THE RICHMOND PALLADIUM.

TERMS---TWO DOLLARS IN ADVANCE. "Be Just and fear not; Let all the ends thou aim'st at, be thy Country's, thy God's and Truth's" HOLLOWAY & DAVIS, Publishers.

Vol. XXIX. Richmond, Wayne County, Indiana, March 3rd, 1859. No. 12.

WAYNE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

SALES.

One Chance more for a Bargain.

The undersigned offers for sale the valuable private residence formerly owned by Dr. Plummer, situated on Front Street, in this city. The house is a good two story brick, in good repair. There are ten rooms, a good stable, carriage and wood house, fruit trees, &c. The property will be sold low for cash down, or will be sold at an advance price on time payments. For further particulars enquire of H. H. PAYNE, in this city, or of ALEX. JOHNSTON, No. 21 Main street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Richmond, Feb. 17, 1859. 10tf

Public Sale.

WILL be sold on Thursday, the 10th day of March next, in Hillsboro' the personal effects, not taken by the widow, belonging to the estate of William W. Thomas, deceased; late of this county. Terms made known on the day of sale. Sale to commence at 10 o'clock.

ENOS THOMAS, Admr.

Feb. 7, 1859. 10 3w

Sheriff's Sale.

BY virtue of an Execution to me directed, from the Wayne Circuit Court, I will expose at public sale at the Court House door, in Centreville, Wayne County, Indiana, on the 5th day of March, 1859, between the hours of 10 o'clock A. M. and 4 o'clock P. M. on said day, the following described Real Estate, situate in the—Lot No. twelve (12) in Hickle & Lee's addition to the city of Richmond, all situated in Wayne County, Indiana—Taken as the property of John Greenwood at the suit of said execution, in favor of Thomas Manning.

J. S. STIGHAM, Shff. W. C.

Feb. 10, 1859. 8 3w

For Sale—In Richmond,

ABOUT two acres of Land, near the Depot, with the following improvements: Large Frame Dwelling, Stable, Carriage House, Wash House, Wood House, Well, Cistern, good Spring and Spring House, Fruit Trees, Shrubbery, &c. Nice property. Will take small house and lot in exchange.

A good House and Lot on Fort Wayne Avenue, 5 rooms, good Cellar, Well and Cistern.

All the above property will be sold low, on easy payments. Possession given immediately.

JAMES M. POE.

Richmond, Feb 5, 1859. 9tf

Executor's Sale.

Will be sold at Public Sale on Saturday, the 5th day of March next, in Hagerstown, the personal property of Mahala Wilson, deceased, consisting of Hogs, Milk Cow, and a great variety of Household and Kitchen Furniture. Sale to commence at 10 o'clock on said day, when terms will be made known.

M. HOYD,
JACOB ALLEN,
Executors.

Feb 10, '59. 9-3t

640 Acres of Land for Sale,

CHEAP for Cash or city property, in Marathon county, Wisconsin, and Hyde county, Kansas, well watered, some timbered, and a rich soil.

Address by person or letter,

C. F. WIBUP,
Or, JEHIEL RAILSBACK.

Richmond, Ind., June 17, 1858. 27tf

For Sale.

SOME Beautiful lots of Land from one to five acres situated one mile west of Richmond on the National Road. The above Lots can be bought on five annual payments, with 6 per cent. interest.

JOHN P. SMITH.

Sep. 16, 1858 4tf

For Sale on Favorable Terms,

AN excellent Brick House with 4 acres of Land, situate 1 mile north of Richmond. The House is substantially built and well finished. There are 2 rooms and a large attic, also one of the best cellars the whole size of the House is here in a tenement house, wood house, smoke house and spring house, with a never failing spring, also a good well and cistern, and a large stable.

Enquire of JOS. DICKINSON.

Jan 20, 1859. 6tf

Head Quarters For Trade!

For Sale:

600 ACRES of beautifully situated rich land in Middle Tennessee, lying on the great Turnpike Road leading from Nashville to Knoxville. A portion is cleared and under good fence. There will be a large Town and Cotton assessible. There are sets of Farm Buildings, good Orchards of Peach and Apple Trees. Land, all susceptible of cultivation and rich and productive. Elegant timber and very healthy region of country.

I will sell the above altogether or in smaller quantities

W. T. DENNIS,
Real Estate Agent.

June 10, 1858. 20tf

JAMES M. POE,
REAL ESTATE AGENT AND NOTARY PUBLIC,

Executes Deeds, Mortgages &c.,
In a Neat Style.

Main Street, Brightwill Building.

BUYS & SELLS REAL ESTATE, &C.

LANDS for sale in Indiana, Illinois and Iowa; also of it would be exchanged for City property.

Also Houses and Lots in the city of Richmond, and Farms near the city. The following property will be sold low and on easy payments:

1 Good Frame House and Lot on Sharp Front Street.
1 Brick and 1 Frame House and Lots on Mill street.
One House and Lot on West Richmond.
One House and Lot in Hagerstown.
44 Acres of Land, one mile south of Richmond.
1 Acre lots on Richmond and Oakland.
11 Choice Lots in Savastapol, near the Railroad Bridge.
About 9 acres of first rate Land adjoining Savastapol, near the Railroad Bridge, small House on it.

The Great "Western Combination"

PLOW.

The undersigned having for years been studying the wants of the Farmer, and having heard all the objections that can possibly be urged against the ordinary styles of Plows, have at last been rewarded for their trouble by the discovery of their Great Western Combination Plow which being made of Steel or Cast Iron, or of the materials combined, is warranted to scour in all kinds of land, and its peculiar shape for lightness of draught and pulverizing the ground makes it in all respects superior to all other plows. The undersigned are ready to give a premium over the common plows, and to prove what we say.

1st. It is so constructed that any part of it can be renewed at any time without the trouble of taking the plow to the shop, as is the case with all other plows. Some of our size plow are all made of the same pattern, so that the Farmer has only to send the number of his plow to get any part he may want to repair.

2d. The handles and standard are cast in one piece, together with a binder for the purpose of changing the land from a two to a three horse plow, making the plow for the size as the other by simply inserting the bolt in the beam.

3d. The mould boards and shears are made of either cast or cast iron, so that the mould boards will last almost about as long and cost about as the shear, or by having extra pieces (which can be changed at a small expense) for the shares, can use any part of it combined having the Steel Share, which is one of the best lands ever invented, and can be fastened on either side of the land side to be used on either side, and can be made at either steel or cast iron, and can be renewed at great at a very small expense.

4th. The undersigned are constantly at work, when not on work out, any farmer with but a hand axe and drawing knife can replace it with a new one, or by sending the broken part to the shop we can send him one ready fitted to the plow.

With each Combination Plow we sell, we will give the purchaser a steel and cast iron shear without any extra charge, so that he may have at his disposal of changing the relative qualities of the two, and determining for himself which is the cheapest for him to use. The shear is so constructed as with only one bolt, or two at most, to fasten it with less than half the work that the old style of bar shear can, and is vastly stronger, in short, equal to laid as nearly as the old style and with much less danger of breaking the share, and the share with the Steel Share can be made for less than half the price of the old style, and cast iron shares can be furnished for sixty cents each, making it much less expensive, and it is good working order than the common bar shear plow.

☞ The above Plow took the First Premium, $20 over all others, at the Ind. State Fair, Oct. 1858, for general purposes.

We also received the First Premium at the same Fair on the following implements, viz: Best Our Horse Cultivator, Best Iron Mould Board Plow, Best Two Horse Harrow, and Best Double Shovel Plow.

We would recommend all to give the

Great Western Combination Plow,

A trial, and if it does not work entirely satisfactory we will refund the money to the purchaser. We have also hand a full assortment of our celebrated,

Great Western Cast Steel Plows,

Which took the First Premium, at the Indiana State Fair for 1856-'57, and the Ohio State Fair for 1857, for General Purposes; also the First Premium over all others for all trial and strongths, together with a great variety of one, two and three horse Shovel Plows.

CULTIVATORS, HORSE RAKES, CORN SHELLERS, and a general variety and a assortment of AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS

☞ The above Articles can be had at our old stand in Indianapolis, of PAGE & BEARDS.

BEARD & SINEX, Richmond, Ind.

January 6, 1858.

The Indiana Contested Election.

Debate in the United State Senate.

Mr. SEWARD'S EXPUNGING RESOLUTION.

The Squatters, Bright and Fitch Sacrificed.

Correspondence of the N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 14 1859.

The debate in the Senate to-day, on the Indiana contested election case, was one of the ablest that has taken place during this Congress. At the close of Mr. Hunter's speech on the Tariff, the new Senators from Oregon, the thirty-third State of the Union, were sworn in, and the case was called up. The following is an abstract of the debate, reported for the N. Y. Tribune:

Mr. Collamer desired to call up the case of the Indiana Senators. If the Chair decided that it was not a privileged question, he would move to take it up.

The Vice-President said the motion was one of privilege, but yet under the control of the Senate. The Senate having decided to lay it on the table, he had the right, as a matter of privilege, at any time to make the motion, but it would require a vote to take it up.

Mr. Collamer moved to take the matter up. He thought it strange that Senators should not be willing to pass upon the question of whether these men should be heard or not. It would be only common courtesy to inform them of their decision on that point.

Mr. Bayard considered that the action of the Senate in laying the subject on the table had the effect of discharging the Judiciary Committee, which was all they asked.

Mr. Seward stated that the effect of the pending amendment (offered by Mr Pugh) would be practically to refuse the contestants a hearing.

The motion to take up the subject prevailed and the pending amendment was read.

Mr. Crittenden said he was in favor of giving these men an opportunity to be heard, although, in his opinion, the former action of the Senate was final; but, as the question was now presented, it seemed to be impossible to withstand a vote upon the question of giving them a hearing.

Mr. Bayard said the Committee reported only upon the Indiana memorial. The preliminary question was whether the Senate would consent to reopen their deliberate decision of the late session. Until that question had been determined, until that decision had been reversed, no claimant had a right to be heard on that floor.

Mr. Collamer argued that Indiana had a right to be heard, by its chosen representatives here; upon this very question, which the Senator from Delaware were disposed to regard as incapable of revision. If Indiana was not to be heard by her proper representatives, she must be heard by those who did not properly represent her. An unlawful election could not be made lawful by a decision of the Senate. Suppose it should appear that some Senator held his seat by forged credentials, would not the Senate have power to reverse its decision admitting him to seat? If the State Legislature, having the right to make an election, decided that they had made none until now, and proceeded to elect Senators and sent them here, they ought to give those Senators a fair hearing and not fall back upon the ground of the infallibility of some former decision. He cited precedents of contested elections in the House. In a case where members were chosen at a special election, they were unseated by members chosen at the ensuing regular election. The House then reexamined and rescinded its former decision. He thought it was right and the duty of the Senate to reexamine its decision in this case. It might be that the resolution offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Pugh) would be the proper one, after a hearing, but certainly it would be premature to adopt it before a hearing.

Mr. Pugh insisted that his amendment was not only the proper one, but offered at the proper time. These claimants had no right whatever to be heard. Their credentials were no more than blank paper. They were simply the papers of a politician from certain members of the Indiana Legislature who had sought by legislation to override the decision of the Senate, and make vacancies for those men to fill. These men, if they had a case, ought certainly to be heard, but they had no case. The first question for the Senate to determine was, whether there was any contestants here. If they could reconsider their decisions, there would be nothing to prevent contested elections from being argued over and over again. The Constitution makes the Senate "judges" of the elections of members, and their decisions are clearly judicial, and not legislative acts. Chancellors Kent had decided that, in such a case, the House acted in a judicial character. The decision of the Senate last session was an end of that case as then presented.

A number of forged credentials had been proposed. In such a case, there could be a rehearing; but not if the forgery had been previously alleged and decided by the Senate.—There must be a new case to authorize a new hearing. If their decision had sunned the Senators from Indiana, nobody would claim that they now had a right to a rehearing.—There was not a new fact alleged in this Indiana memorial. Whether the Senate had erred or not, they had heard and decided the whole case which is sought to be reopened.

Mr. Trumbull said they were not only called upon to refuse the Senators from Indiana a hearing, but they refused an opportunity to vote as to whether or not they would give them a hearing. The State of Indiana said this matter had not been decided, and the minority of the Judiciary Committee said the same; but the majority of that Committee said it had been decided, and therefore the Senate should not hear it. A vote upon the resolution of the Senate, reported without a reason for it, was to be interpreted to shield these Senators, who held their seats illegally. They refused to admit Senators, legally and constitutionally elected by Indiana, because at a former session the Senate adopted a resolution. It was not reported, and was not pretended that the former decision was right, but in fact they were setting up this body as the constitutional electors of Senators of Indiana. He contended that the case was altogether different from the one which the Senate decided last year, and quoted from speeches of the friends of the sitting Senators made at that session, alleging that there was no contest and no complaint from the Legislature or constituted authorities of Indiana, only a complaint from individuals. The Senate then did wrong, and Senators would now shield themselves behind that wrong, acting under the claim of *res adjudicata*. He reviewed the circumstances attending the election of the sitting members, urging that it was wholly illegal and unconstitutional. He read from the proceedings of the House, in the case of Claiborne and Colton, when gentlemen now Senators, voted to rescind a solemn adjudication of the House. He call upon those Senators to show their consistency by opposing this amendment, which would declare this question *res adjudicata*.

Mr. Green said the votes on the amendment pending would finally determine the right of the sitting members to return their seats; and that they did not want the advice of those gentlemen claiming seats. The Senate was responsible for its decision, and asked for no advice from outsiders who had no rights there. No Senator could say he would be better informed after hearing these claimants than he is already. He had hoped when the Senate had deliberately laid this subject upon the table, that it would be suffered to rest there. He proceeded to defend the former decision of the Senate, and held that it was disrespectful to the Senate and to the sitting Senators to assert here that that State is unrepresented. The State of Indiana had not said so, because the Governor has not sanctioned this late proceeding; and, if they would go to the people of Indiana, they would decide that they were fairly and legitimately represented. A decision as to filling a seat was of the nature of a proceeding in rem; one decision in the affirmative or in the negative, neither side could claim a rehearing; and to do so was, in his opinion, disrespectful to the Senate.

Mr. Bayard argued that the former decision of the Senate was finality. I was carried upon the principle that there must be some time or other, an end to litigation and dispute. The State of Indiana had a right fully to fill vacancies occurring in her representation in the Senate, and her attempt to elect Senators when the Senate had decided that no vacancy existed was an act of contempt of this body. He supposed these gentlemen sought admission upon this floor for the purpose of making stump speeches for circulation in Indiana. If the Senate should establish the precedent of revising its decisions the tenure of the office of the United States Senator would be gone. The Constitution made the term six years, but a State Legislature might elect Senators at any time, send them here armed with memorials, and take the chances of political changes among sitting members. He did not fully concur with the former decision of the Senate, but that was while unwarranted, as he held that decision to be wholly irreversible by this body.

Mr Seward urged strenuously the rights of the contestants to be heard on the floor of the Senate. He had not designed, he said, to take much part in this discussion, but to content himself with the simple record of his vote; but in the course of the discussion the question had assumed such an extraordinary shape, and propositions of such momentous, extraordinary and dangerous character had been advanced, that he felt it his duty to protest against them. Gentlemen had charged him with introducing many Constitutional heresies into the Senate; the event would prove whether what now was denounced as heresies would not be regarded fifty years hence, as they were fifty years ago, as sound Constitutional doctrines. But never in his life had he heard a vaunted heresies so wild, so extravagant, and so dangerous to the liberty of the people and the independence and sovereignty of the States, as had been advanced in this body in the course of this debate. The decision of the Senate at the last session had been declared final, irrevocable, and therefore infallible. He doubted that this body had ever made such a thing, or could ever make such a thing, as a final and irrevocable decision. The Senate did not possess so much wisdom that it was impossible for them to err. They were fallible, as Parliament said for the British Parliament, when this body sought to dispossess him of his seat—they were fallible to act under the influence of prejudice, of passion, of power, ah, and sometimes even of corruption. The Senators as not above human frailties. And it was the right of the Senate, he begged to remind Senators, to arraign this Senate for its errors. It was their right to teach this Senate that it is a creation of the States—not a creator—a servant, and not a master, of the sovereign States of the confederacy. The States were not to be silenced and stifled by a resolution or mandate of the Senate. The power by which complaints are stifled is the power which makes revolutions. They might strike, but they must first hear. Not even in a despotism was it safe to strike without first according the alleged victim an opportunity to be heard. He denied the position assumed by some Senators, that the decision of the last session was of the nature of a judgment. There could be no judgment pronounced except by a judicial power, and, not being clothed with judicial power by the Constitution, the Senate could not, therefore, pronounce a judgment. He argued at some length that the Senate was purely a legislative body, and incompetent under the Constitution, of any acts but legislative acts. He produced the Senate journals containing the record of a resolution passed by the Senate in 1834, censuring Gen. Jackson for the removal of the deposits—three years afterward, he found another resolution, ordering that the resolution of censure passed by the former body be expunged and therefore was wiped deep black lines drawn around it, and the words "expunged by order of the Senate" written across it. He expected to be borne down here, but he wished to give the Senate notice that he should follow the example of the precedent to which he had referred, and offer the following resolution:

Resolved, That the resolution adopted by the Senate on the 12th of June, 1858, which resolution is in these words, to wit:

"*Resolved*, That Graham N. Fitch and Jesse D. Bright, Senators returned and admitted from the State of Indiana, are entitled to the seats which they now hold in the Senate as such Senators aforesaid, the former until the 4th of March 1861, and the latter until the 4th of March, 1863, according to the tenor of their respective credentials," be expunged from the journal, and for that purpose, the Secretary of the Senate, at such time as the Senate may appoint, shall bring the manuscript journal of the session of 1857-58 into the Senate, and in the presence of the Senate, draw black lines round the said resolution, and write across the face thereof, in strong letters, the following words:

"EXPUNGED, BY ORDER OF THE SENATE, THIS——DAY OF——, IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD EIGHTEEN HUNDRED AND——."

And every succeeding session, so long as his shield remain here, he would call for the passage of this resolution; and when the time should come for him to leave that chamber, he declared not that he would leave behind him some member who would pick it in pressing the resolution, until the peril—which was neither distant—should come when this fond irrevocable and infallible resolution as it was now proclaimed here to be, should be reconsidered, and not only rescinded but expunged.

Mr. Green said they had acted on his side of the chamber, as they believed to be right, and supposed the Senator from New-York had done the same. He deprecated these appeals to popular passions and prejudice. While he was in Government he would submit to Government, and when he was tired of Government he would leave it. He decided that all legislative acts were repealable. For instance, the repeal of the act conveying vested rights did not effect the right conveyed. All legislative power is vested in the two Houses of congress, and therefore the passing upon the question of the election of a member by one House was not a legislative act. It was special power conferred by the Constitution. It was unquestionably right to repeal the resolution about Gen. Jackson and the deposits, for the Senate had no right to pass it originally; but this was a subject clearly within the jurisdiction of Congress, and in entirely different manner.

Mr. Hale said the difference was the same as in the case of the bull that gored the ox. In the case of the resolution of 1834, it was the Whig ox that was gored.

Mr. Green inquired on which side the Senator from New Hampshire was there—the gored or the gorer?

Mr. Hale said he was then a Democrat, without respect to complexion. A man was in more days allowed to believe all men are born free and equal," without interpolating the word "white." He took up on this question as one of the gravest that could be brought before the Senate. It was the first step toward the perpetuation of the power of the Senate independent of the sovereign States. It was the arbitrary will of the majority bringing men upon that floor who had no rights there. It was begging the question to assert that there was no case at all. To offset that he would give his opinion that the sitting members had no right at all. The Senate had committed a palpable usurpation, and the Legislature of Indiana would be recreant to duty if it had not done what it had done to vindicate the sovereignty of the State. He believed the rights of the States were being trodden down by the Senate, and he hoped the people would teach them that Senators are servants, not masters of the people. In a moment of fancied omnipotence, the Senate had committed this usurpation, and now in their fancied infallibility they would refuse to undo it. The only appeal was to the tribunal of popular opinion, which rejected a plea of omnipotence or infallibility will avail.

Mr. Clarkson moved that the subject be recommitted to the Judiciary Committee, with instructions to inquire whether Messrs. Fitch and Bright or Messrs. Lane and McCarty, or either of them, have been constitutionally and legally elected, and report the facts and the law bearing on the subject to the Senate, and that the contestants be allowed to appear when the report shall be made and argue the question of their rights to seats.

He desired in some way to give these contestants an opportunity to be heard, a courtesy which had never before been denied at any contested election. He proceeded to argue that these contestants were legally elected, and that the case now presented was a different one from that presented at the last session.

Mr. Pugh referred to the Rhode Island case, when one Legislature undertook to annul an election by the preceding Legislature, but was not sustained by the Senate. He was ready to meet the Senator from New-Hampshire when he should appeal to the people. He had not by his vote made these contested elections party questions, and would refer, to show that fact, to this vote in the case of the Iowa contest.

Mr. Fessenden defended his action in the Iowa case, and showed the decision between that case and this. In the case of Iowa there was legislative action; in the case of Indiana there was none. The Democratic Senators had distinctly repudiated in this case the principle they sought to establish in the other. He argued that the fact there was no power which could revise their decision caused to induce them to revise their own decision, and contended that the sitting members had a more constitutional right to their seats than any other two men who might apply for them.

Mr. Benjamin made a weak attempt to defend the constitutionality of the election of the Senators from Indiana, and charged the Republican Senators with being influenced by partisan motives.

Mr. Fessenden rejoined in a clear and statesmanlike exposition of the facts, showing that Mr. Benjamin's declarations were not only unlawyer-like, but that they were untrue.

Mr. Seward said he did not propose to assail the votes of other Senators, nor to defend his own votes; the record would speak upon that point. He was not disposed to leave this subject to the lawyers of any party; they had had too much of lawyers already, and he had no confidence in them whatever.—Lawyers are always disposed to favor the concentration of power against the people. But he did propose to appeal this question to the people; not only the people of Indiana, but of the whole United States. They would be competent to review their acts—the acts of their servants. He could point Senators not only to one, but to several precedents, in which the Senate of the United States has rescinded, revised or expunged resolutions which had been passed through by ambition and lust for power. He had cautiously abstained from the line of argument the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. Benjamin) had seen fit to pursue in reproaching partisan questions and allusions. But he must take leave now to say, that it was the nature of the Senate, as of any other legislative body, to decide questions of partisan power by partisan votes. This very decree, which was supposed to be final and infallible, was nothing more or less than the decree of an accidental majority of Democrats by ruling an equal number of Republican members. He wished human nature was not so weak, but they were always liable to be influenced, as he had before remarked, by power, by passion, and by prejudices and such, he feared, would be the fate in all legislative bodies, henceforth and forever. It was not disrespectful to the Senate, therefore, to remind them of this fact, and to allege, even, that they had decided this very question by a partisan vote. They had seen a great question carried before the Supreme Court of the United States, with all its awful dignity, and the decision made to square exactly upon party lines. The same infirmity was some years ago manifested in the Episcopal Church, when a certain ecclesiast was tried, and just exactly the number of Bishops who sympathized with the theological opinions of the accused, believed him to be innocent and all the others pronounced him guilty. He held, that the foundations of this Government were under the wall of this Senate Chamber, and the stones of these foundations are the rights of the States.—This decree assailed these rights. When they declared that they could admit Senators against the protest of a State, and refuse even to hear those she had sent to claim seats, they had transformed themselves into a close corporation, and ceased to be the Senate of the United States.

The Minority Report.

This statement signed by Messrs Sherman and Rust, in reply to the majority organization of the House as to the Navy Department, and the expenses attended with that department—$82,[illegible] [illegible] the Navy Yard, Washington, [illegible] the Navy Yard, Pensacola, [illegible] the Navy Yard, Gosport, [illegible] steam machinery.

The Coal Agency, which was established in 1854 and abolished in 1856, was reestablished in 1858 and continued in operation at the end of the year. Four sales of the agency were made, and the profits of the agency, as per a statement made by the Secretary of the Navy, and signed by the Hon. John P. Hale, Hon. Benjamin, of the Richmond Gazette, and John F. Smith, of Philadelphia.

This agreement was made known to the President, and Dr. Hunter was appointed. Dr. Hunter is a practicing physician. He knew nothing about coal, and did not buy any, but turned the whole business over to Messrs. Tyler, Stout & Co., firm in Philadelphia of which C. Nicholas Brady, a nephew of Mr. Toucey, is a member—Tyler, Stout & Co. sold the coal for the Navy, charging about fifty cents a ton more than the market prices, and Dr. Hunter received $7,433 as his profits as coal agent, and did nothing.

In 1857, Swift & Wheeler, of Massachusetts, made a contract with George Pratt, of Philadelphia, an intimate friend of Mr. Buchanan, that Pratt should act as agent for the work and contracts with the government, and should have ten per cent on the gross amount of the contracts.

Mr. Pratt was to put Swift on familiar relations with the Department. In the management of this Swift contributed to the elections in Pennsylvania $15,000, paying it to Pratt as the Treasurer of the Democratic State Committee.

Pratt did his work well, and Swift is frequent interviews with the President and Secretary Toucey. In 1858, Swift got four oak contracts to the amount of $200,000. In executing the contracts he delivered to the Navy Yards a large amount of timber which was rejected, some because it was not the size required by the contract, and some for defects. In June, 1858, Secretary Toucey wrote to Swift to the Secretary for 1,000,000 feet of live oak timber, mostly of the size and kinds then in the Navy Yards, to be delivered at Salem and Boston, that the time for the delivery of one-half of it was September 1, 1858, that the timber always before allowed was scarce and very high, and that it was important for any one to get the job from the fact that it was within the time that the affection of President Buchanan for his nephew, Lieutenant Lewis Buchanan, of the Navy, would be gratified by seeing a large quantity of timber at Boston, Swift and Wheeler agreed to furnish the timber, which Swift was to get in at a cheaper rate than any other person could do it, and Wheeler was to find lighters, and the contract was sealed. Swift was to have a share of the profits, and Wheeler was to have a share of the profits, and Wheeler was to find lighters, and the contract was sealed. Swift