GEN. SCOTT ON SLAVERY.

We find in the Southern Press, of Monday, the following letter written by Gen. Scott, in 1843, which contains the views of that distinguished General upon the question of Slavery:

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9, 1843.

DEAR SIR.—I have been waiting for an evening's leisure to answer your letter before me, and after an more sensible delay. I am at last obliged to reply in the midst of official occupations.

That I have been named in connection with the Presidency of the United States, has not, I am sure, been the work of a zealous adherent and friend, been by any contrivance or desire of mine; and certainly I shall never go in the field for that high office unless placed there by a regular nomination. Not, then, being candidate, and seeing no near prospect of being made one, I ought, perhaps, to decline troubling you or others with my humble opinions on great principles of State rights and federal administration, but as I cannot plead ignorance of the partiality of a few friends, in several parts of the Union, who may, by possibility, in a certain event, succeed in bringing me within the field from which I decline to be selected. I prefer to err on the side of frankness and candor, rather than by silence, to allow any advantage unwittingly to commit himself to my support.

The inquiries open the whole question of domestic slavery, which has, in different forms, for a number of years, agitated Congress and the country.

Presuming that you are the first person who has interrogated me on the subject, I give you the basis of what would be my reply in greater detail, if time allowed and the contingency alluded to above were less remote.

In boyhood, at William and Mary College, I used to commune with most, if not all, my companions, I became deeply imbued with the views given by Mr. Jefferson, in his native Virginia," and by Judge Tucker, in the Appendix to his edition of Blackstone's Commentaries, in favor of a gradual emancipation of the slaves. The appendix I have not seen in thirty odd years, and, in the same period, have read scarcely anything on the subject, but my first impressions are fresh and unchanged.—Hence, if had had the honor of a seat in the Virginia Legislature in the winter of 1831-32, when a bill was brought forward to carry out those views, I should certainly have given it my support.

I suppose I scarcely need say that, in my opinion, Congress has no color of authority under the Constitution, for touching the relation of master and slave within a State.

I hold the opposite opinion in respect to the District of Columbia. Here, with the consent of the owners, or on the payment of just compensation, Congress may legislate as its discretion. But my conviction is equally strong that, unless it be step by step with the Legislature of Virginia and Maryland, it would be dangerous to both races to show a desire to touch the relation between master and slave in this District.

I have from first been of opinion that Congress was bound by the Constitution to receive, to refer, and to report upon petitions relating to domestic slavery, as in the case of all other petitions; but I have not failed to see and regret the unavoidable agitation which the—"——" of such petitions in the Southern States, with the consequent peril to the union, must produce. The question of any plan of emancipation has every where among us been greatly retarded.

I own, myself, no slave; but never have attached blame to masters for not liberating their slaves—knowing that liberty, without the means of sending them in comfort to some position favorable to the pursuit of happiness," would, in most cases, be highly injurious to all around, as well as the unemployed families themselves—unless the operations were general and under the auspices of prudent legislation.—But I am persuaded that it is a high moral obligation of masters and slaveholding States to employ all means, not incompatible with the safety of both races, to ameliorate slavery even to extermination.

Its gratifying to know that general melioration has been given, and is still progressing, notwithstanding the disturbing causes alluded to above. The more direct process of emancipation may, no doubt, be first commenced and quickened in some communities than in others. Each, I do not question, has the right to judge for itself, both as to time and means, and I consider interference or aid from without, except on invitation from authority within, to be as hurtful to the sure progress of melioration, as it would be fatal to the lives of vast multitudes of all ages, sexes and tempers. The work of liberation cannot be *forced* without such fearful results. A Christian philanthropy is ever mild and considerate. Hence all violence ought to be deprecated by the friends of religion and humanity.—Their persuasions cannot fail, at the right time, to free the master from the slave, and the slave from the master, but never before the latter shall have found out and acknowledged that the relation between the parties had long been mutually prejudicial to their worldly interests.

There is no evil without, in the order of Providence, some compensating benefit—The bleeding African was torn from his savage home by his ferocious neighbors, sold into slavery, and cast upon this continent. Here, in the mild South, the race has wonderfully multiplied, compared with any thing in barbarous life. The descendants of a few thousands have become many millions; and all, from the first, made acquainted with the arts of civilization, and, above all, brought under the light of the Gospel.

From the promises made to Abraham, some two thousand years had elapsed before the advent of our Saviour, and the Apostles, the chosen peoples of God, were, for wise purposes, suffered to remain in bondage longer than the Africans have been on our shores. This race has already experienced the resulting compensations allluded to I and, as the white missionary, has never been able to penetrate the dark regions of Africa, or to establish himself in the interior, it may be within the scheme of Providence that the great work of spreading the Gospel over that vast continent, with all the arts and comforts of civilization, is to be accomplished by the black man restored from American bondage.—A method there has already been ground for him, and in such a scheme centuries are but as seconds to him who moves worlds as than moves a finger.

I do not *suggest* the remedies and compensations of slavery, to inspire patience, hope, and charity on all sides. The slightest twinkling calls for the exercise of all man's wisdom and virtue, and these may not suffice—wisdom and virtue of a higher compass.

It is in the foregoing manner, my dear sir, that I have long been in the habit, in conversation, of expressing myself, over all our common country, on the question of negro slavery, and I must say that I have found very few persons to differ with me, however opposite their geographical positions.

Such are the views of opinions which you seek. I cannot suppress or mutilate them, although now liable to be more generally known. But with them what you please. I neither count nor shun publicity.

I remain, very truly, *yours*,
WINFIELD SCOTT.

T. P. Atkinson, Esq., Danville, Virginia.

GEN. SETH CLOVER.

In this section of the State but very little is known respecting the character or qualification of Gen. Seth Clover, Mr. Buchanan's *democratic* candidate for Canal Commissioner. He has never been in public life—he has recorded no votes—he has done nothing or said nothing from which the people can judge of his ability and honesty to discharge the grave duties of Canal Commissioner. The only thing the people would commit by electing such an unknown man, merely to gratify Mr. Buchanan, or secure his nomination to the Presidency is palpable enough. Yet the people of the State of Pennsylvania are gravely asked to place in his hands for three years the responsible duty of managing the public works which have cost the people some forty millions of dollars.

But Gen. Seth Clover appears to be better known in Clarion County, the place of his residence. The "Register" there in replying to some remarks of another paper has in the following light upon the subject:

"His shining appears to be of the "mackerel and moonlight" order. His *early* career was a farm boy he did not stay on it very long, and if the recollection of his father's neighbor's is correct, he never did much *towards helping* his father on the farm much good by *hard work*. If the origins of the common people you mention were ever known, they are not so much secret again—because the Gen. has always been famous, and his pride" has been to deal in patent rights, and although it is contrary to the enlightened spirit of modern democracy to give any such privilege as rights to any person or people, yet the General has ever "taken pride" in buying and vending patent rights, "Patent rights, &c., and by the way of recreation, measuring pumpkins and occasionally experimented on matrimony and everything."

So it would appear that the Gen. has been in in his day a *patent*-right dealer—agitating for the public good the important subjects of "free-hives" and "force-pumps" and from this it is to be inferred that he will not be a *latent* dealer on the canals and as a clairvoyant he is to be supposed to know something also.

Mr. Buchanan is leading the democracy into some pretty traps. They will wish before they have done with him that he had not seduced them into the old track of *Federalism*.

Nomination of Judge Campbell.—We have received the report of the Democratic ratification meeting in Lancaster, said that he knew Judge Campbell well and intimately, and, his youth considered, he had no hesitation in pronouncing him to be as honest and as competent a judge as could be got in either the Democratic or Whig Journals.

IMPORTANT FROM CUBA.

Additional Particulars of the Insurrection.

The schooner Pauline, Capt. Townsend, arrived at New York on Sunday, from Neuvitas, Cuba, whence she sailed on the 17th inst. She brings intelligence of the highest interest, confirmatory of that received a few days ago from Puerto Principe, by the Charleston, from Havana, and also extract the following from the New York papers.

Advices have been received by the Pauline from the Cuba authorities at Puerto Principe, by their friends in this city, and we are indebted to several Cuban gentlemen of respectability for additional particulars of the insurrection or revolution, and also for a copy of the manifesto, or declaration of independence, of the people of Principe.

These advices are probably the most authentic we have yet received.

The official account of the insurrection at Puerto Principe related only to a small skirmish on the 3d of July, in which Joaquin de Agüero y Sanchez was taken prisoner, with a few arms captured by the Spanish troops. The date of the last arrival is to the 14th of July from Puerto Principe, which is nearly a fortnight later than the last accounts from that place.

The *pronunciamento* for independence was made on the 4th of July, on which day the first real battle may be said to have taken place. The government troops pretend to claim to have made prisoners of any revolutionists, came up with the guerilla party of Joaquin Aguero y Aguero, at the place called Las Tunas, in Bayamo, and about four or five miles from the village of that name. The Cubans numbered 200 men, and the Spaniards, 300 consisting of 100 lancers and 200 infantry. After a sharp engagement the Spaniards fled, their commander being killed and many wounded, with 18 wounded. The Cubans had only two or three wounded and one killed. Twelve of the Spaniards were taken prisoners over to the Cuban side. This battle inspired very great confidence among the people, and numbers joined the standard of the insurgents increased rapidly. At the last accounts the insurgents were in all as high as 1,000 men. These were divided into five guerilla parties of 200 each, under the command of Agüero y Agüero y Aguero, Francisco Aguero y Estrada, and Debido Arango Pina. These parties are constantly increasing in strength, in the vicinity of Cascorro and Principe, drilling and augmenting their numbers.

Agüero Sanchez was confined in prison at Principe. He is the son of one of the most influential men in that place. It is supposed he will be shot.

Easter Intelligence from Havana

The last evening, says the National Intelligencer of yesterday morning, saw a gentleman direct from Havanna, who, having gone a passenger to that place as far as Charleston, had made the trip to this city in less than six days. He states that Havana was filled with rumors of a revolt against the government in the eastern part of the island, which many persons seemed disposed to be of opinion.—Among the reports is one that at Puerto Principe three companies of the regiment of Principe threw down their arms, and went over to the Cuvado insurgents. The remainder of the regiment has been publicly disbanded at Havana. Another report is that the people of San Juan de los Remedios, in the Eastern portion, and have already established a Provisional Government. It is also said that at Tunas a battle has been fought and the rebels defeated, whilst in pursuit of the insurgents, with the loss of two or three hundred men.—Their loss and defeat, however, according to the accounts, seems to have been a result of accident, as the troops are stated to have been crossing a river in a scow, which upset and capsized, whereby a large number were drowned.

PARSON BROWNLOW AND HIS ENEMIES.—Parson Brownlow is the eccentric editor of the Knoxville Whig, the last number of which is a literary curiosity. It appears that the parson has published a violent quarrel with the editors and proprietors of the Knoxville Register and others. The last number of the Whig is devoted to a squaring up of the accounts between them, and the way the parson comes down upon his enemies is a caution." It appears that one of the charges against the Parson was that he had once been convicted of libel.—In reply he explains the circumstances of that, the matter was a mere indictment for a libel upon the old Baptist preacher. He admits that the court fined him five dollars, refusing to allow him to prove the truth of the charge in justification. He thus disposes of the judge, the jury and the prosecutor.

"A few general remarks in conclusion. Soon after this decision, Judge Scarwell became a perfect laughing stock, and ridiculed to abject poverty—died in Raleigh in a fever, in Mississippi, and went to his own place! Soon after this the old swindling Parson removed to Georgia—married a widow for her property—fell from grace, (if he ever had any,) and died a wretched and raving maniac—and are this moment, his soul and his brother of the Bench, far down in the 'sunny south.' The Attorney General who sent the bill of indictment before the Grand Jury, was since disgraced, in an affair of honor, with a high-minded gentleman. One of the jurors died drunk in the woods, and burried off to join the Judge and Parson, where 'parting is no more.' Another of these jurors was afterwards sent to the penitentiary of this State, from Monroe county, for three years, for breaking a store after night!—A third left Carolina, and died in connection for *forgery*—while another left that State to avoid an indictment for perjury. The *remnant* of these jurors are not heard from for several years, but the probability is, the devil has those of them who departed this life, while the living one is likely to be in some State prison! This is what the Scriptures would call living to see one's enemies put under his feet!"

John Strohm, the Democratic Whig candidate for Canal Commissioner, is an old Lancaster county man. He knows who pays the mass of the taxes and he will take care of the interests of the farmer, who intend electing him. When he takes his seat in the Board next year, there will be a shivering among the plunderers of the Canal Commissioners, and they will not permit them to defraud the State out of ten thousand dollars at "a single lick," by the alteration of pay rolls.

THE STAR AND BANNER.

GETTYSBURG.

Friday Evening, Aug. 1, 1851.

FOR PRESIDENT,
WINFIELD SCOTT.
(Subject to the decision of a Whig National Convention.)

OUR CANDIDATES.

FOR GOVERNOR
WILLIAM F. JOHNSTON.

FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER,
John Strohm, of Lancaster.

FOR JUDGES OF SUPREME COURT
Richard Coulter, of Westmor'd.
George Chambers, of Franklin.
Joshua W. Comly, of Montour.
William M. Meredith, of Phil'a.
William Jessup, of Susquehanna

FOR PRESIDENT JUDGE OF YORK AND ADAMS COUNTIES
DANIEL DURKEE.

ASSOCIATE JUDGES.
Samuel R. Russell,
John McGinley.

ASSEMBLY.
David Mellinger.

SHERIFF.
John Scott.

PROTHONOTARY.
William W. Paxton.

REGISTER & RECORDER.
Daniel Plank.

CLERK OF THE COURTS.
Eden Norris.

TREASURER.
Thomas Warren.

COMMISSIONER
Abraham Culver.

AUDITOR.
Andrew Marshall, jr.

DIRECTOR OF THE POOR.
James Bigham.

CORONER.
Henry W. Cauffman.

"I have endeavored to do my duty. I have labored to advance Pennsylvania interests. I have demanded for her all her Constitutional rights, and am grumbled or complained, Henrpheth, no hereafter, I am ready to be battle in the glorious cause of Justice and Truth, and without fear or favor contend earnestly for the Right."—Gov. Johnston at Lancaster.

Let us have Good Judges.

☞ *The Compiler is not very logical, either in its argument or its deductions, in reference to the Judge question. It his argument proves anything it proves too much. For it, if we are neighbor some to think, it necessarily follows that because Messrs. Rumsey and McGirney were nominated, therefore they do not possess eminent fitness for the post of Associate Judges.*" *On the party of nominating, it also follows that Messrs. Black, Lewis, Campbell, Gibson, & Lowrie, the nominees of the Harrisburg Convention, do not possess eminent fitness" for the Supreme Bench—those gentlemen having also been nominated by a party Convention. Judge, however, is a conclusion which the Compiler will hardly be willing to endorse.*

Our neighbor appears to be in the dark on this Judiciary question, and professes to be solicitious to understand our position in reference thereto.—We have been candidly endeavoring to give him some light upon the subject, but for some reason or other it don't seem to do much good. Some people, however, are at times wilfully blind, and in such case the task of enlightenment becomes a wholesome one. But, we will try once more.

We are desired to "reconcile the action of the Whig Convention in nominating candidates for Associate Judges and recognizing Judge Durkee as an independent candidate in the same breath." For the life of us, we can see no difficulty here, nor why the Compiler should think us indisposed to "look into the matter." The Whig party in Adams County, acting upon the principle laid down in the argument of the Lancaster State Judicial Committee in the case of regular nominations, (and which was recently replied to by the Compiler, and which we believe to be the habit of uniformly nominating a full County Ticket. This policy was confirmed in the case of the last Whig State County Convention, which nominated candidates for the several offices, (including Associate Judges) with the single exception of the Judgeship. The members of that Convention, being satisfied of Judge Durkee's "eminent fitness" for the post, and particularly so in the general expressed wish of our people that he should be placed upon the Bench, were ready to adopt him as their candidate. But it being understood that a party nomination would be opposed by the Democrats some peculiar views of propriety and contrary to his wishes—he never having actively identified himself with party politics—the Whig Convention adapted to do so now—the Convention yielded, and went so far as to it it could, by adopting resolutions expressing confidence in his ability and integrity, and commending him to the support of all good men. Now was there any inconsistency in all this? Will the Compiler be candid enough to give us a satisfactory reply?

*A word or two here on the subject of party nominations in connection with the Judiciary. We were decidedly in favor of the change in the mode of selecting our Judges, and did what we could in contributing to the the triumph of the amendment to the Constitution providing for an elective Judiciary. Our confidence in the wisdom of the framers of the people to make competent selections has been strong, and we believe that the prophecy of that Convention, that the people would prefer of an abler Judiciary throughout the State than we have had for years. It will be the interest as well as the duty of Judges to make the most their best zeal for Judicial officers, and forward their best zeal for Judicial officers, and forward their best zeal for Judicial officers, and forward