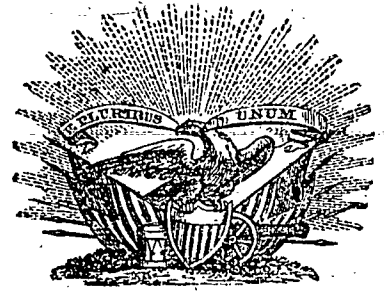


AMERICAN VOLUNTEER.

BY SANDERSON & CORNMAN.



CARLISLE:

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29, 1850.

To a Correspondent.—Our friend in the west is too late in his application. We are supplied for the present.

The news from the North Eastern Boundary is of thrilling interest. The latest and most authentic accounts will be found on the opposite page. The authorities of Maine appear determined to enforce the right of the State to the disputed territory at all hazards, while, on the other hand, the Governor of New Brunswick is preparing to assert the English claim at the point of the bayonet.—What may be the result of this state of things, it is not for us to say—one thing, however, is certain, that the question of sovereignty must shortly be determined either peacefully or forcibly.

A special messenger from the Governor of Maine arrived in Washington on Friday night last, with a demand for aid from the General Government. A Cabinet Council was immediately called, and the President, it was believed, would make a special communication to Congress on Monday.

The territory in dispute betwixt the State of Maine and the British Government of New Brunswick comprises about 10,000 square miles of the most valuable land in that section of the country.

New Judge.

By letters received from Harrisburg, we learn that, on Saturday last, Gov. Porter nominated our esteemed fellow townsman, SAMUEL HERMAN, Esq., to the office of President Judge of this Judicial District, in the room of the Hon. John Reed, whose term, agreeably to the provisions of the new Constitution, expired on yesterday. The nomination will doubtless be confirmed by the Senate.

That the nomination of Mr. H. is a popular one, all who are acquainted with his high standing in this community, will readily admit—and that it was made with an eye single to the best interests of the people who are most interested in the matter, none will dare deny. Mr. H. although yet a young man, has acquired a character at the Bar for legal acquirements and high attainments in the arduous duties of his profession, which few of his older brethren can aspire to. In fact, he stands second to none at this Bar, which is confessedly one of the ablest in the State, out of the city of Philadelphia. To his talents as a lawyer, we may add, that his correct moral deportment, his pleasing address and urbanity of manners, all eminently qualify him to become, not only an ornament to the Bench, but also one of the most popular Judges in the Commonwealth. The only objection that can be urged from any quarter against Mr. H.'s appointment is that he is a democrat; but the mass of the people have had long enough trial of federal judges to be satisfied, that a change of politics even on the Bench can do no harm, and may be productive of much good.

New Line of Cars.—We learn from the Harrisburg Chronicle, that Genl. David H. Miller, of Philadelphia, is about placing an extra line of cars on the road, by which passengers will be carried from the city to Harrisburg at the reduced price of \$4.00. Under the present arrangement the fare is \$5.00. We hope our friends who visit the city will not fail to patronize the new line. The pockets of the people have been long enough fleeced by the extortions practised upon them by the different companies who have all along monopolized the business of the road.

Two oxen have been exhibiting in our borough for the last few days, each of which is said to weigh about 4000 pounds. They are of the Durham breed, were raised in New Jersey, and are seven years old.

Flour.—The late advices from Europe have had a tendency to unsettle our markets. On Thursday last, in Baltimore, sales of flour were made from stores at \$7.75, and on Friday from wagons at \$7.30.

It is stated that the cost of transporting the convicts, during the last ten years, has cost the English Government about forty millions of dollars! At that rate, we suppose, the cost has overrun the profit.

"To the Victors belong the Spoils."

There is nothing in the whole vocabulary of politics, that has given the federalists such a frightful theme of abuse against their democratic opponents, as the above hackneyed expression of Gov. Marcy, of New York, delivered in the Senate of the United States some ten or twelve years ago. No epithet which federal ingenuity could invent, has been considered too base to apply to the republican administrations of Gen. Jackson and Mr. Van Buren, in connexion with this doctrine; and so unceasing have been their cries of "proscription for opinion's sake," that many of our citizens, who have not made themselves acquainted with the real state of the case, no doubt suppose that they (the federalists) are entirely excluded from the enjoyment of the "loaves and fishes" of office;—and this opinion would naturally be imbibed, in consequence of the general success which has for some time past attended the democratic cause: Now, for the purpose of setting this matter straight, & showing the utter falsity of these federal lamentations, we insert the following statement from the "Metropolis," a staunch democratic paper published at Washington City, which places the subject in its true light: In the

Table with columns: Federalists, Salary, Democrats, Salary. Rows include GENERAL POST OFFICE, AUDITOR'S OFFICE, TREASURY DEPARTMENT, Register's Office, First Comptroller's Office, Second Comptroller's Office, First Auditor's Office, Second Auditor's Office, Fourth Auditor's Office, Fifth Auditor's Office, Treasurer's Office, Solicitor's Office, STATE DEPARTMENT.

This, then is the true state of the case, so far as regards the Land Office, General Post Office, Treasury and State Departments.

In the War and Navy Departments the same state of things unfortunately exists.—The above table exhibits the General Government retaining in power a majority of federalists at a large amount of salary over and above that received by their democratic friends, and this too, in the face of all the lying declarations made by the federal prints from one extremity of the Union to the other. In addition to all this, it is estimated that out of 12,000 and upwards Postmasters in the United States, at least two-thirds of them are violent, brawling, and uncompromising opponents of the National Administration! The above are facts which cannot be controverted, and the federalists ought to blush at their own inconsistency in charging "proscription for opinion's sake" upon the dominant party. We shall advert to this subject again.

Earthquake.—The Island of Martinique in the West Indies, suffered severely by an earthquake on the 11th of January. In the town of St. Pierre much damage was sustained, and in Fort Royal no less than about 400 lives were lost. Hundreds of plantations in the Island were utterly destroyed—and to augment, if possible, the sad calamity, the yellow fever is making terrible ravages among the inhabitants. The Governor of the Island has issued a proclamation, calling upon the citizens to succor each other in their frightful disaster, and promises the sympathy and assistance of the French government. The call is answered with alacrity, and many of the citizens, it is said, have joined the garrison and marines in digging up the ruins, opening the streets, propping up buildings, and repairing the desolations which the calamity had made.

A dreadful storm occurred on the coast of England, on the 6th of January. Three American packet ships were wrecked, besides a number of British vessels. A great number of lives were lost, and a vast amount of property destroyed. The town of Liverpool, in particular, suffered severely by the storm—so also Manchester. It is said to be impossible to form any estimate of the value of property destroyed.

A bill has been reported in the New York Legislature, appropriating \$10,000, for the erection of a monument to the memory of Dewitt Clinton.

Delaware Senator.—The Delaware Journal states that "no Senator is elected, nor to be elected this session," by the Legislature of that State.

The House of Representatives adopted a resolution, on Saturday, fixing the 27th of March as the day of temporary adjournment of the Legislature, and the 7th of May as the time of meeting, to hold an extra session. This is another item of expense which may justly be charged upon Joseph Ritner's administration, inasmuch as the entire month of December was wasted by the Governor and his friends, in attempting to carry out their nefarious designs against the rights and liberties of the people, and neglecting the appropriate duties for which they were delegated by their constituents. Dearly have the people to pay for the misrule of the late administration.

Rumors were rife here on Monday last, that Dr. Duncan, a member of Congress from Ohio, was killed by Mr. Menifee, of Kentucky. The rumor is false and unfounded, and, instead of being killed or even hurt, the Dr. still lives a terrible eyegore to the federalists in Congress.

The capture of the Land Agent of Maine, Mr. McIntire, and seven men, and their imprisonment in the British Authorities in Frederickton Jail, is the cause of the present excitement in that State.

It is ascertained to be a fact, that more than two-thirds of the defaulters under Gen. Jackson's administration were federalists. Yet the opposition are crying out most lustily, that all "leg-treasurers" are democrats! Out upon such falsifiers!

Virginia.—After a great number of ineffectual ballotings for U. S. Senator, the Legislature of Virginia, on Saturday last, abandoned all further attempts for the present session, by postponing the election indefinitely. This must be poor consolation for the traitor Rives.

The new Board of Canal Commissioners have set a praise-worthy example, by passing a resolution continuing the present Lock Keepers on the public works in office until the 1st day of April next. This was done, as well to prevent the inconvenience of removing their families, &c. at this inclement season of the year, as to afford them the means of livelihood until the spring season commences. Quite different was the policy pursued by their predecessors some three years ago. Then the main object appeared to be to turn out the democrats "neck and heels," without regard to the situation of their families, or the severity of the season.

Anti-Abolition Meeting.

At a large and respectable meeting of the citizens of Allen township in the county of Cumberland and Fairview township in the county of York, held at the house of Peter McCann in the town of Lisburn, on Monday the 18th February, for the purpose of expressing their views on the subject of Abolitionism, when on motion Capt. ANDREW FERTENBAUGH was called to the Chair, JOSEPH ATKINSON, and LOVE FISHER, chosen Vice Presidents, and Isaac Barton, Secretary. On motion of Henry M'Konkey, Col. John Thompson of York county was called upon to address the meeting, who appeared and in a very clear and happy manner laid open to the public the designs of the fiery emissary and domestic fanatic and abolitionist to the satisfaction of all who heard him, when on motion the chair appointed the following gentlemen a committee to prepare a preamble and resolutions expressive of the sense of this meeting, viz: Col. John Thompson, Henry M'Konkey, John Maters, Jr., Emanuel Fetterow and Robert Nelson, who retired for a few moments and reported the following which were unanimously adopted: Whereas, The excitement that has been created in our country by abolitionists and is still spreading through fanatics and other persons not having the welfare of our republic at heart, but to create a disunion of our states, has at length reached our peaceful village and its vicinity, by persons who profess to be the servants of our Lord's gospel. And whereas, a lecture has already been delivered in one of our villages by the Rev. E. West, who calls himself a servant in the vineyard of the Lord and an elder in the church of God, and wishes to meet persons in or about the village of Lisburn to debate that subject. We would remark that the formation of our glorious union, was a great experiment made by patriotism in the cause of civil liberty, thus far successful, its results have been most beneficial, spreading with unexampled profusion over our extensive country blessings which distinguish her above all others. The offspring of common sufferings and common triumphs among the states—the preservation of this union is dependent upon a community of sympathy and good feeling among their respective people. Any attempt by a portion of the people of one state to interfere even indirectly with the domestic institutions of another has the inevitable tendency to destroy that feeling. Such attempt is an insult on the state aggrieved, and the motives which impel it are at variance with that paternal spirit which constitutes the people of these states brethren of one great family; but when such attempt involves the safety of the people of a state, the robbery of their property, the desecration of their constitutional rights, the violation of their domestic peace, infatuation hereof must admit that such attempt perpetrated will inevitably convert pre-existent good feeling into deadly hostility. The certain consequences of which will be a sundered union with all the horrors of civil com-

motion. That such attempt is being at this time made by certain fanatics, by their lecturing and the distribution of pamphlets, circulars, almanacs, and every species of publication, cannot be denied; yet it is a matter of heartfelt congratulation to the friends of the union that the general and spontaneous expression of feeling which has burst from the patriotism and intelligence of the north, affords the cheering hope that we are prepared to frown indignantly upon the first dawning of every attempt to alienate any portion of our country, from the rest, or to enfeeble the sacred ties which now link together the various parts. But notwithstanding the manifestation of this spirit, the movement of the domestic fanatic and foreign emissary, and the insidious means to which they resort are fraught with so much peril to the citizens of the south themselves, their families and their undoubted rights; and a just regard for the peace and harmony of our country demand that we should in temperate and respectful but determined language assist to protect their domestic institutions and constitutional rights from all interference, either direct or indirect, from any and every quarter. Therefore,

Resolved, That the perpetuity of this glorious union which has shed such blessings on us as a people is only to be ensured by a strict adherence to the letter of the constitution, which has guaranteed certain rights which we will suffer no power on earth to interfere with, that it is deeply incumbent on us as a part of the citizens of the north, to crush the traitorous designs of the abolitionists, and that the south may look to us with confidence to such movements on our part as will effectually put an end to impetinent fanatical and disloyal interference with matters settled by the constitution.

Resolved, That the Trustees of the Lisburn Union Meeting House be requested not to open the church or school house to Mr. West or any other person for the purpose of lecturing on the subject of abolitionism, or any persons that they know have at any former time delivered lectures on that subject; that should they do so they will depart from that trust confided in them by the contributors of said church and school house; that we will prevent it peacefully if we can.

Resolved, That the District of Columbia and the several territories of the U. States are the common property of the people of these states that the right of exclusive legislation in the former and the power to make all needful rules and regulations for the government of the latter are vested in the Congress of the United States and are derived from the constitution which recognizes and guarantees the rights resulting from domestic slavery and that any interference by that body with those rights will be unauthorized by, and contrary to, the spirit of that sacred charter of American liberty.

Resolved, That the foregoing preamble & resolutions be signed by the officers and published in the papers of Carlisle and York.

A. FERTENBAUGH, Pres. JOSEPH ATKINSON, V. Presidents. LOVE FISHER, Isaac Barton, Secretary.

REMARKS

Of Col. McClure, delivered in the House of Representatives, on the resolution of Mr. Naylor for the appointment of a select committee to enquire into the conduct of Commodore Elliott, while in command in the Mediterranean.

Mr. McClure rose and said: I believe Mr. Speaker, the motion of my colleague is, that this communication be referred to a select committee, for the purpose of investigation, so that a report may be made thereon, for the satisfaction not only of the members of this House, but generally of the people of the United States. So far as this investigation is concerned, I second the proposition willingly and cordially. I believe that such an investigation ought to be had. I believe that it is due not less to the parties concerned than to the honor of our Navy, that a clear, distinct, and full development of all the facts connected with these charges should be laid before the country. Sir, I hope that no gentleman here will be found to throw any obstacle in the way of this inquiry. Let us have it; let us hear all that is to be heard, and let us know what foundation there is for charges which have been so repeatedly and so boldly urged upon the consideration of this House.

What was the nature of the communication received only a few days ago from the Navy Department, in relation to one set of charges against this officer? It was, that no information respecting them was to be found on the files of the Department, and that, therefore, the Secretary could make no report in the premises. Let honorable gentlemen bear this fact in mind.

Mr. Speaker, I do not appear here as the particular friend of Commodore Elliott. It is true that I know him, and, so far as I know him, I believe him to be a high-minded and honorable man; and I know also that he has at least "done some service" to the Republic. If envy exists against him, let that envy spit her spite through Representatives on this floor for years—yes, sir, for years—and at last it will have "to gnaw a file." If there is a man living who I believe would, in his individual capacity do justice to his country, that man is Com. Elliott. But, sir, let us look at him in another capacity—in his public character.

I have said that he has done "some service to the State." Let us look at him, if you please, at the battle of Lake Erie. Every disputed question in relation to that battle was settled, I believe, shortly afterwards, by the Congress of the U. States voting a medal to him in token of his gallant conduct there. And, previous to that battle, look at his conduct in cutting out two ships from under the enemy's battery, and carrying them captive to our shores. Is there nothing in his conduct there? Is there nothing in his conduct in South America? Is there nothing in his conduct in the West

Indies? Nothing in his conduct in the Mediterranean?—Look to his whole career—look to it with a fair and candid eye, and tell me whether his every energy has not been devoted to the glory of his country and to the protection of her flag? And yet, here we see the exhibitions of this venomous spirit—this disposition to persecute and trample upon him—in the introduction of resolution after resolution—each aiming, by insinuation, or more direct charge; at the destruction of his character; and yet, each calling for information which, when obtained, has, up to this point at least, gone to clear up the very character which it is designed to blacken and destroy.

It has been asserted, Mr. Speaker, by my colleague who preceded me, that there is no vice in the calender of which Com. Elliott has not been guilty. I, in my place, deny the fact. Sir, it is not a fact. I feel bound to contradict the assertion. If Com. Elliott had a fault, it was the fault of being too strict a disciplinarian for the lax and loose times in which we live, when every man holding an inferior official station holds himself equal to his superior. That is his only fault. He is a sailor of the old school. He is a man resolutely determined to enforce discipline on board his own ship, and, in doing so, it is probable that the constituents of my colleague may think that too severe inflictions have been put upon them. I will vouch that he will be correct in the enforcement of discipline to the minutest tota.

Let us look at the case referred to. Ten or twelve days ago; I had the honor of presenting to my colleague some authentic documents, with a request that he would read them, and in the belief that, if he did read them, he could not fail to be satisfied as to the true state of the case of Mr. Barton.

But what are the facts of that case? You have heard a fine flourish on the matter from my colleague—you have heard from him loud declarations—(would to God I had his strength of lungs; but I have not, and I propose, therefore to confine myself as closely as possible to facts.) And what are those facts, as they appear from the documents in the hands of my colleague?

Mr. Barton met an inferior, or petty, officer on the deck of the frigate Constitution, (which was commanded by Com. Elliott,) and asked him why he was not in the performance of some particular duty. The reply was, that he had been discharging the duty assigned to him, and that he could not attend to any other. Mr. Barton, losing on the instant the control of his judgment, and giving way to his passion, drew a dirk and stabbed the man in the thigh. The man retreated below, and was taken wounded to the hospital. The matter was reported to Com. Elliott. A young officer, taking up the quarrel of the inferior, subsequently called Mr. Barton to the field of honor, as it is termed. Com. Elliott, for the very purpose of avoiding some such issue, ordered Mr. Barton from the Constitution to the schooner "Shark," and wrote a letter to the commander of the schooner not to permit Mr. B. to go on shore; for, if he did, a duel would be the consequence. Contrary alike to the order of the Commodore and of the commander of the schooner, Mr. Barton did sink, or go secretly, over the side of the vessel, was engaged in the duel, was wounded; and when carried back to the Constitution, (to which vessel it will be borne in mind, he did not belong,) was ordered back to the shore. This is the plain state of the case.

And what was Com. Elliott's motive?—The rules of the service had been disregarded, the discipline of the squadron invaded, and his own express commands set aside.—He said to himself, Shall I maintain the discipline of my squadron, or shall I not? Shall I, in the face of my crew, vindicate the rules and discipline of the service which have thus been wantonly violated, or shall I yield now and forever? Like a good officer, he enforced his rules. He required Mr. Barton to be carried on shore; but at the same time that he thus determined to establish and sustain his discipline, he gave directions that strict care should be taken of Mr. B., and gave him a letter of credit for any amount of money which might be requisite to provide for his recovery and comfort. Sir, if a dog were wounded and brought to my door, I would send for a surgeon and have his wounds dressed. But, I say that, had I been in the situation of Com. Elliott, I should have taken the same steps that he did. He was not at liberty to forget that whilst he took proper means for the protection of a human being under his command, it was his duty also to enforce the discipline of this most strong and favorite arm of our national defence. And it is not a remarkable fact, Mr. Speaker, that whilst the apparently harsh orders given in the event referred to are arrayed before this House and the country, for the purpose of crushing the character of a son of our Navy, not a word is heard of his kind and gentle conduct towards the wounded man. Suppose the Commodore had allowed him to come on board the Constitution? What would have been the consequence? His orders would have been a nullity—his discipline looser than the spider's web—more tender and more easily broken. But, like a man able and determined to sustain himself and the honor of his flag in distant seas, he vindicated the rules and discipline of the service, even whilst, as I have said, he gave a letter of credit to Mr. Barton for any amount of money he might require; and which very letter of credit, if I am not mistaken, you find Mr. Barton using. Was there cruelty there? If so, I do not know in what cruelty consists.

I have thus, Mr. Speaker, viewed with calmness and deliberation the facts as I believe them to exist in the case of Mr. Barton. The language of some of the resolutions which have been offered on this floor has wounded my feelings, and, probably, the feelings of other members besides myself.—The language, as it seems to me, is of a nature emphatically calculated to prejudice the People of the U. States against Commodore Elliott, and to make them believe that all is wrong about him. Sir, if any thing is wrong, I believe his greatest fault will be found in the fact that he has sustained the last and present Administrations, but more especially the last—that he was thought worthy of the special trust and confidence of Genl. Jackson—and that Genl. Jackson, entrusted to his charge the performance of one of the most delicate and critical duties that has ever been assigned to any officer, civil or military, since the first existence of this Republic. And, sir, whose whose curiosity or candor may dispose them to look a little beyond the surface of things here, may probably find a satisfactory return for their trouble, in the clews which I have here suggested to their consideration.

We have had a report in the case of Lieut. Hunter. I have glanced my eye over it, and I see nothing in it to bring home a misdemeanor—a dishonor—or an unworthy reflection on Commodore Elliott. It appears that on a race-course near Port Mahon, in the Island of Minorca, Mr. Hunter used harsh language, and that the Commodore told him not to separate the gentleman from the officer. He replied, that he had not done so, and that he did not intend to do so. The Commodore said, you have done so—to which Mr. Hunter rejoined; and Commodore Elliott, then, in the exercise of his legitimate authority, ordered him on board.—And we have the letter of the Governor of Minorca, setting forth that the Commodore had done nothing more than exercise that authority which every officer ought to exercise under similar circumstances. Suppose the Commodore had gone a little beyond his authority in ordering Mr. Hunter on board the vessel. Was he not right? What are the rules of your Army? Look to them for a moment. They enjoin upon the superior officer, when he sees an inferior officer in any controversy, to arrest him immediately. Nay, sir, the rules of the Army go further: they enjoin upon an inferior officer to arrest his superior under similar circumstances.—How, then, can you say that Commodore Elliott has transgressed the bounds of his just authority? Sir, he is more entitled to credit for having acted up to that just authority, than to censure for having passed beyond it.

The gentleman from Vermont (Mr. ALLEN) has introduced another resolution. Its language was more moderate, probably, than that of two or three others; it showed less bitterness, less of an unrelenting spirit to crush; but yet it came as a helpmate to others, in calling for information. And what information have we obtained? The Secretary of the Navy informs us that there is no information in his Department in relation to the case. And why? Because it is an ex parte call. I allude to the case of Mr. Etheridge—to the call upon the Navy Department for information why the Commodore had not been court-martialled upon the charges preferred against him by Mr. Etheridge. Sir, the resolution called for ex parte evidence, for one-sided testimony. It is true that resolutions might have been offered calling for all information, but time and opportunity have not permitted. But what is the reply of the Secretary to this resolution? It is, that the Department has no information to give to the Public; and there the matter rests. Now, I will state my own honest conviction and belief, that if a resolution had been adopted calling for information on the other side, this House and the People of this country would have found that Mr. Etheridge was a public functionary employed at the navy yard in Charleston, and that his mal conduct had been such that the Secretary of the Navy, and probably the Board of Commissioners, had proceeded against him without a word from Commodore Elliott, and that upon these proceedings Mr. Etheridge was convicted and discharged.—This I believe to be the fact, from information on which I feel entitled to rely.

Mr. FLETCHER, of Massachusetts, desired the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. McClure) to state his authority for this statement. Mr. McClure. I have stated this as my own conviction and belief. I could name the authority from which I derive my information, but I respectfully decline to do so. Mr. FLETCHER, of Massachusetts, here requested the gentleman from Pennsylvania to permit him to say a few words. He said he had presented the resolution calling on the Secretary of the Navy to communicate to the House the charges filed by Mr. Etheridge against Com. Elliott. The Secretary had answered that he was unable to find the charges referred to in his Department. He (Mr. F.) therefore had never seen the charges, and did not know their nature neither had he any knowledge of the circumstances under which Mr. Etheridge left his employment in the navy yard at Charleston, to which the gentleman from Pennsylvania referred; but he (Mr. F.) knew Mr. Etheridge, and knew him to be a highly respectable gentleman, and he could not quietly hear any imputations upon him, when he was not present, and no opportunity to answer for himself and he hoped the gentleman from Pennsylvania would state upon what evidence or on what authority he made his statements in regard to Mr. Etheridge. Without a communication of his evidence or authority, the House could have no means of judging of the justice of his remarks. Mr. McClure resumed. I have all due respect for Mr. Etheridge. I say, all due respect. And I have infinite respect for the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. Fletcher); but, at the same time, I must repeat that I respectfully decline to mention the name of my authority. I have stated my own belief, and I hold myself personally responsible for it.