

INE DOLLAR PER ANNUM, INVARIABLY IN ADVANCE.

" REGARDLESS OF DENUNCIATION FROM ANY QUARTER."

VOL. XVII.-NO. 29.

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY AT TOWANDA, BRADFORD COUNTY, PA., BY E. O'MEARA GOODRICH.

TOWANDA:

Chursday Morning, December 23, 1836.

DELEGATE FROM KANSAS.

REMARKS OF MR. GROW. IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, DEC. 1, 1856. On the Question of Administering the Oath of Office to JOHN W. WHITFIELD, as the Delegate from Kansas Territory.

Mr. GROW said : Mr. Speaker, on the certificate presented, I am opposed to the admission of Mr. Whitfield to a seat as Delegate from the Territory of Kansas. The gentleman from Missouri [Mr. PHELPS] is entirely mistaken in supposing that this course of proceeding recedented, and contrary to all principle which has prevailed in the organization of this House. The mere presentation of credentials does not in all cases entitle the holder to be sworn in as a member of this House. If the certificate of election shows upon its face that it is not in conformity with the requirements of the law upon which it is based, or if the law itself under which the election was held is upon its face in violation of the Constitution of the United States, or of any organic law of higher authority than itself, then the certificate alone does not furnish such a prima facie case as would, under the usual proceedings of the House, admit a member to a seat.

In the case of Letcher rs. Moore, first session of Twenty-third Congress, while the roll was being called by the Clerk, and before the organization of the House, Mr. Allan, of Kentucky, abjected to the oath of office being administered to Mr. Moore, one of his colleagues, though he held a certificate of election. After discussion, the House proceeded to elect a Speaker and other officers, without permitting either of these claimants to vote. The case was finally disposed of by referring it back to the people for a new election, without the oath of office ever being administered to either of the claimsats though one of them held a certificate of

In the celebrated New-Jersev case, first sesson of Twenty-sixth Congress, five persons appeared at the bar of the House, claiming to represent that State, with certificates bearing "Broad Seal" of the Commonwealth. Yet, after two weeks' discussion, the House refused administer the oath of office, or to permit hem to vote in its organization, and finally reated those holding the certificates of election, ad admitted their contestants to seats

It is not for the gentleman from Missouri, Mr. PHELPS,] or myself, to reject the authoriof this precedent, for it was made by the which both of us were then acting, would it come with good grace from those operating with that gentleman to-day. - It ecessary to consume time in citing other redents, for these are amply sufficient, so as any precedent may be necessary to susmy position in this case. But, sir, were re no precedent for this course of proceeding, circumstances surrounding the case would hemselves justify it.

At the opening of the last session, the plication was made in behalf of this claimant show. I then objected to the oath of office ing administered, for the reason that, in my algment, it was not such a prima facie case to come within the usual practice of the lase ; but out of deference to the wishes of p friends, the whole House in fact. I did not ess my objection for immediate action. We ad been nine weeks electing a Speaker, and sae weeks more would, of course, be consumin discussing the right of the claimant, ich would for that length of time prevent further organization of the House, and as delay all action on the other important tess to come before it. But no such constations for delay exist at this time, and we a as well dispose of this case now as at any equent day. It was adjudicated at the session, after a most thorough investigaafter a fuller examination than was ever e given to a contested election case in the v of your Government. A committee ent by this House to Kansas, to investi-Me all the alleged frauds and irregularities of elections in that Territory. After exam-2 on oath and under , cross-examination, three hundred witnesses, belonging to all tions and of various political sentimentsing copies of the official records of the Terand comparing the poll-books and cenarns of each election district, they remed and reported to this House, that at the m of the members to the Territorial Aswhich passed the election law upon s based the certificate under which Mr. theld now claims, every Representative first but one was controlled by armed men Missouri · and that of the six thousand hundred and seven votes polled in the ory at that election, but one thousand handred and ten were legal votes. By census taken thirty days before this elecas required by the organic act, there were two thousand nine hundred and five legal ers in the Territory. Thus was the legislapower of this people usurped by invaders a neighboring State. This House, at its session, with all the facts of the Kansas estigating Committee before it, and after lest discussion, adopted this resolution : Resolved, That John W. Whitfield is not stitled to a seat in this House as a Delegate the Territory of Kansas."

testant? Was it because there were illegal mentary to said act, approved 18th of Sepvotes cast, or was it because the law under tember, 1850, whether such convictions were which the election was held was an invalid by criminal proceeding or by civil action for law ? The decision could have been upon no the recovery of any penalty prescribed by eiother ground. The decision was, that the ther of said acts, in any courts of the United election was held under a pretended law pass-States, or of any State or Territory, or of any ed by a usurping Legislature, and therefore inoffence deemed infamous, shall be entitled to vote at any election, or to hold any office in valid, which would of course vitiate any elec tion under it. What change has taken place this Territory : And provided, further, That in the Territory of Kansas since then ? if any person offering to vote shall be challegislature stands to-day as it did on the day lenged, and required to take an oath or affirthe House rejected this Delegate, six months mation, to be administered by one of the judges ago. No new laws have been passed. Though of the election, that he will sustain the prothe application of this Delegate is renewed, it visions of the above-recited acts of Congress, rests upon the same ground that it did before. and of the act entitled 'An act to organize It is the same case over again, and we need no the Territories of Nebraska and Kansas,' apprecedent in deciding it. This House, sitting proved May 30, 1854, and shall refuse to take as a judicial tribunal, has adjudicated the case, such oath or affirmation, the vote of such per-

and declared that no valid election could be son shall be rejected. held under the election laws of the Territorial " SEC. 12. Every person possessing the qual-Legislature of Kansas. And why? Because ification of a voter, as hereinbefore prescrib-ed, and who shall have resided in this Territhe Legislature was imposed upon that people by an armed invasion from the State of Mistory thirty days prior to the election at which souri, and could therefore pass no valid law for he may offer himself as a candidate, shall be the people of Kansas. Mr. Whitfield's seat eligible as a Delegate to the House of Reprewas then contested by Andrew H. Reeder : sentatives of the United States, to either and our position was, that the people of a Terbranch of the Legislative Assembly, and to ritory had a right to be represented in this all other offices in this Territory, not other-House ; and if the majority of the actual rewise especially provided for : Provided, howsidents of a Representative district had chosen ever, That each member of the Legislative a Delegate, he ought to be admitted, though Assembly, and every officer elected or appointthe law of the Territory might be a nullity. ed to office under the laws of this Territory, But the House, in rejecting Mr. Reeder at the last session, decided otherwise. And the very shall, in addition to the oath or affirmation specially provided to be taken by such officer. same tribunal that made that decision is calltake an oath or affirmation to support the ed upon to-day to review it. In deciding elec-Constitution of the United States, the provistion cases, this House sits as a judicial tribuions of an act entitled ' An act respecting funal, and from its decisions there can be no apgitives from justice, and persons escaping from peal ; and a case once adjudicated should be the service of their masters,' approved February 12, 1793, and of an act to amend and The fifth section of the first article of the supplementary to said last-mentioned act, ap-

proved Sptember 18, 1850 ; and of an act Constitution provides that "each House shall be the judge of the elections, returns, and qualientitled 'An act to organize the Territories of Nebraska and Kansas,' approved May 30, fications of its own members ;" and in order to judge of the elections of its members, it must in-1854.

quire not only into the purity of the ballot-box The provision in the organic act passed by and the freedom of exercising the elective fran-Congress is, that no person shall vote in that chise by the voter, but also, as a necessary Territory, at the first or any subsequent elecconsequence, into the validity of the laws untion, unless he is a citizen of the United States. der which the election was held. To judge of or has declared his intention to become such. the returns, it must see whether the forms pre-But the law of Kansas admits all Indians to scribed by the law have been observed ; and vote who have adopted the habits of the white to judge of the qualifications of its members, it is necessary to examine the provisions of the

But it may be said, that the only effect of such a provision would be to exclude all such votes as illegal, and not to vitiate the election. The board of elections would be bound to admit them, because, under the law of the Territory, they are legal votes. The election law of Kansas, therefore, admits a class of voters who, by the organic act passed by Congress, are prohibited from voting. While the law admits a class to vote who are prohibited by Congress, it excludes, by test oaths, a class which the organic act permits to vote, and to whom the Constitution of the United States guaranties the rights of franchise.

stitution of the United States. If it is, there This law is doubly void, then, because it percould be no valid election under it. The face mits a class to vote who are excluded by the of the law and the certificate is therefore the organic law, and excludes a class who are enrecord upon which in the first instance we are titled, upon every principle of a just and free Government, to vote in the Territory of Kansas. priate any money for its support, for the dou-Now, sir, without stopping to inquire into peat the pro

It is not in the power of the States or Territories to require other or additional qualifications than those specified in this article of the Constitution.

In Barney, rs. McCreery, first session Tenth Congress, this was the only point involved in the contest. By a law of Maryland, Baltimore city and county was made one Coogressional district, entitled to two members ; and the law further required that one should be a resident in the city, contested McCreery's seat, on the ground that both members could not, under tional qualifications can rightfully be required can freemen. by the State ; thus setting aside a law of a sovereign State. The twelfth section of the election law of Kansas requires as a qualifica- honor, through a long life, and, though dead, tion for a Delegate that he shall possess the still lives in the hearts of his countrymen. I qualifications prescribed for voters. Those read from his almost dying declaration, utterqualifications are inhabitancy, payment of a ed in the Council Chamber of the Republic.

under the Fugitive Slave Act, in any court of of the laws and Government of Kansas, which any State or Territory. This law permits In- we are now called on to recognize by our acdians who are not citizens to vote, but prevents tion. At the last session of Congress, when white men, if they have ever been convicted of Mr. Whitfield was admitted to a seat as Deleany violation of the Fugitive Slave Law, whether such conviction were by criminal had not been officially informed as to the charproceeding or civil action for the recovery of acter of the Government of that Territory, or any penalty prescribed by said act." Any as to the mode and manner of its formation. person that has been at any time so convicted It is true, we had what was considered, and, cannot vote in Kansas to-day, and is under her as it was finally proven to be, authentic inforlaws ineligible as a Representative in Con-

The Senator from Delaware, [Mr. Clayton] whose bier has just passed to the church-yard, in speaking of this law in the Senate Chamber, with almost his dying breath, said :-

'I denounce this as an unjust and cruel law against one section of the Union, and an insult to honorable men who differ totally with of the Republic. Mr. Clayton, in speaking of me on great questions of politics, and yet are as honest as I am, or any man on this floor. * * * * * I hold this injustice to be un-exampled. * * * Sir, it is a thing unheard of in the history of the country, that in the introduction of a Territory into the Union as a State, or in the formation of a Territorial Government, you should require men in the Territory to swear to support your acts of Congress."

Take, then, the law of Kansas, the certificate of election of this Delegate, and the Constitution of the United States, and put them side by side, and they fail to make out a prima facie case ; for they show that the election itself was invalid, there being no valid law under which it could be held.

But, sir, in addition to the invalidity and anconstitutionality of the legislation of Kansas, there is still another reason why this House should not recognize it, for it would be giving support and countenance to a most adjous des potism on American soil. Both branches of Congress, at its last session, refused to appro-

And yet we are asked to recognize this in famous legislation, which shocks the mora sense, and is a disgrace to the age, by admit ting its chosen representative, the same as it he came under valid and just law.

It is the duty of Congress to see that the rights of a people under its exclusive jurisdic-tion are protected, and especially that all the guarantees of its own law are secured to those relying on its faith and authority ; and if the of the city and the other of the county. The two candidates having the highest number of votes both lived in the county. Barney, living that to appeal to you to shield them against wrong perpetrated upon them by his negligence or acquiescence. And, sir, so far as my action the law of Maryland, reside in the county. The is concerned, I never will uphold or counte House decided, by a vote of 89 to 18, that nance a despotism anywhere on American soil McCreery was entitled to his seat, and that Nor by any act of mine will I directly or indi the Constitution of the United States having rectly give aid and support to a usurpation fixed the qualifications of members, no addi- anywhere on the rights and liberties of Ameri

Now, sir, I summon Mr. Clayton to the stand. who served the Republic, in its high posts of Territorial tax, and oath to support the Fugi- I call the attention of the House and the tive Slave Law, and never having been fined country to his declaration as to the character gate from the Territory of Kansas, the House mation ; but gentlemen thought they were not justified, in the absence of official evidence, in refusing to allow the usual oath of office to be administered. But now, with official information of the fraud and violence of the elections that secured the legislation, we are asked to re ognize this Government, which has been thus characterized by some of the ablest men

> these laws, says : "Now, sir, let me allude to that subject which is the great cause of all this discord between the two Houses. The unjust, iniquitous, oppressive, and infamous laws enacted by the Kansas Legislature, as it is called, ought to be repealed before we adjourn. What are these laws ? One of them sends a man to hard labor for not less than two years for daring to discuss the question whether Slavery exists, or does not exist, in Kansas ; not less than two years-it may be fifty : and if a man could live as old as Methusaleh, it might be over nine hundred years. That act on the great subject directly referred to the exclusive decision of the people in that Territory ; strikes down the liberty of the press, too; and is an act egregiously tyrannical as ever was attempted by any of the Stuarts, Tudors, Plantagenets, of England, and this Senate persists in declaring that we are not to reneal that !

> "Sir, let us tender to the House of Repreobjectionable and infamous laws that were

ishment by confinement and hard labor, shall be deemed a convict, and shall immediately, under the charge of the keeper of such jail or public prison, or under the charge of such person as the keeper of such jail or public prison may select, be put to hard labor, as in the first section of this act specified ; and such keeper, or other person having charge of such convict, shall cause such convict, while engaged at such labor, to be securely confined by a chain, six feet in length, of not less than four-sixteenths nor more than three-eighths of an inch link, with a round ball of iron, of not less than four nor more than six inches in diameter, attached ; which chain shall be securely fastened to the ankle of such convict, with a strong lock and key. And such keeper, or other person having charge of such convict, may, if necessary, confine such convict, while so engaged at hard labor, by other chains or other means, in his discretion, so as to keep such convict secure, and prevent his escape. And when there shall be two or more convicts under the charge of such keeper or other person, such convicts shall be fastened together by strong chains, with strong locks and keys, during the time such convicts shall be engaged in such hard labor without the walls of any such jail or prison."

It is these acts, and the test oaths of this election law, that the Senator from Delaware, rising above the prejudice of his section, denounces as becomes an American of the better days of the Republic. Where in the annals of despotism and wrong can you find an edict of the tyrant, of blacker or deeper infamy than those laws enacted on American soil, and recognized as valid by the Executive of the Republic, and which we are now asked to recognize as giving to the people of the Territory the rights guarantied by the Constitution of their country? In view of these acts, the London Times truly declares that the enormimities of Naples and Austria are reproduced in the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker, I have examined this election law somewhat in detail, citing the provisions which exclude from voting a class entitled, upon every principle of justice and right, to the exerci e, under this Government, of the elective franchise. I have referred to the provisions of that law, which violates the organic act passed by Congress, and subverts the dear-est rights of freemen guarantied by the Constitution of the Republic. I have read a description of the legislation enacted in the Territory of Kansas, as given by men who cannot be charged with partiality to my views, or as holding fanatical opinions-men who proclaim from the Senate Chamber that these laws are infamous, oppressive and unconstitutional. Under such laws, it is claimed that a Deleprohibits all freedom of discussion in Kansas gate, coming with a certificate based on such enactments, presents such a prima facie case as entitles him to a seat upon this floor ; and that, too, after Congress has once adjudicated the case, and refused him a scat.

Without trespassing longer upon the patience of the House, I leave this case, with a single remark, that Congress being a judicial tribunal when it sits upon an election case, its decisions are conclusive upon itself on the same sentatives the repeal of that and all other state of facts. The facts have not changed ince the last session Inev are precisely same as they were then, and the same tribunal is now asked to overturn its decision : and to overturn it for what? To recognize and give validity, so far as can be done by our action to an odious despotism, forced upon an unwilling people by fraud and violence.

The was the conclusion of the report of the anittee of Elections, which declared

That the alleged Territorial Legislature he an illegally-constituted body, and had no over to pass valid laws, and their enachments ore null and coid."

That the election under which the sitting ste, John W. Whitfield, holds his seat, ot held in pursuance of any valid law, d that it should be regarded only as the stassion of the choice of those resident ci ans who voted for him."

the House decided that no valid election een held in Kansas. Why? Was it be-

the validity of the Territorial Legislature of Kansas, or their authority to enact valid laws -though I deny that there is any validity in any act of that Territorial Assembly, because its powers were never derived from the just consent of the governed, and is therefore an absolute usurpation, void from the beginning-I propose to show, from the law itself, even though the Legislative Assembly had valid power to enact it, that the law upon its face void, and that any election held under it is therefore a nullity. This House need not wait the report of the Committee of Elections, where the re ord shows such a state of facts. The bill passed by Congress, organizing the Territory of Kansas, prescribed the qualifications of voters in that Terr tory in the fifth section of that act, which reads :----

considered good law, at least by itself.

local law, to see whether they are in conflict with the Constitution of the United States,

which fixes the qualifications for members of

Now, sir, I propose to show that this Dele-

gate does not present a prima facie case, so as

to bring it under the usual practice of the

House, which is to swear in the member or

order to present such a case, the certificate

must be in the form prescribed by law, and the

provisions of the law upon which it is based must not be in palpable violation of the Con-

In

Delegate who presents a prima facie case.

Congress.

to act.

"That every free white male inhabitant above the age of twenty-one years, who shall be an actual resident of said territory, and shall possess the qualifications hereinafter prescribed, shall be entitled to vote at the first election, and shall be eligible to any office 'within the said territory ; but the qualifica-tions of voters and of holding office, at all subsequent elections, shall be such as shall be prescribed by the Legislative Assembly : Pro-vided, That the right of suffrage and of holding office shall be exercised only by citizens of the United States, and those who shall have declared on oath their intention to become such. and shall have taken an oath to support the Constitution of the United States and the provisions of this act.'

cannot permit any person to vote in that Territory who is excluded by that proviso. If they have done so in the enactment of their election law, it is an invalid law, and any elec- possible. tion held under it would consequently be an invalid election. The eleventh section of the election law of the Territory of Kansas prescribes the qualifications of voters. I read from the laws of Kansas, published by order of Congress, page 282 :--

SEC. 11. Every free white male citizen of the United States, and every free white male Indian who is made a citizen by treaty or otherwise, and over the age of twenty-one years, who shall be an inhabitant of this Territory, and of the county or district in which he offers to vote, and shall have paid a Territorial tax, shall be a qualified elector for all elective offices ; and all Indians who are inhabitants of this Territory, and who may have adopted the customs of the white man, and who are liable to pay taxes, shall be deemed citizens : Provided, That no soldier, seaman, or marine, in the regular Army or Navy of the United States, shall be entitled to vote by reason of being in service therein : And provided further. That no person who shall have been convicted

of any violation of any provision of an act of Congress entitled ' An act respecting fugitives from justice, and persons escaping from the service of their masters,' approved February the alleged election there was no con- 1 12, 1793 ; or of an act to amend and supple

to the test oaths, one of which disqualifies any man from voting if he refuses to swear to support the Fugitive Slave Law. These provisions not only violate the Constitution of the United States, but are subversive of every principle of just government, and trample in the dust the inalienable rights of American freemen. Of what use is the elective franchise, if you can impose upon the voter, as a qualification to rote, an oath to support any particular law ! For what does he go to the polls, save to elect men to make, alter, amend, or repeal laws And if, when he comes to vote, he must first swear to support the very law he wants changed, it is a mockery to call it the right of suffrage.

The nineteenth section of this law, though it is not in conflict with the letter of the Constitation, violates every principle of fairness of justice in the exercise of franchise among fair and honest voters. It declares that "whenever any person shall offer to vote, he shall be presumed to be entitled to vote." This provision requires the party, who would preserve the purity of the ballot-box, to prove a The opinion of the venerated Senanegative. tor from Delaware, Mr. Clayton, describes truly the effect of this clause in a speech he made in the Senate during the extra session : "There could be no instice in elections, with such a provision as that in the bill. The burden of proof is on the wrong party, and therefore the law is clearly and manifestly unjust and oppressive." Under it, every person unknown to the citizens of the election precinct

Now, the Territorial Legislature of Kansas could vote ; and it would be entirely unneces sary for a foreigner to be naturalized, for, were he challenged, the objector must prove that he not naturalized, which would manifestly be im-

By section twenty, "Whenever any person offers to vote, his vote may be challenged by one of the judges, or by any voter, and the judges of the election may examine him touching his right to vote ; and if so examined, no evidence to contradict shall be received.

Though the objector may hold in his hands the most ample evidence to prove the false voter's perjury, yet his vote must be received. Well might the Senator from Delaware ask,

as he did in the Senate, what part of the civilized world is an election conducted on this principle !

The election law of Kansas, upon which this certificate is based, is, in addition to the reasons already given, unconstitutional, for it fixes in the twelfth section qualifications for a member of Congress different from those prescribed by the Constitution of the United States. The qualification prescribed by the second section of article one of the Constitution is, that

"No person shall be a Reresentative who 'shall not have attained the age of twenty-five years, and have been seven years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that State in which he shall be chosen."

ble reason that it was a usurpation and a des potism combined-a despotism that we are asked to recognize after the recorded opinions of its character, not only in the official acts of both branches of Congress, but also by such men as General Cass, Clayton, Bayard, Crit tenden, Weller, and other Senators, who will not be regarded, I trust, as fanatics. General Cass, on the 2d of July last, said, on the floor of the Senate :-

"There is no doubt that some of the stat utes passed by the Legislature of Kansas are a disgrace to the age and the country. I re peat the streng expression-'a disgrace to the age and the country.'] Such is my firm conviction. Heavy penalties are imposed, to prevent the people from arguing what is almost a question of abstract right. Now, ask you, how have the people of Kansas full liberty to pass laws establishing their domestic relations for themselves, if they are not allowed to discuss them ? It is inconsistent with the organic act."

I refer to the opinions of Senators Bayard of Delaware, and Crittenden of Kentucky and certainly they will not be charged with special fanaticism, coming as they do from slave States, where this kind of fanaticism, for Freedom and Free Territory, of which gentlemen affect to be so much afraid, .does not prevail. I summon them to the stand, therefore, as cool and dispassionate witnesses. In speaking of these laws, Mr. Bavard says :

"There are certain of the laws of Kansas which are unquestionably, in themselves, shock- and the principal one, though there are other ing to the moral sense. There are certain of the laws of Kansas that invade natural rights." -Congressional Globe, extra session, Thirtyfourth Congress, p. 30.

Mr. Crittenden says :

But, sir, you promised, in the organic law that these people should be left perfectly free to vote, and decide by their votes this ques tion which you have submitted to them ; and yet you say you will not repeal that encumbrance on the right of suffrage, which actual ly prostrates it, and renders it useless to an nest and conscientious man. For instance. von impose an oath, as a condition preliminary to their voting, that they shall swear to

support this or that law." Speaking of these laws, Mr. Weller, of California, used this language :

"They are so infamous in their character that I am unwilling they should stand upou the statute book of any of the Territories of this Union. I believe they violate not only the organic law, but the Constitution of the United States." * *

"The Senate regarded those acts passed by the Legislative Council of Kansas Territory as not only unjust in their character, and oppressive upon the people, but in derogation of the organic law, and in violation of the Constitution of the United States. Some of these acts are revolting to every feeling of Laws, provides that humanity." "I say, and I repeat, that such a law is an infamous law.

passed by that Legislature. I include in this denunciation, without any hesitation, those acts which prescribe that a man shall not even practice law in the Territory, unless he swears to support the Fugitive Slave Law ; that he shall not vote at any election, or be a member of the Legislature, unless he swears to support the Fugitive Slave Law ; that he shall not hold any office of houor or trust there, unless he swears to support the Fugitive Slave Law: and you may as well impose just such a test oath for any other and every other law.

" I will not go through the whole catalogue of the oppressive laws of this Territory. I referred. * * * I will not, on the other hand, ever degrade myself by standing for an instant by those abominable and infamous laws which I denounced here this morning. What I desire now is, that the Senate of the United States shall wash its hands of all participation in these iniquities, by repealing

those laws." Such was the almost dying declaration, in reference to the laws of Kansas, of one of the

ablest and purest statesmen of the Republic. Let us heed his admonition, and wish our ands of all participation in these iniquities.

What are the laws denounced in such strong terms by these veteran statesmen and Nestors of the Senate? The very election law under which this certificate is given is one of them, sections of this code included, rhe following among the number :

If any person shall knowingly aid in bringing into, printing, publishing, or circulating, within this Territory, any book, paper, pamphlet, magazine, handbill, or circular, contain ing any statements, arguments, opinions, sentiments, doctrine, advice, or innendo, calculated to produce disaffection among the slaves in this Territory, or to induce such slaves to escape from the service of their masters, he shall be guilty of felony, and be punished by imprisonment and hard labor for a term of not less than five years."

" If any free person, by speaking or by writing, assert or maintain that persons have not the right to hold slaves in this Territory, or shall introduce into this Territory, print, publish, write, circulate, or cause to be introduced into this Territory, written, printed, published, or circulated, in this Territory, any book. paper, pamphlet, magazine, or circular, containing any denial of the right of persons to hold slaves in this Territory, such person shall be deemed guilty of felony, and punished by imprisonment at hard labor for a term of not less than two years."

What is the kind of punishment at hard la bor provided by this code ? SEC. 2 of chapter 22, page 147, of Kansas

An Eastern editor says that a man got imself into difficulty by marrying two wives. A Western editor replies by assuring his contemporary that a good many men in that section have done the same thing by marrying

A Northern editor retorts that quite a numhave done that before to-day. There are ber of his acquaintances found trouble enough others as bad as these to which I have now by barely promising to marry, without going any further

A Southern editor says that a friend of his was bothered enough by simply being found in company with another man's wife

BY A youth of our acquaintance thus experimented on his mamma, who was making bread, a few days since :

Mother, it strikes me you are lazy just

"How dare you say so ? Why, don't you see I am making bread ?' indignantly returned the lady

True, but that's neither more nor less than loafir g.

The wit got no more hot cakes for several days. He makes no such puns since.

Ber Ir is estimated that the number of smokers in Paris is 425,000, and that they consume annually 157,400,000 cigars.

A ladies seamless skirt is advertised. Good. Anything which will make them scem less is welcome.

Be A mason tried the other day to purchase a hen that would lay a brick.

Mer At a Fair down East, a reporter gives the following in the list of premiums : " Best bed-comforter-Miss Thompson."

A stupid fellow being seen in a singular attitude, stooping down with his head be tween his legs, was asked the reason : to which he replied that he wished to see how the pain at the back of his head looked.

for Genius lights its own fire, but it is constantly collecting materials to keep alive the flame.

Bor Spare moments are like the gold-dust of time. Of all portions of our life, spare moments are the most fruitful in good or evil-"Every person who may be sentenced by They are the gaps through which temptation any court of competent jurisdiction, under that the easiest access to the garden of the