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## IN THE TWILIGHT.

BY 1882.

Sitting in the twilight,  
Thinking of old times,  
All forgotten in her lap  
Lies the book of rhymes,  
All unheeded in her ear  
Ring the vesper chimes.  
Once how glowing, glorious,  
Twilight shadows fell;  
One was breathing by her side,  
One beloved well;  
Then how sweet the hours went by,  
Song can never tell.  
In his eyes of glory,  
When the day was done,  
A new radiance, brighter far  
Than the daylight shone;  
How her heart beat while she heard  
His persuasive tone!  
In a little casket,  
Hidden out of sight,  
Lies a lock of auburn hair,  
Lies a violet white,  
And a simple gold ring  
On her hand is bright.  
O, how very sweetly  
Ring the evening chimes!  
On her pallid forehead shine  
Rays from heavenly climes,  
Sitting in the twilight,  
Thinking of old times.

## Miscellaneous.

## SEABOARD SLAVE STATES.

[We recently noticed this work in our columns, and are now induced to make some extracts from it. It is the hope of promoting its circulation among the people; for it probably presents the fairest picture of life at the South—the condition of the master, the slave, and the poor white man—that has ever been given to the public, and it should be in the hands of every voter, north and south. The author has performed his labor honestly, faithfully, and impartially; while there is about his sketches a freshness and realism that give them a wonderful charm, and make the volume one of the most delightful we ever read. Our selections are taken here and there, almost at random; our greatest difficulty being to decide where to stop. The work is furnished to the New England public through Phillips, Sampson & Co. of Boston, and can be had of C. K. Matthews, Waterville.]

## NEGROES AND LIVE STOCK, IN WASHINGTON.

Visiting the market-place, early on Tuesday morning, I found myself in the midst of a throng of a very different character from any I have ever seen at the North. The majority of the people were negroes, and taken as a whole they appeared inferior in the expression of their faces and less well-dressed than any collection of negroes I had ever seen before. All the negro characteristics were more clearly marked in each than they often are in any at the North. In their dress, language, manner, motions—all were distinguishable almost as much by their color, from the white people who distributed among them, and engaged in the same occupations—chiefly selling poultry, vegetables, and small country produce. The white men were, generally, a mean-looking people, and but meanly dressed, but differently so from the negroes.

Most of the produce was in small, rickety carts, drawn by the smallest, ugliest, leanest lot of oxen and horses that I ever saw. There was but one pair of horses in over a hundred that were tolerably good—a remarkable proportion of them were maimed in some way. As for the oxen, I do not believe New England and New York together could produce a single yoke so poor as the best of them.

The very trifling quantity of articles brought in and exposed for sale by most of the market-people was noticeable; a peck of potatoes, three bunches of carrots, two cabbages, six eggs and a chicken, would be about the average stock in trade of all the dealers. Mr. F. said that an old negro woman once came to his door with a single large turkey, which she pressed him to buy. Struck with her fatigued appearance, he made some inquiries of her, and ascertained that she had been several days coming from home, had traveled mainly on foot, and had brought the turkey and nothing else with her. "Ole massa had to raise some money somehow, and he could not wait any longer, so he told me to catch the big gobbler, and tote it down to Washington and see wot it would fetch."

The prices of garden-produces were high, compared even with New York. All the necessities of life are very expensive in Washington; great complaint is made of exorbitant rents, and building-lots are said to have risen in value several hundred per cent. within five or six years.

The population of the city is now over 50,000, and is increasing rapidly. There seems to be a deficiency of tradespeople, and I have no doubt the profits of retailers are excessive. There is one cotton factory in the District of Columbia, employing one hundred and fifty hands, male and female; a small foundry; a distillery; and two tanneries—all not giving occupation to fifty men; less than two hundred, altogether, out of a resident population of nearly 150,000, being engaged in manufactures. Very few of the remainder are engaged in productive occupations. There is water-power near the city, superior to that of Lowell, of which, at present, I understand that no use at all is made.

## LAND AND LABOR IN THE DISTRICT.

Land may be purchased, within twenty miles of Washington, at from ten to twenty dollars an acre. Most of it has been once in cultivation, and, having been exhausted in raising tobacco, has been, for many years, abandoned, and is now covered with a forest growth. Several New Yorkers have lately speculated in the purchase of this sort of land, and, as there is a good market for wood, and the soil, by the decay of leaves upon it, and other natural causes, has been restored to moderate fertility, have made money by clearing and improving it. By deep plowing and liming, and the judicious use of manures, it is made very productive; and, as equally cheap farms can hardly be found in any free State, in such proximity to so high markets for agricultural produce, as those of Washington and Alexandria, there are good inducements for a considerable Northern immigration-hither. It may not be long before a majority of the inhabitants will be opposed to Slavery, and desire its abolition within the District. Indeed, when Mr. Seward proposed in the Senate to allow them to decide that matter, the advocates of "popular sovereignty" made haste to vote down the motion.

There are, already, more Irish and German laborers and servants than there are, and, as many of the objections which free laborers have to going further South, do not operate in Washington, the proportion of white laborers is every year increasing. The majority of servants, however, are, now, free negroes, which class constitutes one-fifth of the entire population. The slaves are one-fiftieth, but are mostly owned out of the District, and hired annually to those who require their services. In the assessment of taxable property, for 1853, the slaves, owned or hired in the District, were valued at three hundred thousand dollars.

## THE NEGROES OF WASHINGTON.

The colored population voluntarily sustain several churches, schools, and mutual assistance and improvement societies, and there are evi-

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dently persons among them of no inconsiderable cultivation of mind. Among the Police Reports of the City newspapers, there was lately (April 1855) an account of the apprehension of twenty-four "gentle colored men" (so they were described), who had been found by a watchman assembling privately in the evening, and been lodged in the watch-house. The object of their meeting appears to have been purely benevolent, and when they were examined before a magistrate in the morning, no evidence was offered, nor does there seem to have been any suspicion that they had any criminal purpose. On searching their persons, there were found a Bible, a volume of Seneca's *Morals*; *Life in Earnest*; the printed Constitution of a Society, the object of which was said to be "to relieve the sick, and bury the dead;" and a subscription paper to purchase the freedom of Eliza Howard, a young woman whom her owner was willing to sell at \$650.

I can think of nothing that would speak higher for the character of a body of poor men, servants and laborers, than to find, by chance, in their pockets, just such things as these. And I cannot value that man as a countryman, who does not feel intense humiliation and indignation, when he learns that such men may not be allowed to meet privately together, with such laudable motives, in the capital city of the United States, without being subject to disgraceful punishment. Washington is, at this time, governed by the Know Nothings, and the magistrate, in disposing of the case, was probably actuated by a well-founded dread of secret conspiracies, inquiries, and persecutions. One of the prisoners, a slave named Joseph Jones, he ordered to be flogged; four others, called in the papers free men, and named John E. Bennett, Chester Taylor, George Lee, and Aquila Barton, were sent to the Work-house, and the remainder, on paying cost of court, and fines, amounting, in the aggregate, to one hundred and eleven dollars, were permitted to range loose again.

Had this happened at Naples, and had the men been Protestants, what would the Protestant world have called it? Had it happened at Havana, and the men been American citizens, enrolling offices for volunteers would have been instantly opened in New Orleans and New York.

## SLAVE LABOR.

The labor of this farm was entirely performed by slaves. I did not inquire their number, but I judged there were from twenty to forty. Their "quarters" lined the approach-road to the mansion, and were well-made and comfortable log cabins, about thirty feet long by twenty wide, and eight feet wall, with a high loft and single roof. Each, divided in the middle, and having a brick chimney outside the wall at each end, was intended to be occupied by two families. There were square windows, closed by wooden ports, having a single pane of glass in the center. The house-servants were neatly dressed, but the field hands were very coarse and ragged garments.

During three hours, or more, in which I was in company with the proprietor, I do not think there were ten consecutive minutes uninterrupted by some of the slaves requiring his personal direction or assistance. He was even obliged, three times, to leave the dinner-table.

"You see," said he, smiling, as he came in the last time, "a farmer's life, in this country, is no sinecure." This turning the conversation to Slavery, he observed, in answer to a remark of mine, "I only wish your philanthropists would contrive some satisfactory plan to relieve us of it; the trouble and the responsibility of properly taking care of our negroes, you may judge, from what you see yourself here, is anything but enviable. But what can we do that is better? Our free negroes—and I believe it is the same at the North as it is here—are a miserable set of vagabonds, drunk, vicious, worse off, it is my honest opinion, than those who are retained in slavery. I am satisfied, too, that our slaves are better off, as they are, than the majority of your free laboring classes at the North."

I expressed my doubts.

"Well, they certainly are better off than the English agricultural laborers or, I believe, those of any other Christian country. Free labor might be more profitable to us; I am inclined to think it would be. The slaves are excessively careless and wasteful, and, in various ways—which, without you lived among them, you could hardly be made to understand—subject us to very annoying losses.

"To make anything by farming, here, a man has got to live a hard life. You see how constant I am called upon—and, often, it is about as bad at night as by day. Last night I did not sleep a wink till near morning; I am quite worn out with it, and my wife's health is failing. But I cannot rid myself of it."

I asked why he did not employ an overseer.

"Because I do not think it right to trust to such men as we have to use, if we use any, for overseers."

"Is the general character of overseers bad?"

"They are the curse of this country; it is the worst men in the community."

But lately, I had another sort of fellow offer—a fellow like a dancing-master, with kid gloves, and wrist-bands turned up over his coat-sleeves, and all so nice, that I was almost ashamed to talk to him in my old coat and slouched hat. Half a bushel of recommendations he had with him, too. Well, he was not the man for me—nor half the gentleman, with all his airs, that Ned here is"—(a black servant, who was bursting with suppressed laughter, behind his chair.)

"Oh, they are interesting creatures, sir," he continued, "and with all their faults, have many beautiful traits. I can't help being attached to them, and I am sure they love us." In his own case, at least, I did not doubt it; his manner towards them was paternal—familiar and kind; and they came to him like children who had been given some task, and constantly are wanting to be encouraged and guided, simply, and confidently. At dinner, he frequently addressed the servant familiarly, and drew him into our conversation as if he were a family friend, better informed, on some local and domestic points, than himself.

He informed me that able-bodied field-hands were hired out, in this vicinity, at the rate of one hundred dollars a year, and their board and clothing. Four able-bodied men, that I have employed the last year, on my farm in New York, I pay, on an average, one hundred and fifty dollars each, and board them; they clothe themselves at an expense, I think, of twenty dollars a year—probably, slaves' clothing costs twice that. They constitute all the force of my farm, hired by the year (except a

boy, who goes to school in Winter), and, in my absence, have no overseer except one of themselves, whom I appoint. I pay the fair wages of the market, more than any of my neighbors, I believe, and these are no lower than the average of what I have paid for the last five years. It is difficult to measure the labor performed in a day by one, with that of the other, on account of undefined differences in the soil, and in the bulk and weight of articles operated upon. But, here, I am shown tools that no man in his senses, with us, would allow a laborer, to whom he was paying wages, to be encumbered with; and the excessive weight and clumsiness of which, I would judge, would make work at least ten per cent. greater than those ordinarily used with us. And I am assured that, in the careless and clumsy way less rude could not be furnished them with good economy, and that such tools we constantly give our laborers, and find our profit in giving them, would not last out a day in a Virginia corn-field—much lighter and more free from stones though it be than ours.

So, too, when I ask why mules are so universally substituted for horses on the farm, the first reason given, and confessedly the most conclusive one, is, that horses cannot bear the treatment that they always must get from negroes; horses are always soon foundered or crippled by them, while mules will bear edging, and lose a meal or two now and then, and not be materially injured, and they do not take cold or get sick if neglected or overworked. But I do not need to go farther than to the window of the room in which I am writing, to see, at almost any time, treatment of cattle that would insure the immediate discharge of the driver, by almost any farmer owning them at the North.

## THE SLAVE TRADE.

There were, in the train, two first-class passenger cars, and two freight cars. The latter were occupied by about forty negroes, most of them belonging to traders, who were sending them to the cotton States to be sold. Such kind of evidence of activity in the slave trade of Virginia is to be seen every day; but particulars and statistics of it are not to be obtained by a stranger here. Most gentlemen of character seem to have a special disinclination to converse on the subject; and it is denied, with feeling, that slaves are often reared, as is supposed by the Abolitionists, with the intention of selling them to the traders. It appears to me evident, however, from the manner in which I hear the traffic spoken of incidentally, that the cash value of a slave for sale, above the cost of raising it from infancy to the age at which it commands the highest price, is generally considered among the surest elements of a planter's wealth. Such a nigger is worth such a price, and such another is too old to learn to pick cotton, and such another will bring so much, when it has grown a little more, I have frequently heard people say, in the street, or the public-house. That a slave woman is commonly esteemed least for her laboring qualities, most for those qualities which give value to a brood-mare is, also, constantly made apparent.

By comparing the average decennial ratio of slave increase in all the States with the difference in the number of the actual slave-population of the slave-breeding States, as ascertained by the census, it is apparent that the number of slaves exported to the cotton States is considerably more than twenty thousand a year.

While calling on a gentleman occupying an honorable official position at Richmond, I noticed upon his table a copy of Professor Johnson's *Agricultural Tour in the United States*. Referring to a paragraph in it, where some statistics of the value of the slaves raised and annually exported from Virginia, were given, I asked if he knew how these had been obtained, and whether they were reliable. "No," he replied; "I don't know anything about it; but if they are anything unfavorable to the institution of slavery, you may be sure they are false." This is but an illustration, in extreme, of the manner in which I find a desire to obtain more correct, but definite information, on the subject of slavery, is usually met, by gentlemen otherwise of enlarged mind and generous qualities.

A gentleman, who was a member of the "Union Safety Committee" of New York, during the excitement which attended the discussion of the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850, told me that, as he was passing through Virginia this winter, a man entered the car in which he was seated, leading in a negro girl, whose manner and expression of face indicated dread and grief. Thinking she was a criminal, he asked the man what she had done:

"Done? Nothing."

"What are you going to do with her?"

"I'm taking her down to Richmond, to be sold."

"Does she belong to you?"

"No; she belongs to ———; he raised her."

"Why does he sell her—has she done anything wrong?"

"Done anything? No; she's no fault, I reckon."

"Then, what does he want to sell her for?"

"Sell her for! Why shouldn't he sell her? He sells one or two every year: wants the money for 'em, I reckon."

The irritated tone and severe stare with which this was said, my friend took as a caution not to pursue his investigation.

## A FREE LABOR FARM.

I have been visiting a farm, cultivated entirely by free labor. The proprietor told me that he was first led to disuse slave-labor, not from any economical considerations, but because he had become convinced that there was an essential wrong in holding men in forced servitude with any other purpose than to benefit them alone, and because he was not willing to allow his own children to be educated as slave-masters. His father had been a large slaveholder, and he felt very strongly the bad influence it had on his own character. He wished me to be satisfied that Jefferson uttered a great truth when he asserted that slavery was more pernicious to the white race than the black. Although, therefore, a chief part of his inheritance had been in slaves, he had liberated them all.

Most of them had, by his advice, gone to Africa. These he had frequently heard from. Except a child that had been drowned, they were, at his last account, all alive, in general good health, and satisfactorily prospering. He had lately received a letter from one of them, who told him that he was "trying to preach the Gospel," and who had evidently greatly

improved, both intellectually and morally, since he left here. With regard to those going North, and the common opinion that they encountered much misery, and would be much better off here, he said that it entirely depended on the general character and habits of the individual; it was true of those who were badly brought up, and who had acquired indolent and vicious habits, especially if they were drunkards, but, if of some intelligence and well-trained, they generally represented themselves to be successful and contented.

He mentioned two remarkable cases, that had come under his own observation, of this kind. One was that of a man who had been free, but, by some fraud and informality of his papers, was re-enslaved. He ran away, and afterwards negotiated, by correspondence, with his master, and purchased his freedom. This man he had accidentally met, fifteen years afterwards, in a Northern city; he was engaged in profitable and increasing business, and showed him, by his books, that he was possessed of property to the amount of ten thousand dollars. He was living a great deal more comfortably and wisely than ever his old master had done. The other case was that of a colored woman, who had obtained her freedom, and who became apprehensive that she also was about to be fraudulently made a slave again. She fled to Philadelphia, where she was nearly starved at first. A little girl, who heard her begging in the streets to be allowed to work for bread, told her that her mother was wanting some washing done, and she followed her home. The mother, not knowing her was afraid to trust her with the articles to be washed. She prayed so earnestly for the job, however—suggesting that she might be locked into a room until she had completed it—that it was given her.

So she commenced life in Philadelphia. Ten years afterward he had accidentally met her there; she recognized him immediately, recalled herself to his recollection, manifested the greatest joy at seeing him, and asked him to come to her house, which he found a handsome three-story building, furnished really with elegance; and she pointed out to him, from the window, three houses in the vicinity that she owned and rented. She showed great anxiety to have her children well-educated, and was employing the best instructors for them which she could procure in Philadelphia.

This gentleman, notwithstanding his anti-slavery sentiments, by no means favors the running away of slaves, and thinks the Abolitionists have done immense harm to the cause they have at heart. He wishes Northerners would mind their business, and leave Slavery alone, say but little about it—nothing in the present condition of affairs at the South—and never speak of it but in a kind and calm manner. He would not think it right to return a fugitive slave; but he would never assist one to escape. He has several times purchased slaves, generally such as his neighbors were obliged to sell, and who would otherwise have been taken South. This he had been led to do by the solicitation of some of his relatives. He had retained them in his possession until their labor had in some degree returned their cost to him, and he could afford to provide them with the means of going to Africa or the North, and a small means of support after their arrival. Having received some suitable training in his family, they had, without exception, been successful, and had frequently sent him money to purchase the freedom of relatives or friends they had left in slavery.

He considered the condition of slaves to have much improved since the Revolution, and very perceptibly during the last twenty years. The original stock of slaves, the imported Africans, he observed, probably required to be governed with much greater severity, and very little humanity was exercised or thought of with regard to them. The slaves of the present day are of a higher character; in fact, he did not think more than half of them were full-blooded Africans. Public sentiment condemned the man who treated his slaves with cruelty. The owners were mainly men of some cultivation, and felt a family attachment to their slaves, many of whom had been the playmates of their boyhood. Nevertheless, they were frequently punished severely, under the impulse of temporary passion, often without deliberation, and on unfounded suspicion. This was especially the case where they were left to overseers, who, though sometimes men of intelligence and piety, were more often coarse, brutal, and licentious; drinking men, wholly unfit for the responsibility imposed on them.

He had read "Uncle Tom's Cabin;" mentioned several points in which he thought it wrong—that Uncle Tom was too highly painted, for instance; that such a character could not exist in, or spring out of Slavery, and that no gentleman of Kentucky or Virginia would have allowed himself to be in the position with a slave-dealer. In which Mr. Shelby is represented—but he acknowledged that cases of cruelty and suffering, equal to any described in it, might be found. In his own neighborhood, some time ago, a man had been whipped to death; and he recollected several that had been maimed for life, by harsh and hasty punishment; but the whole community were indignant when such things occurred, and any man guilty of them would be without associates except of similar character.

The opinions of this gentleman must not, of course, be considered as representative of those of the South in general, by any means; but, as to facts, he is a competent, and, I believe, a wholly candid and unprejudiced witness. He is much respected, and on terms of friendship with all his neighbors, though they do not like his views on this subject. He told me, however, that one of them, becoming convinced of their correctness some time ago, freed his slaves and moved to Ohio. As to "Uncle Tom," it is generally criticized very severely, and its representations of Slavery indignantly denied. I observe that it is not placarded outside the booksellers' stores, though the whole fleet of gun-boats that have been launched after it show their colors bravely. As I judge from the frequent allusions I hear made to it.

With regard to the value of slave-labor, this gentleman is confident that, at present, he has the advantage in employing freemen instead of it. It has not been so until of late, the price of slaves having much advanced within ten years, while immigration has made free white laborers more easy to be procured. He has heretofore had some difficulty in obtaining hands when he needed them, and has suffered a good deal from the demoralizing influence of adrift slave-labor; the men, after a few months' residence, inclining to follow the customs of the slaves with regard to the amount

of work they should do in a day, or their careless mode of operation. He has had white and black Virginians, sometimes Germans, and latterly Irish. Of all these, he has found the Irish on the whole the best. The poorest have been the native white Virginians; next, the free blacks; and though there have been exceptions, he has not generally paid these as high as one hundred dollars a year, and has thought them less worth their wages than any he has had. At present, he has two white natives, and two free colored men, but both the latter were brought up in his family, and are worth twenty dollars a year more than the average. The free black, he thinks, is generally worse than the slave, and so is the poor white man. He also employs, at present, four Irish hands, and is expecting two more to arrive, who have been recommended to him, and sent for by these he has. He pays the Irishmen \$120 a year, and boards them. He has had them for \$100; but these are all excellent men and well worth their price. They are less given to drinking than any men he has ever had; and one of them first suggested improvements to him in his farm, that he is now carrying out with prospects of considerable advantage. House-maids, Irish girls, he pays \$3 and \$6 a month.

He does not apprehend that in future he shall have any difficulty in obtaining steady and reliable men, that will accomplish much more work than any slaves. There are some operations, such as carting and spreading dung, and all work with the fork, spade or shovel, at which his Irishmen will do, he thinks, over fifty per cent. more in a day than any negroes he has ever known. On the whole, he is satisfied that at present free-labor is more profitable than slave-labor, though his success is not so evident that he would be willing to have attention particularly called to it. His farm, moreover, is now in a transition state from one system of husbandry to another, and appearances are temporarily more unfavorable on that account.

The wages paid for slaves, when they are hired for agricultural labor, do not differ at present, he says, from those which he pays for his free laborers. In both cases the hiring party boards the laborer, but, in addition to money and board, the slave-employer has to furnish clothing, and is subject, without redress, to any losses which may result from the carelessness or malevolence of the slave. He also has to lose his time if he is unwell, or when from any cause he is absent or unable to work.

The slave, if he is indisposed to work, and especially if he is not treated well, or does not like the master who has hired him, will sham sickness—even make himself sick or lame—that he need not work. But a more serious loss frequently arises, when the slave, thinking he is worked too hard, or being angered by punishment or unkind treatment, "getting the sulks," takes to "the swamp," and comes back when he has a mind to. Often this will not be till the year is up for which he is engaged, when he will return to his owner, who, glad to find his property safe, and that it has not died in the swamp, or gone to Canada, forgets to punish him, and immediately sends him for another year to a new master.

"But, meanwhile, how does the negro support life in the swamp?" I asked.

"Oh, he gets sheep and pigs and calves, and fowls and turkeys; sometimes they will kill a small cow. We have often seen the fires, where they are cooking them, through the woods, in the swamp yonder. If it is cold, he will crawl under a fodder-stack, or go into the cabins with some of the other negroes, and in the same way, you see, he can get all the corn or almost anything else he wants."

"He steals them from his master?"

"From any one; frequently from me. I have had many a sheep taken by them."

"It is a common thing, then?"

"Certainly, it is, very common, and the loss is sometimes exceedingly provoking. One of my neighbors here was going to build, and hired two mechanics for a year. Just as he was ready to put his house up, the two men, taking offence at something, both ran away, and did not come back at all, till their year was out, and then their owner immediately hired them out again to another man."

These negroes "in the swamp," he said, were often hunted after, but it was very difficult to find them, and, if caught, they would run again, and the other negroes would hide and assist them. Dogs to track them he had never known to be used in Virginia.

## Offences against Person and Property.

The estimation in which the rights of person and property are held, and their comparative importance in any community, are to be found in the statutes enacted for the protection of society and the spirit which governs the administration of justice in their enforcement. The rights which would seem, by both natural and divine law, to hold the highest place, and which should be most sacredly observed, are those which attach to the person, and the violation of these rights involves the greatest wrong and sin and should also draw the severest penalty. The person of the individual should be inviolable, and not only the highest crime which destroys life, should be proportionally punished, but those other offences which outrage and injure the person, and which so often, as by mere chance, stop short of killing. The protection of the person should be the chief care of society, for it underlies all others, and so far as possible it is the duty of society to secure such protection. The individual, who maliciously or wantonly commits an outrage upon the person of his neighbor, should be made to feel that he has perpetrated a great crime and that he has peculiarly forfeited the sympathy of the community.

Where property is held in higher estimation than the person, the laws will discover it, and their administration will make it still more palpable. Where money and material gain is the engrossing and absorbing aim of human desires and exertion, the temptation to acquire these surreptitiously is increased, and it will be found that the offence of so doing takes a high place in the eye of the law and its penalties. When good living was among the chief ends of the life of the English nobility, the gratification of their palates was duly regarded by the statutes of the realm, and the life of an ordinary man was held in no higher esteem than that of a hare, the poaching thereof in the King's forest being punishable with death. The ruffians who made laws for Kansas, holding that slavery is the greatest blessing and the supreme end of the American Government, enacted a whole catalogue of crimes, relative to the institution, punishable with death. So in

any community, the uppermost idea gives color to its laws and customs.

If we look to our own statute book, will it not be found that the 'almighty dollar' looms up big and lustrous, in comparison with the person. Crimes that affect property are severely punished—perhaps not too much so, but far more than many outrages which affect the person.

For a case in point, we refer to the proceedings on the first day of the present session of the Criminal term of the Supreme Court in this city. One Oliver C. Smith, on two indictments for breaking into stores and stealing a few dollars worth of trumpery, to which he pleaded guilty, was sentenced to two years hard labor in the State prison—one year upon each indictment—and this is the lightest sentence which the law admits of. On the same day, a young man who, without the slightest provocation, wantonly and outrageously assaulted a citizen while walking in our streets in the evening, with some kind of a weapon attached to a short rope, by which the victim was felled, being convicted, was fined in the sum of \$300. And on the same day, another young man, who, together with the last named ruffian, is charged with committing the cruel assault upon Mr. Averill, on Saturday evening last, the particulars of which we have heretofore given, being arraigned upon indictment for the same, was suffered to go at large on a bail of \$200, for his appearance to answer.

To our mind the offence of Smith, is far less than that of the last mentioned cases. Breaking a man's head ought to be considered a greater crime than breaking into a store. We do not charge the magistrate with peculiar fault in the leniency with which one ruffian was dealt with and which characterized the taking of bail. It is the fault of our criminal code, the spirit of which naturally governs the action of the magistrate. But we do hope that the proceedings referred to are not to be the criterion of future apportioning penalty to crime. Considerable feeling, and we are glad to see it, has been evoked among our citizens in regard to this matter. The community demands that ruffians who practice with dangerous weapons upon our peaceable citizens in the highway, to see how prettily they can knock down their victims, shall be punished, if not for their own good, at least in the hope that a salutary lesson may be taught to others who might be tempted to follow the same sort.

There is now lingering out his life, sentenced in the State prison (and a colleague in the same crimes has already died there) one who showed great art and boldness in entering the dwellings of our citizens by night and robbing their clothing. The sentence and punishment are just. Had the assaults of Averill and of others followed up their murderous blows by taking a quarter of a dollar from his pocket, their crime would be instantly changed in the eye of the law, and perhaps of the magistrate, to one of the highest offences. We take it that a man who is knocked down and rendered insensible, will not consider, upon recovering himself, that the injury he has received is much more aggravated by the loss of a quarter of a dollar. The ruffian who prostrates his fellow and robs him, may have some great temptation impelling him. What temptations has he who wantonly assaults, as Averill was assaulted, except sheer, wicked devilry, which should not go unpunished?

If an erroneous idea pervades our criminal law, will not our magistrates render the community a service by exercising the discretion which is left to them by such statutes as we have, in furtherance of the public safety, and protection of our persons from violence.

[Bangor Journal.]

CONSERVATIVE CHARACTER OF THE REPUBLICAN PARTY.—The Republican party, unless we greatly mistake it, will prove itself pre-eminently liberal and tolerant, and national in its character. That there are radicals and bigots in the party we do not deny. We know of no party or sect under the sun in which such characters do not figure. Certainly, the American nor the Democratic party can claim exemption from them. We speak of the character of the Republican party as a body, and as manifested in its party actions. We do not know what will be the particular composition of the committees to be announced by Mr. Speaker Banks on Monday; but we hazard nothing in saying that his opponents will be represented on them to an extent, and with regard to their just claims, that will crimson with shame the face of every Democratic Senator who has honorable manhood enough to know what shame is, and who has memory enough to recollect the spiteful and vulgar intolerance with which the Republican party in the Senate was treated in the formation of the Committees. We do not know when the discussion on the measure of vetoing the Missouri Compromise will take place; but we hazard nothing in saying, that when it does take place, it will be conducted, on the part of the Republicans, with a dignity, a composure, and a fairness that will be in complete contrast to the ill-tempered, overbearing, and insolent style with which the Nebraska bill was originally discussed and carried by its friends in the Senate. The Republican party means to be moderate, but it is also meant to be firm; in word and in attitude, in spirit and in principle, in act and in abstinence, the Republican party, designs to do its duty, and its whole duty to the country, and the whole country. Let it be judged by its practical conduct.

[N. Y. Courier and Enquirer.]

## 'Bacon and Eggs—Take Care of Your Legs.'

A farmer once employed a man in his time, and set him to mowing. The employer was a mean man, and kept his help as short as possible—making butter-milk and whey a good portion of their diet for breakfast. Going into his field one day, he overheard his mower singing, in a faint, slow, drawing manner, and suiting the action of grass cutting to the words of his song. His song was this:

Bacon and eggs—take care of your legs,  
Bacon and eggs—take care of your legs,  
Bacon and eggs—take care of your legs,  
Bacon and eggs—take care of your legs.

This he kept on repeating over and over again, growing slower and fainter, both in his singing and his work.

But the next morning the farmer had bacon and eggs provided for breakfast; and when he went into his field again, his man was briskly singing and mowing away at a rapid rate:

Bacon and eggs—take care of your legs,  
Bacon and eggs—take care of your legs,  
Bacon and eggs—take care of your legs,  
Bacon and eggs—take care of your legs.

DR. LORD'S IDEAS OF HUMANITY.—Rev. Nathan Lord, D. D., the venerable President of Dartmouth College, lectured on Tuesday evening before the Young Men's Mercantile Library Association, on "The Other Side." His object was to show that man is not improved, as most persons suppose, but, on the contrary, is deteriorating; passing down from youth and childhood to old age. He sought to prove that, in physical strength, in wealth, in beauty, in intellect, and in virtue, we are inferior to the men of earlier ages. There was in the lecture a great deal of learning and logic of rhetoric and wit, with a little, as we thought, of overcoloring and sophistry at times. But on the whole, it was unusually interesting and suggestive. We regret that we have not room for a full report.—[Cincinnati Chr. Herald.]



## The Eastern Mail.

WATERVILLE... FEB. 28, 1856.

## AGENTS FOR THE MAIL.

V. P. PIERCE, American Newspaper Agent, is Agent for this paper and is authorized to take advertisements and subscriptions at the same rates as required by us. His office is at No. 101, Broadway, New York. J. H. BOWMAN, New York: N. W. corner Third and Chestnut sts., Philadelphia: 8. W. corner North and Fayette streets, Baltimore: 8. M. Franklin & Co., Newspaper Agents, No. 10 State street, Boston, are Agents for the Eastern Mail, and are authorized to receive advertisements and subscriptions at the same rates as required at this office. Their receipts are regarded as payments.

## A. T. BOWMAN—Travelling Agent.

**MEASURES.** Editors:—Waterville seems to be fast rising in reputation through the instrumentality of its fast boys. It would be well to ascertain what they are, so that their names might be made public. We have but few public entertainments where the admission fee is small, but what are honored with the performances of those fast boys. A few evenings since, I had the pleasure of being present at a public meeting, where this class of humanity was well represented. A large portion of the entertainment was dispensed with, on account of their performances. One would be at a loss to determine whether they really belonged to the lower order of humanity, or to a lower class of animals. The hen-coost and pigsty were especially represented, with an abundance of crowing and squealing. Nor could the disturbance be controlled by the presiding officer of the meeting; or the presence of many ladies and gentlemen. We should suppose that they had never learned that such performances are out of order in a public place under any circumstances. Were this the first time, perhaps it should pass unnoticed; but from present appearances it will soon be impossible to hold a public meeting of this kind without the presence of a police force to take care of the fast boys. We would suggest that an officer be appointed, whose duty it should be to ascertain who those disturbers of the peace are, and on the occasion of any public meeting gather them together, and confine them in a house of correction till the meeting was over.

## PRO BONO PUBLICO.

It would seem that the abuse our correspondent complains of, and for which our village is evidently indebted to the modest indulgence of our "police force," had been borne long enough to demand effectual interference. If gentlemen and ladies permit themselves to be thus disturbed, without offering the resistance legally within their reach, either towards the disturbers or those whose duty it is to preserve order, they have no reason to look for improvement. Our correspondent should make his complaint to a justice of the peace instead of passing it to us. Our village police, though useful in some cases, is not worth a straw in this. They have been tried and found wanting. We make a partial exception of constable Esty, who has preserved a degree of order at Appleton Hall, in spite of the bad precedent about him. Still, even there, an assembly rarely fails to witness exhibitions of clownish vulgarity and ill manners that seldom exist in the same place with an efficient "police force." This difficulty should be remedied by those legally appointed for the purpose; but if they fail of their duty, the remedy is in the hands of every one who feels disturbed. It is hardly necessary to inform these "fast boys" that the slightest disturbance of a public meeting renders them liable to arrest and imprisonment, and any person has the right to enter complaint against them for this purpose. There have lately been some shameless cases of disturbance of this kind, and the presiding officers were much in fault in not making legal complaint—as we hope will be done in all future instances.

**THE HATCH HOUSE, BANGOR.**—It will be seen from the advertisement of this well known hotel, that it has been put in condition to offer increased attractions to those who visit Bangor. It has been long and well known to business men, as one of the best hotels in Maine; and in charge of its present attentive and hospitable landlord, travellers who test its accommodations will find themselves in excellent quarters.

The editor of the Bangor Journal pronounces our remedy of "wild-cat grease and new rum" a "slander upon the honest, hard-working men." The editor of the Journal is himself our witness that neither the hard-working or the honest are the ones who feel slandered by our prescription.

**WARNING.**—Mr. Pinkham's classes in Penmanship closed at the Academy on Friday last, with the presentation of premiums for the best improvement. Master Almon Nason was awarded the one offered in the day class, and Master Alexander Fuller that in the evening class. The specimens generally gave evidence of good instruction in an excellent system of penmanship; and we are glad to know that Mr. Pinkham will soon resume the instruction of classes, in connection with the Academy.—These classes will be open to pupils not members of the Academy, and we commend them to the patronage of all who desire good instruction in the art of writing. Mr. P. has earned an excellent reputation, as a teacher in all respects worthy of confidence; and parents who would secure this important accomplishment to their children, should by all means place them under his tuition.

**GENUINE FUN.**—Those who would crack the cobwebs from their ribs may rely upon having the true essence of merriment at the exhibition of Perham's Operatic Troupe next week. (See their advertisement.) The company consists of a dozen or more, who perform some of the side-splitting of which they hold the patent—the "Railroad Snatch-up" among others—and from which we can warrant more genuine burlesque than ever yet roared at Town Hall.

The Native American convention, at Philadelphia, made choice of Millard Fillmore as candidate for President, and Andrew Jackson Donelson for Vice President. Platform, "national"—which, being interpreted, meaneth pro-slavery.

P. & S. R. Co., vs. JOHN M. WOOD.—We learn from the Portland Advertiser that the suit of this Company against John M. Wood, of Portland, commenced in June, A. D. 1855, on a claim of two hundred thousand dollars with an attachment dispositive matter having been amicably settled between the parties.

## OUR TABLE.

**THE CITY ARCHITECT.**—A Series of Original Designs for Dwellings, Stores, and Public Buildings, adapted to Cities and Villages. Illustrated by Drawings of Plans, Elevations, Sections, Details, &c. By Wm. H. RANDEL, author of "Course of Architecture." New York: De Witt & Davenport.

Mr. Randel has made himself so well known through his work on Cottage Architecture that his present undertaking can hardly fail to prove a successful and profitable one. His plan is so fully set forth in the title copied above that little need be added, and we will merely copy briefly from the prospectus, premising that the initial number is all that could be asked for.

The intelligent reader will discover at a glance that it is not the aim of this publication to furnish designs of a mere character for mansions which not one man in a thousand has the means to build or the inclination to occupy, but to give plans for houses within the means of men of ordinary fortunes, and adapted to the domestic habits of the majority of respectable people. The great aim of the author is to furnish, so that the professional builder can ascertain for himself, not only the best plan for his wants, but in case, within a trifling variation, while the professional builder will be able to go directly at work upon the plan submitted to him, without the trouble of making drawings or specifications.

The City Architect will be devoted to the wants and requirements of the middle classes—the people who form the backbone of the country, and give the dominant tone to our society; and the designs offered will be for the construction of blocks and squares, as well as for isolated suburban residences. It is not to be simply a collection of designs for showy houses, but a manual containing all the requisite information and preliminary directions for building a city from the start. It will, of course, contain, not only plans and elevations, but also, for dwelling houses, shops, stores, manufactories, lecture rooms, churches, schools, churches, country-houses, villas, hotels, almshouses, and hospitals, but also instructions for paving, flagging, constructing drains, culverts, docks, wharves, mills, bridges, laying out of squares, parks, and public grounds; and the fullest and most comprehensive directions will be given for ventilating, heating and lighting all classes of buildings. While every thing essential to health and comfort will be attended to with the utmost particularity, in conformity with the most recent improvements and discoveries in architecture, the art of ornamentation will not be neglected, and the best means for securing elegance of exterior and a cheerful appearance within will be given, so that the house will be completed when the scene of beauty is not duly considered.

The work will be completed in 20 numbers, each of which will be complete in itself and devoted to a special object. Price, 50 cents a number. We shall be happy to show the first number to those who would like to examine the work.

ALONE. By Marian Harland, of Richmond, Virginia. New York: J. C. Derby. Boston: Phillips, Sampson.

This work has been before the public for some time, and its favorable reception must be highly gratifying to the fair author, and not unprofitable to the publishers. The nineteen thousand has already been issued, and as its popularity increases daily it is difficult to affix a limit to its sale. It will be found at Matthews's.

HOME. By Anna Leland. New York: J. C. Derby. Boston: Phillips, Sampson & Co.

Here is something decidedly unique in the book-making line, but what its reception will be, in these high-pressure times, so prolific in "thrilling" stories and "intensely interesting" love tales, it is difficult to say. It is a plain story of every-day life, its joys and sorrows, in which no attempt is made to excite the reader's interest by the relation of startling incidents or the development of a complicated plot. It may be pronounced tame, but it must be acknowledged that its pictures are true to nature and it can do no harm to temperance and the most excitable, for there is nothing intoxicating about it. Some of its scenes are laid upon the pleasant banks of the Penobscot, at a time when savage Indians, bears, and other troublous "natives," did much abound in that region, and where indeed they even now are found though in diminished numbers. The moral bearings of the book are unexceptionable, and it will make an excellent "first book" for young novel readers. For sale at Matthews's.

**GRAHAM'S MAGAZINE.**—The embellishments in the March number are—The Recovery, a fine steel engraving; a beautiful fashion plate; numerous small wood engravings illustrative of the letter press, and a leaf from Punch, for those who like to laugh. The literary contents are of a character to sustain the high reputation of this popular work, while its full fashion plates, patterns for various kinds of work, pieces of music, &c., will specially commend it to the attention of the ladies. Published by Abraham H. See, Philadelphia, at \$3 a year.

**FORRESTER'S PLAYMATE.**—A Monthly Instructor for Youth.—The February number, just out, is full of matter, useful and entertaining, all nicely adapted to the capacity of youth. The "Life of a Dog," commenced in this number, promises to be very interesting, and the "Chat with Readers and Correspondents," is unusually spicy. Published by Wm. Gould & Co., Boston, at \$1 a year.

**NATIONAL MAGAZINE.**—The contents of this magazine are so uniformly excellent, that special commendation of any particular number is superfluous: We will merely enumerate a few of the articles in the March number, which has just made its appearance—Scandinavian Sketches No. 2, with three engravings; Recollections in Ornithology, 9 engravings; Lady Rachel Russell, 6 engravings; The Poet Cowper and his Pets, with 3 beautiful engravings; Methodist Church Architecture, 6 engravings; Uncle Jerry's Ghost; The Danubian Prince; Discovery of America by the Northerners; The Schoolmaster's Dream; The Awakening; Religious Controversy; A Trip toward Great Britain; Chemical Spirituality. Many other articles will also be found, with Editorial Correspondence, Book Notices, &c. Published by Carlton & Phillips, New York, at \$2 a year.

**FRANK LESLIE'S NEW YORK JOURNAL** for March.—Additional chapters of "Masks and Faces," and "The Soldier of Fortune," two stories of great interest, are given in this number; in addition to which it is packed (this word is hardly strong enough to express its compactness)—full of reading matter, in infinite variety, and handsomely illustrated. Numerous engravings appear in every number of this magazine, illustrative of scenes and events in the Eastern War, as well as pictures of cities, public buildings, &c., in Western Europe. But this department is not entirely devoted to scenes on the other side of the world, and in the present number will be found pictures of Havana, American Trappers, Neglected Genius, portraits of Longfellow and his Wife, Fanny, &c. &c. The amount and variety of reading furnished in this work excites our wonder, when we reflect that it is afforded for two dollars a year. Published by Frank Leslie, New York.

**MAJOR JONES'S COURTSHIP.**—T. B. Peterson, of Philadelphia, has recently republished this book, one of the funniest ever printed—in fine style, with numerous characteristic illustrations by Darley. It is the first of a new series of Humorous American works, which the publisher has now in course of publication, which will be sold at 50 cts. each. For sale by all booksellers and periodical dealers.

## The South attacking Free Schools.

**THE SPIRIT WHICH SLAVERY ENKINDERS.**—Slavery has as deleterious an influence on the whites as on the blacks—on the owners as on the owned. Just read the extract given below from an article which recently appeared in the Richmond (Va.) Examiner, a paper devoted heart and soul to the propagation of Slavery. The Examiner makes a fierce onslaught upon the free school system of the North, and says:

"We have got to hating everything with the prefix free—from free negroes down and up, through the whole catalogue of abominations, demagogues, lusts, philosophies, fanaticism and follies, free farms, free labor, free niggers, free society, free will, free thinking, free love, free wives, free children and free schools, all belonging to the same brood of damnable liars whose mother is Sin and whose daddy is the Devil—are all the progeny of that prolific monster which greeted Satan on his arrival at the gates of hell.

But the worst of all these abominations—because, when once installed, it becomes the hot-bed propagator of all—is the modern system of free schools. We forget who it is that has charged and proved that the New England system of free schools has been the cause and prolific source of all the legions of horrible filidities and treasons that have turned her cities into Sodom and Gomorrah, and her fair land into the common nesting-places of howling bedlamites. We abominate the system because the schools are free, and because

they make that which ought to reward toil, and earnest, ardent, and almost superhuman individual effort, cheap, commonplace, priceless and unvaluable. As there is no royal road to learning, so there ought to be no road to learning.

"A little learning" is a dangerous thing—to the individual, to society, to learning itself, to all conservatism of thought and all stability in general affairs. The sole function of the free school is to supply that "little learning;" and thus it is charged to the brim with incendiary, heresies, and all the explosive elements which uproot and rend and desolate society."

And with this foul attack on the first rights of human nature, the Examiner makes loud professions of its "Democracy." "What public crimes are committed in that name!"

We are again under obligation, to Hon. H. Hamlin, for valuable public documents.

## More Warlike Articles in London Papers.

The London Times, of Feb. 2, thus discourses on the state of the relations between England and the United States:

"The omission of the United States from the Queen's Speech provokes the criticism of Lord Derby, and may possibly be a source of some additional bitterness on the other side of the Atlantic; but probably the United States were well left out, for there is nothing that we could say about them just now that is likely to please them. For our own sake, as well as theirs, we could most sincerely wish that the machine of government in the great Republic worked a little more smoothly, and was not so apt to get clogged in some places and stimulated to violent and destructive action in others.

Differences have arisen, as they will arise occasionally between the best friends, between us and the American Republic. War, always odious and destructive, would be against such an enemy a thousand times more revolting than against any other. To sweep her commerce from the seas, to destroy her navy, to ravage her seaboard, would be feats neither difficult nor dangerous to a Power with such forces as Great Britain now possesses, but little would be the honor and heavy the loss of this suicidal triumph. We are unwilling to fight, not because we fear our enemies, for never were conditions of combat more unequal than those would be between Great Britain and the United States at this moment, but because we cannot bring ourselves to regard them as enemies at all.

Yet what can we do, and how avert that which this extraordinary nation, or those who have at least the legal right to speak in its name, seem to be determined to bring upon us? Were the whole attention of the whole 'public mind' of America bent upon the question, we might hope for a satisfaction and reconciliation; but what is to be done with a nation which is drifting heedlessly into war, with a people possessing a splendid army and the finest navy in the world, while it possesses, in truth, neither one nor the other? A few thousand soldiers scattered over an immense continent, and vessels carrying in all about 500 guns, are literally all the resources with which the United States confront the enormous fleet and well-trained armies of England, about to be set at liberty by the impending peace with Russia. If we were the aggressors—if, taking advantage of the enormous disparity of our forces, we had been mean and base enough to force a quarrel on an unoffending neighbor, no words would have been sufficiently vigorous to reprobate our conduct; but what is to be said when a power utterly helpless in military and naval resources insists on fixing us with a quarrel which we have as little power to avoid as it has adequately to carry out.

We find, indeed, in American an Executive Government, which is ready enough to exchange defiance with us, but that Government is on the very eve of dissolution, and is well known to be using a quarrel with Great Britain as a means of courting popularity for the coming elections. We have a difference with it with regard to certain places in Central America and the interpretation of treaties relating to them. We have offered to leave the quarrel to the arbitration of any impartial State and abide by whatever award may be given. America rejects this offer, and continues the argument, which a succession of letters and memorials have worn completely threadbare. Meanwhile a band of pirates, issuing from her own shores, seize upon a portion of the disputed territory."

The Times here makes the untrue allegation that Walker is assisted by the naval forces of the United States, and continues—

"If we turn to another cause of quarrel—the enlistment in Canada of American citizens for the English service in the Crimea, we find a quarrel intemperately urged and vehemently pressed by the American Government.—Amends more than enough to satisfy the offended pride and wounded sensibility of our private gentlemen have been offered to the American Cabinet, but offered in vain. They cannot be content with satisfaction unless it be attended with humiliation, and require that we should withdraw our deservedly popular Minister from Washington, as an expiation to the injured dignity of the Union. We trust that this rash intimation is not finally determined on, or, after so flagrant and unprovoked an insult, it may be long indeed before Washington will behold another representative of the Cabinet of St. James's.

In an article, on the day previous, the Times observes:—

"Disclaiming, then, all pretence to any knowledge of the contents of the forthcoming Speech, we can only presume that the tone adopted by her Majesty with reference to the two principal subjects which now occupy every one's attention—the prospects of peace with Russia, and the pending disputes with the United States—will be pacific and moderate without being on that account the less firm and decided. In the one case we earnestly desire peace; in the other we have the most genuine and unfeigned aversion to war; but neither our desire for peace nor our aversion to war will induce us to forego the objects for which we have taken up arms on the one hand, nor to submit to gratuitous insult on the other. We are conscious of our strength, and able from our existing state of preparation to put it forth at our shortest notice and in the most effective manner; we have shaken off the lethargy of a long peace, and were never less disposed to surrender to menace that which cannot be obtained from us by reason or persuasion."

The London Morning Post assumes a like attitude; and in commenting on what it styles the "truculent" despatch of the United States cabinet to Mr. Buchanan, says:

"Mr. President Pierce thought England was in a fix with the Russian war, and we might be browbeaten with impunity, but now there is a prospect of peace, he will by this time perceive the full extent of the danger he has incurred. The naval power of England was never more fully developed than at present, comprising a force of ships of the line, frigates, and mortar and gun-boats, in compa-

ison with which the entire navy of the United States is but a weak and inefficient squadron, and will, with the certainty of peace, be set at liberty to act in vindication of the national honor in whatever quarter it may be assailed. The change, therefore, which has recently come over the drama of European politics will, no doubt, have its proper weight with all reflecting men in the United States, and they will consider whether, on a point of mere international jockeying—which has been the subject of explanation and apology—a war should be rashly and wickedly provoked, which would sweep American commerce from the seas, and lay the whole seaboard of the Union open to the attacks of the greatest naval power in the world. To this extremity the dispute will not and must not come."

## Later from Europe.

New York, Feb. 24.  
The Atlantic arrived off Sandy Hook at 10 o'clock last night and came up to her dock at 9 o'clock this morning. She brings no news of the Pacific.

The protocol preliminary to the congress at Paris, has been, definitely signed and matters are progressing favorably in the direction of peace. There is a report that the emperors of Russia and Austria will visit Paris during the conference.

No news of interest from the Crimea. The last of the docks of Sebastopol have been destroyed. An armistice by land only will doubtless be agreed upon, to last until the end of March.

The most important news is that which relates to the extraordinary excitement in England on the subject of a war with the United States. It was again confidently reported on the Liverpool exchange, that the American minister had demanded his passports, and his absence from Lady Palmerston's soirée was attributed to the personal misunderstanding between Clarendon and himself. Lord Palmerston promises to lay part of the Central American correspondence before Parliament.

The following is an extract from a leader in the London Times:

"We expect to hear every day that our Minister at Washington has received his passports, and is on his way home. That of course will compel similar proceedings on our part, with regard to the American Minister. Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Crampton, the two offensive gentlemen, representing their governments at Washington and London, will probably cross each other on the Atlantic, after deploring the existence of this domestic quarrel. England has really apologized enough to satisfy ten European empires, we cannot hold her responsible for the estrangement. The Americans must reckon on an obstinate resistance if they drive us to it. Let them count the cost before they take any fatal steps, else after two or three paces they will make their calculations in vain."

The London Dispatch says:—"A good deal of pardonable irritation is felt here that the sympathies of a republican people should have been so unaccountably manifested during the present war in behalf of the great mainstay and sheet anchor of European despotism, and if the people of the United States permit their rulers to plunge them into a war with Great Britain, they will receive the most terrible lesson ever administered to national enmity."

The Paris Journal Despatch Debates has a long and labored editorial to prove that up to the present point the interests of France and England are identical, but that a continuance of the war either in the Baltic or in Asia would only subvert the private interest of England.

Prince Paskiewitch is dead.

The Chairman of the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce at the annual meeting of the Chamber spoke in strong terms against any interruption of friendly relations between the two countries. The Manchester Chamber of Commerce held its annual meeting on the 4th inst., when the following resolution, prepared by John Bright, M. P., was moved by the mayor of Manchester and unanimously adopted.

Resolved, That this Chamber has observed with deep regret that difficulties have arisen between the British Government and the government of the United States with regard to the construction of a treaty on the subject of Central America, and to attempts, which are alleged to have been made to enlist men for the British army within the jurisdiction of the United States. This chamber, would urgently impress upon the government of this country the propriety of considering these questions in a conciliatory spirit, with a strong determination to spare alike to the United Kingdom and the United States, the indescribable evil which must arise from any interruption of amicable relations between the two countries. The resolution was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Bright made a good speech on the occasion.

Clarendon is reported to have spoken in a most impressive manner to Mr. Buchanan while Mr. B. promptly checked by closing the interview. It is also reported that France and England have jointly sent envoys to Brazil to seek to enlist the interests of that country against the interests of the United States in Central America.

The funds have been unsettled and depressed by the threatening aspect of affairs.

Letters by the India and China mail are to hand. The only noticeable article of news additional to that published, is that the trial of Mr. Kwanan, American Consul at Hong Kong is postponed on account of the sickness of the Chief Justice.

The London Morning Advertiser states that Sir Henry Bulwer had intimated that he would like to act as a sort of mediator between the British government and Mr. Buchanan. This move is said to be a desire of Lord Palmerston, and an interview was to take place at the Embassy, where Bulwer would explain at length to Mr. Buchanan.

## Republican Convention.

Pittsburg, Feb. 22.  
The National Republican Convention temporarily organized at 11 o'clock. A very large number being present. Mr. Bagnard, of Vermont, called the assembly to order and gave the election of John A. King, of New York, as temporary Chairman; Dr. Stone, of Mass. and Wm. F. Clark, of Iowa, as temporary Secretaries.

A committee of permanent organization, consisting of one from each State, was then appointed, and retired to an adjoining room to arrange preliminaries. During the absence of the committee several gentlemen were called upon to address the meeting. Mr. Greeley, of New York, said he had been in Washington for several weeks. Friends there, surrounded extreme caution in our movements, not being himself a cautious man, he thought we were bound to act in such a manner as to show the South that although Republicans are the great opponents of Slavery, they are not exempted by feelings hostile to the South. As was for the real interest of Missouri that Kansas should be a free State, and he believed that the most important of the people of Missouri were in

favor of freedom. The Secretary of War is no friend to our cause, either is the commander of the federal forces a friend. Therefore let us be cautious to keep within bounds. Mr. Greeley believed the Americans were against them and declared that the main and only issue was that every territory should be free.

He was succeeded by Mr. Giddings, of Ohio, who congratulated the Convention on having the son of his old friend, Rufus King, in the chair. Washington was the last place to look for redress.

Mr. Giddings introduced Rev. Mr. Lovejoy, of Illinois, who made some exciting remarks. He said the places of those patriots who were about to be shot down in Kansas, would be supplied by other freemen. He was willing, either as a captain or a private, to be there wailing in blood, rather than see a set of drunken ruffians take the government out of the hands of the people of Kansas.

Mr. Gibson, of Ohio, followed, denouncing the Know Nothings, etc. He had heard that they would nominate George Law. Let us act independently and organize a true American Republican party.

The committee on permanent organization reported for President, Francis P. Blair, of Maryland—received with great applause and unanimously accepted.

Mr. Blair in accepting the office said it was the first speech he had ever been called on to make. He felt highly complimented by the honor done him. He said the South misunderstood the object of the Republican party, believing it to be solely the abolition of slavery; but when they understand that it is to prevent the nullification of the North, a different feeling would prevail.

The following Vice Presidents were announced: Horatio G. Russ, of N. H.; L. Brainard, Vt.; George Bliss, Mass.; James M. Hunsce, Conn.; R. G. Hazard, R. I.; E. D. Morgan, N. Y.; J. Farley, Va.; Gen. Markle, Pa.; W. S. Bailey, Ky.; W. P. Clark, Iowa; R. W. Spaulding, Ohio; G. W. Julian, Ind.; J. H. McMillen, Ill.; Gov. Bingham, Michigan; David James, Wisconsin; F. M. Newson, Mo.; Lewis Chapman, D. C.; with 5 Secretaries.

A resolution appointing a committee of one from each State, to draft a resolution and address, was adopted.

A paper submitted by Mr. Blair, containing the sentiments of the Southern friends of republican opinions, was read. It warns Southerners against endangering their property by taking it into the territories. It considers that every issue should merge in the Missouri compromise, and recommends that all parties meet in convention and nominate candidates for president and vice president. The address was received as the sentiments of Southern friends, and ordered to be printed.

During the afternoon session the committee on a plan for organization reported.

Charles Kremen of Ohio, spoke in denunciation of the executive, and defended the Republicans from the charge of sectionalism. Passmore Williamson was called for and was received with great applause, but excused himself from speaking.

After several speeches from Spaulding, Foote, of Ohio, Bliss of Mass., and others, all urging prudence in the construction of a platform, the meeting at 5 o'clock adjourned.

Feb. 23.—The convention met at 9 o'clock. The committee on resolutions then reported, giving a history of the slavery question from the commencement of the government up to the present time, with the legislative action upon it. A large part of the report was devoted to Kansas, and the conduct of the present administration severely denounced.

The document is very able, but it is to be withheld for the present, as revision is found to be necessary.

The resolutions were as follows: The 1st demands a repeal of all laws relating to the introduction of slavery into the territories. The 2d supports by all lawful means, our brethren in Kansas, and gives full weight in favor of the admission of Kansas into the Union as a free State.

The 3d expresses the belief that the conduct of the administration has been weak and highly reprehensible in the Kansas question, and urges the Republicans to use every effort to overthrow the administration.

The resolutions after a short debate, were unanimously adopted, with nine cheers.

Mr. Bond of South Carolina, moved that a committee of safety be appointed that may act in case of a conflict in Kansas with the federal troops. A discussion arose upon this, and at the request of some of the members who urged its imprudence, Mr. Bond withdrew his motion.

Mr. Spaulding of Ohio, moved the printing of all the documents. The motion was carried. After a series of thanks to the officers of the convention: Adjourned, sine die.

## SUPREME JUDICIAL COURT—LIBEL CASE DECIDED.

The case of Horace Billings vs. Edward Russell & Co. has been upon trial during the past week in the Supreme Court, and has excited a good deal of interest in the business circles. It is an action brought against the well known Mercantile Agency, of this city, Edward Russell & Co. for publishing a false account of the condition and property of Horace Billings, of Bridgton, in Maine.

It appeared that Billings had been reported, from information received by the correspondents of the Mercantile Agency, as being in doubtful circumstances, and as having disposed of his property.

There were many important questions in the law of libel which arose at the trial, but the most important was the question whether the Mercantile Agency was responsible for damages if it proved that the information which they gave as to the credit and property of merchants was untrue. The Court, upon this question, instructed the jury that if the Messrs. Russell & Co. were employed by their subscribers to collect information as to the credit and property of their customers or persons with whom they are about to transact business, and if they used proper care and diligence in collecting information, and in good faith communicated it to their subscribers for their information, and under no business, then they were not responsible if it should prove that their information was erroneous, unless it was proved that the communication was malicious. There were many other questions which arose, and were argued at great length before the jury.

The case was somewhat qualified by a correction of the erroneous statement, as soon as the company had ascertained that it was untrue. The jury returned a verdict for the defendants, as was stated in the Times yesterday. The counsel in the case were Richard H. Dana, Jr. for the plaintiffs; and H. F. Davis and S. C. Burr for the defendants.—Boston Times.

THE NEW YORK AND PORTLAND STEAMERS.—We are glad to learn that it is intended to increase the speed of the Steamers now employed on the line between here and New York, by enlarging the boilers, and making such other improvements as may be required to secure greater dispatch in the trips. This line is a very important one to Portland, and the State generally—and we doubt not after the necessary steps are taken to improve the passages, will prove still more advantageous than ever before.—[Port. Adv.]

## SUCCESS.—No man with the least pluck is indifferent to success, but the grand distinction between men lies in the fact that one class places success entirely on external things, and the other makes its chief good to reside in character. All success is false and unworthy of the pursuit of manly effort that involves the degradation of character—the yielding up of moral principle and mercantile rectitude. The grand success is where the man passes through the emergencies of business life without sacrifice of honor, manfully placing his chief good in steadfastness of soul. Such a man is like Milton, sitting quietly in the close of the summer day, at the door of his humble cottage, in contrast with Charles, the Second, with whom such sacrifices for humanity as the great poet had made were a mystery. The adversity of the one was better than the prosperity of the other. And wherever our lot may be cast, the success to be aimed for is that which best builds the man up, whatever else may fail.

## How to Subdue A Vicious Horse.—On looking over some old papers the other day, we came across the following, which, if true, is worth knowing. It seems that a fruitless effort was being made in a blacksmith's shop to subdue a vicious horse, which resisted all efforts, kicking aside everything but an anvil, and came near killing himself against that when by mere accident, an officer returned from Mexico was passing, and being made acquainted with the difficulty, applied a complete remedy by the following simple process.

He took a cord, about the size of a common bed-cord, put it in the mouth of the horse like a bit, tied it lightly on the top of the animal's head, passing his left ear under the string, not painfully tight, but tight enough to keep the ear down and the cord in its place. This done, he patted the horse gently on the side of the head, and commanded him to follow, and instantly the horse obeyed, perfectly subdued, and as gentle and obedient, as a well trained dog; suffering his feet to be lifted with entire impunity, and acting in all respects like an old stager.

The simple string thus tied, had made him at once docile and obedient as any one could desire. The gentleman who thus furnished this exceedingly simple means of subduing a very dangerous propensity, intimated that it is practiced in Mexico and South America, in the management of wild horses. By the way, it may be, he deserves the thanks of all owners of such horses, and especially the thanks of those whose business it may be to "break" or "train" the animals.—[The Plough, Loom and Anvil.]

had just begged in the neighborhood. In the midst of his meal a grey-headed man came from the house and kicked the boy, basket and all, into the street, with an oath that went to our heart, and made us shudder as it rang on the air. That little fellow wept bitterly as he stood in the midst of the crusts of bread and other refuse, from the tables of the more fortunate, and as he knelt to gather the scattered luxuries of the beggar's lot, we inwardly invoked a hearty malediction upon the gray-headed ruffian, in whose soul age had planted more wrinkles than in his forehead. We looked upon the mansion, it gleamed with the flames of Tartarus, and while we stood gazing upon the house, we heard strains of music, singing of songs, coming from its saloon or parlor. We heard the groans of pining angels above the songs of human voices, and in a vision of judgment, we saw that poor beggar boy and that rich man at the throne of Eternal Justice. The millionaire was dumb, but in angelic tones of forgiveness the beggar pleaded for mercy upon his oppressor, who knew not what he did—but a frown rested upon the face of the Judge, and even the beggar had plead in vain for the vengeance of an avenging God, had fallen upon the defrauder of the poor, the oppressor of the oppressed.

## Letter from Hon. David Hunter.

What some persons only need to be reminded of, as familiar facts, to others may be new revelations of as much practical importance to them as to the former. For this reason, we thank our friend Hon. D. Hunter of Clinton, for the following letter, in which he describes his process for making vinegar, and also for preserving shingles upon roofs.

"Something has been said in the *Kura* about the Vinegar Plant. There is no need of plants to make vinegar. Thirty years ago I purchased a barrel of molasses in Augusta, when the molasses was at 1, filled the barrel with sweetened water, made quite sweet, say about four gallons of molasses to the barrel of water, and placed the barrel in the kitchen near the chimney, with the bung out. I put in one sheet of brown paper to form the 'mother'; and in three or four months it was good vinegar. And there the same barrel now, nearly full, and I have never been out of vinegar since. Only replenish with sweetened water







Copy of petition and order of Court. <sup>18</sup> 1875  
52 <sup>18</sup> 1875  
Attest F. Davis, Register

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