TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

The *National Era* is published every Thursday, on the following terms:

Single copy, one year	$2.00
Three copies, one year	5.00
Five copies, one year	8.00
Ten copies, one year	15.00
Single copy, six months	1.00
Ten copies, six months	10.00

Voluntary agents are entitled to retain 50 cents commission on each yearly, and 25 cents commission on each semi-yearly, subscriber, *except in the case of Clubs.*

A Club of five subscribers, at $8, will entitle the person making it up to a copy for 8 months; a Club of ten, at $15, to a copy for one year. When a Club is to be thus forwarded, additions may be made to it, on the same terms.

NATIONAL ERA.

G. BAILEY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR; JOHN G. WHITTIER, CORRESPONDING EDITOR.

VOL X. WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 1856. No. 483.

RATES OF ADVERTISING

Ten cents a line for the *first* insertion, *five* cents a line for each subsequent one. Ten words constitute a line. Payment in advance is invariably required.

☞ Money may be forwarded, by mail, at *my risk.* Notes on Eastern banks preferred. Large amounts may be remitted in drafts or certificates of Deposit.

☞ Subscribers wishing their papers changed, will give the name of the post office changed *from*, as well as the post office they wish it changed *to.*

☞ All communications to the *Era*, whether on business of the paper or for publication, should be addressed to

G. BAILEY, *Washington, D. C.*

WASHINGTON D. C.

For the National Era.

A DECADE OF THE SLAVE POWER.

"THE PRESERVATION, PROPAGATION, AND PERPETUITY OF SLAVERY THE VITAL AND ANIMATING SPIRIT OF THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT."—JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

No. 10.

We have come down to events so recent as to be almost too familiar to be recounted. A brief summary will, however, serve to revive recollection of their course and mutual bearings.

It may be no more than justice to President Pierce to suppose that he was not in the most intimate secrets of those who had put him in his place, and had not yet been informed of the extent of what they would exact as the price of his elevation, when, in his message to his first Congress, in December, 1853, he declared that, as far as he could control affairs, nothing farther should be done to exasperate or humble their voting subjects. "The acquiescence of distinguished citizens," said he, referring to the Compromise Measures of 1850, "has given renewed vigor to our institutions, and restored a sense of repose and security to the public mind throughout the Confederacy. That this repose is to suffer no shock during my official term, if I have power to avert it, those who placed me here may be assured."

But whatever may or may not have been the privity of Mr. Pierce to what was going on, there had been, simultaneously with his accession to power, premonitions, such as wise men could read, of another impending *tour de force.* Missouri and Arkansas, parts of the Louisiana purchase lying south of latitude 36° 30′, had been organized as slave States, under the stipulation of the Missouri Compromise of 1820, and one for thirty-two years, the other for seventeen, had helped to govern the Union in that capacity. At length the time had come for the long-delayed compensation. Settlers, in sufficient numbers to call for a Territorial organization, had found their way into Nebraska, another part of the Louisiana purchase, lying north of the division line. Accordingly, a bill for the establishment of a Territorial Government over it, which passed the House of Representatives, February 10, 1853, comprehended the exclusion of Slavery as a thing of course—as it had been, without solemn compact, a generation before. The bill was arrested in the Senate. It was delayed in the Territorial Committee of that body till the 2d of March, and on the 3d, the day before the final adjournment, was laid on the table. Mr. Atchison, of Missouri, avowed, in the debate, (*Congressional Globe*, xxvi, 1,118,) as one of his two objections to it, that the provision of the Missouri Compromise "would be enforced in the Territory, unless it was specially rescinded," of which he professed that he had "no hope." The profession will pass for what it may be worth. The hint was an effective one.

The needful arrangements having been made in secrecy before the meeting of the next Congress, Mr. Dodge, chairman of the Senate Committee on Territories, on the 4th day of January, four weeks after the delivery of the President's Message above referred to, introduced his bill, giving a Territorial Government to Nebraska, with an abrogation of the exclusion of Slavery therefrom. Words would be but wasted in characterizing this prodigious cheat. It was not, however, beyond the capacity of the perfidious power that rules us. The upshot was, that two Territories were organized, Kansas and Nebraska, with full liberty to the slaveholders to install themselves in both. It was argued by the Committee, in their Report, that this Territorial Government was but a necessary logical sequence of the measures of 1850. The bill passed the Senate at daylight of March 4, 1854, by a vote of 23 to 14. It came before the House, March 21, under the care of Mr. Richardson, of Illinois, and after the usual struggle, under the usual disadvantages for Freedom, was carried late in the night of May 12th, by 113 votes against 100. The President found nothing in his professions, at the hoisting of the session, to forbid his affixing to it his signature.

No time was to be lost, after this victory, in settling the question of the complete abasement of the Northern people. An occasion immediately arose, or was made, for an experiment on their temper, upon a gigantic scale and scale. A black named Burns, who had found his way to Boston, was arrested on the claim of one Suttle, of Virginia, and imprisoned in the Court-house of the county of Suffolk, (Boston,) till a Commissioner should make out the papers for his surrender. The thing took wind, and able counsel appeared in his behalf. It was proposed to take the Fugitive before the time when his claimants swore that he was in Virginia; and among other good points in his defence, it was held by lawyers inferior to none, that a terror-stricken confession of his, made on being arrested by Suttle, if admitted at all, should be taken as a whole, in which case it would have sealed his doom. Through the resolute fidelity of his legal friends, the case obtained a full hearing. For a week, the public excitement was intense, and it was not at one time agreed to quit his prey for a sum of money of his own naming, but was persuaded (by urgency and threats from his home, it was said) to let Suttle from his bonds, and the prison chamber in the Court-house, held by a strong party, was rashly and ineffectually attacked one night, when a jailor was grievously killed, whether by the assailants, or by an accident of his frightened associates, is unknown. Boston perhaps never contained so many people as on the day of the attempt to carry Burns off. A body of special police, gathered from the hells and brothels, and armed to the teeth, surrounded him in the procession from the Court-house to the wharf. Detachments of United States marines from the Navy Yard, and troops from the fort with cannon loaded and lighted matches, protected the guards. The Mayor had illegally devolved his power for the day on the Commanding General of the militia, a numerous array of which kept the streets on the line of march, and afterwards received such max his pay from the National Treasury. The President of the United States had been in not few consultations with the Mayor of the Metropolis, with the Marshal and District Attorney. An assistant Adjutant General of the army came on from Washington, and troops of the garrison at New York received marching orders. No circumstance of insult and humiliation was wanting. The embarkation of the chattel was postponed, forsooth, till a militia captain gave the command to fire on the crowd, but the streets were kept from running blood by the seasonable interposition of a cooler superior officer.

The shameless outrage of the Nebraska-Kansas bill had shocked all of the country, except its despotic and slavish abettors; and it seemed as if the masses of the People were coming at last to their senses, and to a temper for the vindication of their rights, when one of those extraordinary occurrences took place, which sometimes, in the order of a mysterious Providence, intervene at a critical moment, to put suddenly an unexpected complexion on affairs, and save political wickedness for a time longer from the pit of its own digging. The union of the Whigs, of Northern Democratic party, like many other things about it, is unknown. Whether it was a cunning invention of the counsellors of the Slave Power, or suggested by the exigency, suddenly arising, of sight and action, they seized upon it in its infancy to nurse it into a strength to serve their purposes. It seemed, at first, a most promising device. Certain it is, that nothing could have been more opportune for them than its vigorous birth at such a turning point of their fortunes. It was a most plausible thing to Southern ears, at the North, glad of anything which promised to release the country from the bondage of parties which they had come to loathe, rushed into it without reflection, enrolling themselves in, and placing themselves at the mercy of, another Jarnes-faced organization, like that of the new Slave party. Why people of which the Southern face was to wear all the smiles and frowns, and the Northern all the paleness and sycophancy. No more glaringly absurd pretence could be set up, on the part of the Slave Power managers, than that of a fear of immigration from abroad, as a matter of domestic concern for Southern ears. If there was, in it, it is because immigration comes to the non-slaveholding section, enlarging its power and wealth.

But it was eminently to their purpose to force a party organization, that the Northern States, because it would serve for them the same use as the party lately dead, breaking up the unity of Northern Democrats, by establishing opposition to the dominant Slave Power. Accordingly, notwithstanding the recalcitration of numbers who went into it with better hopes, it was carried through, and made to appear more manifestly every day, the form and pressure of the old Whig party under an *alias.* Already, it nominates the Whig candidate for governor the Popiline Slave Bill as its candidate for the Presidency, and an obscure Tennessean slaveholder for the second office. To the friends of Freedom who still adhere to it, it now only remains to yield to such solicitous as formerly they withstood, or else make a second exodus from Egypt.

The portentous encroachments of the national judges, nominees of the Slave Power in the Presidential chair and in the Senate, on the Common Law rights of Northern negroes rights the Common Law grew up to shield, are a salient feature of the history of recent years. Juries packed, jurymen excluded from the panel for the reason of a simple scruple, when put to oath, of their being friends to human rights—officers savagely threatened from the bench for serving a State writ of *habeas corpus*—an exemplary citizen imprisoned without limitation of time for an alleged contempt, consisting of a true and respectful return to a summons—these are proceedings which, not long ago, a little apprehended would again stain the judicial history of any branch of the Anglo-Saxon race. Shall we be beyond all questions of private and limited wrong, however revolting—for one man can only endure wrong through a lifetime, and the motive for his oppression may cease or be diverted—questions now pending before the Federal Judiciary, of unsurpassed permanent importance to the nation, to the cause of Freedom, and to the danger is imminent, that, in the train of the novel doctrine which that tribunal seems to be contemplating, in connection with the Lemmon, Wheeler, and Gaines cases, Boston, Philadelphia, and Cincinnati, it may adjudge and decree the right of one to be as universal and paramount, that the States shall be made slave States against their own constitutional will.

It is natural that the recent and passing transactions in Kansas should be watched with singular interest, and that, from the unanimous theatre, and because of the evident magnitude of the interests immediately at stake. But they should occasion no surprise to any one who has intelligently regarded that course of earlier events which has now been etched. The indisputable truth is, that we have been moving through the successive steps of a thorough revolution of the Government. We have been gradually sinking the character of freemen, and becoming the lieges of an Oligarchy. We have been passing, by regular gradations, under the dominion of a Power, which of course will make us feel it more, the stronger, through our declining strength and spirit, it becomes. It is not far from seventy years since William Pinkney, of Maryland, said, that if Slavery should survive fifty years, it would "work a decay of the spirit of liberty in the land." Unless things mend very soon, the future historian will have the saddest of commentaries to write on that prophecy. Slavery, indeed, sufficiently vindicated. The proceedings in Kansas have been stupendously atrocious, no doubt. But he must be uninformed or unreflecting, who is astonished at them, as if they were the offspring or any fraud which the Power that means to have us helpless under its feet, would shrink from, for the furtherance of its object. If, in that country, men who, in Pennsylvania, or Freedom have been murdered by it in cold blood, they do not come near the aggregate number of those who are crushed out of life, in that same fate, for the same offence, in separate regions of the sunny South. If armed bands from Missouri have seized with red hand on the Government of Kansas, they have the sanctioned subjects of the Slave Power in Kansas fared worse—except for the rudeness of the method—the same, which, for years, has millions on non-slaveholders, whose chief rulers the Slave Power has long managed to choose, every four years? If pretended laws of Kansas make it a felony to refer in word or deed, to the legality of human bondage, what suppression of the freedom of speech or of the press do those laws have to complain more complete than is now enforced, with the sanction of the Slave Power, in the States of this Union? And if the freemen of Kansas have had to arm for the protection of their homes, what is the difference, if every dweller in the Southern country would need to do, if he intended to assert rights with which the Constitution professes to invest him—or from which, if he would, he may, with children, will be forced at last to do, as surely as time moves on, unless we make haste to amend the constitutional and peaceable peaceful remedies, which, to be availing, cannot be long delayed; or unless we become reconciled to the chains which have been forging, and which, if we consent to pay the price, will be made to clank on our wrists, we shall well deserve to wear.

The character of the Federal Administration for the last two years, which is mightily to influence all succeeding terms, is of a decisive character within the next coming eight months. Consequences perfectly inestimable are suspended on that decision. The people have shown, that they are ready for it, must begin at the fountain-head of administrative power. With the election of a President worthy of the place, a man of honor, truth, and intelligent patriotism, the United States marines from the Navy Yard, and troops from the fort with cannon loaded and lighted matches, protected the guards. The Mayor had illegally devolved his power for the day on the Commanding General of the militia, a numerous array of which kept the streets on the line of march, and afterwards received such max his pay from the National Treasury. The President of the United States had been in not few consultations with the Mayor of the Metropolis, with the Marshal and District Attorney. An assistant Adjutant General of the army came on from Washington, and troops of the garrison at New York received marching orders. No circumstance of insult and humiliation was wanting. The embarkation of the chattel was postponed, forsooth, till a militia captain gave the command to fire on the crowd, but the streets were kept from running blood by the seasonable interposition of a cooler superior officer.

The shameless outrage of the Nebraska-Kansas bill had shocked all of the country, except its despotic and slavish abettors; and it seemed as if the masses of the People were coming at last to their senses, and to a temper for the vindication of their rights, when one of those extraordinary occurrences took place, which sometimes, in the order of a mysterious Providence, intervene at a critical moment, to

Anti-Slave Power Representatives can choose a Speaker, without the aid of a single Southern vote, and despite the desertion of some of their natural allies, what is to hinder the constituencies that sent them on that business, from choosing a President the same year?

For the National Era.

MY LITTLE SISTER.

BY MARY CLEMMER AMES.

Come to my arms, my little sister,
Those of a happy mother;
In whose deep walls thoughts softly tremble,
Like light in twilight skies.
Come to my arms, my little sister,
Those of the gleaming hair;
Whose sunny life never wore a shadow,
Lost from the wing of care.

Come to my arms, my little sister,
Those of the happy voices;
There's something in thy silvery laughter,
That makes my soul rejoice.
Something in thy musical prattle,
Thy freedom from all pain;
A wondrous charm in thy guileless presence,
That makes me young again.

I've joined the host of eager runners,
Whose race is for a prize;
My soul hath lain on God's great altar,
Its chosen sacrifice.
A life of lofty aim and effort,
Is that which suits me best;
Yet I'll be idle in God's child bosom,
I do not ask to rest.

To-day I've passed amid the struggle,
I've banished every care;
I've passed a little flower's placid portal,
And taken my share.
My little sister's fond caresses,
Her winsome, winning ways,
Makes me very basest, believe and blessed,
And joins her pleasant plays.
Till I live over in her pleasures,
My childhood's golden days.

Still play with me, my little sister,
I am so glad to-night.
That childhood in earth's darkest places
Spreads out its wings of light.
That I may turn from earth's proud teachers,
Turn from the earth's deceit,
And learn so much of holy lessons,
At childhood's sinless feet.

We were beneath the chains of custom;
Too well we learn the task,
Which hides our natures from our fellows,
Which makes us wear a mask.
To hide from sight our holiest feelings,
To shrive of our dreams of youth,
To chill with pride the fresh, warm fountains
Of tenderness and truth.

Still nestle on my heart, wee sister;
There, in my sheltering arms,
Would I could save thee, tender blossom,
From all life's fearful harms.
I'd rather see thy beauty perish,
Thy life, thy grace wither,
Than it should mould in a soil of sorrow,
Or wear the blight of sin.
To the Adamant heart I trust thee,
And dry the tears that start;
He'll nurse thee in immortal beauty,
Bright dove of my heart.

New York, February, 1856.

For the National Era.

THE BROTHERS.

BY E. D. E. N. SOUTHWORTH.

CHAPTER VIII.

The Apparition.

Ye seem to look on me with asking eyes!
Listen! and I will tell a fearful story!
I have murdered my dear brother myself,
A strange heart sickness almost like to death,
A deep remorse, and a sore grief, crushes me,
For some impossible, nonsense wickedness.
We are not sure in spirit! Why?
No wretch dragged on to execution
Or evil more horrible than mine, stirred up
My spirit with remorseful agony. *John Wilson.*

Eighteen months had passed since the murder of Oswald Herring, and yet the murderer had not been apprehended. Though, upon the night of that fatal catastrophe, both the regular and the volunteer police had turned out in great numbers, and scattered themselves over the neighborhood, in pursuit of the criminal, though trained death-hounds had been made to smell his clothing, and had been set upon his track, though, thus with men and dogs, the authorities had hunted the country round for miles, and had offered the largest rewards for his betrayal or apprehension, this length of time had passed, and he had not been arrested.

Mr. Waring having died intestate, his property, according to the laws of that Commonwealth, fell to the next of kin. His childless widow inherited none of her late husband's wealth, but returned to her native Philadelphia to the country, to live upon her own reserved patrimony. The plantation fell into other hands, and the planter passed out of memory. Valentine, with his crime and his fate, overlaid by newer excitements, in a region full of social vicissitudes, was already sinking into oblivion. He was supposed to have escaped from the State. But Some were there faithful friends who knew that, in all this time, the miserable young man had never left the neighborhood, or wandered five miles from the blood-stained floor of his crime.

Phædra was at last mocked with the shadow of freedom. The quadrocus and mettizzas, with all the fiery vehemence of temperament, have perhaps less of freedom, without, than any other race. They cannot bear up under any great mental or physical pressure. Phædra, by the terrible blow that had fallen upon her, was crushed into premature age and decrepitude. And, as a useless old crone, she was suffered, by her new master, to retire to a lone cabin, in the pine barrens above the cypress swamp, to spend her days in idleness, or work, was supplied with rations of food and clothing upon an equal footing with the plantation laborers.

But this poor Naomi, in her desolation, had also her Ruth.

Fannie had almost miraculously recovered from the yellow fever; and, in the mental imbecility that had attended her convalescence, she had been long shielded from the knowledge of the calamity that had fallen upon them all; and at last so gradually did the facts of the catastrophe enter her mind, that she could never after say when or how she first learned the sum of their misery; and thus she was spared the sudden shock that most certainly have proved fatal to her. Nor could she ever upon that fragile form, and thin face, with its fair, transparent pallor, and large, mournful eyes, and not know her heart was breaking. What kept her life-power going? Something that was not the love of her child, or of her poor old mother! Something that occasionally varied that look of hopeless, incurable sorrow, with a wild and startled expression of extreme terror, suggestive of insanity. Some people thought it was insanity; but they were mistaken; her reason was sound, though her heart was broken. Fannie kept a little bread and needle shop; she owed this little shop to the benevolence of Mrs. Waring; for, to the honor of that poor lady be it spoken, even in the midst of her own awful sorrow, she had remembered and succoured her humble sister in adversity. Fannie's little shop thrived moderately, and afforded herself and child a decent living, and the means of alleviating some of the miseries and adding to the few comforts of her poor mother. Early every Saturday evening, Fannie would close her little shop, and take her child and walk out to Phædra's cabin, to remain their dropping beds, and look about them. Alas, for their feeble hopes! Valentino, still standing, and still agonized, waved his hand for silence and attention, and then spoke.

He told them he had already repented, if that were the word to express the horror of remorse of blood-guiltiness that had long preyed upon his heart, and consumed his flesh and blood, and left him wasted to a skeleton; that did they, he asked them, suppose that he had repented only *since* that fatal deed? No, no! but for years and years before that catastrophe he had suffered that uncontrolled crime. Did they think that the act was premeditated, then? Yes, in *one* sense, it was premeditated, although entirely unintentional, and so abhorrent that he would have gladly died to escape committing it. The deed was premeditated, inasmuch as it had long loomed up before him, like a black mountain in his forward path, from which it was impossible to turn aside; to which every breath and every step drew him nearer and nearer. That the first time he caught a glimpse of this awful phantom in the future was while he and Oswald were still boys. He had been provoked and exasperated to delirious fury by his playmate, and, in his madness, had struck and tried to kill him. The reaction from that fit of passion had been terrible. The next occasion upon which arose darkly before him this inevitable doom, was when his master and himself were youths. One night he was driving Oswald home; both were intoxicated; they had fallen out, and he threatened him with the lash; he lost his reason, and his very eyesight, and all his senses, in a dark tempest of passion; he had raised and bled fury, and struck with all his strength to destroy. By Heaven's mercy that blow was not fatal. But the recovery of his own senses from that paroxysm of madness was horrible than any thing he had ever before experienced. From that time he had never been able to exercise the human prerogative that black phantom, standing waiting for him at every threshold, and his earthly path, "from which he could not escape; to which every breath and every step drew him more and more near!" Since that time he had felt that in some baleful moment of extreme exasperation, some irresponsible moment of frenzy and blind passion, he should strike a fatal blow. Yet he said he promised in soul to escape that black crime; he struggled to conquer his angry passions; he sought the grace of God, and hoped that he had possessed it; he swore off from alcohol, that stimulus might not be added to his other excitements to anger—to the inevitable provocations arising from his peculiar position, and the circumstances—provocations that were constantly exasperating his soul to madness. For years, he said, he had lived in fear and trembling the desperate war his spirit had waged with the powers of evil within and around him, and waged successfully, until one trying season, when, in his weakness, exhausted by sickness and despondency, he had been tempted to place again the maddening glass to his lips—tempted by the spirits that prescribed the moral poison as a medicine; then he lost the battle, and at last the power of self-control, and one fatal day, when amazed and bewildered with exceeding pain, and stung to the quick with the sense of wrong suffering and cruelty, he had struck the blow that laid his oppressor dead before him.

"Yes, my friends I was not thinking of doing it; in my deep sorrow of the preceding days, the phantom of my predestined crime was excised. I had not time to think of it, when the hour was entirely unguarded. I struck in self-defence. He had intercepted and knocked me down, to prevent me from going to see my sick wife. Blind and dizzy, I had fallen, and clung to my feet, and seized the first weapon that offered—a three-legged stool—and struck with all my strength. I had not seen the leg crash through his eye and brain, one lightning flash told me that he was killed, and thenceforth all the world was against me, and I, as it were, against the world; and then waves of blood and clouds of fire seemed to roll up around me, and rage in a horrible tempest—raged fed utterly, and I knew nothing more until near midnight, when I came to myself upon the floor of the bedroom; and even then, in my vague remorse and horror of half-conscious blood-guiltiness, I seemed to be pursued by a fiend, or than myself—perhaps some lost soul in perdition! Brother Elisha, Heaven bless him, was bending over me. It was to him I owed the preservation of my life. It was he who concealed and succoured me. I disguised myself in poor Fannie's clothing, which fitted me well enough for the purpose. He even cropped and pulled my hair, and tied up my head in a woman's turban. He shaved and thrust Fannie's free papers in my bosom, and then led me off to his own home. Well, he was generous, and by keeping secrecy, he contrived to elude the vigilance of the police, until a surer place of safety was provided for me near this cabin. For eighteen months, I have eluded the police; but think you, my brothers and sisters, that, *for one moment*, I have escaped the avenger of blood? No! no! After the crime, he fled, and even in the first moments of my waking consciousness, my soul has never been relaxed from my heart; it commesses now, even to suffocation; the death that you would wish to save me from, I die every hour my life; I can bear it no longer; I must die once for all, and have done with it; I should have rushed myself into the hands of the law, and, in the final expiation, long since found peace, but for Fannie's grief and terror. But now, even her tears and prayers must not hinder me; even for her sake, I must; I have kept it from myself up to die, and have it over, for now she lives in the midst of alarms; hereafter, when all is over she will at least hear, quiet.

"Quiet! quiet! Oh, Fannie, for I never can outlive you Valley!" said Fannie in a low tone of despair. He laid his hand fondly on her bowed head, but, without comment, resumed his discourse.

"I was about to surrender to the public authorities, when I reflected that, by giving myself up to the authorities of the church, I might confer the blessing of freedom upon some one among you, since that was one of the rewards offered for my arrest. Here I am! Which of you will claim the reward? Which of you?

He paused a moment, looking around upon the little assembly; and then fixing his eyes upon a large yellow bushes the cabin door, upon man, to whom the gift of freedom would seem the most desirable of goods, he said—well

"Brother Joseph, will you take me into custody?"

"May the enemy of souls take me in custody, and never let me go, when I do!" promptly replied young Joe.

"That's you, my boy! And may the same fate befall any one else who would do the like!" exclaimed old Elisha, emphatically.

A murmur of approbation ran around the little assembly, and revealed the fact that the feelings of the majority were with the speakers.

"Brother Valley! You think yourself a very guilty man, though we don't think so, all things considered! *But*, no one ever craved freedom more than you did, and yet you *know* you would never of bought your freedom at the price of any man's life, no matter how far you felt his life might be! An' now, Brudder Valley, please don't think me so much wse than yourself!"

When the little assembly heard this, with one voice (and one exception) they declared that they would die before they would betray Valentine. And Elisha, to confirm their faith, went around with the Bible in his hand, and administered to each an oath of fidelity and alliance upon the subject of Valentine and the transaction of that night. But when he came to old Portiphar, the latter declared that he had a scruple against taking an oath on the Evangelists, but readily gave his promise to be secret. Valentine, with grateful but troubled looks, regarded these proceedings, until Phædra and Fannie, taking advantage of the popular sentiment, came to him, and, one on each side, seizing his hands, besought him, for their sakes, not to cast away his slender chance of safety. What was to be done? Love was almost irresistible, and life pleasant, and it was very sweet; he had come to the resolution to deliver himself up to justice; but that could be done at any time; and for the present it could be deferred; he embraced his mother and his wife, and bade them rest quietly, as he should proceed no farther in the matter now. The hour was soon after broke up. One by one the members of the little community took leave of Valentine, promising to guard his secret, and remember him in their prayers. After all the others had departed, old Portiphar still lingered. And when the room was quite empty, he called Valentine to the door and said—

"Brudder Valley, I'se a poor man, wid a family o' children, an' so be you's 'termin' on gibbin o' yourself up, I wouldn' min' walkin' fur to shove you on myse' f."

"Thank you, Portiphar, I will inform you when I need your services. Good night," replied the young man, shutting the door upon him.

Portiphar had not proceeded half a dozen steps on his way, before he felt himself seized by the shoulder, and he recognized in his assailant the strapping negro, young Joe, who, holding him tightly, said—

"Sa! how you dare! Yes! I thought what you was up to; so I stopped to give this 'vice! Br' Valley's took up, we shall all know who slipped the bloodhounds on him, an' then some dark night, somebody will jump out an' he hidden, you wont never know what hurt you! Taint only me! but a great many more is a watchin' you!"

And with this brief and pithy exordium, Joe released Portiphar, or rather spurned him forward, and went his own way. This threat put the old man in a cold sweat. He had felt the strong fellow-feeling among his own class; that, even in the dangerous secrets of the prison, and in the very Valentine's secret; that he himself was suspected as a traitor; that, if Valentine should now be arrested, his own life might not be safe, with those of the meeting who were so well prepared to swear against him, and he resolved to guide himself accordingly.

Several weeks passed, in safety, to the wretched young man. He, released from the awful solitude and silence of his own dark and burdened soul, free to come among a few of his fellow-creatures, free to speak of the deep sorrow and remorse that constantly lay heavy upon his heart, among those who pitied and shrank not from him, who prayed for and with him, Valentine's mind became more and more healthy tone; he did not cease to mourn his crime, but he mourned no longer as one without hope; he was again received into the little brotherhood of the church, the single unanimous being performed in the lone cabin; again he became the man of fervent prayer and eloquent exhortation; and powerful, for more powerful, was he now, through his terrible experience and profound humiliation. Yet he was conscious of a change in his feelings. He felt a horrible tempest, raging within him, and he was constantly exasperated by the opposition, and prescribed the moral poison as a medicine; then he lost the battle, and at last the power of self-control, and one fatal day, when amazed and bewildered with exceeding pain, and stung to the quick with the sense of wrong suffering and cruelty, he had struck the blow that laid his oppressor dead before him.

"Yes, my friends I was not thinking of doing it; in my deep sorrow of the preceding days, the phantom of my predestined crime was excised. I had not time to think of it, when the hour was entirely unguarded. I struck in self-defence. He had intercepted and knocked me down, to prevent me from going to see my sick wife. Blind and dizzy, I had fallen, and clung to my feet, and seized the first weapon that offered—a three-legged stool—and struck with all my strength. I had not seen the leg crash through his eye and brain, one lightning flash told me that he was killed, and thenceforth all the world was against me, and I, as it were, against the world; and then waves of blood and clouds of fire seemed to roll up around me, and rage in a horrible tempest—raged fed utterly, and I knew nothing more until near midnight, when I came to myself upon the floor of the bedroom; and even then, in my vague remorse and horror of half-conscious blood-guiltiness, I seemed to be pursued by a fiend, or than myself—perhaps some lost soul in perdition! Brother Elisha, Heaven bless him, was bending over me. It was to him I owed the preservation of my life. It was he who concealed and succoured me. I disguised myself in poor Fannie's clothing, which fitted me well enough for the purpose. He even cropped and pulled my hair, and tied up my head in a woman's turban. He shaved and thrust Fannie's free papers in my bosom, and then led me off to his own home. Well, he was generous, and by keeping secrecy, he contrived to elude the vigilance of the police, until a surer place of safety was provided for me near this cabin. For eighteen months, I have eluded the police; but think you, my brothers and sisters, that, *for one moment*, I have escaped the avenger of blood? No! no! After the crime, he fled—he even in the first moments of my waking consciousness; my soul has never been relaxed from my heart; it commesses now, even to suffocation; the death that you would wish to save me from, I die every hour my life; I can bear it no longer; I must die once for all, and have done with it; I should have rushed myself into the hands of the law, and, in the final expiation, long since found peace, but for Fannie's grief and terror. But now, even her tears and prayers must not hinder me; even for her sake, I must; I have kept it from myself up to die, and have it over, for now she lives in the midst of alarms; hereafter, when all is over she will at least hear, quiet.

"Quiet! quiet! Oh, Fannie, for I never can outlive you Valley!" said Fannie in a low tone of despair. He laid his hand fondly on her bowed head, but, without comment, resumed his discourse.

"I was about to surrender to the public authorities, when I reflected that, by giving myself up to the authorities of the church, I might confer the blessing of freedom upon some one among you, since that was one of the rewards offered for my arrest. Here I am! Which of you will claim the reward? Which of you?

He paused a moment, looking around upon the little assembly; and then fixing his eyes upon a large yellow bushes the cabin door, upon man, to whom the gift of freedom would seem the most desirable of goods, he said—well

"Brother Joseph, will you take me into custody?"

"May the enemy of souls take me in custody, and never let me go, when I do!" promptly replied young Joe.

"That's you, my boy! And may the same fate befall any one else who would do the like!" exclaimed old Elisha, emphatically.

A murmur of approbation ran around the little assembly, and revealed the fact that the feelings of the majority were with the speakers.

"Brother Valley! You think yourself a very guilty man, though we don't think so, all things considered! *But*, no one ever craved freedom more than you did, and yet you *know* you would never of bought your freedom at the price of any man's life, no matter how far you felt his life might be! An' now, Brudder Valley, please don't think me so much wse than yourself!"

When the little assembly heard this, with one voice (and one exception) they declared that they would die before they would betray Valentine. And Elisha, to confirm their faith, went around with the Bible in his hand, and administered to each an oath of fidelity and alliance upon the subject of Valentine and the transaction of that night. But when he came to old Portiphar, the latter declared that he had a scruple against taking an oath on the Evangelists, but readily gave his promise to be secret. Valentine, with grateful but troubled looks, regarded these proceedings, until Phædra and Fannie, taking advantage of the popular sentiment, came to him, and, one on each side, seizing his hands, besought him, for their sakes, not to cast away his slender chance of safety. What was to be done? Love was almost irresistible, and life pleasant, and it was very sweet; he had come to the resolution to deliver himself up to justice; but that could be done at any time; and for the present it could be deferred; he embraced his mother and his wife, and bade them rest quietly, as he should proceed no farther in the matter now. The hour was soon after broke up. One by one the members of the little community took leave of Valentine, promising to guard his secret, and remember him in their prayers. After all the others had departed, old Portiphar still lingered. And when the room was quite empty, he called Valentine to the door and said—

"Brudder Valley, I'se a poor man, wid a family o' children, an' so be you's 'termin' on gibbin o' yourself up, I wouldn' min' walkin' fur to shove you on myse' f."

"Thank you, Portiphar, I will inform you when I need your services. Good night," replied the young man, shutting the door upon him.

Portiphar had not proceeded half a dozen steps on his way, before he felt himself seized by the shoulder, and he recognized in his assailant the strapping negro, young Joe, who, holding him tightly, said—

"Sa! how you dare! Yes! I thought what you was up to; so I stopped to give this 'vice! Br' Valley's took up, we shall all know who slipped the bloodhounds on him, an' then some dark night, somebody will jump out an' he hidden, you wont never know what hurt you! Taint only me! but a great many more is a watchin' you!"

And with this brief and pithy exordium, Joe released Portiphar, or rather spurned him forward, and went his own way. This threat put the old man in a cold sweat. He had felt the strong fellow-feeling among his own class; that, even in the dangerous secrets of the prison, and in the very Valentine's secret; that he himself was suspected as a traitor; that, if Valentine should now be arrested, his own life might not be safe, with those of the meeting who were so well prepared to swear against him, and he resolved to guide himself accordingly.

Several weeks passed, in safety, to the wretched young man. He, released from the awful solitude and silence of his own dark and burdened soul, free to come among a few of his fellow-creatures, free to speak of the deep sorrow and remorse that constantly lay heavy upon his heart, among those who pitied and shrank not from him, who prayed for and with him, Valentine's mind became more and more healthy tone; he did not cease to mourn his crime, but he mourned no longer as one without hope; he was again received into the little brotherhood of the church, the single unanimous being performed in the lone cabin; again he became the man of fervent prayer and eloquent exhortation; and powerful, for more powerful, was he now, through his terrible experience and profound humiliation. Yet he was conscious of a change in his feelings. He felt a horrible tempest, raging within him, and he was constantly exasperated by the opposition, and prescribed the moral poison as a medicine; then he lost the battle, and at last the power of self-control, and one fatal day, when amazed and bewildered with exceeding pain, and stung to the quick with the sense of wrong suffering and cruelty, he had struck the blow that laid his oppressor dead before him.

"Yes, my friends I was not thinking of doing it; in my deep sorrow of the preceding days, the phantom of my predestined crime was excised. I had not time to think of it, when the hour was entirely unguarded. I struck in self-defence. He had intercepted and knocked me down, to prevent me from going to see my sick wife. Blind and dizzy, I had fallen, and clung to my feet, and seized the first weapon that offered—a three-legged stool—and struck with all my strength. I had not seen the leg crash through his eye and brain, one lightning flash told me that he was killed, and thenceforth all the world was against me, and I, as it were, against the world; and then waves of blood and clouds of fire seemed to roll up around me, and rage in a horrible tempest—raged fed utterly, and I knew nothing more until near midnight, when I came to myself upon the floor of the bedroom; and even then, in my vague remorse and horror of half-conscious blood-guiltiness, I seemed to be pursued by a fiend, or than myself—perhaps some lost soul in perdition! Brother Elisha, Heaven bless him, was bending over me. It was to him I owed the preservation of my life. It was he who concealed and succoured me. I disguised myself in poor Fannie's clothing, which fitted me well enough for the purpose. He even cropped and pulled my hair, and tied up my head in a woman's turban. He shaved and thrust Fannie's free papers in my bosom, and then led me off to his own home. Well, he was generous, and by keeping secrecy, he contrived to elude the vigilance of the police, until a surer place of safety was provided for me near this cabin. For eighteen months, I have eluded the police; but think you, my brothers and sisters, that, *for one moment*, I have escaped the avenger of blood? No! no! After the crime, he fled—he even in the first moments of my waking consciousness; my soul has never been relaxed from my heart; it commesses now, even to suffocation; the death that you would wish to save me from, I die every hour my life; I can bear it no longer; I must die once for all, and have done with it; I should have rushed myself into the hands of the law, and, in the final expiation, long since found peace, but for Fannie's grief and terror. But now, even her tears and prayers must not hinder me; even for her sake, I must; I have kept it from myself up to die, and have it over, for now she lives in the midst of alarms; hereafter, when all is over she will at least hear, quiet.

"Quiet! quiet! Oh, Fannie, for I never can outlive you Valley!" said Fannie in a low tone of despair. He laid his hand fondly on her bowed head, but, without comment, resumed his discourse.

"I was about to surrender to the public authorities, when I reflected that, by giving myself up to the authorities of the church, I might confer the blessing of freedom upon some one among you, since that was one of the rewards offered for my arrest. Here I am! Which of you will claim the reward? Which of you?

He paused a moment, looking around upon the little assembly; and then fixing his eyes upon a large yellow bushes the cabin door, upon man, to whom the gift of freedom would seem the most desirable of goods, he said—well

"Brother Joseph, will you take me into custody?"

"May the enemy of souls take me in custody, and never let me go, when I do!" promptly replied young Joe.

"That's you, my boy! And may the same fate befall any one else who would do the like!" exclaimed old Elisha, emphatically.

A murmur of approbation ran around the little assembly, and revealed the fact that the feelings of the majority were with the speakers.

"Brother Valley! You think yourself a very guilty man, though we don't think so, all things considered! *But*, no one ever craved freedom more than you did, and yet you *know* you would never of bought your freedom at the price of any man's life, no matter how far you felt his life might be! An' now, Brudder Valley, please don't think me so much wse than yourself!"

When the little assembly heard this, with one voice (and one exception) they declared that they would die before they would betray Valentine. And Elisha, to confirm their faith, went around with the Bible in his hand, and administered to each an oath of fidelity and alliance upon the subject of Valentine and the transaction of that night. But when he came to old Portiphar, the latter declared that he had a scruple against taking an oath on the Evangelists, but readily gave his promise to be secret. Valentine, with grateful but troubled looks, regarded these proceedings, until Phædra and Fannie, taking advantage of the popular sentiment, came to him, and, one on each side, seizing his hands, besought him, for their sakes, not to cast away his slender chance of safety. What was to be done? Love was almost irresistible, and life pleasant, and it was very sweet; he had come to the resolution to deliver

* I use here the precise words of the unhappy man, as they were repeated to me.

CENTRAL HOTEL,

CORNER OF 7TH STREET AND PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE,

WASHINGTON, D. C.

THIS HOTEL, WITH ITS ADDITIONS, IS NOW ONE OF THE LARGEST HOTELS IN WASHINGTON, AND HAS B

on the State of the Order, appointed by the President of the State Council, beg leave to submit the following minority report:

We recognize the National Council as the paramount authority of the American Order, and deem a refusal to support candidates nominated by a Convention assembled in accordance with its rules a virtual abandonment of our organization.

The solemn obligations which the majority of our Order have thus trampled underfoot, in the light of the Anti-Slavery excitement, resulting from the passage of the Nebraska bill, to maintain, as pre-eminent in importance, the principles of the American Order, have, not, in our opinion, cast any of their force by the present juncture of affairs. The question of Slavery extension (which day found its advocates, prior to an impending danger, from the fact that the operation of the laws of population and of nature render it improbable that any of the Territory of the United States will be so adjusted to the evils of that institution. We therefore can never consent to become absorbed by a party which professes to have only that one object, and which repudiates in one breath, the principles, in another, the principles of the American party.

We continue to maintain the opinion that the restoration of the Missouri Compromise would be a proper vindication of national faith, and not inconsistent with the rights of either section, North or South; and if that issue is now impracticable, it is to be laid at the door of the treacherous desertion of the pretended devotees of Freedom.

We cannot sanction the course of that portion of our delegates who seceded from the American National Convention, nor can we become parties to the constructing of a merely sectional organization, and therefore recommend to the members of the American Order, that they preserve it in its full integrity and its entire nationality, and support the nomination of Millard Fillmore for President, and Andrew Jackson Donelson for Vice President of the United States. E. P. Norris,

Dan. McFarland.

Upon the adoption of the majority report, Dr. Wright, of Cincinnati, claimed that the nationality of the American party was destroyed, and asked that his name and Mr. Sharar given up to the minority, which motion was laughed down.

A resolution was then offered, thanking the delegates who had refused to attend the Philadelphia Convention and repudiated the nominations and the platform. Pending this, Mr. Wake, of Cincinnati, rose and said, announcing the name who had voted for the majority report on the conclusion of which, the resolution was adopted, and the Hamilton County Delegation withdrew from the Hall.

The Anti-Fillmore men remained. Governor Ford was called upon, and spoke substantially as follows:

Governor Ford's Speech.

Gentlemen of the Convention: I cannot let this opportunity pass without expressing my heartfelt gratitude for the noble manner in which I have been sustained in this Convention. If by a combination of circumstances unsought by myself, I have been placed in the front rank in this great fight for Freedom and the Rights of Man, I feel that I ought to be thus sustained by the independent freemen of Ohio in Convention assembled.

Many charges have been brought against me in the Nebraska fight. I have heard and defended me, for which you have my thanks.

I have been charged with favoring a dissolution of the Union. I deny the charge in entire.

It have been educated in sentiments of reverence for the Union. I have been taught to consider it as essential to our happiness. This feeling I carry with me to my grave. I think God I have a stronger feeling—'tis this, I love Freedom more than I do this Union.

Much as I love this Union, I would sacrifice it rather than see Freedom in this great country of ours Slavery should be the rule, Freedom but the exception. I have said, and take this occasion to repeat, that I would rather be consent that the curse of human chatteldom should be taken into Kansas and Nebraska, I would prefer to see the political elements crumble into dissolution, however, I would not, I think I did I have a stronger feeling—'tis this, I love Freedom more than I do this Union.

Much as I love this Union, I would sacrifice it rather than see Freedom in this great country of ours Slavery should be the rule, Freedom but the exception. I have said, and take this occasion to repeat, that I would rather be consent that the curse of human chatteldom should be taken into Kansas and Nebraska, I would prefer to see the political elements crumble into dissolution, however, I would not, I think God I have a stronger feeling—'tis this, I love Freedom more than I do this Union.

Such

THIRTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

First Session.

Wednesday, March 26, 1856.

SENATE.

Mr. Benjamin then submitted the following resolution, and gave notice that he would call it up when the report of the Committee on Printing came to be considered:

Resolved, That the Committee on Printing be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing by law that no member or member-elect of documents, reports, or other matter, be printed, than may be required by either branch of Congress in the performance of its legislative and executive duties, and that by virtue of a joint resolution of both Houses, ordering the printing of an extra number of copies.

On motion by Mr. Bayard,

Resolved, That the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads be instructed to inquire into the expediency of discontinuing to the members of Congress their franking privilege, and that in lieu thereof they may be allowed dollars, to enable them to transmit through the mail such letters, communications, papers, and packages, as they may desire.

Resolved, That the said committee, should they think proper, be authorized to report a bill regulating the mode of postage on the papers and packages aforesaid.

Mr. Hunter moved to postpone all prior business, with a view to take up the bill to supply the deficiencies for the year ending June 30th, 1856; which was agreed to.

The amendment pending was that of Mr. Bayard, "for finishing the portico extension of the wings of the Patent Office building, to pay the reservations due, put up iron railing, and lay down the necessary flagging and pavements, $100,000.

The question having been taken, it was decided in the affirmative, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Bayard, Bell of New Hampshire, Bell of Tennessee, Benjamin, Clayton, Collamer, Crittenden, Durkee, Fessenden, Fish, Foot, Foster, Geyer, Hale, Jones of Iowa, Malory, Pratt, Seward, Shield, Sumner, Thomson of New Jersey, Trumbull, and Weller—24.

NAYS—Messrs. Adams, Biggs, Bigler, Bright, Butler, Cass, Fitzpatrick, Hamlin, Hunter, Iverson, Johnson of Georgia, Kusk, Sebastian, Slidell, Toucey, and Wade—17.

The bill was then reported to the Senate, and the amendment made to it.

Mr. Pratt then renewed his amendment to provide for the repair of the Navy Yard and Eastern Branch bridges.

The bill was then read a third time, and on the question, "Shall the bill pass?" it was agreed to—yeas 23, nays 11.

The Senate then resumed the consideration of Executive business, and after a brief period spent therein, adjourned.

HOUSE.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill of the Senate relating to punishment in the penitentiary, the question being on the motion of Mr. H. Marshall, of Kentucky, to add to the bill the following proviso:

Provided, That if the use of a penitentiary shall be refused in any State, it shall be the duty of the marshal to execute the sentence of the court by confining the prisoner in the nearest penitentiary the use of which shall be granted for the purpose.

Mr. Morrison, of Indiana, moved to amend the amendment by adding thereto the following:

Provided, further, That in all cases where a prison of any State has heretofore been used with the consent of the State, for the imprisonment of any person convicted in any court of the United States, no proceeding of any State officer other than the Governor or the Legislature of the State shall be construed to be a refusal of the State to allow the use of her prisons for such imprisonment.

Mr. Orr, of South Carolina, moved that the bill and amendments be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary; which motion did not prevail—yeas 71, nays 84.

The question was then taken on the amendment of Mr. Barbour, and it was decided in the negative—yeas 71, nays 81.

The question was then put on the amendment of Mr. Marshall, it was put, and also decided in the negative—yeas 66, nays 90.

The bill was then read the third and passed.

The House then resumed the consideration of the bill defining the rights of voters and the duties of commissioners of elections in the city of Washington, and for other purposes, the question being on seconding the demand for the previous question.

The question was then taken, and the previous question was seconded—yeas 67, nays 65.

The question then being on ordering the main question to be now put, the yeas and nays were demanded and ordered, and being taken, resulted—yeas 73, nays 83. So the House refused to order the main question.

After a discussion on points of order, the House adjourned.

Thursday, March 27, 1856.

SENATE.

Mr. Fitzpatrick called up for consideration the report from the Committee on Printing, on the Committee on Printing, on a resolution, introduced by Mr. Weller, for the printing of 5,000 additional copies of the report of the Committee on Mines and Mining, on the subject of the presentation of a sword to Colonel Benjamin S. Roberts.

Mr. F. had obtained an estimate of the cost, which would be found trifling. The cost for 1,000 copies would be $45.77, and an additional sum of $19.73 for each 1,000 after the first. The whole cost of the 5,000 would amount to $124.85.

Mr. Rusk called the attention of the chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs to the fact that the order of the Senate had not been appended to the report, which he considered necessary to a proper understanding of the subject.

Mr. Weller was aware of the fact, but the committee was afraid that it would be increasing the expense to too great an extent. It was certainly proper that the report should be better understood with the diagram alluded to; and if the Senator from Texas desired to have it appended, Mr. W. would interpose no objection.

Mr. Fessenden differed with his colleague on the Committee on Printing, as to the propriety of printing more than the usual number, considering it a matter of such great public interest as to warrant a departure from a course that was understood heretofore would be pursued. It is true the usual number would be sufficient for most but the question was, should they print a document, simply because the amount was small, which they were not willing to print if it were large? He thought that an understanding was entered into, that they were not to print extra numbers of documents, unless of great public interest. Such a document was of interest to many officers, he admitted, and might also be so in a historical point of view; but whether it was of such importance as to warrant a departure from the understanding entered into by the Senate to say. Individually, he cared nothing about it; but if they were going to begin a system, they might as well understand it now. Besides, the document had already been printed for the use of the Senate.

Mr. Rusk thought they had better wait, and strike at before they go far. The subject involved in doubt, he thought the document ought to be printed, and with it the diagram, so that all understand what it is.

Mr. Fitzpatrick observed that it was true that the usual number of the document had already been printed, but the subject was one of great interest to officers of the army and their friends. It treated of one of the most thrilling incidents of the war with Mexico, and could not fail to be of interest to the whole country; and certainly the amount required to print it could not very seriously embarrass the Treasury. It would settle a disputed fact, and vindicate an honorable officer.

Mr. Weller conceived it an act of justice to disseminate the report, as the officers of the army were all more or less interested in the facts, which had been satisfactorily determined by the report. He thought a sufficient number should be printed for the use of the officers and their friends.

Mr. Cass spoke of disputed facts about battles in all wars, from the Revolution down, and considered the subject better fitted for the peopl of the United States than for Congress.

Mr. Adams stated the reason for the vote he would give, which was understood to be that he had prescribed for himself a rule not to vote for any document not imperiously called for as a public benefit.

The question was then taken on agreeing to the report, and it was decided in the negative, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Brown, Dodge, Evans, Fitzpatrick, Houston, Jones of Iowa, Rusk, Seward, Toucey, and Weller—10.

NAYS—Messrs. Adams, Bell of New Hampshire, Bell of Tennessee, Biggs, Bright, Brodhead, Cass, Clayton, Collamer, Durkee, Fessenden, Fish, Foot, Foster, Geyer, Hamlin, Harlan, Hunter, Iverson, Pugh, Reed, Sebastian, Slidell, Stuart, Sumner, Trumbull, and Wade—27.

Mr. Hunter called up the bill from the House, making appropriations for invalid and other pensions.

Mr. H. explained that the bill was precisely the same as one which had been before passed by the Senate, and expressed the opinion that it could not lead to debate. The House, instead of acting on the bill sent from the Senate, had substituted a bill of its own, which was a literal transcript of the Senate's bill.

After one or two amendments, the bill was passed.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the bill for the admission of Kansas into the Union, and the proposed amendment offered by Mr. Collamer.

Mr. Collamer said, however anxious he might be to have the subject disposed of, such was the condition of his throat and lungs that it would be impossible for him to speak to-day, and therefore he would not be in the way of the Senator from Georgia.

Mr. Stephens, of Georgia, that if the Senator from Vermont [Mr. Collamer] was too much indisposed to proceed, the Senator from Iowa [Mr. Harlan] desired to address the Senate on the subject of Kansas matters, and was ready to go on with the debate.

Mr. Harlan addressed the Senate, at great length, against the report of the majority on the bill to admit Kansas.

Mr. Butler replied, and the further consideration of the subject was postponed until Thursday next.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of Executive business, and after some time spent therein, the doors were reopened.

Mr. Pratt submitted the following resolution, which was considered, and agreed to.

Resolved, That the President be requested to communicate any additional documents in his possession, or possession of either of the Departments, relating to the condition of affairs in Kansas Territory, including the Legislative journals, Executive minutes, and the returns of census that may have been taken.

And the Senate adjourned to Monday.

HOUSE.

On motion of Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, the bill to supply deficiencies in the appropriations for the service of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1857, returned from the Senate with amendments, was taken from the Speaker's table, and referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

The House then resumed the consideration of the bill defining the rights of voters and the duties of commissioners of elections in the city of Washington, and for other purposes, the question being on the appeal of Mr. Orr, of South Carolina, from the decision of the Chair entertaining the motion of Mr. Chaffee, of Massachusetts, to reconsider the vote seconding the demand for the previous question.

Mr. Orr, of South Carolina, contended, that as the decision of the Chair was in opposition to what he conceived to have been the uniform practice of the House, and would likely become a precedent for the present Congress, he would ask for the yeas and nays on the question, "Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the judgment of the House?"

The yeas and nays were ordered, and being taken, resulted—yeas 106, nays 42. So the decision of the Chair was sustained.

The question recurring on the motion to reconsider the vote seconding the demand for the previous question, various motions were made and questions of order raised, when, at 1 o'clock, Mr. Letcher, of Virginia, moved that the motion to reconsider be laid on the table; which motion was carried by the casting vote of the Speaker—yeas 82, nays 82.

The question was then taken on the motion to reconsider, and it was decided in the negative—yeas 71, nays 85.

The question recurring, "Shall the main question be now put?"—

Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, moved that the whole subject lie on the table; which motion was disagreed to—yeas 76, nays 93.

The main question was then ordered to be put—yeas 95, nays 64.

The question was accordingly stated to be on the motion heretofore submitted by Mr. Meacham, of Vermont, to recommit the bill to the Committee on the Judiciary, with instructions made for the purpose of keeping the subject before the House.

Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, then severally moved that the bill be laid on the table, postponed indefinitely, and postponed until the 3 day of March, 1857; all of which motions the Chair ruled out of order at the present stage of the bill.

Mr. Campbell, of Pennsylvania, moved that the House adjourn; which motion did not prevail.

The motion to recommit was then disagreed to—yeas 76, nays 81.

The main question was then carried on the amendment of Mr. H. Marshall, of Kentucky, requiring, as one of the qualifications of a voter in this city, that he shall have been a citizen of the United States one year at the time he offers to vote.

Here motion after motion was made to adjourn, and that when the House adjourn to-day it adjourn to meet on Monday next; but each motion was withdrawn, as the yeas and nays were ordered upon it.

Mr. McCarty, of New York, moved to reconsider the vote by which the House refused to recommit the bill.

Mr. Jones, of Tennessee, moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table.

Mr. Washburne, of Illinois, moved that when the House adjourn to-day, it adjourn to meet on Monday next; which motion was negatived—yeas 90, nays 105.

Mr. Sage, of New York, moved that the House adjourn; which motion was not agreed to—yeas 55, nays 74.

Mr. Hibbard, of New York, moved that when the House adjourn, it adjourn to meet on Saturday next; which motion did not prevail.

Mr. Sage, of New York, moved that the House adjourn; which motion was agreed to—yeas 49, nays 72.

The question recurred on the motion of Mr. Jones, of Tennessee, to lay on the table the motion of Mr. McCarty.

Mr. Edwards moved that the House adjourn; which motion was not agreed to—yeas 25, nays 64.

Mr. Hibbard, of New York, moved that when the House adjourn, it adjourn to meet on Saturday next; which motion did not prevail.

Mr. Sage, of New York, moved that the House adjourn; which motion was carried—yeas 49, nays 72.

The question recurred on the motion of Mr. Jones, of Tennessee, to lay on the table the motion of Mr. McCarty.

Mr. Edwards moved that the House adjourn; which motion was not agreed to—yeas 25, nays 64.

No quorum having voted—

Mr. Greenwood, of Arkansas, desired to know if it would be in order to move a call of the House.

The Speaker replied, that the rules of the House precluded a call under existing circumstances.

Mr. Cobb, of Georgia, insisted that when the House found itself without a quorum, and those present refused to adjourn, they had the power to send for absentees. Formerly, it was called the House might have been different, but he thought that they ought to have this power under the Constitution, and exercise it. He hoped that vote exhibiting the fact that there was not a quorum of members present, and less than a quorum of the House having the power, under the Constitution, to compel the attendance of absent members, he moved that the Speaker direct the Sergeant-at-arms to summon and compel the attendance of absent members at the present session of the House.

The Speaker repeated, that under the rules a call of the House was not in order while the previous question was in operation. The House, acting under the authority of the Constitution, had fixed the rules by which it should be governed, and those rules precluded a call under existing circumstances. The motion of the gentleman was precluded by the 50th rule.

Mr. Cobb appealed from the decision of the Chair, in order that the House might decide the question whether they could compel the attendance of members, when a factious opposition obstructed the business of the House.

Many members sprang simultaneously to their feet, and denied that they were acting factiously.

The Speaker. It is a point of order for the gentleman from Georgia so to characterize the House.

Mr. Cobb. Is not the fact exhibited? I appeal to the Speaker if there is not a factious opposition to the business of the House? [Much confusion.]

Mr. Campbell, of Ohio. What do you mean by your charge?

Mr. Cobb. I charge factious opposition.

Mr. Sneed, of Tennessee. Who was factious yesterday evening?

Mr. Cobb. To what?

Mr. Florence. The charge is not against any member present, but Messrs. Dodge, Evans, Fitzgentlemen ought to have sense enough to know it.

The Speaker reminded gentlemen that debate was out of order, and insisted upon gentlemen taking their seats.

The order having been restored—

Mr. Ball, of Ohio, moved that the House adjourn; which motion was agreed to—yeas 49, nays 44—no quorum present.

And, at a quarter past five o'clock, the House adjourned.

Friday, March 28, 1856.

The Senate did not sit to-day.

HOUSE.

The House then resumed the consideration of the bill defining the rights of voters and the duties of commissioners of elections in the city of Washington, and for other purposes, the question being on the motion of Mr. Jones, of Tennessee, to lay on the table the motion of Mr. McCarty, of New York, to reconsider the vote by which the House refused to recommit the bill to the Committee for the District of Columbia.

The question was taken, and the motion of Mr. Jones, of Tennessee, was disagreed to—yeas 76, nays 77.

The motion to reconsider was then decided in the affirmative by the casting vote of the Speaker—yeas 81, nays 83.

The question recurring on the motion to recommit the bill, it was put, and decided in the affirmative by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Allison, Ball, Barbour, Benson, Bishop, Bradshaw, Brown, Buffington, Burlingame, Campbell of Pennsylvania, Campbell of Kentucky, Campbell of Ohio, Carlile, Clark of New York, Clark of Connecticut, Clawson, Colfax, Comins, Cox, Craigin, Cumback, Daniel, Davis of Maryland, Dick, Durfee, Edwards, Emrie, Etheridge, Fenton, Fletcher, Fowler, Gilbert, Hall of Massachusetts, Harlan, Harris of Maryland, Haven, Hoffman, Horton of Ohio, Kennett, King, Knight, Knowlton, Knox, Lake, H. Marshall, Humphrey Marshall, McCarty, Miller of New York, Millward, Moore, Norton, Parker, Pearce, Pelton, Pennington, Pettit, Price, Robbins, Ruggles, Sabin, Sapp, Scott, Ricaud, Ritchie, Robbins, Sabin, Sage, Sapp, Scott, Smith of Tennessee, Smith of Alabama, Sneed, Stanton, Tappan, Todd, Trafton, Tripp, Upham, Wade, Walbridge, Walker, Walley, Walker, Welch, Woodruff, Woodworth, and Zollicoffer—87.

NAYS—Messrs. Barclay, Bell, Bennett of Mississippi, Billinghurst, Bowie, Boyce, Branch, Brooks, Burnett, Cadwalader, Caruthers, Caskie, Clingman, Cobb of Georgia, Cobb of Alabama, Craige, Crawford, Davidson, Day, Denver, Dodd, Dowdell, Elliott, English, Faulkner, Florence, Fuller of Maine, Giddings, Goode, Greenwood, Grow, Hall of Iowa, Harris of Alabama, Harris of Illinois, Herbert, Horton of New York, Houston, Hughston, Jones of Tennessee, Jones of Pennsylvania, Keitt, Kelsey, Kidwell, Letcher, Lewis, Marshall of Illinois, Maxwell, McMullin, McQueen, Meacham, Miller of Indiana, Millson, Mott, Nichols, Oliver of New York, Peck, Phillips, Phillips, Powell, Quitman, Ruffin, Rust, Savage, Spinner, Stewart, Talbott, Vail, Wade, Warner, Washburne of Illinois, Watson, Wells, Winslow, and Wright of Tennessee—[illegible].

Mr. Smith, of Tennessee, (having voted in the affirmative for that purpose,) moved to reconsider the vote just taken.

Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, moved to lay the motion to reconsider on the table; which motion was agreed to—yeas 79, nays 78.

On motion of Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, the bill making appropriations for the payment of invalid and other pensions, returned from the Senate with amendments, was taken from the Speaker's table, and referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill making appropriations for certain civil expenses of the Government for the year ending June 30, 1857; and a bill making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government for the year ending June 30, 1857; which were severally read twice and committed.

Mr. Lane, of Oregon, from the Committee of Ways and Means, proceeded to make an explanation concerning the condition of affairs in that Territory. He had waited thus long in the hope of obtaining an opportunity to make a statement in lieu of notice of the House and country, and was glad that the time had come when he would be permitted to urge this matter upon the attention of the body.

The news received by the last arrival from Oregon and Washington was but a continuation of the previous announcement of murders and massacres of the most horrible description committed by the Indians inhabiting those distant regions. He might with truth say that nothing effective had been done by the Administration, notwithstanding they doubtless desired to afford the people that protection of which they were so much in need, and to which they were so clearly entitled. The troops which had been ordered there for the protection of the inhabitants, had failed to give that security which the people had a right to expect. Oregon and the Washington Territory the Indians had taken possession of the principal settlements, while their women and children were killed and robbed, and were still held by them. Thirty families had been tomahawked or led to the stake, and mothers had been compelled to stand by and see their children dashed against the rocks, and children, as the torch was applied to the fagots and the flames enveloped the victims.

In conclusion, he would urge the consent of the House to introduce and put upon its passage a bill appropriating $300,000 for suppressing Indian hostilities in the Territories of Washington and Oregon.

Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, would interpose no objection to the introduction of the bill for purpose of reference to the Committee of Ways and Means, but he could not give his consent to its now being put upon its passage.

Some conversation ensued, when the bill was read twice by its title, and referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. Walker, of Alabama, asked consent to submit the following resolution:

Resolved, That it is the judgment of this House it is not proper for the Kansas investigating Committee to proceed to that Territory and enter upon their inquiries until the Committee on the Judiciary shall report on the resolution offered by the gentleman from Alabama, [Mr. Walker,] instructing them to ascertain whether said investigating committee have authority to compel the attendance of witnesses and punish for contempt.

Objection was made.

The Speaker stated, as the business in order, the question of consideration of the bill making appropriations for the payment of certain claims, heretofore reported from the Court of Claims.

Mr. Jones, of Pennsylvania, being entitled to the floor, moved the previous question that the House adjourn. Pending which—

On motion, it was ordered that when the House adjourn to-day, it adjourn to meet on Monday next—yeas 68, nays 68.

And then, at twenty minutes past 3 o'clock, the House adjourned.

Monday, March 31, 1856.

SENATE.

Mr. Brown, from the committee on the District of Columbia, to which was referred the memorial of the Trustees of the Public Schools of Washington, asking a donation of city lots for educational purposes, submitted a report, accompanied by a bill for the benefit of public schools in the city of Washington.

Mr. Clayton presented the substance of a statement which he had made on a previous occasion, relative to the cost of the printing of Captain Wilkes's exploration. He had represented, (as was understood by the reporter,) on the authority of the Superintendent of Public Printing, that the amount would require nearly a million and a quarter of dollars, at which he was perfectly astounded, and that the report of Commodore Perry would amount to upwards of $21,000. He felt that very great injustice had been done to the Senate, and that the Senator all papers that might have published it to correct the same. He had received a letter from Capt. Wilkes, showing that the whole cost would be comprised in 1,000, 2,000, and going, at the same time, into details to show the accuracy of his estimate.

The Senate proceeded to the consideration of the resolutions, submitted by Mr. Iverson, the 29th of February last, in relation to the action of the Naval Board.

Mr. Iverson addressed the Senate at length, in relation to the injustice which, it seemed to be admitted on all hands, had been done, in many instances, to the dropped and disrated officers, by the Navy Board.

Mr. Slidell gave his views in detail in relation to the law under which the Board was organized, and defended its action, under the law, with much zeal.

Mr. Butler expressed the opinion that the Naval Board had not conformed strictly to the law under which it had been organized.

Mr. Clayton followed, desiring that any injustice had been done to the officers.

Mr. Crittenden addressed the Senate in an impressive speech, against the action of the Board.

Mr. Slidell made a brief response, touching an incidental remark.

Mr. Clayton, the floor again, and, after speaking some time, gave way, on solicitation, to a motion to adjourn.

And the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

Mr. Campbell, of Ohio, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported the bill making appropriations for the payment of invalid and other pensions of the United States for the year ending June 30, 1857, with the amendments of the Senate thereto, and recommended that the House non-concur in the said amendments.

The bill and amendments were committed.

Also, from the same committee, reported the deficiency bill, with the amendments of the Senate thereto, and recommended that the House concur in some of the said amendments, non-concur in others, and concur in others with amendments.

The bill and amendments were committed.

Also, from the same committee, to which was referred the bill appropriating $300,000 for the suppression of Indian hostilities in the Territories of Oregon and Washington, reported the same with an amendment in the nature of a substitute, the effect of which was that at an early hour of the day he should ask the consideration of the subject.

Also, from the same committee, reported a resolution making the Indian appropriation bill, the bill making appropriations for the consular and diplomatic expenses of the Government, the army bill, the fortification bill, the bill making appropriations for the legislative, executive, and judicial expenses of the Government, the naval bill, and the bill making appropriations for certain civil expenses of the Government, the special order of the day for Tuesday, April 15, at one o'clock, to be considered to the exclusion of all other questions the special order at the same hour for every day thereafter (Mondays, Fridays, and Saturdays, excepted) until they shall have been disposed of.

The resolution was agreed to.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, [Mr. Mace, of Indiana, in the chair,] and proceeded to consider the bill appropriating $300,000 for the suppression of Indian hostilities in the Territories of Oregon and Washington, the question being on the substitute reported therefor by the Committee of Ways and Means.

The substitute proposes to appropriates $300,000, to be expended under the direction of the President, for restoring and maintaining the peaceable disposition of the Indian tribes in those Territories; and also makes an appropriation of $120,000 for the purchase of gunpowder for the Pacific coast.

A debate of great length ensued.

Mr. Lane, of Oregon, in the course of the discussion, earnestly defended the people of that Territory from the charges that had been made against them. The war, he had ascertained, had been commenced by the Indians, without any insignation whatever on the part of the whites. He entered into a history of the present difficulties, and of the unendurable passage of the bill, as necessary for the safety of the inhabitants of the Territories of Oregon and Washington. He pressed it as a measure of peace.

Mr. Anderson, of Washington Territory, also contended that the war had been commenced by the Indians, without any provocation on the part of the white settlers, and trusted that these appropriations would be made speedily.

Before the question came to be on the substitute, the Committee found itself compelled to rise, for want of a quorum.

And then, at a quarter past five o'clock, the House adjourned.

FOUR DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

Boston, March 27.—The Cunard propeller steamer Arnova arrived here late last night, with Liverpool dates to the 19th inst.

The political news is of little importance. The Peace Congress was holding daily sessions, but nothing of its proceedings had transpired.

Advices from Spain state that all parties are in a state of neutrality. Fifty thousand British troops were reviewed at Balaklava on the 5th inst. The Russian fleet in the Sebastopol were blown up on the 28th of February.

Constantinople advices of the 28th ultimo state that an Austrian courier had arrived there, with dispatches from the Austrian Principalities.

A financial crisis had occurred at Constantinople. Exchange on London had risen to 137, and on Vienna to 140. The Bank of Turkey stering rated at 140. The Minister of Finance had appealed to the merchants, inviting them to devise a remedy.

The river Danube was again open for navigation, and Lloyd's steamers had commenced running.

An order to suspend hostilities in Asia had been forwarded to Omer and Selim Pashas.

Advices from Norway announce a serious conflagration at Christiania. Twenty commercial houses had suspended in Bergen alone.

Prince Jerome Bonaparte had been dangerously ill, but was convalescent.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS.

Liverpool, March 12.—Cotton is quiet, but less firm. Sales on Tuesday, 5,000 bales. Breadstuffs slightly improved. Sales Monday and Tuesday, but remained unchanged to-day. Flour advanced 1s., wheat 3s. @ 5d., and corn 1d. Consols for money closed at 91¾. Continental securities were favorable. Gold was flowing into England, from Paris, Amsterdam, and other places.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

Halifax, March 28.—The steamship Canada, from Liverpool on the afternoon of the 15th instant, arrived here this evening.

The Canada passed the Cambria arrived at Liverpool on the 12th instant. Mr. Dallas, who was a passenger, immediately proceeded to the Dolphin Hotel, where a deputation of the American Chamber of Commerce presented him a congratulatory address.

No excitement existed in England respecting American affairs. Rumors had transpired respecting the doings of the Peace Conference. All accounts agree on the almost certainty of peace. Advices from Germany state that the Diet had resumed its sittings. It was generally rumored that the treaty of peace would be signed on Saturday. All differences, however, are not yet adjusted; several important disputes, concerning the Danubian Principalities and the Asiatic frontiers, are left undecided, as when the Conference first met. It is rumored that Russia would cede Kars to Turkey and the adjustment of the unarranged differences are to be referred to commissioners on the spot, as the topographical details at hand are very imperfect. The Russian fortress of Sveaborg is marked neither by stream nor mountain chain. Sardinia will not be represented in this commission.

Despatches from Berlin and Vienna state that Prussia has been invited to send representatives to the Conference; that she accepts; and that Baron Manteuffel will be at Paris on the 14th for Paris, as her plenipotentiary. Mr. Hatsfield, the Prussian Minister at Paris, would act as second plenipotentiary. The admission of Prussia is said to be specially based on the ground that the discussion respecting the treaty of 1841, by which the Dardanelles were closed to ships of war, is to be begun forthwith. Mr. Palmerston refused in Parliament to answer Mr. D'Israeli's question as to whether Prussia is invited or not. He also refused to say whether Italian states are to occupy the attention of the Conference.

At Liverpool, the lower qualities of cotton had declined an eighth of a penny per pound. The manufacturing and cotton districts of Broadstuffs had advanced. Brown, Shipley, & Co. quote an advance in flour of 1s. for the Western canal 31s. @ 31s. 6s.; Ohio 35s. 6d. @ 37s.; Southern 37s. 6d. @ 38s. for firm, with an upward tendency, at an advance of 4d. @ 6d. White 10s. 6d. @ 11s.; red 9s. 6d. @ 10s. Indian corn advanced 1s.; white 34s.; yellow and mixed 33s. 6d. Provisions were buoyant. Consols were quoted at 92¼ @ 92½.

The Cincinnati slave case, though settled by the delivery of the fugitives to their claimants, has left behind it some serious legal complications. It will be recollected that the local court issued a writ of *habeas corpus* for the fugitives, but the marshal returned to it the answer that, as the production of the persons before the court would be a violation of the law, he took the responsibility of disobeying the writ, and delivering them over to the claimant. The court has since taken this answer into consideration, and has issued the writ of *habeas corpus* cannot be constitutionally suspended, has directed the prosecuting attorney to see specifications upon which a rule should be issued to the marshal to show cause why he should not be attached as for a contempt.

NEWS.

The Prohibitory Law Unconstitutional.

We learn by telegraph that the Court of Appeals, New York, yesterday affirmed the decision of the Supreme Court in the Second District, by which the Prohibitory Law was considered unconstitutional. As it is not probable that the law will be deprived of its alleged unconstitutional features during the present session of the Legislature, this affirmation of its unconstitutionality, by the highest legal tribunal in the State, indicates its abrogation.

Emancipation in Virginia.

The bill containing a provision prohibiting the manumission of slaves by law, for did not become a law, as is generally supposed. It passed the House, but was tabled in the Senate, one or two days before the close of the session, by a majority of one, the majority being particular to that illustrious body.—*Richmond Whig.*

Return of the Arctic.

New York, March 31.—The United States propeller Arctic, Captain Hartstene commanding, with the remains of Lieut. Lee, Dr. Jordan her absence, she fell in with no vessel needing assistance.

Latest from Kansas.

St. Louis, March 31.—Col. Laue, Senator elect from Kansas, arrived here yesterday, on his way to Washington.

The District Court of Kansas meets at Lecompton on the 7th of April, when the case of the members of the Legislature, the Governor, and other officers, will be called upon to continue the special order at the same hour for every day thereafter (Mondays, Fridays, and Saturdays, excepted) until they shall have been disposed of.

The resolution was agreed to.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union, [Mr. Mace, of Indiana, in the chair,] and proceeded to consider the bill appropriating $300,000 for the suppression of Indian hostilities in the Territories of Oregon and Washington, the question being on the substitute reported therefor by the Committee of Ways and Means.

The substitute proposes to appropriates $300,000, to be expended under the direction of the President, for restoring and maintaining the peaceable disposition of the Indian tribes in those Territories; and also makes an appropriation of $120,000 for the purchase of gunpowder for the Pacific coast.

A debate of great length ensued.

Mr. Lane, of Oregon, in the course of the discussion, earnestly defended the people of that Territory from the charges that had been made against them. The war, he had ascertained, had been commenced by the Indians, without any insignation whatever on the part of the whites. He entered into a history of the present difficulties, and of the unendurable passage of the bill, as necessary for the safety of the inhabitants of the Territories of Oregon and Washington. He pressed it as a measure of peace.

Mr. Anderson, of Washington Territory, also contended that the war had been commenced by the Indians, without any provocation on the part of the white settlers, and trusted that these appropriations would be made speedily.

Before the question came to be on the substitute, the Committee found itself compelled to rise, for want of a quorum.

And then, at a quarter past five o'clock, the House adjourned.

FOUR DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

Boston, March 27.—The Cunard propeller steamer Arnova arrived here late last night, with Liverpool dates to the 19th inst.

The political news is of little importance. The Peace Congress was holding daily sessions, but nothing of its proceedings had transpired.

Advices from Spain state that all parties are in a state of neutrality. Fifty thousand British troops were reviewed at Balaklava on the 5th inst. The Russian fleet in the Sebastopol were blown up on the 28th of February.

Constantinople advices of the 28th ultimo state that an Austrian courier had arrived there, with dispatches from the Austrian Principalities.

A financial crisis had occurred at Constantinople. Exchange on London had risen to 137, and on Vienna to 140. The Bank of Turkey stering rated at 140. The Minister of Finance had appealed to the merchants, inviting them to devise a remedy.

The river Danube was again open for navigation, and Lloyd's steamers had commenced running.

An order to suspend hostilities in Asia had been forwarded to Omer and Selim Pashas.

Advices from Norway announce a serious conflagration at Christiania. Twenty commercial houses had suspended in Bergen alone.

Prince Jerome Bonaparte had been dangerously ill, but was convalescent.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS.

Liverpool, March 12.—Cotton is quiet, but less firm. Sales on Tuesday, 5,000 bales. Breadstuffs slightly improved. Sales Monday and Tuesday, but remained unchanged to-day. Flour advanced 1s., wheat 3s. @ 5d., and corn 1d. Consols for money closed at 91¾. Continental securities were favorable. Gold was flowing into England, from Paris, Amsterdam, and other places.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

Halifax, March 28.—The steamship Canada, from Liverpool on the afternoon of the 15th instant, arrived here this evening.

The Canada passed the Cambria arrived at Liverpool on the 12th instant. Mr. Dallas, who was a passenger, immediately proceeded to the Dolphin Hotel, where a deputation of the American Chamber of Commerce presented him a congratulatory address.

No excitement existed in England respecting American affairs. Rumors had transpired respecting the doings of the Peace Conference. All accounts agree on the almost certainty of peace. Advices from Germany state that the Diet had resumed its sittings. It was generally rumored that the treaty of peace would be signed on Saturday. All differences, however, are not yet adjusted; several important disputes, concerning the Danubian Principalities and the Asiatic frontiers, are left undecided, as when the Conference first met. It is rumored that Russia would cede Kars to Turkey and the adjustment of the unarranged differences are to be referred to commissioners on the spot, as the topographical details at hand are very imperfect. The Russian fortress of Sveaborg is marked neither by stream nor mountain chain. Sardinia will not be represented in this commission.

Despatches from Berlin and Vienna state that Prussia has been invited to send representatives to the Conference; that she accepts; and that Baron Manteuffel will be at Paris on the 14th for Paris, as her plenipotentiary. Mr. Hatsfield, the Prussian Minister at Paris, would act as second plenipotentiary. The admission of Prussia is said to be specially based on the ground that the discussion respecting the treaty of 1841, by which the Dardanelles were closed to ships of war, is to be begun forthwith. Mr. Palmerston refused in Parliament to answer Mr. D'Israeli's question as to whether Prussia is invited or not. He also refused to say whether Italian states are to occupy the attention of the Conference.

At Liverpool, the lower qualities of cotton had declined an eighth of a penny per pound. The manufacturing and cotton districts of Broadstuffs had advanced. Brown, Shipley, & Co. quote an advance in flour of 1s. for the Western canal 31s. @ 31s. 6s.; Ohio 35s. 6d. @ 37s.; Southern 37s. 6d. @ 38s. for firm, with an upward tendency, at an advance of 4d. @ 6d. White 10s. 6d. @ 11s.; red 9s. 6d. @ 10s. Indian corn advanced 1s.; white 34s.; yellow and mixed 33s. 6d. Provisions were buoyant. Consols were quoted at 92¼ @ 92½.

The Cincinnati slave case, though settled by the delivery of the fugitives to their claimants, has left behind it some serious legal complications. It will be recollected that the local court issued a writ of *habeas corpus* for the fugitives, but the marshal returned to it the answer that, as the production of the persons before the court would be a violation of the law, he took the responsibility of disobeying the writ, and delivering them over to the claimant. The court has since taken this answer into consideration, and has issued the writ of *habeas corpus* cannot be constitutionally suspended, has directed the prosecuting attorney to see specifications upon which a rule should be issued to the marshal to show cause why he should not be attached as for a contempt.

HEARS FOR THE PEOPLE.

NO. 2.

REMEDIES FOR THE EVILS POINTED OUT.

In two former articles have been presented the fact of a general decay of national health, and some of its causes and results. It has thus been shown that while the Greeks of old systematically trained their children to be vigorous, beautiful, graceful, and healthy, the American people are not systematically training their offspring to be feeble, sickly, clumsy, deformed and awkward, as much so as if it was a deliberate design. By their wise methods, the Greeks became strong, active, wisest, and most beautiful nation of the Old World. The Anglo-Saxon, physically, is one of the finest stocks on earth, and has as fair a chance as the Greeks had to gain the same pre-eminence in these later ages.

It is the object of this article to point out the course to be pursued for this purpose—a course that would at once remedy past mistakes, and secure future advancement.

The most important stens have been already indicated, which we have to bring the subject to the attention of all the people *by the newspaper press*, and by *introducing* into all schools, but especially our common schools, a *school book on Physiology and Hygiene*, which is clear and interesting that parents as well as children will be led to read it.

The habits our children can be led to obey the laws of health until they understand, not merely what these laws are, but the philosophy of them—the *reason* why obeying or neglecting them produces health or disease.

Next it is proposed that *a system of physical training or calisthenic exercises*, which is now rapidly growing into favor, be made an additional portion of school duty in all educational institutions, but especially in our Common Schools. These exercises are arranged to train and develop every part of the body, and can be used in any family or school without apparatus, and without additional room. As much authority is needed to enforce a proper system of physical training as it required to enforce intellectual development. The Greeks put this *first*; we have left it out entirely.

Another indispensable measure is, to enlist the powerful influence of *the pulpit*. Men, women, and children, need to hear, from the ministers of religion that *the laws of health are the laws of God*, and that when they neglect or disobey them, they commit sin as really as when they lie, or swear, or steal.

Clergymen should teach the laws of health, and explain their philosophy. They can show to their people how it is that *every pair of lungs vitiates one hogshead of air every hour*, which must be expelled before fresh air can be taken in; that *tobacco* is a poison, and that, and molasses; that confectionary disorders the stomach; and spices, pepper, and other condiments, excite the nervous system to disease, and that tea, coffee, alcohol, and tobacco, are all alike needlessly stimulating to the nervous system, and causing consequent debility.

So, also, they can teach the importance and purifying the whole system, by daily ablutions of the whole person in cool water, can be enforced; and those who are guilty of violating this law produce debility, deformity, and disease, can be set forth as heinous sins. The wickedness of compressing the vital and lower organs by tight bands or corsets, and the wickedness of enabling heavy clothing on the hips, instead of the shoulders, and the terrible evils that result from the wrong, and the cost of accumulated clothing around the hips, can be set forth, and

very few years age—by men in the South as well as in the North.

Having said this much, I propose to refer to some portions of this report. And the first proposition to which I desire to call attention is the argument to show that the power of Congress to regulate the Territories of the United States is derived from that clause in the Constitution which authorizes the admission of new States into the Union. I think it is not very material whence the power of Congress to regulate the Territories is derived; it is enough that it exists; but I hunting for that power, it occurs to me that one of the last causes from which it can be properly deduced is that set forth in the committee's report to derive it. The report says, "Congress, in admitting new States into the Union, gives to Congress, says this report, the power to govern Territories! Why, sir, the very action complained of by the committee contradicts the assumption. The report concludes with the statement that a bill is to be introduced to authorize the people of the Territory of Kansas, when its population shall have attained a certain number, to form a State Government, preparatory to admission into the Union. Now, I propose to pass such an act may be derived, perhaps, from the clause in the Constitution of the United States which authorizes the admission of new States, and the very fact that a new law is necessary since the act was passed organizing the Territory of Kansas, and providing to admit it into the Union, shows that the first act was not passed with this view. The first act does not provide for the admission of Kansas as a State; and yet we are gravely told, in this document, that the power which the Congress of the United States has to form a Territorial Government is that which is derived from the authority to admit a State.

I have no difficulty, myself, in finding the power in that other clause of the Constitution which declares that "Congress shall have power to make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States." I see no propriety in limiting the word "territory" merely to land. The men who framed our Constitution understood the English language well. They would not have used more words than were necessary to express the idea they had in view. If the design was simply to allow Congress under that provision to make needful rules and regulations respecting the property of the United States, why say "the territory or other property?" It would have been sufficient to have said, simply, "Congress shall have authority to make all needful rules and regulations respecting the property belonging to the United States." Why, sir, I think that the