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BY ERASTUS BROOKS & Co.

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☞ Merchants, Commercial Intelligence, Domestic, Marine, River News, Imports, Money Markets, &c. see inside pages.

Editorial Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Gazette

Washington, March 14, 1848.

I hold sincerely that the demand for manufactured iron in the great West may keep pace with the manufacture of iron in Western Pennsylvania and elsewhere, but there is danger that the English supply under our free trade tariff may put the home manufacturers into such severe competition that they will be either reduced to the necessity of suspending operations or perhaps the wrong alternative, of reducing the wages of labor. Unless our workingmen are brought down to the standard of the pauper labor of Europe, and men of small capital are here to pay tribute to men of mammoth capital in Europe, manufacturers here must suffer.

Protection to American industry is the only means of securing independence or even comfort to the working men of America.

Mr Baker of Pa, in view of the large importations of iron from Europe has submitted the following Resolution:

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury furnish to the House monthly statements of the iron and manufactures of iron, and all the mineral coal imported into the United States from the 1st of July, 1847 to the 1st of March, 1848, designating the quantity and value of the various kinds of iron,—and the value of the manufactures thereof, and the amount and value of mineral coal imported during said period.

SECRETARY—SUPREME COURT

Among the miscellaneous resolutions offered yesterday was one by Mr. Thompson of Miss, practically to abolish the Supreme Court of the U. States by making the Judges elective. There was opposition to this of course. The mover directed the Judiciary Committee to report a Joint Resolution recommending to the States an amendment of the Constitution, so that Judges like members of Congress, and other elective officers, shall be put upon the scales the will and caprice of a party or politicians. This is another specimen of Democracy. The Democracy or Democracy run mad, which has been quite too much of an into this country, will not stop at the Bench, already but will go to the extreme of the doctrine of service. There have no paramount principles or patriotic opinions, founded with the official appointment and confirmation, cause the encouraging plaudit of seals of office to be lost sight of. Good Behaviour. And what have our courts of justice to do with politics? All parties, all men ought to desire that the Judges of the land should be alike beyond the reach of power and temptation. The constitution provides for their impeachment, trial and punishment and removal when guilty of malfeasance in office. One of the Judges was once impeached and tried, but acquitted, and in the history of the Government to the honor of the Supreme Court let it be said only one. John Randolph, it is true, called the acquitted Judge an "acquitted felon," but every body knows that John Randolph had a tongue for calumny which like the poet's, "out venomed all the worms of the Nile."

Judge Chase was the unfortunate Judge, and though guilty of some indiscretions, one of which was, making a political charge to a Grand Jury, he was pronounced not guilty. But if the Supreme Court is to be transformed into a Bench of Elective political judges, it will speedily become an arena of popular prejudices, partisan action and popular decisions. May no polluted hands ever be laid upon the ermine of our National Judiciary. It is quite enough that the Executive and the Legislature are under other influences than those which render justice between man and man. Let us keep our Judges out of beyond temptation if we would have one department of public service without reproach.

REFUSING OF MEMBERS.

A resolution was introduced requiring the Committee on Rules and Orders to bring in a rule with in ten days providing for the expulsion of any member who shall hereafter be engaged in any personal rencontre while the House is in session.—Mr. C. J. Ingersoll who has got into as many rows in his day as Marmer any member, appeared to throw cold water upon this attempt to preserve order. So also did Mr. Houston, of Alabama, who proposed that if this rule should be adopted, and by way of embarrassing the mover, that members insulting one another should also be expelled. No action was had upon this resolution, nor upon any of those of a contested character.

There was one offered giving the President power to withhold information from Congress,—another evidence of Executive influence in Congress,—another proposing an increase of duty over the act of 1842; a Resolution to which Mr. Thompson, of Pa., objected, Pennsylvanian though he is. Another allowing Postmasters the franking privilege when their salaries do not exceed $2000 per annum. A Resolution reducing the mileage to five dollars for twenty miles travel, instead of eight dollars, the amount now allowed by law, was also offered, and a solitary member rose to second it, while a shout went up from the members at this evidence of the failure of the attempt to reduce the pay for service. This is an old game of demagogueism which shows its head once or twice in every session.

A resolution was also offered proposing the adjournment of the two Houses of Congress on the 20th of June. It was objected to, but Congress will not necessarily be in session beyond this time and four years ago, upon the eve of the last Presidential contest adjourned ten days earlier.

General Quitman left for the West last evening via Pittsburgh. General Q. will visit Mississippi. He retains his commission and his return to Mex? I so will depend upon the restoration of peace which he seems to regard as not altogether certain.

PROPERTY IN SLAVES, &c.

Washington, March 15.

Among the more recent measures mooted in the House of Representatives have been several bills and Resolutions in relation to the Institution of Slavery. In view of the fact that the laws of the United States now permit the collection of debts by the extent of executions upon persons held as Slaves, and that sales have been made of slaves by virtue of such laws, a Resolution has been offered prohibiting the sale of such persons on any precept in favor of the U. S.

Mr. Crowell, of Ohio, has given notice of a bill also to repeal so much of the law of 1801, (passed Feb. 27) and all other acts and parts of acts as in any way encourages the institution of Slavery, or the Slave trade in the District.

Mr. Wick of Ia., proposed a bill prohibiting the transition of slaves with certain exceptions in the District of Columbia.

Mr. Hamlin yesterday presented a memorial from citizens of Allegheny county, praying Congress for the repeal of the law of 1793, touching fugitives from justice. I fear, however, the Committee will not report upon this subject at all, preferring to let the subject of much earnest agitation, and during the session one of the Southern Senators has urged a more stringent law for the south, that there is a want of power to arrest fugitive slaves.

MISCELLANEOUS PROCEEDINGS.

The Committee on Commerce have been unusually busy in earning a day for the consideration of the River and Harbor Bill, a measure of the greatest importance to the West. Two-thirds are necessary to allow up the bill out of its order. The Bill is sure to pass sooner or later, and sooner or later, too, it is doubted to receive the President's Veto. Within the next nine weeks the Loco Focos are to select a candidate for the Presidency. If Mr. Polk should by any possibility be the nominee and elected, farewell to every prospect of improvement. Will the country fare better if such a misfortune shou-overrun the country in the election of any of the prominent politicians before the people? Messrs. Buchanan and Dallas, Cass and Woodbury, all have maintained a dignified silence upon this subject, always excepting Mr. Cass's laconic letter to the Chicago Convention, which has afforded fun to the politicians of the country ever since. But do not let the country be humbugged upon this question. Mr. Polk is not the author of the sentiment ascribed to him by Mr. Polk's pledges of "fresh energy and vigor" in the Executive policy, as sent in "the Kabinet." "Mr. Polk," said Mr. Buchanan in 1844, "is as good a tariff man as Henry Clay,"—and yet

Mr. Polk's Secretary of the Treasury furnish to the House monthly statements of the iron and manufactures of iron, and all the mineral coal imported into the United States from the 1st of July, 1847 to the 1st of March, 1848, designating the quantity and value of the various kinds of iron,—and the value of the manufactures thereof, and the amount and value of mineral coal imported during said period.

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