

dead from their graves in England? Can you say you are one of the curses uttered by our dying father? Can you recall the agonizing tears of our mother and sister? Can you give me back my wife, my angel wife?"

"She was an angel. She is an angel now."  
"Dead, too?"  
"Yes, dead. In a convent in France; penitent, peaceful, so they told me—she has not told you so?"  
"Me?"

"I forgot. She visits me in dreams; but always pale, and cold, and sad-eyed. Ah!—there, I see her now—calm and beautiful, but so cold, so bitterly cold. George, George, forgive me! forgive me, brother!—I am dying—let me not go to hell unforgiven. See, I have not an instant!—quick, quick—quick—speak—Holy Saviour, Ma—Mary, mother—Jesus!"

There was a flood of crimson on the bed, a struggle—the dying man reached his arms out piteously toward his brother, who stood motionless—there was a shudder, a sharp convulsive motion of the features; he crossed the forefingers of his hand as if in token of his dying belief, not hope—and then—  
"Why then have I sometimes fancied a scene in the other world—a scene on the bank of the swift river that flows along the confines of heaven down to the abode of the damned. I have fancied a mother, radiant and star-eyed, with three most holy babes beside her, standing serenely on that flower-clad bank, and I could see her start and shrink back from the dark of the river, as she caught sight of a face above the waves—a black and fishlike face, that gazed one instant lovingly into her heavenly eyes, and then swept madly, in the whirling, eddying current, down to woe unutterable."

The next morning after Stephen Foster's death, a *not pros* was entered in the murder case, and it may please some to know that Mary Wilson was in court to hear the announcement. And for years after that, an old gray-headed man, unrecognized by any villager, might be seen almost any evening standing by the grave of the murdered wife, and at length some one learned that his name was Norton. But the story of Ellen Dusenberry's early love had been forgotten for twenty years—save by the true heart of her old lover.

#### Where are we Drifting?

Yesterday's intelligence, that the Committee of Investigation raised in the National House of Representatives on the motion of Mr. HARRIS, of Illinois, had decided by a majority vote—that majority created by Mr. Speaker ORR, in direct violation of usage, as well as of parliamentary law—to restrict examination into the Kansas frauds, adds another load to the mountain of injustice which has accumulated since it has been decided to deprive the people of Kansas of their rights. The same despatch from Washington announces the removal of two distinguished Democrats from office, no doubt accordingly because they oppose the infliction of the Lecompton Constitution upon the people of Kansas. These are Mr. PRICK, postmaster at Chicago, Ill., and Mr. MILLER, postmaster at Columbus, Ohio. It is apparent, therefore, first, that the vote of the House of Representatives in favor of a full and thorough exposure of the frauds of the minority in Kansas, is to be disregarded and defeated; and, second, that every Democrat who differs from this scandalous injustice, or from the platform of the enemies of the Union on the Lecompton Constitution—we mean the pro-slavery leaders of the extreme South—is to be read out of the Democratic party.

The annals of politics will be ransacked in vain for a parallel to these extraordinary proceedings. We begin to doubt whether, in deed, this is a land of liberty and of law. That which was the administration policy in June and July has become the Administration's detestation in February. The Democrats who endorsed and strengthened that policy, in the belief and with the knowledge that they were acting in harmony with the President of their choice, are ejected from office, because they adhere to this position; and their fate is held up to others as a solemn warning. The long catalogue of unadvised frauds in Kansas; the infamous manner in which a portion of the Constitution was submitted; the refusal to regard a legal election against that instrument; the effort to deprive the people of their own officers and the Legislature duly elected; the repeated protests of the Conventions, Legislatures, and representatives of the people against the Lecompton Constitution; the testimony of four Governors sent out by the General Government, all tending to prove the same facts—all these acts, not to speak of the outrages of the pro-slavery party before the Convention began its sittings, have excited a deep, resistless, and almost universal resentment in the free States.

This feeling has penetrated to the remotest regions. It has become the master sentiment of the Democratic party. And the response to it, from Washington, is the refusal of a committee of the House to carry out the instructions of the majority of that body demanding the investigation and the exposure of the wrongs and frauds in Kansas, and the removal from office of all who dare to sympathize with the popular sentiment against these wrongs and frauds.

The pastime of reading men out of the Democratic party is a dangerous one. It is suggestive of force and fatal retaliation. Let us consider it practically and frankly.

General JACKSON's name and example are invoked in support of this determination. A more unfortunate authority could be suggested at the present moment. General JACKSON was not only in favor of fair play, but he had a way of his own in other matters. The nullifiers of the South understood him. He made short work of their threats, and by his bold and indomitable will taught them not only his own strength, but also the strength and durability of the Union they attempted to overthrow. We are very sure that General JACKSON issued his instructions to Governor WALKER, to give the people of Kansas the unequalled right at all hazards, and over all obstacles, of voting upon their own Constitution, he would have stood to that pledge against all the machinations and threats of the South—Their Legislatures, and their KERRITS, and their MANSONS, would have thundered in vain. He would have stood by his faith, like a true soldier by his flag, holding his life cheap if he could sacrifice it for such a principle.

And with all respect for JAMES BECHANAN, we do not hesitate to say, that if he had maintained the stand he took in his instructions to Governor WALKER, and in all his intercourse with that gentleman up to November, 1857—the doctrine asserted broadly asserted by the Washington Union as the Administration's

policy on this great issue—he would have united around him a body of friends as devoted and as disinterested as those who so long clung to his cause in the darkest days of his career. He would have consolidated all parties in the North in his favor. He would have recalled into the Democratic ranks, as permanent Democratic States, Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, New York, Ohio—now, we fear, hopelessly lost to the Federal Administration by the effort to force them upon a platform whose whole superstructure is open and scandalous fraud. The miserable hand-full of discontents in the South (his foes at Cincinnati, and his foes now on every part of his policy that does not square with their own Procrustean exactions) would have been lost in the uprising of the people in the South in favor of the Union. He has, however, changed his course; and now to the sorrow of all true patriots, the Democracy are also called upon to change theirs, on pain of economic union; and the Southern secessionists boldly come forth with their ultimatum—THE LECOMPTON FRAUD OR DISUNION!

#### TERRIBLE EXPLOSION OF GAS—A CHURCH DESTROYED—SEVERAL PERSONS INJURED.

Cincinnati, Saturday, Feb. 20.—Last evening, about 7 o'clock, the Methodist Protestant Church, on Sixth street, near Race, was partly destroyed by the explosion of defective gas pipes. At the hour mentioned some fifteen persons were assembled in the basement for meetings, when a strong odor was felt, and an effort made to discover the leakage. A light was applied to the metre when the blast burst forth, but was extinguished by a bucket of water. Quiet was almost restored, when the explosion took place, tearing up the floor, shattering the walls, and making a wreck of the basement. More than half the pews in the church were torn up, windows were blown up, and portions of the floor blown as high as the ceiling. Doors were forced from the hinges and blown into the street. The explosion was heard at a distance of half a mile. The windows of many buildings in the vicinity were destroyed, eight or ten persons were severely wounded, and two or three of them are not expected to survive.

LATER FROM SALT LAKE.—St. Louis, Saturday, Feb. 20.—The Independence correspondent of the *Republican*, under date of the 16th inst., says that the Salt Lake mail arrived there last night. Conductor DENVER reports the snow from one to six feet deep on the mountains, and the weather intensely cold. He left Camp Scott Jan. 1, and the troops there were in good spirits, earnestly wishing to make a descent on Salt Lake City. From Mormon prisoners an intrusting Utah Indian Col. JOHNSON was well advised of the movements of the Saints, who were making active preparations to continue their resistance to the troops in the Spring. Their municipal regulations were very stringent, and they looked with suspicion upon every body the least inclined to favor the action of the U. S. Government. Gov. COMING was performing the duties of his office as far as he was able. The outward-bound mails were making good progress, and the many Indians who they met manifested friendly feeling.

#### THE ERIC RAILROAD IN LONDON.

The *N. Y. Herald* publishes a report of a meeting of the stock and bondholders of the Erie Railroad in London, England, at which Mr. Moran, the President of the road, explained at some length the scheme he had gone to Europe to propose. The meeting seems to have taken a most favorable view of Moran's proposal; after hearing him out, they passed resolutions from which it would seem that there was a fair prospect of the loan being taken up within ten days. Money is so cheap in England that, notwithstanding the losses which were experienced last year through injudicious investments, it is generally believed that the English are just as eager as ever for American low priced securities. A railroad bond at anything like seventy or eighty per cent, and therefore paying ten or eleven per cent per annum, they cannot refuse. The Erie will therefore probably obtain their loan.

#### THE MEETING OF THE ANTI-LECOMPTONITES AT NEW YORK.

At New York, was held on Wednesday evening, at the Chinese Assembly Rooms. The room was crowded, and considerable enthusiasm was manifested. Mr. JAMES A. MACMASTERS, of the *Freeman's Journal*, called the meeting to order. Hon. GEO. BANCROFT presided, and introduced Hon. F. P. STANTON, who spoke for more than two hours, to the evident satisfaction of his audience.

#### U. S. SUPREME COURT.

Senator Seward has given notice of his intention to introduce a bill in the Senate to re-organize the U. S. Supreme Court and Circuit Courts, so that the several States shall be represented by Judges in those Courts more nearly on the basis of their federal population, while the administration of justice shall be made more speedy and efficient.

#### IMPORTANT BILL.

A bill was read by Mr. JACKMAN, in the House of Representatives of this State, on Thursday last, provided for the sale and delivery of the Sautbury & Erie Railroad Company, if that Company will agree to purchase the same, and all the public works of the Commonwealth remaining unsold.

#### DROWNED.

The *Honesdale Democrat* says that Mr. KIRKWOOD ROBINSON, of Hawley, and his brother-in-law, Mr. PALMER WINTER, of New-York city, were drowned on the 27th ult., in the Pond known as "Joe's," six miles from the first mentioned place. Mr. WINTER was upon a visit, and he and his relative were out fishing through the ice for pickerel, when they broke through and perished.

#### The Lecompton National Democrat of the 4th inst.

says: "John D. Henderson, formerly editor of the *Leavenworth Journal*, and more recently a member of the constitutional convention, has retired to Weston, Mo., owing it is said, to his complicity in helping the election returns of Delaware Cossing. Mr. H., however, denies the charge and lays it John Calhoun."

#### The steamer *Magnolia*,

running between Wilmington and Fayetteville, N. C., burst her boiler on Wednesday last week, killing from fifteen to twenty persons. No particulars are given.

#### It is said that George Bancroft,

the historian, listened attentively to the reading of the President's Kansas Message in the Senate, and when it was finished, that he denounced the document as "hellish."

# Bradford Reporter.

E. O. GOODRICH, EDITOR.

## TOWANDA:

Thursday Morning, February 25, 1858.

TERMS.—One Dollar per annum, invariably in advance.—Four weeks previous to the expiration of a subscription, notice will be given by a printed wrapper, and if not renewed, the paper will in all cases be stopped.

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### A THREATENED OUTRAGE UPON THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE OF THIS JUDICIAL DISTRICT.

It will astonish and alarm the people of this Judicial District to learn that a plan is on foot to blot out the 13th Judicial District, composed of the counties of Bradford and Susquehanna, by Legislative action, so as to prevent the people from choosing, this fall, who they will have as President Judge. The nefarious plan, as far as it has been developed is, to annex Susquehanna to an adjoining district, and to attach Bradford to the district South of us, presided over by Judge WOODWARD. This scheme, if successfully consummated, would prevent an election for President Judge, in October. To effect its accomplishment men are now secretly at work, promulgating the most shameful misrepresentations and propagating the most infamous falsehoods.

This contemplated outrage upon the rights of the people of this Judicial district, we need hardly inform our readers, is planned to prevent the election of Judge WILMOR in October next. It is a blow aimed at him personally, which it is expected to accomplish by depriving the people of their Constitutional rights, preventing them from saying who they will have to pass in judgment upon their most sacred rights of property, of liberty, and of life. It is quite as unnecessary for us to say, that the movement originates, and its consummation is urged on, by the same unprincipled men who have for years pursued Judge WILMOR with the most blood thirsty ferocity; following his every step with unscrupulous falsehood and misrepresentation, dealing in open lies, or covert innuendoes, as they thought best calculated to effect their despicable purposes.

The election of a Democratic Governor and Legislature, has enkindled anew the malice and hatred of these men, and given another direction to their efforts. They now seek to inspire the Executive and Legislative branches of the Government with the malignant passions of their own hearts. They hope to enlist in a miserable personal warfare a whole party—to make a partizan question of their private griefs, and trample upon the sacred rights of the people to gratify their spirit of personal hatred and revenge.

It is not, however the personal bearing of this threatened outrage which should claim the attention, and excite the indignation of our people, any further than investigation into its conception shows that it has its origin in mean and malignant petty personal hatred.—It is not whether Judge WILMOR, or some other Judge, shall preside over the Courts of this District, which demands attention. The solution of that question, we take it, whatever might be the result, if obtained in a proper manner, would leave no permanent feelings of dissatisfaction, but would be cheerfully acquiesced in by the people. But it is the fact that an attempt is being made to deprive the people of their Constitutional rights—to prevent them from electing their Judge—a right enjoyed by the people of other parts of the Commonwealth—which should alarm every citizen residing in the bounds of the threatened District. More than this, it should awaken the interest of citizens of other judicial districts, whose rights would be in equal danger should this gross outrage be perpetrated, whenever the gratification of personal revenge or partizan feeling might stimulate reckless and unprincipled men to imitate such a dangerous precedent.

By the amendment to the Constitution adopted by the people in October, 1850, providing for the election of Judges by the people, it is declared that Law Judges "shall be elected by the qualified electors of the respective districts over which they are to preside or act." We shall not consider how far this Constitutional provision would be violated by the proposed annihilation of this District; because we have now only to do with its injustice to the people, and the motive of its projectors. It is proposed, however, to render nugatory this guarantee, because it is feared that is the exercise of this right "the qualified electors" of this District, may elect a Judge whose elevation would not gratify the festering passions in the breasts of a few envious men. It is proposed to disfranchise the people of this District, to minister to personal enmity. Setting at defiance the whole spirit and tenor of the Constitutional right of the people to elect their Judges, we are to be annexed and attached to other districts, to prevent the expression of the popular will. It is not at all likely that any Judge who might by the present Legislature be forced upon us, would be anxious, when his commission expired, to have the vote of Bradford in the scale against his re-election. If this Legislature can deprive us of the right to have a voice in electing our Judge, then when

that time arrives, another Legislature may attach us to some other district presided over by a Judge just elected, and our people thereby forever be deprived of the Constitutional guarantee we have quoted above. Such an outrage upon our rights could never have its conception in any but the most base and dishonorable spirit of ill will, which would break down the barriers of law and honor for its gratification.

We do not believe, however, that the Legislature of Pennsylvania will lend itself to the accomplishment of a scheme whose only result is the gratification of personal ill will. It would be a sorry spectacle to see the Legislature of a Commonwealth like this, stooping to the perpetration of such a gross and unjustifiable outrage. There certainly must be, in the majority of that body, honorable and upright men, who will not be made tools of for so base and despicable a purpose, and who will hesitate to join an attempt to array the Legislature against the Judiciary—to deprive a people of their Constitutional rights, because partisans shall endeavor to force it through as a party measure.

The persons who have in charge this attempt to deprive our people of one of their most sacred rights, have gone about their work with characteristic meanness and duplicity, and in a manner which should at once stamp their efforts with the reprobation of every honorable right thinking man. They have not dared arraign Judge WILMOR at the bar of public opinion. They knew that the people would probably be called upon in October to pass upon his merits and qualifications, and to say whether he has sullied the judicial emerald—but instead of appealing to that high and impartial tribunal, to which of right belongs the settlement of this question, they seek to array a partizan feeling in a Democratic Legislature, to further their ends of personal malice, and to gratify their feelings of personal malignity.—To accomplish this, they must make use of desperate and unprincipled means, resorting to fraud and falsehood.

We assert in the most unqualified terms, that Judge WILMOR's course upon the bench has been such as to command the respect and admiration of both political foes and friends. We will not say that in his decisions he has always satisfied everybody, for that would be impossible; but we declare without fear of contradiction, that for honesty of purpose, dignity of character, and strict and unwavering impartiality, he has no superior upon the bench. His friends challenge the strictest scrutiny into his judicial acts. His bitterest political opponents have been, and still are, the readiest to defend him from even the suspicion of political bias upon the bench. Those who are now the keenest on the scent to annihilate this District, dare not, at home, utter a word against his integrity or strict impartiality as a Judge. They dare not instigate an unworthy motive or a corrupt action, before the community in which Judge WILMOR holds his courts, because that community would hurl back the base falsehood in their faces. If they have charges to bring against him, let them be made as becomes men—boldly and plainly—and not sneakily insinuated, where responsibility can be avoided, and refutation is impossible. If Judge WILMOR has carried his political feelings upon the bench—if he has permitted partizan prejudices to bias him to the favor of friends or the disadvantage of opponents—if he has exhibited partiality in any manner—if he has shown incompetence or negligence—if he has been actuated by unworthy motives—let the facts be published to the world, that the people of this District may utter their disapprobation. But we protest in the name of all that is honorable and manly, against this dishonorable and cowardly attempt to degrade Judge WILMOR as a man and a Judge. We express what we believe to be the impulse of every honest heart when we declare this attempt to be mean, disreputable and cowardly. The instigators and abettors justly deserve the condemnation of an outraged people, whose rights they have trilled with, for the basest and most dishonorable purposes. They need not expect by secret plotting to evade the responsibility—for they shall be held up for public execration.

This scheme is impotent for either personal or political ends. Its consummation will effect nothing, except to show how deep-seated and implacable is the hatred of a few men, and how far they can go to gratify their feelings of personal revenge. Judge WILMOR owes no small share of his personal popularity to the efforts of those who have followed him ever with a bitter and vindictive personal warfare. Steadily and consistently pursuing the path of duty, though

howled with bitter and revengeful purpose, he has scarcely deigned to notice their attacks, but the people have rallied, whenever occasion presented, to overthrow and baffle his blood-thirsty pursuers. Every fresh attack has brought new, and fastened with firmer bonds, old friends, until he is endeared to the honest hearts of our yeomanry, and their confidence and affections are his best buckler and shield of defence.

Remonstrances against this threatened invasion of our rights, are being generally signed by our citizens, irrespective of party, and will be presented to the Legislature in sufficient numbers to show the depth of popular feeling on the subject.

—We shall endeavor to procure copies of whatever petitions, &c. may be presented to the Legislature, to effect this plan, that the people of the District may know who are endeavoring to deprive them of their rights, and the ostensible reasons why the Legislature is asked to consummate the outrage.

#### GEN. CALHOUN

has published a defence of his conduct, in regard to the Kansas election returns, in which he says that he has written to Gov. DENVER, to procure sworn statements of the Judges of the controverted Delaware Crossing Precinct, and to have them taken under such circumstances as will secure a free and unbiased exhibition of the facts. By the sworn statements so procured, he says, he shall be governed in giving certificates of the election of members of the Legislature from Delaware County. If this course, as he intimates it probably will, should place the Government of Kansas in the hands of his enemies, no one would regret it more than he, yet he will honestly discharge his official duties.

This is a new card played in the game of defrauding the voters in Kansas, and is intended to carry the idea, that the Legislature will be Free State—a matter of small consequence as Gen. CALHOUN rejects the returns sent to DENVER, and refuses to go behind the returns from Oxford and McGee which elects the Pro-Slavery State Ticket by over 2,000 majority.

#### FIRE AT ELMIRA.

A most destructive fire occurred at Elmira, on Wednesday, 18th inst., an account of which we find in the *Gazette*: It broke out about half past twelve o'clock, in the upper story of the building occupied by H. KORS, as a Clothing Store, on Water street (river bank,) adjoining Ulrich's Lager Beer Saloon, and spread with such rapidity, that in the course of two hours no less than fourteen buildings were entirely destroyed. They were all wooden structures, two stories high, and some of them no great value. The entire loss is about \$25,000; but we are happy to state that the greater part of it is covered by insurance.

The firemen were promptly on the ground, but owing to the great severity of the weather, were unable to do much execution in staying the progress of the fire. They succeeded, however, in saving the valuable buildings on the opposite street, from destruction.

#### FOREIGN NEWS.

The Collins steamship *Baltic*, arrived at New York on Thursday last, from Liverpool on the 3d inst., with four days later news from Europe. Her advices are interesting, though not especially important. There is nothing from India or China additional to what was brought by the *Nigeria*. Continued ease is reported in the London Money Market. The Liverpool Cotton market was firm, with a tendency to advance, while Breadstuffs were very much depressed. The *Zerithan* was at last successfully floated on Sunday, the 31st of January, and the occasion was one of much excitement and rejoicing. The *London Times* gives the particulars of the capture of a large American slaver on the Coast of Africa, the circumstances attending which were horrible in the extreme. The vessel was driven ashore, and numbers of the blacks perished in the surf.—From France we learn that further repressive measures were on foot, one of which was a reorganization of the police force. A meeting of American citizens had been held in Paris, at which resolutions congratulating the Emperor and Empress on their escape from assassination were adopted. It was thought that the attempt on the life of the King of Naples was part of the programme of which the death of the French Emperor was to be the leading feature. There is nothing of material interest from the other States of Europe.

#### DREAFFUL CALAMITY AT ST. LOUIS.

A calamity of the most dreadful character occurred at St. Louis on Saturday 20th inst. The Pacific Hotel took fire about 3 o'clock in the morning, and the flames spread so rapidly that all the means of egress were cut off before the sleeping inmates could be aroused. The windows presenting the only means of escape, many leaped out and were instantly killed or horribly mangled, while some, unable to reach the windows, perished in their rooms. We have the names of twenty-nine killed and six seriously wounded, but as they were about one hundred persons in the hotel at the time, and forty or fifty were missing, the probability is that the loss of life is still more serious.

#### BISHOP POTTER'S HEALTH.

The following paragraph from the *Greensburg Argus* of the 18th, contains the gratifying intelligence that Bishop POTTER is recovering from his late attack: "The Rev. ALONZO POTTER, Bishop of the Diocese of Pennsylvania, has been lying dangerously ill at the residence of his son, who is pastor at this place. He came here on Wednesday of last week, for the purpose of ordaining a minister, when he was suddenly overpowered by a stroke of apoplexy. For some considerable length of time his life was in jeopardy; but at last accounts, was in a fair way of recovery."

#### We cut the following relation to Mr. Grow's

movement from the *Evening Post*:—"WHAT IS IN THE WIND.—Hon. Galusha A. Grow, or, as he is commonly called from his popularity in his district, 'Great Majority Grow,' is now, we learn, at the St. Nicholas hotel in this city. Mr. Keitt, it is reported, has either remained at Washington, or gone North by another route."

#### A party of Sing Sing convicts

attempted to escape from prison last Thursday. While marching in to supper they rushed from the ranks and for the ice covered river. They were brought to by the keepers firing revolvers after them. Two of the fugitives were badly wounded, and all were re-captured.

JUDGE KANE died at his residence in Philadelphia, on Saturday evening last.

#### The telegraph announces from

Louis two weeks later news from Camp Grant, the present headquarters of the Utah expedition. The troops are reported to be in spirits and eager for a descent on Salt Lake City. The Mormons, according to reliable intelligence received by Col. JOHNSTON, were actively engaged in making preparations for assistance in the Spring. Governor CROMBIE was performing the duties of his office to the best of his ability under the circumstances.

### Reports on Lecompton in the Senate.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Feb. 20.—The report made to-day by Mr. GARDNER from the Senate Committee on Territories, cites at length the events that have occurred in Kansas, and asserts that the majority of the people may simply, as in ancient days, assemble in mass-meeting, and make a Constitution, or they may elect representatives to make one for them, or elect representatives to draft one to be submitted to them for their approval or rejection. The last method has been the one approved during the past few years, and formerly the second method was very generally resorted to. In calling the Convention in this case, it was conceded to have been a legal act, as was also the election of delegates. Was it not logical to infer that the Convention so legally called and so legally elected, clothed with authority to make a Constitution, can no more be interfered with by the Governor, Judge or Legislature, either to nullify its acts, than the people could be interfered with, had they assembled en masse, instead of by their representatives?

In conclusion, the Committee say that the Abolitionists in Kansas had thus far shown power, by methods unknown to the law, and acts of violence, and not through the usual agency of the ballot-box. Claiming to have a majority of voters in the Territory, and, therefore, able to elect a Legislature, the Convention, they yet ask Congress to interfere fully do for them what they may at law do, and at legal places rightfully do for themselves—that is, to change or abolish their Constitution; and in case Congress refuse to comply with their Constitutional demands, they then to afflict the country with an attempt at bloodshed and revolution. Unless Congress will do for them what they assert they are anxious to do for themselves, but which they willfully refuse to do, they threaten to plunge the country into civil war. This conduct is exceedingly unreasonable as to force the Convention upon the mind that they are conscious of being in a powerless minority, and only expect to be able to compass their unwarrantable ends by departing from the general way of peace and quiet. If your Committee are not greatly mistaken, those reckless men misjudge the American people, and will be prepared to seek peaceful methods for redress of their grievances, whether they be real or imaginary.

The report recites that the people of Kansas have framed for themselves a Constitution and State Government, republican in form, and that the Lecompton Convention has in their name and behalf, asked Congress to admit her. Therefore it is declared that Kansas be admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States in all respects whatever. The bill prescribes the boundaries, contains the usual regulations relative to grants of public lands, as in the case of Minnesota and gives Kansas, for the present, one Representative in the House of Representatives.

#### MINORITY REPORT OF MR. DOUGLASS.

Mr. DOUGLASS, in his report, dissents from the views of the majority, for the reason, among others, that there is no satisfactory evidence that the Constitution framed at Lecompton is the act and deed of the people of Kansas, and embodies their will. He shows that the Convention was not clothed with competent power to establish the Constitution without the assent of Congress, which has been expressly withheld in this case. Hence the Convention only had such power as the Territorial Legislature could rightfully confer, and no more which was to form a Constitution and send it to Congress as a memorial for admission, which could be accepted or rejected, according as it embodied the popular will; that all the proceedings of the Convention should have been held in strict obedience to the authority of the Territorial Government, while, in fact, it was declared to be in force, and to take effect in defiance of the Territorial government, as well as without the consent of Congress, and that the only lawful election held on the adoption of the Constitution, was that on the 4th of January last, which was in obedience to the law passed by the Territorial Legislature established by Congress, with full legislative power on all rightful subjects within the Territory.

#### MINORITY REPORT OF MESSRS. COLLAMER & WADE.

MESSRS. COLLAMER and WADE submitted their views. They say that the Territorial Government of Kansas was never organized as provided for in the organic act—that is, by its own people—but was usurped by a foreign force, and conquered and subdued by arms—and that the minority was installed in power—which has ever since been sustained by the general Government, instead of being extirpated and corrected. This has been done to establish and perpetuate slavery.

The Lecompton Constitution is the result of those proceedings, and contrary to the will of the great majority of the people, legally expressed. And for Congress in its discretion to consummate this protracted atrocity, and especially for such a purpose, is a violation of the fundamental principles of Republican Government, and can produce no permanent peace or satisfaction to the people of the Territory. In the late Territorial election they have reclaimed their rights, and that Territorial Government is for the first time now moving freely in its legislative sphere of promised freedom.

The Lecompton Constitution and its adoption were concocted and executed to supersede and to triumph over justice. To admit it by Congress is to give success to fraud and encouragement to iniquity, and to turn over that people, not to an election officers and legally conducted, but to such State officers and legislators as General CALHOUN shall hereafter proclaim, and on such contingency as he shall determine; and his long mysterious and inexcusable indecision and reserve, but encourages expectations in both parties—one of which is certainly doomed to disappointment.

#### The question of the day at Wash-

ington is: "What became of KERRIT after Grow struck him?" That fellow was nowhere to be seen, and says that he knows nothing of what happened. He must have crawled under a desk until the row was over.