to nobly fulfilled, and even exceeded our sanguine expectations, proving him to be a man peculiarly qualified for the high post to which an almost unanimous nation has called him, evoking the approbation of friend and foe, and holding out the brightest promise of an energetic, a patriotic, and a brilliant administration.

Resolved, That we have undiminished confidence in the purity of character, sound democracy, and signal ability of Col. Wm. R. King, the Vice President elect, and deeply regret his state of bodily health.

Resolved, That we rejoice in the popular verdict which has been passed in the late election upon fanatical attempts to transgress and violate the compacts of the Federal Constitution, by officious intermeddling with domestic State institutions, calculated to array one section of the Union against another in a conflict of bitter feeling and dire hostility, and thus give cause of dissolution. And we regard the popular condemnation of this political creed at the polls, and the adjustment of it in Congress, by the enactment of the compromise measures, as cause of joyful congratulation, vindicating the true principles of our Federal Government and Constitution.

Resolved, That this convention heartily, cheerfully, and unreservedly approve, endorse, and cherish the principles of government promulgated in the Baltimore resolutions of 1852, and will sustain them in their party action with all the more affection and respect that they have been the pillar of cloud by day and fire by night, which have conducted us through the late political contest, and ensured us so brilliant a victory.

Resolved, That under the Democratic tariff of 1846, our entire country has prospered, the industrial interests of all classes, and more especially the iron interests of Pennsylvania, have been promoted in a degree which has equalled the expectations of its friends, and secured to the people a prosperity unequalled in the history of our State.

Resolved, That the administration of Governor Bigler, commands and deserves the admiration and approval of the party and the people. His strict and conscientious devotion to the duties of his office, his financial ability, his vigilant care of popular rights and his bold discharge of duty in regard to improvident legislation, show him to be an able, clear headed and faithful public servant, and entitle him to our warm commendation.

Resolved, That the redemption and cancellation of the relief notes of this Commonwealth is a measure loudly called for by every consideration of State pride and public convenience.

Resolved, That the Democratic principle of an elective judiciary has been fully tested and vindicated by experience, and that the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania has merited and received the confidence and respect of the people; and that it is sound and wise economy to provide for such just and liberal compensation to the judges, as shall retain and secure the highest talent of the State to fill that responsible and important trust.

Resolved, That upon the assembling of any Democratic State Convention, the chairman of the State Committee, or in his absence any member of said committee, whom he shall designate for that purpose, shall call said convention to order, and shall preside for the purpose of enabling such convention to elect a chairman.

After the reading of the resolution, Mr. Burnside moved an additional resolution, "that this Convention has the fullest confidence in the integrity, ability and sound Democratic principles of the Hon. Richard Brodhead; that his career as a Senator, respecting the Democracy of Pennsylvania, in the National Legislature, has reflected credit upon himself and honor upon the Commonwealth.

Mr. Lynch moved to add to the resolution the words, "and all the Democratic members of Congress, from Pennsylvania; which was agreed to.

Mr. Drum moved a division of the question so as to take the vote on all the resolutions, except the two last.

Mr. Lowry called for a division of the question, to end with the resolution offered by Mr. Burnside, and called the yeas and nays upon the resolution.

Mr. Reeder, moved to add to the end of the resolution, "the Democratic members of the Senate and House of Representatives."

Messrs. Burnside, Porter, Donnelly and Reeder addressed the House upon the subject, when

Mr. Drum moved the previous question, which was seconded and the main question ordered, when Mr. Reeder's amendment was disagreed to, yeas 30, nays 56.

The question was then taken on the resolution approbatory of the course of Mr. Brodhead, and unanimously adopted—Yeas 71, nays 0.

The question on the second branch, in regard to the members of Congress, was then unanimously adopted.

The resolutions reported by the committee were then unanimous adopted.

Mr. Cessna submitted the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the present basis of representation in our State Convention, founded as it is not upon Democratic votes, but upon the entire population of all parties, is inconsistent with the nature and character of what is intended to be, and as such Convention is a mere party organization for ascertaining the majority of our own party, consistency and justice require that such representation should be of the Democracy alone.

Resolved, That the State Central Committee shall, within three months after each gubernatorial election, make out and publish an appointment of delegates, upon the Democratic vote of the State, at such gubernatorial election; ascertaining the ratio by fixing the whole number of delegates at one hundred and thirty-three, and allotting to each county so many delegates as its Democratic votes shall entitle it to under the said ratio, and allowing delegates for the fractions over the ratio, by giving one delegate to each district having such fraction, beginning with the largest fraction, and so descending until the whole number of one hundred and thirty-three is exhausted; *Provided*, however, that each county shall have at least one delegate.

A motion was made to refer this resolution to the State Central Committee to report thereon to the next State Convention.

Mr. Monaghan then moved to postpone the resolution indefinitely; and the question being taken there was no quorum voting.

A motion was made to adjourn *sine die*, when

Mr. Hirst rose and addressed the Convention as follows:

Gentlemen:—Before a final adjournment, let me return to you my thanks for your cordial assistance in preserving the order of the Convention. It is truly said, in all quarters of the seat of Government, that few conventions of more talent and character than this have ever assembled in the State; and I feel certain that its doings will be received by the Democracy of the State with respect and favor.

It is now our duty to go forth as missionaries among the people to preach the doctrines of our political faith. Be it remembered that our organization is purely voluntary. Although this Convention is the legislature of the party, yet there is no process to punish offenders against its authority. Therefore, it is, that in proportion to the voluntary nature of the party discipline, is the honorable obligation to submit to it.

Upon the members of the Convention peculiarly, does it rest to support, with spirit and zeal, the the nominations when made; and that they will do so no one can doubt, it is in the nature of human temper, when regulated by intellect and a spirit of honor, to cool after transient excitement, and accommodate itself to the superior impulses of honorable minds.

The Convention then adjourned *sine die*.

INAUGURATION OF GEN. PIERCE.

Washington, March 4, 1853.

The National Metropolis was never more densely thronged than to-day. The Inauguration of President Pierce has attracted hither an immense crowd of citizens and strangers from every section of the country, and the streets, in every direction, even at this early hour [8 o'clock,] are thronged by the expectant multitude—hundreds of whom, during the last night, have been unable to obtain lodgings of any kind, and are still hanging to their carpet-bags and port-manteaus, as they landed from the cars. The crowd has also been much increased by large arrivals this morning by every means of conveyance, and with the preparations incident to the procession, and the more imposing ceremonies at the Capitol, the utmost activity and excitement everywhere prevails.

Quite a number of military companies have arrived to take part in the procession, including the Continental Guards, of Brooklyn, the Law Greys, of Baltimore, and the Flying Artillery, from Fort McHenry, together with a number of other companies.

Pennsylvania avenue, especially in the vicinity of Willard's Hotel, is crowded to suffocation, and thousands are thronging towards the capitol and along the route of the procession.

The Procession.—10½ o'clock.—The procession began to assemble at 10 o'clock, in front of the City Hall, under the command of J. D. Hoover, Chief Marshal, and his Aids, and the several bodies, societies, &c., were received and formed into column.

The procession was fully formed by 12 o'clock, and presented a magnificent and imposing appearance. The procession then moved up Louisiana avenue to Market place, on Pennsylvania avenue, and thence to Willard's Hotel, where the President elect was received, together with President Fillmore, and taking their place in the procession immediately in the rear of the military, with an appropriate escort of Marshals, the procession moved forward to the northern gate of the Capitol Square, from whence the President elect was conducted into the Capitol and to the Senate Chamber.

The Senate.—The doors of the Senate Chamber were opened at 1 o'clock, and it was very shortly afterwards completely thronged by the persons entitled to admission, including various official dignitaries, Heads of the Departments, members of Congress, Army and Navy officers, &c. Immediately in front of the Secretaries table there were seats provided for the President elect and the ex-President.

The eastern gallery was appropriated to citizens, and was crowded to excess.—The circular gallery was reserved for the ladies, and was equally crowded.

The Senate assembled at 12½ o'clock.

The Diplomatic corps and Justices of the Supreme Court soon after entered and were provided with seats.

The President elect was then introduced, and conducted by the Committee of Arrangements of the Senate to the seat prepared for him.

The excitement, and anxiety, and bustle, was now at its heigh, and, in the confusion, it was impossible to catch a word of the interesting proceedings gone through with.

After a very short time, the entire assemblage in the Senate proceeded to the Eastern Portico of the Capitol, where the ceremony of the Inauguration was to take place.

The Eastern Portico—The Inauguration—The Address.—The Senate, Justices, Diplomatic corps, &c., with the President elect, and the Ex-President, having reached the Eastern porch, the President elect was conducted to a seat provided for him on the front of the platform, the Ex-President and Committee of Arrangements occupying places in the rear, and the various official dignitaries, Foreign Ministers, Army and Navy officers, &c., &c., also occupying appropriate positions.

The scene which was at this time presented was at once grand and inspiring. The President elect was greeted on his appearance, with repeated cheers, and the immense crowd in attendance swayed to and fro in eagerness and anxiety.

Everything being then in readiness, the oath of office was administered to the President by the Hon. Roger B. Taney, Chief Justice of the United States, and President Pierce then rising to deliver his Inaugural address, was greeted with deafening and long continued cheers from the multitude present, and the waving of hats and handkerchiefs. He spoke as follows:

INAUGURAL ADDRESS OF PRESIDENT PIERCE.—MARCH 4, 1853.

My Countrymen:—It is a relief to feel that no heart but my own can know the personal regret and bitter sorrow, over which I have been borne to a position, so suitable for others, rather than desirable for myself.

The circumstances, under which I have been called for a limited period to preside over the destinies of the Republic, fill me with a proud sense of responsibility, but with nothing like shrinking apprehension. I repair to the post assigned me, not as to one sought, but in obedience to the unsolicited expression of your will, answerable only for a fearless, faithful and dilligent exercise of my best powers. I ought to be, and am, truly grateful for the rare manifestation of the nation's confidence; but this, so far from lightening my obligations, only adds to their weight. You have summoned me in my weakness:—you must sustain me by your strength.—When looking for the fulfilment of reasonable requirements, you will not be unmindful of the great changes which have occurred even within the last quarter of a century, and the consequent augmentation and complexity of duties imposed, in the administration both of your home and foreign affairs.

Whether the elements of inherent force in the Republic have kept pace with its unparallelled progression in territory, population and wealth, has been the subject of earnest thought and discussion on both sides of the ocean. Less than sixty-three years ago, the Father of his Country made "the" then "recent accession of the important State of North Carolina to the Constitution of the United States," one of the subjects of his special congratulation. At that moment, however, when the agitation consequent upon the revolutionary struggle had hardly subsided, when we were just emerging from the weakness and embarrassments of the Confederation, there was an evident consciousness of vigor, equal to the great mission which had been so wisely and bravely fulfilled by our fathers. It was not a presumptuous assurance, but a calm faith, springing from a clear view of the sources of power, in a government constituted like ours. It is no paradox to say that, although camparatively weak, the new-born nation was intrinsically strong. Inconsiderable in population and apparent resources, it was upheld by a broad and intelligent comprehension of rights, and an all-pervading purpose to maintain them, stronger than armaments. It came from the furnace of the revolution, tempered to the necessities of the times. The thoughts of the men of that day were as practical as their sentiments were patriotic. They wasted no portion of their energies upon idle and delusive speculations, but with a firm and fearless step advanced beyond the governmental landmarks, which had hitherto circumscribed the limits of human freedom, and planted their standard where it has stood, against dangers, which have threatened from abroad, and internal agitation which has at times fearfully menaced at home. They approved themselves equal to the solution of the great problem, to understand which their minds had been illuminated by the dawning light of the revolution. The object sought was not a thing dreamed of: it was a thing realized. They had exhibited not only the power to achieve, but what all history affirms to be so much more unusual, the capacity to maintain. The oppressed throughout the world, from that day to the present, have turned their eyes hitherward, not to find those lights extinguished, or to fear lest they should wane, but to be constantly cheered by their steady and increasing radiance.

In this, our country, has in my judgment thus far fulfilled its highest duty to suffering humanity. It has spoken, and will continue to speak, not only by its words but by its acts, the language of sympathy, encouragement and hope, to those, which earnestly listen to tones, which pronounce for the largest rational liberty.—But, after all, the most animating encouragement and potent appeal for freedom will be its own history, its trials and its triumphs. Pre-eminently, the power of our advocacy reposes in our example; but no example, be it remembered, can be powerful for lasting good, whatever apparent advantages may be gained, which is not based upon eternal principles of right and justice. Our fathers decided for themselves, both upon the hour to declare and the hour to strike. They were their own judges of circumstances, under which it became them to pledge to each other, "their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor," for the acquisition of the priceless inheritance transmitted to us.—The energy, with which that great conflict was opened, and under the guidance of a manifest and benificent Providence, the uncomplaining endurance, with which it was prosecuted to its consummation, were only surpassed by the wisdom and patriotic spirit of concession, which characterized all the counsels of the early fathers.

One of the most impressive evidences of that wisdom is to be found in the fact, that the actual working of our system has dispelled a degree of solicitude, which at the outset, disturbed bold hearts and far-reaching intellects. The apprehension of dangers from extended territory, multiplied States, accumulated wealth, and augmented population, has proved to be unfounded. The stars upon your banner have become nearly threefold their original number, your densely populated possessions skirt the shores of the two great oceans, and yet this vast increase of people and territory has not only shown itself compatible with the harmonious action of the States and the Federal government in their respective constitutional spheres, but has afforded an additional guarantee of the strength and integrity of both.

With an experience thus suggestive and cheering, the policy of my administration will not be controlled by any timid forebodings of evils from expansion. Indeed, it is not to be disguised that our attitude as a nation, and our position on the globe, render the acquisition of certain possessions, not within our jurisdiction, eminently important for our protection, if not, in the future, essential for the preservation of the rights of commerce and the peace of the world. Should they be obtained, it will be through no grasping spirit, but with a view to obvious national interests and security, and in a manner consistent with the strictest observance of national faith. We have nothing in our history or position to invite aggression, and we have every thing to beckon us to the cultivation of relations of peace and amity with all nations. Purposes, therefore, at once just and pacific, will be significantly marked in the conduct of our foreign affairs. I intend that my administration shall have no blot upon our fair record, and trust I may safely give the assurance that no action within the legitimate scope of my constitutional control, will be tolerated, on the part of any portion of our citizens, which cannot challenge a ready justification before the tribunal of the civilized world. An administration would be unworthy of confidence at home, and respect abroad, should it cease to be influenced by the conviction, that no apparent advantage can be purchased at a price so dear as that of national wrong and dishonor. It is not your privilege, as a nation, to speak of a distant past. The striking incidents of your history, replete with instruction, and furnishing abundant grounds for hopeful confidence, are comprised in a period comparatively brief. But if your past is limited, your future is boundless. Its obligations throng the unexplored pathway of advancement, and will be limitless as duration. Hence, a sound and comprehensive policy should embrace, not less the distant future than the urgent present.

The great objects of our pursuit, as a people, are best to be attained by peace, and are entirely consistent with the tranquillity and interests of the rest of mankind. With the neighboring nations upon our continent, we should cultivate kindly and fraternal relations. We can desire nothing in regard to them so much, as to see them consolidate their strength, and pursue the paths of prosperity and happiness. If, in the course of their growth, we should open new channels of trade, and create additional facilities for friendly intercourse, the benefits realized will be equal and mutual. Of the complicated European systems of national policy we have hitherto been independent. From their wars, their tumults and anxieties, we have been, happily, almost entirely exempt.—Whilst these are confined to the nations which gave them existence, and within their legitimate jurisdiction, they cannot effect us, as they appeal to our sympathies in the cause of human freedom and universal advancement.

But the vast interests of commerce are common to all mankind, and the advantages of trade and international intercourse must always present a noble field for the moral influence of a great people.

With these views firmly and honestly carried out, we have a right to expect, and shall under all circumstances require, reciprocity. The rights which belong to us as a nation, are not alone to be regarded, but those which pertain to every citizen in his individual capacity at home and abroad, must be sacredly maintained. So long as he can discern every star in its place upon that ensign, without wealth to purchase for him preferment, or title to secure for him place, it will be his privilege, and must be his acknowledged right, to stand unabashed even in the presence of princes, with a proud consciousness that he is himself one of a nation of sovereigns, and that he cannot, in legitimate pursuit, wander so far from home, that the agent, whom he shall leave behind in the place which I now occupy, will not see that no rude hand of power or tyrannical passion is laid upon him with impunity. He must realize, that upon every sea, and on every soil, where our enterprise may rightfully seek the protection of our flag, American citizenship is an inviolable panoply for the security of American rights. And, in this connection, it can hardly be necessary to re-affirm a principle which should now be regarded as fundamental. The rights, security, and repose of this Confederacy reject the idea of interference or colonization, on this side of the ocean, by any foreign power, beyond present jurisdiction, as utterly inadmissible.

The opportunities of observation, furnished by my brief experience as a soldier, confirmed in my own mind the opinion entertained and acted upon by others from the formation of the government, that the maintenance of large standing armies in our country would be not only dangerous, but unnecessary. They also illustrated the importance, I might well say the absolute necessity, of the military science and practical skill furnished, in such an eminent degree, by the institution which has made your army what it is, under the discipline and instruction of officers not more distinguished for their solid attainments, gallantry, and devotion to the public service, than for unobtrusive bearing and high moral tone.

The army, as organized, must be the nucleus, around which, in every time of need, the strength of your military power, the sure bulwark of your defence,—a national militia—may be readily formed into a well disciplined and efficient organization. And the skill and self devotion of the navy assure you that you may take the performance of the past as a pledge of the future, and may confidently expect that the flag, which has waved in its untarnished folds over every sea, will still float in undiminished honor. But these, like many other subjects, will be appropriately bro't, at a future time, to the attention of the coordinate branches of the government, to which I shall always look with profound respect, and with trustful confidence that they will accord to me the aid and support, which I shall so much need, and which their experience and wisdom will readily suggest.

In the administration of domestic affairs, you expect a devoted integrity in the public service, and an observance of rigid economy in all departments, so marked as never justly to be questioned. If this reasonal expectation be not realized, I frankly confess that one of your leading hopes is doomed to disappointment, and that my efforts, in a very important particular, must result in a humiliating failure. Offices can be properly regarded only in the light of aids for the accomplishment of these objects; and as occupancy can confer no prerogative, no importunate desire for preferment and claim, the public interest imperatively demands that they be considered with sole reference to the duties to be performed. Good citizens may well claim the protection of good laws and the benign influence of good government; but a claim for office is what a people of a republic should never recognize. No reasonable man of any party will expect the administration to be so regardless of its responsibility, and of the obvious elements of success, as to retain persons, known to be under the influence of political hostility and partisan prejudice, in positions, which will require, not only severe labor but cordial co-operation. Having no implied engagements to ratify, no rewards to bestow, no resentments to remember, and no personal wishes to consult, in selections for official station, I shall fulfil this difficult and delicate trust, admitting no motive as worthy either of my character or position, which does not contemplate an efficient discharge of duty and the best interests of my country. I acknowledge my obligations to the masses of my countrymen, and to them alone. Higher objects than personal aggrandizement gave direction and energy to their exertions in the late canvass, and they shall not be disappointed. They require at my hands dilligence, integrity and capacity, where there are duties to be performed. Without these qualities in their public servants, more stringent laws, for the prevention or punishment of fraud, negligence and peculation will be vain. With them they will be unnecessary.

But these are not the only points, to which you look for vigilant watchfulness. The dangers of a concentration of all power in the general government of a confederacy so vast as ours, are too obvious to be disregarded. You have a right, therefore, to expect your agents, in every department, to regard strictly the limits imposed upon them by the Constitution of the United States. The great scheme of our constitutional liberty rests upon a proper distribution of power between the States and Federal authority; and experience has shown that the harmony and happiness of our people must depend upon a just discrimination between the separate rights and responsibilities of the States, and your common rights and obligations under the general government. And here, in my opinion, are the considerations, which should form the true basis of future concord in regard to the questions, which have most seriously disturbed public tranquility. If the Federal government will confine itself to the exercise of powers clearly granted by the Constitution it can hardly happen that its action upon any question should endanger the institutions of the States, or interfere with the rights to manage matters strictly domestic according to the will of their own people.

In expressing briefly my views upon an important subject, which has recently agitated the nation to almost a fearful degree. I am moved to no other impulse than a most earnest desire for the perpetuation of that Union, which has made us what we are, showering upon us blessings, and conferring a power and influence, which our fathers could hardly have anticipated, even with their most sanguine hopes directed to a far-off future. The sentiments I now announce were not unknown before the expression of the voice which called me here. My own position upon this subject was clear and unequivocal, upon the record of my words and my acts, and it is only recurred to at this time because silence, might perhaps, be misconstrued. With the Union, my best and dearest earthly hopes are entwined. Without it, what are we, individually or collectively? What becomes of the noblest field ever opened for the advancement of our race, in religion, in government, in arts, and in all that dignifies and adorns mankind?—From that radiant constellation, which both illumines our own way and points out to struggling nations their course, let but a single star be lost, and, if there be not utter darkness, the lustre of the whole is dimmed. Do my countrymen need any assurance that such a catastrophe is not to overtake them, while I possess the power to stay it? It is with me an earnest and vital belief, that as the Union has been the source, under Providence, of our prosperity to this time, so it is the surest pledge of a continuance of the blessings we have enjoyed, and which we are sacredly bound to transmit undiminished to our children. The field of calm and free discussion in our country is open, and will always be so, but it never has and never can be traversed for good in a spirit of sectionalism and uncharitableness. The founders of the Republic dealt with things as they were presented to them, in a spirit of self-sacrificing patriotism, and, as time has proved, with a comprehensive wisdom, which it will always be safe for us to consult. Every measure, tending to strengthen the fraternal feelings of all the members of our Union, has had my heartfelt approbation. To every theory of society or government, whether the offspring of feverish ambition or of morbid enthusiasm, calculated to dissolve the bonds of law and affection which unite us, I shall interpose a ready and stern resistance. I believe that involuntary servitude, as it exists in different States of this confederacy, is recognised by the Constitution. I believe that it stands like any other admitted right, and that the States where it exists are entitled to efficient remedies to enforce the constitutional provisions. I hold that the laws of 1870, called the "compromise measures," are strictly constitutional, and to be unhesitatingly carried into effect. I believe that the constituted authorities of this Republic are bound to regard the rights of the South in this respect, as they would view any other legal and constitutional right, and that the laws to enforce them should be respected and obeyed, not with a reluctance encouraged by abstract opinions as to their propriety in a different state of Society, but cheerfully, and according to the decisions of the tribunal to which their exposition belongs. Such have been, and are, my convictions, and upon them I shall act. I fervently hope that the question is at rest, and that no sectional, or ambitious, or fanatical excitement may again threaten the durability of our institutions, or obscure the light of our prosperity.

But let not the foundation of our hope rest upon man's wisdom. It will not be sufficient that sectional prejudices find no place in the public deliberations. It will not be sufficient that the rash counsels of human passion are rejected. It must be felt, that there is no national security but in the nation's humble, acknowledged dependence upon God and his overruling providence.

We have been carried in safety through a perilous crisis. Wise counsels like those which gave us the Constitution, prevailed to uphold it. Let the period be remembered as an admonition, and not as an encouragement, in any section of the Union, to make experiments where experiments are fraught with such fearful hazard.—Let it be impressed upon all hearts, that beautiful as our fabric is, no earthly power or wisdom could ever re-unite its broken fragments. Standing as I do almost within view of the green slopes of Monticello, and, as it were, within reach of the tomb of Washington, with all the cherished memories of the past gathered around me, like so many eloquent voices of exhortation from Heaven, I can express no better hope for my country, than that the kind Providence, which smiled upon our Fathers, may enable their children to preserve the blessings they have inherited.

For the Republican.

Messrs. Editors:—Free Trade's communication published in your paper of the 18th ultimo, on the subject of log floating, seems to be bank full of sophistry, misstatements and absurdities, at the same time it is so plausible, and calculated to mislead those unacquainted with rafting that it is too bad to let such representations pass without notice. I therefore request that you will publish the following which I believe to be the views of all up-river raftmen, hoping that through the medium of your paper they may come under the notice of those who have the power of setting the business on its proper footing.

I know nothing of raftmen. But this I know, if Mr. Free Trade had himself been a little less "*transcendentally verbose*" he would have been better understood; and if he would practice more the precepts of the decalogue which he seems to ridicule; if he would particularly attend to the 9th Commandment, it might perhaps occur to him, as it certainly does to those who peruse his lucrubrations, that it might possibly in some of its bearings, apply to certain newspaper communications. But it seems that "*nom de plume*, Free Trade," studies mo[illegible]e to show his scholarship than to make [illegible]racious statements, employ premises o[illegible] draw conclusions comprehensable to [illegible]ommon watermen.

Free Trade talks of [illegible]pplying "*the touch-stone of truth.*" [illegible]s *plausibility* truth? No—but it ge[illegible]rally veils the greatest duplicity. Fre[illegible] Trade wants to make it appear that re[illegible]ing and floating will go together, and a[illegible]rts that experience proves it to be so. [illegible]n such matter experience for two year[illegible] proves little, and even that little to all i[illegible]ts and purposes is against him. I bold[illegible] and without fear of contradiction asse[illegible] that the We[illegible] Branch was, last sprin[illegible]n different place so obstructed with s[illegible]logs, that it wa[illegible] impossible, till the o[illegible]uctions were re[illegible] moved, to run rafts. [illegible] And again, those obstructions were re[illegible]ved in every in[illegible]stance, not by the flo[illegible]rs, but by the raftmen.

Again, Free Trad[illegible] wants to make it ap[illegible]pear that more raft[illegible] were got to mark[illegible] last season than ev[illegible] had been before owing to the assista[illegible]e afforded by the [illegible]ers; at least this is [illegible]n meaning intended to be conveyed an[illegible] what actually was be inferred by the [illegible] unacquainted with the true circumstanc[illegible] Well, no doubt a [illegible]ger quantity of [illegible]ts than usual were [illegible] to market last [illegible]ing. But why? In the first place, bec[illegible] it was on our hands a season of un[illegible]ally high water, the [illegible]er being in r[illegible]ing order for nearly