The Press.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1859.

THE WEEKLY PRESS.

For Saturday the 31st, is now out. The contents of this number are of a varied character. Besides its usual attractions, it contains the LATEST FOREIGN NEWS; Editorials on the popular topics of the day; choice Literary reading, original and selected; Domestic and Foreign Markets, &c. Read the list of

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THE WEEKLY PRESS is furnished to subscribers at $2 per year, in advance, for the single copy, and to Clubs of Twenty, when sent to one address, $30, in advance. Single copies for sale at the counter of THE PRESS Office, in wrappers, ready for mailing.

FIRST PAGE.—Books and Authors; Page's Venus; Personal and Political. FOURTH PAGE.—Good Looks; Abstract of the Report of the Secretary of the Interior.

The President's Message.

The message of President BUCHANAN contains but few novel or important suggestions, and but little that will excite or deeply interest the public mind. It consists chiefly of an official recital of occurrences with which all newspaper readers are already familiar. There is scarcely a new idea presented in it, beyond the request for power to invade Mexico, and the recommendation to Congress to enact a law requiring the election of Representatives in every State, previous to the 4th of March of every year of odd numbers. The latter suggestion is a good one. In nearly every Northern State members of Congress are now elected before their official terms commence, and the advise of the President was suggested by the embarrassment in which he was placed at the close of the last session of Congress through the failure of that body to pass the usual Post Office appropriation bill. The interest and financial honor of the country demanded that this neglect should be repaired at once, by calling together a new Congress; but while nearly all the Northern States had then elected their members, in many of the Southern districts they had not yet been chosen. Although the failure of the President to convene the members then elected, or who could have been elected in a short time, was caused chiefly by partisan considerations, and by the fear that in a House in which the Republicans possessed a clear majority the conduct of his Administration would be closely scrutinised and its abuses exposed, it is evident that future emergencies may arise in which the prompt meeting of every member of Congress in an extra session will be desirable; and the practice of postponing the election of Representatives until months after the period when the exigencies of the nation may demand their official services, should, therefore, be abandoned.

The most important political feature of the message is the remarks it contains in regard to Popular Sovereignty and the right of the people of the Territories to control their domestic institutions. There is nothing novel in the views presented by the President, as they consist in the endorsement of the theory advocated by Judge BLACK in his recent controversy with Judge DOUGLAS. The manner in which this subject is discussed by the President, however, is peculiar and inappropriate. The extract is sufficiently important to be reproduced here, that our readers may have a clear idea of its character:

"I cordially congratulate you upon *the final settlement by the Supreme Court of the United States of the question of slavery in the Territories*, which had presented an aspect so truly formidable at the commencement of my Administration. The right has been established of every citizen to take his property of any kind, including slaves, into the common Territories belonging equally to all the States of the Confederacy, and to have it protected there under the Federal Constitution. *Neither Congress nor a Territorial Legislature, nor any human power, has any authority to annul or impair this vested right.* The supreme judicial tribunal of the country, which is a co-ordinate branch of the Government, has sanctioned and affirmed these principles of constitutional law, so manifestly just in themselves, and so well calculated to promote peace and harmony among the States. It is a striking proof of the sense of justice which is fortunately in our people, that the property in question has never been disturbed, to my knowledge, in any of the Territories. Even throughout the late troubles in Kansas there has not been any attempt, as I am credibly informed, to interfere, in a single instance, with the right of the master. Had any such attempt been made, the judiciary would doubtless have afforded an adequate remedy. Should they fail to do this hereafter, it will then be time enough to strengthen their hands by further legislation. Had it been decided that either Congress or the Territorial Legislature possessed the power to annul or impair the right to property in slaves, *the evil would be intolerable.* In the latter event, there would be a struggle for a majority of the members of the Legislature at each successive election, and the sacred rights of property held under the Federal Constitution would depend for the time being on the result. The agitation would thus be rendered incessant within the Territorial confines remained, and its baneful influence would keep alive a dangerous excitement among the people of the several States.

"Thus has the status of a Territory, *during the intermediate period from its first settlement until it shall become a State, been irrevocably fixed by the final decision of the Supreme Court.* Fortunate has this been for the prosperity of the Territories, as well as the tranquility of the States. Now, emigrants from the North and the South, the East and the West, will meet in the Territories on a common platform, having brought with them that species of property best adapted, in their own opinion, to promote their welfare. From natural causes, the slavery question will, in each case, soon virtually settle itself; and before the Territory is prepared for admission as a State into the Union, this decision, one way or the other, will have been a foregone conclusion. Meanwhile, the settlement of the new Territory will proceed without serious interruption, and its progress and prosperity will not be endangered or retarded by violent political struggles.

"When, in the progress of events, the inhabitants of any Territory shall have reached the number required to form a State, they will then proceed, in a regular manner, and in the exercise of the rights of popular sovereignty, to form a Constitution preparatory to admission into the Union. After this has been done, to employ the language of the Kansas-Nebraska act, if they shall be received into the Union, with or without slavery, as their Constitution may prescribe at the time of their admission.' This sound principle has happily been recognised, in some form or other, by as almost unanimous vote of both houses of the last Congress."

It has been several years since the Dred Scott decision of the Supreme Court of the United States—to which reference is made—was delivered, and the idea that a President should feel it incumbent upon *himself* to congratulate Congress, in December of 1859, upon an event which had occurred several years previous, in a document which was chiefly designed by the Constitution to convey to the Representatives of the nation *new* and important information, is a novel and refreshing one. The allegation that, by this decision, the question of slavery in the Territories has been *finally settled*, is a cool assumption, unparalleled by anything contained in "London Assurance." There is not a single human being in the United States who believes that the question of slavery in the Territories was finally settled by the decision referred to. Every one perfectly well knows that this is the prominent topic now at issue in all parts of our Confederacy, and no one is better acquainted with this fact than the President. If the allegation of the message is true, the "settlement" occurred at least three years ago—and there was not the slightest excuse for recurring to the subject now, as it was altogether unnecessary, for any legitimate, official reason, to communicate information in regard to it to the American Congress at this time. The chief point really *decided in the Dred Scott case was*, that Dred Scott, being a negro, was not a citizen of the United States, and, therefore, had no right to institute a suit in our national courts; and, notwithstanding the many opinions indirectly expressed by the court, or by the different members of it in the case, it is to this day, and will forever remain, until the issues are practically tried, uncertain how many of these opinions are mere *obiter dictums*, which have no legal and binding authority, until they in turn are *submitted to that august tribunal for final and legitimate judgment.* If it is the business of the President of the United States to communicate to the Congress of the nation, and to "congratulate it" upon the results of the various decisions of the Supreme Court for indefinite periods antecedent to the delivery of each message, the length of these documents, now sufficiently great, might be extended to the limits of unnumbered volumes. But, even supposing that the question of slavery in the Territories was finally settled—although everybody in the country knows it was not—by the Dred Scott decision, it is rather a novel duty for JAMES BUCHANAN to perform to put a new stamp of official validity upon the acts of that body, when it is remembered that in another case—one involving the constitutionality of the Bank of the United States—he was eager to place upon record his opinion that he possessed a clear right to construe the Constitution for himself—as a Representative of the people—and to utterly disregard the power of any judicial decision to control his official action.

The President proceeds to tell us that "if it had been decided that either Congress or the Territorial Legislature possesses the power to impair or annul the right to property in slaves, *the evil would be intolerable.*" By this we understand that, in his opinion, it would have been "an intolerable evil" if the right to hold slaves in any Territory of the Republic had been prohibited by Congressional or Territorial action, and yet nearly the whole of Mr. BUCHANAN'S life has been spent in advocating "this intolerable evil." It is true that he earnestly opposed the application of the Wilmot Proviso, but he was an ardent advocate of the extension of the Missouri Compromise line, by which the existence of slavery north of 36 deg. 30 min. was prohibited by Congress, to the Pacific ocean, and this favorite project, which he long, and we believe sincerely entertained, comes clearly within his present definition of "*an intolerable evil.*" In the same category must, of course, be ranked the doctrine clearly enunciated in his letter of acceptance, in which he emphatically stated that "*the people of a Territory, like those of a State,*" *should decide for themselves the character of their institutions.* The reference now made by the President, in his message, to the doctrine of Popular Sovereignty is, therefore, not only inappropriate and ill-timed, in an official State paper, but its allegations are untrue in fact, and inconsistent with the views he expressed up to the period of his election. We have no doubt that, before the present session of Congress ends, this portion of the message will be fully discussed; and if any individual has been simple enough to suppose that its statements are true, he will have ample opportunities of correcting his misapprehension by the inevitable expressions of disagreement with the statements so unnecessarily and ostentatiously made. While, on the question of slavery in the Territories, the President endeavors to create the impression that he is animated by an extreme and almost unprecedented degree of regard for the incidental expressions of opinion made by the Supreme Court of the United States, in other parts of the message he is free to announce, practically, his disregard for the opinions of that tribunal, for he reiterates his request for power from Congress to seize and to hold certain military posts in Mexico, notwithstanding the decision for which he professes so much regard pronounces the grant of such power to be clearly unconstitutional.

Cohen's Philadelphia City Directory for 1860.

Mr. S. E. Cohen has amply kept faith with the public. He promised a better Directory of this city than had ever before been published here, and we have, in this handsome volume, with good paper, clear typography, and wondrous fulness of information, *by far the best Directory in this country.* It is published by Hamelin & Co., 605 Chestnut street, and the subscription, for over 1,300 pages 8vo., is only two dollars.

The suitable frontispiece is Barnes's large and accurate map of the built portion of Philadelphia, corrected to the present time. Then follows a wonderful quantity of information—for a City Directory, City Guide, and Business Register are all included in this volume. There is an Almanac, and then a complete list of the newspapers, magazines, and periodicals of the city. A well-written and lively preface comes next, in which Mr. Cohen repeats that the actual population of Philadelphia is 680,000—which is probably greater than that of New York. The indexes to this work are complete. There is a general index, an alphabetical index to advertisers, account of the trade of Philadelphia, and a variety of other valuable details, occupying sixty-three pages. Then follows the alphabetical list of citizens' names, filling over 900 pages; a city business register, with index thereto; a directory for Camden, and a Philadelphia City Guide and index. This City Guide, compiled wholly by Mr. Cohen, without any assistance whatever, is a *multum in parvo* of information relative to Philadelphia, and its numerous institutions. It contains the cream of scores of statistical volumes, and cannot well be improved upon.

The truth is, Mr. Cohed, at this Directory business, is the right man in the right place. He knows what the public required, and he has supplied the want. Cohen's Philadelphia Directory for 1860 is a credit to all the persons who have been engaged in getting it up.

Public Amusements.

ARCH-STREET THEATRE.—Dr. Southey, in speaking of the story of Peter Wilkins, declared that for beauty of expression, richness of fancy, and power of description, it surpassed anything in the shape of fiction that had ever been written in the English language. The opinion of Southey is, we are pretty safe in saying, the opinion of nearly every reader of this peculiarly romantic and powerful story. It presents a fine field for the exercise of the pen of the dramatist, and right gorgeously have the managers of the Arch-street Theatre, availed themselves of the dramatist's pen, the artist's brush, and the machinery of the theatre, in putting it on the stage. The play possesses every element to make an attractive holiday spectacle—a fine cast, beautiful scenery, and a very large and powerful corps of auxiliaries. The story of the novel is preserved very faithfully, although in some instances the narrative might be rendered more lucid and concise. The character of *Peter Wilkins* was assumed by Mrs. John Drew, who plays the part of a boy with more grace than any female actor we now have in the city. *The Nondescript*, by Mr. Wood, was a very excellent performance. This gentleman has a talent for pantomime that needs only culture to develop him into a rival of the Ravels. The other actors, Messrs. Dolman, Clarke, Johnson and Stern, together with Misses Sefton, Wood, and others, had very little to do, but they did it well. The scenery of the acting is the playing of small parts with the fidelity and integrity devoted to large ones. This is well understood by the management of this theatre and their company, and they have made the exercise of it very profitable. This performance will run to the end of the holidays, and perhaps longer. We see, however, that "Everybody's Friend," a very popular comedy, first played here on Mr. Wheatley's benefit night, is underlined for a second production, and a run equal to its present course through Wallack's in New York. It is an excellent comedy, and we shall cordially greet it on its re-appearance.

ORATORIO OF THE MESSIAH.—This evening, at Concert Hall, the Handel and Haydn Society will give an extra concert, when the grand Oratorio of the Messiah will be produced in all the power and excellence for which its performance by this popular musical society, on former occasions, has become distinguished. The solos will be sustained this evening by ladies and gentlemen of acknowledged ability, and the powerful chorus of nearly two hundred voices, the whole to be accompanied by the Germania Orchestra, under the leadership of Carl Sentz, and to be given under the direction of Mr. B. Carr Cross, conductor of the society. As this extra concert is given at the request of a large number of friends of the "Handel and Haydn," and as the entertainment is likely to be one of superior merit, an overflowing house may be anticipated. A limited number of tickets only will be sold; applications for them should, therefore, be made early.

"THE WORLD'S TRUE HEROES."—This will be the subject of a poem to be delivered, at St. Paul's (Episcopal) Church, Third street, below Walnut, this (Thursday) evening, at 7½ o'clock, by George W. Pearce, Esq, the talented and accomplished editor of the *American Republican and Chester County Democrat.* We have no doubt the poet's theme will be treated with characteristic skill and classic grace, and that, capacious as is the edifice in which he is to appear, it will be insufficient to accommodate all who will throng to hear him. The proceeds are to be devoted to the Sunday-school cause.

SALE OF SILVER-PLATED WARE.—Housekeepers and others will find a large assortment of first-class silver-plated ware and fancy goods, at Birch & Son's sale, this morning, at their store, No. 914 Chestnut street, above Ninth street.

☞ Mr. Samuel R. Magonagle has been appointed postmaster of Cape Island, New Jersey, *vice* James Clark, deceased. Mr. Magonagle formerly resided in this city, and is known as a young man of intelligence and capability, and in every way qualified for the position.

Letter from Washington.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28, 1859.

Senator Douglas's appearance, on Monday and yesterday, in the Senate and House, was warmly welcomed by gentlemen on all sides of the question, and by none were the manifestations of friendship more anxiously displayed than by the Democratic members. The distinguished object of these flattering attentions is, you will be happy to learn, in a condition which gives every assurance of his early presence in his place in the Senate. The news of Judge Douglas's recovery gave unalloyed pleasure to the citizens at large. Apart from any political feelings, which the office-holders are obliged to adopt and encourage, the social and intellectual suffrages of the mass of our people are freely given to Douglas.

Extra-Governor Smith, of Virginia, finished his most extra-ordinary speech, or series of speeches, yesterday, having taken two days and a half in that, to most men, violent exercise. But a three days' speech was a trifle to the good-humored and overflowing Virginian. He would, just as soon as not, talk for a week or two if necessary, and then begin again "quite fresh." His late effort was, however, remarkable more for its length than for its strength. It was a great, big, burly, but unwieldy speech, and being unwieldy it was weak. Governor Smith has undeniable humor, a front not to be abashed by any amount of opposing talent, sometimes a bitterness of diction which he rather clumsily attempts to disguise in the courtesies of debate, and an occasional strain of telling frenzy. But these ingredients, which might make a palatable excuse for a one-day feast, take the character of a nauseating surfeit when forced down our throats for three consecutive days. I very much appreciated Mr. Burnett's desire to know if the egg-nogg with which the Governor was kindly furnished "was a private treat." How many desired that it "might go round!" a feeling, in which, under the circumstances, the galleries may be excused for participating.

To-day Mr. Albert Rust, of Arkansas, continued on the part of the South the charges of Republican complicity with the honors of Helper and the "bravery of Brown." Mr. Rust is a creditable specimen of a State already famous for "Fine Arkansas Gentlemen." Tall, robust, well-built, and with a manly presence, his voice scarcely keeps pace with his appearance. I should more properly say that he does not manage his voice well. At a distance its effect is somewhat confused, and fenders it difficult to follow him with ease. Some of his remarks brought Mr. Hill, of Georgia, to his feet on the part of the Southern Opposition, who, in turn, inspired Messrs. Saml. S. Cox, of Ohio, and Hindman, of Arkansas. The latter gentleman declared that he would not allow himself to be transferred by his party in the event of his party going for any man not a Democrat. If any other than a Democrat was to be nominated for Speaker, he would act on his own judgment solely. He was opposed to taking up a Know-Nothing—emphatically so—but he reserved to himself the right of judging for himself when any such exigency arose. He *might*, as between a "Know-Nothing" and a "Black Republican," be compelled to accept the former, but he would do it reluctantly.

Mr. Cox would not, in justice to his convictions, or his constituency, vote for a Southern Oppositionist. The latter not only was opposed to his views on the slavery question, but held such doctrines on civil and religious liberty as could command no aid or comfort from him under any circumstances. Those views render the organization of the House by the Democrats a matter of greater impossibility than ever.

Thomas Hardeman, Jr., of Georgia, was willing to vote for any conservative man, but Joshua Hill, regarded as a trusty and trusted leader of the South Americans, promptly asked him, in view of Mr. Cox's position—would he vote for a man who did not wish his support? "Ah, *that* man is not a *conservative*," quoth Hardeman, Junior, which was entirely satisfactory.

None of the Northern Democrats can very well accept a Southern Know-Nothing, and the latter seem to have a greater relish for the Republicans than the Administration majority of the Democracy.

Mr. Isaac N. Morris, of Illinois, who had the floor, peremptorily choked off an interesting colloquy between Mr. Hill, of Georgia, and Cox, touching the relative positions of the Southern Opposition and the Republicans to the Democracy.

Mr. Morris is a plain, practical-looking gentleman, of medium height, with grayish coat, the tint of which assimilates well with the sprinkling threads which are making their appearance in the once brown hair of the honorable gentleman. He wears a gray beard which overshades into an almost white dignity under the chin. Mr. Morris now sots with the Bocock Democracy, was a famous anti Locompotonite, and is supposed to represent more fully than any other on the floor the views of Senator Douglas. He made a sensation, and only failed in creating a very decided one by the failure of his voice to be distinctly heard in the galleries. He used Mr. Buchanan "without gloves," as the saying is; and recommended the Democracy to break from him, or his dead weight would crush their future prospects. The Administration was to him full of rottenness and dead-men's bones. Mr. Buchanan had been, all through his career, treasonable to friends and principles, and his recent actions have largely contributed to awaken and keep alive the sectional discord now raging.

The remarks of Morris gave exceeding great delight to Haskin and Adrain, who sat close by. The genial face of the former expanded into a radiant dawn, which was pleasantly reflected on the happy convictions of his compeer from New Jersey. The Administration men were quite dumb, and blind too, not seeing the beauty of the picture which Mr. Morris drew of "Old Buck"—astride of a horse, epaulotted and bending beneath the glory of a cocked hat, as chief of the army—imitating Andrew Jackson in saving the Union. Indeed, the benches of the White-House party were rather empty. Major Schwartz, however, was at his post, for the glory of "Old Berks."

Mr. Breckinridge, of Kentucky, desired to present a memorial from the creditors of the Government, but he did not get the chance. Mr. Garnett succeeded in having the Virginia resolutions read, which enjoin union among the delegates from that State to facilitate the organization of the House.

I just learn that the Senate Committee on Printing have empowered the Superintendent of Public Printing to employ a printer to do the necessary work of the Senate until the appointment of the regular official. This places Mr. Heartt in a ticklish position; but it is said he has his mind made up to employ Bowman.

EZEK RICHARDS.

[For The Press.]

MR. EDITOR: Among the many improvements in the city, and facilities for locomotion, it has occurred to me that one of the most important has been overlooked—and that is the Delaware river front. I would suggest an accommodating, *foot-travel* that would, in my estimation, greatly remedy an existing evil, viz: to erect a bridge or elevated promenade, 10 or 12 feet above the roadway, with ascending stairways at frequent intervals; the pedestrians would not only be accommodated, but the owners of property on the line would have additional counting-house, office, or store fronts. Those only who are subjected to the annoyance incident to a footpath of about three feet in a crowded thoroughfare can properly appreciate the advantages of such an

IMPROVEMENT.

COLONEL FREMONT'S ESTATE IN CALIFORNIA.—The San Francisco correspondent of the New York *Times* says:

The most event of the week is a decision of the Supreme Court of California, in the case of Biddle Boggs vs. the Merced Mining Company. This suit involved the question of Colonel Frémont's right to *the undisputed possession of his great Mariposa mines.* The Merced Mining Company were squatters on the estate, and extracted the gold therefrom. Frémont leased the premises occupied by the said company to Boggs, who brought suit to recover possession. The defendants, to resist a recovery, alleged, 1st, fraud in the survey of the grant and the procurement of the patent by Frémont; 2d, estoppel from the declarations and conduct of Frémont; and 3d, a license from the Government to enter upon the premises and extract gold. The Merced Company have been in possession since 1851, extracting gold; and their works are stated to have cost over $1,000,000.

The court decide that there is no proof of fraud, and that, even were the fraud admitted, it would not invalidate the patent, or, at least, that it could not be considered in an action at law. They leave the question, however, that it might be required into by means of proceedings in chancery.

The plea of estoppel is disregarded by the court, who set forth the facts to show that it can be relied upon by the defendants. I omit the statements on this point because too long for a letter. The last point made by the defence was, substantially, that the minerals in the soil belong to the Government of the United States, or to the State of California, and have not become private property, the ownership of which passed to Col. Frémont, with the *lands* on which they were found. Defendants claimed, therefore, that even admitting Frémont's title to the land, still they had the right to go in upon his property and take the gold out at will. The court avoided passing definitely upon the question whether the precious metals in the soil pass with the letter, but declared that, whether the ownership of the minerals be reserved to the United States or be vested in the State, the Mining Company can have no right to enter upon the premises of the grantee, Col. Frémont, in order to extract and remove them. After showing that this claim to a right of entry for the purpose named would be in practice an intolerable trespass, the court concludes its remarks upon this head by saying: There is something shocking to all our ideas of the rights of property in the proposition that one man may invade the possessions of another, dig up his fields and garden, cut down his timber, and occupy his land, under the pretence that he has reason to believe there is gold under the surface, or, if existing, that he wishes to extract and remove it.

The litigation of this case has cost Colonel Frémont and his associates over $50,000. The result vindicates him from the long-pending charge of claiming a fraudulent grant, and effectually disposes of all the doubts that have been compelled to contend against in the prosecution of his rights. It is safe to assert that his income from his mining estate will, within the next six months, be equal to $1,000 per day!

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.—Pianos, of Raven, Bacon, & Co., Hallet, Davis, & Co., and others. *Large reduction* for special reasons. J. E. Gould, Seventh and Chestnut streets.

Letter from New York.

LARGE REAL-ESTATE OPERATIONS—RELATIVE TRAVEL IN DIFFERENT MONTHS—GERRIT SMITH—ARCHBISHOP HUGHES—EXPENSE OF THE NEW REGISTRY LAW—THEATRICAL TROUBLES.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

NEW YORK, December 28, 1859.

The sale of real estate to take place at auction to-morrow, at the Exchange, attracts the attention of all the operators in the city. The sales that took place on Wednesday last, attracted the largest company of speculators that have been gathered together since the great corporation sale of 1848. Last week one hundred and fifty lots on Harlem flats were sold at an advance of fifty per cent. upon the price paid for them a year ago. Large private transactions were also made during the week.

I gave you, a few days since, a summary of the past year's business of the New York Central Railroad Company, but omitted to say anything of the relative number of passengers passing over it during the different months of the year. These facts are somewhat curious. The largest number of through passengers carried East was in the month of June, when 11,214 went over the road. The smallest number was in the month of January, when the aggregate was only 2,999. The largest number of through passengers returned was in September, when 9,164 passed over the road. The smallest number was in January, when the aggregate was 2,381. The largest number of through passengers, both ways, was in August, amounting to 17,766, and the smallest number, both ways, in January, numbering only 5,290—a difference in the two months of 12,476. The largest number of way passengers carried both ways over the road during any month of the year was in September, when the aggregate was 217,763. The smallest number was in February, being an aggregate of 127,249—showing a difference in the number for two months of 81,514.

Advices have been received by Mr. Gerrit Smith's friends in this city, that that gentleman continues to improve, and that as soon as his physicians deem it prudent, he will make a voyage to Europe, and spend some time in travel and sight-seeing.

Archbishop Hughes has accepted an invitation to deliver the commencement sermon before the *senior class of the University of North Carolina* on the 4th of June next.

The new registry law, under which the last State and municipal elections were held, although it doubtless prevented a vast amount of illegal voting and other election swindles, has cost the city an amount which tax-payers think rather disproportioned to that benefit. The Board of Supervisors have allowed $50 each to registrars in the wards where over four hundred votes were polled, and $40 each to those where less than four hundred were polled. The whole expense, room rent, registrars, and clerks, for the two elections, is $51,000, independent of the cost of books, printing, and stationery.

The papers are filled with reports of the examination of witnesses, and affidavits, in the case of Bonicault and the management of the Winter Garden Theatre. As was expected, some curious revelations were made, noteworthy of which is the proposition of Mr. Bonicault to Mr. Stuart that the latter should induce the daily press to denounce the piece as Abolition in its tendencies, and thus draw to it the public attention. The details, generally, evince a disposition on the part of Mr. Bonicault, to act so much in opposition to the theatrical profession as to the Democratic party. They, together, fight the Democratic party. If there is to be an organization, let the Republicans make the Speaker if they can; and if they have power to carry on the business of the House, we will meet them on their record in the contest of 1860. On the united Opposition rests the responsibility of disorganization.

Mr. HINDMAN, of Arkansas, would conform to the caucus action whenever his party associates abide by the usages of the Democratic party; but, he said distinctly, he would not be transferred to the support of any one outside of the party in a Democratic majority. In the event of an alternative being forced on him between a Black Republican and a Know-Nothing, he should be constrained to select the latter as a choice of evils. In Arkansas, encouragement had been given to the Republicans by the position the Southern Opposition assumed on the Kansas-Nebraska bill, which is denounced by the North as a breach of faith, and so execrated by the Southern Opposition. Thus, in his opinion, is Black Republicanism stimulated.

Mr. RUST, I and my colleague belong to the harmonious Democracy of Arkansas. [Laughter.]

Mr. GARNETT, of Virginia, rose to inquire if any of the Virginia Legislature, which were read, requesting the Representatives of that State to unite with the elements of the Opposition on any terms consistent with fairness.

Mr. RUST, resuming, declared his abhorrence to the reopening of the African slave trade, and did not seek the extension of slavery north of 36.30. There are in Arkansas uncultivated lands enough for all the surplus labor.

Mr. HILL remarked that he understood Mr. Cox to say that he looked on the Southern Opposition and the Republicans as identified in opposition to the Democratic party.

Mr. COX said that he meant as to the matter of slavery in the Territories, and the admission of States. He understood the Southern Opposition to advocate the intervention of Congress to establish slavery, and the Republican party to prohibit the exercise of Congressional power to prohibit slavery in the Territories. Both of these parties favor the reopening of this agitating question in Congress, while the Democratic party say to both "non-intervention."

Mr. HILL inquired whether he thought, from the election of 1856 and the recent election in New York, these parties are identical in purpose and principle.

Mr. COX replied, if gentlemen referred to the North Americans, he would find them as adverse to the Southern Opposition as the Republican opposition is to the Democratic party. If this is not so, why did not the gentleman vote for some North American for Speaker?

Mr. HILL replied that he did. He voted for Mr. Briggs, of New York.

Mr. BRIGGS said his party was in a peculiar position. It stood here as at the North, a unit. In reply to Mr. Cox, he remarked, that the Americans did not entertain any opinions opposed to civil and religious liberty. They are for strict fidelity to the Constitution and to all laws, and stand ready and compactly to oppose all sectionalism. They are for the Union, and nothing but the Union.

Mr. HILL said that many of the Democrats with whom the gentleman from Ohio was proud to sit inaugurated this doctrine. Alexander H. Stephens, prominent in his party, inaugurated it, and he did not know that Mr. Stephens had ever recanted. He (Hill) thought it the duty of the Government to protect everything regarded as property belonging to the people of the United States, when they go into the Territories.

Mr. COX desired to reply, but Mr. MORRIS, of Illinois, declined to any longer yield the floor for explanations. The latter referred to the remark made by him in the last Congress, that the Democracy thought they could carry themselves through the next canvass with this Administration, they would break down, and would find they were carrying a dead weight. The Administration was full of rottenness and dead men's bones, and had no more affiliation with the Democracy than darkness with light, or virtue with vice. The President had again thrust in our faces his Territorial policy, and had advanced several steps from his former position, which, in all conscience, was bad enough. He was amazed that the President had so far lost sight of his duty as to make so high a bid for the support of the Charleston Convention. He knew him capable of any act for the gratification of his private malice, and of being guilty of treachery to friends and principles. There was no necessity for throwing the question of slavery here; it was not before the House in any form, nor was it likely to be this session. Yet the President repeats his twice-told tale at a time when the country is in an unorganized condition. He was glad the President had exposed himself, as he had called him an old man who looked forward to the perpetuation of his power, and he was ready to bow at any sectional altar to obtain his ends. He read an extract from the message relating to slavery in the Territories, calling it disingenuous, and of being guilty of treachery to friends and principles. There was no necessity for throwing the question of slavery here; it was not before the House in any form, nor was it likely to be this session. Yet the President repeats his twice-told tale at a time when the country is in an unorganized condition. He was glad the President had exposed himself, as he had called him an old man who looked forward to the perpetuation of his power, and he was ready to bow at any sectional altar to obtain his ends. He read an extract from the message relating to slavery in the Territories, calling it disingenuous, and of being guilty of treachery to friends and principles. Both of these parties favor the reopening of this agitating question in Congress, while the Democratic party say to both "non-intervention."

Mr. HILL inquired whether he thought, from the election of 1856 and the recent election in New York, these parties are identical in purpose and principle.

Mr. COX replied, if gentlemen referred to the North Americans, he would find them as adverse to the Southern Opposition as the Republican opposition is to the Democratic party. If this is not so, why did not the gentleman vote for some North American for Speaker?

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