The Press.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1860

The Trade Between the North and the South.

In alluding, on Wednesday, to the preparations our merchants are making for the approaching spring trade, we expressed the opinion that there would be no serious withdrawal of Southern trade from our city. Notwithstanding the clamor of politicians, the great interests of commerce are regulated by causes and influences beyond their control, and are chiefly based upon the mutual interests of the parties directly concerned. The New York *Times* of Wednesday contains a long report of information gained, by personal inquiry, from leading New York business firms and transportation lines; and the general conclusion drawn from the mass of information thus elicited, is that New York trade with the South has not fallen off at all, and in some departments is more active now than ever before at a similar portion of the year. It is the universal opinion that the goods which the South has heretofore consumed will still be consumed, and still be purchased in the North; the only change which it is at all likely will occur, being that, in some instances, Southern retailers and country merchants, in districts distant from the seaboard, will buy their goods of jobbers in Richmond or Charleston, or Baltimore, instead of New York or Philadelphia; but changes of this character, it is believed, will be comparatively few; and in either event, the goods thus sold will be purchased in the North. "A. T. STEWART & Co., about whose establishment there has been considerable discussion, informed the reporter of the *Times* that their trade with the Southern merchants, thus far, slightly exceeded that of the preceding year, and they anticipate no decrease. Several other extensive firms, whose names are given, express similar opinions, and only one or two fear that there may be a temporary diminution of the trade; but if this occurs, they believe it will be owing more to the Southern market being somewhat overstocked with goods than to any other cause.

The carrying trade Southward from New is very extensive, as it embraces a line of four steamers to Savannah and Florida, four steamers to Charleston, a line of ten steamers to various Southern ports, a line to New Orleans, Mobile, and Texas, besides the various railroad lines, express lines, and about seven hundred and fifty sailing vessels, regular and transient, engaged in the carrying trade with the extreme South. If any serious diminution in the business intercourse between the two sections had occurred, these lines would have been the first to feel it, and would have been most fatally affected. Their records and accounts are of such a character as to clearly indicate the course of trade; but, according to the report in the *Times*, they state in nearly every instance that there has been an increase instead of a decrease in their business. On the Savannah lines, during the months of November, December, and the first part of January, there was a large increase of trade over the same months of last year. On the Charleston line, the freight going South has been as great, if not greater than at any time during the last four or five years, and the passenger traffic is more profitable now than it has ever been before. During November, December, and January, freights have increased as compared with last year. The Virginia Steamship Company, whose transactions are chiefly with the region south of Harper's Ferry, suffered no perceptible diminution in their freight business, so far as freights to Virginia and North Carolina were concerned. The express lines report that they have done more business in conveying packages to the South during November, December, and the first half of January, than at any former period during the same months. The sailing lines to the ports of Texas, and the New Orleans steamers, report a diminution in their freight, but attribute it to legitimate trade causes, not growing out of the recent excitement. The forwarding agents of the railroad lines state that they have been doing as well as heretofore at this season of the year, and that the through-freight business is as good as in any previous year, although there has been a slight falling off in the traffic to Washington and other Southern points, in the judgment of the Camden and Amboy and Baltimore and Ohio roads.

The trade between vast regions of country like the North and the South—one being almost purely an agricultural community, and the other concerned in manufactures of every imaginable kind, and in extensive commercial operations—is so deeply involved and intermingled with the personal comforts and the habits of life of immense masses of people, that it cannot be destroyed except by influences of the most powerful and all-pervading character. No more transient or temporary excitement can exercise any serious influence over it; and unless such a convulsion as the world has never seen before, or such a complete change in the social habits and system of the industry of the South as much patient labor and time alone could perfect, takes place, this trade must inevitably continue, subject only to such deviations, temporary changes, and occasional embarrassments and interruptions, as are common to trade of all other kinds, and between all other sections.

A Grand-Duke Going Back.

The European journals announce that about the meanest of the Austrian princes, the ex-Duke of Modena, contemplates invading the late dominions, and had contrived to place a small military force on the frontier. Where he got this force, and how he purposes maintaining it, has been left to conjecture. He has about as much chance of success as John Smith would have—not as much indeed, for the Smiths, who are a numerous family, are honest men, for the most part, whereas this middle-aged Austrian is deservedly unpopular in Modena, and besides being an exiled tyrant, is a mean thief, to boot.

FRANCIS-FERDINAND-GUGLIELMO, arch-duke of Austria, prince-royal of Hungary and Bohemia, duke of Modena, Reggio, Mirandola, Massa, Carrara, Guastalla, *et cetera*, happens (as the Almanach de Gotha tells us) to be proprietor of a regiment of infantry, numbered 32, in the Austrian army. This is apparently *all* his force. But he cannot move this corps without permission of the Emperor of Austria, which, with a Congress on the eve of sitting at Paris, to adjust the Italian question, it is by no means likely his Imperial Majesty would be so utterly foolish as to give.

The Duchess-Regent of Parma, who has governed in the name of her son, Duke ROBERT the First, a lad in his twelfth year, since the assassination of his father in 1854, was rather popular with the Parmesans, and her departure, albeit necessary, was regretted by many of her subjects. LEOPOLD the Second, Grand-Duke of Tuscany, was a sort of neutral character, who did as little harm as good, and his successor FERDINAND-SALVATOR-MARIE-JOSEPH-JEAN-BAPTISTE-FRANCOIS-LOUIS-GONZAGO-RAPHAEL-RENIER-JANVIER (in whose favor he abdicated in July, 1859), is a young man, twenty-five years old, who was very much liked in Florence, while only Crown-Prince.

But the Duke of Modena robbed the public treasury of every coin it possessed, when he ran away from the Dukedom, stole the plate, the pictures, the crown jewels, and even wrenched off and stole the silver handles to the doors in his palace. *This* is the creature who now expects the Modenese to receive him back—a cowardly fugitive and mean thief that he is. The man must be out of his mind to hold such an expectation, and doubly demented to hope that he can do it by force of arms. We do not generally go in for Lynch law, but hold that if this thieving Grand-Duke be caught upon the territory of Modena, he may be civilly conducted over the frontier, first receiving from his indignant ex-subjects a new suit—of tar and feathers.

Arch-street Theatre.

There will be a *matinée* at this theatre at two o'clock to-day, and the performances will conclude in time to permit the audience to go home by daylight. The new comedy, "Everybody's Friend," and "The Brigands," will be performed. In the evening, the comedy and a new nautical and spectacular play, called "The Wizard Skiff."

Academy of Music.

The sale of tickets, for the opening performance, on Monday, by the French Opera Comique, proceeds at the Academy, at Peck & Lawton's, and at Chickering's.

Slavery in Nebraska.

In the immense Territory of Nebraska, which embraces an area of 335,866 square miles, (more than seven times as many as Pennsylvania, which contains an area of 47,000 square miles,) the question of slavery has, for all practical purposes, apparently been settled by the climate, and the character of its population. Nine hundred and ninety-nine men out of every thousand of its inhabitants are opposed to the establishment of slavery, and probably not more than a half dozen slaves have been introduced into it. To make assurance double sure, however—to place upon its statute books a legal expression of the prevailing sentiment of its people—the Nebraska Legislature, both branches of which contain a decided Democratic majority, adopted the following law:

"SEC. 1. *Therefore, be it enacted by the Council and House of Representatives of the Territory of Nebraska*, That slavery or involuntary servitude, except for the punishment of crime, be and the same is forever prohibited in this Territory.

"SEC. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after the first day of July, A. D. 1856."

The Executive authority of the Territory is vested in Col. SAMUEL W. BLACK, of Pittsburg, who was appointed Governor by Mr. BUCHANAN, and who, while always a very ardent Democrat, was, at no very remote period, a warm advocate of the Wilmot Proviso, and we believe the author of the resolution incorporated into the platform of the Democratic State Convention, adopted at Pittsburg in 1849, in favor of the Wilmot Proviso. In the campaign of 1856, Col. BLACK was an earnest champion of the doctrine of Popular Sovereignty as then understood in our State; and few who heard his eloquent speeches at that time could have doubted that when he advocated the right of the people of the Territories to control "their own domestic institutions," with special reference to the slavery question, would have supposed that he entertained the slightest doubt about their power to decide whether slavery should or should not be tolerated among them. However, since the recreancy of Mr. BUCHANAN to his pledges in 1856, and the dissemination of the peculiar and abstruse doctrines of the JEREMIAH S. BLACK pamphlet, Governor SAMUEL W. BLACK has felt himself constrained to veto the law published above. The reasons assigned in his veto are of so intangible a character that it is difficult to comprehend them; but they appear to be based partly upon the provisions of the Louisiana treaty, by which the Territory of Nebraska was acquired, and partly upon the reasoning of the Attorney General, in his reply to the *Harper Magazine* article of Judge DOUGLAS. The argument based upon the Louisiana treaty unfortunately proves too much; because treaties are the paramount law of the land, and if, in consequence of that treaty, the people of a Territory, during the continuance of their Territorial condition, cannot abolish slavery, it is idle to suppose that the people of a State, when a State Constitution is formed, or after they have been admitted into the Union, can abolish slavery. This same objection applies, to a great extent, to the supposed arguments founded upon the alleged unconstitutionality of the law quoted above. If the Constitution prohibits the abolition of slavery by the people of a Territory, it is difficult to understand how the people of a State, formed out of a new Territory, can acquire that right.

It is singular to notice the strange perversions to which the Constitution is constantly being subjected. The right of acquiring new territory under the Constitution is admitted to be an exceedingly doubtful one, and subject to more legitimate exceptions, on the ground of unconstitutionality, than any other political measure seriously advocated in this country. No nice regard for that instrument, however, for one moment deters Southern Representatives from supporting measures for the acquisition of Cuba. But when the people of a Territory wish to exercise the inherent and inalienable right of American freemen, in accordance with the provisions of an act of Congress, by proclaiming their wishes in regard to their domestic institutions, the whole country is made to ring with denunciations of the supposed unconstitutionality of a law which no one yet was ever able to give a tangible reason for pronouncing unconstitutional. So, too, in the organization of the House, although every member of that body, except those from Rhode Island, was elected under the plurality system; although in all former difficulties like the present the plurality rule was resorted to as the proper mode of securing an organization; although two Speakers have already been elected by the plurality rule, the argument is gravely put forward that it is unconstitutional. The Constitution is made to stretch and contract like a piece of India rubber; to spread over and authorize every imaginable variety of measures which those who claim to be its special guardians desire or their constituents demand, and to forbid everything obnoxious to them!

Cost of British Royalty.

In the last year, the outlay by the British people, for Royal Establishments, amounted to £546,591—making about $2,782,955. The leading items are as follows:

Queen Victoria's Civil List	£385,000
Including her Privy Purse	£60,000
Salaries of Household	131,000
Household expenses	1,000
Royal Bounty, &c	13,200
Pensions	1,200
Miscellaneous	8,010
Prince Albert's annuity	£30,000
Duchess of Kent's annuity	30,000
Duchess of Cambridge	6,000
Duchess of Mecklenberg-Strelitz	3,000
Princess Mary of Cambridge	3,000
Prince of Mecklenburg-Strelitz	1,761
King of the Belgians	50,000
Princess Frederick William of Prussia	7,578
Servants of deceased Royalty	2,925

All these moneys are paid out of the Consolidated Fund (or public revenue) of England, and do not represent the whole amount received by the Royal Family. Thus, Prince ALBERT has numerous offices, civil and military, which bring him an additional aggregate income of £30,000. The Duke of CAMBRIDGE, besides having part of St. James's Palace, free of rent, taxes, and repairs, has some £10,000 per annum extra, as Commander-in-Chief and Colonel of a Cavalry Regiment. Not only is the Queen's Aunt (Duchess of CAMBRIDGE) handsomely pensioned, as well as her son and two daughters, but even her son-in-law, a very poor German prince, accepts £1,788 a year from Great Britain. The Queen's Mother and the Queen's Uncle (LEOPOLD of Belgium) have £80,000 a year between them. Nay, so much is money an object with Royalty, that the Princess Royal of England, married to the King of Prussia's nephew, was meanly permitted, by the Prussian Royal Family, to saddle the British nation with a life-pension to her of £7,578 a year—which John Bull will probably have to pay during the next half century.

We dare say that these facts will be new to many readers. They will show that Royalty is extremely expensive, and will strengthen the belief that Democracy costs less, while, properly put in action, it works better.

The United States Steamer Wyoming.

Accounts have been received from the officers of this ship which are of the most satisfactory character. The passage to Rio Janeiro from the capes of the Delaware was made in 25 days 3 hours, of which the ship was under steam for 19 days 13 hours, most of the time with only one-half her boilers, making, with this diminished power, over 50 revolutions of her screw, and burning 11½ tons of coal a day, giving a speed of 7 to 7½ knots an hour. With both boilers and moderate steaming, 11 to 11½ knots were attained with ease. Her machinery gave none of that trouble from hot bearings, which is usually experienced with new engines, and is pronounced an entire success. The wind during the passage was unfavorable, being from the southeast, in the region of northeast trades, and the reverse in that of the southeast trades; notwithstanding which, and the very moderate steam power employed, the passage was made in 16 days less time than a Government steamer has ever before made it. As the successful performance of Philadelphia ships is always a source of congratulation, we take pleasure in recording that of the Wyoming.

Frauds in Trade.

Public attention having been drawn to frauds in trade, at home and abroad, further demonstrations against such audacious swindling may be looked for. In the New York Legislature, now in session at Albany, a petition was presented on Thursday, demanding that the sale of hay be legally regulated. It was alleged, (the New York *Times* adds, "and truthfully,") that it is not uncommon to find a three-hundred-pound bale of hay bound with forty or fifty pounds of green wood and a boulder or two inside. Surely this is as much robbery as if the packers assaulted the purchaser on the highway and stole his purse.

Matilda Heron's Farewell Night.

To-night Matilda Heron takes her farewell of her Philadelphia friends. This will be probably the last opportunity we shall have for some years of witnessing this lady's performance, as she appears at the Winter Garden, New York, on Monday, and after that engagement will positively go to England, where liberal offers have been made to her.

Matilda Heron, during her short but brilliant engagement, has been greeted by crowded and enthusiastic houses every night, and has won her wreath perforce from a tribunal biased, in a measure, against it. The half-willing assent accorded to her genius some years ago has now deepened into an open recognition of it.

Of her performances here, there is but a single expression to utter, and that expression is complete triumph. From the moment she enters upon the stage, the first words she speaks, the first glance at the audience, betokens the presence of true genius, fine dramatic talent, true knowledge of her profession, and a perfect familiarity with the effective details of the French school. Matilda Heron possesses many natural and artistic advantages; she has a good figure, and her face, though not handsome, is full of intellectuality, soul, and expressiveness; she possesses a wonderful mastery of facial expression, and her eyes speak more audibly than the tongue of many artists. The great excellence of her acting is her perfect naturalness—there is no effort, no straining for effect—and even her most impassioned scenes are rendered with a deep, quiet intensity, that thrills the feelings of the audience. Her performances altogether are exceedingly beautiful, and are scattered throughout with histrionic gems, delicate touches of nature, and powerful points, that take her audiences by surprise, and which they reward with enthusiastic applause.

This evening she plays Lesbia, with Mr. Wallack in his powerful rendition of the part of Orocolo; for the last time, and we would advise those who wish to enjoy a rare dramatic treat not to miss this final opportunity.

Letter from Washington.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

WASHINGTON, January 20, 1860.

Hon. John W. Noell, of Missouri, spoke for nearly an hour and a half on the topic of the day. Mr. Noell bears a striking personal resemblance to Hon. William E. Simms, of Kentucky, in height, head, limbs, and look. He has, however, widely different views from the fiery Kentuckian. Simms is a red-hot-shot kind of man. Noell deals more in argument than arms, albeit probably he would not be behind his more demonstrative colleague from "Old Kentuck," when, as Mr. Horace F. Clark says, "the proper time arrives." Mr. Noell's speech was of a strictly conservative character, and was in no mode devoted to show that there was such thing as peaceable secession. Secession meant, and could mean nothing else but war, and the South was not driven to such an extremity. Missouri was not prepared for it, and the whole purport of the honorable gentleman's speech was to impress on Southern men the foolishness into which they would be forced by continuing to advocate and inspire secession sentiments, in and out of Congress.

It will be well for those Southern gentlemen who advocate secession under any pretence to con soduously, and faithfully follow the words of patriotism and dignity which this morning's *Intelligencer* contains, in the shape of a letter from the Rev. Doctor Robert J. Breckinridge, of Kentucky, to his kinsman, the Vice President of the United States. The venerable and able gentleman argues that secession is no remedy for anything whatever, but is, in itself, the direst of all calamities. Speaking of and for Kentucky—and the remark is applicable to many Slave-South Carolina, North Carolina, Georgia, Virginia, and others of the old thirteen, whose Representatives have talked loudly of secession—the distinguished divine reminds the Vice President that Kentucky never had any existence, as a Commonwealth, except as one of the States of the American Union; and he is unable to comprehend how it can be to the interest of any State to secede, or how the right to secede can be regarded as anything else but revolutionary. In the evil doctrine, or rather in its persistent expression, he chiefly sees the unruly passions of unreasonable men, and the violent assertion of dubious, or, to say the least, extreme rights, and the madness of political parties in their struggle for power. The remedy is not the breaking up of the Government, but the enforcement of law. Posterity, says Doctor Breckinridge, will execrate to the end of time whatever Government shall allow the lawless conduct of any portion of the people to run into or force others into secession. "The lives of traitors ought not to weigh a feather against the peace or security, much less against the very existence of the nation; and their blood cements instead of weakening the foundations of society."

This is the key-note of the reverend Doctor's appeal to his friend and kinsman, and of which the veterans of the *Intelligencer* say, "the patriotic spirit it breathes is worthy of the high argument which it brings to the calm and judicial treatment of a noble theme."

A spirited episode in the day's proceedings was devoted to the raking of a couple of newspaper people by Roger A. Pryor and Samuel S. Cox. The former, in a brief but dextrous use of the oratorical scalpel, dissected and laid bare the wretched carcass of James Gordon Bennett in all its foul and festering deformity. The picture he drew of the editor of the *Herald*—his private infamy and public cowardice—his blackmailing of innocent virtue, and selling of the domestic ties which are dearest to Christianity—was thrillingly horrible. Mr. Pryor did not admit the propriety of such a character criticising public men; but the pith of an article in yesterday's *Herald*, touching General Millson's action during his (Pryor's) discussion with Hickman the other day, needed notice. This led to a passage between Pryor and and Millson, in which the former vindicated himself against the necessity of having been called to order by his colleague, instancing several cases in which, during the heat of debate, the word "false" was used without meaning to impugn the veracity of gentlemen, but only the political statements made.

Cox paid his addresses to Mr. F. M. Walker, of the New York *Express*, in a still briefer, but unmistakably severe manner.

Mr. Elijah Babbitt, of Pennsylvania, is making a set speech, urging the adoption of the plurality rule as the only means of organization.

EZRA RICHARDS.

Letter from New York.

ART NEWS: CHURCH'S HEART OF THE ANDES TO GO TO PHILADELPHIA: ELLIOTT'S PORTRAIT OF GOV. SEYMOUR: ROSA BONHEUR COMING OVER TO PAINT BUFFALOES—ARY AND TAX GATHERERS—THE BOY OF BENICIA AND TOM SAYERS—COL. FULLER AND THE NEW ORLEANS DELTA—PARK BENJAMIN—THE DROVERS—MATILDA HERON STOPPED.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

NEW YORK, January 20, 1860.

I was told yesterday by Mr. Church that his painting, "The Heart of the Andes," is to be taken from Boston to Philadelphia the first week in February, where it will be exhibited about two weeks; thence to Baltimore for a week, and afterwards a week in Troy. It will then be packed up and sent on its second tour to England. Its success, wherever it has been exhibited, has far transcended Mr. Church's expectations. In Boston, the room in which it was exhibited was twice enlarged in order to give the numbers who wanted room to turn around. Doubtless the popularity it won at Boston will be more than surpassed in Philadelphia. Mr. Church tells me he is not now at work upon any large picture, and he ought to know, inasmuch as it was to my mind that he was during a goodly portion of last summer away up in Labrador, or some other of "those parts," making sketches. I thought perhaps he might be sketching me just a little, not sparing over much about the puff preliminary of any forthcoming productive of his pallet.

Elliott, our great master of portraiture, is engaged on a "chalk portrait" of Seymour "eminently worthy of his fame—a full-length of ex-Governor Seymour, for the city of New York, to be placed in the Governor's room in the City Hall. Mr. Elliott is in his best mood for a work like this, and as he is an old personal friend of the Governor, has entered upon his task con amore.

An artist friend gives me a fresh and reliable bit of news about Rosa Bonheur. That triumphant specimen of a manly woman is about to visit the United States professionally. An opulent French gentleman, an enthusiast in art, some time since commissioned her lordship to cross the Atlantic, proceed to the great prairies of the far west, and paint, from life, a herd of wild buffaloes. She was to take her own time, accomplish it in her own way, and fix her own price. At first she declined to entertain the proposition, but finally, after turning it over in her mind, and reflecting upon what an original and splendid work she could make, she has accepted the offer and comes over in the spring to make the picture. It has given the French individual feelings of the most celestial character, and made him, in fact, the most tickled person in all Gaul.

A more natural and agreeable transition than from the subject of *art* to the subject of *feet*, could scarcely be conceived. Elliot and Church, settling comfortably morning-gowned in their studios, sketching Governors and Niagaras, are scarcely better remunerated than our Cohen and our Kissner, who as simple deputy collectors of assessments, sit at the "receipts of custom," and with five or three other over-worked colleagues, realize nearly twelve thousand dollars per annum for their share of the way *fees*. Why shouldn't "the people have a natural hatred of the tax-gatherer," when mere clerical drudges, like theirs, are so monstrously overpaid, and genius in art and brilliancy in brain compelled to put up with a disgusting three or four thousand a year, and remain at at Delmonico's on canvas-backs and greensea! I put it to the Quakers of Philadelphia if this is not an unnatural and oppressive state of things, and whether meetings and conventions ought not to be held to set it right?

Excited and filled in getting off the above paragraph, I naturally turned to the Benicia Boy. That eminent head-puncher has many friends in this city, who are wagering numerous dollars on his smashing up Sayers in the most express and special manner. In Len-den, you see it's different; there the betting is slightly in favor of the British brute; but here considerable sums have been put up on the Benicia, and the fighting-men, horse-men, saloonists, and chaps who charge against the tiger, use very long adjectives in speaking of their favorite, and express the utmost confidence in brother Heenan's triumph.

On dit, in newspaper circles, that Col. Hiram Fuller is negotiating for the purchase of the New Orleans *Delta*, and that Charles Mackay, the poet and editor of the London *Illustrated News*, will write for it. Colonel Fuller is the New York correspondent of the *Illustrated News*, and several papers in different parts of "our great and glorious Union."

Park Benjamin has recovered from the injuries received by his falling on the ice at Troy, and is again negotiable for lectures.

The cattle men are quite down in the mouth. Wednesday last was the worst day drovers have had during the winter, instead of being one of she best, as they thought they had a right to expect. Of the 4,000 head sold this week only a small portion brought ten cents a pound net. Some sold as low down as eight.

On Monday evening next, Matilda Heron Stoppel, aided by James Wallack, Jr., and George Jordan, commences an engagement at the Winter Garden, in "Lesbia."

THE LATEST NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

XXXVIITH CONGRESS.—FIRST SESSION.

U. S. CAPITOL, WASHINGTON, Jan. 20, 1860.

The Senate is not in session to-day, having adjourned over till Monday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. CURTIS, of Iowa, said the eyes of the country were upon the House, and they must extricate themselves from their present position. The previous question on Mr. Hutchins' plurality resolution having been called, it must be decided, and, till then, all debate is out of order.

The Clerk remarked, that while he was willing to submit any question to the House, the gentleman from Iowa could not take the floor from the gentleman from Missouri to press his point.

Mr. NOELL'S, of Missouri, opening remarks were almost unintelligible in the reporters' gallery, owing to the prevalent confusion, but he was understood to discuss the following points: First, The Federal Government is a compact of sovereign States. Secondly, The powers of the departments are with special reference to the reserved rights of the States, and thereby provided for the protection of both the Federal and State Governments. Thirdly, Any attempted infraction is a violation of these rights. The remedy is by an appeal, and not by a nullification. And, fourthly, When all constitutional means have failed, a revolution is preferable to further submission. It would then become the true policy of the South to secede from the Union. He argued that the threat of secession did not originate with the South, but in the State of Massachusetts, during the war of 1812. He maintained that three-fourths of the country are with the South on the real question at issue, which is one of power, and of which slavery is a mere incident.

A colloquy ensued between Messrs. Farnsworth, of Illinois, and McClernand, of Illinois, as to the position of the Illinois Democracy on the subject of slavery in the Territories, and in which Mr. Morris, of Illinois, subsequently took part.

Mr. PRYOR, of Virginia, rose to a personal explanation. He referred to the article in the New York *Herald* of yesterday, with reference to him, saying that he was under no obligation to respond to any view given in the pen or inspiration of James Gordon Bennett, a notorious individual, and conspicuous by his persistent and labored violations of all rights and virtuous instincts of humanity!—who had supplied himself with money, and the means of pernicious influence, by soliciting contributions from the tears of innocence!—a wretch who bears on his back the scars of many merited chastisements, and whose heart is tainted by every conceivable contamination! Yesterday, a notorious libeller of the honor of his own family—a crime for which no language is commensurate to express!—a foul and loathsome creature whose name is worthy of execration, and whose touch would contaminate virtue shrink!—a fiend, denied the friendship of the social circle!—a man covered with infamy, shame, and the opprobrium of humanity! Alluding to that editorial article, Mr. Pryor asked Mr. Millson whether it was true, as the editor had stated, that the latter had rebuked him, the other day, for language used in debate?

Mr. MILLSON, of Virginia, replied that he intended no personal rebuke, but his design was to protect the decorum of the House. There were other transgressions of the rules of order on that day, and he had determined, if possible, to arrest this sort of discussion, which might lead to calamitous results.

Mr. PRYOR said his colleague's explanation was satisfactory. But there remained an issue between his colleague and himself. He understood his colleague to say that the language of the gentleman had made use of was unparliamentary, for which one might justly be called to order. He (Mr. Pryor) now proposed to vindicate himself from the charge of infracting the dignity of parliamentary discussion. He discriminated between a direct and indirect term. He remarked that Mr. Hickman had made an injurious and unfounded imputation on the character of the South and on his colleagues. Under the impression that he intended to fix the opprobrious stigmatised his sentiments as false. The word "false" did not necessarily imply an insult. A gentleman's statement may be false, and yet he may not design an untruth. Was there any phrase more legitimate? If gentlemen, like Mr. Hickman of Philadelph. and others, be referred to, it would be found that they had used this term. He understood Mr. McClernand the other day to stigmatize some statement of Mr. Bingham as false. Mr. McClernand had applied the term of falsehood to one of his Pennsylvania colleagues. These gentlemen were not rebuked. Why was he made a solitary exception?

Mr. HOWARD, of Ohio, rising to a personal explanation, caused to be read a Washington letter from the New York *Express*, in which was mentioned, as rumor, that Wendell and Weed had entered into a political arrangement to defeat Mr. Sherman, by procuring the absence of certain Western Democrats, Mr. Howard among the number. The correspondent, however, had said he did not believe the members were privy to the use thus made of their names. Mr. Howard said he considered his colleague, Mr. Sherman, a perfect gentleman, but they were antipodes in politics. He did not wish it to go out that he would give him his negative vote by absenting himself from the House. He had never seen Mr. Wendell, did not know him.

There was no foundation for the charge.

Mr. Cox, of Ohio, said the letter was written by a man who acts as secretary of the Union Club—a parasite by the name of Walker—a sort of correspondent who honeyfugles members, and then slanders and lies about them. It was part of the system of lying about Northwestern Democrats.

Mr. BANNAN, of Pennsylvania, merely wished to discuss subjects pertaining to the general interests of all. He would not discuss the inexhaustible negro question. He contended that the resolution of Mr. Hutchins was in order. We are not bound by any rules of the preceding House of Representatives. The first thing to be done is to choose a presiding officer. Nothing is in order except a vote for Speaker. We can adopt no resolutions except to vote and adjourn. Hence the resolution of the gentleman from Ohio for the plurality rule is in order.

Mr. CURTIS, of Iowa, raised a point of order, that all discussion was out of order.

Mr. WASHBURNE, of Maine, called the gentleman from Pennsylvania to order.

Mr. FARNSWORTH, of Illinois, protested against the gentleman from Pennsylvania being interrupted. [Cries of "Order!"—"Go on!"]

Mr. BANNAN said he would not be interrupted on that side of the House.

Order being restored,

Mr. BANNAN proceeded. It would be constitutional for the House to appoint a committee to select a Speaker. The House has been for seven weeks in disorder, while there is stagnation of all the public business. We have exhibited a monstrous farce for the amusement of the galleries. We are responsible to our Northern and Southern Democrats. They alone prevent an organization in the only way it can be done, and he desired them to have all the glory or all the shame. He appealed to the Democratic party to waste no more time. If they would no longer permit an organization, he wished the country to know where the blame rests. He heard that fault was found with him because he had not repelled the attacks from the other side with threats of dissolution. He had a constituency who could and did read and write, and who would stand by the Constitution. He gave his views on the question of slavery. He did not believe man had any right to hold his fellows in bondage, yet he would not, as in the ancient Israelites had. He read extracts from Washington's correspondence and will, to show his opinions on slavery. He had certain extracts read from the writings and speeches of Jefferson, Henry, Madison, and others, to show that they held the same doctrines that the Republicans now hold on the subject of slavery, but a great deal stronger they do not intend to invade any of the constitutional rights of the South. Instead of being a sectional, they were a great national party, walking in the footsteps of the Revolutionary fathers, and resisting the aggressions of the Democratic party.

Mr. HARDEMAN, of Georgia, wishing to place himself and friends right on the record, alluded to a letter he had written, and which had found its way into the press. He recalled what he had said therein, and in reply to Mr. Sherman, said he showed that he was under an erroneous impression.

Mr. CLARK, of Missouri, made some explanation as to his object in introducing the resolution that gives the Helper book an opportunity to explain.

Mr. SHERMAN, of Ohio, asked Mr. Clark whether he would withdraw his resolution in order to give him an opportunity to explain.

Mr. CLARK said that he had avowed his purpose and would tell the gentleman that he had had two opportunities to make his explanation, but had failed to absolve himself from the responsibility of recommending the circulation of the Helper book.

Mr. SHERMAN replied that the opportunity had never been tendered him. When the gentleman from Missouri introduced his resolution, offensive in its character, and at an improper time and manner, he had asked the privilege of the floor, to simply: afford him an opportunity of explanation. When, three days after, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. Millson) appealed to him, he stated that he was not prepared for the discussion, and had no recollection of signing any recommendation. After that explanation was published, he received a letter from E. B. Morgan, a member of the last Congress, recalling the circumstances under which he was induced to sign the recommendation. Mr. Morgan stated that while he (Sherman) was writing at his desk, he asked permission to use his recommendation in circulating a political pamphlet. He consented, providing there was nothing improper or offensive, and confiding in the judgment of the friend who requested the favor. This was the whole story, and presented a plain and unvarnished statement of facts which had been so much misrepresented. These were all the circumstances under which his name had become associated with the book. The other day, when the subject was brought before the House, and in language which he did not consider courteous, when he was charged with disseminating the doctrines of treason, and lighting up the torch to be applied to the dwellings of his Southern brethren—charged with crimes which, if he was guilty of, would deprive him of his seat in this chamber, and when he rose in his place, and told the gentleman from Missouri that if the resolution was withdrawn, he would answer, as the book was read, page by page, whether he avowed or disavowed the sentiments therein, the gentleman refused to withdraw it. He did not believe it was the desire of the gentleman to give him the opportunity, or relieve the difficulty. If so, would he not withdraw it, to give him an opportunity to do what he proposed? Never! so help me God, whether the Speaker's chair stands before me or not—never, while the resolution is before the House improperly, in an unparliamentary way, and its adoption is urged by offensive arguments, will I explain a single word in those extracts. [Applause from the Republican side, and in the galleries.] When the resolution is intended as a stigma, and is sustained by epithets, he cannot expect me to say more. He repeated that the circumstances under which this resolution was pressed, was not characterized by candor and a manly course. While they might conduct their controversies in the House with zeal and determination, it ought to be done with frankness and fairness. He (Mr. Sherman) had been arraigned before the country, with his hands tied and his lips sealed; he had been assailed here day after day in a manner without precedent in party caucuses, State Conventions, or anywhere else. He had said, and he repeated it, that his opinions were on the record. Gentlemen said they had examined them to ascertain what they were, and it was charged that he had objected to the introduction of a certain bill; but when the gentleman who introduced it made a satisfactory explanation, he (Mr. Sherman) withdrew his objection. The country would take notice that that was the only accusation that could be brought against him.

Mr. HINDMAN, of Arkansas. I charge the gentleman with having advocated a proposition on this floor to exclude slavery from the Territories by Congressional legislation, and of having avoided his intention to oppose the admission of any slave States into the Union, and branded the fugitive-slave law as savage and inhuman. I charge him with having stigmatized Southern slavery as infamous and a crime.

Mr. SHERMAN. In other words, I am charged with being a Republican. This is my offence; none other. I never sought to invade the rights of the Southern States, nor the rights of any citizen. I have my ideas of slavery in the Territories. At the proper time I am willing to define them. I have made but one speech on the subject in Congress, and that was respecting an offensive message of President Pierce. They are the opinions of the body of the Republicans, and gentlemen may discuss them. I stand by my political record. The gentlemen on the other side, while proclaiming me a traitor by implication, in order to serve a political purpose, have called on me to show the proof of my innocence. They have failed to sustain their charge when called on to specify. The only thing they could say was that, while sitting at my desk, a friend came to me and I authorized him to use my name to a paper, and that by this I became a traitor, and would put the torch in the incendiary's hand. This is not a fair argument. I repeat, if the gentleman from Missouri desires to know what my sentiments are as to the extracts from the book, I will give them if he will receive what I consider an insulting menace. Otherwise I never will. It is not in my blood, and this the gentleman cannot put there. [Applause.] I have been patient and forbearing. I desired to see an organization opposed to the Administration. It is our highest duty to investigate and analyze the mode in which this Government has been administered for a few years past. I did not believe the slavery question would come up this session. I thought we would have an examination into the condition of the Government. But for the unfortunate affair at Harper's Ferry, I do not believe there would be any feeling on this subject. No Northern member came here approving the foray of John Brown. Every one was willing to condemn the act of lawless violence. Before we had reached even a formal ballot this question was thrust upon us. It has had its effect on the public mind. I believe the resolutions are unjust, offensive, and wrong, not only to the Republicans, but to our common constituency. This agitation has stirred up bad blood. If this resolution is removed, I believe we can yet go to work, organize the House, and administer its powers with impartiality. Whenever my name stands as a barrier to the organization, and my friends are satisfied that they can confide a Speaker who will act fairly, either by a majority or plurality, I will not stand in my present position one hour. I will cheerfully retire from the field, and give to any other gentleman who will accept the barren honors of the Speaker's chair. [Applause.]

Mr. CLARK, of Missouri, expressed his astonishment that the gentleman had taken the ground he had. He had by his remarks destroyed the last hope, that he (Clark) would withdraw the resolution. It attacked no man individually. It denounced as incendiary the doctrines of the Helper book, and the only assertion it contained was that the man who endorsed it was not a fit person to be Speaker. The gentleman said that he and his Republican friends had been abused, and the debate conducted in a personal spirit. The Democratic side are not to be blamed for that. The attacks from the other side were bitter and unprovoked. Had he not had the courage to call the attention of the gentleman to give him the opportunity, or relieve the difficulty. If so, would he not withdraw it, to give him an opportunity to do what he proposed? Never! so help me God, whether the Speaker's chair stands before me or not—never, while the resolution is before the House improperly, in an unparliamentary way, and its adoption is urged by offensive arguments, will I explain a single word in those extracts. [Applause from the Republican side, and in the galleries.] When the resolution is intended as a stigma, and is sustained by epithets, he cannot expect me to say more. He repeated that the circumstances under which this resolution was pressed, was not characterized by candor and a manly course. While they might conduct their controversies in the House with zeal and determination, it ought to be done with frankness and fairness. He (Mr. Sherman) had been arraigned before the country, with his hands tied and his lips sealed; he had been assailed here day after day in a manner without precedent in party caucuses, State Conventions, or anywhere else. He had said, and he repeated it, that his opinions were on the record. Gentlemen said they had examined them to ascertain what they were, and it was charged that he had objected to the introduction of a certain bill; but when the gentleman who introduced it made a satisfactory explanation, he (Mr. Sherman) withdrew his objection. The country would take notice that that was the only accusation that could be brought against him.

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Mr. BARRY proceeded. It would be constitutional for the House to appoint a committee to select a Speaker. The House has been for seven weeks in disorder, while there is stagnation of all the public business. We have exhibited a monstrous farce for the amusement of the galleries. We are responsible to our Northern and Southern Democrats. They alone prevent an organization in the only way it can be done, and he desired them to have all the glory or all the shame. He appealed to the Democratic party to waste no more time. If they would no longer permit an organization, he wished the country to know where the blame rests. He heard that fault was found with him because he had not repelled the attacks from the other side with threats of dissolution. He had a constituency who could and did read and write, and who would stand by the Constitution. He gave his views on the question of slavery. He did not believe man had any right to hold his fellows in bondage, yet he would not, as in the ancient Israelites had. He read extracts from Washington's correspondence and will, to show his opinions on slavery. He had certain extracts read from the writings and speeches of Jefferson, Henry, Madison, and others, to show that they held the same doctrines that the Republicans now hold on the subject of slavery,