

The Kansas Question Epitomized.

Remarks of Gen. Granger of N. Y. House of Representatives, March 18, 1856. I rise, Sir, to say but a few words. The question is not, Sir, whether Gov. Reeder or Gen. Whitfield shall occupy a seat on this floor; but whether you will or will not grant to the Committee on Elections power to send for persons and papers. Sir, what has this Committee to do? It has to investigate and report on a subject of deep and paying interest to the whole of the American people.

THE AGITATOR

M. H. COBB, EDITOR. All Business and other Communications must be addressed to the Editor to insure attention. WELLSBOROUGH, PA. Thursday Morning, April 3, 1856. Republican Nominations. For President in 1856: Hon. SALMON P. CHASE, of Ohio. For Vice-President: Hon. DAVID WILMOT, of Penn'a.

and puts himself under the restricted dominion of another. If the father of this Republic declared, the right of liberty inalienable, then no man has the right to go into voluntary servitude, any more than his brother has the right to enslave him. The argument in our text, properly understood, proves slavery to be an evil of the greatest magnitude, inasmuch as it shows that it not only deprives man of his dearest rights, but sometimes so debases him as to render him insensible to God's goodness in the gifts to man as that he trembles them in the mire. We call to mind the case of a young man who had the misfortune to be incarcerated in the Penitentiary at the early age of nineteen. He was by nature proud and high-spirited, but in a drunken frolic he became involved in one of a series of robberies undertaken by a desperate band of men, was detected, tried and convicted. On the expiration of his time in prison he was dismissed. He appeared in his native village on a stolen horse the very next day, and on being charged with the crime freely and frankly acknowledged it, adding that he preferred a prison life to a return into society. He was sent back after a formal trial, and at the end of his second term, against his wishes, was again dismissed. In two days from that time he entered his native village in the night-time and committed a daring burglary when detection was inevitable. He is now serving his third term in Penitentiary.

Mr. Cozzetta is said to have been a Whig formerly. Mr. Pariza is an American, and Mr. Saronis is a Republican. We regret that the necessity for a Union Convention existed. But since it did exist, we are glad to see the union of the opposition forces on the common platform of hostility to the present misruling Administration. The Philadelphia News is advised to drop its slang and remember that hard cases make no laws for anybody. It may be fashionable in Philadelphia, but we ill-bred people in the rural districts do not see the utility of the fashion. The Monthly Rainbow. This excellent publication comes to us greatly enlarged and improved. It is now published by George A. Croft, Philadelphia, is a large, handsome sheet, unexceptionally printed and filled with a choice variety of original scientific and carefully selected literary matter. The Meteorological department is as heretofore conducted by Dr. Chapman, whose system of predictions is cheerfully attracting the attention of scientific minds. Those who will take the trouble to compare his tables with the weather, cannot but be struck with the general correctness of his theory. Terms, 50 cents a year in advance.

Communications.

California Correspondence of the Agitator. Oroville, March 18, 1856. Mr. Editor: You cannot imagine what delightful weather we have here during February and March, when the "storm king" reigns supreme, and the wintry blast blows by your Eastern home. No freezing bitter cold at night, no howling blast, nor driving storm to peck us; and by day a genial warmth pervades the air, that makes us love to live, and wish that all the human race were here for its enjoyment. The greater part of the time our skies are bright, and the sun pours his golden rays on hill and dale; and when it does rain it falls so gently, but abundant, that every wish seems gratified and want supplied. It can be said of California most truly, that those who leave her for other climes, return almost without exception, attracted by some secret spell that they cannot resist. Her sunny days and gorgeous moonlight nights, such as the lids and lassies long for in the Atlantic States, her floral and agricultural charms, "haunt the one that would desert her, with spectral visions of her loneliness, until the faithless one finds that a 'harm more potent than ancestral homes has spirited him back to this land of perpetual summer life.' I have lived in California for about four years, and during that time, I have seen but one number of your truly valuable and interesting sheet. Do you not print a steamer edition for California? Have you not found yourself, sometimes or other, among strangers without a red wanting to reach a certain place where you had friends and could raise a supply of the "needful," but could not get there under your circumstances? You are in an awful predicament, and contemplate suicide, but just as you are about rushing for the nearest pond, where you intend to sever the silken ties that bind you to life, you meet a friend. Ah, what a joyful meeting. You are from that moment another being. You have; well then, you can imagine my feelings, after wading thro' a copy of the Agitator which I found in the cabin of another "Tioga boy."

Quilms of Pocket.

In many persons Conscience operates with a certainty superior to instinct, and causes them to gravitate inevitably towards the just and the true. Others have no Conscience, and are never led to the performance of that which is proper and fitting except by an appeal, pungently made, to their pocket. We find the following paragraph in the last number of the Herald: "On the 22d of November last we have copied into the columns of the Herald an editorial article from the Montrose Democrat, edited by E. B. Chase, Esq. and published in the adjoining judicial district over which Hon. David Wilmot presides, in which he was charged with divers partialities and wrongs, and for so doing was threatened with impeachment; but recently we have been credibly informed that they were not warranted from the facts in the case, and accordingly make the article honorable in our columns without delay upon receiving the said information. However widely we may differ with the Judge politically we have no desire to detract from his personal character or judicial reputation, and consequently we correct in this place any undue impression the former publication may have made upon the minds of our readers. Having but a slight acquaintance with the Judge, and no personal knowledge of his official administration we cannot be considered moved by any designs upon his personal or judicial character by the publication referred to, and regret the copying it into our paper, and more especially that we should have been so incautious as to give its truthfulness our indorsement." For years past the Herald has pursued Mr. Wilmot with implacable hate, letting no opportunity slip of giving his reputation a stab. It has gone farther. It has copied from another journal, edited by a deadly enemy of Mr. Wilmot, outrageous assaults upon his personal and official character, and without knowing or caring whether the accusations were true or false, has given them the benefit of its unqualified endorsement. Every dotting item of defamation against Mr. Wilmot it has sedulously snapped up, and rebared to his detriment. Or a sudden it has changed its tone, and with a bungled effort at gracefulness makes a full recantation. The Herald "regrets" that it should have been so "incautious" as to endorse as true charges which "were not warranted from the facts." No doubt of the genuineness of the regret. A man who endorses a worthless note or bill or exchange always regrets his want of caution when he is called on for payment. Mr. Wilmot, through his attorney, gave the Herald a choice of alternatives; either to recant or to substantiate its endorsement.—Honestale Democrat.

Republican State Convention.

In fulfillment of the duties imposed upon the undersigned, as member of the National Executive Committee for Pennsylvania, (appointed by the Republican Convention held at Philadelphia on the 22d ult.), and in compliance with the wishes of numerous friends throughout the State, notice is hereby given that a REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION will be held in the City of Philadelphia on MONDAY, the 10th day of JUNE next, at 10 o'clock, A. M., for the purpose of forming an electoral ticket and the nomination of a State Ticket, to be supported at the ensuing Presidential and State Elections, and generally for the transaction of all such business as shall come before said Convention. The undersigned would recommend that the Convention be composed of Delegates, twice in number to that of the State and House of Representatives; and that the friends of Freedom in the several counties in the Commonwealth meet at their county seat, or other convenient place in their respective counties on SATURDAY, the 31st day of MAY next, (unless some other day will better accommodate, and elect delegates to the county seat, or other convenient place, and also, at the same time and place, three delegates from the several Congressional Districts, to represent this State in the National Convention, to be held on the 15th of June next, at Philadelphia. D. WILMOT, Secretary. WYOMING, March 18, '56. Member of Nat. Ex. Com. for Pa.

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The following named gentlemen are authorized to collect dues and receive subscriptions for the Agitator. Their receipts will be regarded as payments. Wm. Garretson, Tioga; J. B. Foster, Millbury; C. G. W. Stanton, Westmoreland; Dr. J. C. Whitaker, Elkland; John Siering, Liberty; O. F. Taylor, Covington; Victor Case, Knoxville; W. W. McDougal, Shippen; Isaac Plank, Brookfield; C. J. James, Bloomsburg; J. F. Colver, Osoeca; O. H. Blanchard, Nelson; E. A. Egan, Maitland; Samuel Phillips, Westfield; Wm. M. Johnson, Dagsell's Mills; A. Barker, Ogdenburg; O. M. Stephens, Crooked Creek; Isaac Spricker, Maple Ridge.

Republican Declaration of Principles, adopted by the Pittsburg Convention.

1. We demand and shall attempt to secure the repeal of all laws which allow the introduction of slavery into territories once consecrated to Freedom and will resist by every constitutional means, the existence of slavery in any of the territories of the United States. 2. We will support by every lawful means our brethren in Kansas in their manly and constitutional resistance to the usurped authority of their lawless invaders, and will give the full weight of our political power in favor of the immediate admission of Kansas to the Union as a free, sovereign, independent State. 3. Believing that the present national Administration has shown itself to be weak and faithless, and that its continuance in power is identified with the progress of the slave power to national supremacy, with the exclusion of Freedom from the territory, and with increasing civil discord, it is a leading purpose of our organization to oppose and overthrow it.

Kansas in Congress.

The following is Mr. Dunn's proposition: Resolved, That a Committee of three of the members of this House, to be appointed by the Speaker, shall proceed to inquire into and collect evidence in regard to the troubles in Kansas generally, and particularly in regard to any fraud or force attempted or practiced in reference to any of the elections which have taken place in said Territory, either under the law organizing said Territory, or under any pretended law which may be alleged to have taken effect therein since. That they shall fully investigate and take proof of all violent and tumultuous proceedings in said Territory at any time since the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act, whether engaged in by residents of said Territory, or by any person or persons from elsewhere going into said Territory, and doing, or encouraging others to do, any act of violence or public disturbance against the laws of the United States, or the rights, peace and safety of the residents of said Territory; and for that purpose said Committee shall have full power to send for and examine, and take copies of all such papers, records and proceedings, as in their judgment will be useful in the premises; and also, to send for persons, and to examine them on oath, or affirmation, as to matters within their knowledge touching the matters of said investigation; and such Committee, by their Chairman, shall have power to administer all necessary oaths or affirmations connected with their aforesaid duties. Resolved further, That said Committee may hold their investigations at such places and times as to them may seem advisable, and that they have leave of absence from the duties of this House until they shall have completed such investigation. That they be authorized to employ one or more Clerks, and one or more assistant Sergeants at-Arms, to aid them in their investigation and may administer to them an oath or affirmation faithfully to perform the duties assigned to them, respectively, and to keep secret all matters which may come to their knowledge touching such investigation as said Committee shall direct, until the report of the same shall be submitted to this House; and said Committee may discharge any such Clerk, or assistant Sergeant at-Arms, for neglect of duty or disregard of instructions in the premises, and employ others under like regulations. Resolved further, That if any person shall in any manner obstruct or hinder said investigation, or shall refuse to attend on said committee, and to give evidence when summoned for that purpose, or shall refuse to produce any paper, book, public record or proceeding in their possession or control, to said committee when so required, or shall make any disturbance where said committee is holding their sittings, said committee may, if they see fit, cause any and every such person to be arrested by said assistant sergeant-at-arms, and brought before this House to be dealt with as for contempt. Resolved further, That for the purpose of defraying the expenses of said commission, there be, and hereby is, appropriated the sum of \$10,000, to be paid out of the contingent fund of this House. Resolved further, That the President of the United States be, and is hereby, requested to furnish to said Committee, should they be met with any serious opposition by bodies of lawless men, in the discharge of their duties aforesaid, such aid from any military force, as may at the time be convenient to them, as may be necessary to remove such opposition, and enable said Committee, without molestation, to proceed with their labors. Resolved further, That when said Committee shall have completed said investigation, they report all the evidence so collected to this House. A French Story.—It appears that the drawing for the conscription in France the son of a widow is in all cases exempt. The Paris correspondent of the New York Express says that when the last annual drawing took place, a poor man, whose idylized and only son had been un lucky as to draw a number which made him a lawful prey to the government, went quietly from the scene to his dwelling, and was found the next morning hanging dead in his garret. He sacrificed this life to save his son from military service, and the child, now the son of a widow, was exempt from the much dreaded conscription.

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Friend Woodward, of the N. H. Sentinel.

should not have forgotten to credit "Our Boy President."

The Kansas Free State Legislature has elected Gov. A. H. Reeder and Gen. J. H. Lane U. S. Senators.

Horace Greeley writes from Washington that Kansas may be admitted as a Free State this session.

The news from Europe does not shed much light upon the negotiations of the Vienna conference.

The great excitement on the continent appears to center in Paris. The looked-for debut of a young Napoleon attracts unusual attention. It is to be hoped that the young prince may live to be a better man than his father.

Another Triumph.—Gov. Barstow, who claimed to have been elected Governor of Wisconsin last fall, has just vacated his seat in favor of Basford, Republican, it having been proved that the latter was elected by more than 1000 majority.

Frauds of the most criminal character were detected in the returns which gave the office to Barstow. He was doubtless at the bottom of them all. Such is Ruin and Hunkerism when its heart is laid bare. Will the Schuhaar Republican make us X?

We call attention to an interesting letter from California, in another column.

Mr. Evans is a native of Bloomsburg, and is now publishing the North Californian, a new and able paper, at Oroville—a very suggestive name, especially to printers, who see so little of it. Brother Evans has our sincere thanks for his letter, and is assured that we will write him soon and arrange terms for its continuance. Your paper has been on our X list for a month.

To Correspondents.—If the author of "An Essay" will furnish us his real name as a private guaranty, we will publish it with great pleasure. It is well written.

MELANIE. Yours of the 26th ult. is received and will be published because it is a meritorious production. You will receive the paper without further remuneration as long as you are willing to let us hear from you occasionally. It was sent to Couderport for some months, until hearing nothing from you, you were thought to have changed your residence.

The Senate of Virginia lately passed a bill for the voluntary enlistment of a free negro of Southampton Co.

He has lately been emancipated, but is anxious to remain in servitude, which he knows by his own experience and observation, is the best and happiest condition for his race. So numerous are applications of this character that it has been found necessary to introduce a general law into the Legislature for the voluntary enlistment of any free negro of the Commonwealth.

We copy the foregoing precious bit of mingled ignorance, stupidity, bad grammar and worse logic, on an exchange, the name of which has escaped our memory.

It embodies the entire argument in favor of Slavery, urged under various guises. The best pro-slavery argument extant is but an elaboration of the arrogant assumption revealed in all its miserable deformity in the extract given above. To set out with the writer entirely misapprehends the nature and operation of the law relating to slavery, in Virginia. If we are rightly informed, up to the present time, Slavery has managed to ruin that Commonwealth without the friendly aid of law in any form. If her Legislature has enacted such a law as our paragraphist refers to, slavery exists there legally, and not by sufferance as heretofore. What does it prove for Slavery, admitting that this free negro did voluntarily put on the yoke of servitude in which those unfortunate have dared every danger and voluntarily endured every imaginable privation to escape from that very bondage. We might say that every intelligent man North of South knows to be true—that voluntary servitude is the exception and involuntary servitude the rule. But we prefer to consider the question inversely—substituting the exception for the rule—and thus give our author the full benefit of his attempted argument.

Is Slavery a natural condition of the human race?

Look back upon aboriginal America and then answer; for, if servitude be an ordinance of Nature, where should we look for evidence of that fact, but upon men in a state of nature? Look upon Africa. Was there a slave mart on her sands before the rapacious white man taught her barbarous tribes the uses of men, women and children? There is no record of such a state of society there as exists this day in the garden of the New World. The inevitable conclusion then is, that involuntary servitude is not taught by Nature, but is sanctioned by Nature. This is taught experimentally that it is a crime against Nature's great law of Equality; and if it be a crime to deprive a man of his liberty against his consent, what manner of deed is that which is sanctioned when he trembles upon Nature's law in his own

Gov. Ford Defining His Position.

Lieut. Gov. Thomas H. Ford, who was a delegate from Ohio to the Philadelphia American National Convention, made a speech at Columbus, O., before the Order of United Americans on the evening of Wednesday, 6th inst., in which he took occasion to define his position. He claimed to be an American with his whole heart—opposed to foreign aggression whether of Church or State. But he was also opposed to despotism at home as well as abroad. He said he learned at Philadelphia what Americanism means in the South—and that was—a negro. He ridiculed the idea of the Southern States seceding from the Union. He concluded in the following decisive words: "I repeat that I am opposed to all aggression. When I see two monsters coming I am ready to strike the one which approaches first: This great question must be settled; and no temporising policy will answer now. The battle of Slavery and Freedom is to be fought, and it must be decided which is sectional and which is national. The crisis is upon us. Let us meet like patriots—like American men. I do not ignore the American issue—I stand on that plank with both feet; but I can act with any man or any set of men, who take the right ground on this question; who are united on the principle that we must have no more Slave States—no more Slave Territory."

Arrest of Horse Thieves.

Some time since, a man named Rutter, was arrested in the Western part of this state, and confined in jail in Pittsburg, for stealing a horse. He was connected with an extensive gang of horse thieves, counterfeiter, &c., extending through Northern and Southern N. Y. Having laid in jail sometime, and the gang neglecting to bail him, he wrote to his uncle to come and see him and he would tell him something. His uncle went to see him, and he revealed the existence of an extensive and organized band, giving names of members in Bradford and Chemung counties, with such details as left no doubt of the credibility of his statement. Much excitement was created in Elmira and vicinity, and four individuals were arrested on a charge of robbery, arson and horse-stealing. The persons arrested are Henry Loop, of Elmira, for assisting to rob the store of G. L. Davis in the fall of 1854, while acting as a watchman; H. Herze of Southport, for receiving stolen goods; Col. W. Stuart and H. C. Wells for setting fire to the store of Mr. Lockwood. Nathan Wicks was also arrested and taken back to Indiana Co., Pa., where he had been indicted as a receiver of stolen property. A number of other persons are implicated and further arrests will be made. Through the confessions of Rutter a number of horses have been recovered, and other property found just as he has stated.—Bradford Reporter.

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