THE NATIONAL ERA.

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

For the National Era.

MAY.

May is here with bud and blossom,
Grassy sward and leafy bower,
And the earth unveils her bosom
To the sunshine and the shower.

Brook and rill and flowing river
Murmur as they glide along,
And the willow-branches quiver
Where the wild birds sing their song.

Round the flowers the bees are humming,
All that meet the eye or ear
Hail with rapture May's bright coming,
Empress of the rolling year.

Little girl with golden tresses
Twining round thy forehead fair,
Which the morning wind caresses,
Sporting with each ringlet there—

Hie thee to the flower-grown wild-wood
Where the earth with bloom is rife!
Thou hast yet to learn, that childhood
Is the only May of life.

Youth! on whose bright brow ambition
Sits enthroned a sceptred king;
Thou hast dreams of joys elysian,
Brighter far than earth can bring.

Thou canst gaze, almost unheeding,
On the glories of to-day—
Prize thy moments! life is speeding!
Life, that brings no second May.

Thou! with dark eyes, in whose glances
Glows the light of love's first dreams,
Wandering where the sunlight dances
On the violet-bordered streams—

Where the shadows softly tremble
With the water's rippling flow—
Pause! those eddying waves resemble
Much of life thou yet must know.

Ever changing, ever flowing,
Ceaseless still they pass away:
Shaded now and dark, now glowing
With the light of rosy May.

Gliding onward, pausing never;
Spring's young flower or wild bird's lay
Wins them back no more forever—
Like thy life's enchanted May.

Captive, in thy dungeon pining,
Raise thee from thy floor of stone!
Lo! the sun of May is shining;
E'en on thee its beams are thrown.

Through thy grated window stealing,
Softly, lovingly they come,
To thy heart again revealing
Light and liberty and home.

Though kind friends no more may meet thee,
Buried in a living tomb,
May's glad sunlight comes to greet thee,
Bidding hope thy soul resume.

Christian toiling on thy journey,
Cheered with Faith and Hope and Love,
To behold earth's glories turn thee,
May-flowers emblem those above.

Soon, those earthly flowers shall perish,
Like them thou shalt pass away
To a clime where blossoms flourish
In a never-ending May.

C. H. C.

Glen Quiet, Colerain, Ohio.

NEW ENGLAND METHODIST CONFERENCE.

To the Editor of the National Era:

The New England Annual Conference of the M. E. Church, which once embraced the six Eastern States, has swarmed no less than five times. It now embraces about two-thirds of Massachusetts, and is composed of one hundred and thirty ministers, more or less. It has always been celebrated for its stern, uncompromising anti-slavery principles. And as it has just arisen from a most interesting session, perhaps a communication to your valuable journal on the subject may not come amiss.

The body convened in the thriving village of Chicopee, late a part of Springfield, but recently chartered as a distinct township. The place numbers not far from seven thousand inhabitants, and is remarkable, not only for the production of all manner of cloth, but also for the manufacture of cannon, swords, bells, bronze statues, silver plate, &c., &c. There are seven churches—Methodist, Congregationalist, Baptist, Unitarian, Universalist, Episcopalian, and Catholic. The pulpits of every one save the Catholic and Episcopal were thrown freely open to the members of the Conference; and, for *one* day, at least, there was witnessed a most glorious unity of spirits in the bonds of peace. That day will not soon be forgotten. The influences of that day *cannot* be lost; they will wave downward through the stream of time, and break away on the shores of eternity.

The business of the Conference was transacted with felicity and dispatch.

On Saturday evening, about twelve hundred people assembled in Cabot Hall, to hear an address on the subject of Temperance, from Edward S. Taylor, of the Seamen's Bethel Church in Boston. Taken all in all, he is the most remarkable man on earth. In person he is rather short, but well proportioned; but the delineations of his countenance are separated from the rest of the race by a whole infinity. For suppleness of muscle, sensibility of nerve, quickness of apprehension, fullness of thought, and perspicuity of utterance, he has no equal. He speaks from the *heart* as well as from the head. Dr. Beecher's recipe for true eloquence, namely, "Pump yourself full of your subject, till ready to burst, then knock out the bung and let nature caper," is followed to the very letter. He carries his audience, at will, from the depths of sadness and bitter weeping to the very climax of uproarious laughter. But it requires a more skilful pencil than mine to paint him. Years are multiplying upon his head, disease has evidently fixed itself in his blood, and he will ere long be gone. And *when* he goes, "we ne'er shall see his like again;" for he can have no successor. *Two* such men in one universe would involve a contradiction, a fault with which nature can never be charged.

The discussions on the subject of slavery were very interesting. No one looked upon the system but with the feeling of pure hatred. There might have been some slight differences of opinion, but there was no evidence of the existence of a truckling time-server, nor a tepefactious conservative in the whole body. In reference to the contemplated action of the approaching General Conference in Boston, the following resolutions were passed with great unanimity:

1. *Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Conference that a rule should be inserted in the Discipline of the M. E. Church, prohibiting the reception of voluntary slaveholders into the church.

2. *Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Conference that, after a specified date, all persons who shall be found in the church, sustaining the relation of voluntary slaveholders, should be *expelled* from the church.

These sentiments are honest. They were so unanimous in the Conference that *no opposition* was encountered. The moment they fell from the lips of the mover, they were voted and filed. They will have their influence. Coming from a Conference of as able clergymen as any in the Union, they will tell. The border men-stealers will squirm, no doubt; but they must "grin and bear it." The battle must be pushed to the gate; the sanctuary must be cleansed. Mark this, all ye traffickers in human blood! We Methodist ministers of the North consider slavery the "sum of all villanies." And as for the Fugitive Slave Law, we hold it as the monstrous out-birth of an unmitigated sin. We have no respect for it, whatever. It never has been obeyed by us—it never will be. No. Let there come bonds, imprisonment, confiscation, and death—still we shall despise that law, and do all in our moral power to defeat its execution. No plea of expediency, no amount of political wrath, no degree of satire, contumely, or reproach, will ever avail. Agitation is our right, and we shall agitate the subject, despite all opposition, till the curse is removed, "world without end."

These are not the foamings of passion; they are the conclusion of the syllogism of which the *command of God* and the *promptings of a pure philanthropy* are the major and minor premises.

H. M. B.

B——d, Mass., April 22.

For the National Era.

THE UNSUSCEPTIBLE.

LEVISON LODGE, *Sept.* 10.

DEAR MARY EUSTACE: For no being but yourself would I prison myself within house walls to-day. All the airs of heaven woo me, while here I sit, a faithful lover at your side. For you my mortal hatred of pen and ink gives way. Your sway over me is as unbounded now, as when so gently wielded through all our merry school-days. Yet I miss your hourly counsel, and the many sweet ways in which you used to reconcile my errant heart to its duty.

In fact, I think I am in a hopeful way of being spoiled. The process began the very night I reached here, and found myself a person of unexampled consequence to the whole household. Our good housekeeper hurried up stairs in a fever of impatience to meet "Miss Agnes," little black Sam was to be seen throwing up his heels on the grass outside, like one mad, and my dear father, in quieter wise, drew me into the library, and there looked on me with such affectionate pride beaming from his fine, grave eyes, that my heart grew quickly full—of conceit, if you will, but there was some love and gratitude in it too. Yes, and quite a little flame of daughterly and domestic feeling, and a host of most respectable resolves. I would so gladly become what he believes me to be, for I know his every hope centres in me now; I was not always his *only* child.

I spend much of my time rambling about my old haunts, and looking up my friends, the brooks and bird's nests. Imagine Madame Ricord's horror, could she see the pupil fresh from her polishing hands, poised on the top of a wall, ready for a spring, or scrambling, hands and knees, up a rough hill-side.

Dick Sullivan has found it convenient to run up here occasionally, since I have been at home. My father looks with no favor on the poor fellow, and, I think, allows the calmness of his own mind to be quite unnecessarily ruffled in regard to him. Even from your gentle lips I seem to remember some severe things spoken of my friend Dick—all well deserved, no doubt; yet, for the minor purposes of life, Dick does not answer badly. One should not, in a world so barren of good looks, undervalue a handsome face like his, even if it *is* open to that withering charge of owing more to complexion than expression.

Dick is not, however, the only handsome man we can boast. And here we approach an interesting topic. Perhaps you remember, in my impromptu sketches of Levison Lodge and its vicinity, a certain nondescript flourish of the pencil, which, I contended, was a most suggestive representation of our next neighbor's fine old house and domains. The poor man has died abroad, and forthwith has come into possession a nephew, who, as I said before, rivals Dick Sullivan in point of exterior, and distances him altogether on every other ground, moral and intellectual.

Now, Mary, this Rodney Decker, idling away the autumn months in our quiet village, might naturally be expected to fall in love with me, were it only for something to do. Never did a man fall so far short of his duty! Seriously, Mary, I am not so conceited as to assume the heart of every man I meet to be my necessary property. But there is usually a certain spice in the intercourse of two thrown together in the way we are, a slight degree of passing devotion in the outward demeanor of a man toward you, so long as you are perforce his sole feminine companions, which one misses if it is absent, however little it is worth in reality. Mr. Decker is very neighborly, very kind, very cordial, but he is withal so utterly indifferent and unsusceptible, that my young charms are quite thrown away upon him. I can see that I am invested in his eyes with just about as sentimental a halo as my father, who by the way admires our new friend to the last degree. The consequence of all this is, that the two gentlemen entertain each other with high converse, which they know to be seven flights above the reach of my girlish powers, and I am driven to console myself with the gallant nonsense of Dick Sullivan; hardly a preferable extreme, perhaps.

But as I can make nothing of Mr. Decker for myself, I generously give him up to you. You cannot have forgotten that old promise of a visit to me, sealed as it was with a thousand school-girl vows; I can wait for its fulfilment no longer. Come and try your spells on this impracticable hero. I have already begun the game by praising you on all occasions. He listens with polite skepticism, but your presence will strike conviction to his heart, if (a doubtful point) he possesses one. So, come speedily, best and dearest of all my school friends, and if your dignified spirit scorns these devices "to make sport withal," let not your contempt keep you from me—for, all cold, insensate men apart, my heart longs for you, and whispers that we two may have many happy hours together. The woods, and hills, and free air of heaven, will be joy enough for those whose love made so dear the dusky walls and narrow rooms of Madame Ricord's establishment.

I must leave you, for Mr. Decker is waiting below, I wish I might say impatiently; and our new clergyman, Mr. Heath, is to dine with us to-day—an event for which I must be suitably prepared. I shall anxiously wait for your coming. Ever your own AGNES.

Mr. Decker did not appear indeed to have fretted himself at all in his solitude. He sat musing so quietly, that the entrance of Agnes was unperceived by him, till she came close to his chair, and held her letter before his eyes.

"See there, unbeliever! It is easy to call my pictures fanciful and false; there is what shall bring the original!"

"What unshaken faith you place in your own eloquence! Has it been your happy experience that a request needs only speaking to be fulfilled?"

"No, not exactly."

"Then I conclude that Miss Eustace possesses that pliant loveliness that cannot refuse a wish once put in words. A most amiable characteristic!"

"Amiable!" cried the indignant Agnes; "She is no more amiable and pliant than I am."

"Rather a stormy season in prospect, should she actually arrive. Really, I had no idea in what disrepute the gentler virtues were held among you. I shall be curious to watch the intercourse of two such professed unamiables."

"We shall harmonize admirably, I assure you; much better than you and I are likely to do at present."

Mr. Decker turned to the piano. "Come, then," said he, "let us hush our discords with the spell of your music."

"The only spell," thought Agnes, "that I have not found utterly powerless with you." For, in fact, while listening to a few chosen songs, he had often seemed as rapt and devout a slave as the most *exigeante* coquette could desire, but always with the sound the influence died.

"For all those songs that you like best," she said, as she rose from the music-stool at last, "you are indebted to Miss Eustace, for I learned them all from her."

"I am everlastingly obliged. But has Miss Eustace a monopoly of all sweet songs? Might not a music-store have done as much for my happiness—that is, supposing you could have been induced to receive instruction through so commonplace a channel?"

"Not at all. They are all stray gems, which Miss Eustace has caught, remembered, gathered up, where no one else would find them. But be as ungrateful as you please, your time is very short," she mentally added.

At this moment, Mr. Heath and Mr. Levison were descried coming up the walk. Agnes was dismayed. "Father will never forgive me," said she, "if I am not ready. Mr. Decker, you must meet them, and keep them out three minutes longer. Ask father for the history of any little scrubby tree out there. And stay—you are going to the village; take my letter, too. The mail closes very soon."

She thrust the letter into his hand, and darted up the staircase. Decker called after her, "Miss Agnes, you have left this unsealed."

"Seal it yourself, then. I cannot stay now."

"Do you trust my honor so implicitly?"

"Yes, where there is so little temptation!"

Mary Eustace was not unworthy of the love bestowed on her by Agnes. Indeed, it was a promising token in the character of the latter, that she could so warmly appreciate the more mature and serious spirit of her friend. Mary had experienced a harder training, a more subduing discipline, than herself. Dependent from infancy on the will of a fond but capricious and selfish grandfather, she had been early taught to give up her own wishes and personal pleasures, while none could be more firm on every question of duty.

She sincerely returned the confiding affection of Agnes, and it was not taking too much for granted to suppose her heart would lead her joyfully to accept the invitation. Yet Agnes trembled, in spite of the confident air which she had assumed with Mr. Decker, for she had dark and lowering visions of that abominable grandfather. She was therefore almost as much surprised as delighted, when one Saturday afternoon, some three weeks from the date of her letter, she was called home from her ramble, to welcome Miss Eustace.

Wearied with her tedious journey, how sweet were the affectionate words and caresses of Agnes to Mary Eustace! How beautiful the scene that met her enchanted eyes from every window, contrasted with the dull city she had left behind! Yet the happiest contrast was that of the loving attention she received, to the wearying, self-denying service, which at her own home it was her lot to pay, with little chance of satisfying her grandfather's exacting temper. This visit would be a blissful oasis in her life, and with its memory she would return more cheerfully to her duties.

"Oh, Agnes, I shall be happy here!" she could not help exclaiming, and her kindling eyes bore witness to her words.

And now, fast flowed the stream of gay and girlish talk. Numberless incidents of their school life were lived over again with new delight, and even the sorrows of that time took a merry tone as they recalled them.

Rodney Decker came in, as usual, at evening. Agnes was in proud and happy expectation. Mary was so beautiful that night. Agnes had never seen her look so well.

"I have talked so much and so foolishly to her about this man," thought she, as she rose to introduce them, "that she really must blush a little, which will be quite becoming. Yes, that will do; a very pretty, lady-like color. Now, what does he think of her?"

What he thought of her it was difficult to decide. Agnes thought he was not quite so polite and attentive as so courteous a man should be to a stranger. But it was too soon to despair; he was not a man to be fascinated at first sight. Mary should sing; if he did not appreciate her voice, she would give him up.

Mary sang, as she always did, when asked, but she was not quite in voice, though the exquisite tenderness, which was the chief charm of her singing, could not be wanting. Agnes stole a glance at Mr. Decker. He had turned from the piano, and was looking over some prints that lay on the table. In a moment he came back and joined his praises to those of the others, but it was a cold performance, Agnes thought.

"Insufferable man!" she said to herself. "Absolutely he is so conceited, he can think of no one but himself. I believe that is the secret of it, after all. To look at her now, as she stands talking to my father, in that peculiarly graceful attitude; such intelligence in those dark eyes; who that has a heart or soul could help being charmed?"

Not Mr. Levison. He took the opportunity, when Mr. Decker did at last approach Miss Eustace, to say to his daughter in a low voice, "Agnes, your friend does you credit; she is worth ten of you, however. That lady-like repose of manner is as lovely as it is rare. Handsome too, as any woman need care to be."

After this tribute, Agnes could not refuse her father his favorite Scotch song. But while hunting for it through an immense pile of music, her eyes were busy sending covert glances towards the opposite corner of the room.

"My dear father, Roy's Wife is not here. She is as great a cheat as ever. (He *is* talking, certainly, but in that low, monotonous kind of way.) I really believe I have passed it. Now I must go over the whole again. (If he would but look at her, instead of tangling my unfortunate purse, with his eyes bent on his own mischief.) Ah, here we come to the Scotch music; I had forgotten my last systematic arrangement. Do admire it, father. (There *was* a look! Why, that was quite glorious; but now at the purse again, eyes and fingers. I do believe the man is vain of his hands!) Found at last; the last of the pile, as usual. Now let us see if Mary's music has not spoiled mine for you."

But still, while her father listened delighted to her voice, her thoughts were occupied with nearer wooings, or what she would fain have such, than those of the "braes o' Balloch." Poor Agnes! she did not realize how powerless were such memories as hers, to change or link the destinies of two human hearts forever. The thought with which her foolish heart was now full had been borne there with a laugh, in an hour of mirth, but these fruitless endeavors were giving it every moment a deeper hold upon her will; and as the evening closed, she was almost ready, with tears of disappointment, to baptize it into a sacred aim of life.

The girls had retired for the night, before Agnes ventured to utter one word of the vexation she felt. Mary stood by the dressing-table, her eyes cast thoughtfully down, while she slowly unbraided her long hair. Agnes approached her, and twining her little fingers caressingly in those well-known glossy waves, looked up pleadingly into Mary's eyes, and startled her from her revorie, with a sudden—"Now, Mary! do not say that Rodney Decker is the most disagreeable person you ever saw in your life!"

Mary smiled at the earnestness of this appeal. "Certainly not; I had no thought of doing so."

"Well, promise me not to judge of him by just what you have seen this evening."

"I will not indeed, my dear Agnes."

"Ah, then, he has been rude—stupid, perhaps?"

"Not at all. I saw nothing that was not quite polite in Mr. Decker. I should think him as intelligent as most young men."

Agnes released the imprisoned hair, and stood quite aghast at these apparent concessions. "That is a compliment, truly! from you, who I know despise 'most young men,' and spoken of Rodney Decker, who has no more in common with them than you have!"

"That is a worse compliment than mine, dear Agnes, if you mean by it to accuse him of as terrible a want of charity as that you have charged on me. I am certainly not conscious of despising anybody, nor would it raise Mr. Decker in my opinion to know that he considered himself above his kind."

"Oh, he does not, he does not!" cried Agnes, eagerly. "He is more charitable than you, for he will even be very civil and friendly to Dick Sullivan, whom I must not say you despise, after all this, but only rather disapprove. Dick has a handsome sister, however; that may be an assistant to his charity." Agnes hesitated, doubtful whether a little jealousy might not be introduced with good effect. One look at Mary's calm, superior face, made her ashamed of the thought. She went on:

"But Mary, dear, I certainly saw him look up once with a most animated, delightful kind of look, that could not have accompanied a stiff remark, a dull conversation—how was it?"

"Really, Agnes," returned her friend, "you are rather hard upon me. If you had warned me that the context of every look, up, down, and sideways, was to be called for, I might have prepared myself to give it. I really had not supposed it to be more interesting to you than it was to me."

Agnes began to feel herself in the position of the good old baronet in Camilla, whose favorite match fell through, for no reason in the world but the mortal hatred between the parties. "For indifference," she wisely reasoned, "is more fatal than hatred." She was at least convinced that her schemes would be best pursued in silence.

But leaving this forbidden ground, there remained a hundred things between Mary and herself, which could on no account be kept over till daylight. Hour after hour was stolen from sleep, till at length, in the very middle of one of her most interesting harangues, Agnes dropped away into slumber, the words faltering on her parted lips. It was only to dream of Mary and Rodney Decker at the altar. A noble, beautiful pair, truly; but just as Mr. Heath's deep voice was pronouncing them man and wife, they commenced making faces at one another, with that entire disregard of appearances and proprieties, which so often characterizes the heroes and heroines of dreams. Agnes woke, and with James Fitz-James, mentally exclaimed—"I'll dream no more!" Had she carried the resolution into her waking life, it had been better for her peace through the coming month.

The next day's sun had but just risen, when Agnes flung open her favorite east window, and summoned Mary to her side. She might well be proud of the burst of morning beauty it commanded at that moment.

"A true Sabbath morning," Mary exclaimed.

"Ah, I had quite forgotten that. I was just going to propose a ride to those hills to-day."

"But you are not sorry, now that you do remember it, dear Agnes?"

"You are thinking how impatient I used to be of those long Sundays at Madame Ricord's," said Agnes, with a blush. "But it is so different here, at least since Mr. Heath came. When you hear him, you will understand it. He is so good and earnest himself, and I feel always in my heart a witness that what he says is true. I often find myself looking forward to the Sabbath almost in the same way that you do."

Mary's eyes alone spoke the pleasure she felt. She could appreciate the confidence implied in even so simple an expression of serious feeling, and she would not startle it back by a word.

"What sheet of water is that," she asked, after a moment's silence, "gleaming beyond the woods over there?"

"Wannee lake," said Agnes, in a low, changed voice.

Mary looked inquiringly at her.

"I have told you of my lost brother, Mary. It was there that his little boat went down. I never look at it now without a heavy sinking at my heart. And my poor father!"

"How long ago was it?"

"Five summers since. Oh, Mary, how different my life would have been, with the companionship of a brother! No one knows how much I still miss him—miss what he would have been, as well as what he was."

"Think of him as he is, dear Agnes!"

"I do, Mary; but sometimes his lonely death comes up so vividly before me. I fancy his last struggles, and I see again his little lifeless form rescued just too late by a passing foot-traveller; the long wet hair, and the icy fingers—I feel them again with the same shudder of despair that came over me, that strange, wretched afternoon. We were so stunned that none of us even spoke to this stranger, and he went away, without leaving any word by which we might know whom to thank. I wish now that I *could* meet that man again, just to let my full heart speak out its gratitude."

"Do you ever go to the lake now?"

"No, Mary, I cannot. I know the very spot where all this happened, and I see it often, both waking and in dreams. But I kept away at first from a kind of fear, and now I cannot bring myself to break the spell. Dick Sullivan has teazed me often to go boating there with him. He does not know, and I have never told him, why I will not go. I ought, I suppose, but I cannot confide a sorrow to such a person as he. He is altogether unfit for it."

"He must be unfit for this world, then, for it is a place of sorrow."

"Do *you* feel it so, Mary?" asked Agnes, surprised. "Vexations, petty annoyances, I know you have had, but not real affliction, surely."

"I have not suffered in the way that you have, Agnes, nor in any way of which I can speak to you."

Agnes was puzzled, but she had no excuse for inquiring farther. She contented herself with showing, by looks and ways of new tenderness, the warm sympathy she felt in a sorrow whose nature was unknown to her.

When Mary heard Mr. Heath, she was not surprised that his influence over Agnes had been a happy one. There was a depth of thought in his sermon, of earnestness in his prayers, that seemed to bear with it an irresistible power. And while a pure taste controlled his style, its simplicity and directness made it acceptable and appropriate to the humblest disciple, the rudest worshipper in that village congregation.

Upon leaving the church, the girls were joined by Mr. Sullivan, whose presence and complimentary triflings seemed to bring them abruptly down to earth. Mary continued, however, to express the warm admiration she felt for Mr. Heath, with an animation that should have been gratifying to Agnes. But at this point Agnes experienced a perverse revulsion of feeling. Highly as she exalted Mr. Heath in her own eyes, and much as she had longed for Mary's sympathy in the matter, it struck her with an uncomfortable sensation at the moment, how terribly well suited they were to one another. "He is outshining Rodney Decker," she said to herself; "it is inexpressibly provoking." Her reply was a cold one.

"Mr. Heath is superior to the majority of country preachers, to be sure; but in the city, where one has a choice, the chance of being entirely suited must be greater, of course."

"Oh, unquestionably," interposed Mr. Sullivan. "Very well now, as you say, Miss Agnes, for a country church, but in the city one would hardly feel satisfied with such preaching as Mr. Heath's. The sermon this morning, for instance; suitable enough for the ignorant, misguided part of his congregation, but rather barren of interest to the rest."

"We may wonder, then, that Miss Eustace should have been pleased," returned Agnes, quickly, "but I think neither you nor I, Mr. Sullivan, need complain."

Dick saw he had committed an error, and wisely held his peace. Agnes walked on with an impatient step, indignant at him and at herself. "That Dick Sullivan should take upon himself to agree with me, when I make a fool of myself! To be enlarging, too, on his spiritual wants under Mr. Heath! But it is provoking about Mary, after all!"

At breakfast on Monday morning, another fine day being in prospect, Agnes proposed a ride on horseback. The good condition of the horses was ascertained, and their merits of paces and disposition, safety and spirit, duly discussed.

"I shall not be able to attend you myself, my daughter," said Mr. Levison, "but I presume Mr. Decker will be happy to accompany you."

"Oh, certainly!" replied Agnes, and Mr. Sullivan, too. How fortunate that he should have arrived just at this time!"

"Really, my dear, Mr. Sullivan's visits are not so infrequent as to render each one worthy of a jubilee. I was not aware he had been away."

"Why, dear father, he has been gone these three weeks!" exclaimed Agnes, affecting great seriousness of manner.

"Has he indeed? Well, it may be so. Where a person's coming and going seems to bear upon no object or result of any kind, I rarely charge my mind with it."

"Mr. Sullivan may have objects in his visits, with which you are unacquainted," said Agnes, stealing an arch glance at Mary. Mr. Levison rose hastily. "At all events, this one shall have the result of enlivening our ride to-day."

Her father left the room without speaking. "See, Mary, father has gone away really disturbed. I know I am perverse, but why should he not give me credit for a little sense and discrimination myself?"

"Because you never give yourself credit for any, when you are with him."

"I don't see that. I am sure I have implied no more than that Dick Sullivan will be a valuable addition to our party, and that is both sensible and discriminating. For, firstly, he and his fine horse will give a more imposing appearance to our cavalcade. Secondly, he who, under any circumstances in life, changes three into four, confers a favor on all parties. And lastly"——

At this moment Mr. Levison returned to say, "Agnes, I should like you to invite Mr. Heath to take tea with us this evening."

"Certainly, sir. Have you any particular reason?"

"None, but that I like now and then to see a man of sense and worth in my house. Have you any particular objection, my dear?"

"Yes!" thought Agnes, but she only laughed, and promised to see that the invitation was given.

Within an hour, horses and escorts were at the disposal of the ladies. Little black Sam contemplated the setting forth of the party, with very justifiable admiration. That all the manœuvres of Agnes had not availed to keep Decker from being at her own side instead of Mary's, was matter of annoyance to her at first. But the fresh air and exhilarating motion were death to such light cares as hers. Mr. Decker was, besides, so kind and agreeable, and especially so eloquent in the praises of her favorite Princess, and the Princess herself so gloriously spirited, that it was impossible to be dissatisfied with anything.

The view of which they were in search was almost attained, when Agnes began, by gentle approaches, to attempt an investigation of Mr. Decker's mind in regard to Miss Eustace.

"Miss Eustace is pleasing," said he, in answer to some cautious interrogatory.

"Pleasing!" thought Agnes, in lively despair; "why not call her a fool at once?"

"Her eyes are not blue," he continued, in a tone, it seemed to Agnes, as if that might be rather her misfortune than her fault.

"I hope not!" she indignantly exclaimed.

The bright, laughing blue of his own met hers with such a look of archness, that she was more than ever provoked.

"If you expected," she said, "to find in Miss Eustace a mere mirror of your own perfections, no wonder you are disappointed."

"Come," said he, laughing yet more heartily, "this is rather unjust. But you described her as being so different from yourself, and your eyes certainly have not the misfortune to be blue."

"They are not farther from it, however, than from that glorious depth of darkness which *I* think so beautiful in hers. How well she looks on horseback!"

"Yes, her figure is graceful. Has she been as much accustomed to riding as you? I thought she looked timid once or twice."

"You had better ride with her, then, as we return, and take care of her."

"Certainly, Miss Agnes. I should not think of inflicting myself longer on you; and standing in the way of such superior attractions," he added, with a backward glance at Dick Sullivan.

"Mr. Sullivan has the superior attraction of possessing some slight susceptibility to what is lovely."

"*You* can speak understandingly on that point, Miss Agnes, no doubt," he answered, bowing as he turned away, to give place to Mr. Sullivan.

"I never knew this man in such impertinently high spirits," she said to herself. "It is fortunate for Mary that he has not known her long enough to dare vent this tormenting spirit upon her. And yet she looks, for all the world, as if he were doing it now—so deprecating, yet half amused. She will begin to think him presuming, rather than stupid."

Agnes turned the Princess' head toward the objects of her solicitude, but she found Mr. Decker expatiating on the beauties of the scene before them, with the sobriety of a Guide-book.

As they left the spot, Miss Eustace and Mr. Decker taking to lead, Agnes looked admiringly after them, and said to herself, "What a pity that they cannot see themselves as I do, and understand how beautifully they look together! It would settle the thing at once."

They now wound past a turn in the road, and Agnes, resigning them to their own devices, gave herself up quite carelessly to the enjoyment of all that was fascinating in Mr. Sullivan. His fine appearance on horseback, his easy nonsense, and graceful attentions, were not without a certain charm for Agnes. She was just now in a mood when trifling was agreeable to her. Mr. Sullivan had some new tricks of horsemanship to teach her. Agnes, always fearless, and now brimfull of excitement and frolic, forgot everything but the fun of the moment. Dick Sullivan found himself in such apparently high favor, that his vanity rose to fever heat. Various little attentions on his part, which at another time Agnes would have instinctively repressed, she now received without stopping to consider their import.

She was suddenly recalled to herself by the unexpected apparition of Mr. Heath, who was taking his customary walk along a shady part of the road.

Now, Agnes had already suffered some embarrassment on behalf of her friend Mr. Sullivan, especially in presence of Mr. Heath, on whose respect she placed a high value. It was not flattering to have it supposed that the society of a coxcomb was peculiarly congenial and satisfying to her. "Yet it must be so, in part," reasoned Agnes, "or why do I ever like to have him about me? And this being the truth, it would be dishonorable in me to disguise it. If I am so unfortunately constituted as to enjoy frivolous society, the world and Mr. Heath are welcome to know it."

On the present occasion, however, her mental ejaculation, "How much of this nonsense has he seen?" seemed to imply that he was not so very welcome to know. Perhaps she had been carrying her honorable principles a trifle too far. The cause of truth really did not require her to flirt with Mr. Sullivan. At all events, she could have wished Mr. Heath to have chosen another road for his morning stroll, and it was in no very happy frame of mind that she stopped to deliver her father's message.

As she was turning to go on, her riding cap became unfastened. Mr. Heath held her horse while she re-arranged it, and as he stood by her side, said, in a low voice—

"Mr. Sullivan's horse is very gay, I see. Is there no danger that he may infect the Princess?"

"I am not timid," she said.

"But your friends may not be the less anxious for you on that account," said he, smiling gently, as he released her bridle rein. Agnes thought there was a shade too much meaning in all this, and she chafed under it.

"I believe I can read your riddle," she answered, with affected carelessness. "But in my creed gayety is no sin, either in a horse or his rider. So Princess and I will try and take care of ourselves. We shall hope to see you this evening. Good morning."

The next moment she was very sorry. But the cold words had been spoken, and were beyond recall. Mr. Sullivan, who had been unable to hear, still less to comprehend what had passed, experienced nevertheless a certain change in Miss Levison's demeanor toward him, which was neither accountable nor gratifying.

As they entered the village, Agnes bethought herself of the existence of two Misses Thorston, who were visiting a married sister there, and to whom the present seemed an excellent opportunity for being polite. She accordingly requested Mr. Sullivan to ride up with her to Mrs. Cornell's gate, that she might invite them to take tea with her that evening.

"They are fine dashing girls, Mr. Sullivan. You will be delighted with them."

Mr. Sullivan assumed a look of consummate indifference. To be polite, now and then, to Miss Eustace, was so obviously necessary as a mere matter of policy, that he could make up his mind quite philosophically to it. But as for these new girls, Dick believed they must excuse him.

The Misses Thorston were some time in making their appearance, but they were proportionably magnificent at last, so that it was all fair. They accepted Miss Levison's invitation with very frank expressions of pleasure. Country life was apparently becoming dull to them, and Mr. Sullivan's handsome face, it was evident, was a bright vision across their path. "They may have him to-night!" thought Agnes. "I have sacrificed enough to him for one day."

Leaving the Misses Thorston quite radiant with anticipations, Agnes and Sullivan turned towards the lodge. At the park gate they met Mr. Decker dashing down the drive.

"What have you done with Miss Eustace all this time?" cried Agnes.

"All this time! We have been but a few rods in advance of you, since we started for home."

"But we have been this half hour at Mrs. Cornell's. Do make some account of that."

Decker laughed. "You must have had a charming call," he said, "to protract a bare five minutes in this way. I hope Miss Eustace will not tell so hard a story of my powers of entertaining. You, Sullivan, at least, will not make such uncivil reckoning of time."

Dick's gallantry was touched. He began a thousand protestations. It had not seemed a moment to him, but Miss Levison's mental chronometer and his could not be expected to agree.

Agnes interrupted him. "What an amount of words about a poor half hour, from men who every day waste twenty-four whole ones. I must interfere, before you grow too careful of your minutes, and claim some of them for this evening."

With promises of attendance at tea-time, they bade her good morning. Mr. Levison appeared at the door, to assist his daughter in dismounting, and his bow to Mr. Sullivan, though quite civil, was such as to leave the young man no pretext for lingering.

"And now, come evening!" fervently sighed Agnes; for already her heart was growing hopeful again. The morning's mischief was not irreparable. She would win Mr. Heath to forgive her foolish petulance. Dick Sullivan should be turned over to the Thorstons. As for Mary and Mr. Decker, she would neither make nor mar; she would trust the chances of a long evening to bring them together.

But when evening came, and with it came her guests, it brought little satisfaction to the fair hostess of Levison Lodge. Her parlor was no less sociably than tastefully arranged; and if people would only have been as accommodating as tables and chairs, all would have gone off to a charm. But Agnes soon saw that her plans were destined to be in every particular frustrated. The entertainment followed an entirely new programme. Dick Sullivan, instead of blessing the Misses Thorston with his smiles, adhered pertinaciously to Miss Levison's side, as blind to her own weariness as to her father's impatient glances that way. Agnes was not so blind. She felt, when she did not see, those looks, and she read them thus:

"My bad opinion of that young man is becoming more decided every moment; at the same time, nothing could surprise me less than that my daughter should elope with him before the week is out."

Mr. Decker had, from the moment of their entrance, devoted himself to the Misses Thorston, with an ardor peculiarly misplaced in the eyes of Miss Levison. He exerted himself so much to be agreeable, that Miss Juliet, the elder, was won over into content, and listened with delighted eyes. But the faithful Anna was not to be coaxed into forgetfulness. The handsome hero of the morning had already been installed into the vacant post of master of her affections. Her restlessness and wishful glances showed how willingly she would have relieved Miss Levison of her troublesome neighbor.

[TO BE CONCLUDED IN OUR NEXT.]

A DONKEY IN A BALL ROOM.

Mr. Kendall, writing from Paris to the New Orleans *Picayune*, describes the following scene in a Paris ball room:

"A highly ludicrous incident occurred a few evenings since at the Casino Paganini, a large ball room located at the head of a passage leading out of the Chaussee d'Antin, and which is much frequented this season by a mixed and most miscellaneous crowd. The orchestra had just struck up the *Galop du Chemin de Fer*, (Railroad Gallop,) and the merry dancers had taken their places, when into the room bolted a donkey, snorting and braying at the top of his powerful lungs, and, joining in the gallop, went round the large salle with a perfect rush. Never was such a stampede seen in a ball room. The now affrighted dancers scattered in every direction, and such a "gittin up stairs," such a jumping upon chairs and tables, and such a climbing up pillars, up to that moment had never been witnessed in the Casino Paganini or any other casino. The police were struck dumb at the strange apparition, the musicians dropped their instruments and fled in terror, while the donkey kept galloping on in his mad flight, careering in circles around the room, amid the wild screams of the hundreds of women, all only bent upon seeking places of safety.

"What could have brought such an intruder into a dancing hall, no one could imagine, but it was afterwards ascertained that the donkey had been left by his master standing before a door in Chaussee d'Antin, and that, struck by one of the carriages continually passing through that noted thoroughfare, and frightened by the rattling of others, he had suddenly started off at the top of his speed. The more he ran, as is always the case, the more frightened he became, and in his flight, seeing the passage leading to the Casino, he bolted into it for refuge. But poor refuge did he find; for he had now to run a gauntlet of at least fifty coachmen, always stationed in the passage on the lookout for customers, who, yelling and cracking their whips at him, further increased his terror and his pace. The saloon is on the first floor, and without stopping to procure a ticket of admission, but knocking over the astonished door-keeper in his headlong career, the poor brute made his advent among the dancers, as already mentioned. "Solitary and alone he sat that ball in motion," and commotion too. Without stopping to select a partner, he joined in the grand gallop, and at a stride which soon distanced everything on the track.

"After half a dozen turns round the saloon, and to music of his own composition and performance, he finally cooled or tired himself down, came to his senses, and quietly commenced a survey of the premises. From this out he is said to have been the pet of the evening, the female portion of the crowd in particular pressing around him, and regaling him plentifully with cakes and other notions. When the ball was over, he was sent by the commissary of police to the public pound, and thus ended the doings of a donkey in a dancing saloon. The adventures of the celebrated bull in the china shop were as nothing in comparison; that animal simply confined his operations to breaking plates, cups, and saucers; but the hero of the Casino Paganini for a space broke up a ball."

DEFENCE OF THE NORTH AGAINST THE CHARGE OF AGGRESSION.

From a Speech delivered by Mr. SMART, *a Democratic Representative from Maine, in the House of Representatives, April* 23, 1852.

The Federal Government has power, under the Constitution, to bestow office and emoluments upon the citizen. What share have the South had in the administration of Government, and in the execution of the laws? Have they, in this respect, been the victims of Northern domination and oppression? From what sections have the Chief Magistrates of the nation been taken? At the close of Mr. Fillmore's term the Presidential chair will have been filled—

From the South - - - - - - - -	49 years.
From the North - - - - - - - -	15. "

Let it be remembered that, from the first formation of the Government to the present moment, the North have had a decided preponderance of numerical strength; and yet they have forborne, with few exceptions, to use that strength for the elevation of their sons to the first place in the nation. There have been sixteen elections of President; and how many times do you suppose, sir, a majority of the North have voted for a man of Southern birth? They have done so eleven times. And how many times have a majority of the South voted for a native of the North? Let me answer, but once—only once in sixty-four years. In the sixteen Presidential elections, 3,456 electoral votes have been cast; 790 votes have been given by the North for Northern candidates; 1,190 by the South for Southern candidates; 1,155 by the North for Southern candidates, and 321 by the South for Northern candidates.

The South have stood with their serried ranks for their own men, generally asking, and seldom yielding; and now some of their citizens are complaining of "Northern domination and aggression." Men sometimes complain to obtain more than their rights. Sir, I am reluctant to bring myself to believe that our Southern friends are actuated by a similar policy.

Several of the important places have been filled as follows, up to March 4th, 1849:

	From the North.	From the South.
Presidents - - - -	12 years	48 years.
Chief Justices - - -	11 "	48 "
Secretaries of State -	20 "	40 "
Attorneys General - -	20 "	39 "
Speakers of the House	23 "	37 "

With about one-half the white population, the slaveholding States have had, if I am not in error, a majority of the Cabinet, of the members of the Judiciary, of the Foreign Legations, and of the officers of the Army and Navy. They have now the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House, the Commanding General of the Army, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and a majority of the Cabinet officers. There have been from the South twenty-one Presidents *pro tempore* of the Senate, and from the North thirteen. These are the facts, and this is the answer to the charge of Northern aggression, that is forever sounding in our years. I ask attention to these facts, and ask gentlemen to remember that there are 13,000,000 of white people at the North, and only about 6,000,000 at the South.

I have alluded, sir, to the first places under the Government. I have not mentioned second and subordinate offices. Now, I ask, what justification can there be for the complaints of a distinguished Senator, made in the late convention of Southern Rights Association, held at Charleston? Hear him:

"The Southern States can no longer be the nurse of great statesmen. The ambition of the eagle's flight will be no longer seen—we may have crows and ducklings who will be ready to be satisfied with the crumbs and garbage of office. There are those who will be willing to make an easy transition to degradation by being candidates for the secondary and subordinate offices. Suppose there were a provision in the Constitution that no man from the South Atlantic States should be eligible to the Presidency; it would not change the present state of things. Such a clause might as well be in the Constitution for all practical purposes.

"*The young men of the South, throwing off the ties of trained politicians, should look to their own destiny. They need look to no Federal preferments that are worthy of their ambition. Third and fourth places they might attain, when they would be entitled to the first if they were in their rightful position.*"

These extracts were cut from the newspapers, and I suppose them to be correct.

This able and ardent champion of what I regard as factitious grievances, modestly claims that the rightful positions of the young men of the South are the "first positions" under the Government. But, sir, I cannot understand how they have any exclusive right to be on the list of important places. They have a right to an equality of condition under the Government, and nothing more. But admitting what seems to be the modest claim of the distinguished Senator, and the facts show that their names have remained on the first pages of the Blue Book, first, last, and all the time.

Why, sir, they have not only had the "first places," but their "crows and ducklings" have been well cared for. Here is a list taken from official tables:

"From these tables it appears that of fifty-one principal officers of Government, heads of Departments, bureaus, chief clerks, &c., there were 24 born in free States, and 25 in slave States, nine of the former being born in Pennsylvania, and eleven of the latter in Virginia. Two are foreigners, namely, the Commissioner of the Patent Office, and one of the Assistant Postmaster Generals.

"Of 1,698 clerks and other officers, (not including custom-houses,) 1,442 were natives of the United States, 136 foreigners, and 120 whose place of birth was unknown. Of the 1,442 Americans, 632 were born in free States, and 810 in slave States; 275 were born in Virginia, which is 79 more than from any other State. Maryland has 196; Pennsylvania 177; New York 144; District of Columbia 128; Massachusetts 83; Kentucky 47; North Carolina 44; Maine 42; New Jersey 41; Connecticut 39, &c.

"Of the 136 foreigners, 34 were born in Ireland; 13 in England; 21 in Germany; 8 in France; 7 in Scotland; 3 in Spain; 2 in Canada; 1 in Wales, and 29 in other foreign countries.

"In the table showing the number appointed from each State, we have excluded the custom-houses, as those employed in them are always appointed from the States in which they are located. This table shows that of 1,698 persons, 631 were appointed from the free, and 930 from the slave States, the difference in favor of the latter being 299. Of these, 1,177 were employed in the city of Washington, 369 being from free, and 729 from slave States, showing that in that city there are 360 more Government officers from slaveholding States, than from the free. The number employed in Washington city, appointed from each State, is as follows: From Maine 20, New Hampshire 10, Vermont 10, Massachusetts 30, Rhode Island 5, Connecticut 13, New York 81, New Jersey 15, Pennsylvania 100, Ohio 40, Indiana 15, Illinois 12, Michigan 8, Iowa 4, Wisconsin 5, California 1; total from free States, 631. Appointed from Delaware 6, Maryland 96, District of Columbia 326, Virginia 163, North Carolina 25, South Carolina 10, Georgia 16, Alabama 12, Mississippi 11, Louisiana 8, Texas 3, Florida 6, Kentucky 16, Tennessee 18, Missouri 10, Arkansas 3; total from slave States 729. Not reported 79."

Let me say here that the idea of filing a list of the offices in the local custom-houses at the North as a "set off" to these places is simply ridiculous.

The people of the South are entitled to fill

[SEE FOURTH PAGE.]

UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.

Copies of this work are for sale at this office. Price—in paper covers, $1; cloth, $1.50; cloth, full gilt, $2.

Persons at a distance of not over 500 miles can have this work in paper covers mailed to them, *free of postage*, on addressing L. Clephane, at this office, and enclosing $1 in money and 27 cents in post office stamps—over 500 miles the postage will be 54 cents.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 1852.

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

As the Presidential canvass is about to open, an opportunity is offered to those who wish to subscribe for the *Era* for six months. They can send in their subscriptions by the first of June, for half a volume, which will carry them through the canvass and election up to the first of December. We republish below our general terms.

Week after next, we shall commence the publication of a novelette, entitled "Rank and Nobility," of rare interest. It will probably run through ten or a dozen numbers of the *Era*, and before its close we cherish the hope of again introducing Mrs. Stowe to our readers.

We trust, therefore, that no subscriber will suffer his paper to be stopped; and may we not expect to receive accessions to our list? A club of ten new subscribers, just sent from Kalamazoo, Michigan, by N. M. Thomas of that place, is the forerunner, we hope, of many of the same sort.

The terms of the paper are as follows:

Single copy, one year - - -	$2
Three copies, one year - - -	5
Five copies, one year - - -	8
Ten copies, one year - - -	15
Single copy, six months - - -	1
Ten copies, six months - - -	8

Voluntary agents are entitled to retain 50 cents commission on each new yearly, and 25 cents on each new semi-yearly, subscriber, *except in the case of clubs. Twenty-five* cents is the commission on the *renewal* of an *old* subscriber.

A club of *three* subscribers (*one* of whom may be an *old* one) at $5, will entitle the person making it up to a copy of the *Era three* months; a club of *five* (*two* of whom may be *old* ones) at $8, to a copy for *six* months; a club of *ten* (*five* of whom may be *old* ones) at $15, to a copy for *one year*.

Money to be forwarded by *mail*, at *our risk*. Large amounts may be remitted in drafts or certificates of deposite.

It will be seen that the price of the paper, single copy, is still $2 a year. Agents sometimes allow a subscriber, whom they obtain or renew, the benefit of their commission, so that the subscriber by *their* kindness gets his paper for $1.50 or $1.75, as the case may be.

☞ The story of "The Unsusceptible," by a new and unknown contributor, on our first page, opens finely.

☞ We have referred to the able speech delivered by Mr. Smart of Maine, in the House of Representatives, on the 23d ult., in vindication of the North against the charge of aggression. A large portion of it we lay before our readers in this week's *Era*. After referring briefly to legislation by Congress in relation to Slavery, and giving a history of the manner in which the seat of Government was located in this District, he commences the survey of the relative benefits derived by the North and South from the Union, which we present on our fourth page.

MRS. DENNISON, the widow of a respectable physician of New York, has accepted the agency of the *Musical World and Journal of the Fine Arts*, which has been tendered to her on such terms as will enable her to derive from it an honourable support. She presents herself with cordial testimonials from Doctors Cheever and Tyng of New York, and other well-known citizens; and the work for which she solicits patronage is of a high order of merit. She has already obtained in this city some two hundred subscribers, to whom she would express her heartfelt thanks, and, as she intends to visit other places, for a similar purpose, we commend her enterprise to the public.

LAWS OF SOUTHERN STATES IN REGARD TO COLORED SEAMEN.

The law of South Carolina, under which colored seamen entering her ports are imprisoned, is at last to be brought to a judicial test. Manuel Pereira, a colored Portuguese sailor, articled to service on an English brig which was lately driven into Charleston by stress of weather, having been arrested and incarcerated, Mr. Matthew, British Consul at that port, applied through his counsel, Mr. Pettigru, to Judge Walker, for a writ of *habeas corpus*. The Judge refusing to grant the writ, notice of an appeal was given, and this will probably bring the case ultimately before the Supreme Court for adjudication. It will be recollected that Mr. Hoar, commissioned by Massachusetts to bring this law before the judicial tribunals, was promptly expelled from the State. John Bull is treated with a little more consideration.

It would seem, from the following paragraph in the *Charleston Mercury* of the 27th ultimo, that Louisiana is about to adopt a more rational and liberal course on the subject. It says—

"The Legislature of Louisiana, after full consideration of the representations that have been addressed to them, have repealed those provisions of their law which provided for the imprisonment of colored seamen from abroad, and have substituted for this a provision allowing such seamen to land for their necessary duties, with passports from the Mayor. We have not yet seen the statute, and cannot say whether it applies to colored seamen from the North as well as from foreign countries. In regard to the former, we should be decidedly opposed to placing them on the same footing as the latter, except where they are driven into our ports by stress of weather. But, even in regard to them, it seems to us that our law ought to be changed on the principle of the Indiana and Illinois Constitutions. Let colored seamen from the North be forbidden to enter our ports, and let their introduction subject the vessel to a fine of a thousand dollars for every one, and we venture to say we should be no more troubled with the visits of those precious 'citizens of Massachusetts.' We shall publish the Louisiana statute as soon as we can get a copy."

We shall not believe that the Legislature has made any such mean discrimination in favor of foreigners against their own countrymen, till we have indisputable proof of the fact. That the *Charleston Mercury* should advocate such a discrimination is in keeping with its general character. It has no love of country, and long since ceased to be an American journal. The contemptible policy it recommends is clearly exposed by the New York *Evening Post*:

"The Governments of these countries (France and Great Britain) have means of enforcing the rights of their subjects in South Carolina. It is proper, therefore, that a black cook from a British vessel should go on shore unmolested. Massachusetts has no such resource. If, therefore, there is a colored man among the crew of a Massachusetts vessel, he is seized, and imprisoned till the vessel departs. The citizens of the free States of the Union are not to be allowed the same liberties in the slave States as the subjects of a European Kingdom.

"We are not greatly surprised that this new indignity should be meditated, encouraged as it is by the submission with which the previous ones have been received."

SECTIONALISM—STATE RIGHTS—NON-INTERVENTION.

The Washington *Union*, the alpha and omega of whose Democracy is the duty of slave-catching, thus discourses on Sectionalism and State Rights:

"We have never believed that the *Southern Press* was the organ of the State Rights party, in the sense in which this party forms a portion of the Democracy of the Union. It is as far out of the line of this party at the South as the *National Era* is at the North. Both presses are essentially sectional, and neither of them can succeed without breaking up the national organization of parties. The one looks to a Southern Confederacy, the other, to the abolition of slavery, in violation of the compacts of the Constitution. To suppose that either the one or the other can force their extreme views on the Democratic party, is to say that this party contains within itself the element of self-destruction."

If Slavery be national and Liberty sectional, then the *Era* is sectional. If Liberty be national and Slavery sectional, the *Union* is sectional.

Liberty is the great interest of all the States of this Union; for its preservation and extension, the Union was founded and the Federal Government organized. Slavery is an interest cherished by not a third of our population, nor was the Union formed or the Government organized, for the purpose of perpetuating or extending it. The *National Era* is devoted to Liberty; the Washington *Union* to Slavery: which is *sectional?*

One of the amendments to the Constitution provides that "the powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the People." Our State Rights doctrine is all embraced in this provision; nor can the *Union*, nor any of its sectional allies point to a single opinion we have ever uttered, or measure advocated, in conflict with it. We charge that the *Union* not only has advocated measures repugnant to this provision, but that it is seeking to make one of these measures, the Fugitive Slave Law, the test of Democratic orthodoxy. The power to enact this law, or any one on the subject, is "not delegated by the Constitution to the United States, nor prohibited by it to the States." It is therefore a reserved State power, and the law is a violation of State Rights, the offspring of Federal usurpation. The *Era* opposes it, and demands its repeal: the *Union* sustains it, and insists that its maintenance shall be made the test of Democracy—a law, enacted by Federal power, without warrant, in violation of State Rights, the pillar and ground of the Democratic party!

No, it is the *Union* that advocates consolidation doctrines; the *Era* is a State Rights paper.

Our Federal neighbor has the hardihood to assert that the *Era* looks "to the abolition of Slavery, in violation of the compacts of the Constitution." The assertion is false. The *Union* cannot produce in support of it, a single opinion ever expressed by us, a statement ever made, an act ever done. The practical principle which dictates and defines the national political action we advocate in relation to Slavery, is, *Non-Intervention with Slavery and the Extradition of Slaves:* and this is a logical sequence, first, of the great doctrine held by Madison, and distinctly announced by Judge McLean from the Supreme Bench within a few years—that *the Federal Constitution does not recognise the idea of property in man;* secondly, of the doctrine of State Rights.

The provision relating to the importation or immigration of such persons as any of the States might think proper to admit, as originally introduced, seemed to imply that human beings might be property. Mr. Madison opposed it, because he could not bear that the Constitution they were about forming, should tolerate the idea that there could be property in man. The Convention sympathized with him, and the phraseology was modified, so as to preclude such an implication. This, taken in connection with the language of the instrument itself, is authority enough for us. The Federal Constitution nowhere recognises the idea of property in man—nowhere, in the language of Judge McLean, regards slaves as property. Now, as the essential element of slaveholding is the property relation, and as the relation cannot exist, be regulated, be maintained, without *law*, and as the Federal Government cannot recognise or treat human beings as property, Slavery can have no legal existence within exclusively Federal jurisdiction. Wherever the Federal Power is the sole lawgiver, Slavery cannot exist except in violation of the Constitution. As a matter of fact, we find it existing in the District of Columbia, and how? When the territory was ceded to the Federal Government, the laws of Maryland and Virginia, including those which recognise human beings as property, were adopted or re-enacted by express statute of Congress. This statute, so far as it treats human beings as property, we hold to be unconstitutional. Non-Intervention, which in our creed is the duty of the Federal Government in relation to Slavery, would therefore leave the system in this District without the form of law. The same doctrine and principle applied to our Territories, would make Slavery in them a legal impossibility.

But they are safe for the South; for they completely exclude the idea of all interference by Congress with the institution, as existing under State authority. Non-Intervention by the Federal Government with Slavery in the States leaves it without the boundaries of national politics or national parties.

The other doctrine referred to—that of State Rights—forbids legislation by Congress or any action by the Federal Government, in relation to the extradition of fugitives from service or labor. The provision of the Constitution on this subject imposes an obligation on the States, not on the Federal Government. It may be effectuated by State legislation; it is certain that it contains no grant of power to Congress to legislate. The right of reclamation is secured, but the power to prescribe the manner in which the right shall be exercised, not being delegated to Congress, not being necessary to its use, and not being prohibited to the States, is reserved to the States, in accordance with the Amendment to the Constitution above quoted.

We are aware that the authority of the Supreme Court is against this view of the subject; but the decisions of that tribunal are not infallible. They may be reconsidered—they are not irreversible. Public Opinion changes—Courts change. The opinions of the Supreme Judiciary cannot destroy the right of Congress to repeal a law pronounced constitutional, or the right of a State Legislature to enact a law pronounced unconstitutional, with a view to the reconsideration of the question of its constitutionality.

Certainly, the doctrines we have just presented, as sustaining the position of Non-Intervention by the Federal Government with Slavery and the extradition of slaves, were fully sanctioned by Mr. Webster, in his 7th of March speech, in 1850.

1st. As to the absence of the recognition of chattel slavery by the Constitution, Mr. Webster held the following language:

"It may not be improper here to allude to that—I had almost said celebrated—opinion of Mr. Madison. You observe, sir, that the term slavery is not used in the Constitution. *The Constitution does not require that fugitive slaves shall be delivered up;* it requires that persons bound to service in one State, and escaping into another, shall be delivered up. Mr. Madison opposed the introduction of the term slave or slavery into the Constitution; for he said he did not wish to see it recognised by the Constitution of the United States of America that there could be property in men."—*Speech in U. S. Senate, March* 7, 1850.

2dly. As to the absence of power in the Federal Government to legislate for the extradition of fugitives from service or labor, he said—

"This article of the Constitution which says to these States they shall deliver up fugitives from service, is as binding in honor and conscience as any other article. No man fulfils his duty in any Legislature who sets himself to find excuses, evasions, escapes from this constitutional duty. *I have always thought that the Constitution addressed itself to the Legislatures of the States themselves, or to the States themselves.* It says, that those persons escaping to other States shall be delivered up, and I confess *I have always been of the opinion that it was an injunction upon the States themselves.* When it is said that a person escaping into another State, and be coming therefore within the jurisdiction of that State, shall be delivered up, it seems to me the import of the passage is, *that the State itself, in obedience to the Constitution, shall cause him to be delivered up. That is my judgment. I have always entertained it, and I entertain it now.*"

The opinions Mr. Webster held in 1850, and which he declared he had always held, are our opinions now; and were they suffered to control the legislation of the country, the question of Slavery would be excluded from the sphere of national politics. So far as the North would be concerned, it would be resolved into a purely moral question, to be treated by moral instrumentalities. So long as the citizens of the free States shall be forced into the support of Slavery, by the action of the Federal Government, so long will those of them who are Anti-Slavery in their views seek by political means to correct this action, to relieve them from this coerced, unconstitutional responsibility. Place the Federal Government in relation to Slavery on the ground of strict Non-Intervention, and National politics would be freed from this disturbing element, from this constant cause of sectional antagonisms.

Politico-economists would continue to argue on the subject of slave-labor, philanthropists to discuss it as a question of humanity, religious men to inquire into their denominational relations to it, and the Public Opinion of the North would constantly bear against the system, but political agitation would cease with the removal of political responsibility.

But the politicians of the South are infatuated. They know that the North has the numerical power; that two-thirds of the whole population reside within its limits; that it has majorities in both branches of the Federal Legislature; that its relative political power increases and must increase with every census; that at this very time, if united, it could spare several votes, and yet fill the Presidential chair;—still, they insist upon dragging it into the support of an Evil it detests; they force upon it odious, extra-constitutional responsibilities, provoking an agitation dangerous to the institution they would perpetuate. If they want peace, if they would retain the right of settling the question of slavery for themselves, let them cease to make it a subject of Federal action, let them consent to the repeal of all Federal legislation concerning it, let them take their position on the ground of absolute Non-Intervention in regard to it by the Federal Government, and so place an impassable gulf between them and that Northern majority, which will go on increasing until it shall bear sway on whatever questions may be subjected to its action.

KOSSUTH.

Kossuth is now in Boston. His journey from the moment he entered New England became triumphal. The People at every considerable town and station on his way greeted him with kind words and "material aid." In Boston he has been received by the Governor, with imposing display, and the Bostonians are delectating themselves with his eloquence.

We understand from one of his suite in New York that it was his purpose to leave Boston for England, where, we suppose, he and Mazzini will labor to give direction and efficiency to the revolutionary movement.

The honors with which he has been received in New England have been paid, not so much to the man, as to the Principle he represents. We trust that his last impressions of America may be pleasant. Whether his visit on the whole has been an agreeable one, is doubtful. It seems to us that he misinterpreted the interposition of our Government for his release; misconceived the spirit of our foreign policy; failed to appreciate the character of our People, and overrated his ability to influence their views and purposes. Disappointment with them and with the Government has been the result.

Another thing fruitful of embarrassment and disagreeable misunderstanding, was the fact of his being attended by so large a retinue. It was expensive and troublesome, and did no good. Had Kossuth, unattended except by two or three of his secretaries, made the tour of the United States, he would have avoided many awkward difficulties, and the entertainers as well as the guest would have been better satisfied.

As to the effect of his visit and his captivating oratory, it has been less than the demonstrations on his arrival led the Public to anticipate. He has piped unto us, and we have not danced; he has mourned unto us, and we have not lamented. The People have been moved, but not to action. Americans appreciate genius, and may kindle at its burning words, but they seldom act from their impulses. The *cui bono* is always with them the ruling question.

But, this much has been gained: the People have been awakened to a deeper interest in the affairs of Europe, and to the fact that they have responsibilities in relation to the cause of Liberty throughout the world; and it is not improbable that they now are better qualified than before the agitation consequent on the advent of Kossuth, should Europe again be convulsed by Revolution, to assume their true position: and Kossuth himself has collected money enough to aid him in carrying on an extensive revolutionary correspondence.

EARTHQUAKE SHOCKS AT WASHINGTON.—At the Washington Observatory, to-day, (April 29th,) at precisely nine minutes to one o'clock, two distinct shocks of earthquake were felt, at intervals of one second. After the lapse of two minutes, three other shocks were experienced in quick succession, of still greater violence. These were followed by a strong smell of sulphur. The officers then came outside the building and remarked that no smell of any kind was perceivable in the atmosphere. The shocks were plainly felt in various parts of the city. The clerks of the Interior (located in Winder's building) ran out quite alarmed.

For the National Era.

QUESTIONS OF LIFE.

And the angel that was sent unto me, whose name was Uriel, gave me an answer, and said,

"Thy heart hath gone too far in this world, and thinkest thou to comprehend the way of the Most High?"

Then said I, "Yea, my lord."

Then said he unto me, "Go thy way, weigh me the weight of the fire, or measure me the blast of the wind, or call me again the day that is past."

II Esdras, chap. iv.

A bending staff I would not break,
A feeble faith I would not shake,
Nor even rashly pluck away
The error which some truth may stay,
Whose loss might leave the soul without
A shield against the shafts of doubt.
And yet, at times, when over all
A darker mystery seems to fall,
(May God forgive the child of dust,
Who seeks to *know*, where Faith should *trust*,)
I raise the questions, old and dark,
Of Uzdom's tempted Patriarch,
And, speech-confounded, build again
The baffled tower of Shinar's plain.

I am: how little more I know!
Whence came I? Whither do I go?
A centred self which feels and is—
A cry between the silences;
A shadow-birth of clouds and strife,
With sunshine on the hills of life;
A shaft, from Nature's quiver, cast
Into the Future, from the Past;
Between the cradle and the shroud,
A meteor's flight from cloud to cloud.

Thorough the vastness, arching all,
I see the great stars rise and fall,
The rounding seasons come and go,
The tided oceans ebb and flow;
The tokens of a central Force,
Whose circles, in their widening course,
O'erlap and move the Universe;
The workings of the Law, whence springs
The rhythmic harmony of things,
Which shapes in earth the darkling spar,
And orbs in heaven the morning star.
Of all I see, in earth and sky—
Star, flower, beast, bird—what part have I?
This conscious life—is it the same
Which thrills the universal frame,
Whereby the caverned crystal shoots,
And mounts the sap from forest roots,
Whereby the exiled wood-bird tells
When Spring makes green her native dells?
How feels the stone the pang of birth,
Which brings its sparkling prism forth?
The forest-tree the throb which gives
The life-blood to its new-born leaves?
Do bird and blossom feel like me
Life's many-folded mystery—
The wonder which it is, TO BE?
Or stand I severed and distinct,
From Nature's chain of life unlinked?
Allied to all, yet not the less
Prisoned in separate consciousness,
Alone o'erburdened with a sense
Of life, and cause, and consequence?

In vain to me the Sphinx propounds
The riddle of her sights and sounds;
Back still the vaulted mystery gives
The echoed question it receives—
What sings the brook? What oracle
Is in the pine-tree's organ-swell?
What may the wind's low burden be?
The moaning of the moaning sea?
The hieroglyphics of the stars?
Or clouded sunset's crimson bars?
I vainly ask, for mocks my skill
The trick of Nature's cypher still.

I turn from Nature unto men,
I ask the stylus and the pen;
What sang the bards of old? What meant
The prophets of the Orient?
The rolls of buried Egypt hid
In painted tomb and pyramid?
What mean Idúmea's arrowy lines,
Or dusk Elora's monstrous signs?
How speaks the primal thought of man
From the grim carvings of Copan?
Where rests the secret? Where the keys
Of th' old death-bolted mysteries?
Alas! the dead retain their trust,
Dust hath no answer from the dust.

The great enigma still unguessed,
Unanswered the eternal quest;
I gather up the scattered rays
Of wisdom in the early days,
Faint gleams and broken, like the light
Of meteors in a Northern night,
Betraying to the darkling earth
The unseen sun which gave them birth;
I listen to the Sybil's chant,
The voice of priest and hierophant;
I know what Indian Kreeshna saith,
And what of life and what of death
The demon taught to Socrates;
And what beneath his garden trees,
Slow pacing with a dream-like tread,
The solemn-thoughted Plato said;
Nor lack I tokens, great or small,
Of God's clear light in each and all,
While holding with more dear regard
The scroll of Hebrew Seer and Bard,
The starry pages promise lit
With Christ's Evangel over-writ,
Thy miracle of Life and Death,
Oh Holy One of Nazareth!

On Aztec ruins, gray and lone,
The circling serpent coils in stone,
Type of the endless and unknown;
Whereof we seek the clue to find
With groping fingers of the blind!
Forever sought and never found,
We trace that serpent-symbol round
Our resting-place, our starting bound!
Oh thriftlessness of dream and guess!
Oh wisdom, which is foolishness!
Why idly seek from outward things
The answer inward silence brings;
Why stretch beyond our proper sphere
And age, for that which lies so near?
Why climb the far-off hills with pain,
A nearer view of heaven to gain?
In lowliest depths of bosky dells
The hermit, Contemplation, dwells.
A fountain's pine-hung slope his seat,
And lotus-twined his silent feet,
Whence, piercing heaven with screened sight,
He sees at noon the stars, whose light
Shall glorify the coming night.

Here let me pause, my quest forego;
Enough for me to feel and know
That He in whom the cause and end,
The Past and Future, meet and blend,
Who, girt with His immensities,
Our vast and star-hung system sees,
Small as the clustered Pleiades,
Moves not alone the heavenly quires,
But waves the spring-time's grassy spires;
Guards not Archangel feet alone,
But deigns to guide and keep my own;
Speaks not alone the words of fate,
Which worlds destroy and worlds create,
But whispers in my spirit's ear,
In tones of love or warning fear,
A language none beside may hear.

To Him, from wanderings long and wild,
I come, an over-wearied child,
In cool and shade His peace to find,
Like dew-fall settling on my mind.
Assured that all I know is best
And humbly trusting for the rest,
I turn from the bewildering sense
Of his diffused Omnipotence,
From Nature and her mockery, Art,
And book and speech of men apart,
To the still witness in my heart;
With reverence waiting to behold
His Avatar of Love unfold,
The Eternal Beauty new and old!

J. G. W.

"We learn that the Hon. Luther Bradish has been appointed by the President to be Assistant Treasurer of the United States at the city of New York, in the place of John Young, deceased, and that the appointment was on Tuesday confirmed by the Senate."

What's the matter? Mr. Bradish used to be as good an anti-slavery man as Senator Seward himself. We have not heard of his conversion.

MR. HULSEMANN, the Austrian Chargé d'Affaires, left Washington yesterday, on his return to Vienna. It is understood that previously to his departure he addressed an Official Note to the Secretary of State, and communicated copies of it to the members of the Diplomatic Corps; but of the purport of this note we are uninformed.—*Ib.*

POLITICAL MOVEMENTS.

Missouri.—The Democrats of Missouri held their State Convention on the 5th ultimo, at Jefferson City. Both sections of the Democracy, Benton and anti-Benton, were represented; the Bentonites had the majority, but the order of the day was, conciliation. The Convention agreed upon a series of resolutions, reaffirming the Baltimore resolutions of '48, and the Virginia and Kentucky resolutions of '98; sanctioning the Compromise measures; upholding the right of instruction, declaring that the People have a right to instruct their Senators in Congress through the Legislature, and to hold the members of the Legislature accountable for any misrepresentation of their will in giving instructions; and disavowing any fellowship with Abolitionists or Nullifiers. The resolutions were intended to maintain the right of instruction, without implying censure of the course of Colonel Benton in appealing from the Legislature to the People.

An attempt by Dr. Lawry, an anti-Benton member, to make adherence to the Compromise measures a *test*, was voted down. General Sterling Price (Benton) was nominated for Governor; Dr. W. Brown (anti-Benton) for Lieutenant Governor. An electoral ticket, consisting of five Benton and four anti-Benton men, was nominated. The same proportion was observed in the election of delegates to the Baltimore Convention, and in the State Central Committee. No instructions were given to the delegates in relation to Presidential candidates, but a resolution was adopted, expressing a preference for the old ticket, Cass and Butler.

So far as we can judge from the proceedings, the two sections of the Democracy in Missouri have buried their differences.

The *Whigs* held their Convention at St. Louis on the 19th. The newspapers say that they were united and enthusiastic. Colonel Doniphan was nominated for the office of Governor. Delegates were chosen to the National Convention, and an electoral ticket was designated. Resolutions were adopted, expressing devotion to the Union, denouncing the further agitation of the Slavery Question, declaring the intention of the Whigs of Missouri to support no candidate for the State or National Legislature, or for the Presidency or Vice Presidency, "unless he is known or believed to be in favor of the Compromise measures as a final settlement of the Slavery Question, and opposed to reopening in the slightest degree the question involved in them for renewed agitation;" demanding protection to American industry, and aid to river and harbor improvements. The Convention further resolved that Mr. Fillmore was its choice for the Presidency, Mr. Bates its first, Mr. Crittenden its second, choice for the Vice Presidency.

North Carolina.—The Whigs of this State in their State Convention recommended Mr. Fillmore as their candidate for the Presidency, and Mr. Graham for the Vice Presidency, but they added the following resolution:

"Third. That, whilst thus declaring our choice for the Presidency and Vice Presidency, we will, nevertheless, cordially support the nominees of the Whig National Convention, if they are unequivocally in favor of sustaining the Compromise measures, which we insist should be adhered to and carried into faithful execution. as a final settlement, in the principle and substance, of the dangerous and exciting subjects they embrace. And we declare it, as the opinion of this Convention, that no candidate for the Presidency or Vice Presidency can obtain the vote of the Whig party of North Carolina unless he is, beyond doubt, in favor of maintaining the entire series of Compromise measures."

Georgia.—The Constitutional Union Convention passed the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the Constitutional Union party will not give its support to any candidate for the office of President or Vice President of the United States, unless the Convention nominating such candidate shall declare its acquiescence in the measures of Congress known as the Compromise measures, and its determination to consider these measures as a final adjustment of the matters embraced by them."

It was resolved to take no further action at present in relation to the Presidential election, but to hold another State Convention, after the Baltimore Conventions shall have acted.

Florida.—The Florida Democratic Convention met on the 19th ultimo, and nominated James E. Broome for Governor, A. T. Maxwell for Congress, and D. L. Yulee and S. W. Spencer delegates at large to the Baltimore Convention. A series of resolutions were adopted, the first of which affirms the Virginia resolutions of 1798; the second endorses the Baltimore resolutions of 1840; the third deprecates the revival of any past issues; and the fourth appoints fourteen delegates to the Baltimore Convention, uninstructed. No preference was expressed for any individual, but it was understood that the first choice of the Convention was Douglas for President, and Jefferson Davis for Vice President.

Maine.—At a meeting of the Free Soil members of the Legislature of Maine, held at Augusta, week before last, the following, among other resolutions, were adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the cause of American Liberty is still dear to the hearts and strong in the unwavering purposes of its friends; that it is to be steadily prosecuted through whatever vicissitudes it may pass; and that we admit no settlement which allows the extension of slavery or the slave power, or the perversion of our General Government into an instrument of oppression.

"*Resolved*, That we are in favor of holding a National Free Soil Convention, as early as may be, to nominate candidates for President and Vice President of the United States, for the united support of free men in the approaching canvass.

"*Resolved*, That we recommend to that Convention the names of John P. Hale, of New Hampshire, and Samuel Lewis, of Ohio, for such candidates."

The Convention also chose eighteen delegates to the National Convention. The *Portland Inquirer*, one of the ablest and truest papers in New England, in its last number, runs up the ticket nominated, and accompanies it with the following:

"To-day we give to the breeze the banner recommended at Augusta for 1852. It is an emblem and promise of *Righteous Government*, and every free heart in Maine will hail it like the rainbow on the bosom of the deluge. It tells of Liberty, Justice, Glory; of Hope, Joy, Prosperity, and Peace perpetual. It is the flag of our country's young men—true, noble, gallant, just."

Alabama.—The Whigs in several districts of Alabama are indicating a strong desire for the reorganization of the Whig party in that State. A county meeting has recommended the holding of a State Convention of Whigs on the fourth Monday in May, for the purpose of appointing delegates to a National Convention, and sustaining Mr. Fillmore.

South Carolina.—The State Convention of South Carolina, to consider the subject of Secession, met at Columbia, South Carolina, on the 25th. Governor Means was chosen President. A committee of twenty-one was appointed to which was referred the act of the Legislature for the appointment of deputies to a Southern Congress, and the call of a Convention. Of course, nothing will be done.

Last Thursday, majority and minority reports were submitted, and made the special order for the next day. The majority report solemnly affirms the right of Secession, and declares that South Carolina is now restrained from its exercise from considerations of expediency only. The same consideration will restrain the Convention from attempting any action.

Maryland.—The Whig members of the Maryland Legislature lately assembled in Convention, passed resolves in favor of the finality of the Compromise, and in favor of Mr. Fillmore as their candidate for the Presidency, but declaring their willingness to support any other true Whig who has stood, and continues to stand, by the finality of the Compromise.

Michigan.—The Democratic State Convention organized at 11 o'clock this morning (April 28)—133 members were present.

Immediately after the organization, the Hon. B. F. Wotherell offered the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the roll of delegates be called by the secretary, and that each member of the Convention, on his name being called, announce his preference for the Democratic candidate for the Presidency."

The members announced Lewis Cass as their choice, without a dissenting voice.

Governor McLelland was elected one of the delegates at large to the Baltimore Convention.

Illinois.—The Democratic State Convention of Illinois, which met a short time since, passed resolutions affirming the finality of the Compromise, and unanimously recommended Mr. Douglas for the Presidency. This of course was to be expected. Texas has nominated Houston; Pennsylvania, Buchanan; Michigan, Cass; Indiana, Lane; Kentucky, Butler; Illinois, Douglas; and Marcy is understood to be the candidate of a majority of the delegates from New York. The Democracy is abundantly blessed with candidates.

THE QUESTION OF THE DAY.

There was a time when Mr. Stephens of Georgia was singular among Southern men, for his liberality on the question of Slavery. He was classed with those who, while offering no defence for Slavery on abstract grounds, plead in excuse for its toleration an inexorable necessity. The *Southern Herald*, of Athens, Georgia, in its issue of September 25th, 1851, quotes the following language, which, it says was held by Mr. Stephens in Congress, in the year 1845, in a speech advocating the annexation of Texas:

"This acquisition will give additional power to the Southwestern section in the National Councils, and for this purpose I want it. *Not that I am desirous to see an extension of 'the Area of Slavery,'* as some gentlemen have said its effect would be. *I am no defender of Slavery in the abstract. Liberty always had charms for me*, and I would rejoice to see all of Adam's family, in every land and clime, in the enjoyment of those rights which are set forth in our Declaration of Independence as natural and inalienable, if a stern necessity, bearing the mark and impress of the Creator himself, did not, in some cases, interpose and prevent. Such is the case with the States where Slavery now exists. *But I have no wish to see it extended to other countries; and if the annexation of Texas was for the sole purpose of extending Slavery where it does not now and would not otherwise exist, I would oppose it!*"

The liberal views of Mr. Stephens, we presume, endangered his political standing. Men's circumstances and interests modify their sentiments insensibly. A few years later, like Mr. Clingman of North Carolina, once remarkable for his toleration, he was transformed into an extreme pro-slavery man, and allied himself with those who considered the claim and policy of extending Slavery to countries in which it had no existence, of far more importance than the preservation of the Union. And now we find him holding all party organizations, and the Union itself, as less vital than the perpetuation of a law for catching runaway slaves, whose provisions are a disgrace to the country.

In a speech in the House on the 27th, he assumed the ground that the Whig and Democratic parties represented no principles, no questions—that an organization aspiring to the title of a National Party, must be organized on the questions of the day. But, he asked, "What is the prominent question of the day?" We commend his answer to the consideration of men who have any ideas beyond a cotton plantation.

"The great, leading, controlling, prominent question," he says, "which is likely to enter into the contest, is the right, the constitutional right, of one section of the country to reclaim their slaves."

On this question he demands that parties shall be organized; he will support no party, no candidate, that does not make it a prominent question. All other subjects are dismissed as insignificant. Millions of money and thousands of lives have been sacrificed through the inattention of Congress to the subject of River and Harbor Improvements; but what is this to the recapture of a few miserable runaways? How shall the public lands be disposed of? Shall we in the modification of our revenue system that may become necessary, act with an ultimate view to Free Trade, or on the principle of Protection? How far shall the aid of Government be given to monopolies, for the sake of encouraging competition in steam navigation with foreign Powers; or can it be given at all, without serious detriment to individual enterprise, which has hitherto been found a sufficient basis for our maritime greatness? What shall be the policy of the country in the great conflicts between Despotism and Republicanism which threaten the stability of the Old World? These, if we may believe Mr. Stephens, are not "the questions of the day." They are not to be named in comparison with the "great, leading, controlling, prominent question"—shall we have the precious right recognised, of catching a few runaways, who from time to time make an exodus from the land of bondage in search of a Northern Canaan? Question of Questions! What sublime principles it involves! Every nation has its mission—and what American will not glory in the thought, that the mission of our Model Republic is, to provide for catching runaways! This is the grand question on which Parties are to be organized, and candidates are to plant themselves! Who can hereafter doubt the breadth and nationality of the statesmanship of Mr. Stephens?

But this gentleman does not state the question fairly. The Whig and Democratic parties at the North have never denied the constitutional right of the South to reclaim its fugitive slaves. The People of that section generally have never contested the right: there is not a Free Soil Member of Congress who has ever denied or attempted to explain away the constitutional provision on the subject. Not against the Constitution, but against an unconstitutional law, a law outraging every sentiment of freemen, every guaranty of personal rights, have the Northern People protested and struggled. This law, framed by slaveholding politicians, in the spirit of slaveholding institutions, has been imposed on a People to whose sentiments and institutions it is abhorrent, and the demand is, that they shall submit without a murmur to its recognition, or be deemed and denounced traitors to the Constitution.

The great question, then, as it respects the reclamation of fugitives, is not whether the Constitution shall be obeyed, whether a constitutional right shall be recognised and provided for, but whether it shall be provided for in the barbarous, revolting form prescribed by the Slave Power. The *Constitution* is one thing, *construction* is another. Slaveholders are not divinely authorized expounders. Northern notions of constitutional law are entitled to as much respect as Southern. The party that protests against the Fugitive Law may yet be loyal to the Constitution; but the party that sanctions it as a finality, demonstrates its disregard of the Constitution and its vassalage to Slavery. This is our opinion, and it is worth as much as that of Mr. Stephens.

THE MANIFESTO.

The fight for peace goes on; agitation for the sake of quiet is spreading; concord is sought through discord the politicians who prate most glibly of conciliation and brotherly love, show their sincerity and tact by rousing into fierce activity slumbering differences of opinion, and by forcing issues calculated to develop the natural antagonism of sections.

The latest effort of importance to put down agitation, and hold up the Union, is the Manifesto of the eleven seceders from the Whig caucus, addressed to the Whigs of the United States, in explanation and justification of their course. The letter-writers forestalled them; their whole case was submitted by telegraph to the Public before their address was concocted. It presents no fact not already known to the People, no argument with which they are not familiar. Its authors doubtless were under the impression that posterity would regard it as we now regard the Declaration of Independence; but it is already on its way to the limbo of vanities, to take its place with the famous Southern Address of the last Congress, and the proceedings of the Nashville Convention.

The sum and substance of it is: that Mr. Marshall of Kentucky and Mr. Gentry of Tennessee, with a few other equally discreet and patriotic men, not finding enough to employ their great faculties in the work of legislation to which they had been elected by the People, undertook to frame a creed for their party, and to prescribe to upwards of a million of independent voters, the terms, issues, and nominations on which they should act together: That this creed, omitting all notice of questions concerning the Tariff, the Independent Treasury, Public Lands, River and Harbor Improvements, Governmental Expenditures and Reform, or any other question of general interest, embraced but a single article—the finality of a series of measures, the only practical one of which is, a most detestable law for slave-catching: That the attempt to establish this broad and enlightened creed for the Whig party, was made in a caucus of Whigs, at which were present only sixty-seven members, forty-five from the free, and twenty-two from the slave States—"a meager majority," as the address says, "of the Representatives claimed as Whigs in the Congress of the United States," and that it was defeated on a point of order by a vote of forty-six to twenty-two, eight of the Southern men voting with the majority, seven of the Northern men with the minority: That, disappointed in this attempt to induce the Whig members of Congress, or rather "a meager majority of members," to fix the creed of a National Whig Convention, over which they had no other authority than that of determining the time and place of its meeting, they retired in disgust, and they now ask the judgment of the Whigs of the United States upon their acts.

This is the substance of the Manifesto; we cannot find room for its commonplaces. Eleven names are subscribed to it, as follows:

W. Brooke, Mississippi; Jackson Morton, Florida; John Moore, Louisiana; Humphrey Marshall, Kentucky; M. P. Gentry, Tennessee; C. H. Williams, Tennessee; E. C. Cabell, Florida; David Outlaw, North Carolina; J. Aristide Landry, Louisiana; James F. Strother, Virginia.

I concur fully in the statement of facts, as well as the general positions of this address.

T. L. CLINGMAN, North Carolina.

Certainly, not a formidable array. The platform on which these eleven gentlemen undertook to place the party, is defined in the resolution of Mr. Marshall, their leader, as follows:

"Whereas the determination of the time and place for holding a National Whig Convention has been referred to the Whigs of Congress, the Whig members of the Senate and House of Representatives having assembled in Convention with the explicit understanding that they 'regard the series of acts known as the adjustment measures as forming in their mutual dependence and connection a system of compromise the most conciliatory and the best for the entire country that could be obtained from conflicting sectional interests and opinions; and that, therefore, they ought to be adhered to and carried into faithful execution, as a final settlement, in principle and substance, of the dangerous and exciting subjects which they embrace,' and to unite on this basis as well as upon the long-established principles of the Whig party, do hereby recommend the —— day of ——, and the city of ——, as the time and place for holding the National Whig Convention for the choice of Whig candidates for the Presidency and Vice Presidency, respectively."

These eleven patriotic men do not, however, confine their efforts to the Whig party. They seem disposed to take the Democratic party also under their care. They insist that both shall adopt the platform of Mr. Humphrey Marshall, under pain of being denounced as outcasts from the fellowship of good and honest men.

"Should both of the great political parties fail to shape future party organization upon the enlarged and fair principle to which we invited the Whig meeting at the Capitol on the 20th instant, there remains but one other resort. The People will demand such an organization, at the expense of existing parties, and it will triumph over both; or, misled by political leaders, whose personal ambition rises above their love of country, the People will become involved in a canvass conducted by candidates whose parasites will pander to sectional prejudices, and will seek political preferment by arousing sectional passions."

We presume the Whig and Democratic Committees will take the subject into serious consideration, and avail themselves of the profound wisdom of Mr. Humphrey Marshall and his associates.

Meantime, the conduct of this gentleman and his friends is the subject of contradictory comment by the Whig press. At the North, it is condemned. The Washington *Intelligencer*, with its accustomed prudence, abstains from the expression of any opinion concerning it, and the *Republic*, which, since its coalition with the *Union* to obtain the printing of Congress, has been unusually discreet, hopes that all will yet be right. The Baltimore *Patriot* is unwilling to take sides in the controversy, but the *Baltimore American*, and *Savannah* (Ga.) *Republican*, leading Whig journals, fully sustain the conduct of the seceding members.

MURDER OF A SUPPOSED FUGITIVE.

The following telegraphic despatch from Columbia, Pa., appears in the newspapers of this place:

COLUMBIA, *April* 30, 1852.

It appears that Deputy Marshal Snyder, of Harrisburg, accompanied by Police Officer Ridgely, of Baltimore, and Mr. Stansbury, of Maryland, arrived here yesterday for the purpose of arresting an alleged fugitive slave claimed by Mr. Stansbury.

About three o'clock the party proceeded to a lumber yard in the southern extremity of the town, where the negro was engaged piling lumber, and attempted to arrest him. He made an effort to escape, and in the scuffle bit Mr. Ridgely's finger, holding it in his teeth. At this juncture Mr. Ridgely drew a pistol, which in the scuffle went off, and the ball passing into the negro's neck, he fell dead on the spot.

Upon the result being known, Mr. Ridgely said he would give himself up to the authori-

ties; but upon the arrival of the officers at the hotel, he could not be found.

Officer Snyder took the cars for Harrisburg, where he had been temporarily arrested, but subsequently liberated without examination.

Deputy Coroner Fisher held an inquest over the dead body of the negro, and a verdict was rendered according to the above circumstances.

The deceased leaves a wife and two children. He had resided in Columbia eighteen months.

These facts are gathered from the proceedings of the Coroner's jury.

The first account represented the discharge of the pistol as accidental; but the following despatch from Baltimore, published in the New York *Tribune*, containing the statement of Mr. Ridgely, shows that there was no accident about it:

Baltimore, *Friday, April* 30, 1852.

Police Officer Ridgely, of the firm of Zell & Ridgely, of this city, was the party who shot the alleged fugitive slave at Columbia yesterday. He was pursued by an excited crowd, but succeeded in reaching Shrewsbury during the night, and arrived in this city in the morning train. He says, after they had arrested the fugitive, they were surrounded by a crowd of negroes; and in order to intimidate them, as well as the prisoner, who was making a desperate resistance, he drew his pistol. At that moment, Smith got his (Ridgely's) finger between his teeth, and, under a sudden impulse of pain and excitement, he discharged his pistol, and the ball passed through the negro's body, causing his instant death.

Of course a crime has been committed, the laws of Pennsylvania have been outraged, and a demand will be made on the Governor of Maryland for the delivery of Ridgely. Should he refuse to comply with the requisition, it would excite no surprise. Pennsylvania has been so degraded of late, by unworthy concessions, under the influence of Buchanan, that she has almost forfeited her right to be treated as a sovereign State. She is rather a colony of Maryland, and can hardly complain at the establishment of the black code of Slavery upon her soil.

LITERARY NOTICES.

Recollections of a Journey through Tartary, Thibet, and China. New York: D. Appleton & Co. For sale by R. Farnham, 11th street and Pa. avenue, Washington, D. C.

These two volumes form a very attractive portion of Appleton's "Popular Library." They are from the pen of M. Huc, a missionary priest of the Congregation of St. Lazarus, and contain his recollections of a journey through the interior of Asia in the years 1844, 1845, and 1846. In the year 1842, the Pope erected Mongolia into a Vicariate Apostolic, and in 1844 M. Huc set out under instructions from the Vicar, on an extensive tour, for the purpose of studying the characters and manners of the Tartars, and of ascertaining, if possible, the extent and limits of the Vicariate. In these volumes, in graphic style, he relates what he saw and experienced in his travels, and there is a flavor of adventure and novelty about them, which quite captivate one's attention.

The First Book of Etymology. By Jos. Thomas, M. D. Philadelphia: E. C. & J. Biddle.

Dr. Thomas, formerly classical teacher in the Friends' Select School, Philadelphia, has constructed this work on the basis of the First Book of Etymology, by James Lynd, a production adopted as a text book in the public schools of Philadelphia, New York, and Brooklyn. We think the Doctor has performed his task with great care and skill, and given us a book well calculated to promote an analytic knowledge of the English language. It is intended for schools, but useful anywhere.

The Railroad Jubilee. Boston, 1852: J. N. Eastburn, City Printer.

We all recollect the famous Jubilee in Boston, last September, in commemoration of the opening of the railroad communication between Boston and Canada. We saw the pageant, and can well believe that no public event in this country has ever been celebrated with more imposing display. The Bostonians have a way of doing whatever they undertake, with all their might. Under the auspices of a Committee of the City Council, a full account of the celebration has been prepared, and printed in superb style. The paper, typography, and binding of the volume, are perfectly luxurious. Through the politeness of Mr. Appleton, we have received a copy of the book from the Committee, for which they will accept our thanks.

The American Journal of the Medical Sciences. Edited by Isaac Hays, M. D. Philadelphia: Blanchard & Lea. Price, $5 a year.

We have already had occasion to speak of the plan of this quarterly, and the manner in which it is conducted. Every physician who would keep up with the march of his profession at home should be a reader of it. Nor are its pages of value to him alone. The general reader will find in it a great deal that is curious and instructive.

Shekinah. A Quarterly Review. Vol. 1, No. 3, April, 1851. Price, $2 a year.

This work presents, according to scientific formula, the new revelations in spiritual philosophy, which have lately broken upon the world. It is devoted to "the Emancipation of Mind, the Elucidation of Vital, Mental, and Spiritual Phenomena, and the Progress of Man." Published by S. B. Brittan, at Bridgeport, Conn., it numbers among its contributors, Horace Greeley, T. L. Harris, Rev. James Richardson, and other devotees to spiritual science.

Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine. April, 1852. New York: Leonard Scott & Co. For sale by Taylor & Maury, Pa. avenue, Washington, D. C.

There is a *quantum sufficit* of exultation in this number of Blackwood, over the fall of the Whig Ministry and the accession of Lord Derby. Let the Conservatives enjoy themselves while they may. Their hour of triumph is a brief one.

We notice an interesting paper on American Military Reconnoissance, taking for a text the notes by Major Emory, of reconnoissances in our Western Territory.

Excepting this and several chapters of "My Novel," by Pisistratus Caxton, the matter is chiefly political.

Bleak House. By Charles Dickens. New York: Harper & Brothers. For sale by Franck Taylor, Pa. avenue, Washington, D. C.

Number second is on our table. Dickens is laying out extensive grounds about his Bleak House. The work, it is said, is producing a sensation in England.

The Westminster Review. April, 1852. New York: Leonard Scott & Co., For sale by Taylor & Maury, Washington, D. C.

This number abounds in spirited discussions of the great questions of the day. We are not bored with *learned* articles discoursing for the thousandth time on the men and things of former times. One of the most valuable parts of this Review is its department devoted to the Contemporary Literature of England, America, France, and Germany.

The North British Review. Published and for sale as above.

The Review, in an article on the Life of John Sterling, by Carlyle, exposes, somewhat too tenderly, we think, the flagrant infidelity of the biographer. His infidelity is dogmatical, defiant, and disgusting. A man false to Humanity cannot be true to God. We have had little patience with Carlyle since his insensate abuse of the blacks of the West Indies, and his outpouring of common-place in the Latter Day Pamphlets.

The articles in this number on the Literature of the New Testament, Arctic Searching Expeditions, Wesley and Methodism, and Progress of Popular Education in Great Britain, will repay a careful reading.

The American Whig Review. May, 1852. New York: Champion Bissell.

The *Whig* has a perfect rage for biography. It favors the public this month with the life of Mr. Sharkey, of Mississippi! Whose turn next?

The literature of this number is good—its politics, Hunker.

Harper's New Monthly. May, 1852. New York.

The publishers are investing their work with all sorts of attractions. This number closes the second year of its existence, and it now has perhaps a larger circulation than any periodical of the kind in the world.

LETTER FROM NEW YORK.

New York, *May* 1, 1852.

To the Editor of the National Era:

Senator Seward's recent speech in favor of sustaining the Collins line of steamers by Government, has given much satisfaction to a large portion of the merchants of this city. The ex-Governor does what he undertakes very ably. His bitterest enemies cannot deny this. What is the secret of this gentleman's hold upon the *respect* of the nation? I answer, his out-spoken sentiments on great national questions. He did not wait to secure a position in the councils of the nation, before he "put to sea" on these subjects. He nobly defined his position in his native State, and in Congress as he went along, and has ably sustained himself. Therefore it is that he is a man of mark. I am not a Sewardite, but I honor a man who takes hold on the great questions of the day with a master's hand, and who does not aim to prop himself up before he discusses momentous topics, in order that when he discharges his "long tom" it may not dislodge him from his position. Why not break up our ships of war and disband our navy, relying upon mercantile steamers, in case of necessity, for the defence of the country? The naval vessels are rotting, while the officers are decaying, and both are sustained at an immense annual expense. This is worth thinking of, economical legislators! It would be well if the People considered it also.

The old Lieutenant of Gov. Seward, Hon. Luther Bradish, is, it seems, nominated and confirmed as Assistant Treasurer of the United States for this city. It is said that he is deliberating whether he will accept the office. It would not be dignified to clutch it too quickly. He is greatly respected, and is, as you know, a man of fair proportions, in body and mind, stately manners, and unquestionable integrity. Better send *him* as ambassador to Russia, and put Postmaster General Hall into the office of Treasurer. His *presence* is not equal to the ex-Lieutenant Governor's, while his business habits are probably superior. But I have no doubt that Acting President Fillmore will secure to his old law partners, Messrs. Haven and Hall, before he quits the White House, snug offices, the avails of which will last somewhat longer than their present terms of office. Why shouldn't he? When the *trio* return to Buffalo, they will need something handsome to sustain their positions. These men once had nerve and pluck, especially the senior partner, but love of office seems to have annihilated it.

The kingdoms of South Carolina and England are at last fairly at issue, I perceive, respecting the imprisonment of colored seamen at Charleston. An English brig, recently driven by stress of weather into the port of that city, had among her crew one Manuel, a colored seaman, who was taken out of the vessel under process by the police, and committed to prison, to prevent his sowing the seed of insurrection among the slaves of the Palmetto city. The British Consul applied to the State Court for a writ of *habeas corpus*, but Judge Withers *refused* the writ; whereupon Mr. Mathews took an appeal, with a view, probably, to have the matter considered in the United States Courts. Old Massachusetts was foiled in her attempt to bring the question before these courts, but whether John Bull will be snubbed in a similar way remains to be seen.

A day or two since I saw your old Buckeye friend, Charles Elliott, D. D., of the Methodist Episcopal Church, on his way from Ohio to attend the Conference about assembling at Boston. If all the dignitaries and influential ministers in that church were as independent and anti-slavery as Father Elliott, the principles of John Wesley would be received and sustained by that large and influential denomination. Dr. Elliott's work on the *Sinfulness of American Slavery*, in two 12mo volumes, is said to be an able work. He is preparing for the press a *History of Ecclesiastical Matters concerning Slavery*, with reference to the M. E. C. from 1844 to 1848; and he has other works in contemplation. I learned from him that it is probable two or three new Bishops will be elected by the Conference at Boston. Bishop Soule, it seems, "owns" two slaves! He became a slaveholder, I suppose, among other reasons, to demonstrate to the South that he was an *orthodox* man. Spirit of Wesley! what think ye of a Bishop in your church, in the nineteenth century, being a slaveholder?

In the *Pennsylvania Freeman* is a letter from the accomplished Robert Purvis, complaining of the closing chapter in "Uncle Tom's Cabin," which he thinks is "African Colonization unmasked." I am not surprised that a colored man should be particularly sensitive on reading that chapter, nor that all the friends of the slave should regret several things contained in the chapter referred to. Neither am I surprised that Mrs. Stowe's sentiments on the subject of colonization should be misunderstood. The sagacious editor of the *Freeman* refers to her "unfortunate endorsement of colonization." But Mrs. Stowe no more *endorses* colonization than did Mr. Birney in his recent address, nor so much. By colonization I mean, of course, the Colonization Society. Both Mr. Birney and Mrs. Stowe repudiate the *coercive* policy of the Colonization Society, or I might, with more exactitude, say, the policy of many of its members. No reasonable man has any objection to voluntary colonization or emigration. Colored people have the same right, of course, to go to Liberia as they have to California or elsewhere, and no one is justified in blaming them, or those whom they request to afford them aid. But the main feature of the Colonization Society, as we all know, is to *force off* the free colored population of the country. Now, the author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," as I happen to know, holds this policy in abhorrence; and yet she has, through ignorance or inadvertence, used some expressions respecting the Colonization Society that are much to be regretted.

The new volume of Bancroft's History of the United States is a topic of conversation at present, and the reputation of this learned and polished historian seems to be as great abroad as it is among his own countrymen. I would not detract an iota from all the deserved reputation his splendid work has secured to him; but it is said, and I partly believe it, that several passages in the first volume, if not in subsequent volumes, relating to human bondage, have been in later editions stricken out! Is it possible? Mr Bancroft, on the publication of his first volume, published before his political aspirations were known to the public or perhaps to himself, commended to me a chapter on Slavery, which he thought would be very gratifying to an "abolitionist." *They say* this chapter is not found in the late editions, and that passages in other volumes, referring to American slavery, are "*non est inventus*." Can any of your readers, Mr. Editor, inform the public of the facts on the subject, so that injustice may not be done either to the learned author or to the cause of freedom? If it shall appear that Mr. Bancroft has maintained his manliness, self-respect, patriotism, and truthfulness, when solicited by office and emolument, most heartily shall I, for one, rejoice in receiving evidence of the fact. But if he, like some other authors, has basely truckled to the South, and been recreant to Liberty, I shall with many others mourn in view of the truth of the common report.

Well, the Anniversary week is at hand. It is thought that the Annual Meeting of the American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, May 11th, at the Broadway Tabernacle, will be one of unusual interest. It is expected that our excellent friend, the Hon. Wm. Jay, will preside on the occasion. Messrs. John P. Raymond, Henry Ward Beecher, and E. D. Culver, are, I understand, to be the principal speakers. Mr. Raymond is a colored minister, of the Baptist denomination, and formerly preached in Virginia. He is blind, but a man of persuasive eloquence, and reminds one of the Blind Preacher in Wirt's "British Spy." Mr. Beecher is well known as an independent preacher, and a true-hearted friend of Liberty. No man here can draw larger audiences, or delight them more. Mr. Culver was formerly a member of Congress from Washington county, in this State, and has had, for one or two years, a law office in this city. His practice is rapidly increasing, and he has the reputation of being an able and eloquent advocate of human rights. It is hoped that the occasion will attract to this city a numerous body of anti-slavery men and women.

The American Anti-Slavery Society holds its annual meeting the same day, at Rochester, New York, and Messrs. Garrison, Phillips, and others, are expected to address the meeting. This Society would not have been driven from the city—to use the language of its friends—I think, if the speakers had used more circumspection, prudence, and good nature. Truth, on the subject of slavery, can be spoken here boldly, and without serious molestation, if those who utter it do not appear to provoke wrath and opposition. As evidence of this, we may refer to the resolutions adopted last year by the American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, and to the speeches on that occasion.

Manhattan.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

THIRTY-SECOND CONGRESS—FIRST SESSION.

SENATE.

Wednesday, April 28.

Mr. Gwin asked that the Senate would take up the bill providing for the settlement of claims which originated in the military operations in California during the years 1846 and 1847. He said he would briefly state the reasons inducing him to this motion. By this morning's mail he received a letter from Col. Fremont, late a member of the Senate, dated London, April 13, 1852, in which he said that on the evening of the 8th inst., as he was stepping into a carriage with his family to visit a friend, he was arrested by a party of Bow street officers who were of a low order, rude and insolent; and they were accompanied by a Solicitor's clerk of the same character. No time was allowed him to collect information, or have intercourse with his friends; he was simply informed that he was arrested on the suit of unknown parties, for the sum of $50,000; that he subsequently ascertained that he was arrested on liabilities connected with his military operations in California during the years 1846 and 1847; that he was confined under lock and key for twenty-four hours, and subjected to the most exorbitant extortions.

He was requested by Col. Fremont to bring to subject to the notice of Congress, and, in doing so, he made this appeal to the Senate to take up the bill he had mentioned.

The bill was then taken up.

Mr. Shields pointed out several defects in the bill as it now stood, and then the bill was recommitted to the Committee on Military Affairs.

On motion of Mr. Brodhead, the Senate then took up the resolutions upon non-intervention.

Mr. Cooper addressed the Senate in review of the speeches of Mr. Bell and Mr. Soulé upon this subject.

Mr. Wade got the floor, and the subject was postponed till to-morrow week.

The Senate then adjourned.

Thursday, April 29.

Mr. Hamlin reported in favor of printing 17,000 extra copies of the Patent Office Report on Arts and Sciences. Also, to print 32,500 extra copies of the Agricultural part of the same report. This was postponed till to-morrow.

Mr. Borland submitted resolutions calling for information relative to the amount of money paid for printing and binding for the use of the departments. Laid over.

Mr. Shields reported back the bill to provide for the settlement of the claims arising out of the conquest of California; and the same was considered and ordered to be engrossed.

The resolution submitted by Mr. Cass, calling for copies of the correspondence between the American Chargé at Vienna with the State Department, relative to the imprisonment of the Rev. C. L. Brace, was taken up and adopted.

The Deficiency bill was then taken up.

Mr. Pearce addressed the Senate till after three o'clock, in defence of the Administration from charges preferred by Messrs. Gwin and Hunter upon the army estimates. He had not concluded when the Senate adjourned.

Friday, April 30.

On motion of Mr. Shields, the Senate proceeded to the consideration of the bill to create a Board of Commissioners for the examination and payment of claims against the United States, growing out of the conquest of California; when it was read a third time, and passed.

On motion of Mr. Pearce, the Senate resumed the consideration of the bill to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the current fiscal year.

Mr. Pearce resumed and concluded his remarks in reply to Messrs. Gwin and Hunter.

Mr. Gwin submitted a few remarks in response.

Mr. Rusk took the floor, and moved that the bill be postponed until Monday; which was agreed to.

On motion of Mr. Badger, the Senate went into Executive session, and afterwards adjourned.

Saturday, May 1.

The Senate was not in session to-day.

Monday, May 3.

The chair laid before the Senate a report from the several heads of the departments, of a plan for classifying the duties and salaries, &c., of the clerks now employed therein.

Mr. Sumner presented the resolutions of the Legislature of Massachusetts, in favor of cheap ocean postage.

The Wisconsin railroad bill was taken up, and ordered to be engrossed.

A bill granting a pension to Jim Capron, a free negro, for revolutionary services, was considered and ordered to be engrossed.

The Deficiency bill was then taken up.

Mr. Rusk spoke nearly two hours in support of the amendment granting additional aid to the Collins line, and the bill was then postponed.

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of Executive business, and shortly after adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Tuesday, April 27.

We briefly noticed last week the proceedings on Tuesday, the 27th. The speeches of Mr. Hendricks of Indiana and Mr. Smith of Alabama, on the Homestead bill, were unimportant. Here is an abstract of the speech of Mr. Stephens, given in the Baltimore *Sun*. It presents the gist of it:

Mr. Stephens of Georgia, took the floor, and after alluding to the policy which had been recently pursued, by which a hundred millions of acres of land had been given away, expressed himself as being opposed to the passage of the bill before the Committee until some general system of disposing of the public domain shall have been adopted. In every free and representative country, he said, there must exist parties.

He did not rise to defend any party or faction, but to lay down grave fundamental principles, without which no Government can be sustained. Parties, he contended, must be organized with reference to the predominant questions of the day; and the great political question at present in this country he considered to be the law for the reclamation of fugitive slaves. The majority of the people he believed to be in favor of the performance of all constitutional obligations; and no platform could stand unless it were based upon the Constitution, nor would any Administration be sustained unless it were actuated by such principles.

He went on to state that if, which he did not admit, the North would not stand up for the Constitution, he should not care how soon the confederacy were rent asunder. He expressed himself opposed to National Conventions, and to surrendering to an irresponsible body the power to prescribe principles, on which the country is to act. The people, he continued, would not vote for any man who should not be in favor of the Fugitive Slave Law. He then read extracts from the *Union* and *Tribune*, from which he dissented, and four other papers, to show that the Whigs were more in favor of the Compromise, as a body, than the Democrats. He deemed the opposition to the institutions of the South as a war against the Lord of Creation: the colored man being inferior to the white, intellectually and mentally, and who, he said, is an entirely different being. He was proceeding to show the decrease in the number of free blacks, compared with slaves, when his time elapsed.

Wednesday, April 28.

The House then resolved itself into a Committe on the state of the Union, and took up the Homestead bill.

Mr. Brown, of Mississippi, who had the floor, spoke in favor of the principle of the bill. The Government of the United States, he said, was the largest land owner in the world, and Congress had from time to time disposed of the public lands in various ways, and with general approval. This being the case, and there being no question as to the power of Congress, he maintained that there is nothing unconstitutional in the bill before the Committee. The bill he considered as not only expedient, but as calculated in various ways, to which he alluded, to promote the general welfare.

He expressed himself in favor of that policy which would people the public domain and give homes to the homeless; and instanced himself as a proof of what may be done by perseverance and industry, being the son of a squatter, and having risen through successive offices to be Governor of Mississippi, and stood there the defender of the bill.

Mr. Parker, of Indiana, went at some length into a definition of his position with reference to the recent Whig caucus, which he said was called merely to determine upon the time and place of the meeting of the said convention. He disagreed from Mr. Stephens as to the want of determination at the North to maintain the Constitution, but coincided with him in his objections to the action of conventions, and, for his own part, said he would vote for no man as President who was not true to the Compromise.

Mr. Millson, of Virginia, said he should not make any allusion to the Presidential election, but should confine himself exclusively to the bill before the Committee, and the usages of constitutional law.

The Committee then rose, and the House adjourned.

Thursday, April 29.

The rules having been suspended, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, and took up the Homestead bill.

Mr. Walsh, of Maryland, who had the floor from yesterday, addressed the Committee. He said he endorsed the action of the seceders from the caucus recently held in the Capitol to the fullest extent. He traced the history of the establishment of new States, and the acquisition of additional territory, to show that a system had invariably been pursued, by which the South was degraded, from the time of the passing of the Ordinance of 1787 down to the passage of the Compromise act; whose institutions were thus kept within prescribed limits, beyond which they must not travel.

The doctrine of State Rights, he said, amounted to this—that slavery is to be protected only where it exists. He said he would support no man as a candidate for the Presidency, who did not own himself to be in favor of the Compromise measures.

Mr. Johnson, of Tennessee, advocated the constitutionality of the bill before the Committee, and contended that those who maintained its unconstitutionality had voted for appropriations of land which were liable to the same objections. He contended that Congress possessed the same power to grant lands that it has to appropriate money, and considered the object in increasing territories is the settlement and cultivation of lands; having acquired these, it became the duty of the General Government to settle them, and thus render them productive. He insisted that there is nothing agrarian in the measure under consideration, the effect of which, he said, would be to increase the revenue, by enabling persons by their industry to pay those taxes which at present it is out of their power to do.

The Chairman here stated that the hour having elapsed to which debate was limited, Mr. McMullen, who reported the bill, would have an hour during which to close the debate.

Mr. McMullen took the floor, and said the bill had been so fully, fairly, and ably debated, that little remained for him to say in conclusion. He then controverted the arguments that had been adduced as to the unconstitutionality of the measure.

He concluded by referring to the political aspect of the country, and considered the time which had been spent in political disquisitions as detracting from the character of the country; at the same time expressing his conviction that the Democrats had the power of electing for President one of their party, and said he would vote for no man who would not pledge himself to maintain the Constitution.

The Committee then rose, the Chairman reported, and the House adjourned.

Friday, April 30.

Mr. Gorman, from the Committee on Printing, reported a resolution authorizing the printing of 50,000 copies of the mechanical part of the Patent Office Report, for the use of the House, and 3,000 additional copies for the use of the Commissioner of Patents.

Mr. Clingman said that before he voted on this resolution he desired to be informed who was to do this printing, and on what terms. He was very much surprised that so much time had elapsed without the House being apprized what arrangement the Committee on Printing had made for the execution of the printing of the House. There were rumors—he could not say they were true—that the Committee had given out the printing at an advance of 25 per cent. upon the terms for which responsible men had offered to do the work.

Mr. Gorman said that this was the usual resolution, and he would call the previous question.

Mr. Clingman moved to lay the resolution on the table. At the suggestion of Mr. Houston, however, he withdrew the motion until after the House should determine the question on the demand for the previous question.

The House then refused to second the demand for the previous question—ayes 46, noes 87.

The resolution was postponed until Tuesday next.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole, (Mr. Stuart of Michigan in the chair,) and proceeded to consider the private calendar.

The Committee, after being in session two hours and a half, rose and reported to the House the following bills, with the recommendation that they do pass:

A bill for the relief of Osborn Cross, of the United States army.

Senate bill granting relief to John A. McGaw, of New York.

A bill for the relief of Patrick Gass.

A bill for the relief of William H Wells, and others.

The question being on the engrossment of these bills,

Messrs. Moore of Pennsylvania, and Florence, stated, as they had not been able to obtain the floor to give their views on the Homestead bill, and as they would both have to leave the city this afternoon, they would ask leave to file their speeches.

[Cries of "Agreed," "Agreed."]

The House adjourned, to meet to-morrow.

Saturday, May 1.

The Speaker announced the first business in order to be the bill for the relief of Osborn Cross, a quartermaster in the army of the United States.

Debate ensued; at the termination of which, under the operation of the previous question, the bill was passed.

Two ineffectual motions were made to go into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union upon the Homestead bill; and the House also refused to resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole on the private calendar.

And the House then adjourned.

Monday, April 3.

The House took up the Senate bill for the relief of Chas. G. Hunter, and passed it. By it the Secretary of the Treasury is authorized to give him credit for nearly $8,000, being the amount of losses sustained by him while acting as commander and purser of the steamer Scourge and schooner Taney, at Alvarado.

The House, also under a suspension of the rules, passed a bill for the relief of Jane Irwin, on account of the services and losses of her father in the war of the revolution, and allowing her thirty-five years' half-pay as a captain in the army.

The House proceeded to dispose of the business on the Speaker's table.

The agricultural part of the Patent Office report was laid upon the table, and the motion to print 100,000 extra copies was referred to the Committee on Printing.

Various Senate bills were referred to the appropriate committees, and several of them were passed.

The House adjourned.

Died, on the morning of the 26th ultimo, in this city, after a short but painful illness, Professor Walter R. Johnson, aged 57 years.

Mr. Johnson was a man of science, a useful citizen, and most estimable man. The National Institute, of which he was the Corresponding Secretary, adopted the following resolutions in honor of their deceased associate:

"*Resolved*, That we have heard with deep regret of the decease of Professor Walter R. Johnson, late a member, and for some years the Corresponding Secretary of this Institute.

"*Resolved*, That we entertain a grateful sense of the services of Professor Johnson as a member and officer of this Institution, and a high appreciation of his private virtues, as well as of his scientific character and labors.

"*Resolved*, That we respectfully tender to the family of the deceased the expression of our sincere sympathy in their bereavement.

"*Resolved*, That, as a token of our respect for the deceased, we will attend his funeral and wear the usual badge of mourning.

"*Ordered*, That these resolutions, signed by the President and Secretary, be published in the Washington papers, and a copy of them transmitted to the family of the deceased.

"Peter Force, *President*.

"Charles F. Stansbury."

ANTI-SLAVERY CONVENTION.

Cincinnati, *April* 28, 1852.

The Anti-Slavery Convention met here today. The Rev. J. G. Fee, of Kentucky, was chosen President; and George W. Julian, of Indiana, Fred. Douglass, C. C. Burleigh, and Russell Everett, of Pennsylvania, Vice Presidents. The proceedings are unimportant.

The following resolutions were adopted by this body to-day, declaring the unalterable purpose of the abolitionists to continue, under all circumstances, the discussion of the anti-slavery question. That, under no circumstances, can any true-hearted abolitionist engage in or connive at any compromise involving the slightest concession to any pro-slavery requisition.

The following resolution was offered and warmly debated, but not finally acted upon:

Resolved, That slaveholding is in itself an act of immeasurable wickedness, and the American church and clergy, of all denominations, connected with it, are held eminently responsible.

Evening Session.—Resolutions from the Committee were introduced, declaring that this is not less the native land of the negro than the white man, and that a proposition to remove the former to any other country is in every way as unjust and imprudent as would be a proposition to remove the latter; that when the friends of Colonization manifest the same desire to promote the interest of negroes at home that they do abroad, it may then be time for the colored people to consider the Colonization scheme; but, for the present, the colored people should turn a deaf ear to all Colonization agents.

The resolutions were supported by several speakers, and opposed by none, and, finally, were unanimously adopted.

Cincinnati, *April* 30, 1852.

At the Abolition Convention, last evening, the remaining resolutions of the Committee were adopted, including three sympathizing with the cause of Hungary, and expressing surprise that Kossuth, with his knowledge of the natural sympathies of tyrants and oppressors with that kind all over the world, did not see the absurdity of going on a mission of liberty among slaveholders, and saved his cause the damage, and himself the degradation, that has fallen upon it and him.

The resolution, which embraced the latter declaration, was subsequently reconsidered, and laid on the table.

Mr. Julian made a speech, in which he advocated a new political organization, to overthrow the present Whig and Democratic parties, and a series of resolutions embracing that purpose was adopted.

Frederick Douglass made the closing speech; and at 11 o'clock the Convention adjourned *sine die*.

The Hall was crowded during the whole sitting to its utmost capacity.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

The Franklin arrived at New York on the 27th ult., the Niagara at Halifax on the 28th, the Pacific, at New York on the 2d instant. The advices, to the 21st ult., are not important.

England was agitated by preparations for the coming election. The friends of Lord John Russell, despairing, it is said, of re-electing him from London, are trying to elect him from Edinburgh. The public mind had been greatly excited by the statement of a captain of a Quebec vessel, that in the spring of 1851 he had seen two vessels imbedded in the ice, drifting towards Davis's Straits, which were supposed to be the ships of Sir John Franklin; but the story soon fell into discredit.

The Arctic expedition sailed on the 15th, consisting of three ships and two propellers.

Professor Wilson, the Christopher of Blackwood's Magazine, has resigned his chair of moral philosophy, in consequence of age and infirmity.

An interesting debate had taken place in Parliament, on a motion for the appointment of a committee to examine the East India Company's charter, and investigate the Company's Government. The motion was agreed to.

The Court of Exchequer had rendered judgment against Alderman Soloman, setling the point that none but Christians can be sent to Parliament.

France still submits meekly to the usurpations of Napoleon. M. Emile Girardin is threatened with a suppression of his journal. Forty-nine provincial papers have ceased to exist since the 2d of December, in consequence of the excessive restrictions on the Press. In the protest of the heirs of Louis Philippo against the confiscation of their property, Poillet and Berryer were counsel for the Orleans family. The Prefect of the Seine, in behalf of the President, protested against the jurisdiction of the Court, and the case was postponed.

The Central German Emigration Society complain that swindling agents are persuading the Polish peasantry to leave their homes, by representing that the "King of America" has granted to Kossuth vast tracts of land for the purpose of settlement.

LATER FROM CALIFORNIA.

The steamer *Crescent City* arrived at New York yesterday, with a large number of passengers from California, and between two and three million dollars in gold. Her passengers came over the Isthmus railroad, which is now completed to within twelve miles of Gorgona.

The Crescent City brings the California mails of the 5th ultimo. The general news is of no particular interest, except so far as it relates to the success of the miners. The floods having entirely subsided, the yield of gold is reported to be larger than ever. The accounts from all the districts are uniformly encouraging.

A war of extermination is reported to have been declared by the whites of Klamath against the Indians. A party of settlers and miners recently surrounded two lodges at Indian Ferry, and shot the men and several squaws. They also destroyed the rancho.

We learn from the Philadelphia *Inquirer* that the Hon. John Sergeant, who has been dangerously ill for some time, was considerably *better* on Saturday last. His reported *death*, therefore, as announced in the New York papers of Saturday, and consequently in the *National Intelligencer* of Monday, was incorrect. Mr. S. has been confined to his room for about six weeks, and, although still severely indisposed, a hope is indulged that he will yet recover.

National Intelligencer.

TUESDAY IN CONGRESS.

☞ Both Houses adjourned Tuesday, without transacting business, on account of the decease of Mr. Andrews, a member from Maine.

☞ We call the attention of our readers to the advertisement, in another column, of a *private school for boys*, established this year at Newport, Rhode Island. Dr. J. George Gunther is one of the most prominent victims made by the events of 1848–'49 in Germany. As a member of the celebrated popular Diet of Frankfort, he represented there the most decided republican principles, with self sacrifice, purity, and ability. Dr. Gunther is at the same time the brother-in-law of Robert Blum, the great representative of the popular interests in the same Diet, and for this reason the most hateful to the absolutist Powers, and chosen by them as a holocaust, murdered by Windischgratz in Vienna, at their combined instigations. The political conduct of Dr. G., as well as his writings, made him likewise a mark of a most violent and deadly persecution by the absolutiste and tyrant rulers of Germany, and, above all, that of Saxony, his home, and of Austria—so far so, that, to escape their clutches, Dr. G. was forced to leave behind him the half of his numerous family, scattered among his friends, and which until yet, could not join him here in this sacred land of refuge. By his deep learning and erudition in nearly all branches of human knowledge, Dr. G. has scarcely an equal here, as even in Germany, the land of serious and solid studies, he ranked among the prominent few for their extensive and various scientific, linguistic, and full scholastic information.

We regret to hear of the death of the Hon. Charles Andrews, a Representative in Congress from the State of Maine, who, as we learn from private telegraphic despatches, died at his residence in that State on Friday last. He was laboring under a pulmonary affection, which induced him some days ago to return to his home.—*Ib.*

The State Convention of South Carolina on Friday adopted the report of the Committee of Twenty-one, and then adjourned *sine die*. The vote upon it was—yeas 136, nays 19.

National Intelligencer 4th instant.

Senator Rhett, of South Carolina, (as we learn from the *Charleston Mercury*,) has resigned his seat in the Senate of the United States.—*National Intelligencer, 4th.*

AMERICAN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

The Annual Meeting of the American Anti-Slavery Society will be held at Corinthian Hall, in the city of Rochester, on Tuesday, May 11th, at ten o'clock A. M., and will continue through the two following days.

☞ Among the speakers and distinguished friends of the cause who will attend the Anniversary are Wendell Phillips, William Lloyd Garrison, Samuel J. May, Parker Pillsbury, Abby K. Foster, Samuel May, jun., Francis Jackson, Charles F. Hovey, Robert Purvis, and Oliver Johnson.

GENERAL CHRISTIAN ANTI-SLAVERY CONVENTION,

AT RAVENNA, PORTAGE CO., OHIO,

On Wednesday and Thursday, the 2d and 3d of June, 1852.

At a Christian Anti-Slavery Convention in Painesville, the undersigned were appointed a Committee to call a similar Convention at Ravenna. We have fixed upon the above time, and now earnestly invite all, of every sect and name who regard slavery as a dire sin and curse, and desire to see the churches separated from it, to attend the Convention, and take part in its deliberations.

Good speakers are expected from the various parts of the State. We confidently look for a large, earnest, *Christian* Convention.

E. H. FAIRCHILD,
J. McELDOWNEY,
WILLARD BURR,
Committee.

Hartford, Ohio, *April* 13, 1852.

FREE SYNOD OF CINCINNATI.

The next stated meeting of the Free Synod of Cincinnati will be held in the Free Presbyterian Church in Cleveland, Ohio, on the 4th Friday (28th day) of May, at eleven o'clock, A. M.

Full and accurate statistical reports will be expected.

J. R. GIBSON, *Stated Clerk.*

Ripley, O., *April* 21, 1852.

FOR ONE DOLLAR A YEAR,

Either of the following-named monthly Journals may be obtained of Fowlers & Wells, New York and Boston:

THE AMERICAN PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL: a Repository of Science, Literature, and General Intelligence, amply illustrated with Engravings.

THE WATER CURE JOURNAL and Herald of Reforms: Devoted to Physiology, Hydropathy, and the Laws of Life. Profusely illustrated.

THE STUDENT, and Family Miscellany: Designed for Children and Youth, Parents and Teachers. Illustrated with Engravings.

THE UNIVERSAL PHONOGRAPHER: Devoted to Phonography and Verbatim Reporting, with practical Instruction to Learners.

Please address *FOWLERS & WELLS*, 131 Nassau street, New York. April 1—3m

AMERICAN AND FOREIGN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

The Anniversary of the American and Foreign Anti Slavery Society is appointed to be held on Tuesday, May 11, three o'clock, P. M., at the Broadway Tabernacle. An abstract of the Annual Report will be presented, with appropriate Resolutions; and Addresses are expected from several distinguished gentlemen. Strangers are invited to call at the Rooms of the Society, 48 Beekman street.

S. S. JOCELYN,
WILLIAM JAY,
LEWIS TAPPAN,
WILLIAM E. WHITING,
Committee of Arrangements.

N B Editors friendly to the cause are requested to give the above one or more insertions.

CLEVELAND WATER CURE ESTABLISHMENT.

THE above establishment is now commencing its fifth season. The increased accommodations and facilities which have been added from year to year, make it second to none in the Union, and enables the subscriber to say with confidence to all who wish to avail themselves of the great facilities which the Water Cure System when rightly applied, offers to all those who are seeking restoration to health, that they can here pursue it under the most favorable auspices for the removal of disease. The very flattering patronage bestowed hitherto by a generous public will serve but to stimulate the proprietor to increased exertions in behalf of all those sufferers who may place themselves under his charge. Terms—$7 to $8 per week.

May 6. T. T. SEELYE, M. D., Proprietor.

CALIFORNIA PASSENGERS' INFORMATION OFFICE,

203 *Broadway, New York.*

INFORMATION where, when, and how, to secure genuine through tickets; the different rates of fare in all the regular conveyances; the times of sailing; baggage allowed, &c., &c., communicated by letter for a fee of $1.

Passage now in clipper ships can be secured—in cabin, for $150 to $200; in steerage, at $100 to $125. Address

April 29 ARNOLD BUFFUM & CO.

NEWSPAPER AGENCIES.

V. B PALMER, the American Newspaper Agent, is agent for the *National Era*, and authorized to take Advertisements and subscriptions at the same rates as required by us. His offices are at Boston, 8 Congress street; New York, Tribune Building; Philadelphia, northwest corner of Third and Chestnut streets; Baltimore, southwest corner of North and Fayette streets.

☞ S. M. PETTENGILL, Newspaper Advertising, Subscription, and Collecting Agent, No. 10 State street, Boston (Journal Building), is also agent for the *National Era*.

DAVID TORRENCE, NOTARY PUBLIC,

Xenia, Ohio,

WILL take acknowledgments, depositions, affidavits, and protestations, in town or country; is agent for the *National Era*, the *Union Mutual Life Insurance Company*, the *American Live Stock Insurance Company*; and will attend to the collection of claims generally; also, to selling, leasing, and renting real estate.

☞ Office—Galloway's Buildings, up stairs—corner room

Sept. 19—1y

A. M. GANGEWER,

Attorney and Agent, Washington City, D. C.,

ATTENDS to claims for Pensions, Bounty Land, Extra Pay, and Arrearages of Pay, and the settlement of Accounts before the several Departments of the Government.

References.—Hon. S. P. Chase, Ohio; Hon. D. Wilmot, Pennsylvania; Hon. C. Cole, Wisconsin; Hon. Ellis Lewis, Lancaster, Pennsylvania; Gen. Edward Armor, Carlisle Pennsylvania; Dr. G. Bailey, Editor National Era; and the accounting officers generally. June 5—6m

PHILOSOPHICAL AND CHEMICAL APPARATUS

MANUFACTURED by *C. B. WARRING*, for six years Professor of Chemistry and Natural Philosophy at College Hill, Poughkeepsie. He will be happy to open a correspondence with those wishing to purchase such articles or chemicals, or who may have laboratories to arrange Apparatus securely packed and sent to any part of the United States, at rates lower than the catalogue prices of any house in New York. Terms cash.

Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Jan. 26 1852. Feb. 5.

LAW NOTICE.

THE subscriber informs his friends and former correspondents that he has resumed the Practice of Law, and will hereafter devote his time to the duties of his profession. Agencies (of a legal character) and collections for Northern Ohio will receive prompt attention.

P. BLISS

Elyria, Lorain Co., Ohio, Jan. 1, 1852.—Jan 15

FULLER'S COMPUTING TELEGRAPH.

THE proprietor of this work has received the most liberal patronage in America and foreign countries. Its power to solve more problems than all other calculators united, is well known. More time is required to prepare questions than to obtain answers to any business computation—interest discount, loss and gain, mensuration, surveying, gauging, wages, &c., &c., &c. Its use is learned by a few hours' study. A case, with full printed directions, accompanies the work. Address, post paid,

Jan. 1. JOHN E. FULLER, Boston, Mass.

PRIVATE SCHOOL FOR BOYS.

THE subscriber proposes to open a private school for boys at Newport, Rhode Island, on Monday, the 3d day of May next.

In his regular course, he will give instruction in the usual English studies—reading, writing, mathematics, natural intellectual philosophy, and in the Latin, Greek, French, and German languages.

He will prepare lads to enter any of the colleges in the United States.

If desired, instruction will also be given, for an additional charge, in other European languages, and also in music and drawing.

The charge for day scholars will be $100 a year; for pupils that board with the subscriber, $300 a year. Payment quarterly in advance.

Dr. J. GEORGE GUNTHER.

Refer to Prof C Beck, Cambridge, Mass.; Hon George S. Hilliard, Dr S. G. Howe, Prof. H. D. Rogers, Boston; G. R. Calvert, Henry Gilliat, Dr. David King, Newport, R. I.

Newport, April 1, 1852. May 6.

THOMAS'S FIRST BOOK OF ETYMOLOGY.

JUST PUBLISHED.

E. C. & J. BIDDLE,

No. 6 South Fifth street, Philadelphia,

Have Just Published

THE FIRST BOOK OF ETYMOLOGY:

Designed to promote Precision in the Use and facilitate the Acquisition of a Knowledge of the English Language. For Beginners. (On the basis of "The First Book of Etymology" by James Lynd, A. M.)

BY JOSEPH THOMAS, M. D.,

Formerly Classical Teacher in Friends' Select School, Philadelphia.

"THE FIRST BOOK OF ETYMOLOGY," by Mr. Lynd, is now in use as a class-book in the Public Schools of New York under the care of the Public School Society, and in a large portion of the Public Ward Schools of New York; in the Public Schools of Brooklyn, Williamsburg, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and many other cities.

The volume prepared by Dr. Thomas, and now issued from the press, embraces many improvements on the work by Mr. Lynd. Its leading features may be briefly stated thus:

1. The nature of Roots, prefixes, and suffixes, and the distinction between primitive and derivative, simple and compound words, are explained.

2. The prefixes and suffixes of Latin, Greek, and other origin are given, and their various meanings fully and clearly stated and explained.

3. Exercises are given, designed primarily to impress on the mind of the pupil the various meanings of the prefixes and suffixes, and also to introduce to the analysis of the words of our language generally.

4. The principal Latin, Greek and other roots of our language, arranged in alphabetical order, are inserted, and under each is placed the more important English words derived therefrom, with the *literal* or *etymological* meaning, and the *proper* or *usually accepted* meaning of each affixed to it.

5. A key is appended, referring every English word in the preceding vocabulary to its appropriate Latin, Greek, or other root and thus enabling the pupil who is wholly unacquainted with any language other than our native tongue, to pursue the study of English etymology without difficulty.

6. Throughout the work, distinctive kinds of type are used to designate clearly the particular portion of the definition of each English derivative corresponding with the root, prefix, and suffix, or such of them as compose it; and copious notes are appended, by which, and the use of the distinctive types referred to, the connection between the *literal* or *etymological* and the *proper* or *usually accepted* meaning of the English derivatives is traced and fully explained. These two important features thus fully carried out, it is believed, are peculiar to this work, and add much to its value.

The work now issued from the press is designed as the first volume of a series of etymological class-books, of which "Lynd's Class Book of Etymology" is the second volume, and "Oswald's Etymological Dictionary" the third. The two latter volumes are extensively used in public and private schools throughout the Union.

Widely established as the study of Etymology is in the public and private schools of our country, and appreciated by competent instructors generally, the publishers deem it hardly necessary to advert to its importance as a branch of a thorough system of English education. To such teachers as have not given the subject mature consideration, they would merely remark that, in the common or public grammar schools of the largest cities of our country, and in many others, where classical studies and the study of the higher mathematics do not find place, the beneficial effects resulting from the introduction of this study, *in training the minds of the pupils to habits of analysis and generalization, and in imparting to them a thorough knowledge of their mother tongue*, has been fully proved and admitted; and that in academies and other seminaries, where classical studies are pursued, no trifling benefit has been found to result to the pupils from the pursuit of this study, not only from its leading to the habitual and thorough analysis of derivative words, but from its imparting a knowledge of the meaning of scientific terms, which are derived from roots rarely found in the classics that are usually read in our schools and colleges.

The publishers believe the work now issued by them to be well adapted for a class book to aid in imparting a knowledge of the etymology of the English language; they do not, therefore, hesitate to invite a thorough examination of it by teachers, assured that no one who has given serious attention to this study, will, after such examination, fail to award to the book the merit claimed for it by them.

☞ A copy of Thomas's First Book of Etymology will be forwarded by the publishers, by mail, to teachers or directors of Schools who shall request it for examination, and send, with their request, postage stamps to pre-pay the postage on said book, which is, on a copy sent not over 500 miles from Philadelphia, eleven cents; over 500 and not over 1,500 miles, twenty two cents; over 1,500 and not over 2,500 miles, thirty-three cents.

The work may be obtained of any of the leading booksellers throughout the Union. Of these the publishers would particularize in New York, C. M. Saxton, 152 Fulton street; Cady & Burgess, 60 John street; D. Appleton & Co., 200 Broadway; Mason & Law, 23 Park Row.

Boston, Phillips, Sampson & Co; Cincinnati, H. W. Derby & Co.; Baltimore, Cushings & Bailey; New Orleans, John Ball.

May 6 E. C. & J. BIDDLE, Philadelphia

THE GREAT BRITISH QUARTERLIES AND BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE.

IMPORTANT REDUCTION IN THE RATES OF POSTAGE

LEONARD SCOTT & CO.,

NO. 54 GOLD STREET, NEW YORK,

CONTINUE to publish the following British Periodicals, viz:

The London Quarterly Review—Conservative;
The Edinburgh Review—Whig;
The North British Review—Free Church;
The Westminster Review—Liberal; and
Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine—Tory.

These Reprints have now been in successful operation in this country for *twenty years*, and their circulation is constantly on the increase, notwithstanding the competition they encounter from American periodicals of a similar class, and from numerous *Eclectics* and Magazines made up of selections from foreign periodicals. This fact shows clearly the high estimation in which they are held by the intelligent reading public, and affords a guarantee that they are established on a firm basis, and will be continued without interruption.

Although these works are distinguished by the political shades above indicated, yet but a small portion of their contents is devoted to political subjects. It is their *literary* character which gives them their chief value, and in that they stand confessedly far above all other journals of their class. *Blackwood*, still under the masterly guidance of *Christopher North*, maintains its ancient celebrity, and is at this time unusually attractive, from the serial works of Bulwer and other literary notables, written for that magazine, and first appearing in its columns both in Great Britain and in the United States. Such works as "The Caxtons" and "My New Novel," (both by Bulwer,) "My Peninsular Medal," "The Green Hand," and other serials, of which numerous rival editions are issued by the leading publishers in this country, have to be reprinted by those publishers from the pages of Blackwood, *after it has been issued by Messrs. Scott & Co.*, so that subscribers to the reprint of that magazine may always rely upon having the *earliest* reading of these fascinating tales.

TERMS.

For any one of the four Reviews,	$3.00 per annum.
For any two of the Reviews,	5.00 do.
For any three of the Reviews,	7.00 do.
For all four of the Reviews,	8.00 do.
For Blackwood's Magazine,	3.00 do.
For Blackwood and three Reviews,	9.00 do.
For Blackwood and the four Reviews	10.00 do.

Payments to be made in all cases in advance. Money current in the State where issued will be received at par.

CLUBBING.

A discount of *twenty five per cent.* from the above prices will be allowed to clubs ordering four or more copies of any one or more of the above works. Thus: four copies of Blackwood or of one Review will be sent to one address for $9. four copies of the four Reviews and Blackwood for $30, and so on.

REDUCED POSTAGE.

The postage on these periodicals has by the late law been reduced, on the average, about *forty per cent.!* The following are the present rates, viz:

FOR BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE.

Any distance not exceeding 500 miles 9 cents per quarter.
Over 500 and not exceeding 1,500 do. 18 do do.
Over 1500 and not exceeding 2,500 do. 24 do. do.

FOR A REVIEW.

Any distance not exceeding 500 miles, 4 cents per quarter.
Over 500 and not exceeding 1,500 do. 8 do. do.
Over 1500 and not exceeding 2,500 do. 16 do. do.

At these rates no objection should be made, as heretofore, to receiving the works by mail, and thus insuring their speedy, safe, and regular delivery.

Remittances and communications should be always addressed, post paid, to the publishers,

LEONARD SCOTT & CO.,

Jan. 1. 79 Fulton st., New York, entrance 54 Gold st.

☞ Subscriptions received in Washington by Taylor & Maury, Franck Taylor, and W. Adam, Booksellers.

N. B. L. S. & Co. have recently published, and have now for sale, the "*FARMER'S GUIDE*," by Henry Stephens, of Edinburgh, and Professor Norton, of Yale College, New Haven, complete in two volumes, royal octavo, containing 1,600 pages, 14 steel and 600 wood engravings. Price, in muslin binding, six dollars; in paper covers, for the mail, five dollars.

LIBERTY ALMANAC FOR 1852

THE *American and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society* have just published another stereotyped Almanac, for the coming year, with especial reference to the great question of Slavery at the present time, and in the expectation that the friends of the cause throughout the country will co-operate in diffusing extensively the valuable statistical and reading matter it contains. Considering the expense at which the Almanac has been prepared, the low price at which it is sold, and the increased facilities for forwarding it, by express or otherwise, from New York, over the whole of the Northern States, it is confidently expected that the circulation this year will greatly exceed that of any previous year. So much useful matter cannot well be circulated at less expense.

The Almanac for 1852 contains 40 pages, being four pages larger than the Almanac for 1851. It also contains more engravings. Some of those of last year are used again, with two new and beautiful ones, the first entitled "No Higher Law," and the other a portrait of Ellen Crafts, in the dress in which she made her escape from slavery. The Almanac is handsomely printed, on good paper, with a *Calendar* equal in all respects to that of the American Tract Society's Almanac for 1852, with the Eclipses, Cycles, &c., &c. The Almanac contains a variety of interesting and valuable reading and statistical articles of an anti-slavery character, selected and original. The prices will be as follows:

For one thousand copies	$20 00
For one hundred copies	2 50
For one dozen copies	40
For a single copy	05

The friends of the cause are earnestly invited to co-operate in giving a wide circulation to the Almanac, and to send their orders at an early day for a liberal supply. It is suggested that they make arrangements with merchants in their neighborhood, before visiting New York, to have a few hundred or thousand Almanacs packed with their goods. In this way the cost of transportation will be very small. If no such opportunity offers, the owners of expresses are now more reasonable in their charges than heretofore. Or they may be sent by mail, any distance under 500 miles, for *one cent, postage prepaid*.

Orders, *enclosing payment*, in bank notes or post office stamps, may be addressed to

WILLIAM HARNED, *Agent*,

Aug. 1. 48 Beekman st., New York.

N. B. Editors friendly to the cause of freedom are respectfully requested to give the above an insertion, as the object in publishing the Almanac is not to make money, but to diffuse useful information at cost.

[CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE.]

their own local offices, and the citizens of the North are entitled to discharge the duties of offices in their section, but the offices at large should be filled from all sections in proportion to population. If the experience of the past is worth anything, it certainly affords no ground for gloomy apprehensions on the part of Southern gentlemen, and no reason for a dissolution of the Union. But I go further. If the North should hereafter claim their share of consideration in these matters—and I hope they will not have to claim it—the Southern gentlemen cannot complain, unless they can show that they have a divine right to the "first places." Any right, founded on any superior capacity or intelligence, I have the will not urge upon us at the present day. It will be observed that the distinguished gentleman, to whom I have referred, considers a participation in the appointment of the offices, and the occupation of high official stations, as an important matter. So do I. To take the Government from the King of Great Britain, and to give it to our own citizens, was one important design of our glorious Revolution. But the design was to give it to the whole country, and not to the South or North exclusively. The "first places" in all Governments, among all people, civilized and uncivilized, have been deemed objects worthy of the most ardent aspirations, and of the most tremendous struggles. It may be accordance with human nature for one section to desire them all, but having obtained nearly all, it is certainly not reputable to pour out murmuring accusations. Without adding more upon this point, I leave the indulgence of the House while I call attention to the power—

TO LAY AND COLLECT TAXES, DUTIES, IMPOSTS, AND EXCISES.

Taxation has never been regarded with jealousy by the Anglo Saxon. Charles I, it has been said, lost his head by the levy of a twopenny tax of ship-money. I propose to look into the manner in which the power of taxation has been wielded in this nation.

First, of direct taxation. At the time of the formation of the Constitution, a contest arose between the North and the South, as to the basis of representation. The North contended that the Government should be one of free people exclusively, and that the representation in Congress should be based wholly upon free population. The South, however, succeeded in obtaining a "compromise," by which three-fifths of the slaves are added to the whole number of free persons in the several slaveholding States, as the "representative population." As an equivalent for this concession of the North, the South consented to prescribe in the Constitution, that direct taxes should be laid, and to be apportioned among the States in the same manner as representatives. The equivalent, however, has proved to the North wholly fallacious. But how comparatively insignificant the taxes have been laid since the adoption of the Constitution. "The slaveholding States," in the language of another, "have enjoyed the benefits of the Compromise, without feeling any of its burdens."

The slave basis of representation is equal to some twenty-four Congressional constituencies, and from this basis has been received by the Government in direct taxes? McGregor, in his Progress of America, puts down the whole amount at $12,000,000. Not only has there been little resort to direct taxation, but what resorted to the South have had comparatively few slaves for which to be taxed. In 1798, the period of the first direct tax, the slaves enumerated, for the purposes of taxation, were only 393,219. But when the subject comes up again, the South will find the North for direct taxation, and itself against it, whatever has been said on the subject to the contrary notwithstanding.

MR. CARTER, (in his seat.) That is true.

MR. SHARP. It is proper that I should allude to that fact, but immediately connected with this subject. In 1836, an act of Congress was passed, depositing the surplus revenue with the States; and about $27,000,000 were actually distributed to the several States, in proportion to their respective representations in the Senate and House of Representatives. This was money in the Treasury of the United States, and was distributed according to representation, while we were collecting revenue, not according to representation, but upon a basis, in fact, much more favorable to the South than to the North. The money was collected by one rule, and distributed by another. The distribution to the South was undoubtedly greater than their contributions. They received, by this act of Government, more money, in virtue of their slave basis of representation, than they ever paid in direct taxes. It will be seen, therefore, that, under the compromise of "taxation and representation," they have never sacrificed a dollar; that they have obtained the advantage of slave representation without any equivalent. For some thirty-five years, no serious effort has been made by the North to resort to this constitutional mode of taxation. During all this time the slaves to be enumerated, for the purpose of taxation, have numbered from 2,000,000 to 3,000,000. Here, sir, is a clearly constitutional right which might be made to fall heavily upon the South, and no resort to it for the last thirty-five years! Is this like "driving them into aggression?" Rhetoric and oratory may give to the winds the complaint of aggression, but facts are far more important for a thinking people. I now turn to direct taxation.

A word of indirect taxation. The expense of collection of duties upon imports and tonnage in the North has been exhibited as an instance of Northern oppression. This view of the subject has been taken without any regard to the amount of revenue collected in the free States. Let us see how the matter stands.

I hold in my hand a statement showing the total amount of revenue derived from customs, and the expenses of collection, from 1791 to 1850, as appears by McGregor's Progress of America, and from a statement kindly furnished me by the Secretary of the Treasury. I respectfully ask for it the attention of the House:

Whole amount of revenue - - - - - -	$1,169 299,265
Expense of collection - - - - - -	54,257,720
Amount of revenue in free States - -	932,222,911
Amount of revenue in slave States -	237,076,354
Expense of collection in slave States -	26,894,991
Expense of collection in slave States -	17,362,393

It will be seen by these figures that the South have collected only about one-fourth of the whole duties on imports and tonnage. In fact, the expense of collecting one hundred dollars in the South has been nearly double that of collecting the same sum in the North. These facts, which are presented, without comment, surely, really furnish our Southern friends, they being judges, with no just cause of complaint.

But to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises, is one of the most important acts of sovereignty. If the power of taxation has been abused, and generally wielded against the interests and wishes of our Southern friends, I admit it may be a cause of complaint against their policy. It is impossible, Mr. Chairman, for me to go into the effects of all the tariff acts upon all sections of the Union. I do not propose to do that. But there are some facts to which I shall now call the attention of the House; and I am confident an investigation of the Journals will show that no tariff, distasteful to the South has remained long on the statute-book. It is a little striking, sir, that the first tariff, upon which sufficient time was felt to take the yeas and nays, and the last tariff—the one now on the statute-book—received an overwhelming majority of the Southern vote. And the reason for a dissolution of the Union. But I go further. If the North should hereafter claim their share of consideration in these matters—and I hope they will not have to claim it—the Southern gentlemen cannot complain, unless they can show that they have a divine right to the "first places." Any right, founded on any superior capacity or intelligence, I have the will not urge upon us at the present day. It will be observed that the distinguished gentleman, to whom I have referred, considers a participation in the appointment of the offices, and the occupation of high official stations, as an important matter. So do I. To take the Government from the King of Great Britain, and to give it to our own citizens, was one important design of our glorious Revolution. But the design was to give it to the whole country, and not to the South or North exclusively. The "first places" in all Governments, among all people, civilized and uncivilized, have been deemed objects worthy of the most ardent aspirations, and of the most tremendous struggles. It may be accordance with human nature for one section to desire them all, but having obtained nearly all, it is certainly not reputable to pour out murmuring accusations. Without adding more upon this point, I leave the indulgence of the House while I call attention to the power—

TO LAY AND COLLECT TAXES, DUTIES, IMPOSTS, AND EXCISES.

Taxation has never been regarded with jealousy by the Anglo Saxon. Charles I, it has been said, lost his head by the levy of a twopenny tax of ship-money. I propose to look into the manner in which the power of taxation has been wielded in this nation.

First, of direct taxation. At the time of the formation of the Constitution, a contest arose between the North and the South, as to the basis of representation. The North contended that the Government should be one of free people exclusively, and that the representation in Congress should be based wholly upon free population. The South, however, succeeded in obtaining a "compromise," by which three-fifths of the slaves are added to the whole number of free persons in the several slaveholding States, as the "representative population." As an equivalent for this concession of the North, the South consented to prescribe in the Constitution, that direct taxes should be laid, and to be apportioned among the States in the same manner as representatives. The equivalent, however, has proved to the North wholly fallacious. But how comparatively insignificant the taxes have been laid since the adoption of the Constitution. "The slaveholding States," in the language of another, "have enjoyed the benefits of the Compromise, without feeling any of its burdens."

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