

tion of the body. Rev. Mr. Williams, of this city, was chosen Moderator, and Rev. Mr. Woodbridge, Clerk.

Much important business was transacted during the session; among which, measures were adopted for the efficient promotion of the interests of education and missions, and as a special object, the civilization of the Indian tribes in California.

FROM THE PLACER NEWS. THE SOUTHERN MINES, AND THE ROUTES FROM STOCKTON TO THEM.

Stockton appears, at present, to be the depot for many of the southern mines. Arriving there by water from San Francisco, the miner can proceed either by water or by land to the placers. If he goes by water, he ascends the San Joaquin in a boat of light draft, say that of an ordinary whaleboat, to the Stanislaus, Tuolumne, or the Merced River. Each of these streams is navigable for such boats to within twenty-five or thirty miles of the numerous diggings upon them respectively, from the beginning of the rainy season to the last melting of the mountain snows in July. Landing his effects at the highest point attainable with his boat, he can engage a muleteer or teamster to carry them to such point as he may select.

Provisions and clothing are now plenty in the mines, and the miner should beware how he attempts, under present charges for freight, to take much of anything with him to the mines. Should he carry his goods and trunks to Stockton he will find that storage can be had at \$1 per month for one barrel. Whenever he knows his subsequent movements and necessities, he can send for them, or exercise any desirable control over them.

The Calaveras and Mokelumne are two streams which empty into the San Joaquin below Stockton. The diggings upon these streams are also much worked, and with about the same success as the others already named. From Stockton, roads branch out to the various mines on those streams, which are distant from 40 to 70 miles.

PARKER'S PATENT.

We have again had our attention called to the proceedings now taking place in the Circuit Court of the United States in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, between the assignee of Messrs. Parker and the Mill owners using wheels said to be infringements of this patent. In the case of Parker's assignee against Hulme, (which we noticed in our paper of the 21st Dec. 1849,) tried in November last, it appears that the jury under the direction of the Court, found specifically that "Messrs. Parker were the first persons to discover and by mechanical devices to apply to use as a motive power in reaction wheels, the centrifugal force of water revolving vertically round the shaft, and passing into and acting upon the wheels in the direction of their revolution," and also that "they were the first persons to invent and apply to use, vertical reaction wheels, having two or more wheels arranged in pairs on the same horizontal shaft"—thus establishing *in law* the validity of Parker's patent in two particulars. 1. The concave or circular box in which the whole are placed, and 2. The principle of using two or more wheels upon a horizontal shaft.

Upon the basis of this decision at law, an application was made to the equity side of the same court for an injunction against all persons in that district using these principles (of which there are some two hundred) to prevent their sawing until they had obtained a license from Parker to use his patent. We append the remarks of his Honor, Judge Green, by which it will be seen that owing to informality in the petition, the injunction was refused, but the Court stating that upon this informality being corrected, and on default of settlement by the Defendants, the Court will order the injunction to issue by the first Monday of April (then) next.

It appears from these proceedings that the Messrs. Parker have at least the law on their side of the question, although we are still free to believe that there is a defect in some portion of their title which works gross injustice to the innocent mill owner.

I take this occasion to say, that the Court has no doubt of the validity of the complainant's patent. That question has been fully settled here, by a trial at law, of extraordinary duration, and closeness of research. The report of the *case of Parker vs. Hulme*, by my brother Kane, who presided at the trial, and information derived from the affidavits and printed works, which have been read on both sides, during the present hearing, as well as the acquaintance with the subject, which I derived while engaged in the trial of another case growing out of this patent, leaves no doubt on my mind that the complainant's title is valid.

It is not His will to bring the truth to light, and to allow this awful mystery to be extinguished, may He enlighten the minds of those into whose hands the case will pass. I must again thank you, sir, for the interest you express towards my dear friends, and for the consolation that their names are in your hearts. Sympathy has been shown from many hearts towards them, and more prized by them than any other consolation. I am, sir, your obedient servant, H. W. Webster.

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ment, after it had been invented in this country by the Messrs. Parker. And it was not until the circulation of Fournyron's paper, on Turbines in this country, that the public attention was fairly called to the valuable improvement of the Messrs. Parker.

Of the infringement by the defendants, the court has no doubt. The wheels which they use are direct and positive violations of the complainant's right as appear by the affidavits on behalf of the complainant, and the models which they themselves have submitted to the court. In point of fact, the complainant has established his right to the injunction which he prays. But I do not want to establish the precedent in this court, that a party who is upon a verdict of a jury, and the judgment of a court of law, for the establishment of his title, as the foundation of his claim to be quieted in the possession and enjoyment of it, and for protecting him against infringements by others, shall omit, as the complainant has here omitted to aver, in his bill, that such proceedings at law have taken place. Without such averment, the ground of the court's action may be misunderstood, and the defendant may not be properly apprised, below hand, of the case which he has to meet. In these cases, we are the more ready to lay hold of the omission, as we feel a reluctance to stop two hundred mills from grinding a bushel of grain or sawing a board, without giving the defendants a chance of making a settlement or compromise. On the other hand, it is by no means our intention to compel this complainant to relitigate his patent, already established at law, against a combination of two hundred wealthy mill owners, in this district, who, as these defendants allege, using machines, of which the model above described, is the representation. By an amendment of this bill, the complainant may overcome his present technical difficulty.

No ground has been shown for the imputation, that an attempt has been made by this complainant, "to levy black mail," as it is called. Indeed, his course towards these defendants, as well as other persons appear to have been one of great liberality and forbearance; and I advise these defendants to settle with him. If they do not, damages may be found against them, to the extent of their profits from the use of this patented improvement; at all events amounting to the whole increased profits of their mills, since the time of filing this bill. This might be no more than equitable.

On default of settlement by defendants, the Court will order the injunctions to issue, on the first Monday of April next; the complainant, in the mean time, so amending his bill, as to allege the establishment here, at law, of his title to an exclusive right in this improvement, and filing the affidavits of the surviving patentees, which has been read to us in the course of the hearing.

In all this, I am authorized to say, that my brother Kane fully concurs with me.

Letter from Prof. Webster's Daughter.
From the Manchester (Nov. 3) Messenger.

The following communication from a daughter of Professor Webster, in reply to a letter addressed her, has been handed us by the gentleman to whom it was addressed:

CAMBRIDGE, April 8, 1850.
DANIEL MARSH, Esq.—Sir: I this morning, received the very kind letter you addressed to me, and which I hasten to answer, to thank you, in the name of my mother, my sisters and myself, for the true sentiments you entertain respecting my beloved father. You believe him innocent, and you believe what is true. He is the victim of circumstances; a deeply injured man. That he is innocent, we, his family know, and nothing on earth will ever take from us this conviction.

We have never, from the moment he was snatched from his home, had a shadow of a doubt on our minds; and whatever the world may say or do, we shall ever have that feeling to support us. The knowledge of his innocence supported my father during the hours of suffering in the Court room; that it is that gives him and us calmness now, amidst the many sources of sorrow that have overwhelmed us. Far different from what we anticipated, was the result of the trial, for we had been assured throughout the winter, that our father could not but be restored to us, and that the trial he must receive justice for the many wrongs that had been heaped upon him. But justice fled from the Court room, and prejudice took her place.

Yet hope still lingers with us, for we trust that the public voice will be raised against the gross injustice that has been committed, and will not allow our country to bear such a stigma on her name, such an everlasting stain, as will be that of the sacrifice of one so truly innocent as my father. And if one word from us, sir, can add a father's weight to the efforts that are being made—Oh, may we give you the deep assurance of our hearts, that we feel grateful for the interest that you express and feel, and for what you are doing in our behalf. May God in his infinite mercy, look down upon you, and bless the efforts that are being made; and if it is not His will to bring the truth to light, and to allow this awful mystery to be extinguished, may He enlighten the minds of those into whose hands the case will pass.

I must again thank you, sir, for the interest you express towards my dear friends, and for the consolation that their names are in your hearts. Sympathy has been shown from many hearts towards them, and more prized by them than any other consolation. I am, sir, your obedient servant, H. W. Webster.

much suffering on so many. Believe me, sir, gratefully yours.
HARRIET W. WEBSTER.

Fire and Desperate Riot.—It appears strange that there are not some decided means put in force to stop the numerous robberies, burglaries, larcenies and rowdy fights, which are constantly occurring in the city and suburbs. The different city districts have more or less space devoted to these occurrences nearly every day, and this morning we are called upon to give publicity to a disgraceful and desperate riot, which occurred in the Southern part of the beautiful and flourishing district of Moynansing. The row seems to have been a premeditated affair, on the part of some of the actors engaged in the fight as some frame sheds and stables back of Federal street, between Twelfth and Thirteenth streets, were set on fire and completely destroyed, about six o'clock last evening. The alarm was promptly given, and several fire companies assembled, together with thousands of people; but there was no particular effort made to save the property from the destructive element. During the progress of the fire an attack was made on the Moynansing Hose company, by the crowd with the Franklin Hose, in Federal street opposite the school-house, the carriage taken, and for a few minutes, kept possession of. The former company then rallied, and, with their friends, succeeded in getting their apparatus, and took it home; while the Native American Hose Company were being driven from the scene of action by the participants in the riot. The fight continued for upwards of an hour, and the air was literally filled, for a time, with bricks, stones, and other dangerous missiles. Guns and pistols were fired in rapid succession amid the crowd, from the brick buildings known as "The Vista Row," in Thirteenth street, and other places; and several persons were seriously injured. Among the number, we learn through the hand with a slug, and a man named Magee, badly injured in the head with a brickbat. Several others whose names we could not learn, were cut and bruised with the missiles.—*Pennsylvania.*

Utah Outrage and Attempt at Murder.—On the evening of the 31st ult., at 9 o'clock, the officers of the steamer Walker heard cries of distress, from the direction of Pinto's Island, as proceeding from some one engaged in a desperate struggle. Two boats were manned, under the direction of the Captain. They made for the point of the Island, guided by the cry, which ceased as they approached. Seeing nothing, they hesitated for a moment, when one of them putting his hand out to push the boat, it came in contact with a floating body, with its head under water. On lifting it into the boat, it proved to be a man apparently dead. He was carried on board the steamer and placed under charge of Surgeon Kane, who found that he had suffered great violence, with intent to kill. He had two knife wounds in one arm and the other very much bruised; and a severe contusion of the stomach and leg. By the kindness and skill bestowed, he revived during the next forenoon sufficiently to give the following account: He was on a visit to this city from New Orleans, whence he contemplated starting for California. It being ascertained that he had money about him, he was snatched into a drinking shop, where he thinks he must have been drugged by opiates, and that is the last he can remember. He had been robbed of sixty dollars in gold. When he was found, Captain Alden, of the steamer Walker, had a search made about the Island, but the darkness prevented any discovery, except a yawl belonging to the steamer Creole, whence doubtless she had been stolen for this diabolical purpose, and in her was a large iron instrument, known as a *man hold*, carefully reeved with spun yarn, so as to leave no doubt on the mind of the officers that it was intended to have sunk the victim had the villains not been disturbed by this timely interposition.—*St. Louis Republican.*

Murderous Riot on the Isthmus.—The Panama Star of the 16th has the subject of an account of a difficulty between the Panamanians and the Americans:—
On Wednesday night, about 10 o'clock, when a young American, named Thomas Finnigan, was quietly entering the house which he occupied, together with a number of his friends, on the Plaza Santa Anna, he was assaulted by about fifty armed Spaniards and natives, who first shot him with a musket in the shoulder, where the ball lodged, and then, as he fell, showered upon him the missiles of every description, accompanying their attack with venomous oaths and execration. He would undoubtedly have been killed, had not the approach of a few Americans frightened the cowardly assassins from their bloody intent. A number of other Americans were seriously injured last night by blows from clubs and stones, given by wretches who waylaid them in the dark at different places. Large gangs of these miscreants paraded the streets and squares of the suburbs during the night, breathing hatred and defiance to the American people.

Romance and Reality.—The Trenton Gazette has received a letter from a printer in Honolulu, who went to California in Col. Stevenson's regiment, in which he remained till the war was over, then took to publishing the *Californian*, abandoned that business, sailed for China, was wrecked at Honolulu, was taken to favor by a chief, and afterwards, and is now among wealth.

THE DOLLAR.

Clearfield, Pa., May 6, 1850.

As we go to press, the river is in fine running order—and you better believe there is a commotion among our lumbermen.

The legislature has not yet adjourned. The difficulty of passing an appropriation bill prevents an adjournment.—The members now get but \$1 50 per day.

Congress—Since our last publication, several important events have occurred in Congress. Messrs. Bixton and Foor had quite a disgraceful rencontre. Both to blame—especially the former.

Mr. CAMPBELL, Clerk of the House of Representatives, died on the 11th ult., and Judge YORGE, (dem.) was elected in his place.

Gen. Foor's motion to refer all matters growing out of the question of slavery, including the admission of California, to a committee of 13, was adopted. The committee consists in part of Messrs. CLAY, (chairman,) CASS and WEBSTER.

The Rochester Mystery Ongoing.—The "mysterious knockings" at Rochester, New York, appear to be entirely eclipsed in Stratford, Conn. Here the "knockings" are the least remarkable part of the phenomena. One of the editors of the *N. Y. Sun*, for the purpose of unravelling the mystery, and exposing the hoax, repaired to the spot, and after spending a whole week in vain efforts to discover the source of the mystery, has published a long statement, in which he recites many singular events, but without being able to give any satisfactory explanation, though he appears more than satisfied that the "mysteries"—such as the flying through the house of inanimate objects, scissors, spoons, knives, toys, &c.—are performed without human aid.

Our Own Trouble.

We have a word of explanation to our readers for not publishing a paper since the 13th of April, the date of our last. At that time we lacked but a few quires of having paper enough to put out another number, and we sent with a friend to Lewistown to bring us a bundle, which, with what we had, would have enabled us to issue two numbers; thus keeping us going until we could get the chance of a team going to Lewistown. The gentleman we sent with failed in procuring us a bundle, in consequence of our merchant there being entirely out. As soon as he returned, however, (which was on the 19th) we wrote to our agent at Lewistown to procure us a bundle, if possible, and send it by stage. On the 25th we received a letter from him stating that a bundle was dispatched, by stage, on the 22d. That bundle did not reach us until the evening of the 2d of May, and with it came a polite bill of one dollar for freight. Thus the mail contractors, stage agents, or some person, after injuring us to the amount of at least fifty dollars, through carelessness or design, arrogantly add insult to injury by asking us to pay them for it! We now say to them that we shan't do so. And more than that, we tell them now, that if the law will make them pay us damages, they shall do it.

THE NORTH VS. THE SOUTH.

Like our correspondent, we seek no controversy, but we will not shrink from the performance of our duty, even if that should require an attempt at newspaper discussion on a subject that just now occupies a large share of public attention.

Our correspondent, a "Friend to Humanity," seems to question our veracity, when we said that we were not the apologists of the institution of slavery. Our remarks were certainly of a character not to be misunderstood. We positively declared, that no action of ours would be wanting to prevent the introduction of slavery where it was not, if by so doing we did not commit a greater evil, and violate the National faith. Our correspondent, however, has quite a different view of our responsibility under the compromises of the Constitution, for he seems to think it would be a virtue in us to disregard the guaranties of that instrument, by every means in our power—even to that of passing solemn acts of the Legislature forbidding our State officers, under heavy penalties, to discharge the plain and positive commands of the Constitution of the United States, and this too, after requiring them to subscribe to a solemn oath that they will support that instrument. But a "Friend to Humanity" must not pervert our reasoning. We have to deal with slavery here, in the United States—under the Constitution of the Confederacy—and we never spoke of any rights of slaveholders beyond the sphere of that instrument; and if he waits until we advocate the conversion of the "whole world into a slave mart," he will wait a very long time. We have

only to deal with slavery under the Constitution of the United States. The course we take, is that dictated by humanity and justice—not to one party, or one people—but to all parties. Suppose a law was about to pass the Legislatures of Maryland, Virginia, Kentucky, and other Southern States, under the provisions of which laws every negro in slavery, in those states were to be set free, what would be the probable course that would be adopted in the free States? Would we not remonstrate, and if needs be, attempt the use of force to prevent so destructive a calamity? Why, it would bring starvation and utter ruin home to every laboring man in the land; and the poor shiftless negro, instead of enjoying his coveted freedom as a blessing would find it to be his most intolerable curse. Instead of being "a fat, and sleek and well fed and clothed slave," he would soon find himself to be a miserable half starved, ragged, half frozen creature, whose life would not be envied by the vilest dog. Such is a faint picture of the state of affairs that would be brought about if the South should "follow the example of the North." But they could not do so. The North sold her slaves (what few they had) to the South at a good round price.—The South has no such chance. There are no buyers. If there were, we think we would have but few slaves in this land of freedom.

We never pretended that Daniel Webster's assertions or charges were "more than those of other men;" but we may as well say with safety, that they are entitled to more weight than those of some men, for he has long been pointed out, and his opinions quoted without limit, as having a bearing in opposition to the rights now claimed by the South; and as it is now thought that his day of political aspirations has past, his opinions, as now expressed, were from a region "closer round the heart," than were those of his earlier life.

Our correspondent still persists in his error about the relative strength of the Slave States. He greatly underrates the strength, population, ability and valor of the people of that portion of the Union. He speaks of the whites of those States as being "few in number compared with the slaves." If he will look at the census of 1840, or at any of the honest estimates since made, he will find in every instance that the whites have a large majority. We fear that the South had no other inducement to remain in, and faithful to, the Union, except a craven fear of being overpowered by their slaves, there would be many more advocates of a dissolution than are to be found now. The South, however, "will not withdraw from the Union." The North is beginning to return to a sense of justice, and will not again attempt to drive her out. For using this language we will no doubt be set down as "double faced," by the false friends of the poor African—that, however, would not blind our senses to the now almost universally admitted fact that the North has committed in any acts of aggression on the South; nor would such reproachful epithets deter us from proclaiming such to be the fact.—Did the South ever do any thing more than complain of these indignities? Did she ever enact any laws of retaliation (save and except such as were really necessary for the preservation of the lives and property of her citizens, by binding still tighter the chains of their slaves—the legitimate effect of the efforts of the Abolitionists.) Finally, has the South ever asked that Congress shall legislate slavery into the territories—a power which Congress has as much authority for doing as it has to prevent slavery going there, for the reason that the several States are equal partners in the ownership of this territory; and this action of Congress is not only asked, but peremptorily demanded, on the part of some of the northern States? None of these things is the South guilty of, whilst the north are continually repeating their commission; and if the voice of a citizen, who loves the Union—not a part of it only, but the whole Union—is raised against these acts of encroachment, he is stigmatized as a "Northern Doughface," and pointed at as a thing of scorn for his "base subservience to the slave interests of the South."

We are asked what we think of our Declaration of Independence. Why we think it the most precious instrument of writing that ever came from mortal pen. And when we reflect that the same great and good men who penned that instrument, also digested and put together the various provisions of the Constitution of the United States, and afterwards administered the government under that Constitution, were themselves, at the same time, the owners and masters of slaves, we are content to take things just as they gave them to us, without having any fears or doubts about their inconsistencies or contradictions. We know that they were true patriots, ardent republicans, and the uncompromising friends and advocates of the

largest liberty of the human race; and if they found nothing in this Declaration of Independence inconsistent with the institution of slavery, we are not disposed to question the soundness of their principles on the one hand, or the sincerity of their motives on the other, by seeking for such inconsistencies.

FOR THE COUNTRY DOLLAR.

AUDITOR GENERAL.

Messrs. Editors:—
As the Bill giving the election of the Auditor General and Surveyor General to the people, has passed both branches of the Legislature and has received the sanction of the Governor, it is therefore important that the Democratic party, at their next State Convention, should place in nomination competent and honest men to fill those high and responsible stations; and as there has been several men spoken of in connection with those offices, allow me to suggest the name of one who is favorably known to the Democratic party in all sections of the State, as being in every way competent to fill the office of Auditor General; I mean EPHRAIM BAYES, of Milford county. Mr. B. is a lawyer of high standing; and as a man and a citizen, his character is beyond reproach. He has filled several honorable and responsible public stations, with honor to himself and his party; and in short, he is just the man that the party wants at this time as one of her standard bearers, to insure triumphant success.

COMMUNICATION.

CUMBERLAND, 4th Mo. 5th, '50.
To the Editors of the Country Dollar.

It is not my object to enter into a lengthy controversy upon the subject partially discussed in your paper of the 28th ult., nor am I anxious to avoid it, but I should be loath to do so on my own sense of duty and to the cause which I humbly advocate, were I to omit replying to your communications upon my views. I must however assert, that, to be converted "in toto" to your views, I must first hear some argument in defence of your position. I do not openly declare in the very outset that you are not the apologists of slavery, neither politically nor morally. I leave it to your candid readers to judge for themselves how much credit is due to the assertion. We think the slaveholders of the South would seek in vain for apologists here, if you are not of that class. But perhaps I judge too severely. Perhaps you argue thus for mere argument's sake. If so, allow me the liberty to try the weight of some of your reasoning. You say slavery can be defended by good and wholesome reasons, but do not tell us what those reasons are. Surely the fact of the existence of slavery at the time the Union was formed, and its rights being guaranteed by the Constitution, by no means make it right, nor justify us in continuing the practice. You advocate the principle that it would be an aggression upon their rights to prohibit slaveholders from taking their slaves when and where they please, as we would our horses, thus guaranteeing to them full power to convert the whole world into a slave mart, unless prevented by law, which would nevertheless be an infringement. You admit slavery to be a political evil from the undeniable fact that the slave States do not progress in the same ratio with the free States, but you want evidence of its being a moral evil, although you admit that INNUMERABLE sins grow out of it. You seek in vain for evidence that it is a cause to the United States, and want some sustaining proof that it is a sin against God. If it were possible for laws to be enacted to empower other men to sell our wives and children, or even ourselves, into slavery, I think no such proof would be deemed necessary. Has not the withering blight that has spread its desolating influence over the once fertile but now barren fields of Maryland, Virginia and the Carolinas, and which has proved equally ruinous to the moral culture of those brought up under its influence, afforded sufficient proof of its sinfulness; or must we endeavor still further to apologize for slavery because it existed in ancient times, as well as at the time of the mission of our Saviour upon earth? Did not other evils exist at that time as well as this? It appears not to have been the mission of Him to point out all the evils common among mankind and treat of each one separately, but "Do ye unto others as ye would that they should do unto you," is said to include the whole law and the prophets; but we must apply it to the master—the much injured and outraged slaveholder—he has had slavery entailed upon him and cannot get rid of it. How did the people of Pennsylvania, New York and other northern States get rid of it? Could not the South have gotten to the same fountain of liberty? Could they not, if they wished, follow the example of the North. But do they manifest such a disposition while they are using every effort to extend slave territory in order to sustain the equilibrium of power, to rivet the chains tighter in the States, and are insulted and their rights outraged if northern free States legislate upon the subject, even so far as to prohibit their own officers from aiding in the arrest of fugitive slaves. Oh! what objects of charity are these slaveholders! How careful we should be to avoid wounding their tender feelings, but give them the full virtue of the Divine injunction of "doing unto others as we would," &c. Query. Have not colored men feelings?

I will here make a few brief remarks upon the scriptural authority of holding slaves, which is the strong bulwark of many in its defence. *Scripture and Slavery* are by no means synonymous. A servant is one who attends another and obeys at his command. I am strictly the servant of him for whom I agree to perform any work. But in Bishop Potter's *Apologies of Greece*, vol. 1, p. 78, Edition