vassing the merits of the case, of the counsel, of the courts, with an acuteness of observation and accuracy of perception truly surprising. Even the boys, to whom my friend from Warren (Mr. Scofield) boasted that he belonged, will be found doing the same thing. You will hear cases argue unsparingly applied where it is deserved, praise liberally awarded here it is merited and every thing in the hearing of the counsel and the action of the judge duly noted and remembered. Let the judge incline but ever so little to one side or to the other, and you will find it noticed, and only to be blamed. In a word, all we do is thus remembered too as well as observed.

Under this close *surveillance*, where is the danger that the system will work injustice or wrongly, and that a judge will swerve his scale to catch the popular breeze? Why, sir, he would be adopting the surest mode of rendering himself obnoxious and unpopular and overleaping his own high vaulting ambition. What says history and experience? Look at the universal recommendation bestowed in all ages by all men on the conduct of the elder Brutus, that virtuous and inflexible judge, who did not hesitate to pronounce the judgment of the law upon offenders, although they were his own sons—the children of his love—the objects of his heart's dearest affections! Is not this evidence that the popular heart will always be with those who firmly, faithfully, inflexibly maintain justice and administer the law in its purity without fear, favor or affection?

I say then, that it is safe to trust the people. I say it, not in the spirit of crying a popularity, but because I sincerely believe it. That public functionary whose sole rule of action is to do right according to his conscience, regardless of consequence—who has that force of character that will enable him to rise above the prejudices and scorn to pander to the passions of others, need not fear that he will not be sustained. This he could do in my experience; it will not be lost on that refined and calculating selfishness that ordinarily sways those who have in their hands the offices and that Mr. Speaker seems to be an epidemic universally prevalent.

But we are told that even if a judge is elected by the people, is able to rise above all corrupt motives and influences, he will still be suspected of undue bias, and the decisions will thus be wanting in the essential element of public confidence. Sir, allow me to repeat that the best way was and quire public confidence is to deserve it. And the gentleman from Huntingdon is a living proof of this; for he was a member of the Legislature of 1849 and has been returned to this, as he told us himself, by an increased majority.

But did those who so much fear that improper influence may control the election of a judge by the people, never hear of like influences determining the selection by the Governor? Have they come to dence alone in the Executive and consultation ; and I hope that every member who desires to be heard on it, will be heard ; that we shall go on with it uninterrupted, until discussion is exhausted, then vote on and adopt it, without any attention or amendment. Our duty will then be done, our task be finished. With the free and unbiassed judgment of the freemen of Pennsylvania, will then rest the final decision ; and whatever that may be, I pray God that it may be such as can well further the end of justice, promote purity in the administration, and advance the interests, the welfare, and the glory of the State.

THE STAR & BANNER.
GETTYSBURG.
Friday Evening, April 12, 1850.

REMOVAL.

☞"The "STAR" office has been REMOVED to the new Brick Building in Carlisle street, two doors North of the Court-house—and operations will at all times be pleased to see our Patrons, as in times past.

LEGISLATIVE ADJOURNMENT.

—The Senate has passed a Resolution to adjourn on the 16th inst. On Saturday the Resolution came before the House, but the Locofocos voting against (taking it up,) it was defeated by a strict party vote—every Whig voting in favor, and every Locofoco against it.

Pennsylvania Doughfaces.

The race of 'doughfaces' is not yet quite extinct in the Northern States, and Pennsylvania stands ready still to present "sturdy slaves," who will crouch at the scent of the Southern lash, and yield a willing, abject compliance with the haughty demands of the 'lords of cotton bales and human cattle.' On Monday last, the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania, on final reading, the Bill to repeal the 3d, 4th, 5th, and 6th sections of the Act of 3d of May, 1847, entitled "An Act to prevent kidnapping," &c., by the following vote :

YEAS.—Beaumont, BIDDLE, Brindle, BURDEN, Cessna, Chamberlin, Cooyngham, Coldren, Dobbins, Downer, Dunn, J. C. Evans, Fether, Fleisher, Gilmore, Gitt, Griffin, Goff, Hallaman, Hastings, Hemphill, Henry, Hopkins, Jackson, Klotz, Laird, McCullough, McCurdy, Marr, Meyers, Molloy, Morris, Morrison, Myers, Nickleson, Packer, Pierson, Porter, Rhey, Roberts, Robinson, Sample, Simonton, W. A. Smith, Snyder, Stewart, Trone, Wells, Zerby, McClintock, (Speaker,)—56.

NAYS.—Acker, Allison, Baldwin, Best, Bowman, Brown, Carey, Cooper, W. Evans, Boring, Flowers, Fortner, G. H. Hart, A. Hart, Hess, Jones, Killinger, Kinkhead, Leet, Leonard, Lilly, McCleaver, McIlvaine, McLean, McNair, Nissley, O'Neill, Powell, Reid Rutherford, Sider, Wm. Smith, Sunyer, Steel, Swoyer, Wade, Walker, Weaver, Williams,—39.

By reference to this vote, it will be seen that while every Locofoco member, including Speaker *Meyers, Hope, McClintock, Stockwell, Warren,* voted for the Bill, every Whig member (except Messrs. BIDDLE and BURDEN) voted against it ! Seventeen members absent—Messrs. Baker, Conyngham, Duncan, Hetherd and Lewis, (Whigs,) and Messrs. D. Evans, Leech, Meek, Seofield, Black and Shaffner, (Locos.)

We need scarcely say that the above action on the part of the House has taken us by surprise. After the development of popular feeling on the subject in different sections of the State, consequent upon the mere introduction of the Bill in the House, affecting a slavery institution, on the part of the majority in that body, we had thought that the origination of the proposition had become hardly less odious to the members, and were disposed to let it die a natural death. Some one member, however, must have recently issued from the Manor, whose bidding fifty of our Pennsylvania doughfaces have slavishly undertaken to obey, to have induced this prompt abandonment of the claims of Humanity, Right, and Justice—this blunt abjuration of Liberty's cause by political slaves of the Commonwealth. For the passage of the bill in question amounts to nothing more or less than granting to that conventional plantation the right of legislating upon this subject so to bring you under legal restraint which will prevent you from taking a free man. If one can arrest and carry away a free man "without due process of the law"—if their persons are not inviolate, your Constitution is a wazen tablet, a writing in the sand ; and instead of being, as is supposed, the freest country on earth, this is the vilest despotism that can be imagined ! In behalf of the State I here represent, which not only *prefers*, but vets with courteous and conciliation to her sister States, and guided by the principles of her noble forefathers, never dreams of any force, be it ever so right, if force can be avoided, she puts herself upon her reserved rights, and whilst she avows her willingness to submit to Judicial decision, be it either in accordance with, or in opposition to, her views, yet boldly declares her determination, *to resist aggression upon her free soil, no matter whether that aggressor be a foreign foe, a Confederate State, or even the Federal Head!!*

The Webster Trial.

Since the rendition of the verdict in the case of Prof. Webster, charged with the murder of Dr. Parkman, and the sentence of the prisoner to be hung, the Press, in various parts of the country, have taken up the case, and commented with much freedom and severity upon the whole conduct of the trial, denouncing Judges, Jury, Attorneys, and all who may have been connected with the case. Especially is the Press in Philadelphia and New York, where not only the Press, but the members of the Bar have expressed themselves very freely in condemnation of the trial and the verdict. On the other hand, the Press in Boston, with but one exception, we believe, we unanimous in the expression of the belief that the Jury acted in a most righteous one, and as the only one which, under the circumstances, could have been rendered by an honest and upright jury. It seems we get the high position occupied by Prof. Webster in the social and scientific world, his connection with distinguished and influential families in Boston, and the great interest the public have long developed in his behalf ; a degree of sympathy which has warped the judgments of many just and honest men, who have attended to the law of evidence, the most overwhelming and crushing, to be guilty, and led others to a blind spirit of doubt-finding and denunciation in connection with the trial, of which, we feel persuaded little would have been heard, had the 'terrible charge' falsely ascribed to Judge Shaw, been uttered. Also on one meeting in an humbler sphere of life, the Prisoner was tried, convicted and sentenced by the evidence adduced in the progress of the trial, the conviction forced itself upon our mind that Dr. Parkman was murdered—cruelly, deliberately and coolly murdered by Prof. Webster—that he visited the latter at his room and on his premises, for the purpose of obtaining money, when it was in proof that Webster could not possibly have been in possession of the money—that while there he was killed, and his body cut up and mutilated, and by part burned, with a view of preventing detection—and what is worse, that the dead was perpetrated and deliberately planned, and the following day executed in accordance, the perpetrator mingled freely in society, and betrayed nothing of the feelings which would naturally have attended such a crime, or to his own family and at his his own fire-side."—That the counsel for the prisoner were unable to bear up against the crushing force of the testimony against their client, we can easily conceive ; and we can easily conceive that the line of defence adopted by them should seem weak and defective—may even appear ridiculous to those who formed an opinion that they were fully conscious of their client's guilt, and were in possession of some which very other line of defence than that which was adopted, might have brought out, and which might have crushed more directly, and beyond every possible hope, the prisoner's cause. It may be that the line of defence adopted was the very best that could, under the circumstances, have been determined on, and of this the counsel for the prisoner were competent to judge ; but in the case, could alone judge rightly. To have attempted the implication of Littlefield, or any other innocent party, with a view of casting that suspicion on him, would have been cruelty, and would have been criminal in the highest degree ; and it argues a great laxity of moral perception to charge the counsel for the defence for not availing themselves of the possible chance of saving the guilty defendant by sacrificing the evidence of innocent individuals, who were in any way connected, or who might be supposed to have connected, with the transaction of the murder. Lawyers cannot have their license to play the game than other men—simply in the legal profession is so much the more expected and admired, as in any other pursuit of life.

As to the sympathy developed in favor of Prof. Webster, it is but what might be expected from the sanctity and the respectability of his connection, we cannot but regard it as misplaced. We cannot but regard it as the result of a feeling, which, restraints of honorable family connection, the refining influence of the most honorable association, and the advantages of a sound, judicious moral training, will startles neither the man nor the woman of ordinary sensibility, and which, but for the law—crime committed Wilfully, deliberately, and repeatedly without remorse or compunction—should be entitled to more sympathy at our hands, when detected in his deeds of crime, or be more deserving of the sympathy of the poor, and the ignorant, than, without the advantages of education or favorable social influences, is reduced to the sad condition of a prisoner, and the commission of crime. It is a misplaced sympathy—a dangerous doctrine, which would base the distinctions between right and wrong upon social position, or measure out justice in scales which may be affected by family influence.

We commiserate—sincerely and deeply—the fate of the wretched criminal in this extraordinary case. Still more deeply do we feel for his interesting and innocent family. Language of sympathy, however, for such cases must be superfluous. And, at all times, is the duty which society owes, to yield to perform toward their unfortunate relatives of crime. But, as has been well remarked, "the law has known, and should know, no distinctions of persons at its solemn tribunal; the high and the low stand on the same level when brought to the bar of justice, and weighed in the balance of moral right and wrong. Justice is a stern lever of artificial distinctions, otherwise she is no longer justice."

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Locofoco Gerrymander.

Our Harrisburg correspondent last week mentioned the passage, through both Houses, of the Apportionment Bill, in a very objectionable shape. The districts proposed by the Bill will be found below. The Bill which passed the House originally, and which was universally condemned by the Whig press, on account of its manifest injustice, was the perfection of fairness in comparison with this infamous attempt at Gerrymander. A single glance at the table will serve to show the glaring injustice done the Whig party. For example, Mifflin county (Loco.) with three thousand taxables, has one Representative, while Berks (Whig.) with 8,422 taxables has but one ; Fayette county (Loco.) with 7611 taxables, has two Representatives, while Dauphin, with 7983 taxables, and Erie, with 8,428, have each but one ; Lancaster and Allegheny, under the ratio adopted, are each entitled to 6 members, whereas but five are allowed them ; Bucks is thrown in with Schuylkill and assigned two Senators, while Lancaster is cut off from Lebanon and given but one ; the heavy Whig majority in Somerset is shifted off by tacking it to Westmoreland, Bedford and Fayette, and giving the district two Locofoco Senators ! We might continue the exposure of the enormous unfairness of the Bill, but the foregoing will suffice to convince the reader of the character of the system which a reckless Locofoco majority would enact if not less low. The Bill is now in the hands of the Governor, who, it is to be hoped, will promptly send it back with his veto. The Whig party not authorized to make it fair. They do not seek for any undue advantage in districting the State, but have a right to demand of the Legislature that it secure to the majority of the people will. That is demanded—but Locofocoism in these times says is not Democratic except in profaneness. The Bill was passed through the Senate by a strict party vote, Mr. Bryan, the Speaker, voting with the Locofocos, in consideration, it is said, of a promise on the part of the Locofocos of the House to pass his Bill to erect a county out of Danville for the county seat, and in which the Speaker is much interested.

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5 Northampton and Lehigh,	25 Erie,
6 Carbon, Monroe, Pike & Wayne,	26 Beaver, Lawrence, Allegheny,
11 Adams & Franklin,	27 Washington and Greene,
12 York,	28 Westmoreland, Bedford, & Fayette,
13 Cumberland, Perry & Juniata,	29 Armstrong, Indiana & Cambria,
14 Huntingdon, Clearfield, Clinton & Mifflin,	30 Centre, Clearfield, Cambria & Blair,
15 Lycoming, Tioga & Northumberland & Sullivan.	1

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Adams,	1 Lycoming, Clinton and Sullivan,
Allegheny,	2 Potter,
Beaver & Lawrence,	3 Tioga,
Berks,	4 Lancaster,
Bucks,	5 Lancaster,
Butler & Lawrence,	6 Lancaster,
Cambria & Huntingdon,	7 Schuylkill & Carbon,
Bradford,	8 Northampton, Pike & Wayne,
Beaver,	9 Mercer,
Chester,	10 Venango and Warren,
Cumberland, Perry & Juniata,	11 Mifflin,
Clearfield, Elk and McKean,	12 Northumberland,
Carbon,	13 Northampton,
Centre, Armstrong and Indiana,	14 Westmoreland,
Clarion,	15 Somerset,
Columbia & Sullivan,	16 Schuylkill,
Crawford,	17 Susquehanna & Wyoming,
Dauphin,	18 Bedford,
Delaware,	19 Erie,
Erie,	20 Fayette,
Fayette,	21 Allegheny,
Franklin,	22 Allegheny,
Fulton,	23 Washington,
Greene,	24 Cambria,
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