

I think not at any time. And must clearly it was not possible, after the discovery of the plot, the ringleaders in iron, all the fire arms removed beyond their reach, and the remainder of the crew such as could be depended on, fully prepared to shoot down the first that refused to obey orders. To attempt a mutiny under such circumstances would be the height of madness and folly.

The wanton destruction of life, therefore, (unauthorized by law or excusable through security) must have originated in the most shameful cowardice, or the most diabolical malignity—it may be a base compound of both.

There is one feature in this transaction, which is as it is throughout, which must be to every well regulated mind, truly revolting. It is the incongruous mixture of sacred and profane things. For instance, the poor boy Spencer, after he had been sentenced to be hanged, asked the Captain (which had very obligingly furnished him with a bible and prayer book) whether the time allowed is not too short for repentance. The Capt. in reply refers him to the case of the thief on the cross. This reference if not done in derision (which is very probable) displays the grossest ignorance. Is there the slightest analogy between the cases. A case like that of the thief can never happen again. The thief on the cross was pardoned—why? Because in that dread and dark hour when all the disciples of the Saviour denied him and he the poor thief acknowledged him as his Messiah. "And he said unto Jesus, Lord remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom." "And Jesus said unto him, I will. Verily I say unto thee, to-day shalt thou be with me in Paradise." It was for this acknowledgment of the thief's sin was forgiven if they were forgiven at all, which I think is very questionable. The reply of Jesus that to-day he should be with him in paradise may mean nothing more than that he should be with him in the place of departed spirits called Paradise.

As the latter place was sometimes called Paradise.

Again the Captain with his hands yet dripping with the blood of his victims had the unparalleled audacity to read the funeral service when committing the bodies to the deep. What a horrible profanation of sacred rites.

Captain McKenzie must and will be accountable to the laws of his country, and in his own person experience the truth or falsehood of his abominable maxim, "that persons in the United States having money or friends are never subjected to punishment, no matter what crime they may have committed."

JAMES BUCHANAN

DAILY MORNING POST.

THE PHILADELPHIA MORNING POST, SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1843.

See First Page.

We have already referred to the efforts about being made by the federal portion of the legislature, in connection with a few disappointed democrats, to raise an excitement in reference to the mode of selecting these important public agents, and deem the matter of sufficient importance to allude to it again.

It certainly must be a cause of serious regret with the reflecting portion of the community, that the management of our public works should continue to be made the sport of political gamblers, and that too, at times when the public interest must evidently suffer by it. For our own part we cannot perceive how any three men in the Commonwealth, however chosen, could by any course of conduct, secure the reward to which faithful public servants should always be entitled—the approbation of their fellow citizens—if it be denied to our present Board after their zealous and successful efforts for the past year.

It is a fact authentically known to the public, that under the most forbidding circumstances—in one of our dullest business years—we have made upwards of \$830,000 over expenditures (notwithstanding a falling off in tolls, from the preceding year, of about \$160,000, owing to a decrease in trade from the east,) a thing uncommon in the past history of our improvements.

This cheering result has most undoubtedly been brought about by the system of retrenchment and the rigid economy of our commissioners, and richly entitles them to the respect and confidence of the community. Wherein, then, are we to be benefited by permitting mere politicians to embroil, and assail men, who have acted thus commendably, whose works attest their fidelity, and who have more than realized the expectations of the people? Why, we ask, should they, in view of these facts, be surrounded with strife and distraction, at this time? Do the people desire it? or do they wish such obstacles to be thrown in their way, as will retard or prevent the offering up of our main line to individual competition, a task in which the present commissioners have most devotedly labored, and in the completion of which, their services are still indispensable? We unhesitatingly say they do not. They have too much at stake to countenance such an attempt, which, to say the least, amounts, under the most charitable construction, to an unjustifiable tampering with the prospects and character of the state, and the pockets of the people.

We can imagine but one source, besides the restless spirit of federal intrigues, from which such agitation is likely to spring at this crisis—a coalition of some corrupt political renegades and the borers of the exploded combination of transporters—in order to stave off the question of the State Serip, and others of equal importance, connected with the public works, and the final release from the grasp of avaricious monopolists.

Should such machinations prevail at this juncture, and our present prospects be destroyed, years must elapse before we regain our position—before another ray of hope illumines the labyrinth of our financial difficulties.

But we have no fear that the majority of the Legislature will submit to the dictation of men who have no regard for the character and real interests of the State; who would at all times sacrifice them to the gratification of those pithy, malignant feelings peculiar to corrupt and narrow-minded aspirants; men in fine, whose zeal in the mental drudgery of others, effectually blinds them to the mischievous tendency of their own actions. From such patriots—such practices of economy—may the good sense of the people forever deliver us.

Imprisonment for Debt.

We perceive that certain of our Legislators are moving in the effort to repeal the law abolishing imprisonment for debt in this state. It is to be hoped that no one of them is so far behind the spirit of the age as to desire to repeal that most humane enactment which protects the person of the poor debtor from the merciless grip of his oppressors. We conceive it to be our duty solemnly to protest against any movement having for its object, either now or hereafter, the repeal of this Act. That the law may be awkwardly drawn up and may cause useless trouble and vexation to those charged with its administration, we have reason to believe. In these respects it might be amended, but the great principles of the law should remain untouched.

Major Tushman is lecturing in Baltimore.

London Females.

There are more than ten thousand women in London, who live, or rather, starve, by making shirts. The condition of this class of females is truly deplorable. A London paper states that a surgeon had his attention called to the state of the shirt-makers in the metropolis, by the tragical instance of the poverty of this class. A woman had taken violent for the purpose of destroying herself, and on inquiring the cause which led her to take such a step, he learned that her husband was a sailor, and that she, not being able to receive any part of his wages, in his absence, had endeavored to earn her subsistence by making sailors' shirts; but finding that, though she worked from six in the morning till eleven, and sometimes all night, she could not earn enough to enable her to procure the necessities of life, she had been induced to pawn the work which she had in hand. To avoid being apprehended she had taken the violent; and it was from having attended this woman that his attention had first been called to the subject. The surgeon was consequently led to inquire into the situation of this ill paid class, and he was informed that, for making a shirt, the workmen received only one penny, (two cents), and out of this penny they were obliged to find thread, which reduced the sum paid for making a shirt to little more than three farthings, and that to take a good hand three hours to make a shirt of that particular sort.

We find the following in the Pa. Reporter of the 19th. It is to be regretted that any thing should have taken place in the Convention that would tend to the absence of that spirit of harmony which should attend all such gatherings of the democracy. The cause of the year and says being called on a particular resolution, we understood, originated in a foolish objection raised by some to a motion to the vote on the resolutions separately. The propriety of doing so was the perfect right of any member of the Convention to make such a motion, must be admitted by every one who has any knowledge of the manner in which the business of such assemblies is conducted. This was the only occurrence that was calculated to mar the harmonious progress of the Convention, and we believe it to have been caused by some over-zealous persons who in their anxiety to defend their friend against a supposed meditated assault, called forth remarks, which, if they had acted prudently would never have been uttered.

To the Editor of the Reporter.

GENTLEMEN:—In reading the proceedings of the 8th January State Convention, as published in your paper of the 13th inst., I perceive that the year and says on the resolution respecting the Porters, are not published, although a resolution had passed the Convention to that effect. These friends of Schuyler, Richard Palmer, Jr., Benjamin H. Brewster, and others of the Philadelphia delegation, and we believe it to have been caused by some over-zealous persons who in their anxiety to defend their friend against a supposed meditated assault, called forth remarks, which, if they had acted prudently would never have been uttered.

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Mr. Linn presented a memorial about 50 feet long, praying the improvement of the navigation of the western waters. He said that about 200 millions worth of property had no doubt, been already lost on those waters. After some remarks from other Senators, the memorial was referred.

In the House, a resolution was adopted directing the committee on ways and means to inquire into the expediency of reporting a bill, setting apart annually for ten years, the sum of 300,000 dollars for the removal of obstructions in the waters of the Mississippi. In the present state of affairs, the committee might just as well be directed to inquire into the expediency of removing obstructions at the bottom of the Atlantic.

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Mr. Marshall did not withdraw the motion for the previous question, and it was seconded by the House.

The question was then taken on the pending amendment, moved by Mr. Cushing, viz, to strike out the 5th of December, from the bill, and to insert that the repeal shall not affect cases which may be pending at the time of the passage of the bill.

The amendment was agreed to, yeas 143, nays 52.

Mr. Barnard then moved to amend the bill so as to exclude voluntary bankrupts, unless by the concurrence of their creditors. This was rejected, yeas 73, nays 146.

The bill was then read a third time and passed, which provides that the repeal shall not affect cases pending at the time of the repeal. The vote on the passage of the bill was—yeas 140, nays 71.

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St. John, severely says, "Where they crucified him and two others with him, on either side one and Jesus in the midst."

What can be done by slavery.

A story is told in the Nantucket Islander, by the way, one of the most able, and fearless newspapers we read, which shows the effect of firmness and determination on the part of naval officers, in keeping down a large hostile force with but small physical means. In the month of February of 1775, the French frigate, the Insurgente was captured by the American frigate Constellation. The Insurgente struck at half past three in the afternoon, and a prize was placed on board her, consisting of Mr. Rodgers, the first lieutenant of the Constellation, and since well known as Commodore Rodgers. Mr. Porter, afterwards the distinguished commander of the Essex, and eleven seamen. They commenced removing the prisoners, but before they had completed their important task, the wind and darkness compelled them to defer the duty. The ships were separated, and the prisoners remained on board the Insurgente. The crew, to control whom there were but thirteen Americans.

What made this a matter of yet greater difficulty, was that the Insurgente had been greatly damaged in the action, and the wounded and the dead covered her decks. A disposition to rise upon the prize crew was manifested by the prisoners. Neither gratings nor handcuffs could be found. A situation like this called for energetic measures. The prisoners were ordered into the lower hold, the yards at each hatchway, and a sentinel was placed with positive orders to shoot every man who would attempt to appear on deck.

From Buenos Ayres.—At the latest accounts from Entre Rios, the theatre of war, the Federal forces had not moved, but it was expected a movement would soon take place. The contest is likely to be a very sanguine one. General Urquiza, Federal Governor of Entre Rios, has published a decree to the effect that every Uruguayan shall be put to death, and that whoever shall meet with, find, or hear of one of opposite political opinions and not take his life, it is in his power, shall die in his stead. Provinces, now in a peaceful state, and a sentinel was placed in the daily reports of this city, as proofs of the growing ascendancy of Federalism.

Franklin.—Considerable damage was done at Ithica, N. Y. Almost all the buildings in the neighborhood of that village, along the Cascadilla creek have been carried away.

The Lenox (Mass.) Eagle, of Thursday, says that Brainerd's bridge, which is on the road to Albany, about eighteen miles from Pittsfield, has been swept away.

The following is a report of what transpired on Saturday, up to the hour at which the Democrat went to press:

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What made this a matter of yet greater difficulty, was that the Insurgente had been greatly damaged in the action, and the wounded and the dead covered her decks. A disposition to rise upon the prize crew was manifested by the prisoners. Neither gratings nor handcuffs could be found. A situation like this called for energetic measures. The prisoners were ordered into the lower hold, the yards at each hatchway, and a sentinel was placed with positive orders to shoot every man who would attempt to appear on deck.

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