THE STAR AND BANNER.

GETTYSBURG:

Friday Evening, Jan. 2, 1857.

D. A. BUEHLER, EDITOR.

It will be recollected that a case was recently argued in the Supreme Court of the United States which a negro man, Dred Scott, claimed his freedom because he had been held by his master in 1834 in Rock Island Illinois, and in 1836 in Fort Snelling, which was in the Missouri Territory north of 36° 30'. His wife was also sold to Sanford in 1835 in Fort Snelling, where they lived. Their children were born, on the Mississippi river, north of 36° 30', and at Jefferson Barracks. If the parties were entitled to their freedom at the birth of their children, the latter are also free. Suit was first brought in the Circuit Court of St. Louis, where judgment was rendered for the plaintiff, following all the precedents on the subject and recognizing well established principles applicable to the case. An appeal was taken to the Supreme Court of Missouri, which Court in 1852 reversed the decision of the Circuit Court. This reversal was done by a majority of the Court only, who gave their reasons for overruling the former decisions had occurred in that State and Territory. We find three reasons in a recent letter from Montgomery Blair, Esq., to the National Intelligencer. Notice the reasons:

"Because at the time not so far back as were when the former decisions on this subject were made. Since then not only individuals, but States have been manifesting a darker and full spirit in relation to slavery, whose gratification is sought in the pursuit of measures whose inevitable consequence must be the overthrow and destruction of our government. Under such circumstances it does not become the State of Missouri to show the least respect to any measure which might be countenance this spirit."

This is an admission that the law is in favor of the negro claimants for freedom, and bases the decision upon a *supposed political necessity*. Upon such pretexts are men's rights stricken down in the South and States. Such southern justice, when in contact with Northern principle. It is upon which they corrupt the southern judiciary, yet Northern *Doughfaces*, uniting with Southern Disunionists, would indeed be a miserable Republic.

ANTICIPATED TROUBLE WITH SLAVES.—During the past week, considerable uneasiness has existed in some parts of Prince George's co., Md., touching an apprehended rising of the slaves during the present week. The Marlboro' Advocate says:

"Two slaves, the property of Henry Dangerfield, Esq., were hanged in this place on Friday last, and on Sunday five others were also committed. These first arrested are said to have given information, or to have made some disclosures concerning an insurrection, the which probably exists, appears to be based. In consequence of these circumstances, public meetings of the citizens of the district were held on Saturday and Monday last for the organization of patrols, and for taking other steps in the premises.

The Berryville (Va.) Gazette of Thursday has the following:

"Just before going to press, three slaves, the property of Messrs. Hugh Nelson and Mrs. Geo. L. Kerfoot, near Millwood, and a free negro named Jerry Thomas, have been lodged in our jail for attempted insurrection. We learn that these negroes expressed themselves before the witnesses who committed them as familiar with a plot of insurrection to commence in our county, and also at Berryville, twenty months from the first day of November last. And further, that they say that 1,000 men and negroes talking of Fremont was elected they would be free, and as they thought he was not, they proposed to fight for it, and threatened the lives of two of our most worthy citizens as the first they intended to take.

SECTIONALISM.—The standing commitment of the Senate, as announced yesterday, *Not a single Senator representing the general sentiment of the North on the great question of the day has been appointed on one important committee.*—The party which carried all the States in New York, Ohio, Iowa, Wisconsin, and Michigan, which nearly divided Pennsylvania and Indiana and Illinois, has no representative on the chief committees—not one. This party is represented by some of the abler, most experienced and most intelligent members of the Senate. It constitutes the powerful minority in the legislative branch of the Government. Always heretofore that minority has been assigned a place on the committees corresponding in some degree with its strength and importance. Now, for the first time in the history of the Government, the minority has been entirely ignored. And the party that does this, by its action, makes a committee to the Senate pledged to the sectional interests of the South, charges the neglected party with *sectionalism!*—*Providence Journal.*

COL. REAR FRAZER.—The Lancaster (Pa) Herald says a report reached that city on Tuesday evening that this well known lawyer and politician was dead. It will be remembered that he was lately sent to the insane asylum at Harrisburg.

A farmer thus writes to the chairman of the England Agricultural Society: "Gentlemen, please put me down on page 1 list of cattle for a fatter."

LIBERATED SLAVES.—Mr. M. Whitmore, late of Augusta county, Va., by his last will and testament, liberated all his slaves and provided for their transportation to Liberia or one of the Free States at the expense of his estate. To each of them he left the sum of $100, and to those who had served him beyond the age of 45 years, $30 for the excess of time.

Senator Wilson's Speech

Locofoco Disunionists to be Smoked out.

Our readers have noticed that there has been an animated debate in the Senate upon the Slavery Question, as discussed in the President's Message. Decided weakness can scarcely deny that in this debate, the Republican Senators have defended themselves and their cause with great ability. Mr. Wade, Mr. Hale and Mr. Pennington made very vigorous and effective efforts; and Mr. Wilson of Massachusetts, on the 19th ultimo, delivered a most elaborate, finished and powerful elucidation of the principles of the party of which he is so distinguished a champion. The length of the speech will prevent its general publication; but we insert a few extracts, from which the character of the whole may be inferred:—

On the 4th of November last more than 1,200,000 men—intelligent, patriotic, liberty-loving, law abiding citizens of New England, the great Central States and the North West, holding with our Republican fathers that all men are created equal and have an inalienable right to liberty; that the Constitution of the United States was ordained and established to secure that inalienable right everywhere under its exclusive authority; denying "the authority of Congress, of a Territorial Legislature, of any individual, or association of individuals, to give legal existence to Slavery in any Territory of the United States, while the power to exclude Slavery shall be maintained"—pronounced through the ballot box that "the Constitution confers upon Congress sovereign power over the Territories of the United States, and that in the exercise of this power it is both the right and the duty of Congress to prohibit in the Territories those twin relics of barbarism Polygamy and Slavery." Believing with Franklin that "Slavery is an attrocious debasement of human nature"—with Adams, that "consenting to Slavery is a sacrilegious breach of trust"—with Jefferson, that "one hour of American Slavery is fraught with misery than ages of that which we were in rebellion to oppose"—with Madison, that "Slavery is a dreadful calamity," that "inability to give attendance upon a country filled with slaves"—with Monroe, that "Slavery has preyed upon the vitals of the community in all the States where it has existed"—with Motesquieu, that even the very earth, which terms with profusion under the cultivating hand of the free-born laborer, shrinks into barrenness from the contaminating sweat of a slave,"—they pronounced their purpose to be to save Kansas, now in peril, and all the Territories of the Republic, for the free laboring men of the North and the South, their children and their children's children, forever.

Accepting the Declaration of Independence, and the Constitution of the United States as their political charts—avowing their purpose to maintain the Constitution, the Federal Union, the Rights of the States—proclaiming everywhere their purpose not to make war upon the South, not to interfere with the legal and constitutional rights of the people of any of the States—they gave their votes with the profoundest conviction that they were discharging the duties sanctioned by humanity, patriotism and religion. Youth with its high hopes, manhood with its fortitude, in the vigor and maturity of its powers—age, with its rich and ripe experience, inspired with the spirit of Washington, when he announced to Robert Morris that his suffrage should not be wanting "to the cause of liberty and humanity," in native Virginia, "in the only proper and effectual mode in which it could be accomplished—that is, by legislative authority"—avowed the ties which had bound them to other organizations, and united to promote Slavery outside the Slave States, where it exists under the exclusive authority of Congress. This is the offence of more than one million three hundred thousand sons of the free North, upon whom the unkenneled hounds of the slave propagandists have been unleashed.

THE SLAVERY AGITATION.

Sir, Senators who have undertaken to sustain, or rather to apologize for this extraordinary course of the President, have pronounced the discussion of the Slavery question during the past few years, I presumed to Senators who claim to be profound for their sagacity and wisdom, a mere Madness, that "Everything which tends to increase danger, involve national excitement or alarm, should be carefully avoided by every part of the Union and is a proper subject for the consideration of those charged with the general administration of the Government." Surely Senators cannot be surprised at the discussion of questions such as these which grow out of the Slavery of nearly four millions of men in America. American Slavery, our connections with it, and our relations, so it, and the obligations these connections and relations impose upon us as men, as citizens of the United States, which we have not up the overshadowing issues of the age in which we live. Philanthropists who have sounded the depths and shoals of humanity; scholars who have laid under contribution the domain of matter and of mind, of philosophic inquiry and philosophic speculation, who are impressing their genius upon the institutions of their country and their age—all are now illuminating by their genius, learning and eloquence, the vast and complicated issues involved in the great problem of life, which, in America, are working out. The transcendent magnitude of the interests involved in the existence and expansion of the system of human bondage in America is arresting the attention of the people and stirring the country to its profoundest depths.

THE REAL DISUNIONISTS.

This charge of disunion made against the Republican party by the Democrats comes with an ill grace from the chief of a party which has in its ranks every political disorganizer in the United States. The Senator from Georgia (Mr. Toombs) not now here, declared: "If Fremont were elected, I think the Union ought to be." The Senator from Louisiana (Mr. Slidell,) the organizer of Mr. Buchanan's wing of the Democratic party and its acknowledged leader during the canvass, avowed the same sentiments.—Gov. Wise, whose indecent assaults upon Col. Fremont and his mother shocked the feelings of every gentleman in America, threatened to dissolve the Union. He was ready to organize the militia of Virginia, to place them upon a war footing and they were ready, he said, to "clear their highway" through all opposing legions. Here now told *by The Richmond Enquirer* that Wise—who made the tour to Raleigh, who called upon the grand juries and courts to indict Botts for defending the Union in his dominions—that he only made these threats to preserve the Union. *The Richmond Enquirer* of the 6th of October last, declared that if Fremont had been elected, it would be the duty of the South to dissolve the Union and form a Southern Confederacy; and we were told, further South, that if Fremont were elected, it would be their duty to march to Washington and take possession of the Archives and Treasury of the United States," forgetting that the treasurer of Pennsylvania, the Postmaster of New York and Philadelphia, "the enemy's country"—the North.

WHAT THEY BLEED.

Cast your eye over the North; take in New England, with her one hundred and fifty thousand bayonets, fighting against your candidate; take the great State of New York; take the whole line of Northern States, and where you find one, and but a few weeks since the deceased was called upon to pay the penalty in consequence of a murder of a deputy warden.

Railroad Collision.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 26.—Two trains came in collision yesterday on the Pennsylvania Railroad, near Gordonsville. The trains were both much damaged, and four or five persons instantly killed.

University Burnt—Insurrection Rumors.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 31.—The Medical Department of the University situated here, including the library, laboratory and museum was totally burnt this morning. Loss on the about $100,000, and the insurance $30,000.

Disquieting rumors have been current in cities in the south west report that there are many statements afloat in regard to negro insurrection, &c., but the Louisville Courier, which generally publishes the State of Mississippi which you consider so ultra—a people so greatly deluded—praise, within a few thousand years, the people and the Southern Rights editors of the United States, and that in the exercise of this power it is both the right and the duty of Congress to prohibit in the Territories those twin relics of barbarism Polygamy and Slavery." Believing with Franklin that "Slavery is an attrocious debasement of human nature"—with Adams, that "consenting to Slavery is a sacrilegious breach of trust"—with Jefferson, that "one hour of American Slavery is fraught with misery than ages of that which we were in rebellion to oppose"—with Madison, that "Slavery is a dreadful calamity," that "inability to give attendance upon a country filled with slaves"—with Monroe, that "Slavery has preyed upon the vitals of the community in all the States where it has existed"—with Motesquieu, that even the very earth, which terms with profusion under the cultivating hand of the free-born laborer, shrinks into barrenness from the contaminating sweat of a slave,"—they pronounced their purpose to be to save Kansas, now in peril, and all the Territories of the Republic, for the free laboring men of the North and the South, their children and their children's children, forever.

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