

The Montrose Democrat

"WE ARE ALL EQUAL BEFORE GOD AND THE CONSTITUTION."—James Buchanan

McCullum & Gerritson, Proprietors.

Montrose, St. Charles County, Tenn., Thursday Morning, September 16, 1858.

Volume 13, Number 30.

Miscellaneous.

FREMONT'S FIGHT WITH FOOLE DOCUMENTS IN THE CASE.

For the Democrat.
A STORY OF FACT.
For God's sake hurry, we fear poor Ella is dying! she has the hazy, and excited exclamation that greeted the ear at dead of night, as we sprang from a bed of sleep, arranged our toilet, and found ourselves at the head of the stairs, ere three minutes were marked upon the dial of our faithful watch. It was the night before Christmas eve, Christmas eve in Philadelphia, that great city, that almost boundless city, that city of brotherly love! We often, by permission of the Professors, wandered in different parts of the city in professional practice, that we might be better fitted for that responsible task, on receiving the honors of the University. Those scenes of misery and distress so often passed before us, that ordinary cases were scarcely heeded. Please Doctor, do hurry; for my little sister is so sick; her cheek is pale, and her lips grow colder all the while, though I have kissed them so oft, to make them warm. The last words were spoken, as the dim lamp light threw a fitful glare over the face of the speaker, a girl of some nine summers and it needed but a glance to see that she had been cradled in luxury, and nursed in the lap of tenderness and wealth. The poor girl shivered with fear, and cold; her coarse garments were covered with sweat, and the tear that stood in that great, dark, lustrous eye, spoke oh! how tenderly, and passionately, of a warm heart within, strangely contrasting with the cold wind without. We gazed for a moment on that classic form, that forehead high, and Grecian features, until a little cold hand grasped ours, and the trembling words, "please hurry," soon found us in the thoroughfare, that on her hour ago shone bright, as the blaze from a hundred chandeliers, were flashed in brilliant floods of light upon them, now so dimly lit by the watchman's lamp. The night was cold, and dreary without, the heavens were shrouded in darkness, and gloom; the hollow wailed moaned sadly along the street, and over the house roof, old signs creaked in the storm, while the hurried step of a single pedestrian contrasted strangely with the sea of life, that but an hour ago, had so densely flooded one of the most fashionable streets in the great Quaker City. Now down that narrow lane, now along that secluded side, still, misery and rage, now up that narrow shocking stair case, and we are in the presence of the little sufferer. A sorrowing form, was bent tenderly over her, kissing the cold brow of her dying child, and wiping the death damp from cheek and temple, with that passionate fondness, which none but a mother's heart could impart. We bent for a moment over the little invalid, and the now sinking, now bounding pulse, the damp sweat, the stamp of death on every feature, which may be seen, but never can be described, told in unmistakable language that those dark eyes would soon be closed in everlasting sleep. A groan, a suppressed mutter, a stifled imprecation, attracted our attention to an opposite corner, and there lay the companion, the husband, the father! dead drunk. The confused jester, the deep bluish that mantled that mother's cheek, bespoke shame, and chagrin at the discovery. The story was soon told. She had loved George when they were schoolmates together, and as dearly was that affection returned. But as he grew up, and mingled in society, the natural propensities which had hitherto lain dormant in nature, began to be developed, the wine-cup becoming more, and more his companion, until he reeled beneath the intoxicating draught. Again, and again did he promise to reform, he joined the temperance band, and was even admitted, into the sacred pale of the church, as one of the members of the Christian faith. She knew his reform was permanent, for she thought him too good to err. Mistaken creature! how little she knew of the frailty of the human heart, thinking all as good, and true as her own; how little she knew of the frailty of man's nature, that where tabits of temperance were formed in younger days, how seldom is a permanent reform through life. Poor woman, how we pined her! She had been young, beautiful, educated, accomplished, but had thrown away a pure, fond, devoted heart, and lavished a priceless affection on one so fitly adapted to make her happy; who in ten short years had brought her from a life of innocence, and wealth, into a pit of poverty, misery and shame, and now stood before us, a heart-broken object of real pity. We administered a cordial to the dying child, and soon its dark, lustrous eye was turned full upon us, a ray, bright, beautiful, had clear as an angel's, lit up those features, and the sound "mammy was blessed from the lips of the dying child. O God! she lives" exclaimed the mother, as with wild joy she clasped her child to her bosom; her Ella, her own dear, darling Ella. Such excitement was pain to us, for we dreaded to witness the transit from wild joy to mortal sorrow, knowing but too well, that the momentary excitement that so often deceives the bystanders of a dying friend, is the effect of Death's arrow, as it pierces the heart of its victim. A lease, not like that of earth, was kindled in those eyes, a tint like the glow of Heaven, came to check, and lip, kindling those features with a halo of celestial light, as the dappled wings of an angel were, "beared" over them, and with the words, "good night mammy," that soul, bright, beautiful, young and pure, went quivering up to God!

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that bill, and in support of it, that if sanctioned by Congress would disgrace the Republic. What I meant was that the establishment of a Board of Commissioners in California for the adjustment of land titles, without the privilege of appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States, would, in my opinion, result in scenes of corruption and acts of injustice, which would be seriously derogatory to the national character. So I think yet, and so I shall always think and say.

"The difficulty between Senators Foote and Fremont has been amicably arranged, as you will have seen by the card of those gentlemen's friends in to-day's Union. This is as it should be. Mr. Fremont was wrong to attack Mr. Foote for words spoken in debate, while he (Foote) distinctly avowed at the time in the Senate, were not spoken with a view to wound the personal feelings of any Senator present, but more to protect the country against *ex parte* decisions of the California Board of Commissioners for the adjustment of land titles. All that Gen. Foote had observed was, that without Ewing's amendment, granting appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States from the decision of the Board, he considered that the bill would disgrace the Republic, and that however inclined he was to support the bill, he should support it without the amendment. Mr. Foote retracted nothing; but distinctly avowed that he did not intend any personal disrespect for those who were against the amendment." Colonel Fremont could not be satisfied with this explanation. As a sensible man, and a man of honor, he must have seen his mistake in attempting to gag Senators in regard to all legislative acts relating to California, and in constituting himself the champion of a family feud, which for the benefit of the whole country had better be buried than renewed.

The Fremont papers and life writers are now trying to make out that Fremont did not strike Foote at all. This is a latter day discovery, and entirely destitute of truth. Mr. Fremont himself has never denied attacking Foote in the Senate Hall, and that too for words spoken in debate, where he, Fremont, had complete opportunity to reply. He struck him a staggering blow with his fist, breaking his spectacles and bringing blood profusely. All accounts given at the time agree in this. He not only struck him, but sought satisfaction by challenging him to mortal combat. And what was Foote's defence for all this deadly intent? Here are the offensive words as reported for the National Intelligencer, and quoted by Fremont in his letter written at the time in vindication of himself. He says:

"We had some little admonition this morning as to the danger of lax legislation in regard to California matters. Nevertheless, I say deliberately, I say it with due consideration of the matter and of the consequences of the declaration, that if the views which have been expressed in certain quarters this morning in regard to a portion of the legislation which is urged upon us for California, should be adopted in the same hasty manner in which it is now proposed to give our sanction to the present proposition, the admission of California into the Union would be productive of more detriment to the Republic, and in my opinion, be fraught with more real disaster to the nation, than any event that has ever occurred in the historic annals of the country. Sir, we must be cautious about this California business. Not only is California a State of this Union, but she is a great State. Her resources are large. Her interests are vast. They are of vast importance to herself and to the country at large.

In dealing with them we must act cautiously, circumspectly, vigilantly, and permit no man, or set of men, to urge us hastily and indiscreetly into the adoption of any legislation for which, hereafter, we may have reason to repent in sackcloth and ashes."

What is there here to give offence to any sensible man? Where is the language of that personal nature to justify assault? There is not a personal allusion in the whole paragraph, and yet Fremont quotes it as justifying not only his knocking Foote down but seeking to shoot him afterwards. It is mild, courteous and gentlemanly, compared with Sumner's late speech wherein he called Senator Butler by name, compared him to a Don Quixote Jackass and heaped all kinds of personal odium upon him and his State.

"His birds always flutter," and there is no accounting for Fremont's peculiar sensitiveness in this matter, except that he feared an exposure of his Mariposa and other large land speculation claims.

That he was not satisfied with assaulting Foote, as with the oral explanation which Foote gave him, but that he actually sent Foote a challenge, and was determined to annihilate him in a duel, was abundantly apparent from Mr. Fremont's own letter, the conclusion of which we give with Foote's note. Mr. Fremont says:

"I conclude this notice with giving Mr. Foote's letter to me, in answer to the note which I sent him by a friend."

SENATE CHAMBER, Sept. 16, 1858.

"Sir,—I do not feel that I should be doing justice to myself did I not, in writing, (as I thought I did very explicitly last night, and I think I did very explicitly on Monday) deny that I said anything denunciatory of the bill to which you refer, or of those who introduced it. I was in favor of Mr. Ewing's amendment, and in favor of the bill which you refer to. I was not at all incorporated with it. This year colleague well known. I said that certain views had been expressed in the course of debate upon

that bill, and in support of it, that if sanctioned by Congress would disgrace the Republic. What I meant was that the establishment of a Board of Commissioners in California for the adjustment of land titles, without the privilege of appeal to the Supreme Court of the United States, would, in my opinion, result in scenes of corruption and acts of injustice, which would be seriously derogatory to the national character. So I think yet, and so I shall always think and say.

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country on the fact of the earth. We possess every advantage which Providence can bestow upon us for the manufacture of cotton but they are all counteracted by the folly of man. The raw material costs us less than it does the English, because this is its article, the price of which depends upon foreign markets, and is not regulated by our own inflated currency. We, therefore, save the freight of the cotton across the Atlantic, and that of the manufactured article on its return here. What is the reason that with all these advantages, and with the prospective duties, which our laws afford to the domestic manufacturer of cotton, we cannot obtain exclusive possession of the home market, and successfully contend for the markets of the world? It is simply because we manufacture at the nominal prices of our own inflated currency, and are compelled to sell at the real price of other nations. Reduce our nominal to the real standard of prices throughout the world, and you cover our country with blessings and benefits. I wish to Heaven I could speak in a voice loud enough to be heard throughout New England; because if the attention of the manufacturers could once be directed to the subject of their own intelligence and native sagacity would teach them how injuriously they are affected by our bloated banking and credit system, and would enable them to apply the proper corrective.

What is the reason that our manufacturers have been able to sustain any sort of competition, even in the home market, with those of British origin? It is because England herself is, to a great extent, a paper-money country, though in this respect, not to be compared with our own. From this very cause prices in England are much higher than they are upon the continent. The expense of living is there double what it costs in France. Hence, all the English who desire to pursue their fortunes by living cheaply emigrate from their own country to France, or some other portion of the continent. The comparative low prices of France and Germany have afforded such a stimulus to their manufactures that they are now rapidly extending themselves, and would obtain possession, in no small degree, even of the English home market, if it were not for their protective duties. Whilst British manufacturers are now languishing, those of the continent are springing into a healthy and vigorous existence. It was but the other day that I saw an extract from an English paper which stated that whilst the cutlery manufactured in Germany was sold at a price that the latter would have to abandon the manufacture altogether.

But the Senator from Kentucky leaves no stone unturned. He says that the friends of the Independent treasury desire to demolish exclusive metallic currency, as the medium of all dealings throughout the Union; and also, to reduce the wages of the poor man's labor so that the rich employer may be able to sell his manufactures at a lower price. Now, sir, I deny the correctness of both these propositions; and, in the first place, for one, an not in favor of establishing an exclusive metallic currency for the people of this country. I desire to see the banks greatly reduced in number; and would, if I could, confine their accommodations to such loans or discounts, for limited periods, to the commercial manufacturing, and trading classes of the community as the ordinary course of their business might render necessary. I never wish to see farmers and mechanics and professional men tempted by the facility of obtaining bank loans for long periods to abandon their own proper and useful and respectable spheres, and rush into wild and extravagant speculation. I would, if I could, radically reform the present banking system, so as to confine it within such limits as to prevent future suspensions of specie payments; and without exception, I would instantly deprive each and every bank of its charter which should again suspend. Especially these or similar reforms and give me a real specie basis for our paper circulation, by increasing the denominations of bank notes first to ten and afterwards to twenty dollars, and I shall then be the friend, not the enemy of bank. I know that the existence of banks and the circulation of bank paper is so identified with the habits of the people that they cannot be abolished, even if this were desirable. To reform, and not destroy is my motto. To confine them to their appropriate business, and prevent them from ministering to the spirit of wild and reckless speculation, by extravagant loans and issues, is all which ought to be desired. But this I cite many other examples; but this, I trust, will be sufficient to draw public attention to the subject. This depreciation of our currency is, therefore, equivalent to a direct protection granted to the foreign over the domestic manufacturer. It is impossible that our manufacturer should be able to sustain such an unequal competition.

"Sir, I solemnly believe that if we could but reduce this inflated paper bubble to anything like reasonable dimensions, New England would become the most prosperous manufacturing country that this continent ever upon." Why cannot we manufacture goods, and especially cotton goods, which will go into successful competition with British manufactures in foreign markets? Have we not the necessary capital? Have we not the industry? I have not the machinery? And above all, are we not skill, energy, and enterprise, prevalent throughout the world? Lead to the Champagne than in any other

country on the fact of the earth. We possess every advantage which Providence can bestow upon us for the manufacture of cotton but they are all counteracted by the folly of man. The raw material costs us less than it does the English, because this is its article, the price of which depends upon foreign markets, and is not regulated by our own inflated currency. We, therefore, save the freight of the cotton across the Atlantic, and that of the manufactured article on its return here. What is the reason that with all these advantages, and with the prospective duties, which our laws afford to the domestic manufacturer of cotton, we cannot obtain exclusive possession of the home market, and successfully contend for the markets of the world? It is simply because we manufacture at the nominal prices of our own inflated currency, and are compelled to sell at the real price of other nations. Reduce our nominal to the real standard of prices throughout the world, and you cover our country with blessings and benefits. I wish to Heaven I could speak in a voice loud enough to be heard throughout New England; because if the attention of the manufacturers could once be directed to the subject of their own intelligence and native sagacity would teach them how injuriously they are affected by our bloated banking and credit system, and would enable them to apply the proper corrective.

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wealth of every country, and the free laborers of the North desire to support both for their property and their intelligence. Hear me forbid that I should do them wrong! Of all the countries on the earth we ought to have the most consideration for the laboring man. From the very nature of our institutions, the wheel of fortune is constantly revolving and producing such mutations in property, that the wealthy man of to day may become the poor laborer of to-morrow. Truly, wealth often takes to itself wings and flies away. A large fortune rarely lasts beyond the third generation, even if it endures so long. We must all have instances of individuals obliged to labor for their daily bread whose grand fathers were men of fortune. The regular process of society would almost seem to consist of the efforts of one class to displace the fortunes which they have inherited, what another class, by their industry and economy are regularly rising to wealth. We have all, therefore, a common interest, as it is our common duty, to protect the rights of the laboring man, and if I believed by a moment that this bill would prove injurious to him, it should meet my unqualified opposition.

"Although this bill will not have as great an influence as I could desire, yet, as far as it goes, it will benefit the laboring man as much and probably more than any other class of society. What is he ought most to desire? Constant employment, regular wages, and uniform reasonable prices for the necessities and comforts of life which he requires. Now, sir, what has been his condition under our system of expansion and contractions? He has suffered more by them than any other class of society. The rate of his wages is fixed and known; and they are the last to rise with the increasing expansion; and the first to fall when the corresponding contraction occurs. He still continues to receive his dollar per day, whilst the price of every article which he consumes, is rapidly rising. He is at length made to feel that although he nominally earns as much, or even more than he did formerly, yet, from the increased price of all the necessities of life, he cannot support his family. Hence he strikes for higher wages, and the uneasy and excited feelings which have at different periods, existed among the laboring classes. But the expansion at length reaches the exploding point, and what does the laboring man now suffer? He is for a season thrown out of employment altogether. Our manufacturers are suspended; our public works are stopped; our private enterprises or unions are abandoned; and, whilst others are able to weather the storm, he can scarcely procure the means of bare subsistence.

Again, sir, who do you suppose held the greater part of the worthless paper of the one hundred and sixty five broken banks to which I have referred? Certainly it was not the lean and wary speculator, who counts danger from afar. If you were to make the search, you would find more broken bank notes in the cottages of the laboring poor than anywhere else. And these miserable shipplatters, where are they! After the revolution of 1837, laborers were glad to obtain employment on any terms; and they often received it upon the express condition, that they should accept this worthless trash in payment. Sir, an entire suppression of all bank notes of a lower denomination than the value of one week's wages of the laboring man is absolutely necessary for his protection. He ought always to receive his wages in gold and silver. Of all men on the earth, the laborer is most interested in having a sound and stable currency.

All other circumstances being equal, I agree with the Senator from Kentucky that that country is most prosperous where labor commands the highest wages. I do not, however, mean by the terms "highest wages," the greatest nominal amount. During the Revolutionary war, one day's work commanded a hundred dollars of continental paper; but this would have scarcely purchased a breakfast. The more proper expression would be, to say that the country is most prosperous where labor commands the greatest real reward; where one day's labor will procure not the greatest nominal amount of a depreciated currency, but most of the necessities and comforts of life. If, therefore, you should, in some degree, reduce the nominal price paid for labor, by reducing the amount of your bank issues within reasonable and safe limits, and establishing a metallic basis for your paper circulation, would this injure the laborer? Certainly not; because the price of all the necessities and comforts of life are reduced in the same proportion; and he will be able to purchase more of them for one dollar, in a sound state of the currency, than he could have done, in the days of extravagant expansion, four dollars and a quarter. So far from injuring, it will greatly benefit the laboring man. It will insure to him constant employment, and regular prices for his labor, and a steady and certain market for his goods. It will save him from being lacerated in ruin by suspensions of these periodical expansions and contractions of the currency, which have so often ruined our country.

This sound state of the currency will have another very happy effect upon the laboring man. He will receive his wages in gold and silver, and will be able to weather the storm, he can scarcely procure the means of bare subsistence.

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John C. Fremont "Crawling on his belly in Subserviency to the South."

The Boston Bee is now a rampant Know-Nothing Examiner paper. At its first support, Mr. Fillmore. But finally the Bee became satisfied that Fremont's election would promote Know-Nothingism more than Fillmore, and it came out for Fremont accordingly.

Here is an article from the same paper, the Boston Bee, before it became ensorcelled of Fremont. We invite anti-Slavery men to this commentary on their candidate by one of his present supporters.

JOHN C. FREMONT.—It has been intimated that the Republicans may possibly nominate Col. Fremont for the Presidency. He is a good man, but it would be a vote away upon us as any one, but it would be about as opposite to their professions, and as consistent as the nomination of Van Buren in 1840.

It was stated at the American State Court, all on Tuesday, by a gentleman who was present at the Legislature of California when Fremont was a candidate for Senator, that he actually crawled on his belly in subserviency to the South; that he declared with boasting that he was a South Carolina; that he was, at the feet of that Gamble of Slavery, John C. Calhoun, that he believed entirely in Calhoun's doctrine, and that he would carry out those views if elected to the Senate. His "belly" prodded his nomination and election; and he fulfilled his promise by bowing to the heels of South Carolina. Still we think it very probable that the Republicans may take him and if they do, we promise a few rich chapters of damning developments into little dreamers.

FINLEY SHERWOOD.—In the town of Fremont, near Toledo, Ohio, a Black Republican procession had two or three black negroes on its standard-bearer. One of them carried a flag in front of the procession upon which was emblazoned a black man, with the words, "Five Cent Standard-Bearer." The others carried a black flag upon a standard.

Great Bend, Pa. E. E. Walker, M. D.