

The Freeman's Journal

BY S. B. ROW.

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OH! BE NOT THE FIRST!
Oh! be not the first to discover
A blot on the fame of a friend
A flaw in the faith of a lover,
Whose heart may prove true in the end.
We none of us know one another,
And oft into error we fall;
Then let us speak well of a brother,
Or speak not about him at all.

A smile or a sigh may awaken
Suspicion most false and undue;
And thus our hearts may be shaken
In hearts that are honest and true.

How often the light smile of gladness
Is worn by the friend that we meet
To cover a soul full of sadness,
Too proud to acknowledge defeat.

How often the sigh of dejection
Is heaved from the hypocrite's breast,
To parody truth and affection,
Or lull a suspicion to rest.

How often the friends we hold dearest,
Their noblest emotions conceal;
And bemoan the purest sincerest,
Have secrets they cannot reveal.

Leave base minds to harbor suspicion,
And small ones to trace out defects—
Let ours be a nobler ambition,
For base is the mind that suspects.

We none of us know one another,
And oft into error we fall;
Then let us speak well of our brother,
Or speak not about him at all.

GOV. CURTIN'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

Delivered January 15th, 1861.
Having been entrusted by the people of Pennsylvania with the administration of the Executive department of the government for the next three years, and having taken a solemn oath of fidelity to the Constitution of the United States, and to the Constitution of Pennsylvania, I avail myself of your presence to express to you, and through you to the people of the State, my gratitude for the distinguished honor they have, in their partiality, conferred upon me.

Deeply impressed with its responsibilities and duties, I enter upon the office of Governor of Pennsylvania, with a determination to fulfill them all faithfully to the utmost of my ability. Questions of great moment intimately connected with the feelings and interests of the people of all parts of the Nation, now agitate the public mind; and some of them, from their novelty and importance, are left for settlement in the uncertainty of the future. A selfish caution might indicate silence as the safest course to be pursued as to these questions; but one just entering upon the responsibilities of high official position; but fidelity to the high trust reposed in me demands, especially at this juncture, that I yield to an honored custom which requires a frank declaration of the principles to be adopted, and the policy to be pursued during my official term.

We have assumed, as the great fundamental truth of our political theory, that man is capable of self-government, and that all power emanates from the people. An experience of seventy-one years, and the Constitution of the United States, has demonstrated to all mankind that the people can be entrusted with their own political destinies; and the deliberate expression of their will should furnish the rule of conduct to their representatives in official station. Thus appreciating their liberal capacity for self-government, and alive to the importance of preserving, pure and unadulterated as it came from the hands of the Apostles of Liberty, this vital principle, I pledge myself to stand between it and encroachments, whether instigated by hatred or ambition, by fanaticism or folly.

The policy that should regulate the administration of the government of our State, was declared by its founders, and is fully established by experience. It is just and fraternal in its aims, liberal in its spirit, and patriotic in its progress. The freedom of speech and of the press, the right of conscience and of private judgment in civil and religious faith, are the high prerogatives to which the American citizen is born. In our social organization the rich and the poor, the high and the low, enjoy these equally and the Constitution and the laws in harmony therewith, protect the rights of all. The intelligence of the people is one of the main pillars of the fabric of our government, and the highest hopes of the patriot for its safety rest on enlightened public morality and virtue. Our system of Common Schools will ever enlist my earnest solicitude. For its growing wants the most ample provision should be made by the Legislature. I feel that I need not urge this duty. The system has been gaining in strength, and usefulness for a quarter of a century, until it has silenced opposition by its beneficent fruits. It has at times languished for want of just appropriations, from changes and amendments of the law, and perhaps from inefficiency in its administration; but it has surmounted every difficulty and is now regarded by the enlightened and patriotic of every political faith as the great bulwark of safety for our free institutions. The manner in which this subject is presented to the Legislature, by my immediate predecessor, in his annual message, fully harmonizes with public sentiment; and his recommendation for aid to the Farmers' High School of Pennsylvania meets my most cordial approbation. Invited to the rich prairie lands of the West, where the labor of the husbandman is simple and uniform, and population has filled our valleys, it passes away from our highland soils where scientific culture is required to reward labor by bringing fruitfulness and plenty out of a comparative sterility. While individual liberality has done much for an institution that is designed to educate the farmer of the State, the School languishes for want of public aid. An experience of ten years has fully demonstrated that the institution can be made self-sustaining; and it requires no aid from the State except for the completion of the buildings in accordance with the original design. A liberal appropriation for that purpose would be honorable to the Legislature and a just recognition of a system of public instruction that is of the highest importance to the State in the development of our wealth, the growth of our population and the prosperity of our great agricultural interests.

The State having been wisely relieved of the management of the public improvements by their sale, the administration of the government is greatly simplified, its resources are certain and well understood, and the amount of the public debt is definitely ascertained. A rigid economy in all its various departments and a strict accountability from all public officers, are expected by our people, and they shall not be disappointed. Now that the debt of the State is in the course of steady liquidation, by the ordinary means of the treasury, all unnecessary expenditures of the public money must be firmly resisted, so that the gradual diminution of the indebtedness shall not be interrupted.

To promote the prosperity of the people and the power of the Commonwealth, by increasing her financial resources, by a liberal recognition of the vast interests of our commerce, by husbanding our means and diminishing the burdens of taxation and of debt, will be the highest object of my ambition, and all the energy of my administration will be directed to the accomplishment of these results.

The pardoning power is one of the most important and delicate powers conferred upon the Chief Magistrate by the Constitution, and it should always be exercised with great caution, and never except on the most conclusive evidence that it is due to be condoned, and that the public security will not be prejudiced by the act. When such applications are presented to the Executive it is due to society, to the administration of justice, and to all interested, that public notice should be given. By the adoption of such a regulation imposition will be prevented and just efforts will be strengthened.

The association of capital and labor, under acts of incorporation, where the purposes to be accomplished are beyond the reach of individual enterprise, has long been the policy of the State, and has done much to advance the prosperity of the people. Where the means of the citizens are moderate, as they generally are in a new and growing country, and where the concentration of the capital of many is necessary to development and progress, such associations, when judiciously restricted, confer large benefits on the State. The vast resources of Pennsylvania, and the variety of her mechanical and other industrial pursuits, invite capital and enterprise from abroad, which, on every sound principle of political economy, should be encouraged. Much of the time of the Legislature is consumed by applications for special chartered privileges which might be saved by the enactment of general laws and by such amendment to our general mining and manufacturing law as will remove needless and burdensome restraints, and at the same time afford ample protection to capital and labor, and to the community at large. Our statute books are full of acts of incorporation conferring special privileges as they are numerous, dissimilar in their grants of power, and unequal in their liabilities and restrictions. Well considered and judicious general laws to meet all classes of corporations, would remedy the evil, economize time and money, relieve the Legislature from the constant pressure for undue privileges, and be just and equal to all in their administration.

The veto power conferred upon the Executive was given with much hesitation, and not without serious apprehensions as to its abuse, by the framers of our organic law. It is, in my judgment, to be used with the greatest caution, and only when legislation is manifestly inconsiderate, or of more than doubtful constitutionality. The legislators, chosen as they are directly by the people, in such a manner that a fair expression of their views of the true policy of the government can always be had, give to all well considered measures of legislation the solemn sanction of the highest power of the State, and it should not be arbitrarily interfered with. I shall shrink from no duty involved by the sacred trust reposed in me by the people of the Commonwealth, I would have all other departments of the government appreciate the full measure of responsibility that devolves upon them.

The position of mutual estrangement in which the different sections of our country have been placed by the precipitate action and violent denunciation of heated partisans, the apprehension of still more serious complications, and the uncertainty of the future, have had the effect of weakening commercial credit and partially interrupting trade; and as a natural consequence, deranging our exchanges and currency. Yet the elements of general prosperity are everywhere diffused amongst us, and nothing is wanting but, a return of confidence to enable us to reap the rich rewards of our diversified industry and enterprise. Should the restitution of confidence in business and commercial circles be long delayed, the Legislature, in its wisdom, will, I doubt not, meet the necessities of the crisis in a generous and patriotic spirit.

Thus far our system of Government has fully answered the expectation of its founders, and has demonstrated the capacity of the people for self-government. The country has advanced in wealth, knowledge and power, and secured to all classes of its citizens the blessings of peace, prosperity and happiness. The workings of our simple and natural political organization have given direction and energy to individual and associated enterprise, maintained public order, and promoted the welfare of all parts of our vast and expanding country. No one who knows the history of Pennsylvania and understands the opinions and feelings of her people, can justly charge us with hostility to our brethren of other States. We regard them as friends and fellow countrymen, in whose welfare we feel a kindred interest; and we recognize, in their broadened extent, all our constitutional obligations to them. These we are ready and willing to observe generously and fraternally in their letter and spirit, with unswerving fidelity.

The election of a President of the United States, according to the forms of the Constitution, has recently been made a pretext for disturbing the peace of the country by a deliberate attempt to wrest from the Federal Government the powers which the people conferred on it when they adopted the Constitution. By this movement the question whether the government of the United States embodied the prerogatives, rights and powers of sovereignty, or merely represents, for specific purposes, a multitude of independent communities, confederated in a league which any of them may dissolve at will, is now placed directly before the American people. Unhappily this question is not presented in the simple form of political discussion, but complicated with the passions and jealousies of impending or actual conflict.

There is nothing in the life of Mr. Lincoln, nor in any of his acts or declarations before or since his election, to warrant the apprehension that his Administration will be unfriendly to the local institutions of any of the States.

No sentiments but those of kindness and conciliation have been expressed or entertained by the constitutional majority which elected him; and nothing has occurred to justify the excitement which seems to have blinded the judgment of a part of the people, and is precipitating them into revolution.

The supremacy of the National Government has been so faithfully admitted to long cherished by the people of Pennsylvania, and so completely has the conviction of its nationality and sovereignty directed their political action, that they are surprised at the pertinacity with which a portion of the people elsewhere maintain the opposite view. The traditions of the past, the recorded teachings of the Fathers of the Republic, the security of their freedom and prosperity, and their hopes for the future, are all in harmony with an unflinching allegiance to the National Union, the maintenance of the Constitution and the enforcement of the laws. They have faithfully adhered to the compromise of our great National compact, and willingly recognized the peculiar institutions and rights of property of the people of other States. Every true Pennsylvanian admits that his first civil and political duty is to the general government, and he frankly acknowledges his obligation to protect the constitutional rights of all who live under its authority and enjoy its blessings.

I have already taken occasion to say publicly, and I now repeat, that if we have any laws upon our statute books which infringe upon the rights of the people of any of the States, or contravene any law of the Federal Government, or obstruct its execution, they ought to be repealed. We ought not to hesitate to exhibit to other States that may have enacted laws interfering with the rights, or obstructive to the remedies which belong constitutionally to all American citizens, an example of magnanimity and of implicit obedience to the paramount law, and by a prompt repeal of every statute that may even, by implication, be liable to reasonable objection, do our part to remove every just cause of dissatisfaction with our legislation.

Pennsylvania has never faltered in her recognition of all the duties imposed upon her by the national compact, and she will, by every act consistent with her devotion to the interests of her own people, promote fraternity and peace, and a liberal comity between the States. Her convictions on the vital questions which have agitated the public mind are well understood abroad. Her verdict has been as uniform as they have been decisive, in favor of the dignity, the prosperity and the progress of her free industry, and support of the principles of liberty on which the government is founded, and menace or rebellion cannot reverse them. They have passed into history as the deliberate judgment of her people, expressed in a peaceful, fraternal and constitutional manner; and when they shall have been administered in the government, as soon as they will, the madness that now rules the hour will subside, as their patriotic, faithful and national aims bring ample protection and peaceful progress to all sections of the Republic.

In the grave questions which now agitate the country, no State has a more profound concern than Pennsylvania. Occupying a geographical position between the North and the South, the East and the West, with the great avenues of travel and trade passing through her borders, carrying on an extensive commerce with her neighbors, in the vast and varied productions of her soil, her mines and her manufacturing industry, and bound to them by the ties of kindred and social intercourse, the question of disunion involves momentous consequences to her people. The second of the thirty-three States in population, and the first in material resources, it is due both to ourselves and to the other States, that the position and sentiments of Pennsylvania on the question should be distinctly understood.

All the elements of wealth and greatness have been united over the State to a kind Providence with profuse liberality. Our temperate climate, productive soil, and inexhaustible mineral wealth, have stimulated the industry of our people and improved the skill of our merchants. To develop, enlarge and protect the interests which grow out of our natural advantages, have become cardinal principles of political economy in Pennsylvania, and the opinion everywhere prevails among our people that development, progress and wealth depend on educated and governed labor; and that labor, and the interests sustained by it, should be adequately protected against foreign competition. The people of Pennsylvania have always favored that policy which aims to elevate and foster the industry of the country in the collection of revenue for the support of the General Government; and whenever they have had the opportunity, in a fair election, they have indicated that policy at the ballot-box. When their trade was prostrated and their industry paralyzed by the legislation of the General Government, which favored adverse interests, they waited patiently for the return of another opportunity to declare the public will in a constitutional manner. In the late election of President of the United States, the principle of protection was one of the prominent issues. With the proceedings of Congress at its last session fresh in their memories, a large majority of the people of Pennsylvania enrolled themselves in an organization, which, in its declaration of principles, promised, if successful, to be faithful to the suffering interests and languishing industry. Protection to labor was one of the great principles of its platform; it was inscribed on its banners; it was advocated by its public journals; and throughout the canvass it was a leading text of the orators of the successful party.

This is a propitious moment to declare that while the people of Pennsylvania were not indifferent to other vital issues of the canvass, they were demanding justice for themselves in the recent election, and had no design to interfere with or abridge the rights of the people of other States. The growth of our State had been retarded by the abrogation of the principle of protection from the revenue laws of the national government; bankruptcy had crushed the energies of many of our most enterprising citizens; but no voice of disloyalty or treason was heard, nor was an arm raised to offer violence to the sacred fabric of our national Union. Conscience of their rights and their power, our people looked to the ballot-box alone as the legal remedy for existing evils.

In the present unhappy condition of the country, it will be our duty to unite with the people of the States which remain loyal to the Union, in any just and honorable measures of conciliation and fraternal kindness. Let us

invite them to join us in the fulfillment of all our obligations under the Federal Constitution and laws. Then we can cordially unite with them in claiming like obedience from those States which have renounced their allegiance. If the loyal States are just and moderate, without any sacrifice of right or self-respect they threatened danger may be averted.

Ours is a National Government. It has within the sphere of its action all the attributes of sovereignty, and among those are the right and duty of self-preservation. It is based upon a compact to which all the people of the United States are parties. It is the result of mutual concessions, which were made for the purpose of securing reciprocal benefits. It acts directly on the people, and they owe it a personal allegiance. No part of the people, no State nor combination of States, can voluntarily secede from the Union, nor absolve themselves from their obligations to it. To permit a State to withdraw at pleasure from the Union, without the consent of the rest, is to confess that our government is a failure. Pennsylvania can never acquiesce in such a conspiracy, nor assent to a doctrine which involves the destruction of the Government. If the Government is to exist, all the requirements of the Constitution must be obeyed; and it must have power adequate to the enforcement of the supreme law of the land in every State. It is the first duty of the National authorities to stay the progress of anarchy and enforce the laws of Pennsylvania, with a united people, will give the nation an honest, faithful and active support. The people mean to preserve the integrity of the National Union at every hazard.

The Constitution which was originally framed to promote the welfare of thirteen States and four millions of people, in less than three quarters of a century has embraced thirty-three States and thirty millions of inhabitants. Our territory has been extended over new climates, including people with new interests and wants, and the Government has protected them all. Every thing requisite to the perpetuity of the Union and its expanding power, would seem to have been foreseen and provided for by the wisdom and sagacity of the framers of the Constitution.

It is all we desire or hope for, and all that our fellow-countrymen who complain, can reasonably demand. It provides that amendments may be proposed by Congress; and whenever the necessity to amend shall occur, the people of Pennsylvania will give to the amendments which Congress may propose, the careful and deliberate consideration which their importance may demand. Change is not always progress, and a people who have lived so long, and enjoyed so much prosperity, who have so many sacred memories of the past, and such rich legacies to transmit to the future, should deliberate long and seriously before they attempt to alter any of the fundamental principles of the great charter of our liberties.

Assuming the duties of this high office at the most trying period of our national history. The public mind is agitated by fears, suspicions and jealousies. Serious apprehensions of the future pervade the people. A preconcerted and organized effort has been made to disturb the stability of the Government, dissolve the union of the States, and mar the symmetry and order of the noblest political structure ever devised and enacted by human wisdom. It shall be my earnest endeavor to justify the confidence which you have reposed in me, and to deserve your approbation, by a conscientious discharge of the rectitude of my intentions, with no resentments to cherish, no enmities to avenge, no wish but the public good to gratify, and with a profound sense of the solemnity of my position, I humbly invoke the assistance of our Heavenly Father, in whom alone is my dependence, that His strength may sustain and His wisdom guide me. With His divine aid I shall apply myself faithfully and fearlessly to my responsible duties, and abide the judgment of a generous people.

Invoking the blessing of the God of our fathers upon our State and nation, it shall be the highest object of my ambition to contribute to the glory of the Commonwealth, maintain the civil and religious privileges of the people, and promote the union, prosperity and happiness of the country. A. G. CURTIN.

AN INCIDENT AT FORT SUMTER.—The Baltimore American has the following story: "One of the Baltimoreans who recently returned from Fort Sumter, details an impressive incident that took place there on Major Anderson taking possession. It is known that the American flag brought away from Fort Moultrie, was raised at Sumter precisely at noon on the 29th ultimo, but the incidents of that flag raising have not been related. It was a scene that will be a memorable reminiscence in the lives of those who witnessed it. A short time before noon, Major Anderson assembled the whole of his little force, with the workmen employed on the fort, around the foot of the flag-staff. The national ensign played in the wind, and Major Anderson, holding the end of the lines in his hands, knelt reverently down. The officers and men clustered around, many of them on their knees, all deeply impressed with the solemnity of the scene. The chaplain made an earnest prayer—such an appeal for support, encouragement and mercy as one would make who felt that 'Man's extremity was God's opportunity.' As the earnest solemn words of the speaker ceased, and the men responded Amen with a fervency that perhaps they had never before experienced, Major Anderson drew the Star Spangled Banner, up to the top of the staff, the band broke out with the national air of 'Hail Columbia,' loud and exultant cheers, repeated again and again, were given by the officers, soldiers and workmen. 'If,' said the narrator, 'South Carolina had at that moment, attacked the fort, there would have been no hesitation upon the part of any man within it about defending that flag.'

GOVERNOR PICKENS, of South Carolina, has written to the State Department, in order to settle his accounts as late minister to Russia. He claims \$3,000, but the Department has allowed him only \$1,700, and sent him a draft for that amount, "payable at the sub-treasury in Charleston." This is paying him with his own coin, as he has already stolen the United States money there deposited.

A very good institution has just been started in Cuba; an acclimation hospital, which is to receive new troops arriving in the island during the summer months. It is to be of capacity to receive a thousand men, and the situation chosen for it is most beautiful.

WHAT CRITTENDEN'S PROPOSITION IS.
An entire misapprehension pervades a portion of the public mind in regard to the identity of the proposition which Mr. Crittenden has presented to the Senate with that portion of the Missouri Compromise which was repealed by the Kansas-Nebraska act in 1854. For instance, we have seen it recently asserted, in journals which ought to know better, that the adoption of Mr. Crittenden's resolution would be merely "the restoration of the Missouri Compromise." Nothing could be wider from the mark. Let us make this plain: I. Forty years and more ago, the State of Missouri applied for admission to the Union with a Constitution which authorized Slavery. For two years this application was resisted by the Free States, because of this Pro-Slavery clause in her Constitution. The conflict caused Congress and the country to their deepest foundations, dragging the Union to the verge of dissolution. The contest was adjusted by a compromise. Now, what was it? II. This new State of Missouri was carved out of a portion of the territory acquired from France when we purchased Louisiana. At the time of the struggle of 1820, there were large portions of this old Louisiana territory which lay outside of the boundaries of the State of Missouri. It was finally agreed that, upon condition that Missouri should be admitted into the Union as a Slave-holding State, Slavery should be forever prohibited in all the rest of the old Louisiana territory which lay north of the south line of the State of Missouri—which south line happened to be the parallel of 36° 30'. And, thereupon Congress admitted Missouri into the Union, and in the 8th section of the act of admission, forever excluded Slavery from all the territory lying north of 36° 30'.

III. It will be seen, then, that the admission of Missouri as a Slave State was the sole consideration which the North paid for the perpetual prohibition of Slavery above the parallel of 36° 30'. It was, to use a legal phrase, a payment down in hand at the time of the transaction. The South, on its part accepted the admission of Missouri as a full consideration for its agreement to the Anti-Slavery prohibition contained in the act of admission. It was neither agreed, understood, implied, nor anticipated, either by the North or the South, that tolerance or protection of Slavery south of 36° 30' constituted any part of the bargain or compromise of 1820. Nothing was said or done in regard to that matter, but it was long undisturbed precisely where the parties found it when the controversy commenced.

IV. Now, Mr. Crittenden's proposition to amend the Constitution is something totally different from "the restoration of the Missouri Compromise." True, he proposes to prohibit Slavery in all the national territory lying north of 36° 30'. But, he also proposes to incorporate into the Constitution an article recognizing and protecting Slavery, by Federal power, in all the territory now held, or now hereafter acquired South of that line. So far from this being a revival of the Missouri Compromise, it would be the incorporation of the Breckinridge Presidential Platform, including a Territorial Slave Code, into the Constitution of the U. States.

We shall not stop now to discuss the merits of this unconstitutional mode of amending the Constitution—this clandestine attempt to precipitate the country into wars of conquest for the establishment of eternal Slavery in all the regions lying between us and the equator. Suffice it to say, that neither negotiations nor threats can induce the Free States to engratulate such an article into the organic law of any Confederacy of which they will consent to be a part; and that any Northern Senator or Representative who shall vote to send it out to distract and insult our people will be branded by a retributive mark as indelible as that which disfigured the forehead of Cain.—Trib.

DIARY OF A MEDICAL MAN.—A pocket diary was picked up in the street in Mobile, a few days since. From the following extracts it appears that the loser was a "meddler" man: "Kase 174, Mary Ann Perkins, bismos washman; sickness in her bed. Fisk, sun pills, a soporific, aged 52. Pade me one dollar, 1 quarter bogus. Mind get good quarter and make her take more fisk. Kase 175. Mikil Tubbs, Bismis, Nishirman. Lives with Dekun Pheley, which keeps a dray. Sickness, dig in the ribs, and tow bad ise. Fisk to drink my mixer twice a day of sasperrilly and jollop, and fish le, to make it moist fishky put in sunsidity—rubbed his face with kart greas liniment, aged 28 years of aig. Drinkit the mixtur and wuddent pa me kase it tasted nasty, but the mixtur'll work his innards I reckon. Kase 176. Old Misses Boggs. Ain't got no bismis but plenty of money. Sickness an a humber. Gave her sum of my seblatered Dippenboikin, which she sed drunk like kold tee—which it was too. Must put sunthin in to make her fele sik and bad. The old woman has got the rocks."

WORDS OF LEARNED LENGTH.—The number of words in the English language, over sixty syllables in length, is very small. "Honorificabilitudinitatibus," which is to be found in an old dictionary, is the only English (?) word of eleven syllables that we can call to mind. "Don Juan Sepulchro de Burinonagotatorocogogozococh" was the name of a person employed in the Finance Department of Spain a few years ago. He ought to have been appointed Superintendent of "Kamingadethaoroosomocoonagongagira," or of "Arademayrasadeloovardooon," two estates in the East Indies, respecting which a lawsuit was pending before experienced, Major Anderson drew the Star Spangled Banner, up to the top of the staff, the band broke out with the national air of 'Hail Columbia,' loud and exultant cheers, repeated again and again, were given by the officers, soldiers and workmen. 'If,' said the narrator, 'South Carolina had at that moment, attacked the fort, there would have been no hesitation upon the part of any man within it about defending that flag.'

REVOLUTIONARY TIMES.—Some gentlemen were dining together at a house in New York, and in the course of the conversation, one of the company frequently used the word Tory. The gentleman at whose house they dined, asked him, "pray, Mr. —, what is a Tory?" He replied, "A Tory is a thing whose head is in England, and whose body is in America, and whose neck ought to be stretched."

A girl that has lost her beau may as well hang up her fiddle.

A NEW PROJECT.
A correspondent writes from Washington that there is a project on foot to make Delaware and Maryland Free States, by having the General Government, with the consent of the owners, to purchase their slaves. Several leading citizens of Baltimore had an interview on Saturday a week with certain Northern Members of Congress to ascertain their opinion as to a better opinion whether the new Administration would be willing to purchase the Slaves in those States at a fair price, if the owners would consent to sell them and then colonize such of them as their masters refused to retain as hired servants. The Congressmen gave an affirmative answer, and thought the people of the North would cheerfully acquiesce in the proposition. The Baltimore gentlemen stated that if the Union was to be dissolved, Maryland as a Slave State, would go with the South, though her interests and geographical position placed her with the Free States. But whether the Union continues or divides, Slavery is felt to be an incubus on the prosperity of Maryland. Slavery is slowly dying out, having decreased 6,000 in the last decade. It was stated at the conference that there were only 80,000 slaves in the State, which, at \$500 per head, old and young—a higher price than they will bring for years to come—would only be \$40,000,000. A duty of 10 per cent on the \$40,000,000 of annual imports would pay for them in a single year. One per cent duty would pay the interest on the bonds, and create a sinking fund that would liquidate the principal in a few years. The Baltimore gentlemen remarked that once a Free State, Northern capital, skill, labor, and enterprise would flow in a broad stream into Maryland, property would enhance, business improve, and white population rapidly increase; Baltimore would soon rival Philadelphia as a manufacturing city, and Maryland would be converted into a garden to supply the wants of Northern cities.

Delaware has only two thousand slaves. One million of dollars would indemnify the owners, and make her a Free State. Missouri has but one hundred thousand slaves. Fifty millions would pay for them, and make her rival Illinois in wealth, population and improvement. Thus less than one hundred millions would rid them all of an institution for which neither their climate nor products are suited, and bestow on them the advantages of free labor. The Baltimoreans said that free trade and direct taxation will become the established policy of a Southern confederacy, as it will be ruled by the South Carolina and Cotton-States school of political economists. The federal expenses of a Southern confederacy would not be less than thirty millions a year, of which Maryland would have to pay two millions. Her present State taxes are three hundred and sixty thousand per year; hence her taxes would be increased six-fold, while her manufacturing interests would be destroyed under the operation of free trade and direct taxation. Virginia would have to pay over four millions, Kentucky and Missouri each three millions, and little Delaware one-quarter of a million of dollars. These border States could only escape from this juggernaut machine by seceding from the cotton confederacy and reuniting with the "Stars and Stripes," or setting up for themselves. In either event, what would become of the slaves? The Baltimoreans thought the best thing for Maryland was to sell her slaves, employ the proceeds to build manufacturing and improve farms, and place herself in the society of the great family of Free Labor States, partake of their prosperity and enjoy their powerful protection and friendship.

SUFFERINGS OF A CATHOLIC PRIEST IN A STORM.—A priest who was journeying from St. Paul, Minnesota, to Pembina, was on the 2nd ult., when within a day's journey of his destination, overtaken by a fearful snow storm, and losing his way, wandered into an extent of swamp near Pembina. His horse being in a very poor condition was unable to get through the swamp, and died the first night. He made no attempt to get further, but laid himself down beside his horse, exposed to a pelting snow storm and piercing northern blasts, which lasted for forty-eight hours. Destitute of food, thoroughly drenched, the cold penetrating to his vitals, he experienced the gloomiest despair. He lay in this state five days and five nights subsisting upon the raw flesh of his horse, and when found by a party which encamped near by, was almost at the point of death. He was dreadfully swollen with the wet and cold, so that his clothes had to be cut to remove them from his person.

It is believed a secret military organization, with which Governor Wise is connected, has been discovered. It is supposed to extend through Maryland and the District of Columbia. Its object is to prevent the peaceful inauguration of Lincoln. Energetic measures have been adopted to check the dangerous scheme, and important steps taken to strengthen the military force at Washington.

A snake story is told as having happened at Kistatchie, La. Seven years ago a snake crawled onto a feather bed, placed outside the house; in using this bed since, snake dreams have haunted the sleepers. The other day the snake was discovered, dragged out alive, and proved to be seven feet long.

A few days ago John Stoneker, while intoxicated, fired at his wife at his residence, near Autauga, Alabama, but failing to hit her drew a knife and was in the act of drawing it across her throat, when his son, a lad of 14, picked up a gun and fired at his father, killing him on the spot.

The Richmond Waig, in view of the national crisis, urges the legislature not to make any appropriations other than are absolutely necessary for carrying on the government, and advises that the work on all railroads be suspended at once.

A case of sharp trading is now pending before the Supreme Court, in Ohio. One smart-frog traded off a tract of land upon another for gold chains, put in at \$30 each. The land was three feet under water, and the gold chains are sold at \$9 a dozen.

It is said a tax of \$16 on every slave had been assessed upon the slaveholders of Stuy, California.

The bodies of Chinamen, who die in California, are all packed up and shipped by China for interment.