The Press.

TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 1864.

THE UNION STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF PENNSYLVANIA will meet at the JONES HOUSE, in the city of HARRISBURG, on WEDNESDAY, April 6th, A. D. 1864, at 8 o'clock P. M.

A full attendance is requested, as business of importance is to be transacted.

WAYNE McVEAGH, Chairman.

George Thompson's Address.

Last night we heard a prophet—it would be superfluous to say, an orator. The reception given to Mr. THOMPSON was worthy of his great merits, and of the moral progress of this community. The passages of his speech most denunciatory of the crime of slavery were those most vehemently applauded, and the enthusiasm of the audience rose to climax when Mr. THOMPSON urged again the immediate, total, and utter wiping away of the curse of slavery. When Mr. THOMPSON returns to his home he will bear back with him to his liberty-loving friends in England the brave good cheer and hearty good-will of the overwhelming majority of our people. For all that such noble men as THOMPSON and BRIGHT have done for us, we could afford to forgive all that Englishmen have done against us, trusting in the resurrection of the general moral sense of England. "Where liberty dwells there is my country," Mr. THOMPSON might have declared. Can we not now claim him as an American?

European News.

There is European news down to the 25th March, inclusive. Parliament was not in session, having adjourned over the Easter holidays, until the 4th of April. In the course of the present week, Mr. GLADSTONE would probably open "the Budget." He can show from $15,000,000 to $20,000,000 excess of revenue over expenditure. This will allow a large reduction of taxation. Lords ABERDEEN and ASHBURTON are dead: the former was aged 48, and the latter 65 years. Lord ABERDEEN must not be confounded with the late Earl, his father, (born in 1784, died in 1860,) who was Prime Minister of England when the War in the Crimea began, and resigned office ere it was finished. GARIBALDI was about visiting England, where he would have a grand reception.

The Archduke MAXIMILIAN would certainly accept the crown of Mexico, and would sail from Europe for Vera Cruz on the 13th of April. It is said that he has refused to confirm the privilege accorded to General ALMONTE to establish a Bank of Mexico. The *Globe*, which is more in Lord PALMERSTON'S confidence than any other London journal, decidedly says that the policy of the new Empire will be strictly neutral. He will not recognize the independence of the Southern Confederacy, nor maintain diplomatic intercourse until France has done so.

The situation in Denmark continues unchanged—if anything, the invaders have sustained small repulses. The mission of the Duke of SAXE COBURG to the Emperor NAPOLEON is said to have altogether failed. The Emperor refuses to encourage the claim of the Duke of AUGUSTENBURG to the Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein. The Duke of COBURG left Paris greatly disappointed. At their interview the Emperor professed the most pacific intentions towards Germany. A rumor, originating in Hamburg, that Prince FREDERICK, of Augustenburg, had been found dead in his bed at Kiel, turns out to be untrue, as was expected. The Conference proposed by England, on Danish affairs, has been accepted by Austria and Prussia, as well as by Denmark. It will immediately assemble, and England will insist that the territorial integrity of Denmark, under King CHRISTIAN, shall be preserved as it was under his predecessor. We shall see.

CONNECTICUT is gloriously enrolled with New Hampshire. The Union majority is not only decisive, but the gains throughout the State are greater than we had dared to hope. They are new evidences of the increasing weakness of the Opposition, and the certain triumph of the Union party in November next.

LETTER FROM "OCCASIONAL."

WASHINGTON, April 4, 1864.

On Wednesday, the sixth of April, the people of Maryland will vote for delegates to a Convention to make a new Constitution and frame of Government. They will at the same time decide whether such a Convention shall be held or not. The canvass preceding this election has been one of unusual interest. The question of slavery, in all its aspects, has largely, if not solely, entered into it. The rebellion and its guilty authors—the certain fate of Maryland and the loss of the Federal capital, had not the Government extended its saving and protecting power over the people of that State—have been the fruitful texts of many irresistible arguments. The "unconditional" friends of the Government are for immediate emancipation without compensation. They insist that Maryland will be more prosperous without slavery, and they declare, that as the first proffer of the President in his proclamation, allowing compensation for all manumitted slaves, was sternly and scornfully refused by the Maryland slaveholders, it is now too late for them to accept it, especially as ever since that time, nearly three years gone, they have been the active though secret enemies of the Government. The bold stand of the unconditional party and the practical proofs of the justice of their doctrines, since the Government has defeated treason in Maryland, and secured the Federal capital, have brought the traitors to their senses. Under the laws of the State, and especially under the bill submitting the question of a Convention to the popular vote, the most stringent provisions against allowing disloyal men to vote, and the severest penalties against all election officers who may take the ballots of such persons, were enacted. An oath must be administered to every challenged person, to the effect that he has not served in the rebel army, nor has he either directly or indirectly given aid, comfort, or encouragement to those in armed rebellion against the Government of the United States. This oath is a terrible extinguisher of rebel intrigues; for if taken by a traitor he will of course be detected by those who know his treason, and put to punishment, if not to shame. This oath, and the legislation in harmony with it, affect candidates as well as voters. No rebel can be a candidate for office in Maryland under the statutes of the last Legislature. Major General Lew Wallace, the new Military Governor, already alluded to in this correspondence, came into his high office as governor of the great department of which nearly all of Maryland, and all of Pennsylvania, are subdivisions, at a most interesting juncture, and had an early chance to show *his* determination on this momentous question. He at once resolved that the laws of the State, in preventing disloyal persons from holding office, or running for office, or voting at elections, should be sternly enforced. In a late correspondence with the Governor of Maryland, Mr. Bradford, he directs his attention to the laws referred to, and invokes his co-operation in their faithful application on Wednesday. The Governor—who, as you will recollect, was as tender-footed after his election as some other "loyal" men—thinks these laws "entirely sufficient" "to exclude disloyal voters from the polls." Gen. Wallace does not intend rashly to use his troops so that the traitors may not resume the control of the State, but he will, undoubtedly, do his whole duty if the people are again sought to be betrayed, either by cheating election officers, timid Legislatures, or Secession Councils and Mayors. When General Wallace took his position as Military Governor of the Department, he declared in his first address that "rebels and traitors have no political rights." And these brave and golden words have been woven into the war cry of the radical Union men of Maryland. I have strong hopes that these men will triumph on Wednesday. If they do, slavery will be speedily and forever abolished in Maryland. I could wish some of your local party-leaders, who still call themselves Democrats, could be in Maryland at this writing, to see and hear what such Democrats as Frank Thomas, Reverdy Johnson, and General Lew Wallace are doing on the right side. They would be ashamed of the course pursued by men who, in the safer and distant spheres of action, do not hesitate to oppose and ridicule the patriots I have named. And if anything were needed to complete the mortification of your local Democratic leaders, it would be that *their* favorite arguments are daily repeated by the disloyal Copperheads who are now toiling to drag Maryland out of the Union, and to transfer Washington City from Lincoln to Davis.

OCCASIONAL.

WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, April 4, 1864.

Decision of the Quicksilver Mining Case.

Charles Fossatt, appellant, vs. The United States. The opinion of the court was delivered by Mr. Justice NELSON to-day, establishing the southern and eastern boundaries of FOSSATT'S grant as including the mine. The southern boundary is the Great Sierra, which defeats the pretensions of the United States. The eastern boundary is the straight line by the eastern boundary of the low hill, thus throwing the mine Berreyesa on FOSSATT'S ranch. The court orders a decree confirming the survey of December, 1860, and filed January following. There was a larger attendance than usual this morning to hear the above decision in the Quicksilver case, and, even before the reading of the opinion was completed, parties rushed to the telegraph office to advise their distant friends. The excitement to-day was equalled only by the whisky and gold bill question on former occasions.

Associate Justice NELSON, in delivering his opinion in favor of the Quicksilver Mining Company, to-day, said if the court for the Northern District of California had conformed to the mandate of the Supreme Court, in entering the survey, this controversy would have thus been closed. It appeared, from the opinion, that the California court was influenced by the law of Congress, which allows appeals from surveys in private land claims. The alteration of the line fixing the boundary in dispute was wholly unsustained. If it was competent to change one line, it was competent to change all the lines. The merits of the case, apart from the boundary, did not enter into this opinion. The court to-day ordered, adjudged, and decreed that the decree of the District Court of the United States, of the Northern District of California, in the case of FOSSATT, appellant, vs. the United States, is reversed, and the cause remanded to the said District Court, with instructions to enter a decree conformable to the survey approved by the Surveyor General, December 20, 1860.

Justice CLIFFORD, who alone dissented from the above opinion, said the property was worth $20,000,000.

Gens. Smith and McDowell.

General BALDY SMITH will have command of the troops and personally conduct military operations in General BUTLER'S Department.

What Gen. McDOWELL is to command, or what operations he is to be permitted to influence, are as yet only subjects of conjecture and apprehension. His journey to Fortress Monroe with Gen. GRANT has excited a great deal of speculation and comment.

Pay of Cadets.

It is now fixed by law that the pay of cadets at the U. S. Military Academy shall be the same as allowed to midshipmen at the Naval Academy. Cadets found deficient at any examination shall not be continued at the Military Academy, or be reappointed, except upon the recommendation of the Academy Board. Students of the Naval Academy, when examined for admission thereto, shall be between the ages of 14 and 18 years.

The Danish Blockade.

Official information has been received at the State Department of the blockade of the ports of Commin, Swinemunde, Nolgast, Griefswalde, Stralsund, and Barth, in the Baltic, the blockade having been ordered by the Danish Government, which commenced March 15.

The United States Supreme Court.

CHARLES FOSSATT, appellant, vs. The United States. The opinion of the court was delivered by Mr. Justice NELSON to-day, establishing the southern and eastern boundaries of FOSSATT'S grant as including the mine. The southern boundary is the Great Sierra, which defeats the pretensions of the United States. The eastern boundary is the straight line by the eastern boundary of the low hill, thus throwing the mine Berreyesa on FOSSATT'S ranch. The court orders a decree confirming the survey of December, 1860, and filed January following.

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The Naval Committee.

Nearly all of the House Naval Committee, with Vice President HAMLIN and one or two members of the Ways and Means Committee, numbering in all twenty-five, including ladies, will start next Thursday for St. Louis and Cairo, to examine sites for a Western navy yard at these two points, and thence will go to examine generally the leading Western interests now applicants for Congressional bounty—the Michigan and Illinois Canal, the improvement of the navigation of the Mississippi.

Gen. Dix's Election Order.

The Senate having recently called on the Secretary of War for the order of Major General DIX to Provost Marshal DODGE, relative to the Maryland election, the Secretary responds that no such document is known to the officers of his department, or is to be found in its archives.

The Sanitary Commission Abroad.

The United States minister at Rome, General KING, writes that the Americans in Rome have made liberal contributions to the Metropolitan Fair for the Sanitary Commission, about to be held in New York, and that the Pope and Cardinal ANTONELLI have joined in the contributions.

The Maryland Election.

A number of the Union members of Congress are speaking in Maryland in favor of emancipation, taking an active part in the Constitutional Convention election, which is to take place on Wednesday next. Mr. KASSON, of Iowa, and Mr. BOUTWELL, of Massachusetts, left for Frederick this morning.

Return of General Grant.

General GRANT has just arrived here from Fortress Monroe, and will leave for the front at three o'clock this afternoon.

The Ten-Forty Loan.

The Secretary of the Treasury has determined to issue to parties preferring them, ten-forty bonds, bearing interest from date of subscription, thus avoiding the necessity of paying accrued interest from March 1st, as required under former instructions. This arrangement extends to all the agencies for the sale of this loan.

The Monticello Estate.

From a letter of Attorney General BATES, and legal and other papers accompanying it, which were communicated to the Senate to-day, relative to the bequest of Commander LEVY of the homestead of JEFFERSON to the United States, it appears that the property includes Monticello, $200,000 in real estate in New York, and $100,000 in stocks. It is bequeathed in trust for an agricultural school, for the support and education of the children of warrant officers of the navy. The case having been taken to the New York Court of Appeals, Attorney General BATES suspends any recommendation at present, but is disposed to look with little favor on the assumption of such trusts for merely charitable objects.

Wrecks on Long Beach.

[Correspondence of The Press.]

TUCKERTON, N. J., April 4, 1864.

The past week has been very hard on the shipping on this coast. On Wednesday night last the brigs George, of New Haven, and Hunter, of Prince Edward's Island, both loaded with sugar and molasses, from West Indies to New York, came ashore on Long Beach, near the Great Swamp. A part of the cargo of the George has been landed on the beach, and more of it, perhaps, will be saved. The Hunter and cargo will be a total loss.

On Friday night the following vessels came on in the same vicinity, viz: Ship Sultana, Capt. Archibald, of Dublin, from Newport, England, to New York, with a cargo of coal; brig Hannah, Captain Wm. B. Grant, of New York, with a circus company, comprising sixteen horses and thirty-five persons, with their equipments and necessary appendages; brig Lizzie Bell, Captain S. Pierson, of St. George, Maine, from Matanzas, Cuba, for New York, with a cargo of sugar and molasses.

The wreckers have succeeded in landing all of the crews and passengers of all of the above vessels (including the horses).

The vessels, I think, will all prove total losses, as the storm is still holding on. Some of the cargoes may be saved. Mr. Palmer, deputy collector of this port, visited the wreck yesterday.

The Pirate Alabama at Cape of Good Hope—Sickness of Her Crew.

NEW YORK, April 4.—The pirate Alabama was at Cape of Good Hope on the 19th of February, with thirty of her crew sick with the yellow fever.

Death of Judge Banks.

READING, Pa., April 4.—The Hon. John Banks, formerly a member of Congress, and more recently President Judge of Berks county, died here yesterday at 4 o'clock.

Death of a Press Agent.

NEW YORK, April 4.—David K. Seaman, for many years a reporter of the Associated Press, at Albany, died this morning, at Brooklyn, N. Y.

Union Victory in Pennsylvania.

HUNTINGDON (PA.), April 4.—At the charter election to-day the Union majority is seventy-five, after a warm contest.

The New Ten-Forty Loan.

NEW YORK, April 4.—The subscriptions to the new 10-40 loan to-day, amounted to $286,000.

VICE CONSULATE OF PORTUGAL,
OFFICE, 201 SOUTH FRONT STREET.

The undersigned feels constrained, by a sense of duty, to make a further appeal to the sympathies of our benevolent citizens, in aid of the unfortunate people of the Cape de Verde Islands.

By a vessel just arrived, it appears that their condition is becoming daily more frightful. Famine and desolation reign throughout the land; and, unless speedy assistance should arrive, thousands of those poor wretches will be swept away.

Donations most thankfully received either by the undersigned or by

EDW. S. SHYRES,
Vice Consul of Portugal.

J. PEMBERTON HUTCHINSON, 304 Walnut street.
SAML. & WM. WELSH, 218 S. Delaware avenue.
S. MORRIS WALN & CO., 123 S. Delaware avenue.
JOHN DALLETT & CO., 128 Walnut street.
PATTERSON & BOULTON, 130 Walnut street.
FIELD & KEEHMLE, 142 S. Front street.
F. FIGUERA, 130 Walnut street.

THE EARL OF ABERDEEN.—By the European news we learn the death of George Hamilton Gordon, Earl of Aberdeen. This nobleman was born in 1784, and was created an English peer in 1814, having, in 1804, graduated at St. John's College, Cambridge. He early travelled in Greece, and joined a club, every member of which must have visited the same classic ground. He also contributed some articles to the *Edinburgh Review*, and had the satisfaction or pain of seeing himself attacked by Byron in the "English Bards and Scotch Reviewers."

In 1811 Lord Aberdeen made his maiden speech in Parliament, and in 1813 he was sent as secret envoy to the court of Vienna, to use his influence in detaching that Power from her alliance with Napoleon. Later, he was active in the diplomacy going on in the European courts for the restoration of the Bourbons to the throne of Naples. In 1828, after a long interim of comparative retirement from official life, Lord Aberdeen, through the instrumentality of the Duke of Wellington, was appointed Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and on the accession of George IV was replaced by Earl Grey. In 1841, when Sir Robert Peel came into power, Aberdeen was again made Premier. When the troubles with Russia broke out in 1853-4, Lord Aberdeen hesitated so much in deciding on a war, and even when begun, furthered it with such lukewarmness, that public opinion was turned entirely against him, and he was forced to resign. Since then he has lived chiefly on his magnificent estates in Scotland.

There is very little in the character or career of Lord Aberdeen to excite the special sympathy of Americans. He was a consistent tory, a friend of absolute governments, and in many respects the type of an educated, intelligent aristocrat. As a diplomatist he was shrewd and successful, but not so absolutely great as to leave a name as such, or be remembered as other than as a useful worker and faithful servant to his Government. In literature he is only known as the author of a work on Grecian architecture, and as a contributor to the *Edinburgh*.

LORD ASHBURTON.—The foreign news also informs us of the death of William Bingham (Lord Ashburton), the son of the distinguished Lord Ashburton, who made, with Daniel Webster, the Northwestern Boundary treaty. The late Lord Ashburton was born in Philadelphia, in 1799, his mother having been an American lady, the daughter of William Bingham, a noted merchant of the last century, and a United States Senator from Pennsylvania. At an early age the late nobleman returned with his father and mother to England, where he has since remained, taking an active though not a prominent part in politics. He was strongly liberal in his tendencies, and interested himself much in the movements for the improvement of the lower classes in England. On his father's side he was related to some of the most wealthy titled families of England, and on his mother's to several American families residing in Pennsylvania.

LIEUT. J. R. WILLETT.—In a general order dated at Headquarters of the Nashville District, March 30th, Major General Rosseau has appointed Lieut. Jas. R. Willett inspector of all the fortifications of Nashville, in accordance with instructions from Gen. Sherman. The merited appointment of this able engineer will be highly gratifying to his numerous friends in Philadelphia. Lieut. Willett was formerly adjutant under General Carlin in the campaigns of Missouri and Tennessee, and has been in active service throughout the war. He bore a gallant part in many of the Western battles, and is undoubtedly one of the best engineers in the service.

THE ELECTIONS IN KANSAS.

TRIUMPH OF THE RADICAL UNION PARTY.

COPPERHEAD OUTRAGES IN LEAVENWORTH.

ST. LOUIS, April 4.—Incomplete returns indicate the election of Joseph S. Thomas, the radical candidate for Mayor, by 2,500 majority. The new Council will have from 4 to 6 radical majority.

At the election in Leavenworth, Joseph L. McDowell and his entire ticket are elected by 600 to 800 majority. At noon Mayor Anthony issued a proclamation closing the polls, and calling on the citizens to aid him in preserving the peace, which was disregarded, and the voting continued. Rioting was indulged in to a considerable extent, and several persons, including Mayor Anthony, were beaten and driven from the polls.

The *Democrat's* Leavenworth special says: At the election to-day the polls were seized by a mob in the interest of McDowell, the Caney and Copperhead candidate, and Mayor Anthony and many of his friends were knocked down and brutally beaten. The city marshal was assaulted, and dangerously wounded. Armed men took possession of the polls early in the day, and defied the city authorities.

The military were called for by the Mayor, to preserve order, but their assistance was refused. General Davis, the district commander, issued stringent orders that the soldiers at the fort should not visit the city, unless entitled to vote, but the order was openly violated, General Curtis being absent. Great excitement exists, and the best citizens pronounce the election a farce and fraud. The Copperheads are jubilant.

Other despatches say that Anthony tried to quiet a mob, and closed some of the polling places, but was compelled to open them again.

THE CONNECTICUT ELECTION.

A GREAT UNION VICTORY.

HARTFORD, April 4.—The indications at this time (6 P. M.) are that Buckingham has been elected by ten thousand majority. The gains are very large over last year.

NEW HAVEN, April 4.—The following eight towns in this county give Union majorities: Derby, East Haven, Guilford, Meriden, North Branford, North Haven, Orange, and Woodbridge. The following give Democratic majorities: Branford, Cheshire, Naugatuck, Oxford, Seymour, Wallingford, and Waterbury. All of the former give increased and all of the latter give reduced majorities.

New Haven elects two Union Representatives. A Union Senator from the Fourth district is elected.

DANBURY, April 4.—The following is the vote in the Third district:

	Union maj.	Dem. maj.	
Danbury	227		
Bethel	67		
New Fairfield		33	
Brookfield		52	
Newtown		130	
Ridgefield	93		
Westport		128	Union gain of 28.
Greenwich		81	Union gain of 5.

NEW HAVEN, April 4.—Morris Tyler (Union) is elected Mayor by fifty majority, in a vote of 4,814. The whole city ticket has been carried by the Union men.

NEW HAVEN, 10 P. M.—The returns from this county are complete, except the town of Southburg. Buckingham has 102 majority; a gain of 956 over the vote of last year.

HARTFORD, Conn., April 4.—Hartford county, with the exception of three towns, gives Buckingham 7,323 and Seymour 6,501, a gain of nearly 1,005 over last year.

Almost every town in the State yet heard from gives Buckingham an increased majority over last year.

BUCKINGHAM'S MAJORITY 7,000.

HARTFORD, Conn., April 4.—Tolland county complete gives Buckingham 2,144, and Seymour 1,586 votes—a gain over last year of 172.

The Senate will probably stand Union 18, and Democrat 3. The Legislature will be about three-quarters Union.

Buckingham's majority will be not far from 7,000.

HARTFORD, April 5, 1.30 A. M.—The indications now are that Buckingham will have a majority of 8,500 in the State.

NEW HAVEN, April 5, 1.30 A. M.—New Haven county shows a gain for Buckingham, over his vote of last year, of over 800; Hartford county nearly 800; and Windham county about 200.

FORREST AT JACKSON, TENN.

GRIERSON'S CAVALRY ON HIS TRACK.

Cairo and Memphis.

CAIRO, April 4.—The steamer Constitution, from New Orleans on the 26th, arrived here, to-day, with a cargo of sugar and molasses for Cincinnati and St. Louis. She also brought up 426 mules and 70 wagons belonging to the army.

The 1st Indiana Artillery (Veteran) Regiment, 1,500 strong, arrived here to-day en route for New Orleans. A portion of the 3d Minnesota also arrived, en route for Little Rock.

CAIRO, April 4.—The Memphis papers of the 2d inst. contain no news.

The *Bulletin* contains no news of importance. The market is firm but quiet. There is considerable inquiry, but little is offering. Rates have an upward tendency. The market closed on the 1st with an upward tendency. All qualities have advanced from ½ to 1 per cent., above the previous quotations. The surplus, during the past twenty-four hours, was 350 bales from White river and 75 bales from the country. The shipments North since the last report were 200 bales of middling to strict at 59@60c; 61@62c for good, and 65c for fair.

MEMPHIS, April 2.—Forrest, at the last accounts, was at Jackson, Tennessee. He was apparently arranging to travel South.

Chalmer is reported to head a considerable force at Grand Junction and Bolivar.

Grierson's cavalry are all out, and will give Forrest some trouble.

In a fight near Somerville, Tennessee, Colonel Hart, of the 6th Tennessee Cavalry, reports a loss of three officers and seventy-five men killed, wounded, and missing.

Advices from Vicksburg to the 29th report all quiet at that point.

There is no news from the Red River expedition.

Lee and Wirt Adams are reported to be near Canton, Mississippi, with their commands.

Memorial of the Board of Trade.

We present a very important memorial to Congress from our Board of Trade, asking the construction of a pier at Lewes, Delaware, for the benefit of shipping to and from this port. A survey made by order of the War Department shows that this is easily practicable, and every shipper well understands its necessity. For want of such a pier, vessels have sought shelter at the Breakwater in distress, and have been unable to communicate with the shore to obtain needed supplies, in the absence of which a total loss of vessels and cargoes has frequently ensued:

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, in Congress assembled:

The memorial of the Philadelphia Board of Trade respectfully represents:

That if a suitable pier should be constructed at Lewes, in the State of Delaware, national vessels would thereby be enabled to hold telegraphic communication with Washington, Philadelphia, New York, and other points. In the absence of such a pier, the attempt to land upon the beach, with a view to such communication, is unsafe, and sometimes impracticable;

That the Breakwater, during easterly storms, furnishes the only safe and easily accessible harbor from Newport to Hampton Roads;

That 25,000 vessels annually find shelter at the Breakwater; and

That vessels needing supplies, such as provisions, anchors, chains, &c., &c., will be able to obtain them at Lewes only by means of a suitable pier.

Your memorialists, therefore, pray that a pier adequate to the needs above described may be constructed at Lewes.

UNION AND LIBERTY.

GRAND OVATION TO GEORGE THOMPSON.

A Noble Vindication of American and English Abolitionists.

Speeches also by Horace Binney, Jr., and Hon. Wm. D. Kelley.

Last evening the people of Philadelphia did honor in no insignificant manner to the noble man George Thompson, of England, whose name has been so long and so eminently connected with all schemes, in his own as well as in this country, having for their object the alleviation of human misery and the promulgation of universal emancipation. An audience was assembled at the Academy of Music which, for numbers and respectability, has certainly been equalled, but seldom surpassed, and the welcome which Mr. Thompson received at the hands of his American friends must certainly have been as gratifying to himself as it was honorable to them. On the platform were many of our most distinguished citizens, whose presence added weight and influence to the character of the demonstration. With these and a large number of officers of the colored regiments, every seat on the platform was occupied.

Shortly before eight o'clock Mr. Horace Binney, Jr., stepped forward, and with the following remarks introduced the distinguished orator of the evening:

ADDRESS OF HORACE BINNEY, JR.

Ladies and Gentlemen: We meet here to-night to welcome a distinguished son of our common mother-country; a stranger, yet no stranger, whose name is associated with the history of the progress of human freedom. The gentlemen who have invited you to meet him hoped to have given to this occasion the attractions of the presence of the Governor of the Commonwealth; but though his heart is with us here to-night, Governor Curtin finds it out of his power to attend in person, and therefore, in place of the form of a more ceremonious reception, we give our honored guest the substance of a homely, but hearty, plain Pennsylvania greeting:

I wish that on such an occasion we could give him not merely a Pennsylvanian, but an *American* greeting. He will have it hereafter, but the time is not yet. I say that we should desire for him an American greeting, because those who have invited him, while they are not wanting in due respect for the doctrine of State rights, as properly limited, place their country—this Union of ours—above their State, however near to the hearts of us all is dear old Pennsylvania.

I hear sometimes, among a few gentlemen of my profession (a very few, I hope), the strange doctrine broached, that there is no such person as a citizen of the United States, that one is only a citizen of his State, and that citizenship of the United States is a mere theory. What would Washington have said to such a doctrine? Have you never noticed the peculiarity which marks the close of that immortal paper? You have there the simple, untitled name, with no official appendage, you have the date, September 17th, 1796, and what more? Is there no place of issue given? Not Philadelphia—although there the address probably received its final formation, and certainly was first printed and published there. But it was not an official paper, it may be said, but simply the paternal counsel of a good and great citizen, already in anticipation retired to the seclusion of private life. Does it, then, bear above its date the hallowed name of Mount Vernon? No. Is there nothing more? Yes, there are two words—most significant in their employment in that place. Thus runs the close: "George Washington, UNITED STATES, September 17, 1796."

We are content that the dying legacy of our great father's love should not have been dated from a spot in Pennsylvania, although, from that hour to this Pennsylvania, we trust, has never been false to his counsels. We *are* grateful that the address was not dated from even the most hallowed spot of Virginia, because Virginia has shown herself unworthy of him. We rejoice especially to remember that with his dying hand he wrote himself as simply of the United States; and we hold those words to be of happiest augury; for those whom Washington, when he left us, pronounced United, man shall never put asunder. What, then, is the Pennsylvania greeting that we would give to our distinguished guest to-night?

Let me turn back the hand upon the dial plate of time just eighty-four years, wanting a few months, and let us go with him to a very modest room, where on the first day of September, 1780, the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania sits in General Assembly. The war of the Revolution is still waging; the strife is maintained with vigor; but the rays of hope already light up the horizon, and the future is full of promise.

While vindicating our own rights, our legislators are not forgetful of the wrongs of others; and the subject which has just been debated is the abolition of slavery in Pennsylvania. The act has just passed—passed in advance of any similar action on the part of any of the sister States.

The preamble is read; let me read it. We have banished it from our digests, and it is only to be found in the statute books themselves. Its authorship has been matter of historical dispute, but there is but one opinion as to its merit. Let me read it. It will, I am sure, not weary our guest, and I think will not be unwelcome to you.

[PASSED MARCH 1, 1780.]

When we contemplate our abhorrence of that condition to which the arms and tyranny of Great Britain were exerted to reduce us; when we look back on the variety of dangers to which we have been exposed, and how miraculously our wants in many instances have been supplied and our deliverances wrought, when even hope and human fortitude have become unequal to the conflict, we are unavoidably led to a serious and grateful sense of the manifold blessings which we have undeservedly received from the hand of that Being from whom every good and perfect gift cometh. Impressed with these ideas, we conceive that it is our duty, and we rejoice that it is in our power, to extend a portion of that freedom to others which hath been extended to us, and release from that state of thraldom to which we ourselves were tyrannically doomed, and from which we have now every prospect of being delivered. It is not for us to inquire why, in the creation of mankind, the inhabitants of the several parts of the earth were distinguished by a difference in feature or complexion. It is sufficient to know that all are the work of an Almighty hand. We find, in the distribution of the human species, that the most fertile as well as the most barren parts of the earth are inhabited by men of complexions different from ours and from each other, from whence we may reasonably, as well as religiously, infer that He who placed them in their various situations hath extended equally His care and protection to all, and that it becometh not us to counteract His mercies. We esteem it a peculiar blessing granted to us that we are enabled this day to add one more step to universal civilization by removing as much as possible the sorrows of those who have lived in undeserved bondage, and from which, by the assumed authority of the Kings of Great Britain, no effectual, legal relief could be obtained. Weaned by a long course of experience from those narrow prejudices and partialities we had imbibed, we find our hearts enlarged with kindness and benevolence towards men of all conditions and nations; and we conceive ourselves at this particular period extraordinarily called upon by the blessings which we have received, to manifest the sincerity of our profession, and to give a substantial proof of our gratitude.

II. *And, Whereas*, The condition of those persons who have heretofore been denominated negro and mulatto slaves has been attended with circumstances which not only deprived them of the common blessings that they were by nature entitled to, but has cast them into the deepest afflictions, by an unnatural separation and sale of husband and wife from each other, and from their children—an injury, the greatness of which can only be conceived by supposing that we were in the same unhappy case. In justice, therefore, to persons so unhappily circumstanced, and who, having no prospect before them whereon they may rest their sorrows and their hopes, have no reasonable inducement to render their service to society, which they otherwise might; and also, in grateful commemoration of our own happy deliverance from that state of unconditional submission to which we were doomed by the tyranny of Britain.

III. *Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted*, That all persons, as well negroes and mulattoes as others, who shall be born within this State from and after the passing of this act, shall not be deemed and considered as servants for life, or slaves; and that all servitude for life, or slavery of children, in consequence of the slavery of their mothers, in the case of all children born within this State from and after the passing of this act as aforesaid, shall be, and hereby is, utterly taken away, extinguished, and forever *abolished*.

It is not to be supposed that this act secured the absolute obedience of every one to its enactments. There were unquestionably then, as there are now, persons who thought that the institution of slavery still had "incalculable blessings" for somebody—and who, therefore, endeavored to evade. But our Legislature kept its eye upon such men, and some seven years afterwards, by the act of 29th March, 1788, which declared its purpose to be "the preventing of many evils and abuses arising from ill-disposed persons availing themselves of certain defects in the act for the gradual abolition of slavery, passed March 1, 1780," passed a supplemental act which contained, among other things, the following provision:

Act of March 29th, 1788, Sec. 3:

"And if any person or persons whatsoever shall *sell or dispose* of any such slave or servant to any person out of this State, or shall *send or carry, or cause* to be sent or carried, any such slave or servant *out of this State*, for any of the purposes aforesaid, whereby such slave or servant would lose those benefits and privileges which, by the laws of this State, are secured to him or her, and shall not have obtained such consent as by this act is required, testified in the manner before mentioned, every such person and persons, his and their aiders and abettors, shall severally *forfeit and pay*, for every such offence, the sum of *seventy-five pounds*, to be recovered in any court of record, by action of debt, bill, plaint, or information, at the suit of any person who will sue for the same; one moiety thereof, when recovered, for the use of the plaintiff, the other moiety for the use of the poor of the city, township, or place from which such slave or servant shall be taken and removed."

Seventy-five pounds must have been at that time no insignificant part of the value of a slave in Pennsylvania at the date of the last enactment. Cotton, which gave the poor slave his greater commercial value, did not begin to be cultivated in this country to any considerable extent, until some years after the date of the last enactment. Thus, during the last century we see that our Legislature imposed a heavy penalty for selling a slave out of the State. And, on the other hand, there was no motive for such sale until, many years after, the demand for cotton made the slave more valuable than at the North. There was no motive for selling him; and, if sold, it was done in defiance of law.

Now, when Jefferson Davis penned his address, knowing, as "that stern statesman" did, that "the sympathies of the world were against the South" (I use a phrase lately used in the address of a Southern orator, who urges his Southern friends to look their situation full in the face, and to borrow courage from despair), and writing, as Mr. Davis did, always with an eye to England, whose instincts of justice he strove to blind by ingenious sophistry, he stated the case of the South thus:

EXTRACT FROM THE MESSAGE OF JEFFERSON DAVIS TO THE SOUTHERN CONGRESS, DATED MONTGOMERY, APRIL 29, 1861.

"When the several States delegated certain powers to the United States Congress, a large portion of the laboring population were imported into the colonies by the mother country. In twelve out of the fifteen States negro slavery existed, and the right of property existing in slaves was protected by law; this property was recognized in the Constitution, and provision was made against its loss by the escape of the slave. The climate and soil of the Northern States soon proved unpropitious to the continuance of slave labor, while the reverse being the case at the South, made unrestricted free intercourse between the two sections unfriendly. The Northern States consulted their own interests by *selling their slaves to the South*, and prohibiting slavery between their limits. The South were willing purchasers of property suitable to their wants, and *paid the price of the acquisition*, without harboring a suspicion that their *quiet possession* was to be *disturbed* by those who were not only in want of constitutional authority, but prevented by *good faith as VENDORS* from disquieting a title emanating from themselves."

Now, the utter falsehood of these statements is shown, first, by an appeal to the Legislature of Pennsylvania, just read, and, secondly, by the date of the introduction of the cultivation of cotton, which any one can find given in Taylor's History of Cotton.

It would not have been worth while to have dwelt upon these mendacious words of Jefferson Davis, but that they may perhaps have occasioned the mistake upon this subject into which one of the best friends of the Union and of human rights has fallen. I refer to Mr. Cairns, author of the admirable sketch of the character, career, and probable designs of the slave power, which has justly earned for him the gratitude and admiration of the citizens of the United States.

"The Northern States had in the markets of the South a ready means of ridding themselves at a trifling loss, of a class which had become an encumbrance."

"The effect, therefore, of the Northern measures of abolition was, for the most part, simply *to transfer Northern slaves to Southern markets*. In this way, by an easy process without incurring any social danger, and at slight pecuniary loss, the Northern States got rid of slavery."

"The South is wholly without that easy means of *shuffling off slavery*, which its own markets provided for the North."

Such was the legislation of Pennsylvania eighty years ago. How was her course regarded by the great statesmen of the day—men of the slave States themselves? Was the abolition act of Pennsylvania unnoticed by Washington? In the interval between the passage of this act and of its supplement, on September 9, 1786, Washington wrote to John Fenton Mercer as follows:

"It is among my first wishes to see some plan adopted by which slavery in this country may be *abolished* by law." And again, "I never mean, unless some particular circumstances should compel me to do it, to possess another slave by purchase." And on the 10th of May, 1786, the father of his country thus wrote to the illustrious Lafayette:

"The benevolence of your heart is so conspicuous upon all occasions, that I never wonder at any fresh proofs of it; but your late purchase of an estate in the colony of Cayenne, with a view of emancipating the slaves on it, is a generous and noble proof of your humanity. *Would to God a like spirit might diffuse itself in the minds of the people of this country.* But I despair of it."—(Sparks' Life and Writings of Washington, vol. IX., 163.

Such were the words of Washington, the Abolitionist, addressed to Lafayette, the Emancipationist—what Jefferson thought and said. Alexander H. Stephens, Vice President of the Southern Confederacy, in language of which it is difficult to say whether its effrontery or irreverence predominates, declares that slavery is the natural and moral condition of the negro. Perhaps aware that Washington and Jefferson discarded the monstrous theory, he calmly declares "that the stone which was rejected by the first builders is become the chief stone of the corner in the new edifice."

Yes, that awful corner-stone was not only rejected by the builders of our national fabric, but our Washington would not have allowed its continuance even as a miserable blemish upon its surface, had he been able to remove it. You have heard his language of despair in his letter to Lafayette; yet his love of justice survived his despair, for in his Farewell Address, given to the world ten years later than his letter to Lafayette, he uses language which comprehends measures not less wise or just than a general emancipation.

"It will be worthy of a free, enlightened, and, at no distant period, a great nation, to give to mankind the magnanimous and too novel example of a people always guided by an exalted justice and benevolence. Who can doubt that, in the course of time and things, the fruits of such a plan would richly repay any temporary advantages which might be lost by a steady adherence to it? Can it be that Providence has not connected the permanent felicity of a nation with its virtue? The experiment, at least, is recommended by every sentiment which ennobles human nature. Alas! is it rendered impossible by its vices?"

It is as Pennsylvania Abolitionists, who have never swerved from the principles of their forefathers, in 1780, that we greet to-night the distinguished Abolitionist of England. In his letter of reply to the gentlemen who have invited him here to-night, Mr. Thompson says frankly that he recognizes among the signatures to our letter of invitation the names of but few with whom he is personally acquainted.

We were Pennsylvania Abolitionists, but true to the compact of the Constitution, and were willing to trust the extirpation of slavery in the Southern States to that Providence which was working out the great problems of free labor and slave labor side by side.

The solution of the Providential problem was plain as the sunlight. The world saw numbers, wealth, education, good morals, progress in arts, and in every branch of intelligent and skilful industry, marking the wonderful growth of the free North, and the South saw it, too, and gnashed its teeth in madness, and vowed to disregard a fair, open, constitutional election, in which it had itself taken part. The world knows the result. The first cannon shot which was fired against Fort Sumpter shattered the only ramparts behind which slavery had so long cowered from the scorn and indignation of the world.

The Pennsylvania Abolitionist now finds himself on the same platform with the Abolitionist of England, of Massachusetts, of Missouri, of Louisiana, of Arkansas—we have only to read the speeches of Winter Davis and Thomas Swann, delivered within the last few days, to add—of Maryland.

As an Englishman, who, true to his own love of justice, has helped to breast the storm of strange prejudice which was [illegible] in some high quarters against us in our present struggle, we owe Mr. Thompson the sincerest gratitude, and here in this house, where we lately listened with applause to Henry Ward Beecher's account of his own most kindly reception in England, we have double pleasure in extending the welcome.

When Mr. Thompson shall make his next visit to the United States, should he contemplate a return, we trust that he will find this great nation united as one man, and that man, like the restored demoniac in the Gospel, sitting, with the demons of slavery expelled, clothed, and in his right mind, at the feet of the world's Great Master.

SPEECH OF MR. THOMPSON.

When the applause with which Mr. Thompson had been received had somewhat subsided, he proceeded to speak as follows:

Sir, I thank you, and the other signers of that invitation in consequence of which I occupy this position to-night, for the honor done me by inviting me to this city, and I thank you, ladies and gentlemen, for the very cordial and hearty reception with which you have greeted me. Down to the period of the breaking out of the present unhappy war between the States North and South upon this continent, the unexampled progress and prosperity of this country was, in the estimation of all persons in Europe, excepting the prejudiced and uncandid, one of the wonders of modern civilization. As the great Republic, this nation stood apart from all the other Governments in Christendom. The vastness of your territory, the freedom of your laws, your most admirable system of education, your general intelligence, the spirit of improvement which animated the people, all contributed to arrest the world's attention, and to command the world's respect. Guaranteeing, as it did, to every man freedom of conscience and speech, to every press the utmost altitude of criticism and expression, to every individual a perfect application of property, the Constitution of the United States enlisted the admiration of every friend of liberty throughout the world. Whatever was their loyalty and attachment to the forms and government under which they lived, these friends rejoiced in the success of the great experiment of republican democratic government on the shores of North America. One source of poignant regret there was, that under such a government such an institution as that of slavery should have had a tolerated existence. But even that monstrous evil did not blind us of Europe to the many excellences of a political system that for a period of upwards of 70 years had otherwise worked so well, and had wrought out such marvellously happy results. We could distinguish between that which was the growth and development of your glorious and free institutions and that which was the fruit of the hateful system which you permitted to remain amongst you after you had asserted and triumphantly maintained your right to govern yourselves. For thirty years preceding this foul rebellion, which now fills America with the throes of another, but, thank God, a better revolution than that of '76—[applause]—for thirty years preceding that act of assassination committed against the Union and the Constitution of the country—the friends of human freedom in other lands marked to their sorrow and dismay the rapid strides of the slave power on this continent, and its supreme and universal domination. During these years it seemed as though the mighty power possessed by the sovereign white race could be wielded only for the extension of slavery and the perpetuation of the abasement of the colored race. At length, however, the spirit of resistance was manifested by the people of the North to the encroachments and arbitrary power of the slaveholding oligarchy of the South. That spirit was nobly exhibited in the great partisan political struggle of 1856. It was again developed in 1860, when the efforts of those opposed to slavery were met with success in the election of Mr. Abraham Lincoln. [Uproarious applause, and three cheers for Lincoln.] The world is cognizant of the events to which that election has led. All are aware that certain slave States, long before any State openly revolted against the Federal Government, severed the bonds which bound them to their sister States. They formed a Confederacy which had slavery for its corner-stone, and repudiated the Constitution under which they had lived, under which they had been fostered, under which they had been petted and spoiled. [Applause.] Repudiating the Constitution, they adopted one which gave to the stronger race the right of enslaving the weaker race, and declared the normal condition of the black man to be that of subordination and subjection to the white man. By this event your Union has been plunged into a cruel war, and on this, my third visit to your shores, I find you in the midst of a second great revolutionary struggle—a struggle at first for the restoration of political Union, now a revolution for an impartial and universal liberty. [Applause.] In this terrible and sublime conflict between freedom and slavery—between free institutions and oligarchical despotism—I find the Keystone State of the Union occupying a position worthy of her name—worthy of her past history, worthy of the illustrious men that are to be found on the scroll of her citizens, and worthy of the great cause of which America has once again declared herself a champion—the cause of human equality and universal liberty.

Thrice happy am I, therefore, under these circumstances, and after a lapse of thirty years, to be permitted in this magnificent building, and before this still more magnificent audience, to raise my feeble and humble voice in advocacy of the cause whose first triumph was in your soil, and which now appears so near its final, glorious consummation. On that my words, or any words which I have the power to utter this night, might strengthen and intensify, inflame and confirm, the resolution you have already formed, to purge your beloved country from the last remaining stain brought upon it by that accursed system which has been the cause of all your past political disorders, as it is the cause of your present calamities and the sanguinary war still raging amongst you! Standing where I do to-night, I cannot overlook the fact that it was in this city, and not far from where we are now assembled, that the doctrine was first promulgated, and promulgated as the basis of a new and Democratic Government, "All men are created equal," and the political application of that great truth declared of old by an apostle of Christianity that "God hath made of one blood all the families of man to dwell on the face of the earth." [Applause.] I cannot forget that ever since that cardinal principle of the immortal Declaration of Independence was published to the world by the people of the Thirteen Colonies, there were in this State those who gave a special application to that great principle, and now this whole nation is about to make the application of it to the circumstances of an oppressed race on this continent. Here in the Academy of Music, in the centre of the city of Philadelphia, and in the presence of this vast auditory, I, on the 4th of April, 1864, openly and fearlessly declare that I am the friend and advocate of the doctrine of immediate, entire, and universal emancipation. [Great applause.] Here I call aloud and say, "Loose the bond of wickedness, undo the heavy burdens, and let the oppressed go free." But, my friends, it was not always so. Oh! blessed be the God and father of the human family that I have lived to see this day, a day when not only in your own beloved city of Philadelphia, but in Boston, and in New York, and in Portland, in all of which places I have been heard by attentive, kind, and approving audiences; but in Washington, within the walls of your Capitol, aye, even in the hall of your representatives, I may stand, I the once hated and persecuted missionary of an unpopular and despised truth, I may stand even where your assembled representatives congregate, and say aloud, "Break every yoke, and let the oppressed go free, for the mouth of the Lord hath spoken it." [Great applause.] The beloved friends with whom I kept sweet counsel in the hours of darkness, doubt, and peril, thirty years ago, saw you not the cloud arising then? Little as a human hand, now it spreads over all the land, and for that let us give joy and thanks forevermore; the weary night is well nigh passed, the slumbers of the North are over, and the giant stands erect at last. [Cheers.] In this glad hour, when our souls are drawn out in thankfulness to God, whose hand hath done it all—in this hour of hope and promise, let me recall to your recollection the names and labors of some of your own citizens, and some of the their achievements in the cause of human freedom of your own honored State: On the 14th of April, 1775, eighty-nine years ago, within ten days, might have been seen gathered together in a small room in an obscure tavern, called the Sun Tavern, on Second street, a few earnest and devoted friends of the human race, friends of the human race without distinction of color, who did not estimate humanity by the texture of the hair, or the length of the heel, or the color of the skin—who looked within, and remembered Him who said: "Render unto Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's, and to God the things that are God's"—who looked upon that animated being, whom the planter calls a chattel personal, as one having the impress of the Deity upon him, who deemed it their duty to render unto God the things which are God's. In that obscure tavern night, on the 14th of April, 1775, have been seen a few such persons assembled for the purpose of forming an association under the modest name of "The society of free negroes unlawfully held in bondage."

Oh, Truth! Oh, Freedom! how are ye still born
In the rude stable, in the chamber nurst!
What humble hands unbar those gates of morn,
Through which the splendors of the new day burst?

That little room in the Sun Tavern, held the Abolitionists of Philadelphia. On the 14th of April, 1864, it would require many such buildings as this to contain the Abolitionists that have since grown up. [Great applause.] That little band, we are told, was principally composed of the people called Quakers. All honor to the Quakers. [Applause.] Africa and her children owe a mighty debt to the followers of George Fox and William Penn. They were the people called Quakers, who gave Thomas Clarkson, a stranger in London, both sympathy and aid in the outset of his career for the abolition of the slave trade. They testify, who co-operated with Wilberforce and Buckstone and Macauley, for the abolition of slavery in the British colonies. They were the people called Quakers who were among the first religious bodies of Christendom to make non-slavery-holding a condition of membership in their communion. The anti-slavery annals of this country are rich with instances of self-devotion on the part of the Quakers. Amongst those who have been the forerunners of emancipation on this continent, the names of Woolman and Benezet stand conspicuous. [Applause.] The association in Second street, of which Anthony Benezet was a member, was reorganized and placed upon a broader basis, and became in 1787 "The Society for the Abolition of Slavery and the Relief of Free Negroes unlawfully held in bondage, and for the improvement of the condition of the African race." Among the illustrious men who became officers of that society were two whose names are found among the signers of the Declaration of Independence—Benjamin Franklin and Benjamin Rush. It was by this society that a petition was sent to Congress, whose words have frequently been quoted by the friends of emancipation since. In that petition to Congress they say that "Liberty being originally the portion and still the birthright of all men, your memorialists conceive themselves bound to use all justifiable measures to lessen the bonds of slavery, and to promote the enjoyment of the blessings of freedom to all men in this land." The petition urged Congress that it would extend its sympathy to the men who were laboring in service subjection, and devise means to remove the stain of slavery from the character of the American people, and demanded prompt justice and mercy to the oppressed race. This petition was signed by the illustrious Benjamin Franklin, as president of the Pennsylvania Society. On looking into the records of that society I find the names of some of your most esteemed citizens: Richard Peters, judge of the District Court; Rev. John Andrews, provost of the University of Pennsylvania; Thomas Savery, merchant; Thomas Paine, author of "Common Sense" and the "Age of Reason;" and amongst its honorary members Thomas Price, the correspondent of Jefferson, the eminent philanthropist of London; the Marquis de Lafayette, &c. [Applause.]

Let us now turn from individuals and society to notice the action of your State on the question of slavery. The public mind having been duly prepared by the labors of the friends of emancipation, on the 8th of November, 1779—ten years before the Constitution of the United States came into operation—a bill was introduced into the General Assembly providing for the abolition of slavery, which bill was passed into law on the 15th of February, 1780. It was not a bill for *immediate abolition*; but that great doctrine was not proclaimed, as the principle of governmental action, until nearly half a century afterwards, and even then produced apprehension and alarm. The good and great men of this State acted according to the light they possessed at the time. That they were animated by a spirit of justice and humanity, and under a solemn sense of the duty they owed both to God and man, will be seen by a reference to the preamble of the act which they passed, which preamble was in the following remarkable words:

"We conceive it to be our duty, and rejoice that it is in our power, to extend a portion of the freedom to others which has been extended to us. * * * It is not for us to inquire why, in the creation of mankind, the inhabitants of the earth were distinguished by a difference of features and complexion. It is sufficient to know that all are the work of an Almighty hand.

"We find in the distribution of the human species, that the most fertile, as well as the most barren parts of the earth, are inhabited by men of different complexions; from whence we may reasonably infer, that He who placed them in their various situations, hath extended equally His care and protection to all, and that it becometh not us to counteract His mercies. We esteem it a peculiar blessing granted to us, that we are this day enabled to add one more step to universal civilization by removing the sorrows of those who have lived in undeserved bondage, and from which, by the assumed authority of the King of Great Britain, no effectual relief could be obtained. Weaned by a long course of experience from those narrow prejudices and partialities we had imbibed, we find our hearts enlarged with kindness towards men of all conditions and natures; and we conceive ourselves, at this particular period, extraordinarily called upon, by the blessings which we have received, to manifest the sincerity of our professions, and give a substantial proof of our gratitude."

Your honored chairman has anticipated me in what I intended to say of the action of your own great State on the subject of slavery, and having referred to him, let me award to him my thanks for his presence here to-night, and let me tell him that neither his name nor that of his honored parent is unknown to me, nor is the name of any of the noble sons of Pennsylvania who have shed lustre upon her escutcheon. [Applause.] It is satisfactory to see so worthy a son of so noble a sire presiding over that meeting which afforded to me so warm a welcome.

The public mind having been duly prepared by the labors of that society to which I have referred, the friends of emancipation, on the 8th of November, 1779, the tenth year before the Constitution of the United States came into operation, brought forward a bill into your General Assembly for the abolition of slavery in Pennsylvania. The preamble of that bill has already been read here by your chairman.

Such was the language of the people of Pennsylvania, as expressed in legislative action, seventy-four years ago—more than forty years before the Parliament of Great Britain proceeded to emancipate the slaves of the British dependencies.

The effect of this beneficent act, on the part of this State, showed the truth of the Scripture declaration: "Thy righteousness shall go before thee." When, many years afterwards, the British historian, Belsham, was compiling the memoirs of George the Third, and reviewing the events of the reign of that monarch, he said:

"It affords a grateful relief from the sensations which oppress the mind in listening to the tale of human folly and wretchedness, to revert to an act of the most exalted philanthropy, passed about this period by the Legislature of Pennsylvania."

The author then proceeds to give to his readers an abridgment of your abolition act.

It was this act that enabled one of your Representatives in Congress, in February, 1820, during a debate on the Missouri question, to speak in terms of high and deserved eulogy in reference to the position occupied by Pennsylvania on the subject of slavery.

That gentleman, Mr. Sargeant, addressing the House, in reply to Mr. Clay, represented the State of Pennsylvania, in language which, I trust and believe, accurately describes her position and purpose at the present time. He said:

"Pennsylvania has not been anxious for what are commonly deemed honors and distinctions, nor eager to display her weight and importance in the affairs of the nation. She has nevertheless felt, and does still feel, her responsibility to the Union, and under a just sense of her duty has always been faithful to its interests, under every vicissitude, and in every exigency."

"But Pennsylvania feels also a high responsibility to a great moral principle, which she has long ago adopted, with the most impressive solemnity, for the rule of her own conduct, and which she stands bound to assert and maintain, wherever her influence and power can be applied without injury to the just rights of her sister States."

"It is this principle, and this alone, which now governs her conduct. She holds it too sacred to suffer it to be debased by association with any party or factious views, and she will pursue it with the singleness of heart, and with the firm but unoffending temper, which belong to a conscientious discharge of duty."

The principle alluded to by Mr. Sargent was that of the inalienable right of every human being, of every complexion, to the possession of that liberty which, in the Declaration of Independence, your Revolutionary fathers claimed for themselves.

Not alone in the State of Pennsylvania do I witness a revival of the anti-slavery feeling of other days. The spirit of freedom is universal. This, certainly, is a strange spectacle for one who has twice before visited your country, a scene so very different from what has been witnessed in previous years. History tells us of an invading army, that, having penetrated into the enemy's country and taken its chief city, entered the central square of that city, and saw elevated upon a lofty column a statue of a divinity; a superstition prevailed among the people of that country that whenever any indignation should be offered to that image, and still more, if it ever should be destroyed by insolent hands, then the indignation of the gods would be excited, and calamities would overtake the nation. A soldier belonging to that invading army, perhaps the Fremont of that day [applause], scaled that column and reached that image, and with the battle axe he had used so well in the field, he smote the goddess again, and again, and again, until the fragments fell around the base of the column. The people stood aghast. They looked up, expecting the heavens would open, and the thunderbolts of vengeance descend upon them. They expected the earth would rock and swallow them up, but they looked up and saw that the heavens remained as beautiful and serene as ever. They looked around, and all was as stable and verdant as ever. They learned to despise the prophecy, and to laugh at their own superstitions, and to believe in a better and higher Divinity. From that day forward that people arose to be great in influence, in honor, and in civilization. I have seen in the central place of this great nation a column, and a statue thereon. I have learned that there was a superstition universal in this country that he who offered violence to the image of slavery would bring the glorious institutions of the country to ruin. There have been those courageous enough to assail that divinity, to strike her again and again, and now, behold, she totters, and totters to her fall. The freeman's yoke is falling from the neck of your bondsmen, and America shall now be free.

But a little while ago Washington was the seat of a slave trade, and was filled with slave auctions, and slave prisons, and slave pens; now you may traverse the District of Columbia, and you shall not find through its whole length and breadth a single slave auction, or slave prison, or slave pen; and God be thanked for that. Wicked Dash, a few years ago, threw down the only remaining barrier to the extension of slavery; repealed the Missouri Compromise; obtained the Dred Scott decision from the lips of slaveholding judges whom they themselves had appointed, and declared that slavery was constitutional and universal, protected and sanctified everywhere within the jurisdiction of the United States of America. Now, there is upon your statute book an act according to which slavery is forever prohibited in all those vast Northwestern territories; they are saved, consecrated, and bequeathed to liberty, to free men, and to free labor. In Washington, a few years ago, the most accomplished representative from Liberia was an outcast. Now, that Republic may send to your capital city her darkest citizen as a representative, and albeit he is allied by his color to the African, he stands in the presence of the President, on a footing of absolute equality with the palest and the proudest of the representatives of the oldest monarchies in Europe.

When I was last in America the free States were a hunting ground, in which two footed monsters sought their human prey. There was not a city of refuge for the fugitive slave in America; no household in which he could be entertained, for it was a misdemeanor punishable at law for a hospitable citizen to tender a cup of cold water or a night's shelter to the fugitive. Aye, even from the very halls of the altar he might be dragged, and was dragged, in defiance of the divine law which said: "Thou shalt not return to his master the servant that has escaped unto thee." The fugitive-slave law, which still pollutes your statute book, is one against which, as with one voice, you ought to protest and have instantly effaced. Yet, of the millions who people these States of America, I think there is not one who would attempt, at this hour, to execute that execrable law. [Applause.] When I was last in America slavery was secured. Its throne seemed to be established. It appeared to be immovable. The slave power was dominant and universal. It was the ruling power of your country, conducting your home and foreign policy, appointing your ambassadors, consuls, and judges, coming nearer and nearer to your religious and ecclesiastical assemblies, tyrannizing over your Bible Society, your Missionary Society, and your Tract Society. A little later the slaveholding aristocracy is no longer acknowledged; the spirit of '76 is revived; the people of America are themselves again, and yet a little while and America shall place her heel upon the neck of slavery, and say: "Babylon the great has fallen." [Applause.]

In this great and good work, some of us in England endeavored to help you. It was said when I came here that my pockets were lined with British gold; that I was the friend of the despots of Europe; that I came to disturb your Union, and to overthrow your institutions; and no professions of friendship I might have made, could have materially altered that opinion. But I waited for the time when, by something better than words, I might testify how sincerely I loved this country and its people. The hour came. It was the hour of your trial and your agony; when you were wounded in the house of your friends; when your sisters, whom you had spoiled by kindness, raised their heel against you; then, when you were in conflict among yourselves, and when all that was precious to you was endangered; when your national life was in jeopardy; when you had enemies not only at home, but abroad, and even in the free isles of Britain—that was the hour. I chose to demonstrate to you that when I spoke to you the truth, it was not because I loved you less, but because I hated slavery more. [Applause.] Would to God I could defend you against the misrepresentation and calumnies of your enemies. I am not here to make any apology for such acts of the part of my countrymen as have justly pained you, perhaps deeply offended you. Forgive them for the sake of those who have sought to aid you; but do not hate England because in that country there have been those who seek alike to clog the wheels of the car of Liberty here and to deadlock those in the car. They are of the same party with which we have been contending for thirty years. They opposed us when we were laboring for Catholic emancipation; for representative reform; for municipal reform; for the abolition of colonial slavery, and the taxes on bread.

For 3 years I have been going through the islands of Great Britain, with a view to correcting the misapprehensions of my countrymen on the American question, and if any man can speak of the temper and disposition of the working-classes of England towards America I can. I received, only the day before I left Boston, on my way to Philadelphia, a circular from the secretary of the Emancipation Society of Manchester, from which I learned that two hundred and fifty meetings have, within the last six months, been held in Manchester, all of which have been largely attended, and in only six of which has there been a vote adverse to Union and emancipation. [Applause.]

This society has, within the same period, circulated no less than 349,000 volumes, pamphlets and tracts. I say, Mr. President, ladies, and gentlemen, that in the efforts towards the emancipation of the West India slaves, there was not a greater zeal or enthusiasm manifested than is now shown by the great mass of the middle and working classes of Great Britain, in the cause of Union and emancipation in this country. [Applause.] We have yet much to do; we shall do it. This very circular, and it is dated the 29th of February last, speaks of the efforts Secessionists are now making in England to further the cause of the rebellion. Measures the most unscrupulous have, and will be adopted to this end, namely, "the recognition by England and France of the independence of the Confederate States." The utmost vigilance and energy must be exercised by our society to counteract these efforts. Prompt measures may enable our society to frustrate this attempt to further the "slaveholders' rebellion," for we call it by no other name. [Applause.] Of the ministers of England, and Wales, and of Scotland, there are recorded the names of five thousand ministers of the religion of Jesus, protesting against slavery, and encouraging the North in their struggle. True, you may refer me to the language of Brougham, Lindsay, Roebuck, Carlyle, Spencer, and Gregory; but we have better men than those. We can refer you to a John Bright [great applause], Cobden, Mill, Newman, G. Smith, Cairnes, Nichols, Hughes, Ludlow, Rawlins, N. Hall, Noel, Guthrie, Alexander Forster, Taylor, Stansfield, and a host of others; our best metropolitan and provincial newspapers, and the best of our ministers of religion are with you. Be encouraged, then, and let your motto be, Onward. The message you have from England is this: That if you will make short work and thorough work of this institution of slavery, so long tolerated amongst you; if you will plough it up and leave not a fibre in the ground, then will you not only have the blessing of England and the world at large, but you will give an impetus to the cause of liberty wherever that cause is acknowledged on the face of the earth. Consign this, then, to remorseless fire; watch till the latest spark expires; then strew its atoms to the wind, and leave no trace behind.

Ladies and gentlemen, I will conclude in a few words, not in my own language, but in that of the venerable father of the gentleman who presides over this assembly? "I devoutly pray God to consummate the designs of those who are now nobly leagued together for the purpose of delivering their country from the curse of a slaveholding conspiracy, to the effectual suppression of rebellion and treason, and of treasonable practices and confederacies, to the perpetuity of the Union, the maintenance of the Constitution, and the restoration of peace and unity to the entire nation of people and States."

Mr. Thompson concluded amid prolonged applause. Brief addresses were then made by Judge Kelley, Benjamin F. Brewster, Mr. Dunbar, and Daniel Dougherty. We especially regret that the great length of our report obliges us to exclude the eloquent remarks of Judge Kelley.

Mr. Thompson retired amid great applause. The Rev. J. Walker Jackson then offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, That this meeting has great pleasure in welcoming to the shores of America and to the city of Philadelphia, Liberty's veteran champion, GEORGE THOMPSON, of England.

Resolved, That the life-long and consistent devotion of this distinguished friend of freedom, as seen in his efforts for the overthrow of British slavery in the West India Islands, his brave opposition to British abuses of power in the Indies of the East, and in his earnest labors for the deliverance of this country from the crime and curse of slavery, demand, and should receive, from us tokens of respect and honor.

Resolved, That the later labors of Mr. Thompson—those rendered by him in connection with John Bright, Richard Cobden, John Stuart Mill and others, in defence of American nationality and democratic freedom—call not only for tokens of respect, but for expressions of sincerest gratitude from every loyal man and true-hearted American.

Resolved, That we have listened with the liveliest pleasure to the address with which Mr. Thompson has this evening favored us; that we accept gladly his assurances that the great heart of the working classes of England, in due time to be among the ruling classes, beats in unison with this country in her present struggle, and that we would fain hope that ere long, through the power of truth, to overcome prejudice and dissipate error, *all* classes in that country will be brought to acknowledge that the cause of the American Union in this great contest is the cause of justice, freedom, and well-founded government.

Each resolution as read occasioned great applause, and they were unanimously adopted.

LETTER FROM MR. JOHN W. FORNEY.

The following letter was sent to the chairman of the committee:

WASHINGTON, April 2d, 1864.

DEAR SIR: If I am in Philadelphia next Monday evening I will undoubtedly join in your greeting of George Thompson; but as Monday is always a working day in Congress, I will probably be constrained to stay at my post. In the years when I belonged to what was then the Democratic party, and (except on the slavery question) was, in fact, the only progressive party in the United States, I repeatedly denounced George Thompson as an emissary of the foreign enemies of my country. And this I did with pen and tongue, and under the honest belief that what I said was the Gospel truth. But, if I could speak at your meeting on Monday evening I would take occasion frankly to say that I had unlearned contempt of George Thompson, and of all the sincere men of his school or class. When slavery broke the covenant with the old Democratic party (which had so frequently yielded to it that at last the Democratic organization became almost the slave of slavery), by taking up arms against the Government which had forgiven its aggressions, and fostered its arrogance; and when, advancing upon this betrayal, slavery resolved to destroy the life of its own benefactor, I at once took the path trodden by such Democrats as Jefferson in one generation, and Leggett in another. These great Democratic apostles of intelligent freedom could not reconcile to their consciences anything like harmony between Democracy and slavery, and although their teachings were neglected in the presence of the enormous power and profit resulting from the modern workings of the institution itself, yet it was always apparent that the time must come when the manifest incongruity between two theories naturally and eternally antagonistic would be demonstrated by an open explosion. Between the period when Leggett was ostracised from the Democratic party because he refused to obey the slave edicts of Tammany Hall, and when Silas Wright, Martin Van Buren, and Marcus Morton were discarded because they were determined to adhere to the Jeffersonian example, and the open assault of the slaveholders at Charleston and Baltimore upon the educated anti-slavery sentiment in the Democratic party, the efforts of the men I have named served to keep alive the flame of hatred to oppression in many minds here as well as in the old world. During that space I was the editor for nearly ten years of the leading Democratic journal of Pennsylvania, and for three or four of the National Democratic journal in the city of Washington; and at no time did I hesitate to denounce and to oppose as well Mr. Thompson himself as the citizens of my own country who agreed with him in regard to the peculiar institution. But, as I have said, when slavery resolved to destroy the Democratic party, because a portion of its leaders, and a great majority of its masses, had determined to prevent the introduction of that curse of humanity into one of the new States of the Republic, I swore that my lot should henceforth be cast with the ultra anti-slavery party. And I trust no event will ever induce me to forget this solemn and conscientious determination. It is right that full credit should be awarded to the pioneers who long ago, in the midst of bigotry and party hatred, asserted and maintained their principles disinterestedly and firmly; but I have always contended that what they endured was nothing in comparison with the abuse, and the proscription, and the tyranny exercised against the Democrats who, at the beginning of James Buchanan's Administration, saw his treason and severed themselves, in consequence, from him, and attempted to rescue the Democratic organization from the dreadful fate which subsequently befell it and the country. It was at that moment that the disunionists of the South felt that they had secured a newer and a stronger hold upon the Federal Government, and that they might wield it for their own purposes, to the destruction of that Government; and, therefore, they insisted upon the ostracism of every independent mind in the free States, who would not consent to the exactions of their instrument in the Executive chair, or who openly denounced them as the willing authors of their country's ruin. Thus, while William Lloyd Garrison, Wendell Phillips, J. Miller McKim, and, of course, George Thompson, may felicitate themselves upon the realization of their own prophecy, namely, that slavery contemplated an attack upon the liberties of the free people of this continent, let us not forget that intrepid and, thank God, steadily and daily-increasing class of men, made up of the Democratic and now of the Union party of America, who, from the time when the slave owners sought to destroy this Republic, added their great moral and numerical strength to the Government party, and are now aiding to fight its battles in the field as well as at the ballot-box. But I think Mr. Thompson himself should be as candid in withdrawing his own distrust of the American people when he visited this country nearly a generation ago, as the independent Democrats of the United States are in recalling their judgment of him. He sees a nation of armed and resolute freemen voluntarily rushing to the field to defend their institutions against an oligarchy worse than any that has ever existed since the beginning of the world; worse, because it is assailing the best of Governments; worse, because it is answering indulgence and pardon by insult and ingratitude; and worse, because while taking thousands of innocent lives, it is forcing other thousands, who ought to be near and dear even to itself, upon a fate more dreadful than any that has been described in the history of mankind. What this American people need, however, after unity among themselves, after vigor and determination in their councils after a stern and resolute punishment of every one who, while enjoying the protection of the Government refuses to sustain it, is a fair and generous audience for those who advocate their principles in the British domains. Our people have had much to endure from the British Government since this rebellion broke out. They have needed much, and they have suffered much, as well in principle as in pride. Their own divisions and difficulties have impelled them to acquiesce in demands which, in the hour of their unity and strength, would have been rejected with haughty scorn; and well and keenly do they remember these things. Hence, when they hear the voice of friends like George Thompson, Richard Cobden, and John Bright, they feel that they have supporters still left in an empire which has been too long filled with their enemies; and in the glad welcome they give to such champions they forget equally their recent humiliations and their former prejudices.

Very truly yours,

J. W. FORNEY.

J. MILLER McKIM, Esq.

XXXVIIIth CONGRESS—1st SESSION.

WASHINGTON, April 4, 1864.

SENATE.

Mr. TRUMBULL offered the following:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Interior be directed to inform the Senate what number of cases were pending in each Circuit and District Court of the United States on the 1st of January, 1864, and the number of cases commenced in each of said Courts, during the year ending on that day—which was agreed to.

Mr. ANTHONY offered the following:

Resolved, That the Committee on Foreign Relations be instructed to inquire into the expediency of so amending the neutrality law as to make it reciprocal to each Government, extending entire neutrality to those which return the same, and to others the exact measure of neutrality which they extend to us—which was agreed to.

Mr. WRIGHT presented a petition from eighty-five merchants of Philadelphia, praying that a tax may be imposed upon the circulation of State banks, which was referred.

Mr. WILSON, from the Military Committee, reported adversely on the House bill to regulate the dismissal of officers in the military and naval service.

Mr. WILSON reported back from the Military Committee the bill for the better organization of the Quartermaster's Department, with amendments.

Mr. SUMNER reported a bill to establish a bureau of emancipation, which was ordered to be printed.

The Vice President laid before the Senate a communication from the Secretary of War in reply to a resolution of the Senate, denying that any order had been given by General Dix to the Provost Marshal of Baltimore, in November, 1861, prior to the November election.

Spoliation Claims.

Mr. SUMNER reported a bill for the adjustment and satisfaction of claims for spoliations committed by the French prior to July 31st, 1801. This bill provides satisfaction to the amount of $5,000,000 for claims and damages through detentions, seizures, and captures made by the French. It does not cover claims embraced in the Convention of 1803, nor those of the treaty of 1819 between the United States and Spain, nor under the treaty of 1831 with France. The bill authorizes the appointment of commissioners for three years at $3,000, and secretary at $2,000; the expenses of the commissioners not to exceed fifty thousand dollars.

Enlistments.

Mr. WILSON called up the House bill to provide for the voluntary enlistment of any persons residents of certain States, into the regiments of other States.

Mr. GRIMES said he desired to put himself on the record against this bill, before the evils which are to flow from it, should it pass, shall be realized. Under this bill States which may not have been successful in filling their quotas could go into States in rebellion and enlist colored men, who had been slaves, to make up their deficiency. To this he had decided objections, and it would render confusion worse confounded, and demoralize our army. Agents will be rushing into those States, and their recruiting will not only be for the present, but for future drafts, and exorbitant prices will be paid for these men.

He made the objection, because there was no doubt the effort would be made here eventually to have the Government assume the burden of all these bounties. We have acknowledged the belligerent rights of the rebels, and if any of these eager agents, recruiting within the enemy's lines, are caught and hung, is the United States to be held responsible? He went on to show how the rich States would procure these recruits by means of their wealth, while the new and poorer States would have no such opportunity. If the troops of Massachusetts, whose terms expire, do not re-enlist, she may go on and fill their places with these colored men, through her agents and money, and thus one State will be represented in the field solely by colored men, bought up to our disadvantage in the rebel States, while we of Iowa and other States are fighting with the best blood our States can furnish.

Mr. SHERMAN said the Senate had failed to draw the distinction between the negro and white troops. If white men are enlisted they enlist into such Northern regiments as they may individually select. There were some objections to the bill even if confined alone to white troops. It would allow agents to go down South to enlist black men as United States troops, and credit them to the deficiency of quotas in the States. He thought this would be injurious to the public service. There was no reason in the world that Northern States should be allowed to send agents to rebellious districts to recruit negroes. Every State should fill up its own quota.

Mr. TRUMBULL thought that the adoption of this bill would have a very bad effect upon the organization of the army. He thought it was a great mistake, originally, in giving the large bounties we had to procure soldiers. We should have secured the soldiers, and made ample provision to provide for their families. He thought this system had gone very far to create the necessity for another draft, besides augmenting a great national, State, and city debt, inflating the currency, and exciting extravagance. The bill would place not only the States in competition with one another, but with the General Government, and by the States paying large bounties, all recruiting by the United States itself would stop. He thought the bill would have a bad effect in every way.

Mr. WILSON said the bill came from the House, having received the support of two to one in that body, among them General Garfield, who declared it the best bill introduced since the war. He pointed out the difference in the seaboard States of filling their quotas as compared with the younger Western States, whose inhabitants were mostly males. He thought the Government did not know how to enlist men. If we authorize the States to raise men they could raise one hundred thousand men quicker than the Government can raise five thousand. He did not believe any confusion would arise thereby. We are supporting the families of thousands of men in the rebel States, and the State agent can enlist these men more rapidly than the Government. When enlisted by the Government, they are put in new regiments, which had been unable so far to make them of any use. The States would take and scatter them into their regiments, rendering them at once effective. If the bill should pass, not many months will elapse before many thousands of men will be put into the service.

The bill went over with the expiration of the morning hour.

The joint resolution to amend the Constitution so as to abolish slavery came up in order, and Mr. HOWE proceeded to address the Senate at length in favor of the measure. He said he had waited for this day, and was glad to see it come. It had been a good while coming but it is here. He had read history rather carelessly, but he had been under the impression that [illegible] have been born by any diligence on the part of [illegible] ancestors under the era in which Christ [illegible] glad to have been born in this day. To-day you propose to summon thirty-six millions of people to give freedom to four millions. Not from such [illegible] our forefathers resisted, but from a worse [illegible] they ever conceived of. He was ambitious [illegible] name to this scheme of freedom. He would [illegible] submit this proposition to the American people [illegible] though he might be disposed, which he was not, to vote against it himself, he thought the [illegible] people should be taken on the subject. Mr. [illegible] to glance at the effects of slavery in the [illegible]. One-fourth of the whole property of the country was in negroes, and yet their profit was [illegible] those who took this property without the consent of the real owner. Without referring to the morals of this act, the system of slavery allows [illegible] one-fourth of the annual profits of [illegible] thought this wrong. As a victim to this [illegible] would think it wrong standing alone [illegible] wrong. Through years past slavery has sent [illegible] up to Him who died eighteen centuries ago [illegible] of men, to stow them over in some remote [illegible] heavenly mansion.

Mr. Howe then proceeded, at great length, [illegible] parison of the great States of the North with the South, attributing the great progress of the [illegible] fact that slavery never existed there. He [illegible] to the various pretexts under which the rebellion [illegible] this guilty strife. He denounced this rebellion [illegible] paralleled in iniquity by any revolution [illegible] of the world. In conclusion, he said it had [illegible] made apparent to him that the present Executive [illegible] exercise of any arbitrary power, had attempted [illegible] vert the will of the people at the ballot-box.

Mr. SAULSBURY of Delaware, called attention [illegible] fact, as published in the papers, that Gen. Wallace [illegible] tended to have voters and candidates questioned [illegible] their loyalty, in the forthcoming Maryland [illegible]. Mr. Saulsbury referred to a recent speech in Baltimore, in which he put certain questions to Mr. Kilbourn [illegible] former member of the Maryland Legislature.

Mr. LANE, of Indiana, defended General W[illegible] and said that no traitor would or ought to be allowed to vote in the forthcoming or any other election.

Mr. SAULSBURY said his point was that a military officer was clothed with no lawful authority to [illegible] with elections.

Mr. JOHNSON said that General Wallace had [illegible] properly written a letter to Governor Bradford [illegible] whether the law authorizes the judges of election [illegible] questions with reference to loyalty, and whether [illegible] could be turned away on account of his answer [illegible] vernor Bradford sent a very specific answer [illegible] firmative, and also stating that the authorities [illegible] land would preserve the peace and purity [illegible] tions. He had no idea that General Wallace [illegible] use military force at the polls, unless in an [illegible] nary emergency.

Mr. FESSENDEN moved to postpone all prior [illegible] and proceed to the naval appropriation bill.

The yeas and nays were demanded, but [illegible] voted the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Resolutions.

The House considered Mr. [illegible]'s resolution calling on the Secretary of War [illegible] patible with the public interest, to furnish the House [illegible] information as to the [illegible] at this time as commutation [illegible] position has been made of the [illegible] been purchased for the draft [illegible] where procured; what [illegible] how many, and whether they were white or [illegible] each.

Mr. STEVENS, of Pennsylvania, moved to lay the resolution on the table. Carried—yeas 6?, nays 4?.

On motion of Mr. ARNOLD, of Illinois, the Secretary of War was called upon, if not incompatible with the public interests, to furnish a statement of the number of men called into military service since [illegible] and the quotas of each State under each call.

The House proceeded to the consideration of the resolution of Mr. BROWN, of Wisconsin, directing the Secretary of War to communicate the number of negro regiments already enlisted, when organized, [illegible] number of privates; the amount paid for bounties [illegible] and equipments, and other expenses of the [illegible] tion; in what battles the negro troops have been engaged, and how many killed and wounded, discriminating between the different battles.

Mr. STEVENS said he was opposed to furnishing [illegible] for the enemy, and there are moved to lay the [illegible] tion on the table. Agreed to—yeas 64, nays 41.

The House next took up Mr. Eldridge's resolution, questioning the President, Secretary of State and [illegible] of War to furnish the number of persons who have been arrested and held for political offences, or any alleged offence against the Government, by order or [illegible] the knowledge of either of them, and whether [illegible] tried or convicted by any civil or criminal court [illegible] with the charges or accusations for such arrest [illegible] prisonment; and the number of prisoners [illegible] whether any persons have been banished from the [illegible] States, etc.

On motion of Mr. ROLLINS, of New Hampshire, the resolution was tabled—yeas 8?, nays ?8.

Monarchy in Mexico.

Mr. DAVIS, of Maryland, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported the following [illegible]

Resolved, By the Senate and House of Representatives, in Congress assembled, That the Congress of the United States are unwilling, by silence, to leave the nations of the world under the impression that they are indifferent spectators of the deplorable events transpiring in the Republic of Mexico; therefore, they think it fit to declare that it does not accord with the views of the United States to acknowledge a monarchical government erected on the ruins of any Republican Government in America, under the auspices of any European Power.

Mr. BROOKS, of New York, said if it be [illegible] paper fulmination I do not object, but [illegible] tion only to burst in the House, what [illegible] Is anything to be done with it?

Mr. DAVIS, of Maryland, replied that whether [illegible] mere paper fulmination or not depends upon whether Congress will adopt it, and whether [illegible] represent the opinion of the [illegible]. The resolution is simply a declaration of [illegible] should be touching our interests very [illegible] it is not a subject any one wishes to discuss [illegible] move the previous question.

Mr. COX, of Ohio, said the resolution had [illegible] concurrence in the committee, but he [illegible] should have been more emphatic [illegible] been passed before. It will be looked upon [illegible] *mere brutum fulmen*, unless backed by arms. Are we ready for that? Mere paper resolutions [illegible] statesmanship has failed in its duty. Perhaps [illegible] for neglecting Mexico attaches somewhat to [illegible] administration of Buchanan—certainly [illegible] McLane treaty should have been pressed [illegible] pressed, when too late, and beaten by New [illegible] Senators, aided by Southern Secessionists [illegible] have given us, not annexation, but a firm alliance [illegible] Mexico, aiding our commerce, and in time [illegible] schemes which France began in 1860 to [illegible] Mexico. The old Democratic policy of defiance [illegible] dictation was the policy for this emergency [illegible] favored this resolution. He only wished that [illegible] so framed and so backed up as to prevent [illegible] the Arch-dupe of Napoleon, Maximilian, [illegible] ment on this continent.

Mr. DAVIS, of Maryland, was very sorry [illegible] man from Ohio had thought it necessary [illegible] argument against the resolution.

Mr. COX replied he did not make an argument [illegible] it. He would vote for it, but he wanted the language [illegible] be more emphatic.

Mr. DAVIS, of Maryland, said he did not [illegible] the language could be more emphatic for [illegible] declared that a monarchical government will [illegible] cognized by us. He did not know whether [illegible] coming at this time to say what we will do, [illegible] we mean to resist, by force of arms, the [illegible] blishment of a monarchy in Mexico. When [illegible] man referred to the Democratic policy in regard [illegible] on this continent, he begged to remind him [illegible] France and England more than once jointly [illegible] in the affairs of the South American republics [illegible] was a protest against it by the Government [illegible] States he did not remember ever seeing it, [illegible] ly there was no armed protest on our part [illegible] cratic policy with regard to our [illegible] the tendency rather that Mexico should ultimately [illegible] annexed to the South.

Mr. COX hoped the gentleman would not forget the treaty of McLane of Maryland, was not [illegible] annexation, but to transfer five millions [illegible] tually to our own country. That treaty [illegible] been ratified. It was, he repeated, [illegible] England Senators with Southern Secessionists [illegible] body of the Democratic party and [illegible] otherwise favored that treaty, and [illegible] credit should be given to them.

Mr. DAVIS replied that he supposed McLane's [illegible] was the precursor of the present [illegible] ciation was, that when we permitted them [illegible] it to part from this Government, the Mexican [illegible] expand their territory. The treaty [illegible] the privilege of intermeddling [illegible] our Government, at any time [illegible] secured to us. If his friend had [illegible] that the Corwin treaty was not ratified [illegible] been a different view of the question.

That treaty granted preliminary [illegible] would probably have prevented Europe [illegible] The time, however, had passed to [illegible] going on. We now wish to declare [illegible] Power planting its foot on American [illegible] ing at empire, either under an [illegible] Hapsburg or some scion of the family [illegible] He wished the world to hear [illegible] that the erection of a monarchy [illegible] recognized by the people of the United [illegible] consequences rest with the future.

The resolution was then unanimously [illegible] 109, nays none.

Mr. MORRIS, of Ohio, offered a resolution [illegible] forth that

Whereas, George Thompson, of England, [illegible] 1834, declares that the dissolution [illegible] be kept steadily in view; therefore [illegible]

Resolved, That the resolution [illegible] ing the use of this hall to the said [illegible] the evening of the 6th of April, is [illegible] Objection being made.

Mr. MORRIS moved a suspension of [illegible] was decided in the negative by 44 against [illegible] solution was not considered.

The National Bank Bill.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole on the State of the Union, Mr. Rollins, of New Hampshire, in the chair, and resumed consideration of the National Bank bill.

Mr. ELIJAH WARD, of New York, offered an amendment, the object of which was that the State banks when their organization under this act is completed shall withdraw their State bank circulation. He expressed the hope that Congress would see the necessity of diminishing an already largely-inflated currency. We were preparing a debt against which we ought to [illegible] such a course as would prevent repudiation. In the course of his remarks he said the national currency had been variously estimated at from [illegible] $779,000,000, but he placed it at $825,000,000 [illegible] the various evidences of debt passing as money adding to this the $167,000,000 of State bank circulation there was an aggregate of $992,000,000 besides $200,000,000 under this act. He instituted a comparison between the present bank circulation, capital, &c., for the purpose of showing that the increase was at least eleven hundred and ninety-seven millions capital, and the bank circulation $467,000,000 and discounts, at the present ratio, of two thousand millions.

The amendment was rejected.

Mr. BLAINE, of Maine, offered a new section [illegible] seven per cent., as fixed under the third section of this bill, shall be deemed the lawful rate of interest in States where no rate is established, but each bank shall be governed by the State law where it is located. He made a few explanatory remarks, when the amendment was adopted, by 69 against 21.

Mr. VAN VALKENBURG offered an amendment that nothing in this act shall prevent the States from taxing the capital stock of said banks the same as for county, State, or municipal purposes.

Mr. HOLMAN adverted to this as right, for [illegible] should not be relieved from the taxes imposed by the people of the United States. He hoped the House would never consent to the passage of this [illegible]

Mr. STROUSE, of Pennsylvania, argued against exempting such large amounts from taxation and the modern Shylocks to go free.

Mr. VAN VALKENBURG'S amendment was amended so that no State shall impose any higher tax [illegible] imposed on the same amount of moneyed capital by individual citizens of such State.

Mr. DAVIS, of Maryland, offered a further amendment exempting money invested in United States bonds from taxation.

The question of the propriety and justice of [illegible] or municipal taxation was considered and discussed at length.

Without concluding the subject, the committee rose, and at half past four o'clock the House adjourned.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

HARRISBURG, April 4.

SENATE.

The Senate met at 7½ o'clock P. M.

The following petitions were presented:

Mr. CONNELL, from citizens residing on [illegible], favoring a city railroad on that thoroughfare.

Mr. KINSEY, one of like import.

Mr. CONNELL, a petition from David P[illegible] and others, for restoring the arbitration law, [illegible] remonstrance against the Front-street Railroad.

The following bills were introduced:

Mr. RIDGWAY, incorporating the Honeybrook [illegible] road. Also, supplement to the Pioneer Shaft [illegible]

Mr. CONNELL, incorporating Moshannon [illegible] pany.

Mr. WORTHINGTON, relative to the Lewis[illegible] wine Railroad.

Mr. WALLACE, for more secure enjoyment [illegible]

Mr. HOPKINS offered a resolution requesting the Governor to inform the Senate of the number [illegible] in the Military Department at Harrisburg [illegible] compensation, and how many could be dispensed [illegible] Laid over.

Mr. CHAMPNEYS offered resolutions of respect for the late librarian of the Senate, Wm. P. Brady, a gallant soldier [illegible] which was unanimously adopted. Adjourned.

HOUSE.

The House met at 3 o'clock P. M.

Mr. LEE offered a resolution requesting the Attorney General to furnish the House with his opinion of the constitutional right of the Legislature prior to the adoption of amendments to the Constitution regulating the manner in which soldiers [illegible] in case they are adopted. This resolution [illegible]

Mr. SEAWRIGHT offered a resolution [illegible] opening of this House, the recent conduct of a Massachusetts military officer, in Philadelphia, [illegible] and producing the destruction of the property of a citizen of Pennsylvania, and the arrest of [illegible] of the owner, was a violation of law, and [illegible] the sovereignty of Pennsylvania, and [illegible] of the Governor to demand an explanation [illegible] tion of the injury. This resolution [illegible] nces 33.

The following bills were introduced:

Mr. SARGENT, a supplement to the New [illegible] Franklin Railroad.

The following petitions were presented:

[illegible] KEARS, SMITH, of Philadelphia, [illegible] SON and LEE, in favor of the navy yard [illegible]

Mr. KERNS against the same.

Mr. LEE, a petition of citizens of Philadelphia and Montgomery counties, for the repeal [illegible] ford and Southwark Railroad charter, [illegible] the use of steam on the northern end of [illegible]

The following bills were introduced:

Mr. McMANUS, incorporating the [illegible] turing Company.

Mr. MILLER, vacating Hamilton street [illegible]

Mr. WIMLEY, incorporating the Con[illegible] Company. Adjourned.

LARGE POSITIVE SALE OF BOOTS, SHOES, [illegible] GOODS, CAPS, &c.—The early attention [illegible] is requested to the large and desirable [illegible] boots, shoes, army goods, caps, trunks, [illegible] bracing samples of 1,100 packages [illegible] first class goods, (with a stock of [illegible]) peremptorily sold by catalogue, on four [illegible] commencing this morning, at ten o'clock, [illegible] by John B. Myers & Co., auctioneers, [illegible] 234 Market street.