The Press.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 15, 1865.

ANTI-SLAVERY PROGRESS.

The best news lately received from Europe was that which we published yesterday, to the effect that King LOUIS of Portugal, when closing the Cortes, promised a strict law for the final abolition of negro slavery within his dominions. This actually means in his colonial possessions—in the Cape de Verd Islands, Madeira and St. Thomas; in the Azores; in Senegal, Angola, Guinea, and Mozambique; in the East Indies; in the Indian Archipelago, and at Macao, in China. The whole of this colonial population exceeds three millions and a half. We have no doubt that the recent abolition of slavery in this country has acted as a strong inducement to the performance, however tardily, of this act of justice and humanity.

It is fitting, indeed, that the country by which Negro Slavery was commenced should finally abandon and surrender it. From the time of MOHAMMED black slaves have been held in parts of Africa and Asia. Early in the fifteenth century one of the princes of Portugal personally gave an impetus to maritime discovery, which eventuated in the researches of COLUMBUS, on the then almost "unpathed waters" of the Atlantic. The exchange by four Moorish prisoners for twelve black slaves from Africa, in the year 1442, led to the commencement of the slave trade, by a company of adventurers, under royal patronage, a little later. But, though the trade flourished at first, it gradually declined. The discovery of America, in 1492, at which time there were only about 300 slaves annually brought into Portugal, made the trade popular and profitable. COLUMBUS himself had been engaged in it before he went upon his adventurous voyages, and recommended the Spanish sovereigns, FERDINAND and ISABELLA, to traffic in Indians, as the inhabitants of the newly-discovered continent were called; and, curiously enough, it was found that domestic slavery was one of the original "institutions" of Peru, while, in Mexico, the law was, the children of slaves were free born. Negroes were largely imported into the Spanish colonies, because they could perform hard work, to which the less sturdy Indians were unequal. One negro was equal, in market value, to four Indians. It is not necessary to mention how Negro Slavery spread from South to North America. English traders went largely into the trade—but the first slaves actually imported and purchased in this country was a small lot of twenty, brought to Jamestown, Virginia, in a Dutch vessel. The trade, however, was largely English, and Queen ELIZABETH shared profits with the first party who engaged in it; while the last two of the race of STUART monarchy, (CHARLES II. and JAMES II.,) were members of one of the four English companies established for carrying on the African slave trade. Some of the colonies remonstrated against it, but it was supported by England. The first abolition movement was made about the time when the Declaration of Independence was drawn up and signed.

Our Continental Congress resolved, in 1776, that the importation of slaves should cease; but, in 1788, this was taken back and the year 1808 fixed as the period when it must terminate. We need not here repeat the particulars of the battle which has been carried on among ourselves, during the last fifty years, to abolish slavery—which was finally done during the Presidency of MR. LINCOLN. It may not be without interest, however, to give the dates of its abolition elsewhere.

In England, the trade was LONG considered as legitimate as it was profitable, and Liverpool was literally raised by it from a small fishing village to a great seaport. It is recorded that, on one occasion, the erratic actor, GEORGE FREDERICK COOKE, having taken a benefit in the theatre at Liverpool, was tardy in complying with a call from "the gods in the gallery," to acknowledge their patronage by a speech. The ruling error of this great actor's life was his proclivity for wine, and he was under its excciting effects when he was informed by the alarmed manager that, if he did not appear before the curtain, dissatisfaction would speedily ripen into riot, in which case the theatre would probably be pulled about his ears, and his own life endangered. COOKE presented himself to the audience, and showed that he desired to speak. Attentive silence was the instant result. Glancing keenly around the house, he began; but, instead of the address of personal thanks which his patrons expected, he said, in his clearest tone and most impressive manner, "Men of Liverpool! I am ashamed to play here, for hire. Ashamed, because there is not a brick in your town that has not been cemented with the blood of an African!" The words were heard in silence, and COOKE was allowed to depart, unmolested. There was so much truth in his brief but sharp reproach, that no man could answer it. About that very time, MR. GLADSTONE's father had several ships in the slave trade, in which he was largely and profitably concerned.

The first step in the British Parliament for the abolition of the Slave trade was taken in 1788, when a petition, signed by Quakers, was presented. PITT and FOX, the great political rivals, soon joined the abolition movement. Effort after effort, succeeding in one House and failing in the other, was almost annually made. At last, when FOX was last in office, in 1806, the Government brought on abolition as their own measure, and it was passed, in 1807, after the death of FOX. Still, this only abolished the slave *trade*. Steps were then taken, the movement being still headed by WILBERFORCE and CLARKSON, to mitigate and abolish Slavery itself; and, in 1833, this was done, by act of Parliament, $100,000,000 being paid, as compensation to the slave-owners, out of the public treasury. This Emancipation virtually took place on August 1, 1834. France, which was interested in the slave-trade, abolished it in 1791, but NAPOLEON restored it, and again abolished it in 1815; it was re-enacted by LOUIS XVIII. in that same year, but wholly ceased in 1820. The property in slaves in the French colonies was abolished early in 1848, after LOUIS PHILIPPE was deposed. In the Netherlands it was abolished in 1818; in Sweden, in 1846–7; in Denmark, in 1848; in Holland, in 1860. Spain promised, in 1814, that she would abolish slavery in 1820. She kept her word as badly as Brazil, which passed a law against it in 1826, but still continues it. Portugal, which had not given any pledge upon the subject, now volunteers, using her King as the medium for announcing it, that the accursed system shall cease, forever, under her flag.

Spain and Brazil, therefore, are the only countries, claiming to be civilized, which continue legal protection to "property" in human flesh and blood, by their citizens held in bondage. It is impossible that this can continue much longer. The rulers of these countries are professedly Christians, and holding kidnapped human beings in perpetual and oftentimes most cruel slavery is not to be reconciled—whatever Bishop HOPKINS may pretend—with the mild tenets of the Gospel of the Saviour. Indeed, it is now stated that Spain and Brazil have resolved to abolish slavery.

EMANCIPATION IN BRAZIL.

The example of the United States in abolishing slavery will doubtless strengthen the emancipation feeling in Brazil. It is estimated that about three millions of slaves are held in that country. They are not confined to one section, but distributed through every part of the empire, and form about one-third of the entire population. No political barrier between white and black freemen exists, and there is, comparatively, little social antagonism between the races. Emancipation, therefore, involves none of the peculiar difficulties that have attended it here. When the shackles are stricken off the bondsmen, they become at once the peers of their fellow-men, and no subsequent struggle about slave codes or negro suffrage is necessary to ensure their perfect freedom. The Brazilian champions of emancipation advocate gradual, instead of immediate action, and they expect to secure the co-operation and support of many of the slaveholders instead of their hostility. A few months ago a leading Brazil statesman, Viscount JEQUITINHONHA, introduced into the Senate a bill, substantially providing that all slaves shall acquire their freedom upon the death of their present owners; that in ten years all slaves over twenty-five years of age shall be declared free; and that in fifteen years all slavery shall be abolished, except in cases that are to remain under the special control of the government. It is not expected that this important proposition will be adopted at once. But its agitation has fairly commenced, and "freedom's struggle, once begun, though baffled oft, is ever won." The downfall of slavery in our country will necessarily hasten its extinction in the only two remaining Christian countries that sanction it; and by the close of the century it is probable that it will be tolerated only by heathens and Mohammedans.

THERE is only one historic incident bearing any similarity to the recent enfranchisement of the slaves by the American Government, and that has but a superficial resemblance. In Russia the serfs were liberated by the act of the superior race—that is, liberty was bestowed upon them, not won by their own endeavors. But here all resemblance ceases; for, as is uniformly the case in monarchical governments, there exists an antagonism between the sovereign and the nobility. The sovereign fears their power and is jealous of their influence, and seeks to diminish it by granting privileges to the lower classes, thereby strengthening himself in his opposition to his nobles. In England and France, the strong and vigorous middle classes frequently found the king their friend in their conflicts with the aristocracy, and for this special cause. Naturally, a king, above all competition, and fearing no infringement of his rights or honors, can freely espouse the cause of the lower ranks of his people, and strive to ameliorate their condition and elevate their position, either from selfish or benevolent considerations, while the nobility dread every innovation in established order as the precursor of injury to themselves.

THE KENTUCKY ELECTION has probably resulted in the choice of five Union and four Democratic or Conservative members of Congress. The State Senate, it is supposed, will contain a majority of Democratic, and the House of Union members. The real issue is upon the slavery question, parties having divided without much reference to ancient affiliations on the issue of emancipation. Although the anti-slavery men have not gained a sweeping victory, they have approximated so nearly to it, and made such an impressive demonstration of strength against old pro-slavery laws and sentiments, that their final and conclusive triumph can at the worst only be postponed, not prevented.

THE ANNUAL manufacture of strong liquors in this country is estimated at from 80,000,000 to 100,000,000 gallons; and if the excise duty of $2 per gallon was, in all instances, honestly paid, a revenue of from $160,000,000 to $200,000,000 would be derived from this source alone. But the law has been systematically evaded and violated on a large scale, the amount of tax received by the Government during the last year being only a few millions of dollars. We see by the Chicago *Republican* that a sweeping raid has been made upon the distillers of the Northwest, and many heavy penalties exacted. As the people and Government are both swindled by false returns, for the benefit of manufacturers and dealers, it is to be hoped that the law will be rigidly enforced hereafter, and that the burdens of the nation will thus be materially reduced. The *Republican* gives a long description of the frauds that have been perpetrated. They are accomplished by false oaths, by illicit distillation, by collusion with officers, and by smuggling from Canada. The Irish system of manufacturing "potteen" has been extensively imitated, but the large establishments have perpetrated swindling operations on a gigantic scale. Against one distiller a Government forfeiture of the immense sum of $643,320 is claimed, and in several other cases more than $100,000 are alleged to be due.

AMID the discouragements that attend the progress of reorganization in the South, one cheering fact is constantly perceptible. Talented and eloquent men, and well-conducted journals in every quarter are constantly advocating free labor, and demonstrating that it will be found more profitable, as well as infinitely more just and agreeable than the old system. This fact, insignificant as it may appear, is a great gain on the old order of things. The people are not only forced by necessity to dispense with slavery, but their reason is constantly being addressed by men in whom they have more or less confidence, with arguments and appeals in favor of the advantages of the new system. Surely, on such a theme, earnest discussion and experience should eventually secure a mental and moral, as well as a physical triumph for the right, and satisfy even the most prejudiced and stubborn of the old slaveholders, that emancipation, rightly regarded and improved, may become a boon to the master and the poor white man, as well as to the slave.

WHILE FRANCE has been endeavoring to establish and maintain MAXIMILIAN upon the throne of Mexico, Spain has been aiming at the permanent conquest of St. Domingo; but the determined valor of the citizens of the Dominican Government finally compelled the withdrawal from their island of the Spanish invaders. The victors claim that they have successfully vindicated the Monroe doctrine, and look to America for sympathy as a partial reward for their heroism. Betrayed at the outset by leaders who sold their forts and strongholds to the enemy, they soon recovered from the first blow of treachery, and, after a bitter and protracted conflict, obtained a treaty that substantially embraces the following terms, viz:

First. That the troops of Spain should evacuate the Dominican forts and territory, and that all acts of hostility should mutually cease.

Second. That in consequence of this evacuation peace should be established between the two countries on terms compatible with the honor of both parties.

Third. That all questions arising out of the late events should be afterwards settled by special commissioners, to meet either at Madrid or St. Domingo for that purpose.

Fourth. If so mutually agreed, the original treaty of amity, commerce, &c., made in 1855, between Spain and the Dominican Republic, to be declared in full force.

Fifth. Dominicans, who had been taken into the military service of Spain, to be amnestied for leaving the same, and *vice versa*.

Sixth. A mutual exchange of military and political prisoners of war.

Seventh. The amount of arms and munitions of war received by Spain on taking possession of the Dominican forts to be left in them, and also the national edifices and archives to be turned over in their existing condition.

Eighth. That the final delivery of the fortified city of St. Domingo to the native authorities should be effected with due international courtesies, both parties taking steps to preserve perfect order and tranquillity.

CORRECTION.—In "Occasional's" letter yesterday, a typographical error occurred in the following sentence: "I can easily understand why a newspaper, which grew old and crabbed and suspicious, in *assisting* the Democracy in its best days—the days of Jackson more especially," etc. For *assisting* read *resisting*.

Personal.

We learn that Captain Thomas C. Williams, of the 19th United States Infantry, and late aide on General Rosseau's staff, has been appointed Provost Marshal General of the department under General Stoneman. Captain Williams will make his headquarters at Knoxville, for which place he will leave in a few days, with his lovely and accomplished young bride. We commend them cordially to the good offices and tender care of our Knoxville friends.

Since the above was written we are pleased to learn that Captain Williams has been promoted to a colonelcy in the regular army, for meritorious conduct. We congratulate the Colonel upon his promotion, so well deserved. The people generally, with whom the Colonel has had wide and varied communication, will be glad to learn of his promotion.—*Nashville paper.*

[Lieutenant Colonel Williams referred to, is the eldest son of Captain S. S. Williams, Superintendent of Adams Express Company, of this city.—ED. PRESS.]

—Paul Morphy, the champion chess player, is in New York.

African Peonage.

To the Editor of the Press:

SIR: It is not enough that the Southern States should agree to no slavery in its old forms. The shrewdest of their slave-owners have long been anxious to give that up for another (and worse) more profitable to the planter.

They have long since seen that he who was compelled to feed, clothe, nurse, and doctor all those who are too young, too feeble, too sick, and too old to work, as well as the laborers themselves, was paying a round price for his labor done, and have been anxious to exchange it for another system, free from these heavy drawbacks.

It is a fact that no country but one of limitless fertility, whose products are of world-wide demand and limited growth, can support the slave system, unless it be in breeding regions. The extreme Southern States have been able to get rich under such a system; but it was only because of their great fertility and peculiar products; and they have not been day to see that there might be another far more advantageous to their interests adopted by them.

But they hesitated in its adoption because the reprobation of the world would have fallen upon them with crushing effect. But now this old plot is being revived, and the Southern leaders look upon this as a propitious time to lay the foundations of its eventual adoption. They think the work half done already to their hands; and so it is, unless guarded against.

The plot now is, if compelled to do so, to acknowledge involuntary servitude ended—slavery dead, but to keep the old slave material still in ignorance and degradation, as timber for the new system.

The States are to pass laws providing—first, that the blacks (or poor whites, if they will) may contract debts upon *personal* security—that is, secured by a mortgage of the labor of the debtor. This makes a slave till the original debt is paid, and until all subsequent indebtedness is paid also. And, second, that the personal services of a debtor may be levied upon, set up at auction, and sold upon the block, by the creditor, in payment of his claim. As this would devolve upon the buyer risks of sickness, nursing, and death of the debtor, as well as the feeding and clothing him, the bids would be so small that a small debt would, of necessity, consign the poor debtor to a long slavery; and then, add to this the debtor's liability to be continued on after its expiration, for the payment upon the same terms, of any debts contracted after the first judgment, and the chances would be that to one that a debtor, whose services are once sold, is *himself* forever sold, as the real, though not nominal, slave of his creditor.

The Southern planter reasons thus: There is not one ignorant negro in a thousand, especially having a family, that would not, if he could, run into debt, nor that, when once in debt, would not keep so. Give us the right to sell his services to pay his debts, and he is a slave thenceforth forever. But should he get disabled, become permanently an invalid, or grow old and useless upon our hands, why then we can show our generosity by remitting the balance of the debt and turning him loose again. It relieves us of the care of the young and sick, and old, and of all the expenses of clothing and feeding them also. Beside, the world can find no fault with us; for, though slavery in fact, it is not in name; nor is it involuntary; for since every man knows when he contracts a debt that he may be sold for it, it is a part of the contract, and so wholly voluntary and according to agreement. Besides, you know it is not selling the man, it is only selling his services; and if we have to take the body to get the services, that is only incidental, and can't be helped. By this arrangement every child is born free, and if he can't remain so, whose fault is it? And if the system turns off the old and the sick to suffer or starve, what of that? Are we to blame for men's running into debt when they are young and starving when they are old?

Now this is exactly the system certainly to be inaugurated throughout the cotton States, provided Congress is fooled into the error of receiving their representatives, and starting up the machinery of State Government before the future condition of the negro is forever fixed. And it is a system compared with which slavery, as it has heretofore existed with all its horrors and enormities, is clear as fresh dew, and pure as light. A system against which let the American people be thoroughly warned and forever arrayed.

It is a system so full of wickedness, that the South has *so far* hesitated in its adoption—not because it was too awful for the world's contemplation; because they did not dare deliberately to turn out their old and sick slaves to die being already bound to care for them.

But now their theory is that the abolition of slavery has relieved them of all responsibilities of that kind, and that the old and sick being thus off their hands, they are at liberty to disregard them, and deal only with the well and hearty, and their own interests through them.

Let me assure the American people that this is no false alarm. This very system of peonage has long been under Southern discussion. It would be vastly more profitable to the planter, and a thousand times more dreadful to the negro than slavery ever has been.

Now, in good but quiet manner, the Southern leaders are laying their plans for its adoption; and five years hence will find it in full operation, unless prevented by the stern and wholesome action of the Government.

But what is the antidote? Simply this. Let no State return until its slave code is abolished, the Constitutional amendment agreed to, and its own Constitution altered, forever discarding all species of peonage, and securing an education to all classes, both white and black; and containing a provision against any change in these respects for twenty years to come. By that time, the negro being both free and educated, can take care of his own interests.

GLOVER.

A Shameful Affair.

[From the Harrisburg Telegraph of Saturday.]

We have already announced the fact that an unfortunate wretch, named David Gregory, had been convicted and would be hanged in Philadelphia yesterday. Since then, for good and valid reasons, the Governor had extended the time for his execution until the 22d of September. In calling our attention to this case, we are reminded of certain facts connected with an effort to procure a pardon for the unfortunate man, an account of which cannot fail to fill every honest man with disgust and fear at the corrupt tendencies of the times. Gregory is a poor and a large family of small children. His mother is also still living, represented as a most respectable, hard-working lady, who, by her own industry and thrift, gathered a sufficient sum of money to render her independent of the world. Of course, this distressed mother and of her son overwhelmed her with grief, and she was ready to make every effort and sacrifice in her power for his rescue from the gallows. Observing her sorrow, and knowing the amount of her pecuniary possessions, a party of unmitigated scoundrels in the city of Philadelphia combined systematically to rob this afflicted mother. These men are utterly without character, never had either personal, political, official influence or influence with the Governor, and could not possibly sway His Excellency in regard to the case. And yet they represented to the mother of Gregory that they could get a pardon, while the unfortunate wretch under sentence of death was induced to believe that a certain sum of money was raised, he could be rescued from the gallows. Under these circumstances, the widowed, afflicted, and aged mother, converted the accumulations of a life of trial into money, willingly and lovingly placed it in the hands of the villains who had deceived and rob her, and by this time she knows that she has been duped. By this time, besides her sore affliction, the heart-broken old woman knows that she is as poor as a beggar, having been made such by the connivance of a band of Philadelphia rascals. We doubt if the annals of crime contain anything equal to this case in black-hearted villainy!

In this manner the Executive and Legislative authorities of every State are disgraced. Combinations of rascals are formed who lead the people to believe that certain legislation can only be had by corrupting Legislative bodies with money. On these representations money is freely given, when the fact is that the very scoundrels who could have been transacted without the expenditure of a dollar by the parties directly interested. We hold a case in point occurred in the Legislature last winter, when parties were induced to believe that for legislation, which was just and could have been quietly had, it would be necessary to "pay" liberally; but the fraud was detected before the robbery was effected. But this last case exceeds anything in the history of the State, and we trust the parties engaged may be severely punished.

CAPTURE OF A PROFESSIONAL HIGHWAYMAN AND BURGLAR IN CINCINNATI—A DESPERATE STRUGGLE IN THE DARK.—The Cincinnati *Commercial* of the 12th has the following:

Some time since a couple of the night police made some expressive remarks upon character under very suspicious circumstances. As nothing could be proven against him he was set at liberty—very unfortunately, as the sequel shows. At about three o'clock of yesterday morning, the same fellow, who is nothing more nor less than a professional burglar and highwayman of the most desperate character, came across a citizen named John P. Gortland, who, laboring under the soothing effects of heavy midnight potations, had fallen asleep on the doorstep of his residence, on the south side of Fifth street, between Vine and Race streets. The night-prowler, or "crossman" searched the sleeper, and took from him a watch valued at sixty dollars, and proceeded westward, probably to carry on a piece of burglary already matured. At any rate, it happened that at about four o'clock, of yesterday morning, the same individual, after making his way over sheds and out-houses, effected an entrance into one of the rear-rooms of Mrs. McGee's boarding-house, on Seventh street between Central avenue and John. The gas, burning dimly in the room, disclosed to him the form of Robert McGee, a son of the landlady, who had made a bed for himself on the floor, and was sleeping there. Awakened by the noise of the burglar, the young man discovered a man just applying his fingers to the burner. Thinking it was some person belonging to the house, he was about to go to sleep again, when the light was suddenly turned out. Immediately suspecting the nature of the affair, he sprang up and grappled with the rascal there, in the darkness, calling loudly for help. A young man named George A. McIntosh, awakened by the noise of the struggle, rushed into the room, and, together, the two young men endeavored to capture the burglar. But the ruffian struggled stoutly with them both, and finally, drawing a sharp knife, stabbed and cut them both in several places, compelling them to give up the struggle. The intruder then sprang through the window, and was making his escape, when he was fired at by a citizen. He escaped the shot, only to become a prisoner to Officer Antram, who had managed to come up with him, and, with cocked revolver, menaced him in the manner aforesaid, persuade him to drop his knife and surrender. He was then taken to the Hammond-street station, where Lieutenant Heffernan found on his person the silver watch identified by Gortland. In the Police Court, yesterday, the desperado, who gives his name as Charles Nagle, was held for trial before the Court of Common Pleas, on the charges of highway robbery and cutting with intent to kill.

—Robert E. Lee, late General in the late rebel army, was on Friday last tendered the Presidency of Washington College, Lexington, Va., by the trustees of that institution.

Gossip about the New York Newspapers.

THE MEN WHO MANAGE AND EDIT THEM—A CHARACTERISTIC LETTER FROM HORACE GREELEY.

Agate (Mr. Reid,) of the Cincinnati *Gazette*, writes the following gossip to that journal about the New York newspapers:

Articles are going the round of the newspaper press to the effect that Horace Greeley has ceased to have any control of the *Tribune*, and some accounts go so far as to state that he has no connection with that journal. There is not a word of truth in those reports. Mr. Greeley is not only the editor-in-chief still, but he does not write less than two columns for every issue of the paper, unless he happens to be out of town. At the last meeting of the stockholders of the *Tribune*, his salary, to whose advance he has always been opposed, was raised from $5,000 to $7,500 per annum, in spite of his protestations against it.

Speaking of journalistic salaries, they are far lower here than any one would suppose, when the expenses of living are taken into consideration. They are higher than they are in the West, but the facilities and necessities of pecuniary outlay here are much larger, and the natural though fallacious idea is that men connected with the Metropolitan press have particular capacity which ought to command elevated figures. Newspaper writers are paid in New York according to their ability rather than their position. For instance, Mr. Frederick Hudson, of the *Herald*, has long received $10,000 per annum, which he richly earns; and yet the same paper employs reporters who do not get more than ten dollars per week. Indeed, some of the reporters for the evening papers are employed as low as seven and eight dollars per week, although they generally do work for the morning papers, which enables them to live.

The general salaries for good reporters are from twenty to twenty-five dollars per week; for city and sub-editors, and musical and dramatical critics, thirty to forty dollars, and beyond that there is no regular gradation or special limit. At these figures the city journalists are rarely enabled to make both ends meet, and are compelled to eke out one of the weeklies or correspond for the provincial press, or write for the magazines or theatres, or perform some literary labor outside of their regular duties.

The following characteristic letter, written to Mr. Reid, has also been published:

NEW YORK, August 4.

FRIEND REID: Thank you for yours of 3d. Your inquiries are laughable. The facts are these:

We elect an editor of the *Tribune* annually by a stock vote (one hundred shares one vote each). We have many millions of votes were cast against me for editor—none before nor since.

I have never heard that any stockholder desired my withdrawal from the *Tribune*.

I mean to reduce my work on it at the earliest moment, and have so stated to all who have a right to know. I am overwhelmed with labor. My health is not what it was and must be improved. My ideas to get somebody else to take the laboring oar, receive the kicks and cuffs, and let me farm a little, travel a little, fish some, and write when in spirit, fitch my long dream. I hope to realize at least a part of it during the year 1866; but I may not till some time later. You know how circumstances control everything.

At present I am writing about an average of two columns per day for the *Tribune*—too much; I mean to reduce it whenever I can.

That's all I know about the matter. Perhaps they know more at the *Herald* office.

Yours, HORACE GREELEY.

P.S.—Vol. I. Tribune, does not get on so fast as it should. I have too much other work, a very sick wife, and am not very well myself; and the weather is good for corn and turnips, but bad for history. I hope for improvement in many if not in most respects.

Yours, HORACE GREELEY.

A BRITISH STUMP SPEECH.—The English newspapers are in the habit of making merry over the speeches of our stump orators. We do not believe they can match one wild flight made on a late occasion by a Mr. Buffington in a speech to the electors of Berkshire, in the late canvass, as reported in their own newspapers:

Gentlemen, I am in favor of the Government that has served the country for the last six years, and I am *at* opinion—I am of opinion—should be upheld. [Here he stopped, and looked steadily into his hat, and it being observed he was endeavoring to read something, a voice cried out: "You have got more in your hat than you have in your head, guv'nor." The conservatives have been opposed for six years to everything which has been for the public good. The voice: Why, what's the first thing I fetch it out of your hat," followed by roars of laughter.] Here it is. [The noble candidate, taking a piece of paper out of his hat, held it up, which was followed by roars of laughter.] It's all very fine; if you think it's an easy thing, you had better try. [Roars of laughter.] At all events, they maintained peace; but if they had had it their own way this inestimable blessing would have been sacrificed, and—and [A voice, "Oh, do help the poor young man, pray;" roars of laughter]—at all events, they maintained peace. As to America, which let the American people be thoroughly warned and forever arrayed.

It is a system so full of wickedness, that the South has *so far* hesitated in its adoption—not because it was too wicked for them, but because it was too awful for the world's contemplation; because they did not dare deliberately to turn out their old and sick slaves to die being already bound to care for them.

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GLOVER.

AMID the discouragements that attend the progress of reorganization in the South, one cheering fact is constantly perceptible. Talented and eloquent men, and well-conducted journals in every quarter are constantly advocating free labor, and demonstrating that it will be found more profitable, as well as infinitely more just and agreeable than the old system. This fact, insignificant as it may appear, is a great gain on the old order of things. The people are not only forced by necessity to dispense with slavery, but their reason is constantly being addressed by men in whom they have more or less confidence, with arguments and appeals in favor of the advantages of the new system. Surely, on such a theme, earnest discussion and experience should eventually secure a mental and moral, as well as a physical triumph for the right, and satisfy even the most prejudiced and stubborn of the old slaveholders, that emancipation, rightly regarded and improved, may become a boon to the master and the poor white man, as well as to the slave.

WHILE FRANCE has been endeavoring to establish and maintain MAXIMILIAN upon the throne of Mexico, Spain has been aiming at the permanent conquest of St. Domingo; but the determined valor of the citizens of the Dominican Government finally compelled the withdrawal from their island of the Spanish invaders. The victors claim that they have successfully vindicated the Monroe doctrine, and look to America for sympathy as a partial reward for their heroism. Betrayed at the outset by leaders who sold their forts and strongholds to the enemy, they soon recovered from the first blow of treachery, and, after a bitter and protracted conflict, obtained a treaty that substantially embraces the following terms, viz:

First. That the troops of Spain should evacuate the Dominican forts and territory, and that all acts of hostility should mutually cease.

Second. That in consequence of this evacuation peace should be established between the two countries on terms compatible with the honor of both parties.

Third. That all questions arising out of the late events should be afterwards settled by special commissioners, to meet either at Madrid or St. Domingo for that purpose.

Fourth. If so mutually agreed, the original treaty of amity, commerce, &c., made in 1855, between Spain and the Dominican Republic, to be declared in full force.

Fifth. Dominicans, who had been taken into the military service of Spain, to be amnestied for leaving the same, and *vice versa*.

Sixth. A mutual exchange of military and political prisoners of war.

Seventh. The amount of arms and munitions of war received by Spain on taking possession of the Dominican forts to be left in them, and also the national edifices and archives to be turned over in their existing condition.

Eighth. That the final delivery of the fortified city of St. Domingo to the native authorities should be effected with due international courtesies, both parties taking steps to preserve perfect order and tranquillity.

CORRECTION.—In "Occasional's" letter yesterday, a typographical error occurred in the following sentence: "I can easily understand why a newspaper, which grew old and crabbed and suspicious, in *assisting* the Democracy in its best days—the days of Jackson more especially," etc. For *assisting* read *resisting*.

Personal.

We learn that Captain Thomas C. Williams, of the 19th United States Infantry, and late aide on General Rosseau's staff, has been appointed Provost Marshal General of the department under General Stoneman. Captain Williams will make his headquarters at Knoxville, for which place he will leave in a few days, with his lovely and accomplished young bride. We commend them cordially to the good offices and tender care of our Knoxville friends.

Since the above was written we are pleased to learn that Captain Williams has been promoted to a colonelcy in the regular army, for meritorious conduct. We congratulate the Colonel upon his promotion, so well deserved. The people generally, with whom the Colonel has had wide and varied communication, will be glad to learn of his promotion.—*Nashville paper.*

[Lieutenant Colonel Williams referred to, is the eldest son of Captain S. S. Williams, Superintendent of Adams Express Company, of this city.—ED. PRESS.]

—Paul Morphy, the champion chess player, is in New York.

The Reconstruction of Florida—Proclamation of Gov. Marvin.

Following in the footsteps of the Provisional Governors, Governor Marvin, of Florida, has issued a proclamation to the citizens of that State, pointing out to them the way to renew their allegiance. He informs them that he contemplates calling a State convention, but all who are to be members thereof, or who intend to vote for delegates thereto, must take the amnesty oath prescribed by the President. The proclamation concludes as follows:

I have been informed by the military authorities that a considerable number of posts have already been established in the State, and others soon will be, with officers attached, authorized to administer the oath required, and to give certified copies thereof, so as thereby to give every facility for taking the oath with little or no inconvenience or expense to the applicant.

In the meantime, and until the re-establishment of a State government, it is left to the military authorities to preserve peace and order and protect the rights of persons and property.

An understanding has been had with the commander of the department whereby persons occupying the offices of judges of probate may continue to take proof of wills, and issue letters testamentary and of administration, and clerks of circuit courts may take the proof or acknowledgment of deeds and mortgages and record the same as heretofore, and all persons occupying ministerial offices may continue to perform such duties and offices as are essential and convenient to the transaction of business. If any doubt should hereafter arise concerning the validity of their acts, such doubt can be removed by a legislative act of confirmation.

By the operations and results of the war slavery has ceased to exist in this State. It cannot be revived. Every voter for delegates to the Convention, in taking the amnesty oath, takes a solemn oath to support the freedom of the former slave. The freedom intended is the full, ample, and complete freedom of a citizen of the United States. It does not necessarily include the privilege of voting; but it does include the idea of full constitutional guarantees of future possession and quiet enjoyment. The question of his voting is an open question—a proper subject for discussion—and is to be decided as a question of sound policy by the Convention to be called.

Upon the establishment of a republican form of State government, under a constitution which guarantees and secures liberty to all the inhabitants alike, without distinction of color, there will no longer exist any impediment in the way of restoring the State to its proper constitutional relations to the Government of the United States, whereby its people will be entitled to protection by the United States against foreign invasion, insurrection, and domestic violence.

Dated at Jacksonville, Florida, this 3d day day of August, 1865.

WM. MARVIN,
Provisional Governor.

To the Union Men of the Fourth Congressional District.

A long and successful career in crime emboldens the guilty. A recent illustration of this law of human nature leads me to depart my life-long rule of conduct, and for once to notice a political slanderer. I do not, however, address you for the purpose of repelling his insinuendoes or falsehoods. My life has been passed among you, and if its record, familiar to you all, does not repel them, I have lived in vain. My purpose is simply to place the small coat of ill-gotten gold in which the slanderer has clothed himself, and give you a glimpse at the loathsome object it protects.

The papers of Friday announce that Simon Cameron, of Dauphin county, was serenaded by his friends on the preceding evening at the Girard House in this city, and availed himself of the occasion to vilify my colleagues and myself, "the Congressmen of Philadelphia," in a speech to the assemblage.

I was but a youth when I first heard the name of Simon Cameron, and it was as the perpetrator of a great crime. He had been made the agent of the Government to carry a large amount of money, due from the Government to Indians, and had taken advantage of their ignorance and helplessness to enrich himself. Those of you who had then attained manhood, though you may not, after the lapse of so many years, revive the burning indignation with which you regarded the infamous swindler of the poor Indians, will doubtless remember that instead of paying them the specie which the Government confided to him for that purpose, he paid them in certificates of stock of the Middletown Bank, of which he was an owner. At their encampment in the remote wilderness these notes were utterly worthless. The Indians could not use them for any purpose there, nor carry them to Middletown for redemption. But what was their loss to Cameron? Was not their loss his gain, and was he not so much the richer by every note that failed to come home? Starvation, though they did suffer and starve! And those of you who are not old enough to remember all this, now know why this bold, bad man is sometimes spoken of by your senators as "Injun Cameron" and sometimes as "Old Kickapoo."

For more than thirty years I have watched the tortuous career of this man, and he has never seen a reason to abandon my first impression of his character. Whether acting with the Democratic, Know Nothing, or with the Republican party—for he has in turn disgraced them all—he has never been false to his criminal instincts. He has endeavored to turn them all to profitable account. His ambition is sordid and panders to his avarice, and he measures others by the facilities they expose to his grasp. He has no confidence in the people, and is aware that they distrust him. His speech on Friday evening was not characteristic of him, for he is prone to the use of instruments. His habit is to point his stiletto, but to employ other hand to drive it home. Though an active participant in the politics of his county and State for more than half a century, during which long period he has pursued the profits of office, of jobs, of contracts, with eager and ceaseless assiduity, he has never dared to permit his name to be presented to the people of his county or State as a candidate for an elective office. He crawls to the feet of the appointing power. He cares not who may be King, so that he may "still be Chief Jackal" and to that end he chaffers with and corrupts weak and needy members of Conventions and the Legislature of both parties.

I need not recite the disgraceful facts attending his several canvasses for the United States Senate. Their numerous exposures have rendered his nostrils to this hour. In the first he *bought* the votes of three Democratic members, and in the last bid twenty thousand dollars for one vote which would have elected him. This last transaction was so flagrant that the Legislature was compelled to take cognizance of it, and, if justice be not lame as well as blind, the law and honor of our State will yet be vindicated.

The evil report of his deeds pervades the country as a reproach to our State. Yes, unhappily for Pennsylvania and her great interests, the buzzard-winged fame of Simon Cameron is national. By months of abject solicitation and corrupt bargaining he procured a mass of letters, certificates and *recommendations*, that imposed him upon President Lincoln as the representative man of the Keystone State. That was an error of Pennsylvania. You all remember how he organized the Navy Agency in this city, and fed the hungry harpies who fed upon the life of our Navy Yard and commercial and other business men. In the course of his impudent and ill-fated career, he induced a Mr. Buchanan, an old-time a member of Congress from Philadelphia would have had sufficient influence to have carried his place of emolument (that of Naval Station at League Island) without a dissenting voice.? Is that the assertion of a sober man? And did he who induced a Member of Congressmen in the olden time in proposing to locate a Government workshop at Philadelphia, had not the temerity to propose Simon Cameron, the Fagan of the Harrisburg lobby and ex-Secretary of War to contend with, and, therefore, laid some chance for success? My colleagues and I were less sagacious than they in this respect.

As I have said, he begged and bargained for the influence which induced Mr. Lincoln to invite him to a seat in his Cabinet. It was now fondly hoped, by those who had not sounded the depths of his depravity, that, being old and rich, he would take advantage of so distinguished an opportunity to prove that he could be honest, and could administer a department without turning it to his own profit, or handing the fund over to his creatures, to be used on joint account. How sadly he disappointed hope is attested by the brevity of his term of office, and the circumstances under which it closed.

In less than one year from the day on which Simon Cameron was installed as Secretary of War, Congress—though at that time it did not had before it but partial evidence of his crimes—indignantly drove him from that high office. Two-thirds of the members of the Lower House were friends of the Administration, and voted gladly have sustained each member of it as they did its distinguished head.

You can imagine how painful it must have been to them to find themselves constrained by duty to proclaim the fact that a friend in the head of their party had been induced to appoint as the successor of John B. Floyd had exhibited greater aptitude than he for his worst tricks. But it became inevitable, for this old man, notwithstanding his boasted and reputed millions, believes that one of his name is never contented until he has more, and, to save their party and the country, the friends of the Administration in the House had to proclaim his infamy and denounce his crimes. Nor was the vote by which they did it a meagre one. His friends and those who would most gladly have screened this disgrace from our State, could rally but about one-third of the House against the resolution of condemnation. The vote was about two to one against him, though I, as a Pennsylvanian, not willing to bear witness against the representative of our State, but too well satisfied of his guilt to vote against the resolution, failed to record my vote.

In this fact, gentlemen, you have the secret of "this distinguished statesman's" hostility to me and my friends. Mr.