SMITH, NEW-JERSEY AVENUE, NEAR THE CAPITOL. No. 13.
SIX DOLLARS PER ANNO. FRIDAY MARCH 20th, 1861. PAID IN ADVANCE.

NAILS.

A. L. Kinds of Hammered and Cut Nails, and
Bridle, double & wire, also the wire
from the President's house and the buildings
at the following prices for Cash only.

By weight and by the dozen.	
1/2 inch Nails	11 1/2
3/4 inch Nails	11 1/2
1 inch Nails	11 1/2
1 1/4 inch Nails	11 1/2
1 1/2 inch Nails	11 1/2
1 3/4 inch Nails	11 1/2
2 inch Nails	11 1/2
2 1/4 inch Nails	11 1/2
2 1/2 inch Nails	11 1/2
2 3/4 inch Nails	11 1/2
3 inch Nails	11 1/2
3 1/4 inch Nails	11 1/2
3 1/2 inch Nails	11 1/2
3 3/4 inch Nails	11 1/2
4 inch Nails	11 1/2

SAMUEL M'FARRE,
Washington, Feb. 8, 1861.

Kid, Eliot & Co.

HAVE received by this arrival, a general
assortment of "Hudon" and "Hannaway"
which they offer for sale at their store opposite
the Great Hotel.

- They have also on hand—
- Mackinac
 - Sherry & Wine
 - Lafayette
 - Whisky
 - Brandy
 - Tomato
 - Hotellin
 - London and Brown Sugar
 - Tea, Coffee, Rice, &c.
- Washington, Dec. 18, 1860.

Nail Manufactory,

A. L. Kinds of Cut Nails for Sale by Wholesale
and Retail at the Factory on F Street
and at the Hardware Store of the subscriber
where persons building and all others wishing
to purchase may be supplied with any quantity
at the most reasonable rates.

JOHN JACK,
Washington Feb. 4, 1861.

Conrad & M'Nunn

HAVE several boxes of entertainment in
the shape of buildings formerly occupied by
Mr. Linn, about two hundred paces from the
Capitol, in New Jersey avenue, leading from
the Capitol to the Eastern Branch. They are faced
with stone and convenient, one of which is designed
for page publishers and travelers, the other for
the accommodation of boarders. They are at
least sufficient for 60 horses.—They hope to
meet public patronage.

City of Washington, Nov. 24, 1860.

FOR SALE, OR RENT.

TWO Brick dwelling houses, situated on the
Pennsylvania-avenue near the President's house,
each containing two fine parlors and parlors and
pavilions on the first floor, four landing rooms,
including garret, six privies, kitchen and cellar
and the whole will be completely finished in a few
days, the walls are plastered and the floors
which will render the same as convenient
as a room as any in this City for a private family
and will be sold for less than any gentleman can
have the same built for. A family of negroes
will be taken in part payment, or less will be
advanced for slaves. For particulars enquire
of the President of

MARCH 11, 1861. OWEN ROBERTS.

ROBERT ELLIS

AT THE Hotel lately occupied as the Little
Hotel—has for sale at low rates, the
following articles, viz—
Mackinac, all quality,
Dry Sherries,
Port,
Tennessee,
Mulligan,
No. 4th, and 2nd proof Cognac Brandy,
No. 1st and 2nd proof Jamaica Spirit,
No. 1st and 2nd proof Brandy,
Country Rum and Whisky,
And a general Assortment of Groceries.
Also a large supply of Louisiana Morocco
Shawls, and Irish Quality Shaws.
Washington, March 12, 1861.

WANTED a large headstrong MAKE
any 7 or 8 Clinker calico, accustomed to
draw in Herts, not more than seven years old
and which a GELDING will be given in ex-
change and the driver of value if any paid
Golds. Enquire of Mr. Dixon, at the Capital,
Washington, Feb. 15, 1861.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

TUESDAY, MARCH 20.
Evening Session, 6 o'clock.

Bill to prevent the Secretary of the navy
from trading, &c.

Mr. S. Smith said the evident tendency
of the bill was to prevent the executive
selecting mercantile men to fill these offices.
Mr. Livingston moved to add the Secre-
taries of State and of War. He wished to
know what occurrence had transpired to
make such a prohibition necessary? None
had been mentioned: none he believed had
occurred. In the particular instance of pro-
hibiting the Secretary of the treasury from
engaging in trade, &c. there was more rea-
son, from his having in his portfolio much
public money, and because it would be ex-
ceedingly improper to open the means for
him to trade or speculate with it, but there
could be the same occasion for prohibi-
ting the other officers. If the prohibi-
tion was now to take place, it would be sup-
ported by the world, that the gentleman
who had filled these offices had actually
traded with the money which he had in his
hands, belonging to the public. One of
the gentlemen who was secretary at war,
at a time he was chosen to office, was
commercial man, but was it ever said, or
even thought, that he acted dishonestly,
or used public money to promote his private
interest? He believed not: he thought
there was no doubt of his integrity. Why
then should the house prevent the president
of the United States from choosing men
for office out of what class of citizens his
judgment might suggest? What he
would like, had commercial men done to
prevent the president of the United States
from the gentleman of New-York? He
wished gentlemen to look at the revenue
laws and the duties: they were not paid
by commercial men. The amount of their
annual payment of the duties here and
their general conduct, he thought, fully
revived the honor and the honesty of that
class of men, and proved them worthy to
be entrusted, as well as all other citizens
with office of trust.

But did the gentleman suppose his propo-
sition would effect his end? If so, he was
mistaken. For if a man entrusted with
public money was to be prevented from
acting in commerce, what was to prevent
him, whether merchant or not? Other
means could be found than those which a
single one could discover. He hoped the
amendment and the law itself would be
negotiated.

Mr. Child moved to postpone till 50
minutes past 11 o'clock.

It was not carried.

Mr. Livingston had he had attended, in
vain to bear any distinction drawn between
the Secretary of the navy, and those of
peace and war. To this difference only
the arguments he might have gone, for no
farther did his mind go; but gentlemen had
had argued against the whole principles
of the bill. The argument of the motion
implying distrust, might have had more
weight to the bill before, but to in-
clude the heads of all the departments was
a sufficient answer. It was not upon grounds
of distrust that he made his motion: it was
upon this wide, insuperable principle,
that when a man is taken to fill either of
those great departments, the country has
a right to his whole time and his whole
attention, that the motion was made.
Why, he would like the gentleman to ask
could have induced him to propose, that
the merchant alone was pointed out as an
object of distrust? Mr. L. declared he did
not wish to particularize of men, but what
kind of a merchant or a tradesman could
make at the head of either of these de-
partments? The principle was incoher-
ent, that nothing ought to interfere
to divert attention from the public con-
cerns and a high officer of the govern-
ment, who was not employed because it
was necessary to prevent that selection of
the United States be drawn from his public

his bench, by any other avocation he might
wish to pursue for leisure, than should a
Secretary from his office.

Mr. L. would further observe that it
was not from any misconduct of this kind
which he had observed in those who had
filled public offices: he rather wondered
that it had not long ere now, been intro-
duced as a subject in the management
of public concern: it was from this view
he wished to introduce it; and how the
reasons for the bill, without the amend-
ment, could be supported, he could not
conceive.

Mr. H. Lee contended that the
President of the United States was to take
his cabinet from among the people of the
United States, and ought not to be pro-
hibited from selecting such men as he thought
fit to fill the offices with credit to them-
selves and to the nation. Sir, had he
seen the bill, he would have been glad to
see that the officers were, and verified by them,
that the officers of the people were. If
gentlemen tell me that the president has
his selection because the gentleman
may quit their business, I deny it: if a
man once become a merchant and
continuing in that occupation for ten years,
is a merchant for life; for his time leave
of office in any period, three months or
less, is not sufficient to qualify him to
hold office, which, if he studies his own interest,
must be attended to. Sir, I tremble not
your confidence in his choice; let him have
the liberty of choosing men of honor and
integrity, and you need not fear a degra-
dation of their principles, mere than from
men of independence.

This new principle in relation I am
not for adopting; I never can derive from
those principles under which our happy
government has so long flourished. I an-
ticipate principles, and giving to the
President of the United States the same
power, the same freedom of selection
which we have given four years ago, although
the gentleman who filled that high office
did not the same. Commercial men, Sir,
are the most competent to fill the office of
Secretary of the navy, because well acquainted
with the foreign relations and concerns of
our country. Exclude commercial men
from the office of Secretary, and you exclude
the most qualified.

Mr. LIVINGSTON explained the motives
of his conduct: he wished to preserve that
system of conduct which he always had
preferred, and he wished to give to the
executive that direction and limitation he
had always desired to do. It was always
his opinion, and continued to be so, that
if all men were honest there would be no
occasion for laws: all men were honest,
there would be no occasion for that house
to sit to make them, and therefore they
ought to go home, and never return. But
this was not the case; while there were
men, who were not honest, and traitors
to keep men to their duty.

Mr. H. LEE, having obtained leave to
speak again, again contended against the
principle of the amendment, and
wished the house would not place the re-
striction in such a fault-finding situation as this
measure would place him, and snatch from
him a prerogative his situation demanded.

Mr. C. was supported by the
gentlemen from New-York: repre-
sentative of a commercial city, should advocate
free principles. He conceived it to be a
question of confidence in the President of
the United States, and perhaps would be
of some weight, if that officer had not the
power of removing the secretaries of the
different departments, whenever he thought
them unworthy of public confidence,
whenever they would fail in the public trust,
to neglect their duties, or whenever they
should neglect their business. This was
certainly a very different case from that
of a man who was not to be removed ex-
cept upon misconduct, which could only be
shown by impeachment. He opposed the
bill and the amendment, because it was an
interference upon executive privilege—because
it was a high officer of the Government,
and he was not employed because it
was necessary to prevent that selection of
men whose talents and integrity may be not

calculated for the general interest of the
union—and most of all, because it went
to divide the navy of the United States,
whose well government and regulation de-
pended very much upon the talents of the
character who was placed at the head of
that department: it was not because it
affected this or that merchant or tradesman.
He wished to see a man of property, a man
of commercial knowledge, a man of experi-
ence; and a man who was attached to the
navy at the head of that department. By
this bill a man in that situation will be
precluded from placing his money in the
public funds; from dealing in public bonds;
from putting it in commerce, or from ut-
ting it in trade of any kind. Now, he
wished to ask, what was a man of large prop-
erty to do with his money? It could not
be supposed that men of large capital, or
men of business, or men of experience,
would accept an appointment, under the
limitations to which they must subject
themselves.

Mr. MASON hoped the amendment
would be agreed to, and the bill pass.
He supposed the bill must have originated
in some sense, either from past experience,
or from the intrinsic necessity of such a
provision to what might produce a
public fraud, by public money being
used for the private advantage? Man
in man wherever he is placed, and to guard
against his frailties, a law legislation,
he wished to confide the money of the
people to no man farther than was neces-
sary.

Mr. S. Smith answered, that it would
be impossible by any measure of this kind
to make a dishonest man act with integ-
rity. It will be to the honor and honesty
of the man the public property must be
confided. He proposed an interference of
association in a public officer who was in-
cluded with the good of the community,
but it was not the act of a merchant, he
said; and not from merchants, nor from
any particular description of men, but men
devoted of principle, evils were to be ex-
pected. In the country, integrity and hon-
esty, he thought, were the right of a
public confidence.

On the question, the amendment was
lost.

The bill was also refused a third read-
ing, and fell.

Mr. PAGE moved the following resolu-
tion:

Resolved, That the thanks of the house
be presented to President Lincoln for his
conduct while in the chair of this
house.

The question was taken whether this
motion was in order. It was decided to
be in order.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. CHURCHILL had he should not point
out the impropriety in the conduct of
the speaker, while in the chair, otherwise
than by his vote, though he possessed the
right to call up to the recollection of the
house the many inoffensiveness his pre-
decessors had been marked with. In doing
that, Mr. Speaker, I do not wish to be
better to you than you have ever done to
me.

The cry of order, order prevented any
more being said, and Mr. Churchill sat
down.

Those who supported the vote of thanks
were—

- Melliss, Barr, Bartlett, Bayard, J. Brown,
Champlin, Crink, Duff, J. E. Fox,
F. Davenport, Dennis, Dickson, Edwin
Givens, F. Gier, Glen, C. Goodrich, Gill,
Hunt, Grove, Harvey, Hurdston, Huger,
Ingham, Kitteras, M. Lee, S. Lee, Morris,
Niles, Piquery, Pratt, Pomeroy, Reed, N.
Reid, Shepard, J. C. Smith, Stearns, Ten-
nessee, Thatcher, J. C. Thomas, L. Wil-
liams, Wood—40.

NOTICE.

C. M. Allen, Bailey, R. Brown, Car-
bell, Childs, Claiborne, Davis, Dawson,
Dett, Eggleston, Fowler, Gallatin, Gregg,
Hanna, Hefflers, Holmes, Leibs, Lyon,
Mason, Piquery, Macco, Mahaffey,
New, Nicholas, Randolph, Smith, J.
Smith, S. Smith, Spaulth, Staunton, Stone,
Sumpter, J. Tugge, Varnum, R. W. W.