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SATURDAY MORNING, FEB. 20.

THE NORTHERN MAIL failed yesterday from Lake Lafourche. The mail due the day before came through.

OBEDIENCE TO PARTY.

Mr. SEWARD is threatened with loss of caste. He has been guilty of the high crime and misdemeanor of declaring in the United States Senate that in the performance of his duties he was in the habit of consulting the interests of his country in preference to that of his party, and that, holding an independent seat, he felt no necessary in view of his relations in Utah, he should unquestionably support the measure. Now Black Republicanism, or affects to be, in mortal dread of any enlargement of the army, under the pretext that the additional force will be employed to compel Jim Lane and his fraternity in Kansas to obey the laws. It has frequently offered a violent and persistent opposition to the passage of the bill. When, however, Mr. SEWARD so far forgot himself as to intimate his intention of doing his duty instead of siding with the base and selfish faction which would sacrifice the interests of the country on the altar of fanaticism, he inevitably exposed himself to the rebuke and censure of the champions of anti slavery, and has been visited with great bitterness. Somewhat to surprise the New York *Tribune* forms a prominent exception to the barking crew. It very proud agrees fully in the general proposition that the citizen or statesman who is conscientiously independent of party holds a higher moral and intellectual position than does the party man.

We think with the *Tribune*. The servility which has been carried to so great an extent has become utterly detestable.—Nothing is more contemptible than to see intelligent citizens of the thorough-paced party kind, trembling horror of any thing like sycophantic adulation of their chosen chieftains, turn as many times as the moon in the circus, and with the utmost confidence. Look, for example, at the regular mutations which the position of President BUCHANAN has undergone in Kansas; at another time at the advice of Governor WALKER and President Pierce. Then it veered round to the opinions of other men, and supposed constitution the moment the wind was understood to favor it. Such changes are the unavoidable result of the national determination to support irrespective of principles; and no decent political journal can possibly retain a remnant of independence without agreeing to accept and defend every measure started by party.

We wish to be understood as hostile to no political party. They are often necessary in concentrating opinion. At times when high admonitions are discussed on which honestly and conscientiously differ, these social instruments in arraying themselves on the opposite phases of public opinion. At the most prominent stations they have at times been compelled to separate themselves from their political vast importance. Mr. WEBSTER did so in 1850, and the entire body of Northern Whigs in the question of the time. Mr. BUCHANAN, bound as his political career, his antecedents, his obligations of his office, has been the idolatry of the Northern advocacy of the Lecompton Mr. SEWARD, the very head and front of Black Republicanism, its great champion finds himself impelled by patriotism and every other attribute to vote with his opponents in defence of the army. We know the manly and independent men as much as we should the slaves of political hirelings. The contrary idea connected with such a wish obedience of an East, not the obedience of his superior.

THEATRE.—The fourth and last entertainment to be given by the Ethiopian Serenaders takes place this evening, and on this occasion are participated in by Mr. THALBERG will execute his celebrated variations, a quartetto from Lucia di Lammermoor, with recitative in A minor, with recitative and Tarantella, Vinin Fantasia on Rossini's Stabat Mater, without words, and Paganini's celebrated movement. Madame JOHNSON will sing an aria from Traviata, the Cavatina from the Daughter of the Regiment, and the duet in Lucrezia Borgia with Miss KAMIN. The pieces that are bright, Sweet Nightingale, and a duet with Mr. HARRISON, and Signor ARDAVANI will be given in the Italian style. There will be another brilliant and crowded house.

THE CLASSIC MUSIC SOCIETY.—The fourth grand concert of the Classic Music Society, under the direction of Mr. G. COLLIGNON, was given last evening at Odd Fellows' Hall. The audience was a large and fashionable one, as is usual on these occasions, and embraced a notable share of the musical taste and talent of the city. The programme for the evening consisted of selections from the works of Beethoven, VON WEBER, Bartholdy, Kreutzer and Gluck. The selections were, for the most part, made with the usual nicety of taste which governs the accomplished leader in these matters, and the pieces were generally performed in a masterly style. The long "Pastoral Symphony" by Beethoven took up nearly the whole of the first part of the programme. Though rendered with great taste and finish, it was somewhat tedious from its length, and we believe the audience were not dissatisfied when it was over. The Chapel Chorus, by Kreutzer, is neither remarkable as music, nor is there any thing remarkable in the manner in which it was executed. It obtained the honor of a *bis*. Bartholdy's chorus, "Adieu to the Forest," was sung in better taste, and with more effect. VON Weber's delicious "Overture to Euryanthe," and the "Invitation to the Dance" were charmingly rendered. But two more of these concerts will be given this winter. They will be sadly missed by our music-loving community. It is safe to say of the Classic Music Society that no similar body in the Union surpasses it in skillfully and truthfully interpreting the works of the old masters.

THE Richmond *Whig* considers Governor WISE's Philadelphia letter as a second edition of the one lately addressed to the Tammany Society of New York. It is, says the *Whig*, an admirable Black Republican document, and cannot fail to produce a profound sensation among the Democracy of Virginia and the South. We take an especial pleasure in congratulating the "faithful" of the Old Dominion upon having elevated to the gubernatorial chair a man who "stands cheek by jowl" upon the Kansas issue with Seward, Sumner, Greeley, Wilson, Burlingame, and their compeers.

The *Whig* adds:

We have no comment to make upon our neighbor's extraordinary Philadelphia epistle to-day. But it will speak for itself—it is certainly long enough to do so. We will permit the immaculate Forney, however, to say a word in regard to it. Speaking of the letters received at the anti-Lecompton Abolition meeting in Philadelphia, Forney thus speaks forth in rapturous praise of that sent by our Governor:

"That of Gov. Wise is singularly apposite and fearless. It calmly and conclusively analyzes and discusses the President's message. Never before in the history of politics was there a more complete argument. It will occasion a deep sensation in every part of this Union."

We conclude by remarking that Greeley and Weed, and all other Abolition editors will be equally emphatic and sweet in their commendation of this Philadelphia letter of our Virginia Governor. Never before did any Southern man play a bolder or more unscrupulous game in aid of the cause of the South. A little over a year ago Wise made the declaration, in a public speech in this city, that Rome should be indicted for the utterance of incendiary sentiments, because the latter gentleman had denounced the Kansas-Nebraska act. But Rome, with all his errors of opinion, is not a circumstance to Wise. Should not, then, our Governor be forthwith indicted? We commend the suggestion to the proper authorities.

We are under obligations to JOHN A. LOCKY, clerk of the Louisville and New Orleans packet *James Montgomery*, for files of late Louisville papers.

WHAT WILL A GLASS OF WATER DOOM.—It is generally thought that when a vessel is full of water any one who should attempt to sink it would cause it to overflow, and people act on the case if the substance is not liquid. In the water; but the philosophic truth is, that displacing a body you do not increase the volume of the solvent, may be proved by a simple and interesting experiment. Take a tumbler, fill it with water, of which it will hold a pint, with three ounces of water, and weigh it. Put in a piece of iron, which will sink, and it will be no longer receive the water; it will be the same weight as before. Take out the iron and weigh it, and it will be found to have lost three ounces, exactly the quantity of water displaced by the iron. Thus, if a vessel full of water, and a piece of iron be put in, it will not cause the water to overflow, but will displace a quantity of water equal in weight to the iron.

GRAND BALL.—We are in receipt of courteous attention of the managers of the Grand Ball, for the courtesy of invitation to the Grand Ball to be given by the Mistick Krewe on Monday evening next, at Washington Hall. The course will be the first of which will be the first of which will be the first of which