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☞Any clergyman who will procure four subscribers, and send us eight dollars, may have a fifth copy gratis for your pains.

L. P. NOBLE, *Publisher.*

THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, MAY 31, 1847.

AN EXTRAORDINARY TRIAL.

We make no apology for publishing the following long report of an extraordinary trial in Charleston, South Carolina. It taken from the *Charleston Courier*, which, as will be seen by its prefatory remarks, plumes itself upon the impartiality of the law, which panoplies the rights of the slave. We confess we have hitherto been disposed to doubt the assumption often made, that the slave has no legal security for his life; but that doubt, so far as South Carolina is concerned, is completely removed by the report of this trial.

We commend it to the attention of our brethren of the press in the free States of the West and North, and to every enlightened mind in the Union. A few things deserve special attention.

Great humanity, on the part of the defendant, was proved beyond all doubt. The fact that the slave, an emaciated old woman, was killed by a correction, administered by another slave, acting under the instruction of the defendant, was also completely established.

The law of 1740 provided for the punishment of the murder of a slave, by fine and disfranchisement; but allowed the accused to exculpate himself by his own oath, unless this were invalidated by the oaths of two white witnesses.

The law of 1821 made the murder of a slave punishable with death—a concession, it was distinctly stated by the counsel for the defendant, to the clamors of the opponents of slavery; but this law is rendered totally impotent by the section of the law of 1740, still in force, which allows the accused to exculpate himself by his oath, unless two white witnesses testify to the contrary.

In consequence of this, Judge O'Neall thought the jury bound to acquit her, and accordingly she was acquitted!

Especially would we direct attention to the defence of the counsel for the prisoner. It was throughout an artful appeal to the instinct of self-preservation of the slaveholding interest. He deprecated the law of 1821, as "a *refinement in humanity*." "Chastisement," he held, "must be inflicted until subordination is produced; and the extent of chastisement is to be judged of by one's neighbors, but by himself;" "when punishment is due to the slave, the master must not be held to strict account for going an inch beyond the mark."

We forbear comment. The case needs none. It is abhorrent, shocking. As a fact against slavery, it will prove more potent than whole folios of furious denunciation. Let every one read it.

From the Charleston Courier of Tuesday, May 6.

THE TRIAL FOR MURDER.

Our community was deeply interested and excited, yesterday, by a case of great importance and also of entire novelty in our jurisprudence. It was the trial of a lady of respectable family and the mother of a large family, charged with the murder of her husband's slave. The court-house was thronged with persons of the exciting drama, who remained with unabated interest and undiminished numbers, until the verdict was rendered at nearly dark yesterday. We cannot but regard the fact of this trial as a salutary, although in itself lamentable occurrence, as will show to the world that the Empire, panoplied in station and wealth, and although challenging those sympathies which are the right and inheritance of the female sex, no one will be suffered, in this community, to scorn the most sifting scrutiny, at the risk of even an ignominious death, who stands charged with the suspicion of murdering a slave—to whose life our law now extends the aegis of protection, in the same manner as it does to that of the white man, save only in the character of the evidence necessary for conviction or defence. While evil-disposed persons at home are thus taught that they may expect rigorous trial and condign punishment, when, actuated by malignant passions, they invade the life of the humble slave, the enemies of our domestic institution abroad will find, their calumnies to the contrary notwithstanding, that we are resolved, in the particular, to do the full measure of our duty to the laws of humanity. We subjoin a report of the case.

L. P. NOBLE, *Publisher.*

TRIAL FOR THE MURDER OF A SLAVE.

State vs. *Eliza Rowand.—Spring Term, May* 5, 1847.

Tried before his Honor Judge O'Neall.

The prisoner was brought to the bar and arraigned, attended by her husband and mother, and humanely supported, during the trying scene, by the sheriff, J. B. Irvine, Esq. On her arrainment, she pleaded "Not Guilty," and for her trial, placed herself upon "God and her country." After challenging the jurors, Jas. Bancroft, K. F. Harbers, C. J. Beckman, E. R. Cowperthwaite, Parker J. Holland, Moses D. Hyams, Thomas Glass, John Lawrence, B. Archer, J. S. Addison, R. P. Colburn, B. M. Jenkins, Carl Houseman, Geo. Jackson, and Joseph Coppenberg, the prisoner accepted the subjoined panel, who were duly sworn, to try issue with the case: 1. John L. Nowell, foreman. 2. Elias Whilden. 3. Jesse Coward. 4. Effingham Wagner. 5. Wm. Whaley. 6. James Culbert. 7. R. L. Baker. 8. S. Wiley. 9. W. S. Chisolm. 10. T. M. Howard. 11. John Bickley. 12. John Y. Stock.

The following is the indictment on which the prisoner was arraigned for trial:

The State vs. *Eliza Rowand—Indictment for murder of a slave.*

State of South Carolina, } to wit:
Charleston District.

At a Court of General Sessions, begun and holden in and for the district of Charleston, in the State aforesaid, on the second Monday, in the district and State aforesaid, on Monday, the third day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven.

The Grand Jurors for the district of Charleston aforesaid, upon their oaths present, that Eliza Rowand, late of the said District, Esq., not having the fear of God before her eyes, but being moved and seduced by the instigation of the devil, on the 6th day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, with force and arms, at Charleston, in the district of Charleston, and State aforesaid, in and upon a certain female slave of the said Robert Rowand, named Maria, in the peace of God, and of the said State, then and there being, feloniously, maliciously, wilfully, deliberately, and of her malice aforethought, did make an assault, and that a certain other slave of the said Robert Rowand, named Richard, then and there, being then and there, in the peace of God and of the said State, did make an assault, and that the said Eliza Rowand, with a certain piece of wood, which be the said Richard in both his hands then and there had and held, the said Maria, then and there giving to her, the said Maria, by such striking and beating, as aforesaid, with the piece of wood aforesaid, divers mortal bruises on the top, back, and sides of the head, of her, the said Maria, of which several mortal bruises she, the said Maria, then and there instantly died, and that the said Eliza Rowand, was then and there present, and then and there feloniously, maliciously, wilfully, deliberately, and of her malice aforethought, did kill and murder, against the form of the act of the General Assembly of the said State in such case made and provided, and against the peace and dignity of the same State aforesaid.

And the jurors aforesaid, upon their oaths aforesaid, do further present, that the said Eliza Rowand, not having the fear of God before her eyes, but being moved and seduced by the instigation of the devil, on the sixth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, with force and arms, at Charleston, in the district of Charleston, and State aforesaid, in and upon a certain other female slave of Robert Rowand, named Maria, in the peace of God, and of the said State, then and there being, feloniously, maliciously, wilfully, deliberately, and of her malice aforethought, did make an assault; and that the said Eliza Rowand, with a certain piece of wood, which she, the said Eliza Rowand, in both her hands then and there had and held, her, the said last-mentioned slave named Maria, did then and there strike, and beat, in and upon the head of her, the said Maria, then and there giving to her, the said Maria, by such striking and beating aforesaid, with the piece of wood aforesaid, divers mortal bruises, on the top, back, and side of the head of her, the said Maria, of which said several mortal bruises she, the said Maria, then and there instantly died, and that the said Eliza Rowand, not having the fear of God before her eyes, but being moved and seduced by the instigation of the devil, on the sixth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, with force and arms, at Charleston, in the district of Charleston, and State aforesaid, in and upon a certain other female slave of Robert Rowand, named Maria, in the peace of God, and of the said State, then and there being, feloniously, maliciously, wilfully, deliberately, and of her malice aforethought, did kill and murder, against the form of the act of the General Assembly of the said State in such case made and provided, and against the peace and dignity of the same State aforesaid.

H. Bailey, *Attorney General.*

On motion of Mr. Pringle, the prisoner was allowed to remove from the bar, and take her place by her counsel. The Judge signified he granted the motion only because the prisoner was a woman, but that no such privilege would have been extended by him to any man.

The Attorney General, Henry Bailey, Esq., then rose and opened the case for the State, in substance, as follows: He said that, after months of anxiety and expectation, the curtain had at length risen, and he the jury was about to bear their part in the sad drama of real life, which had so long engrossed the public mind. He and they were called to the consideration of an important, painful, and solemn duty. They were to pass between the prisoner and the State—to take an inquisition of blood; on their decision hung life or death, the honor or ignominy of the prisoner; yet he trusted he and they would have strength and ability to perform their duty faithfully; and, whatever might be the result, their consciences would be consoled and quieted by that reflection. He bade the jury pause and reflect on the great sanctions and solemn responsibility under which they were acting. The constitution of the State invested them with power over all that affected the life and was dear to the family of the unfortunate lady now before them. They were charged, too, with the sacred care of the law of the land; and to their solution was submitted one of the most delicate questions ever intrusted to the arbitrament of man. They should pursue a direct and straight-forward course, turning neither to the right hand nor to the left—influenced neither by prejudice nor by sympathy, but by a moral sensibility in her behalf. Some of them might practically and personally be strangers to their present duty; but they were all familiar with the laws, and must be aware of the responsibilities of jurymen. It was scarcely necessary to tell them that, if evidence fixed guilt on the prisoner, they should not hesitate to pronounce her guilty, although they should write that verdict in tears of blood. They should let no sickly sentimentality or morbidness of feeling, no false or capital punishments deter them from the discharge of their plain and obvious duty. They were to admonister, not to make, the law—they were called on to administer it, as it was bequeathed, in highest duty to God and to their country. If any of them were disturbed with doubts or scruples on this point, he would remind them of their oath to place into the jury box. The law had awarded capital punishment as the most retribution for the crime under investigation, and they were sworn to administer it. The law, in the wisdom of the counsels of Holy Writ; we were there told that "the land cannot be cleansed of the blood shed therein, except by the blood of the shedder." He felt assured, then, that they would be swayed only by a firm resolve to act on this occasion in obedience to the dictates of an enlightened and heightened conscience. The prisoner, however, had claims on them, as well as the community—she was entitled to a fair and impartial trial. By the rules of humanity, which they, doubtless, they were bound to hold the prisoner *innocent*, and she stood *guiltless* before them, until proved guilty, by legal, competent, and satisfactory evidence. Dead alike to the voice of sickly humanity and heated prejudice, they should proceed to their task with minds perfectly equipoised and impartial; they should weigh the circumstances of the case with a nice and careful hand; and if by legal evidence, circumstantial and satisfactory, although not positive, guilt be established, they should unhesitatingly, fearlessly, and faithfully, record the result of their convictions. He would next call their attention to certain legal distinctions, but would not say a word of the facts; he would leave them to the lips of the witnesses, unaffected by any previous comments of his own. The prisoner stood indicted for the murder of a slave. This was supposed not to be murder at common law. At least it was not murder by our former statute; but the act of 1821 had placed the killing of the white man and the black man on the same footing. He here read the act of 1821, declaring that "any person who shall wilfully, deliberately, and maliciously murder a slave, shall, on conviction, thereof, suffer death without benefit of clergy." The rules applicable to murder at common law were generally applicable, however, to the present case. The inquiries to be made may be reduced to two: 1. Is the party charged guilty of the fact of killing? This must be clearly made out by proof. If she be not guilty of killing, there is an end of the case. 2. The character of that killing, or of the offence? Was it done with malice aforethought? Malice is the essential ingredient of the crime. Where there is no malice, there is presumed unless the contrary appear; and this must be gathered from the attending circumstances. Malice is a technical term, importing a different meaning from that conveyed by the same word in common parlance. According to the learned Michael Foster, it consists not in "malevolence to particulars," it does not mean hatred to any particular individual, but it is a term of import and application. But even killing with intention to kill is not always murder; there may be justifiable and excusable homicide, and killing in sudden heat and passion, under the influence of thought, not premeditated, may be murder when there is no ill-feeling—nay, perfect indifference to the shining in the world of the victim, may be murder in the eye of the law. Malice aforethought is that depraved feeling of the heart which makes one regardless of social duty, and fatally bent on mischief. It is fulfilled by the deliberate taking of a human life which is indicated by shooting into a crowd, and thus doing murder on every an unknown object. Such a feeling the law regards as hateful, and visits, in its practical exhibition, with condign punishment, because opposed to the very existence of law and society. One may do fatal mischief without this malice aforethought; and if the act be done regardless of consequences, and death ensues, it is murder in the eye of the law. If the facts to be proved in this case should seem one up to these requisitions, he implored the jury to acquit the accused, as at once due to law and justice. They should note every fact with scrutinizing eye, and ascertain whether the death of the deceased resulted from accident or from brooding revenge, which the law stamped with the odious name of malice. He would make no further preliminary remarks, but proceed at once to lay the facts before them from the mouths of the witnesses.

EVIDENCE.

J. Porterous Deveaux sworn.—He is the coroner of Charleston district; will state that on the 7th of January last, on the body of the deceased slave *Maria*, the slave of Robert Rowand, at the residence of Mrs. T. C. Bee, (the mother of the prisoner,) in Logan street. The body was found in an outbuilding—a kitchen; it was the body of an old aged emaciated person, between 60 and 80 years of age; it was not examined in his presence by physicians; saw some few scratches about the face; adjourned to the City Hall; Mrs. Rowand was examined; her examination was in writing; it was here produced and read, as follows:

"Mrs. Eliza Rowand sworn.—Says *Maria* is her nurse, and had misbehaved on yesterday morning; witness had told her that *Maria* was to be corrected by *Simon*; deponent sent *Maria* from the house about 7 o'clock A. M.; she returned to her about 2 o'clock; witness then ordered *Simon* did not come into the chamber at any time previous to the death of *Maria*; deponent says *Maria* fell in the chamber; deponent had her seated up by *Richard*, who was in the chamber, and deponent gave *Maria* some sanfoitida; deponent then left the room; *Richard* came down, and said *Maria* was dead; deponent says *Richard* did not strike *Maria*, nor did any one else strike her in deponent's chamber. *Richard* left the chamber immediately with deponent; *Maria* was about 52 years of age; deponent had sent *Maria* by *Richard* to *Simon*, to Mr. Rowand's house, to be corrected; Mr. Rowand was absent from the city; *Maria* died about 10 o'clock; deponent and *Maria* were on good terms; deponent was in the chamber all the while that *Richard* and *Maria* were there together. Eliza Rowand.

"Sworn to before me, this 7th January, 1847.

"J. P. Deveaux, *Coroner C. D.*"

Witness went to the chamber of prisoner, where the death occurred; saw nothing particular; some pieces of wood in the yard; saw no blood; his attention was called to one piece, in particular, 18 inches long, 3 inches wide, and about 1½ inch thick; did not measure it; the jury of inquest did; it was not a large room; the room was of oak; there was some pine wood and some split oak; Dr. Peter Porcher was called to examine the body professionally; who did so out of witness's presence.

Before this witness left the stand, B. F. Hunt, Esq., one of the counsel for the prisoner, rose and opened the defence before the jury, in substance as follows:

He said that the scene before them was a very novel one; and, if he was right for good or evil, he would not pretend to prophesy. It was the first time, in the history of this State, that a lady of good character and respectable connexions was arraigned at the bar, and had been put on trial for her life, on facts arising out of her domestic relations to her own slave. It was a spectacle consoling, and cheering perhaps, to those who cherish good will to the institutions of our country; but calculated only to excite pain and regret among ourselves. If there was ever a proposition so revolting to humanity, as that crime should go unpunished—but judicial interference between the slave and the owner was a matter at once of delicacy and difficulty. It was for the first time, he had ever stood between a slave owner and the public prosecutor; and his sensations were anything but pleasant. He felt surrounded entirely different ease from homicide between equals in society. Subordination is indispensable, where slavery exists; and in this there is no new principle involved. The same principle prevails in every country—on shipboard and in the army a large discretion is always left to the superior. Charges by inferiors against their superiors were always to be viewed with great circumspection at least, and especially when the latter are charged with cruelty or crime against subordinates. In the relation of owner and slave there is an absence of the usual motives for murder, and strong inducements against it on the part of the former. Life is usually taken, from passion or pecuniary interest; the former leads to blows, the latter to death of his slave; and when he takes the life of the latter deliberately, there must be more than ordinary malice to instigate the deed. The law of Moses, the law of 1740, which punished the killing of a slave with fine and political disfranchisement, was more than Christian, it was Divine; and our ancestors—it conformed to their policy and was approved by their wisdom, and it continued undisturbed by their posterity until the year 1821. It was regarded as one of the guarded provisions of the schemes and machinations or in deference to the clamors of those who formed plans for our immediate emancipation, and who, from want of understanding our institutions, and whose interference led to the tragedy of 1822. He here adverted to the views of Chancellor Harper on this subject, who, in his letter to his brother, pronounced it the very, said: "It is a somewhat singular fact, that when there existed in our State no law for punishing the murder of a slave, other than a pecuniary fine, there were, I will venture to say, at least ten murders of freemen for one murder of a slave. Yet it is supposed that they are less prevalent now. Instances, I know, have been made in subservience to the opinions and clamor of others, who were utterly incompetent to form an opinion on the subject, to the law, and to sit upon the result of legislation in this spirit. From the fact I have stated, it is plain they need less protection, I have no hesitation, less willing to convict, and it may sometimes happen that the guilty will escape all punishment. *Security* is one of the compensations of their humble position. Their unprotected condition, it may be, has where have been fewer murders of slaves than of parents, children, apprentices, and other murders, cruel and unnatural, in society where slavery does not exist."

Such was the opinion of Chancellor Harper on this subject, who had profoundly studied it, and whose views had been extensively read on this continent and in Europe. Fortunately the jury, he said, were of the country, acquainted with our policy and practice; composed of men independent and honorable to be led astray by the noise and clamor out of doors. All was now as it should be—at least a court of justice had assembled, to which his client had fled for refuge and safety; its threshold was sacred; no profane clamors entered there; but legal investigation was had of facts, derived from the testimony of sworn witnesses; and this should teach the community to shut their bosoms against sickly humanity, and their ears to imaginary tales of blood and horror. The food of a depraved taste, he feared the jury that they were to listen to no testimony but that of free white persons, given on oath in open court. They were to imagine some that came from them. It was for this that they were selected—their intelligence putting them beyond the influence of unfounded accusations, unsustained by legal proof; of legends of aggravated cruelty, founded on the evidence of negroes, and arising from weak and wicked falsehoods. Were slaves permitted to testify against their owner, it would cut the cord that unites them in peace and harmony, and enable them to sacrifice their masters to their ill will or revenge. Whole crews had been often brought to the gallows by a process of the foulest murder, but judicial trial had exposed the falsehood. Truth has been distorted in this case, and murder manufactured out of what was a mere accident, occasioned by a slight correction; arms swollen and ecchymosis of the surface of body; contusions on head and neck; between scalp and skull extravasation of blood, on the top of the head, on the back and sides of the head; the hand; the brain presented healthy appearance; opened the body, and no evidence of disease in the chest or viscera; attributed the extravasation of blood to external violence; the blows could have been a large and broad and blunt instrument; attributes the death to those blows; supposes they were adequate to cause death, as she was old, weak, and emaciated.

Cross-examined.—Would not have caused death in a young and robust person.

The evidence for the prosecution here closed, and no witnesses were called for the defence.

The jury were then successively addressed, after the prisoner, by Mr. Pringle and J. Lakes S. Ruhtt, Esqrs., on behalf of the prisoner, and H. Bailey, Esq., on behalf of the State, and by B. F. Hunt, Esq., in reply. Of those speeches and those of the judge, we have not yet taken full notes, but have neither time nor space to insert them here.

His Honour Judge O'Neall then charged the jury eloquently and ably on the facts, vindicating the existing law, making death the penalty for the murder of a slave; but, on the law, intimated that the act of 1821, the act of 1740 was still in force as to admit of the prisoner's exculpation by her own oath, unless clearly disproved by the oaths of two witnesses; and that they were therefore, in his opinion, bound to acquit her, though he left it to them, wholly, to say whether the prisoner was guilty of murder, killing in sudden heat and passion, or killing by accident.

The jury then retired, and in about twenty or thirty minutes returned with a verdict of "not guilty."

TRUTH AND FREEDOM.

BY W. D. GALLAGHER.

"*He is the Freeman whom the Truth makes free,*
And all are slaves beside."—Cowper.

For the Truth, then, let us battle,
Whatever may befall;
Long the hosts that we are Freemen
We have made, and published wide.

He who has the Truth, and keeps it,
Keeps what not to him belongs,
Yet, perhaps, unknowing, robs
That his fellow-mortal wrongs.

He who seeks the Truth, and trembles
At the dangers he must brave,
Is not fit to be a Freeman—
He, at best, is half a slave.

He who bears the Truth, and pilloes
Its high promptings under ban,
Lord may heal of all that's manly,
But can never be a Man.

Friend, this simple lay who readest,
Be not too much like these!
But to Truth give utmost freedom,
And the rule it raises, seize.

Dust is speck, and hair is cordon,
Be forever! Time will fest,
Yet the rock upon the ocean billows,
Which fulfils life's mission best.

Be thou like the noble Ancient—
Scorn the threat'ning frown of Power so far,
Speak! no matter what betide thee:
Let them strike, but make them hear!

Be thou like the Apostle Paul!
Be thou like heroic Paul;
Let the world around you tremble,
Speak it boldly! speak it all!

Face thine enemies—accusers;
Scorn the threat'ning rod;
And, if thou hast Truth to utter,
Speak! and leave the rest to God.

OMOO: A NARRATIVE OF ADVENTURES IN THE SOUTH SEAS.

BY HERMAN MELVILLE.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE TATTOOERS OF LA DOMINICA.

For a while leaving little Jule to sail away by herself, I will here put down some curious information obtained from Hardy.

The renegade had lived so long on the island, that its customs were quite familiar; and I much lamented that, from the shortness of our stay, he could not be my guide in the chase.

From the little intelligence gathered, however, I learned to my surprise that in some things the the people of Nukuheva, though of the same group of islands, differed considerably from my tropical friends in the valley of Typee.

As his tattooing attracted so much remark, Hardy was asked to tell the circumstances in the manner in which that art was practiced upon the island.

Throughout the entire cluster, the tattooers of Hivaroa enjoyed no small reputation. They had carried their art to the highest perfection, and the profession was esteemed most honorable. No wonder, then, that the chiefs throughout the group their services very high; so much so, that none but those belonging to the higher classes could afford to employ them. So true was this, that the elegance of the tattooing was in most cases a sure indication of birth and riches.

Professors in large practice lived in spacious houses, frequented by persons of rank and precious little apartments, where subjects were waited upon in private. The arrangement chiefly grew out of a singular ordinance of the Taboo, which enjoined the strictest privacy upon all men, high and low, while under the hands of a tattooer. For the time, the slightest intercourse with others is prohibited; the usual salutations of foul allowed; the tattooer drops the curtain by an unseen hand. The restriction with regard to food is intended to reduce the blood, so as to diminish the inflammation consequent upon puncturing the skin. As it is, this comes on very soon, and takes some time to heal; so that the period of seclusion generally embraces many days, sometimes several weeks.

All traces of soreness vanished, the subject goes abroad to bring again to return; for, on account of the pain, only a small surface can be operated upon at once; and as the whole body is to be more or less embellished by a process so slow, the studies alluded to are continued for ever. Indeed, with a vanity elsewhere unheard of, many spend no small portion of their days thus sitting to an artist.

To begin the work, the period of adolescence is esteemed the most suitable. After casting about for some eminent tattooer, the friends of the youth set out with his name, and if the report of the general plan laid out. It behooves the professor to have a nice eye, for a suit to be worn for life should be laid out.

Some tattooers, yearning after perfection, employ, at large wages, one or two men of the commonest order—vile fellows, utterly regardless of consequences, and ready to do any dirty jobs, patterns and practice generally. Their backs remorselessly scrawled over, and no more canvass remained for their employers, and ever after go about, the scorn of their countrymen.

Hapless wights! thus martyred in the cause of the fine arts.

Unlike the regular practitioners, there are a parcel of shabby, itinerant tattooers, who, by virtue of their calling, stroll unmolested from one island to another, doing their work dog cheap for the multitude. They always repair to the various religious festivals, which gather great crowds. When these are concluded, and the places where they are held vacated even by the tattooers, scores of little tents of coarse tappa are left standing, each with a solitary inmate, who, forbidden to take his unseen neighbors, is obliged to stay there till completely healed. The itinerants are a reproach to their profession, mere cobblers, dealing in nothing but jagged lines and clumsy patterns, and utterly incapable of soaring to those heights of fancy attained by the gentlemen of the faculty.

All professors of the arts love to fraternize; and so, in Hannamanoo, the tattooers came together in the chapters of their worshipful order. In this society, duly organized, and conferring degrees, Hardy, from his influence as a white, was soon of honorary Grand Master. The blue shark, and a sort of Urim and Thummim engraven upon his tattooed arm, attested his initiation. All over Hivaroa are established large colleges of tattooers. The way in which the renegado's came to be founded is this. A year or two after his landing, there happened to be a scarcity of tapa, which results in death; blood between the scalp and the bone of the skull; it was evidently a fresh extravasation; there was no external violence; they have made any change; knew nothing of this negro before; even after examination, the cause of death is sometimes inscrutable—not usual, however.

In reply.—Does not attribute the suffering of the brain to the blows; it was slight, and might have been not fatal; the blows were insufficient to kill; the jury that they were to listen to no testimony but that of free white persons, given on oath in open court. They were to imagine some that came from them. It was for this that they were selected—their intelligence putting them beyond the influence of unfounded accusations, unsustained by legal proof; of legends of aggravated cruelty, founded on the evidence of negroes, and arising from weak and wicked falsehoods. Were slaves permitted to testify against their owner, it would cut the cord that unites them in peace and harmony, and enable them to sacrifice their masters to their ill will or revenge. Whole crews had been often brought to the gallows by a process of the foulest murder, but judicial trial had exposed the falsehood. Truth has been distorted in

"As I was sitting (said he) within a hollow rock, and watching my sheep that fed in the valley, I heard two voices in exchanging crying on the summit of the cliff. Both voices were earnest and deliberate. My curiosity prevailed over my care of the flock. I climbed slowly and silently from crag to crag, concealed among the shrub, until I found a cavity where I might sit and listen, without suffering or giving disturbance. I soon perceived that my hiding place had to be well paid; for old vulture was sitting on a naked prominence, with her young about her, whom she was instructing in the arts of a vulture life, and preparing, by the last lesson, for their final dismission to the mountains and the skies.

"My children, (said the old vulture,) you will the less wonder at your superiority, because you have had my practice before your eyes; you have seen me snatch from the farm the household fowl; you have seen me seize the leveret in the bush and hold it in the palm of my hand; you have felt in your talons, and how to balance your flight when you are laden with your prey. But you remember the taste of your food; it was sweet, I know, and I have regaled you with the flesh of man. Tell us (said the young vultures) where man may be found, and how he may be known; his flesh is surely the natural food of a vulture. Why have you never brought a man in your talons to the nest? He is too bulky, (said the mother;) when we find a man, we can only tear away his flesh, and leave his bones upon the ground. Since man is so big, (said the young,) how do you kill him? You are afraid of the wolf and the bear, by what power are vultures superior to man? Is he also afraid of vultures, like a sheep? We have not the strength of man, (said the mother,) and I am sometimes in doubt whether we have the ability to kill a sheep, which would seldom feed upon his flesh, had not Nature, that devoted him to our use, infused into him a strange ferocity, which I have never observed in any other being that feeds upon the earth. The herds of men will often meet, and shake the earth with noise, and fill the air with fire. When you hear noise and see fire, with flashes along the ground, hasten to the place with your swiftest wing, for men are surely destroying one another; you will then find the ground smoking with blood and covered with carcasses, of which many are dismembered and mangled for the convenience of the vulture. But when man have killed their prey, (said the pupil,) why do they not eat it? When the wolf has killed a sheep, he suffers not the vulture until he is satisfied himself. Is not man another kind of wolf? Man (said the mother) is the only beast who kills that which he does not devour, and this quality makes him so much a benefactor to our species. If men kill our prey, and lay it in our way, (said the young one,) what need shall we have of laboring for ourselves? Because man will sometimes (said the mother) remain for a long time quiet in his den. The old vultures will tell getting about the hills and valleys. When you see men in great numbers moving close together like a flock of storks, you may conclude that they are hunting, and that you will soon revel in human blood. But still, (said the young,) I would gladly know the reason of this mutual slaughter. I could never kill what I could not eat. My child, (said the mother,) this is a question which I cannot answer, though I am reckoned the most subtile bird of the mountain. When I was young, I used frequently to ask the question of an old vulture who dwelt upon the Carpathian rocks; he had made many observations; he knew the places that afforded prey round his habitation as far, in every direction, as the mountain ridge can be seen when the rising and setting of the summer sun; he had fed, year after year, on the entrails of men. His opinion was that man kills for the possession of animal life, being really vegetables with a power of motion; and that as the boughs of an oak are dashed together by the storm, that swine may fatten upon the falling acorns, so may men, by some unaccountable power, driven one against another, until they lose their motion, that vultures may be fed. Other vultures have given another something of contrivance and policy among these mischievous beings; and those that hover more closely round them have observed that they are so much more that gives directions to the rest, and seems to be more eminently delighted with a wide carnage. What it is that entitles him to such pre-eminence we know not; he is also bolder than the eagle or the swiftest, but he shows, by his eagerness and diligence, that he is more than any of the others, a friend to the vultures."

I am truthfully yours,

A. J. Scott.

C. A. Johnson, *Lieut. 10th Infantry.*

Post Office Suit.—A suit was commenced against the postmaster of Onondaga Village for refusing to deliver a newspaper to a citizen, for which he offered to pay postage—postage paid, the jury gave a verdict against the postmaster, six cents damages and costs.

Dogs.—The amount received at the Treasurer's office of Boston, for dog licenses, within three months, is seven hundred and eighty-four dollars. Besides this sum, about two hundred dollars have been received as fines for keeping dogs without license.

"As I was sitting (said he) within a hollow rock, and watching my sheep that fed in the valley, I heard two voices in exchanging crying on the summit of the cliff. Both voices were earnest and deliberate. My curiosity prevailed over my care of the flock. I climbed slowly and silently from crag to crag, concealed among the shrub, until I found a cavity where I might sit and listen, without suffering or giving disturbance. I soon perceived that my hiding place had to be well paid; for old vulture was sitting on a naked prominence, with her young about her, whom she was instructing in the arts of a vulture life, and preparing, by the last lesson, for their final dismission to the mountains and the skies.

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I am truthfully yours,

A. J. Scott.

C. A. Johnson, *Lieut. 10th Infantry.*

ANOTHER ROUGH AND READY.

Some time ago a Mr. Scott, a workman in one of the factories at Oriskany, became smitten with a rage for military glory, and applied to the captain of a volunteer company to be received as a recruit. Prompt enlistment by the lieutenant was not then successful, and he resumed his work. Recently an opening for him in the company presented itself, and one of the lieutenants wrote to him as follows:

Utica, *April* 6, 1847.

Sir: The company under the command of Capt. Walradt is now complete, and I do not wish to join us will receive the bounty, and your pay will commence as soon as you join. The rendezvous is at Mechanics' Hall, in this city.

C. A. Johnson,
Lieut. 10th Infantry.

To A. J. Scott, Esq.

But this letter happened to fall into the hands of another Mr. Scott, who lived in the village of Clinton, and he forthwith despatched the following reply, telling some home truths in a way none the less effective for being rather of the roughest.

Oriskany, *April* 7, 1847.

My Dear Sir: Through some unaccountable freak of fortune, I received the foregoing from you to-day. But as you were gentlemanly enough to pay the postage, you are entitled to a civil though truthful answer.

Neither, then, to inform you that I never heard of Capt. Walradt or yourself before to-day, consider me a coward. I do not like "fishing" you, or in any way assisting the unjust and intensely mean war President Polk is waging against Mexico. I have no wish to participate in such "glorious" exploits as your friend Walradt and others were displayed in the capture of Monterey, &c. Neither have I any desire to place myself under the dictation of a man who would sell my liberty, the price of whose will I must yield implicit obedience. No sir-ee! As long as I can work, beg, or go to the poor house, I won't go to Mexico, to be lodged in a damp prison, half starved, half cooled, bitten by mosquitoes and centipedes, stung by scorpions and tarantulas—marched, drilled, and flogged, "rather than work." Why, I can get eight dollars a month and putrid rations.—Well, I won't. As to the "bounty," I have not the least doubt *that* will be promptly paid. Many a poor fellow has paid it before now to Abe Polk's agents, in meal times, and nibbled our food. The first time they approached Wyncanoe, he was actually frightened! I pity the poor creature, for he is soon got along with then much better than the rest. With curious dexterity he seized the animals by their legs, and flung them up the scuttle to find a watery grave.

But I have a story of my own to tell about these rats. One day the cabin steward made me a present of some molasses, which I was so choice of, that I kept it hid away in a tin can in the farthest corner of my bunk. Faring as we did, this molasses dropped upon a biscuit was a positive luxury, when I slipped, swift, now but the adjourned then

THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, JUNE 3, 1847.

☞ Supposing, from the little attention paid to the following notice, that it has been overlooked, we insert it in this place:

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO MY OLD SUBSCRIBERS.

Some time since I informed the subscribers to the Weekly Herald and Philadelphia Ledger, to prevent them from being suddenly dropped from the subscription list of the *Era*, these terms require strictly pay in advance. I had assumed the pecuniary responsibility in their case, and would have the paper continued to them for a time long enough for them to bring themselves to the cash system. It must be obvious to them, that there was a limit to this time, unless they would have me embarrass myself beyond measure. At the expiration, therefore, of the first half volume of the Era, (the 7th of July next) no paper will be sent to any of the old subscribers of the Weekly Herald and Philadelphia Ledger who shall not have paid up to that date. In the meantime, payments may be made so as to cover the whole volume, up to next January. This is not unreasonable, considering that I have kept the paper up all equally, no one can object to it.

My old subscribers will persuade me to say, that in assuming the responsibility of supplying them with the Era, I have incurred obligations upon me, which I feel they have not sufficient ties to meet. This statement, I am sure, will be enough for every honorable subscriber. G. BAILEY, JUN.

MOVEMENTS AGAINST SLAVERY IN THE FRENCH CHAMBERS—PROBABLE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY IN THE FRENCH COLONIES.

The colonies of France comprise the islands of Martinique, Guadaloupe, and some smaller islands in the Antilles; French Guiana in South America; Senegal and the island of Goree in Africa; Bourbon and St. Marie in the Eastern ocean; a few possessions in Hindostan and Algeria. Exclusive of Algiers, their aggregate population in 1836 was 552,570, of which 258,950 in the West Indian and African colonies and 105,241 in the East Indies, were slaves. There are also many slaves in Algeria. What the amount of the slave population may be now, we do not know, but, judging from the diminution that took place from 1831 to 1836, it has fallen off. Still, the aggregate number of slaves now held under the laws of France must be between four and five hundred thousand.

The progress of the Anti-Slavery cause has not been so rapid in France as in England. Many of her great men are Abolitionists; but until lately the mass of the people was unmoved. Within a year, however, the agitation of the question of Emancipation has acquired new power. We notice in the "*Revue Abolitionniste*" a catalogue of petitions lately presented to the French Chambers, signed by 10,343 persons, one of them being signed by the entire distinguished clergy of the kingdom. A new periodical has also been started, to advocate the doctrine of immediate emancipation, the first number of which we have just received. Most gladly do we welcome it to our exchange list.

It will be seen that the question, involving as it does the freedom of nearly half a million of human beings, is coming to the front in a country of an act of emancipation which would remove one great moral support to the pro-slavery men of this country, becomes of vast importance.

In the foreign papers received at this office, we notice with pleasure a report of what is styled the greatest discussion on the subject of colonial slavery that ever took place in the French Chambers. The report of the first day's discussion was conducted in the Chamber of Deputies; but the question was also debated in the Chamber of Peers, where, on the 30th ultimo, a report was made on certain petitions signed by 3,000 persons, among others the Bishop of Nants, and a great number of ecclesiastics in his diocese and in that of Paris. The petition set forth that every attempt to meliorate the condition of the slaves in the colonies had failed, and prayed the immediate abolition of the system.

The report assumes it as a fact well known, that the fixed purpose of the Government is to extinguish colonial slavery; that, feeling reluctant to follow the mode of emancipation pursued by England, it had resolved on *gradual* abolition, initiating the slaves by little and little into the rights of freemen; that the ordinances already in existence, looking to this end, were working efficiently; but, should the progressive abolition of slavery falsify the hopes of the Chamber, humanity, justice, and the solemn engagement it had made, would compel it to adopt the plan recommended in the petitions.

The report concluded by proposing to the Chamber to pass to the ordinance of the day.

Count de Montalembert made a long and eloquent speech in opposition to the report, and was replied to by Baron Charles Dupin, "the paid agent of the colonies," who undertook to quote Paul's Epistle to Philemon, in support of slavery.

Baron de Barante thought the new movement calculated to do harm.

M. le Marquis de Gabriac called attention to the fact, that while by the law of July, 1845, 400,000 francs was placed at the disposition of the Minister of the Colonies, to aid in the redemption of slaves, in 1847 only the sum of 270,000 francs was demanded.

M. le Baron Mackau, Minister of Marine and Colonies, opposed strongly the doctrine of the petitioners, as perilous in the extreme. The idea of a set of men going to bed at night *slaves*, and waking in the morning *freemen*, horrified him.

The proposition of the report was agreed to.

But the question took a very different turn in the Chamber of Deputies, a most encouraging victory being achieved there by the advocates of human rights.

On the 24th of April, M. Paul de Gasparin presented to the Chamber of Deputies the report of the committee on the petitions for the immediate abolition of slavery. It states that the petitions were signed by 11,000 persons, among whom were 3 bishops, 19 vicars-general, 856 cures, vicars, or priests, 86 presidents of consistories (men of reformed churches), 7 members of the Institute, 151 elective councillors, 213 magistrates and members of the bar, and more than 9,000 electors, merchants, proprietors, and workmen.

The committee held, that however just and holy the demand of the petitions, the financial state of France forbade compliance with it. It expressed regret that the measures adopted by the Government, to provide pecuniary assistance, had produced no appreciable effect; but it trusted that the vigor of the Government would so enforce them as to secure the great object, the abolition of slavery. It recommended that the petitions should be placed in the hands of the President of the Council and the Minister of Marine and Colonies.

M. Jouvet, agent of the colonies, denounced the conclusions of the report, argued the question of indemnity, condemned immediate emancipation as impracticable, and moved, as an amendment to the report, the order of the day.

M. Jules de Lasteyrie, in an admirable speech, which was listened to with deep attention by the Chamber, supported the conclusions contained in the report. We can only present an analysis of this masterly discourse. M. de Lasteyrie affirmed that not a single article of the law of 1845 had been completely carried into effect. In 1839, funds for the elementary and religious instruction of the slaves had been voted, and the votes from that time, for the same purpose, amounted to 3,980,000f.; but that only twelve slave children had received instruction. Schools had been built, but the authorities took care the children of slaves should not enjoy the advantage. In reference to the marriages of slaves, there was no improvement. The sexes lived in promiscuous cohabitation. Education and marriage are destructive of slavery. All that can moralize the heart and elevate the intelligence is, therefore, met with determined hostility by the colonists. In reference to compulsory manumission, M. de Lasteyrie showed that it could not take place to any great extent; for the colonists had so limited the amount of land set apart for the support of the slaves, that they could scarcely live off its produce, much less by by a sum of money to purchase their freedom. But the war by the colonists has been defeated. The honorable deputy instanced at length the various ways in which the Colonial Council had nullified the intentions of the law of 1845.

"In relation to the treatment of slaves, and the administration of justice, or rather its infamous prostitution, M. de Lasteyrie entered into the most painful details. He showed from public records that the murder of slaves, under the most atrocious circumstances, was only followed by short imprisonment. Of the colonial magistracy, 138 in number, M. de Lasteyrie showed that sixty were Creoles possessed of slaves; eighteen from France, married to Creoles possessed of slaves; sixty others from the mother country, some of whom were possessed of estates. The proprietors of estates are the magistrates. He further showed that the members of the Cours-Royales were for the most part Creole proprietors of slaves, or persons devoted to their interests; and that the appointments of the Government were all favorable to the existing state of things. The facts produced by M. de Lasteyrie created the greatest sensation in the Chamber.

"M. Mackau, the Minister of Marine and Colonies, entered into some explanations to remove the effect produced by the speech of M. de Lasteyrie, but in vain. He intimated his intention to support the amendment of M. Jollivet. He (M. Mackau) had, in the preceding year, in the recommendation of the report, it would impede the progress of the law of 1845. The debate was adjourned to Monday, the 26th inst., when M. Mackau would speak further on the amendment; and M. Ledru-Rollin, and others, in support of the conclusions of the report."

Monday, 26th, the question was again debated. Strenuous efforts were made to prevent the petitions from being lodged in the hands of Ministers. The great speech of the day was then delivered by

"M. Ledru-Rollin, who, after reviewing the conduct of the colonists, which he demonstrated to have been most disgraceful, and the practice of the Colonial Minister to have been blameworthy, if not illegal, he directed the attention of the Chambers to a series of revolutionary acts which clearly showed there was no justice to be had for the slaves in the French colonies. His address was most able, convincing, and brilliant, and procured for him the applause of men of all parties in the Chambers. M. Ledru-Rollin declared himself, without hesitation or reserve, the friend of immediate emancipation.

"M. Jollivet, the paid delegate of the colonies, attempted to reply, but in vain. The Chamber would not hear him.

"M. de Mackau, Minister for the Colonies, then addressed the Chamber. He did not attempt to deny the serious allegations contained in M. Ledru-Rollin's speech, but it had the effect of provoking

"M. Dupin Aine to address the Chamber, which he did with great dignity and effect, in support of the recommendation of the report on the petitions.

"M. de Gasparin defended the report, and, in paying a just tribute to the eloquence of M. Ledru-Rollin, he said that his exposure of the crimes committed on the slaves in the colonies was the just and legitimate vengeance of outraged public morals.

"M. Odillon Barrot concluded the discussion in a short but excellent address; and the conclusions of the report, which had received the support of the Chamber, the petitions were formally ordered to be placed in the hands of the President of the Council, the Minister of Marine and Colonies, and the Minister of Justice. Thus terminated one of the greatest discussions on the subject of slavery and its abolition which ever took place in the French Chambers."

A FEW ITEMS WORTHY OF PRESERVATION.

In our recent discussion on the Constitution and Slavery, a few items came under our eye, which, not being material to the main argument, were not mentioned. It may not be unprofitable now to refer to them.

Lord Mansfield was exceedingly unwilling to decide the case of Sommersett. "The setting 14,000 or 15,000 men at once loose," he remarked, "by a solemn decision, is very disagreeable in the effects it threatens." He strongly advised the parties to compromise, stating that he had known five or six cases of the kind accommodated by agreement; but he added, "If the parties will have judgment, fiat justitia, ruat cœlum." He estimated the loss that would follow to the proprietors at £50 a head, amounting in all to £700,000 sterling.

To show of how little avail are judicial decisions, unless the public sentiment be sufficiently healthy to enforce them, we may state, on good authority,* that the abuse which this decision was intended to correct, prevailed, to a great extent, for half a century afterwards. "Persons," said Lord Stowell, in 1826, "though possessed of independence and affluence, acquired in the mother country, have, upon a return to the colony, been held and treated as slaves; and the unfortunate descendants of these persons, if born within the colony, have come slaves into the world, and, in some instances, have suffered all the miseries of slavery in consequence." He further remarked, that in not a single instance had the attention of English justice been called to this evil, down to the time of the case then before him, a space of fifty years after the decision of Lord Mansfield. "Black seamen have navigated *West India* ships to this island, but we have not heard of other *Sommersetts*, nor have the public been much gratified with the complaints of their descendants."

What, then? Ply your courts of justice, agitate your Legislatures, but, after all, the great appeal is to be made to *the People*. Without a public sentiment to vivify and sustain them, laws and judicial decisions will be still-born.

The Sommersett case, owing to the efforts of the philanthropist who brought it up, and the high reputation of Lord Mansfield, has thrown into the shade another case, precisely the same in principle, adjudicated in Scotland, in the year 1778, the decision of the English court not having extended to that country. Mr. Wedderburn, of Jamaica, brought over to Scotland a negro boy, named Knight, about twelve or thirteen years of age. Knight continued with him as a slave several years, and married, but, being prompted to assert his freedom, left the service of Wedderburn, who had him apprehended, on a warrant of the justices of the peace. The justices found him "entitled to Knight's services, and that he must continue as before." Knight then applied to the sheriff of the county, stated the facts of the case, and prayed him to find that he cannot be constituted in a state of slavery, or compelled to perpetual service; and to discharge Mr. Wedderburn from sending the prisoner abroad." The result is thus stated in Howell's State Trials, vol. xx, p. 3:

"After some procedure on this process, the sheriff found, 'that the state of slavery is not recognised by the laws of this Kingdom, and is inconsistent with the principles thereof; that the regulation in Jamaica concerning slaves do not extend to this Kingdom; and repelled the defendant's claim to a perpetual service.'

"Mr. Wedderburn having reclaimed, the sheriff found that pecuniary damages, without wages, is slavery, and therefore adhered.

"The defendant removed the cause into the court by advocation, and claimed the ordinary look it to report upon informations. Being a question of general importance, the court ordered a hearing in presence, and afterwards informations of law, upon which it was advised."

The case was argued at length on precisely the same grounds on which similar cases have been argued in this country. The law under which Knight had been made and held a slave was purely local; could have no authority in Scotland. On grounds of equity, in some cases, the court gave effect to the laws of other countries; but the law of slavery would not be supported by the court, because repugnant to the first principles of morality and justice, and not sanctioned by the laws of Scotland. It was plain, that to give the defendant any right over the prisoner, (Wedderburn over Knight,) the positive law of Jamaica must always be resorted to; consequently, the question recurs, whether that law ought to be enforced beyond its territory. The answer was plainly in the negative, for the reason just stated.

We give the decision of the court, as reported in the State Trials:

"The court were of opinion that the dominion assumed over this negro, under the law of Jamaica, being unjust, could not be supported in this country to any extent; that therefore the defender had no right to the negro's services for any space of time; that the claim of the court of session of his consent; that the negro was likewise protected under the act of 1701, (an act to prevent wrongous imprisonment,) from being sent out of the country against his consent. The judgments of the sheriff were approved of, and the court remitted the cause *simpliciter*."

The purely local character of slavery, and the inadaptability of the tenure in States beyond the territory establishing it, has always been a settled principle in France and different countries of Europe.

Mr. Hargrave observes, in the Sommersett case, that—

"In the United Provinces, slavery having fallen into disuse, all their writers agree that slaves from another country become free the moment they enter into the Dutch territories. The same custom prevails in some of the neighboring countries, particularly Brabant and other parts of the Austrian Netherlands; and Gudelinus, an eminent civilian, who was formerly professor of law at Louvain, in Brabant, relates, from the annals of the Supreme Court at Mechlin, that, in the year 1571, in a litigation between a sprinchending and surrendering a fugitive slave from Spain was on this account rejected."

France has always disregarded the *lex loci* in the case of slaves. All her writers agree that the moment a slave arrives there from a foreign country he becomes free. Mr. Hargrave quotes two remarkable cases, in illustration—one that of a foreign merchant, who had purchased a slave in Spain, and afterwards carried him to France; the other, that of a Spanish Ambassador, whose slave was declared free, notwithstanding the high and independent character of the owner. After the introduction of slavery into her colonies, France, by positive law, modified the principle so far as to permit planters to bring their slaves to the mother country, provided their special and only object was to train them in religion, or educate them in some of the arts. Unless these conditions were most rigidly complied with, the slaves became free. In 1738, a negro was brought from St. Domingo, in disregard of the terms of the law, and was adjudged free; and in 1758, a slave, brought from the East Indies, to which the exceptional law did not extend, was declared free.

This great principle—the annihilation of the slave relation, by the passage of the slave in any way from the territory whose local law has created him a slave—a principle acknowledged in the leading countries of Europe, for at least the last hundred years; a principle settled by repeated decisions of the highest State courts of this country; a principle recognised by the very provision of the Federal Constitution which creates an exception to its operation as between the States of this Union—is now deliberately, with fixed purpose, sought to be overturned by the slavery men of the South, in the unauthorized extension of slavery over the new territory to be acquired from non-slaveholding Mexico.

THE FUTURE.

The *Kennebec* (Me.) *Journal* admits that we have "accurately described the state of public sentiment at the present time" in relation to General Taylor and the Presidency, but hints that there may be change before the fall of 1848.

"If" it says, "the election were to come on at this time, it is probable the Era might be right in saying his election would be 'sure;' for Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and all the West and South, would give him a majority either in a Whig convention or at the polls, leaving New York and New England to follow or not; but this may not be so next year. We have two years to run. We need scarcely add, that, as far as *parties* are concerned, we look to the Whig party as the chief agency to be relied upon in maintaining good government, and in resisting the errors and abuses which constantly threaten the welfare of the country."

Nothing but death, positive declination, or absolute defeat,* can prevent Gen. Taylor from being the candidate of the Whigs. But great generals are never shot; nor do they ever decline high honor; and as for defeat, that is out of the question. What, then, can prevent him from nomination?

The *Journal*, with all its anti-slavery feeling, will ratify this nomination when made, and that, too, upon principle! So we predict, not lightly, or to please our readers, but upon sufficient grounds.

Suppose the General nominated, he or his Democratic opponent must be elected. But, says the *Journal*, "we look to the Whig party as the chief agency to be relied upon in maintaining good government, and in resisting the errors and abuses which constantly threaten the welfare of the country." Would it be willing to weaken this party by schisms, or to secure defeat of its candidate, to promote the success of the rival party, by drawing off his support? Let us see how the *Journal* and other anti-slavery Whig papers would reconcile themselves.

True, this nomination is repugnant, they would say, to our principles; but it is the strength of the party—better, at all events, than the rival party—which we propose to secure by the success of a candidate just as objectionable on the slavery question, and far more so on every other question.

Still more, Gen. Taylor is not a mere corrupt politician—he is an honest man—that he is a slaveholder is not his fault—that he has fought in this slavery war is not his fault—he was a soldier, and had to obey orders. He has done all he could to lighten the horrors of the conflict—he is humane, has acted with forbearance, showed his mercifulness by the capitulation of Monterey—withal, he was opposed to the annexation of Texas.

Besides, the People will have it so. We must submit to destiny. There is no use in attempting to resist such a current. Nominations may there is a time for things. This is evidently no time for carrying out our principles against slavery. We should only bring odium upon them and ourselves, by provoking popular prejudice. Nor will his election be decisive on this question. It will not tie our hands in Congress. There our representatives may fight more manfully than ever the battle with the slave power. On the whole, we will go for him this once—*only this once*—and it shall be the last time.

We ask our, respected cotemporaries of the *Journal, Boston Whig, Norfolk American*, and other papers of the kind, whether they do not at this very moment feel in their own souls that they are not prepared to resist the force of such reasonings? Have they not been seduced from all the old parties go on forever resolving, re-resolving, and still voting for slavery? Election after election, permitting the great question to be overlaid by minor issues? It was a peculiar crisis in 1840, an unprecedented state of things in 1844, it is an unexampled conjunction of circumstances in 1848, and so the year 1852 will differ from all other years in the fact that it will be same demand for an exceptional policy. Thus these well-meaning men will go on, seeking space for repentance, and finding none—always postponing, never doing, until it is too late to do anything for the redemption of the Republic.

There is one paper which, we predict, will not fall into the general current—we mean the *True Democrat*, a daily Whig paper, published at Cleveland, Ohio. The editor has committed himself too far to draw back, even though he might wish to do so. But he has betrayed no such desire. He gives no uncertain sound on this question. He does not suspend his future course upon any contingencies. "Buts" and "ifs" are discarded, and he resolutely takes his stand—no more voting for slavery, its supporters, or apologists.

Several other papers in the north of Ohio have come out against General Taylor; among others, the *Ashtabula Sentinel*, one of the oldest Whig papers in the State; and the *Ohio State Journal*, the central organ, has avowed opposition to his nomination. Indeed, we know of but one Whig paper in that State which has run up the Taylor flag; but it is uncertain how long this opposition will be maintained.

* Unless, indeed, Gen. Scott's victories should draw off some of the enthusiasm now felt for Gen. Taylor.

PUBLICATION OF THE DEBATES OF LEGISLATIVE BODIES.

"Legislative Reporting.—Following the plan embodied in the resolution adopted at the last session of Congress by the Senate of the United States, directing the Secretary to contract with Dr. Houston, for stenographic reports of the debates of that body, the French Chamber of Deputies has adopted the same plan of official reporting. The Prussian Minister of the Interior has, we also find, appointed stenographers to report officially the proceedings of the Diet."—*Washington Union.*

Slow, but sure, is the advance of liberal principles. Let the reports of the Diet of Prussia be published and circulated among the people, and it will not be long before she can boast of a better Constitution than the one lately vouchsafed by the King. There is nothing so well calculated as the publication of the proceedings and debates of a legislative body, to diffuse political knowledge among the people, and enable them to hold their representatives to a strict responsibility. The attempt of a few members of the House of Representatives, last winter, to expel the reporter of the Union for giving a report of the proceedings of the House, calculated to awaken indignation against the disorders of that body, although its only fault was its accuracy, was, in fact, a blow at the freedom of the press. Had it succeeded, as one should have witnessed other measures, intended to make Congress irresponsible for its conduct.

In the seventeenth century, Parliament was supposed to sit with closed doors; it was often resolved that it was a high breach of privilege to publish any speeches or proceedings of the Commons, and persons were accordingly punished for committing this offence. In 1694, it was resolved "that no news letter-writer do, in their letters or other papers which they disperse, presume to intermeddle with the debates or other proceedings of the House." In 1729, it was resolved, unanimously, "That it is an indignity to and a breach of the privilege of this House, for any person to presume to give in written or printed newspapers, any account or minutes of the debates, or other proceedings of this House, or any committee thereof; and that, upon discovery of the authors, &c., this House will proceed against the offenders with the utmost severity." Hallam states that Edward Cave, the well-known editor of the Gentleman's Magazine, was brought to the bar in the year 1747, for publishing a report of the debates. He denied that he retained any person in pay to make the speeches, and after expressing his contrition, was discharged on payment of fees.

This most miserable policy gradually gave way, and regular reports of the proceedings of Parliament came to be published, the names of speakers being disguised, or their initials only given; but even this practice had nearly ceased at the time of the American war.

The remarks of Hallam concerning the great benefits resulting from a full publication of the proceedings and speeches of Parliament are just as applicable to this country as England.

"It is almost impossible," he says, "to overrate the value of this regular publication of proceedings in Parliament, carried, as it now is, to almost all the country gentlemen and opulent yeomanry, if this unlawful mean had not kept up a perpetual intercourse, a reciprocity of influence, between the Parliament and the people. A stream of fresh air, boisterous perhaps sometimes as the winds of the North, yet as healthy and invigorating, flows in to renovate the stagnant atmosphere, and to prevent the *malaria* which self-interest and ignorance would otherwise breed, from sending to government, and in resisting the error, and abuses which constantly threaten the welfare of the country."

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* Hazzard's Reports, p. 111.

THE EDUCATION QUESTION IN ENGLAND.

The British Ministry have at last succeeded in carrying their measure, appropriating a certain sum to aid in the public education. The whole amount appropriated is but £100,000; the sum voted for the annual support of the navy is about £7,000,000. What a comment on civilization!

The opposition offered to the new scheme by the Dissenters generally was formidable. They denounced it as an insidious attempt on the part of the Government to obtain for the church the control of the religious sentiment of the country. The Wesleyans at first acted with their dissenting brethren, but subsequently, after private conference with the British Minister, withdrew their opposition; the inducement being, it is stated, the exclusion of Catholics from the benefits of the scheme, at the *present time!* The *London Patriot* denounces them with great severity.

The House of Commons divided on the 22d April, and the Ministry were sustained—Ayes 372, noes 67.

The Whigs are now threatened with a withdrawal of the support of the Dissenting Interest. The London Patriot, after a review of the conduct of the leading statesmen of both parties, on all questions touching religious liberty, comes to the conclusion "that the time is now fully come for all Dissenters to act *politically for themselves*;" and it adds, "for all the painful inconveniences arising from the political separation from the Whigs of the far larger number of the Dissenters, properly so called, the Whigs, with their obsequious Tory Parliament, will be responsible."

PIETY AND JUSTICE.

No one can well doubt that in matters civil, military, and religious, this is a great country, and that Gen. Scott is representing it very appropriately in Mexico. After raining down fire upon Vera Cruz for four days and nights, burying one thousand women and children under the ruins of their dwellings, blowing up crowded hospitals, dropping ninety-pound shells through the roofs of churches, and sprinkling shells and balls in the blood of kneeling worshippers, the very next we hear of the religious General, he is found in a Catholic cathedral, which he had just shattered and defaced by his horrible projectiles, amidst the friends and relatives of his slaughtered victims, devoutly, and, as the letter-writers who describe the scene tell us, "very solemnly holding a long wax candle," as if doing penance for the desecration of the church and consecration of the cannon-balls, smoking, in short, like Louis XV on his deathbed, "the *amende honorable* to God!" Verily, if the Catholics of Mexico, after such a signal manifestation as this of the piety of their country's invaders, harden their hearts against them, and refuse to recognise them as their friends and benefactors, there is no longer any virtue in Paixhan guns and wax candles, Bowie knives and Bibles, patent revolvers and certificates of life membership in missionary societies!

But, as if to leave these Mexican barbarians utterly without excuse for their contumacious persistence in opposing the disinterested and purely philanthropic designs of our Government, we have recently had the most convincing proof that like here in Vera Cruz, they are as just as pious. It seems that a poor scoundrel of a free negro, who had wandered out to Vera Cruz as a sort of hanger-on upon the army, after witnessing the exploits of his betters, in appropriating the wives and daughters of the enemy, on the principle first laid down, we believe, by the Hon. Secretary of War and his friends of the Albany Regency, that "to the victors belong the spoils," and forgetting that the gentlemen may do with impunity, like the privileged saints of Hudibras,

"What other folks are damned for doing,"

undertook a little business on his own account. The virtuous indignation of our Anglo-Saxon army blazed up at once. The arrest of the offender, which speedily followed, was a sort of God-send to the General. Here was an opportunity, at once, to gratify the natural-born antipathy of his army to black folks, and to impress the unbelieving Mexicans with a proper idea of the right morality and impartial justice of their conquerors. So the culprit was tried, sentenced, and hung by the neck in the public Plaza. And a very pleasant and satisfactory spectacle it must have been to that shrewd, hoydenish dame known as American Justice, who, we are given to understand, is now campaigning in Mexico in the capacity of camp follower, with her hair partially clear of her back page, for the laudable purpose of due discrimination as to color. Having hung out the "slovenly unhandsome corpse" to the sun and wind, we can imagine the redoubtable General turning with no slight degree of complacency and satisfaction to the assembled multitude: "There, you poor, miserable, misguided creatures, saw you ever the like of that? There's law and order for you—there's a sacrifice. There you have the astonishing moral spectacle of a *black* Yankee hung like a dog for insulting Mexican ladies. Now let me hear no more of your pitiful complaints of the conduct of our chivalrous volunteers at Matamoros, Monterey, and Saltillo. There's your negro, gentlemen and ladies; you can't deny the evidence of your own eyes; there he hangs, and my friend Colonel (I beg his pardon, General) Cushing would say, that he hangs there as dead as Julius Cæsar, in expiation of all offences of the kind you complain of, past, present, and to come. If my soldiers had not pawned their Bibles for whiskey, I could show you, what as Catholics you are doubtless ignorant of, that that negro answers precisely the same purpose to the Levitical scapegoat of the scape-goat which Gen. Moses sent into the chapparals did to the Jews, when they were engaged like ourselves in conquering a peace with the heathen round about. Now, aint you ashamed of yourselves for your folly in opposing me? Aint you thankful that you have fallen into the hands of a chieftain who holds a candle to the Virgin, and hangs black Yankees to please the Catholics and Mexicans?"

Seriously, our readers must pardon us for our manner of dealing with this subject. What with ringing bells of Protestant meeting-houses, and chanting *Te Deums* in Catholic ones; equipping volunteers with Bibles and Bowie knives; hundling on the war with the yell of "No Popery" at home, and holding candles before the image of the Virgin in Mexico; "sinking a schoolhouse and a meeting-house pressed by whites, and hanging a black loafer for following the example; praying for peace on earth, and making professional fighters life members of missionary societies—this whole Mexican war matter at times assumes the appearance of a hideous joke—a grim farce, the plot of which must have been borrowed from beneath. J. G. W.

ABOLITION IN CEYLON—MOHAMMEDAN AND HINDOO SLAVEHOLDERS.

The perusal of the History of White Slavery in the Barbary States, by Charles Sumner, Esq., of Boston—a pamphlet, by the way, which we can hardly commend to too strong terms to the notice of our readers—has called to mind the circumstances attending the abolition of slavery in the island of Ceylon, in 1816. The record of that transaction forms one of the most cheering pages in the history of human progress.

This beautiful island, the spice garden of the Eastern World, around which, in the strong hyperbole of the poet,

"for many a league,
Cheered with the grateful smell, old Ocean smiles,"

it is well known passed permanently into the possession of Great Britain by the treaty of Amiens, in 1802. At this time, to use the words of a communication addressed to the Marquis of Wellesley, "the institution of slavery existed, in all its aggravated horrors of uncertainty in its application and cruelty in its exercise, in the island." (Parlia. Papers for 1828.) The principal class of slave-owners were Mohammedans, although large numbers of slaves were held by the native Cingalese, and a few by the white colonists. Sir A. Johnstone, on the part of the British Government, urged upon these proprietors, in 1806, the expediency of taking measures for the emancipation of their slaves. But the right of slaveholding had been guaranteed by the terms of capitulation under which Ceylon was surrendered to the British arms, and the proposition was rejected. The efforts of the gentleman above named were continued from time to time, and a decided change of opinion and feeling on the subject soon became manifest. The Mohammedan law officers admitted that "all men are by nature free," and that the Koran only allows of slavery as the punishment of the crime of the infidel who takes up arms against the faith of Islam. The Hindoos, while, on the contrary, they maintained that it was not necessary to inquire further into the master's right to his slave than to ascertain whether the latter was born of a slave mother, were nevertheless found to be accessible to arguments against the impolicy of the slave system, and to appeals in behalf of their slaves. On the 10th of the 5th month, 1816, all the slave proprietors of Ceylon, with the exception of those of the Kandian provinces of the interior, sent to Sir Alexander Johnstone a resolution, to which their names were appended, declaring *free all children born of their slaves after that date.* The whole number of slave owners in the island, exclusive of the Kandy country, was 763. Not a man hesitated to sign the resolution. Mohammedans, Hindoos, and the disciples of Buddha, whose colossal foot-marks are still pointed out on the rocky top of Hamaleel, united in this act of self-denial and humanity. So deeply impressed was Sir Alexander Johnstone by such a signal instance of the voluntary relinquishment of slavery, that he suggested to the British Government the propriety of erecting a monument, with the names of those who signed the resolution of emancipation inscribed upon it. It is a matter far less of surprise than of regret, that a Government which has dotted its world-encircling territory with the monumental marbles of military heroes, wholesale butchers of their kind, regarded as "inexpedient and unnecessary" a proposition to do equal honor to the benefactors of humanity.

In this connection, we would call attention to the subjoined Proclamation of the King of Oude, one of the richest and most populous dependencies of the British Government in India:

"Whereas repeated reports have reached our most blessed court that Christians, and, after their example, sundry persons of other tribes, kidnapping male and female children, sell them; and whereas nothing can be more detestable than this, for it is nothing short of the destruction of human life; and whereas to our Majesty belongs the preservation of the people of God committed to our royal care, and our Majesty *prayeth to be done even to an ant, much less can our Majesty see unmoved the destruction of human beings!* It is, therefore, our royal will and pleasure, that this practice (of kidnapping) be at once eradicated from our royal dominions, and that this vile custom (of buying and selling human beings) be entirely and absolutely abolished; and it is therefore command, that henceforth no one, on any pretence or plea whatever, sell or buy human beings; and that the officers, from the prime minister down, in short, capital and throughout our royal dominions, deem it imperative and incumbent on them to be ever watchful that this abominable practice do not occur in any place; and that from those men whom they may suspect of having any connection or participation in this horrible practice, they require a public and private and unreserved good behaviour, otherwise to banish them from our royal territories. In this we command the officers aforesaid to be unremitting and unceasing; if any one, after the issue of this mandate, be found guilty of this nefarious practice, he shall be apprehended, and an immediate report made of the circumstances to our royal presence, that such severe punishment we are pleased to award in his behalf be forthwith carried into effect; and if there be any difficulty in the prosecution of such delinquents, that the same be reported to our exalted Majesty without loss of time, in order that the royal mandate may be issued without delay for their apprehension. Let this proclamation be promulged in all the alleys and streets, by the beat of drum, and copies of it, in the Persian and Hindoo languages, be inscribed in all the cutcheries, both civil and military, and in all the public places of the resort of men, that *the sellers of human beings hereafter shall be sentenced to imprisonment for life in chains, and that the buyers shall likewise be most severely punished*; and that if any man clandestinely buy or sell God's people, the information of such a clandestine dealing shall receive a suitable reward; but if any one connive at such, he shall be punished accordingly.

"Dated 7th Zeeqad, 1248, Hijree—corresponding with 30th March, 1833."

Those who are curious to note the difference between Pagan and Mohammedan state papers and those of a Christian nation, in this nineteenth century, would do well to contrast the foregoing Proclamation of the Nabob of Oude with the official correspondence of Secretary Webster on the subject of the Slave Trade, in which all the blessings of slavery, and the imperative duty of preventing its abolition in any part of the new world. J. G. W.

ILLINOIS IN 1843 AND 1847.

The Era for the 20th of last month contained the call for a Convention at Chicago, Illinois, on the 1st of June, to take into full and mature consideration the claims of the West for aid from the General Government in the improvement of river and lake navigation, and the construction of harbors, to facilitate the business operations not only of the Western States, but of all sections of the Union. There is a manliness and a self-respecting tone about this call, which contrasts strongly and favorably with one issued from the same place, by the Illinois Legislature, for a Convention of the people of the Western and Southwestern States, on the subject of the public lands. Here is what Illinois said in 1843:

"Whereas deep and lasting interests are involved in the disposition of the proceeds of the public lands, calculated to affect the interest of the West and Southwestern States—sovereign members of the Confederacy—and without a speedy change in the policy adopted by the Government, the relation of landlord and tenant must long exist between the Western States and their older sister States of the Union; and whereas, for the purpose of efficient and successful action, it will become necessary to act with union and concession; and whereas we view WITH DEEPEST CONCERN the continued jealousy and sectional feeling of our BRETHREN OF THE SLAVEHOLDING STATES, and feeling that to act with effect to *check the evil, and restore to the owners of the soil their property*, there should be harmony and good understanding between the slaveholding and non-slaveholding States in the valley of the Mississippi: Therefore, be it

"Resolved, That we respectfully recommend to our brethren of the States of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, Missouri, Indiana, Ohio, and Illinois, to meet in general Convention, at Jonesborough, Illinois, on the fourth day of July next, for the purpose of devising ways and means to effect these objects—whereby we may secure to our children, and to them those United States on an equal footing in all respects with the older sisters of the Republic, and that then possess the right of eminent domain; *the best means of preventing the slaves of the slaveholding States from desertion from their masters, and restoring the soil, as shall desert, at convenient places for their masters.*"

Here was a free State humbly tendering its aid in running down the poor fugitive from slavery, and handing him handcuffed and bound over to the tender mercies of his pursuers and taskmasters; a solemn legislative tender of "most sweet unto," to howl on the track of human game, in concert with Mississippi bloodhounds. The selection of the "Fourth of July" for the consummation of this project gives a sort of moral sublimity to the proposal. The anniversary of the Declaration of 1776 looked upon as the fitting time to organize the citizens of Illinois, Ohio, Indi

longer put on the airs of a freeman. Beyond the reward of a few partisans, no special favor, no smile of slaveholding patronage, has followed the humiliation of the West. The Oregon compromise was a strong man cast of the river and harbor bill may be regarded as the Slave Power's return for services rendered. As a natural consequence, Western men begin to look each other in the face, and inquire what has been gained by servility. The young giant of the Prairies begins to lift himself from the posture of supplication, and brush off the dust from his knees, with some faint perception of the disgrace and folly of his past conduct. At the last two sessions of Congress, the Western delegation have manifested strong signs of rebellion. In the mean time, the Anti-Slavery vote of Illinois has risen from 1,500 to 5,000 or 6,000. The majority of the members just elected to the State Convention for reforming the Constitution are believed to be in favor of abolishing the unjust clause depriving the people of color and the return of fugitive slaves.

Courage! friends of Freedom! Revolutions of this kind never go backward. The next four years, we may safely predict, will witness still greater changes in the right direction.

J. G. W.

THE GUERILLA.

The terrible struggle in the beginning of the present century, in the peninsula of Spain, developed a new system of warfare, known as the Guerilla—literally, *little war*. Multitudes of peasants, influenced with patriotic zeal and religious fanaticism, retreating to the mountains, formed themselves into small bands, made choice of leaders, and carried on a desultory warfare against the French invaders, without pay, or uniform, or responsibility even. These bands, which were generally very small, hung on the outskirts of the enemy, picked off single soldiers and feeble detachments, intercepting couriers and cutting off the communications of the different divisions of the French army. Javez Martin Diaz, surnamed *El Empecinado*, commenced this species of warfare in the vicinity of Madrid, in 1808, after the capture of Saragossa, and when, by the entire defeat of its regular armies, Spain seemed lost beyond recovery. Romana, Mina, Porlier, and Marquesito, were distinguished as Guerilla leaders. "Vengeance or death!" was the Guerilla motto. During five years' contest with the French, horrible massacres of prisoners and non-combatant officers of the Government of Joseph Bonaparte took place; and at Oporto and Coimbra the French sick and wounded were murdered in the hospitals. Every dilapidated castle and monastery, mountain defile, dry bed of rivulet, or woody sierra, swarmed with the wild and ferocious peasant soldiery of Spain. All over Spain, from Cadiz to Pampeluna, from Granada to Salamanca, blood was shed daily, and without mercy. Young persons left in charge of captured villages wore often assassinated by the inhabitants among whom they were quartered. The fanaticism of revenge seized upon all classes; young and beautiful Spanish women in infuse the gay and pleasure-loving French from their dwellings, and treated them with poisoned wine or stabbed them in their chambers, acting over the terrible scene of Judith in the tent of Holofernes.

Still later, in 1823, in the struggle between the French, in alliance with the ultra-royalists and monks, and the constitutionalists, a Guerilla war was carried on by both parties. The celebrated Mina, a young and devoted patriot Hero, maintained in this way a long contest with a force overwhelmingly superior, in the province of Catalonia.

We are reminded in this connection of a stirring American lyric, "The Guerilla," written at this period by Brainard. It will bear a republication at the present time, when the papers are filled with rumors of the general adoption of the Guerilla system by the Mexicans:

Though friends be false and leaders fail,
And rulers quake with fear;
Though hand the shepherd is the vale,
And slain the mountaineer;
Though Spanish beauty fill their arms,
And Spanish gold their purse,
Sterner than wealth's or war's alarms
Is the Guerilla's curse!

No trumpets range us to the fight;
No clarion sound of drum
Tells to the foe the hour of their might
The hostile squadrons come.
No gaudy glitter gleams
No warlike tramp of steeds
Drives terror to the foe that hears
Shall be the first that bleeds.

The night-wind calls us from our bed,
At dead of midnight, on the
And darkness gives the signal dread,
That makes our war sublime;
Or should some straggling moonbeam lie
On some ye lurking hedge,
Twould flash back from a Spaniard's eye,
Or from a dagger's edge.

Our cheer in the warm vale below,
And minty on the hill,
The Alps shine mildly on the foe,
But have upon us still.
This gathering storm will quickly burst,
And spread terror far
And at its front we'll be the first,
And at its rear.

Guerilla fighting is no new thing to the older class of the Mexican rancheros. Many of them can tell tales of the old war for Mexican independence, when, under Hidalgo, Morelos, Guerrero, and Victoria, they baffled the trained and disciplined hosts of the Viceroy of Spain; and unless a merciful Providence interposes to arrest the war now raging with a semi-barbarian people, the horrible scenes of Asturia and Catalonia, in the Peninsula war, will unquestionably be re-enacted in Mexico. The late cold-blooded assassination of twenty-five unarmed and peaceable Mexican heads of families, at the hacienda of Guadalouge, has induced the wily and unscrupulous partisan, Canales, to declare the whole population of the Rio Grande valley under martial law, and to summon all capable of bearing arms to strike at once for vengeance. His proclamation is addressed to men smarting under wrongs, outrages, and humiliations, ignorant, half-civilized, and in whose view human life has little sanctity. Should they obey it, retaliation will of course follow; volunteers from the Mississippi valley and Texas—men, skilled and unskilled lives, familiar with brawls and duels and midnight assassinations, restrained by no moral or religious considerations—would rush into the ghostly butcher-work, opposing bowie knives and revolving pistols to the Mexican lasso and dagger.

Our only hope is, that our ero this extremity is reached, our Government may offer such terms of peace as a proud and sensitive people like the Mexicans are accustomed to, and such as will in their part no loss of self-respect, and no surrender of their nationality and independence, so long as they choose to maintain them. Were they willing to unite their destiny with ours, and blend into one the two great republics, and were it certain that their territory would remain, as now, unpolluted with the abomination of slavery, we would far more readily consent to receive the free States of Mexico into this Union than slave States formed of American territory. It is not the extension of "the area of freedom," but that of slavery, which we deprecate.

J. G. W.

MAINE—THE WILMOT PROVISO.

The choice of Governor devolving upon the Legislature of this State, the Democratic candidate has been chosen by that body, now in session. Hon. Samuel Fessenden, the Liberty candidate, received nine votes. Governor Dana in his inaugural message, undertakes to justify the Mexican war; and, "as Mexico is unable to pay or secure to us indemnity for the past, and the expenses of the war," he comes to the conclusion, that "a cession of a part of her territory to the United States is inevitable." In other words, it is the Angelo-Saxon, the Christian, the pure and possess the land." We are glad to perceive that the large Liberty vote of last year has not been without its effect upon the new Governor. He goes for Mexican territory, to make free, not slave States of. The tone of that portion of his message which relates to this subject is so remarkable, considering its source, that we are constrained to give it at length:

"The territory which we may acquire as indemnity for claims upon Mexico is free; shall it be made slave territory? The sentiment of the free States is profound, sincere, and almost universal, that the influence of slavery upon productive energy is like the blight of mildew—that it is a moral and social evil—that it does violence to the rights of man, as a thinking, reasoning, responsible being—that its existence in this territory will shut out free labor, because the freemen will not submit himself to the degradation which attaches to labor wherever slavery exists. Influenced by such considerations, the free States will oppose the introduction of slavery into the territory which may be acquired.

"On the other hand, the slave States claim that this territory will be acquired, if acquired at all, by the blood and treasure of all the States of the Union, in common, and that the property of all—to be held for the benefit of all. Our Constitution emphatically said, 'Is it consistent with justice, is it consistent with equality, that any portion of the partners, outnumbering the others, should take all and them of this common property of theirs—shall pass any laws which shall prescribe the citizens of one State to be slaves, and the citizens of another, with their property to the territories of the United States?'

"This, their position, is plausible, but is it sound? The Constitution of the United States provides that 'the citizens of each State shall be entitled to all the privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States.' Some of the most important 'privileges' of the citizen of each State, is protection in the use and control of his property; and the Constitution guarantees to the citizen of every other State a full protection, in that privilege—thus creating as perfect an equality of rights as can possibly grow out of joint ownership in slaves. The citizen of Virginia, or of a slave State may remove with his slaves into a free State, and there assert a claim, founded upon the Constitution, for protection in the use and control of his slave property. This property is as much as he can assert the same claim, founded upon joint ownership, in territories of the Union. The law is as much a protection to the slave, as it has never been asserted, and yet the anticipated denial of the latter is assumed as sufficient cause for the dissolution of the Union.

"A slaveholder emigrates to this territory with his horses, his cattle, and his slaves. When he arrives there, he needs no law declaring that those horses and cattle are his property; he may want law to protect him in their use and enjoyment, but not to perfect his right. His right to acquire property in slaves, is as good, as the different rights of man, independent of laws or constitutions. Not so with the right to his slaves; that is an artificial, an artificial, a statute right; and when he voluntarily carries with his slaves to a territory where the statute recognising the right does not exist, then at once the right ceases to exist. The law, which recognises the right, with just as much right to claim the master, as the master to claim the slave.

"Now, the slaveholder asks the Government of the Union to interfere, either directly or through a Territorial Legislature, and recreate this unnatural, this artificial right, restore the relation that ceased to exist when he entered the State. The Government refuses to interfere, then slavery cannot exist. But is non-interference proscription of the slaveholder and his property? a violation of his rights as a plaintiff under the territory? Surely not! He goes there with the same rights as other men, but with a limited and defective title to his property, which Government is not bound to perfect. The question then resolves into one of expediency and of humanity. And the Slave States must decide for and upon the delication, without violating the rights of other States, that it is inexpedient and inhuman to create slavery where it does not exist.

"The slaveholder, whose slavery as a political institution, absolutely necessary, with them, for the preservation of the two races, co-existent as they are, in such equal numbers. This may be a perfect defence of slavery under such circumstances; and still it would fail to afford the slightest justification for the introduction of the two races, in the Slave States, into a Northern territory, thus *creating a necessity* for the introduction of *like political institutions* for their protection.

"Maine, by the action of her State Government, and by her representation in Congress, has declared, in honesty and cheerfully, by the letter and spirit of the Constitution of the Union, at the same time, she has resisting firmly all demands for their enlargement or extension. Her tone is firm and decided. She will know your rights, and will sacredly regard them; leaving you to the quiet enjoyment of your 'peculiar institution,' and without objection, undisturbed by Northern threats or aggression, shall the Free Men, as soon it must, to the truthful conclusion, that what you now consider your 'peculiar blessing,' is in fact your peculiar curse.

The provokingly cool manner in which Governor Dunan argues will be, to say the least of it, quite as offensive to those who have instigated this war for the purpose of extending slavery, as the fiercest attacks of the Abolitionists themselves. Will may the Democratic "rabid propagandists of slavery," as Benton has styled them, retort upon the Governor of Maine, the taunt "Can you hacking your friends? A plague on such backing!" To conquer territory for the purpose of creating from it new free States, whose annexation to the Union is to have the signal dread, between the free South and the free North, giving the slaves of Louisiana, Texas, Florida, and Mississippi, an equal power with those of Maryland, Kentucky, and Virginia, to "emigrate" to free soil, and establishing forever the predominance of freedom in the Government of the country, would be certainly putting the Mexican war to a use never contemplated by its originators. We commend the Governor of Maine to the care of the editors of the Union and the Richmond Enquirer. It would be well, too, for a good deal of drilling before he can be safely relied upon as one of "the natural allies" of slaveholders.

J. G. W.

THE SLAVE ORATOR.

The speech of Frederick Douglass, at the Anniversary of the American Anti-Slavery Society, in New York, is justly regarded as a remarkable production. Eight years ago its author was a toiling slave on a Maryland plantation—the mere chattel personal of its owner. Yet, this man's speech, as given in the New York Tribune, by a literal and exact reporter, as a mere literary production, will compare favorably with the best addresses of the ablest and learned scholars and doctors of divinity who took part in the late religious anniversaries. We might take exceptions to one or two passages, but, as a whole, it is a noble refutation of the charge of natural inferiority urged against the colored man.

J. G. W.

From the New Orleans Delta of May 23.

INTERESTING NEWS FROM MEXICO.

The schooner Whig, Capt. Rayner, left Vera Cruz on the 15th inst., and arrived at this port on the morning of the 19th inst. The U. S. ship Germantown, F. Buchanan, Commander, arrived off the Castle on the 15th instant, and sailed immediately for Anton Lizardo. At this port the Germantown has been stationed for the purpose of Com. Perry. The U. S. steamer Spitfire was waiting for dispatches from the interior. Lieut. A. Brock, with 30 men of company F, Tennessee volunteers, came passengers in the Whig, to the kindness of one of the passengers on the Whig we are indebted for the following. Lieut. Brock left the City of the Vera Cruz Eagle of the 15th, from which we gather the following interesting items.

FROM PUEBLO.—We saw a letter on Thursday from Puebla, written by one of the principal officers of the army, in which he states that the command would move in a day or two for Puebla, Tlaxcala, and Huamantla, to make preparations for making for a proper reception of Santa Anna, and intimates that they will soon move upon the capital. Doubts are entertained by many, however, that Gen. Scott will remain at Puebla, after his arrival there, for a season, at least, and probably until the beginning of autumn. In the mean time, should no decidedly favorable step not have been taken by the Government of this country, the most energetic measures will be pursued, with a view to end the strife. The United States possesses the most sagacious means if a course of this kind is demanded, but nothing can be than the most unpardonable provocation will compel us to resort to them. Peace has been sued for so often by us, that it has at length amounted to humiliation, and it cannot be expected that any more supplication can be borne with. "There is a point beyond which forbearance ceases to be a virtue," says the proverb, and we do not believe that cannot be far distant. When reached, it is probable that it will be a dark and dreadful day for the land of the Aztecs.

MEXICAN BUTCHERY.—One of those bloody and brutal acts which seem to be characteristic of the lower order of the Mexican people was committed at Sabinas, on the 3d of May, a few miles from this city, on Wednesday night last. It appears that a detachment of seventy odd dragoons, belonging to the command of Col. Harney, left Xalapa some days since, in command of Lieut. Hill, with the intention of visiting this city to procure a further supply of horses. On arriving at Santa Fe, nine of the men were left behind, in consequence of illness on their part and the fatigue of their horses. Lieut. Hill and his command continued on, feeling that those who were left behind were perfectly safe, and soon afterwards reached this city, where he has been detained, although it was his expectation that he would have returned the next morning. Nothing further was heard from the men until Thursday morning, when news reached here, informing us that a large party of Mexicans had attacked and literally cut them to pieces, in a most shocking manner. Some of them were killed on the spot, and five others were mutilated in such a manner as to strike anyone with horror at the sight. Their means of transportation were furnished, and the survivors brought to the city as soon as possible. One of the number, however, died on Thursday night, and two others were reported last evening to be in a dying state, from the injuries their wounds during the night. The hand of one was cut off above the wrist; the abdomen of another was cut in such a manner as to allow his bowels to protrude. Another has several deep cuts on his head, penetrating the skull, and the arms and bodies of others are hacked and mangled so as to render their situation almost insufferable. Capt. Walker left this city on Thursday morning, accompanied by his mounted riflemen, in search of the murderers, and encountered a large body of Mexicans, whom he attacked, and succeeded in killing four. As yet, we believe there has not been anything received of a positive nature in regard to the number killed, but, from as much this kind of warfare is to be deprecated by us, we can see no other alternative than to fight them in their own way, if they will not fight fairly. We still trust that some measure will be discovered by which this cowardly system of butchery may be obviated, and that when American blood must flow, it may be in open and honorable combat—the enemy in front instead of sneaking behind the back.

VERA CRUZ.—Our city is as dull as can be imagined—we have but little news, and that without much interest. We hope something will transpire to relieve us from this infernal monotony, for there is no bearing it much longer. The weather is fairly. We still trust that some measure will be discovered by which this cowardly system of butchery may be obviated, and that when American blood must flow, it may be in open and honorable combat—the enemy in front instead of sneaking behind the back.

FROM THE RIO GRANDE.

By the arrival last night of the steam propeller Tennessee we received papers from the extreme advance of Gen. Taylor's command. The Corpus Christi Pioneer of the 2d, Saltillo Picket Guard of the 30, and the Matamoras Flag of the 15th inst. The news from that quarter will be found of interest to our readers.

From the Monterey Pioneer of the 2d we quote the following:

"We are grieved to have to report a very painful affair to our citizens. Messrs. W. Trolin and Harris were attacked on the road last Wednesday, by five Mexicans. Mr. Trolin was shot, wounded in the leg so badly that amputation became necessary. Mr. Trolin was, we are pleased to learn, uninjured. Harris succeeded in keeping the rascals at bay until assistance arrived, when the Mexicans fled.

"Major Chevalie, with part of the Texan Rangers, is to make his headquarters in Linares.

On the 2d inst., at Monterey, they had heard of the particulars of the battle of Cerro Gordo. The intelligence was received with a sanguinary battle had been fought at the National Bridge, in which Generals Scott and Santa Anna were killed, and that the Mexicans, upon hearing of the fall of their leader, made a desperate charge, leaving the American forces in possession of the field.

The 1st Ohio regiment, stationed at Monterey, and the 1st Tennessee regiment, at Saltillo, whose term of service was about drawing to a close, were expected to leave for their homes about the 15th instant.

The weather at Monterey, during the latter part of April and the beginning of May, was intensely hot. Should the heat continue to increase for the next month, it is the general opinion that it had during the week previous to the 2d of May, the editors of the Pioneer predict that the place will soon become uninhabitable to the North Americans.

CAMP OF INSTRUCTION, PALO ALTO.—By the American Flag, Matamoras, of the 15th instant, we are informed that Generals Taylor and staff are at the Camp of Instruction, Palo Alto, 14 miles below Matamoras. Also, Col. A. C. Ramsey's Pennsylvania regiment; Lieut. Col. Fay, 10th regiment; Major Morgan, 11th regiment; Major Talbot, 16th regiment; Captains Carr, Lyberg, Moore, Irwin, Waddell, Cummings, 11th regiment; Major Chambers, 4th regiment; Captains Butler and Merrick; five companies of voltigeurs, Captains Bernard, Biddle, Howard, Edwards, and Chambers; the remaining companies of the 16th regiment, Captains Hendricks and Brown; three companies of the 10th, and Capt. Pitman's company of the 9th. These troops will remain at Palo Alto, under strict discipline, and from thence, it is rumored, be transferred to Vera Cruz.

KENTUCKY CAVALRY.—Col. Humphrey, Maj. Shelby, and Capt. Kendall's company were in Camargo at last accounts, on their way home. They will probably reach here in a day or two, and not be disbanded until they arrive at New Orleans.

SMALL POX AT SALTILLO.—We have to congratulate our readers on the disappearance of this disease from our midst, when the rumor spread that it was about to make its appearance in a Mexican family in this place. We understand, however, this morning, that our surgeon decided the case to be varioloid.

COL. DONIPHAN.—New English gentlemen, who arrived yesterday from Durango, report Col. Doniphan to have started from Chihuahua on the 1st of April, for the part of the country, by way of San Jose del Parral. On the route they saw Gen. Garcia Conde on his way to Durango, with about one hundred and fifty men, having as a prisoner Gen. Herredin, who commanded at Chihuahua. He is accused of treason, and of being fond of American gold. All the rest of the troops had dispersed for their respective homes. Durango was in a great state of alarm, dreading the arrival of Gen. Wool, which was expected by them daily. Mr. Magoffin, who was in Durango, with his family for his prison limits, but well treated by the Mexicans.

Everything was quiet in California. The whole country is in the possession of the Americans, and there is a very great influx of families and settlers from Oregon.

Col. Doniphan must be within a very few days' march of Saltillo. This may truly be called the marching command. But they have not hurt anything, as yet, I. Mexican stories can be believed, according to which they were just as very scrupulous as to whose mules they took on the way; and infantry as well as cavalry were all mounted. They have not paid a cent of pay since they left home, nor pay from the Government, so that, as far as outward appearances are concerned, they are as ragged, as a shabby looking set. It appears they are generally clothed in buckskin. There is no doubt, however, they are *some* in a fight.

SAN LUIS.—It is stated in the Monterey Pioneer, upon the authority of a gentleman from San Luis Potosi, that but a few hundred effective troops remain in that city, and that the hospitals were filled with the sick and wounded, who were dying for want of attention. A report reached there that Gen. Taylor was within three days' march of the city, which occasioned a fresh alarm of the inhabitants to *vamos* with their property.

ROBERT CAPTURED.—Romano Paz, a notorious Mexican robber, who had been discovery, was captured in the vicinity of Old Reynosa, by Capt. Rolf, of the steamboat Corvette, and brought down to this city, on Wednesday last, where he is now imprisoned. It appears that he left the ranks of captain under Canales, and visited the settlements near Reynosa for the purpose of inducing or forcing the inhabitants to join the Mexican standard. The people were not disposed to join him, and seized the opportunity to place him in the hands or the American forces. Little information is forthcoming Capt. Reid of his whereabouts and designs, who collected a force from the boat, and made him prisoner at a rancho where he had been quartered for several days.

GEN. UREA.—Gen. Urea has issued a proclamation to the citizens of Cadereyta, very similar in tone to that of Canales, of Linares. He calls upon the town for a contribution towards supporting the war; and also orders under arms all able-bodied males between the ages of 16 and 45. Immediately after having issued this proclamation, he set off for the city of Mexico.

ADVANCE OF GEN. TAYLOR.—The Monterey Pioneer thinks that an attack upon San Luis is designed by Gen. Taylor, as unusual activity prevails in all the departments, and four trains, loaded with subsistence stores, have recently arrived at that place.

SENTIMENTAL.—A generous Irish girl in Chicago, named *Rose White*, gave her last six dollars to the Irish Relief Fund. One of the editors there is in raptures, and takes the following flight:

"That sweet girl deserves to be embalmed in the memory of the good, and her sweet name to be inscribed on the tablets of the pure in heart."

CURIOUS.—We can *think* a billion, or a million times a million, but who can count it? Somebody found out the calculation, and proved, that to count a billion would require 9,512 years, 34 days, 6 hours and 39 minutes; so that, had Adam begun with number one, he could not have finished counting it by this time.

POST OFFICE REVENUE.—The returns from 19 post offices, given in the *Union*, for the first quarter of this year, show an increase of 17 per cent. over the revenue of the same offices in the corresponding quarter last year. Just what might have been expected. Give us cheap postage and no franking.

CORRESPONDENCE FOR THE NATIONAL ERA.

NEW YORK, *May 31, 1847.*

THE RELIGIOUS NEWSPAPERS OF NEW YORK.

Public attention has recently been to direct itself to that very interesting and remarkable department of the press which is called the religious newspaper press. The "New York Evangelist," like a strong man rejoicing to run a long night of profound repose, has been manifesting symptoms of a robust and vigorous nature, and, stretching forth its brawny arms, has attracted the notice of its secular brethren, who hearken, as if quite astonished, to the full, hearty voice of one whom all had numbered with the dead "Observers," and "Recorders," and "Watchmen," and "Churchmen," who seem to be coming to their bear, in Nassau street, and all the region round about that Paternoster Row of the great city of New York. An article pointedly condemning the churches for apathy in the grand work of practical Christianity, and indifference to the great reforms of the age, which appeared in the "Evangelist" a few weeks since, has been going the rounds of the daily press, and, by reproducing quite a sensation. Other circumstances, to which it is not necessary to refer particularly, have also conspired to bring the religious newspaper press before the public eye; and I am inclined to believe that the result will be profitable. I know that the conductors of these newspapers are modest men. They shrink from the pleading "Lord! Lord! have we not prophesied in thy name?" will be cast out into outer darkness, where there is weeping and gnashing of teeth!

THE UNITARIAN CHURCH AND SLAVERY.

I suppose you have noticed that the American Unitarian Association have given faithful testimony against slavery. At their recent meeting, they adopted the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That we believe slaveholding to be in direct opposition to the law and will of God, entirely inconsistent with the precepts and spirit of Christianity, and wholly at variance with a Christian profession."

THE JUDICIAL ELECTION.

A great deal of rhetoric, and Hypocrisy is the usher, we were not greatly surprised to hear of a far more imposing and influential species of incandescence. The religious newspaper press!" Read it backwards or sideways, if you please, read it upward, and downward, and throughout, and it will still read the same. Nevertheless, I have great fears of the result of this experiment.

MEDICAL EDUCATION.

The recent Medical Convention at Philadelphia recommended the establishment of the collegiate curriculum, and a separation of the duties of teaching the teaching power. Five or six years ago, the editor of the "New York Lancet" contended for this reform in a certain editorial, which, in the well-nigh overwhelmed with continuely for daring to insinuate that the present system of medical education needed reform. He persevered, however, and the action of this convention at Philadelphia is to be attributed, in a great degree, to his efforts—another striking proof of how much may be accomplished by the exertions of a single, earnest, individual labor in a good cause! The best mode of raising the standard of medical education would be the establishment of properly independent examining and licensing boards, who would reject the candidates to a severe ordeal, at the same time that the candidates would be left at liberty to attain the adequate knowledge of their profession wherever they pleased.

HENRY BIBB.

Mr. Bibb, the fugitive slave, has been addressing large audiences in Brooklyn, for the last week, during the past week. He is a man of very promising talents, and a fluent and agreeable speaker. I think he is destined to become important services in the great cause of liberty.

OBITUARY.

The friends of W. Harned, Esq., the agent of our Society here, will be pained to sympathize with him in the recent death of his elder, aged sixteen years. Possessed of a mind enlarged and matured beyond his years, warm and generous affections, and a most amiable disposition, ROBERT HARNED was esteemed and beloved by all who knew him. He bore his long and painful sufferings with the resignation of a Christian, and died serenely reposing on the love of his Redeemer and his God.

The funeral ceremonies took place on Monday afternoon. A few commonly appropriate remarks were made by Professor Whipple, and the funeral service of the Church of England was read by the Rev. Alexander Hamilton, pastor of a colored Episcopal church in this city.

GENERAL NEWS.

The Mirror gives an account of a curious scene which took place on Wednesday, in the Tremont Temple, Boston, on Wednesday.

A gentleman of wealth and learning, Rev. T. Baldwin, gave a detailed account of the origin, nature, and objects, and present position of the Society. He showed that a condition of things existed at the West, which imperatively called for the organization of this kind, and that it was to meet such a want that the Society was formed.

The Society has taken under its supervision five colleges and one theological seminary, embracing nearly nine hundred young men. During the year, 811,000 have been contributed by New England churches, and the Society has expended 1,000 to secure permanent endowments for several institutions.

The meeting was addressed by Rev. Henry W. Beecher, of Indiana, Rev. Messrs. Blagden and Worcester, and Dr. Baird.

J. E. S.

BOSTON, *May 27, 1847.*

To the Editor of the National Era:

You perceive that I have extended my trip to the Athens of America. Boston is giving, this week, a second edition of the *Anniversaries*. As ought always to be the case with books, it is an improved edition, decidedly so. Whatever the occasion may have been to others, I can truly say, that it has been a delight to me to participate in the enjoyment by the delegates of the anticipations excited in my mind by the description given to me by my friends as have enjoyed similar previous occasions. I observe, too, that there is an increase of the numbers as well as of the spirit of these anniversaries, as compared with those so recently celebrated in New York. The spirit, I observe, is quite as present with visitors from the surrounding thickly-peopled country, and those from more distant quarters, as it was last year in New York would be very different from what it is here. You get jostled enough in that selfish city, in ordinary times; in extraordinary times, it becomes positively intolerable. Whatever may have been the state of your feelings when you started for your meeting, it is almost sure to be changed before you arrive. Confusion takes the place of order, restlessness takes the place of spirit. Not so here. The *grit* of the people, which is never so hurried as that of the Yorkers, is not at all accelerated by the influx of strangers. They have time to "stop and think, before they further go;" and hence their attention can be secured to the great world-blessing truths of reform, as it never can be in the sister city with which I have been making these odious comparisons, for there the almighty dollar is apparently their "being's end and aim."

I proceed to give you a hasty glance of the proceedings of such of these anniversaries as I was enabled to attend during my necessarily brief stay.

I began with the meeting of the American Anti-Slavery Society, which I found assembled in a hall of which I had heard much—the Marlboro' Chapel. I expected to enter, and find a crowded room, for such it is, but one admirably arranged, and yet a more comfortless place have I never entered. I said to myself, if *this* be a fair specimen of your far-famed Boston "temples" and "halls," may I be "delivered *from* them," in a double sense—merely no speaker would ever desire to be delivered in them, and I, for one, would wear large all the while, notwithstanding there were three galleries, and, the evening sessions being literally crammed with audiences, made up from all the ranks of society. Nor were the rowdies wanting on these occasions. The arrangement of the room is such as to incite to disorder, and screen the offenders from notice, while the very difficulty of hearing the speaking would tend to hold back, thus reversing the scriptural injunction. Much of the legitimate effect of the meeting was evidently frustrated by the circumstances. Where there is such a constant recurrence of disturbing sounds, it is impossible for the speaker to be effective, there being an absence of that sympathy between him and his hearers, which is required to find the meetings continued in such a slaughter-house for speakers! Thus it may be likened in two senses; the speaker, in the first, almost, to both reputation and lungs, the sound of which, as much like the bellowings of dying bullocks as the tones of the human voice. If any reader doubts this, let him inquire of any one of the other numerous speakers, who were Garrison, Quincy, Phillips, Pillsbury, Hathaway, Buffum, Foster, Grew, May, Remond, Brown, and others, among the males, whose names I cannot now recall, and Mary Jones and Lucretia Mott, among the females. And here let me say, that the last-named quaint looking book). After the oaths were administered upon it, only two descertions occurred. The doctor concluded his remarks by entreating the Society to continue their labors till the whole world could be furnished with the word of God, and "the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord." The meeting was subsequently addressed by Rev. E. B. Hall, of Providence, Professor Greenleaf, Dr. Cureuthers, of Portland, and closed by singing "Old Hundred," with the words "Praise ye the Lord!" &c.

The Liberty breakfast took place on Thursday morning, in Faneuil Hall, and was a glorious affair. The breakfast was prepared in a handsome manner, and was partaken of by about one hundred ladies and gentlemen, who assembled at an early hour, to interchange kindly feelings, and to enjoy, in addition to the social enjoyment, the repast which it was expected would be placed before them. Nor were they disappointed; for several and spirited speeches were in the course of the morning, any one of which would well repay the attendance for their attendance. Among the speakers were Rev. J. Leavitt, and Lovejoy, and Dr. J. E. Snodgrass, of Baltimore. Mr. Lovejoy spoke of the cheering remark which was often made, that the Liberty party was dead; and said that, for a part of his life, he was one of those who were remarkably voracious. Mr. Leavitt remarked, that the Boston Post had made the discovery that Abolition was a British institution, and he hoped that it would be able to confirm the discovery, by noticing that Abolition breakfasts had been introduced from Great Britain. He thought he had never seen a better one in that country than the one before him.

Dr Snodgrass rose, and was greeted with deafening applause, which was prolonged for several minutes. Of his speech, I could only say, it was eloquent, I can only give you a brief sketch. He gave an account of the means by which he, who was the son of a slaveholder, slaveholder, and the editor of a newspaper at the South, had been transformed into a strong, unwavering, uncompromising Abolitionist. This he stated, as an encouragement to those who were laboring in the cause at the North. The slaveholder feels the truth, when it is spoken; and the idea is a misnomer, that he is to be reached by kind treatment. Whatever they may say, they respect honesty; and the Doctor strongly urged the duty of Northern men going to the South, to show their feelings and sentiments boldly and honestly. He said that, when he was present for Liberty, he was called to the position of the clergy in relation to the slave trade, and he wished, to correct a mistake prevalent at the North, viz: that slaveholders were obliged to continue their business, by the exhortations of those who forbid the emancipation of the slave. He proceeded to show that these laws were a dead letter in Maryland, and that they were often and easily evaded in other States. He said, he was ready to say, where there is a will there is a way," was as applicable to this case as to any other. At least, those who contributed to the support of the example of a lady in Savannah, who regularly gave to her slave their earnings, feeling it to be a grievous thing to rob the "image of his hire." Above all others, it was the duty of the clergy to expose and scout their pitiful excuses, and come out from the accursed system. He appealed to his clerical friends to come out from the accursed system, and fraternize with their brethren, and rebuke the false plea to which he had alluded. After closing his address, he offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the sentiments of the clergymen of the North, in behalf of their slaveholding brethren of the South, that they are compelled by law to countenance and perpetuate slavery, is an utter fallacy, and that it should be so regarded everywhere, by the true friends of truth and freedom.

This resolution was responded to by Rev. Mr. Colvin, who pledged himself to do what lay in his power to take this plea from among Northern clergymen.

The meeting passed off in a very happy manner, with speeches, sentiments, &c. The manly and noble sentiment taken by our worthy friend, Dr. Snodgrass, cannot be too widely spread. Friends and friendship of all who love the cause of freedom and humanity.

The Society for the Promotion of Collegiate and Theological Education at the West held its annual meeting on Wednesday, in the Tremont Temple, Boston. The Hon. Judge, Rev. T. Baldwin, gave a detailed account of the origin, nature, and objects, and present position of the Society. He showed that a condition of things existed at the West, which imperatively called for the organization of this kind, and that it was to meet such a want that the Society was formed.

The Society has taken under its supervision five colleges and one theological seminary, embracing nearly nine hundred young men. During the year, 811,000 have been contributed by New England churches, and the Society has expended 1,000 to secure permanent endowments for several institutions.

The meeting was addressed by Rev. Henry W. Beecher, of Indiana, Rev. Messrs. Blagden and Worcester, and Dr. Baird.

J. E. S.

DOMESTIC MARKETS.

From the New York correspondent of the Era.

NEW YORK, *May 31.*

Flour and meal.—The market was very active in the morning, with a good demand both for consumption and for speculation, and prices rose 6 cents per barrel, at present rates. Some parcels were picked up in the morning at $5.62½ for Ohio, and $5.62½ for Genesee, and at the range of the market was $5.68 a $5.75 for Michigan and Genesee, and $5.62½ a $5.75 for Ohio, at which price, will find some account of it in the *Chronotype*, a paper, by the way, which I would recommend to me to wear a mizzenmer, seeing that it is a faithful type of what it ought to be, oftener than of what they are! The speakers at the breakfast were, so far as I can remember, in the order of their names, Lovejoy, Leavitt, Colver, Barbour, Grew, Henson, and Smith. The two last named are fugitive slaves—the latter was at present, I name with very little inconvenience to them, since the name of Smith will probably be back in Canada before this reaches you. He is the other sports a name which will puzzle the man-stealers, and baffle the slave-catchers. It will be hard to tell "which of the Smiths" he is, I take it! Two other fugitive slaves spoke, and, I should add, that I forgotten their names, perhaps fortunately. A few of them is the man for whose escape Della Webster was imprisoned, and for a time imprisoned, and Caroline Fairbanks now suffers in the penitentiary of Kentucky.

There seemed to be intense desire to learn the present state of things and the prospect in Maryland. With this view I was called upon, and I responded, giving the facts as they have presented themselves to my mind. I took occasion to correct a lamentable misconception, which seems to possession of the minds of some of the clergy of the North—far worse than a misconception—which some of the clergymen have taken special pains to spread, in order to bring in the un-christianity of their course, in attempting to serve God and Mammon at the same time. I allude to the plea that the Bible sanctions the our slave laws to continue in their present false relation—a plea the shallowness and sham of which should be exposed everywhere. I have in my own State, and others of the Southern group, even the laws requiring the emancipator to give security for the good behaviour of his liberated slaves is a nullity in its operation, or rather a mere form, under the very worst of the black laws no man is compelled to use the *voice* of slavery. The emancipator may do his own work, by handing over to his slaves the wages of their hire, as does a lady of Savannah, to the putting of the clergymen into her pew to the blush, unless they be indeed past blushing! I cannot say that I preverse on this point; but I cannot talk otherwise, and be true to my convictions of duty. The Bible sanctions slaveholding, and the slaveholding clergymen profess to be, had not where to lay his head; and yet these servants (seemingly determined to be not above their Lord) must, forsooth, not only have comfortable homes, but refuse to labor with their own hands, as Paul gloried in doing, but plantations and slaves, as though ancient Israel had not been a slave-holding people. Oh! when will Christ cease to be put to an open shame by these his professed representatives?

The other meetings I attended were, that of the Prison Discipline Society, a most interesting meeting, where I had the pleasure of hearing Charles Sumner speak, and that of the Massachusetts Medical Society, with whose numerous members (hundreds in number!) I had the pleasure of sitting down to an admirably served dinner in Faneuil Hall, on which occasion I had the pleasure of seeing Palmer was among the speakers. One fact I cannot help adding over: not one drop of intoxicating liquor could be seen on the table, coffee being used instead. I mention this, because I think that, and an example worthy to be followed everywhere.

J. E. S.

☞ Dr. WILLIAM H. ESHBANE requests us to state that his post office address continues to be Philadelphia, Pa., but that he remains in Ohio at present; that he is now at half miles from the city, in the State of Ohio, and that he intends continuing to call upon him can take the Medford stage from the Arch Street ferry, at half past two o'clock P. M., any day except Sunday.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Those gentlemen, in different parts of the country, who gave their subscriptions for the Liberty Minstrel, Mr. Hilliard, and who have not remitted the money to the undersigned, are earnestly requested to do so without delay.

L. T.

LIBERTY MEETINGS.

☞ There will be a MASS LIBERTY CONVENTION in Richland, Morrow County, Ohio, commencing Friday, June 11, at 10 o'clock A. M. To be addressed by SAMUEL LEWIS, EDWARD SMITH, and H. L. PRESTON.

☞ There will be a Mass Convention in Tuscarawas, Coshocton, Ohio, on Wednesday and Thursday, June 9 and 10, to be addressed by SAMUEL LEWIS, E. SMITH, M. R. HULL, H. L. PRESTON, and others.

☞ The Annual Camp Meeting of the People at Republican, (Seneca) Ohio, commences on Friday, June 11, and ends on July 1 and 2, will be addressed by SAMUEL LEWIS, H. L. PRESTON, and others.

MARRIAGE.

At Plainfield House, near Philadelphia, on Thursday, on the evening of the 20th ultimo, by Friends' ceremony, WARNER TOWNSEND and RACHEL WEST, daughter of William Wright, all of Adams county, Pennsylvania.

DEATH.

At Brooklyn, Long Island, New York, on Monday the 24th ultimo, ROBERT SHARP, eldest son of William and Mary Harned, in the 16th year of his age.

Anti-Slavery papers will please copy.

DOMESTIC MARKETS.

From the New York correspondent of the Era.

NEW YORK, *

THE NATIONAL ERA.

For the National Era.

PORTRAITS FOR THE PEOPLE.

BY JOHN SMITH THE YOUNGER.

No. 12—Continued.

THE POLITICIAN IN PETTICOATS.

CHAP. II.

In the times of which I write—and it may be so at this very day, for aught I know to the contrary—it was customary for the heads of Departments, and certain other high and important officials at the seat of the Federal Government, to give at least one grand festive entertainment during the winter season. I do not now speak of the dinner parties to which Congressmen and other influential personages are invited. These are frequently given, and, indeed, constitute a very important part of the grand patriotic machinery which produces the sublimely complicate movement of Government. It is very well known, that in all civilized countries, the science of cooking has a general title to be ranked with the sciences of Government. In London, in Paris, ay, even in St. Petersburgh itself, the Udes and Soyers most undoubtedly share with the Peels and Guizots the laurels won in the lonely field of politics. A great speech in Parliament or Chamber is certainly a great thing. But, ah! what is it compared to a great dinner? That is a cold, intellectual affair, at least only at most stimulating your reason, and, as the one, excites merely our sympathies; but this is a profoundly subtle, all-subduing agency, which, softly assailing man's whole sentient nature, at once tickles your palate and your fancy, kindles your imagination, captivates your reason, quickens every pulse, inflames the soul with the most generous emotion, and delivers you up, bound hand and foot, ready to do your master's bidding! Dinners are, illogically perhaps, but most in the ways by which the great patriots and philanthropists of earth direct the operations of the great machine of Government, and make mankind happy, perhaps you may think that I exaggerate the power of political cookery? Alas! I must confess my inability to do full justice to the elains and majesty of this mysterious science. One instance of its might, however, I do not hesitate to give. Some years ago, the whole British kingdom rung with the praises of the Irish Viceroy, the Earl of Mulgrave. He had taken the whole rebellious island by storm, and that portion of the English dominion, all at once, became as peaceful as the obsequious of Sodor and Man. Dragoon officers, no longer hunted the wild Christian peasants, refused to pay tithe to the successors of Paul, once more flirted with the Misses O'Shaughnessy, and Scotch soldiers walked abroad without blunderbusses in fair Tipperary. Nothing can be eloquent with the liberality, forbearance, and wisdom of his Excellency. At length, a change of ministry brought the noble Earl his passport recalled from the Irish Elysium. And now the murder was out, in every sense of the saying, for the loss of the immediately rose to the usual per centage in Lebanon. Mourning was universal, and the famous discovery was made, that his Lordship's French cook was the potent magician who had melted the hearts of the rebels of Ireland, and through them had mesmerized the whole kingdom!

It is not to be supposed that the wise in this generation, who spend themselves in the service of the people at Washington, neglect to use that necromancy which, as we have just seen, wrought such wonders in the Emerald Island, and, in fact, rick. How often have I seen the stern and incorruptible patriot, who, after the adjournment of the House or the Senate, had gone to dine at the "West End," with countenance as cold and unrelenting, frown of unspeakable integrity, return towards midnight to his lodgings, in company with his fellow-patriots, his features all smiling—his bosom, before as obdurate as the hardest-hearted sort of a cabbage, now soft and glowing as a blushing maiden—his purse, before as cold and unrelenting, now "in a fine frenzy rolling"—his spirit, which a few hours before had startled the Capitol with the dreadful tones of Congressional patriotism, now breathing the sublimely echo-voiced "a-a-a" that phrase!—in Pennsylvania avenue, with the full, rich, swelling chorus of

"Dandy Jim of the Carolina!"

Why, on such occasions, the very solitaire himself, whom mortals call the "man I the moon," has often seemed to wink complacently, whilst the little starry lamp, which lights his lonely dwelling, as it in rivalry of the splendid astronomical systems to which Heidsiek or Cliquot introduces the sufficiently adventurous student!

Ah! friend! Let me tell you, a dinner got up in the right way, given in the right style, and brought to bear on the object at the precise nick of time, is

How many things by season season's are
To their right praise, and true perfection!

is, indeed, a master-stroke of policy!

But I said that in the times of which I write, it was customary for the higher class of patriots at Washington to give, at least once during the season, a grand festive entertainment. I was one of these elegant festivities to which Mrs. Dangerfield alluded, when she remarked to her husband that they were all busy arranging for the ball to be given by the President. The "grand balls, or "blow-outs," as they are generally called by the *elite* of Washington, are given of course at the residence of the President, and, as many invitations are issued, and, in spite of all the precautionary measures which female sagacity can devise, the wear and tear of furniture is positively appalling. Tobacco-spittoons, hids of dirty linen, and specimens of slate-carpeting can resist the friction of hob-nails?

Now, Mr. Softsawder, the Secretary, had one of the most splendidly furnished houses in Washington. He prided himself on its irreproachable elegance. Nor was it a vulgar love of show which had actuated Mr. Softsawder in the fitting up of his residence. No. He had studied the whole thing as a science. He actually swayed the passions and prejudices of his fellow-citizens by means of upholstery! Such is the magic power of genius! It ennobles the man—it elevates the low—it consecrates the vulgar! Who would suppose that lifeless mahogany could be made a potent instrument of mind—that window curtains could be made to address the heart—that the mere *tapestry* on a drawing-room wall could unmask the preachers of a solemn morality? And yet Mr. Softsawder had done all this! He had made the discovery, that, in a civilized state of society, the human mind is profoundly affected by furniture! He had become convinced that of this impressibility the American human mind was peculiarly susceptible! Mr. Softsawder was a philosopher.

Reader, was not Mr. Softsawder right? Have you never, as you have been ushered into a magnificently furnished drawing-room, felt immediately awed by the mere power of antiquity, and with the windows darkened by damask curtains heavy with embroidery and tassels, felt a strange, mysterious awe steal over you, as you gazed on the dim, dark, sublime, religious light, and the hushed silence of that sanctuary of Mammon, well-nigh overwhelmed you? Like a Mohammedan, you felt the Ethiopian, say, and the terrible coldness of those marble slabs, sent a chill to your very heart? Have you not felt almost like a guilty one, as you have timidly trod the gorgeous carpet, which, yielding, like some treacherous quicksand, beneath your feet? Have not the stately and solemn candelabra, and the imposing vases, and the mighty mirrors, and the awful mugs of the founders of "the family," which stare upon you from their massive frames, as if you were some imperinent intruder, all united in admonishing you that you are in the very presence of all-conquering, irresistible Gold!

Now, it was with a full appreciation of all this philosophy of furniture, that Mr. Softsawder had set his house in order; and hardly a day passed in which the excellent Secretary did not laugh in his sleeve at the success of the system. "Wrathful Congressmen, who went to revile, were forced to revere him. Patriots, disappointed in the search after office, found all their courage evaporate, and instead of indignation, felt only the incense of gratitude. Supplicants, determined to receive no refusal, shaked at their own monstrous impudence, forgot what they wanted, and insisted that Mr. Softsawder was a most charming man! In a word, he was the Napoleon of the Department, and, in fact, there was no end to his conquests.

Reader, you must know, that Mr. Softsawder had a lovely daughter, named Sophronia. Sophronia was a beauty, and, moreover, a belle. Sophronia was a belle, and, moreover, a beauty. Sophronia was a belle and a beauty, and, moreover, a belle and