

The Independent Republican.

"FREEDOM AND RIGHT AGAINST SLAVERY AND WRONG."

C. F. READ & H. H. FRAZIER, EDITORS.

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Poet's Corner.

SONG OF AN EXILE.

In mine own land, across your weary waters,
Green was the oaken bowers,
And those beechen mine own land's latest daughters,
Walk o'er the summer flowers!
In mine own land, far o'er those blood-red waves,
Where sink the sun to rest,
Lie cool and still my fathers' many graves,
In our Isle of the breezy West.

But never to that home, far o'er the waves,
To its bowers or its stately daughters,
Not e'er by my many taborer graves,
Shall I cross you weary waters!

A HYMN FOR SPRING.

The earth is silent with delight,
Beneath the kisses of the West,
The sky, a single chrysalis,
Sheds color from its breast.
Sweet music through the merry woods
Heralds the coming of the leaves,
And beauty on the meadows
Binding its golden sheaves.
This beauty is thy breath, O Lord!
Which makes the meadows fresh and fair,
And summer fragrance, half red rose,
Blends with the balmy air.
Thy glances brighten the heaven
And still the wonder-haunted sea,
By these, is veiled thy given:
Our hearts shall worship thee!

BIRDS.

Birds are singing round my window,
"Times the sweetest ever heard,
And I hang my cage there daily,
But I never catch a bird.
So with thoughts my brain is peopled,
And they sing there all day long,
But they will not fold their pinions
In the little cage of song."

A Story of the Heart.

IN LOVE OR NOT IN LOVE.

"The amount of it," said handsome Harry Harvey to his friend, Tom Hawkins, at the end of a long and confidential conversation, "the amount of it, I'm in a confounded scrape. I've gone a little too far, perhaps, in my attentions; the girls' over head and ears in love with me, and I don't see how I'm to get out of it with honor. I don't like the idea of being in love with all that sort of thing; but what is a fellow to do? I've no more thought of marrying than I have of turning preacher. Come, give us your advice, old fellow."

"Tom eyed his friend with a merry twinkle in his eye. A sagacious and mischievous smile played round the corner of his mouth, as he replied, 'Nothing easier in life, Harry, than to get you out of it. You say you care if you do or do not do so.'"

"How—how?" asked Harry, eagerly.

"You say she's handsome, witty, amiable, and accomplished?" said Tom.

"Yes," returned Harry.

"Well, then," said Tom, knocking the ashes from his cigar, "she's just the wife I want, and I'll take her off your hands."

"A word!" cried Harry, trying to turn into a pleasant smile the frown which suddenly darkened his face. "Impossible, Tom! she's continued, amiably; 'it would never do. In the first place, you don't suit each other in the least; there would be no congeniality of disposition, intellect, &c.'"

"Is she, then, so decidedly my inferior?" asked Tom.

"Inferior!" cried Harry, frowning up with sudden indignation. "I don't know the man she is inferior to. She's a beautiful creature, I tell you."

"Well, where's your objection, then?" said Tom.

"Well, I mean—perhaps I'm not very civil to say so, Tom—but the fact is, though you're the best fellow in the world, you are sometimes a little rough; and she's so sensitive and refined; that—that—besides, as I told you, Tom—confound it—as I told you, she's in love with me, there's the rub, there's the rub!" and Harry rubbed his hands together with returning spirit, as if he had hit the idea he had been vainly seeking at last.

"Thank you, Harvey, for your complimentary hints," said Tom, as he watched the ascending smoke of his cigar; "but, on the whole, notwithstanding my extreme natural diffidence, I believe I don't take quite so low an estimate of my character as you do. And as regards the being so desperately in love, and all that—I know how much that means. Trust me for managing that. For curing a girl of a fancy for one lover, there's nothing like the appearance of another. Why, if the odds were equal in other respects, the novelty gives the last corner such an incalculable advantage; that there is no doubt of its success. Besides, in this case we shall have the advantage of playing into each other's hands. You have only to hold off a little at first, and give me a chance. You play cold while I play warm, and I'll bet you a box of cigars I win the day—as easy as kissing, as the ladies say."

"I think you are entirely mistaken," said Harvey, stiffly, in a tone of pique and annoyance.

"Well, shall I try to say or say?" asked Tom.

"Oh, certainly, certainly, I should be much obliged, of course," replied Harvey, whose manner presented the greatest contrast to his air of boastful security at the beginning of the conversation.

That same evening Tom accompanied Harvey to Miss Northwood's house. He found her all, and more than all, Harvey had described. He was indeed charmed with her grace and beauty.

The conversation, after the first preliminary compliments, fell on works of art, and the wondrous galleries of Europe. Tom had been an extensive and intelligent traveller, and was in his element on this subject. He had much of interest to say, and found much pleasure in answering Miss Northwood's discriminating questions. Harvey, who had never traveled, was, of necessity, silent, and thrown quite into the shade. From this subject the transition was easy and natural to music; and here, too, Tom was perfectly at home. In fact, music was his strong point. He was an accomplished musician, with all a musician's enthusiasm for the art. Soon he and Miss Northwood were seated at the piano, comparing tastes, and exchanging enthusiastic lovers of music.

"Do you know this little air?" asked Tom.

"I learned it at Venice; and it is, I think, exceedingly beautiful. It seems so airy with

it a perfume of Italian flowers, and the sound of rippling, moonlit waters."

"Fudge!" muttered Harvey, from the distant sofa to which he had retired, from behind the book which he was reading in his hand.

Then followed the air Tom had referred to, which he sung in exquisite taste, with the richest of manly voices. Miss Northwood greatly admired it, and expressed what she felt.

"Coquette!" sneered Harvey, in an accent of concentrated rage.

But, all unconscious of these muttered comments, the musician lingered over their music. One favorite air suggested another, and there were scores to be looked over, and duets to be sung. And Tom had so many anecdotes to tell of such and such musicians, and such delightful little histories of how such and such pieces of music came to be written, that time flew on swift and noiseless pinions.

Miss Northwood's eyes occasionally went in search of Harvey, but whenever she addressed a remark to him, with a view of drawing him into the conversation, he replied with such unobtrusive brevity, that she was repelled from further advances.

"Well!" cried Tom, as they emerged from the house late in the evening, "pretty well for a beginning, Harvey! So far, so good. I consider the affair in a most hopeful train. Miss Northwood more than satisfies my expectations, and I flatter myself I made an impression—hey, Harvey?" An unmitigated grunt from Harvey was the only reply.

"I say, Harvey," continued Tom, in the highest spirits, "I don't see those unmistakable symptoms of being in love in your fair lady which I expected. May you not have deceived yourself on that point? Another growl, ominous as the first, burst from Harvey's well-toothed mouth. "I preceded Tom. 'I commend you. Keep your distance, that's right; no poaching on my grounds, you know.'"

"Your grounds, you rascal!" burst forth Harvey, in a fit of ungovernable rage. "I have a great mind to knock you down for your insufferable assurance, you—you puppy!"

"And there, sir, is my card, if you want the satisfaction of a fight," cried Harvey, as he left him, bursting with laughter as he did so.

"Tom, my good fellow!" cried Harvey, as he hurried into Tom's room, the next day, with the most beaming smile on his face.

"Tom, I've got something pleasant to say to you. With me, my fine fellow, I'm all settled. We're to be married this day three months. It's all arranged, and I'm the happiest dog alive! Why don't you congratulate me, old boy?"

"Because you take my breath away," said Tom. "I can't believe you. Why, you told me, yesterday, you wanted me to take her off your hands."

"And that you considered yourself in quite a fix," continued Tom, "from which I good-humoredly consented to help you."

"Fudge— nonsense!" cried Harvey, a blush of vexation and shame coming into his face.

"And that Miss Northwood, poor thing! was likely to die of a broken heart."

"Come, come, Tom! no more of that! 'thou lovest me!' said Harvey. 'The fact is, Tom—and I may as well own it—a man does not know whether he is in love or not, until he has a little jealousy or something else opens his eyes for him. But it's all right now.'"

"Oh, ay!" said Tom, with affected gravity, "you may think it's all right; but there is something yet to be settled which may stand in the way of your true love running so very smooth."

As he spoke, he gravely drew forth Harvey's card from his pocket, saying, "I have ordered coffee and pistols for tomorrow morning, and (who knows!) I may stand a chance for Miss Northwood's hand yet."

Harvey snatched the card, and sent it spinning into the air, as he burst into a merry laugh. Tom joined him heartily. Their hands met in a cordial grip, as they exclaimed—"the one, 'you may thank me, Harvey, for teaching you your own mind—and the other, 'I understand you, Tom; you're the best friend I ever had. See if I don't prove my gratitude some of these days, by flitting with the lady you're in love with!'"

"You're welcome!" cried Tom; "by the time I'm in love, you'll be like the lion tamer, teeth and claws—a married man, and no longer dangerous."

AS INTERPOLATION.—We had the pleasure of being present on the Sunday morning, April 5th, when Rev. Henry Ward Beecher preached his sermon by reading the twelfth chapter of First Corinthians, the thirteenth verse of which is as follows: "For by one spirit we are all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, bond or free; and have been made to drink into one spirit."

Reading the words "bond and free," the reverend gentleman said: "This is the true Paul surely could not have said this; it must be an interpolation. It certainly cannot mean that a man with African blood in his veins, and held as an American slave, oppressed by his master, despoiled of his rights and outlawed by our courts, is baptized in the same spirit with the white man. It cannot mean that a slave is equal to a freeman in the sight of God—black men so; it certainly reads so; and it would appear from this, unless we call it an interpolation, that we are all the children of one common father, entitled to the same rights, governed by the same principles, alike immortal and precious in his sight. It must be an interpolation!"

The pause which was made when coming to the words "bond and free," as if there must be some mistake, was electrically impressive; and his reading and commenting on that portion of Scripture was the most effective anti-slavery discourse—the best "political preaching" that could have been made!

NEW LITANY.—Here is a litany which, though not orthodox, will pass among sinners.

From tailors' bills, doctors' pills, western chills, and other ills—deliver us.

From want of gold, wives that scold, maidens old, and by sharps "sold"—deliver us.

From seedy coats, protruded noses, sinking boats, and illegal notes—deliver us.

From greaking doors, a wife who snores, "confounded bors," and dry goods stores—protect us.

From modest girls, with waving curls, and teeth of pearls—sever mind.

From singing fies, cool black eyes, black-pink and babies' cries—deliver us.

Vindication of Kansas.

From the St. Louis Democrat.

THE ADDRESS OF THE FREE STATE CONVENTION TO THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

The Committee appointed by the late Free-State Convention, held at Topeka, Kansas, on the 10th day of March, 1857, to whom was committed the charge of preparing an Address to the American People, have prepared and respectfully submit the following:

The Pro-Slavery Convention, which assembled at Lexington, January 22, 1857, have issued an "Address," which has been spread broadcast over the states. In this pamphlet an attempt is made to palliate the crimes and excuse the outrages which the Pro-Slavery party—sailing under the colors of "Democracy"—have been guilty of in the Territory. Nay, more. It is sought to throw the entire blame and responsibility of the afflictions which have befallen upon the settlers and residents of Kansas on the Free-State men, and those active and earnest patriots who have labored with an energy that knows no defeat, and a will that knows no faltering, in behalf of Freedom and Free Labor.

The burden of the Address is, that the Free-State party initiated and inaugurated a revolutionary and unconstitutional proceeding, that they rallied against the enforcement of legal enactments, laughed to scorn the authorities, and beat back the officers of justice, necessitating "Law and Order" men to take up arms for the preservation of peace and for the punishment of traitors. They brand Lane, Robinson and Keeler, and a host of other good and true men, as lived criminals, crimes animated by the filthiest spirit of the States, and enemies to the well-being of the Territory. They represent themselves to have been innocent, law-abiding and unoffensive, earnestly in favor of peace and repose in Kansas, and end their Address with a grand rhetorical flourish, and bombastic ascription of patriotic motives to their country, their party and their God.

To unmask the hypocrisy, to expose the falsehoods and reveal the contradictions and inconsistencies of this Address, would be superfluous, for the thrice and the anguish, the indignities and the oppressions, which the Free-State men have suffered, are written in characters of blood, burned into the memory of every honest citizen of our country.

It is a history, have been seen and known and pondered of all men, and will stand, like the Egyptian pyramids, to the surprise and wonder of coming generations.

The Free-State men have violated no law, for that which is not just is not law, and that which is devoid of justice should not be obeyed. The code enacted by the Legislature of Kansas, and adopted by the residents of Kansas, for the organization of a Legislature, and for the protection of their lives and property, as well as for the securing a voice in the legislative proceedings, and the filling of official posts. A Convention of the people assembled at Lawrence, August 14, 1855, reprobated the authority of the Legislature, and recommended the election of delegates to the 25th, to meet at Big Springs, September 5, for the consideration of public affairs.

At this Convention the bogus laws were also repudiated, Ex-Governor Reeder nominated as delegate to Congress, and a day appointed for the election. On the 17th of September another Convention was held at Topeka, to make arrangements for electing a Convention for a Free-State Convention. This Convention selected an Executive Committee, who were invested with the authority of a provisional government, to provide for the complete organization of a State Government.

October 9, Reeder was elected Delegate to Congress, by a vote of 2400, and Delegates at the same time were elected to the Constitutional Convention. This Convention assembled at Topeka on the 23d, and September 17th submitted a Constitution to the people, appointing the 4th of March, 1856, for organizing a state Government. December 15, 1855, the Topeka Constitution was voted upon by the people, with no outbreak, except at Leavenworth City, where the election was prevented and the poll-book stolen. On the 25th of January, 1856, officers were elected under the Topeka Constitution, and Robinson chosen Governor. On the 4th of March the State Legislature met at Topeka, Governor Robinson and other officers sworn in, the Executive Committee discharged, and the Legislature then adjourned to meet at Topeka July 4.

Although these proceedings were in violation of the laws enacted by the Legislature of the occasion, and although present and authority could be found for them in the history of Michigan, Arkansas, and California, the President of the United States issued a proclamation denouncing the formation of a State Government as an act of rebellion, and up holding and endorsing the Bogus Legislature. Acting upon his own base instincts, Judge Leecompte charged the Grand Jury to find indictments for high treason against all who had participated in organizing the State Government. The Jury succumbed, found indictments against Robinson, Lane, Reeder, and many others, and presented the two Lawrence newspapers and the Free-State hotel as stood when the Congressional investigating Committee arrived in their way by the Pro-Slavery party, and every means adopted by that fair and just investigation of Kansas affairs might be prevented. But the Committee proved equal to the arduous responsibility which devolved upon them, and well performed a noble duty. The results of their labors were published in their report, are well known. It substantiated the illegality of every election held under the enactments of the Bogus Legislature, and corroborated the truth of all that the Free-State men of Kansas were reported to have undergone.

Up to this time the Pro-Slavery party had been guilty of committing crimes which the blood curdles. J. W. B. Kelley

the polls, ousted the judges and clerks of election, and stuffed the boxes with illegal ballots. In this mode, and by such means, the first so-called Legislature of Kansas was elected—4908 illegal votes being polled by Missourians. Only four days had been allowed to protest against the returns of the election judges, and the formalities were attended to but in six districts, in which Governor Reeder ordered new elections. At these elections—May 22, 1855—all the Free-State nominees were elected, except at Leavenworth City, where the Missourians played their old game of invasion and illegal voting, and on the 25th, a few days subsequently, a Pro-Slavery meeting was held, at which the Missourians were indorsed; and the outrage on Mr. Phillips—a Free-State man, who had been taken in Missouri, tarred and feathered, and sold at auction to a negro—indorsed.

The first meeting of the Missouri-elected Legislature, at Lexington, Kansas, on the 20th of May, 1856, it appeared that there was but one Free-State man in the whole council, who immediately resigned his seat, and the Legislature ousted all the Free-State members of the House, elected at the special elections ordered by Governor Reeder, and gave their seats to their Pro-Slavery opponents. An act was then passed for the removal of the seat of Government to Shawnee Mission, near the Missouri border, which was finally adopted over Governor Reeder's veto.

All Territorial offices were filled by these "Legislators," or by Commissioners appointed by them, and Governor Reeder, who bravely stood up against the illegal Assembly, and their enactments, was removed from the administration falling into the hands of Secretary Woodson, who actively cooperated with the Pro-Slavery party.

A code of laws was enacted by the bogus Legislature, pronounced by General Cass to be "a disgrace to the age," and, having provided for another election, the fraudulent body, and subsequently, in response to a call from the State of Iowa, declared the Territory in a state of open rebellion, and issued orders for the enlistment of men to enforce the Territorial laws. An army of invaders marched toward Lawrence, scattering terror in their course, while Atchison and Strongsville appealed for aid at Leavenworth. The city of Leavenworth was destroyed at Leavenworth, and all the horrors of a war of extermination visited upon the innocent people. President Pierce, in his sanction to the invaders, and authorized Shannon to call out the United States troops. Companies from the purlieu and grog-shops of the South, under a Major Buford, took an active part in outraging the Free State citizens, and the Territory presented the awful spectacle of a region over-run by fire and sword.

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had been beaten and shamefully abused at Atchison; the Rev. Pardee Butler had been lynched, tarred, and feathered, and sent down the Missouri on a frail raft; Collins had been cruelly murdered at Doniphan, and Dow at Hickory Point; Baker had been shot down by Major Clark, a government official, and Brown tortured to death near Leavenworth. And yet the murderers ran at large, boasted of their exploits, and openly defied the law. Governor Robinson was arrested, May 8, at Lexington, Missouri, and sent back to Kansas, where, with six others, he was thrown into prison and kept for four months.

On the 11th, Marshal Donaldson raised a force of ruffians, embracing Major Buford's "chivalric boys," and marched to destroy Lawrence, under the pretense that the citizens had aided Reeder in resisting his authority. Like the swarm of Egyptian locusts, this force carried desolation as they went. Jones and Stuart, learned and excellent citizens during the month of August. The supplies they brought, together with evidence they furnished to the Free-State men that the ruffians reached the City of Lawrence. The citizens were almost paralyzed with amazement as they looked upon the angry and demoniac throngs by which their homes were surrounded. But they determined on mustering all, as in the days of Rome, from twelve to seventy, and resolved to beat back the ruthless invaders of their peace and prosperity, or fall like earnest men and patriots. The marauders, though outnumbering their opponents five to one, were yet afraid to risk a fair engagement, and sent Bogus Sheriff Jones to secure their arms and cannon by promising protection to life and property. Deceived and betrayed by these pledges, in an evil hour the Free-State men agreed to the terms and the ruffians were allowed to pour into their city, and then, regardless of their pledges and plighted faith, did they commence anew the work of ruin and plunder. Two presses were destroyed, together with a beautiful new hotel, and Gov. Robinson's private library, while Atchison invited them to other deeds of violence and wrong. Scattering from Lawrence, in foraging parties, Buford's men scourged the country like lawless pirates, as they were. Such was the policy of the "Law and Order party"—the "National Democracy" of Kansas.

When the Free-State men discovered how useless, by such means, it was to appeal for protection to Shannon, the inferior Governor, to the National Administration, to the local estimates—when in their distant homes they found themselves forsaken, betrayed and deserted, surrounded by a relentless and blood-thirsty foe, bent on driving them from their homes, or committing them to their blood, then was it that they felt called upon to resort to arms and physical resistance. Inspired by a cause as just and holy as that for which Washington fought and bled, they rallied under a common banner, and went forth like the brave Magyars to defend those rights which are intuitive in the manly breast—rights and liberties which must be preserved by freemen at all hazards, if they would preserve their own self-respect. They did not "gird on their armor" out of any mercenary motive by which their interests might be advanced. They sought only to drive back the oppressive hordes of unprincipled invaders, and to vindicate a principle which was dear to them as life itself.

At the first engagement at Osawatimie, the ruffians were sorely beaten. At Palmyra and Burlington—laboring under the hallucination that Lane was advancing in the Territory with an army as numerous as that of Xerxes, issued a proclamation to the Missourians which was promptly responded to, and numerous crowds gathered at Weston, Mo., to march towards Lawrence. Shannon having been removed, Woodson assumed the reins of government, and raised another force in the West to act in concert with the army of the "Law and Order party," which was the army of Law and Order in Kansas Territory. This "peaceful" army exemplified their "Law and Order" propensities by filling up a Quaker Mission and treating the settlers with cannibalism.

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