



IT DOESN'T MAKE IT SO.

Suppose, for instance, you suppose that black is white, and that white is black. That every wind is mild that blows. It really doesn't make it so.

OUTRAGE IN NORTH CAROLINA.

The Philadelphia Daily News, of Dec. 31st, contains the following account of a gross outrage perpetrated against an old man and his wife at a place called Warrenton, in North Carolina, about 25 miles above the imaginary line which divides that State from the hot-bed of treason.

"Three or four years since, a respectable and aged German citizen, named Christian King, resided at Roxborough and kept a jewelry store at Manayunk. He emigrated to Warrenton, N. C., with his family, and rented a store in the Post Office building. He and his small family, consisting of his wife and a daughter, occupied a portion of the house.

"Like other men doing a pretty heavy business, he had a lawyer, to whom he communicated the circumstances of the interview. The lawyer told him to go and vote for Breckinridge, or the people would get down on him, and perhaps kill him. He thought over the matter seriously, and finally came to the conclusion that there was more truth than poetry in the assertion made by his legal adviser.

"The amount of grain said to be in store in Oswego and Buffalo, at the present time is said to be 3,343,000 bushels.

DISARMING THE LOYAL STATES.

The events of the past few weeks are impressing the people of the North with the conviction that our imbecile President is permitting his Secretary of War to disarm the loyal States in order that they may be able to make no effectual resistance to the consummation of the schemes for the erection of a Southern Slaveholding Confederacy.

THE CHARLESTON FORTS.

The South Carolina traitors having boasted that they would seize Fort Sumter on the 27th Dec., Major Anderson, the commanding officer at Fort Moultrie, on the night previous abandoned Fort Moultrie, having first spiked the cannons and burned the gun carriages, and took possession of Sumter. He assumed the responsibility of doing so under his general order to protect the public property placed in his charge, and because he believed that he and his handful of men were occupying a perilous position.

"Major Anderson, in passing from Fort Moultrie to Fort Sumter, has discovered the plans of the Secessionists no little, and his conduct cannot fail to be approved by every friend of the Union. Gen. Scott, it is stated, has written a letter to him, saying he behaved like a brave man and patriot, and that he would stand by him to the last. Fort Sumter is the most important post as it commands the harbor, and is considered impregnable.

ENVOIEMENT AT PITTSBURGH.

The people of Pittsburgh and vicinity were thrown into a state of intense excitement on the 24th ult., in consequence of it becoming known that the munitions of war in the Arsenal near that city were about to be transferred, under an urgent order from the Secretary of War, to Southern military posts.

"The press is as free in Brazil as in N. York; and the law requires the printer to be paid, both for his paper and advertisements, in advance. A very good regulation, that.

A STREET SWEEPER'S HISTORY.

The late Mr. Simcox, of Harbourside, near Birmingham, was on one occasion in London, when he was obliged, in consequence of a heavy shower of rain, to take shelter under an archway. The rain continued for a long time with unabated fury, and he was consequently obliged to remain in his place of shelter, although beginning to suffer from his prolonged exposure to the damp and cold atmosphere.

"You are right," replied the old gentleman. "If you will pledge me your word as a man of honor not to disclose to any one that which I am now going to tell you, until you have seen the notice of my death in the London papers, I have no objection to remind you where and how you have seen me. In St. James Park, near Spring Garden, you may pass, every day, a man who sweeps a crossing there, and whose begging is attended by a strange peculiarity, that whatever be the amount of the alms bestowed on him, he will retain only a half-penny, and will scrupulously return to the donor all the rest.

"The Natchez, Mississippi, Free Trader, of Dec. 12th, relates the following story: One day last week, a gentleman of this city hailed an up-country boat, the Cora Anderson, as she was passing Greenville, Miss., whither he had gone on business, to return home. Shortly after being under way, our Natchez friend observed a pensive looking little girl, aged about nine or ten years, whose black hair and yellowish brown skin would indicate that she was a mulattress.

HARD TIMES IN THE SOUTH.

All the news from the South proves conclusively that the Southern people are beginning to feel the folly of the Secessionists at their own homes. A sheet attacking the Northern people, they find themselves in many sections, without corn or bacon. Their orders sent to Western ports for hay and grain are all refused unless accompanied by the hard cash. John Forsyth, in the Mobile Register, presents a pitiable picture as to the condition of the people of the interior of Alabama.

"An explosion lately occurred in a coal mine in England, by which 170 persons were killed.

GOVERNOR PACKER'S MESSAGE.

The Pennsylvania Legislature met on Tuesday, January 1st. In the Senate, Robert M. Palmer, of Schuylkill county, was elected Speaker, and Russell Errett, of Pittsburgh, Chief Clerk. In the House, E. W. Davis, of Venango county, was elected Speaker, and E. H. Rauch, of Carbon county, Chief Clerk. W. A. Nichols, of McKean, was elected one of the Transcribing Clerks in the House. On Wednesday, Gov. Packer sent in his message.

"The extraordinary and alarming condition of our national affairs demands your immediate attention. On the 20th of December last, the convention of South Carolina, organized under the authority of the Legislature of that State, by a unanimous vote, declared that the Union now subsisting between South Carolina and the other States, under the name of the United States of America, is hereby dissolved; and the action already taken in several other southern States indicates, most clearly, their intention to follow this example.

"The creation of the Federal Government, with the powers enumerated in the Constitution, was the act of the people of the United States, and it is perfectly immaterial that the people of the several States acted separately within the territorial limits of each State. The form of their action is of no consequence, in view of the fact that they created a Federal Government, to which they surrendered certain powers of sovereignty, and declared those powers, thus surrendered, to be supreme, without reserving to the States, or to the people, the right of secession, nullification, or other resistance. It is, therefore, clear that there is no constitutional right of secession.

PAINTING A WHITE GIRL TO MAKE HER SLAVE.

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that are charged with having refused compliance with that mandate of the Constitution of the United States, which declares "that no person held to service or labor in one State, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor, but shall be delivered up, on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due." So far from admitting the truth of this charge, I unhesitatingly aver, that upon a careful examination, it will be found that the legislative and judicial action of Pennsylvania, whether as a colony, as a member of the old confederation, or under the existing Constitution of the United States, has been almost invariably influenced by a proper appreciation of her own obligations, and by a high regard for the rights, the feelings and the interests of her sister States.

"As early as 1765, the provincial authorities of Pennsylvania, after reading in the preamble, that 'the importation of Indian slaves from Carolina, or other places, hath been observed to give the Indians of this province some umbrage for suspicion and dissatisfaction,' passed an act against the importation of Indian slaves from any other province, or colony, in America, but at the same time declared, 'that no such Indian slave, as deserting his master's service elsewhere, shall fly into this province, shall be understood or construed to be comprehended within this act.' And when, in 1780, more than eight years before the Constitution of the United States went into operation, Pennsylvania passed her law for the gradual abolition of slavery, mindful of the rights of her confederates, she declared that 'this act, or anything in it contained, shall not give any relief or shelter to any absconding or runaway negro or mulatto slave, or servant, who has absented himself, or shall absent himself, from his or her owner, master or mistress, residing in any other State or country, but such owner, master or mistress, shall have like right and aid to demand; claim and take away his slave, or servant, as he might have had in case this act had not been made.' A provision much more unequivocal in its phrasing, and direct in its commands, than those found, on the same subject, in the Constitution of the United States. The act by its terms, was made inapplicable to domestic slaves attending upon delegates in Congress from the other American States, and those held by persons while passing through this State, or sojourning therein for a period not longer than six months.

"In 1788 it was made a high penal offence for any person, by force, violence or fraud, to take out of this State, any negro or mulatto, as a slave, for a term of years. Soon after the passage of this act, the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania decided that it did not apply to the forcible removal of a slave, by the owner or his agent, but that its object was to punish the forcible or fraudulent abduction from the State of free negroes, with the intention of keeping or selling them as slaves. This, at that early day, giving justice according to the doctrine, that a master had the right to take his slaves wherever he could find them.

"The first act of Congress providing for the rendition of fugitives from justice or labor, was passed in 1793, and originated from the refusal of the Governor of Virginia to surrender and deliver up, on the requisition of the Governor of Pennsylvania, three persons who had been indicted in Pennsylvania for kidnapping a negro, and carrying him into Virginia. And when it was found that this Congress statute did not afford a simple, speedy and efficient remedy for the recovery of fugitives from labor, the Legislature of Pennsylvania, at the request of the adjoining State of Maryland, in 1825, passed her act 'to give effect to the provisions of the Constitution of the United States relative to fugitives from labor, for the protection of free people of color, and to prevent kidnapping.' This excellent and well considered law met all the existing emergencies. It required the judges, justices of the peace and aldermen, of the State, upon the oath of the claimant, to issue their warrant for the arrest of any fugitive from labor escaping into this State; directing, however, that such warrants should be made returnable, by whomsoever issued, before a judge of the proper county. It required sheriffs and constables to execute such warrants. It authorized the commitment of the fugitive to the county jail, and otherwise made provisions to secure its effective execution, and at the same time to prevent its abuse.

"This law continued quietly in operation until the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, made in 1842, in the case of Prigg vs. The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The history of this case may be briefly stated; Edward Prigg was indicted in the court of oyer and terminer of York county, for kidnapping a colored person, named Margaret Morgan. Upon the trial it appeared that she was held as a slave in the State of Maryland, and that she escaped into the State of Pennsylvania in the year 1832—that in 1837, Edward Prigg was appointed, by the owner of the slave, to seize and arrest her as a fugitive from labor. In pursuance of this authority, and under a warrant issued by a justice of the peace, Prigg caused the negro woman to be arrested, and without having obtained any warrant of removal, he delivered her to her owner in the State of Maryland. These facts were found by a special verdict, and by the agreement of counsel, a judgment was entered against Prigg. From this judgment a writ of error was taken to the Supreme Court of the State, where a pro forma judgment of affirmance was again by agreement entered, and the case removed to the Supreme Court of the United States.

"It will be observed that the question, whether Edward Prigg was really guilty of the crime of kidnapping, under the Pennsylvania statute of 1825, was never actually passed upon, either by the court or jury, in the county of York, or by the Supreme Court of the State. The jury merely found the facts, and the action of both courts was but a matter of form. In the argument and determination of the case, in the Supreme Court of the U. States, it appears to have been taken for granted that our act of 1825 made it a criminal offence for a master to take his slave out of this State, without a warrant of removal; and, upon this construction, the act was declared unconstitutional and void. This, I submit, was a clear misapprehension of the purport and meaning of our legislation. The first section of the Act of 1825, under which the indictment against Prigg was framed, was almost literally copied from the seventh section of the act of 1788, to which a construction had already been