

dent to the exercise of executive duties. They have also conferred upon him a large measure of legislative discretion. No bill can become a law without his approval as representing the people of the United States, unless it be a bill to raise money in common with the Senate and House, in his legislative capacity, he might, in common with the Senate and House, institute an inquiry to ascertain any facts which ought to influence his judgment in approving or rejecting any bill.

This participation in the performance of legislative duties between the co-ordinate branches of the Government ought to inspire conduct of all of them, in their relations towards each other, with mutual forbearance and respect. It is a right to demand justice from the other. The cause of complaint is that the constitutional rights and immunities of the Executive have been violated in the person of the President.

The trial and impeachment of the President before the Senate on charges preferred and prosecuted against him by the House of Representatives would be an imposing spectacle for the world. In the result not only his removal from the presidential office would be involved, but the character of the President might be ascertained, both in the eyes of the present and of future generations, might possibly be tarnished. The disgrace cast upon him would in some degree be reflected upon the people. It is to be possible that the President might be biased by the fact that, in case of the removal of the President from office, "the same shall devolve on the Vice President."

The preliminary proceedings in the House in the case of charges which involve impeachment have been well and wisely settled by long practice upon principle of equal justice both to the accused and to the people. The precedent established in the case of Judge Peck of Missouri, in 1831, after a careful review of all former precedents, will, it is predicted, stand the test of time. In that case Luke Edward Lawless, the accused, presented a petition to the House, in which he set forth minutely and specifically his charges of complaint. He prayed for the conduct and proceedings in his behalf, said Judge Peck may be inquired into by your honorable body, and such decision made thereon as to your wisdom and justice shall seem proper.

country could bestow. Amid all the political storms through which I have passed, the present is the first attempt which has ever been made to my knowledge, to assail my personal or official integrity; and this is a time to approach when I shall voluntarily retire from the service of my country. I feel proud to be conscious that there is no public act of my life which will not bear the strictest scrutiny. I feel all intruding but the best, and I feel that I have done my duty. I do not fear even this; because I cherish a humble confidence that the gracious Being who has hitherto defended and protected me against the shafts of falsehood and malice will not desert me now, when I have become "old and gray-headed." I can declare before God and my country that no man being (with an exception scarcely worthy of notice) has at any period of my life dared to approach me with corrupt or dishonorable proposition; and, until recent developments, it had never entered into my imagination that any person, even in the storm of exasperated political excitement, would charge me with any crime, or with any having made such a proposition to any human being. I may now, however, exclaim, in the language of complaint employed by my first and greatest predecessor, that I have been abused by a special committee and indicted terms as a defaulter, or applied to a mere committee appointed for such a purpose on his own motion. Mr. Sherman, who first commented on the message, we perceive foolishly and falsely said its doctrine was like that of Charles I., which cost him his head, namely, "The king can do no wrong."

Connecticut and Rhode Island. The elections which took place in Connecticut on Monday, and in Rhode Island on Wednesday, have resulted most auspiciously for the Democracy. In the former State, while we have not been able to entirely rout the Republicans, we have driven them so near the wall that their candidate for Governor is only elected by a bare few hundred. The gallant Seymour, whose election we hoped to chronicle, has proved himself a most formidable competitor and a tower of strength in the State. Although not victorious in the general acceptance of the term, he has so reduced the Republican strength that, with a proper candidate and an acceptable platform at Charleston, we shall reconquer the State in November. The majority against us on Monday was less than 500! In 1856, Mr. Buchanan was in a minority in the State 10,000!

in Rhode Island "things have been working," and hence are enabled to chronicle a total rout of the Republican party on Wednesday. Mr. Sprague, the Democratic candidate, is elected Governor by a large majority, and the telegraph adds that the legislature is of the same political character. Our opponents will endeavor to break the force of the defeat in Rhode Island, by setting up the claim that the Governor elect is not a Democrat. That he was not a Democrat a year ago is true; but when the doctrines of the Republican party were put in practice by that Republican saint, John Brown, at Harper's Ferry, Mr. Sprague turned his back upon his party, accepted a nomination to the Democracy, and has fought the battle and won on the platform of the Democratic party. The victory in Rhode Island, then, is to all interests and purposes a Democratic victory. It is the first gain of the campaign, and proclaims in unmistakable language that Seward's "irrepressible conflict" cannot be sustained even in New England! All hail Rhode Island, then! She is small, but she has struck a giant blow at sectionalism!

### THE OBSERVER.

B. F. SLOAN, Editor.  
TERMS: \$1.50 PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.  
SATURDAY, APRIL 7, 1860.  
DEMOCRATIC NOMINATION.  
FOR GOVERNOR,  
HENRY D. FOSTER,  
OF WESTMORELAND CO.

"Honors to Whom Honors are Due."—Mr. Cowan of the *Warren Mail* writes to his paper from Harrisburg, under date of the 22d ult., as follows:—"The item in the *Mail* of March 17th, ascribing to Gov. Bigler the credit of getting our mail carried on the S. & E. Railroad, is not strictly correct, as I happen to know. The road has been ready and anxious for the job ever since last winter. Gov. Bigler, though having the ear of the Department, and the power to accommodate us three months ago, if he pleased, did nothing until the exertions of Mr. Hall and his friends absolutely shamed Bigler and his Department out of their stick in the mud policy and forced them to terminate. Gov. Bigler could today get a mail route through Farmington if he desired to do so, but he don't. To Mr. Hall and Mr. Babbitt then are we indebted for direct, active interference in our behalf. That any assertions that get a mail out of the mud into a Railroad Car should be necessary is one of the many singularities of this miserable Administration; and when it is done let us not give the credit to those justly chargeable with the delay."

For medicinal lying the above is about as fair a specimen as we have seen for many a day. Not content with slandering Gov. Bigler, the Editor of the *Mail* gives to Babbitt and Hall credit to which they are no more entitled than he is himself. Who is entitled to credit for a simple act of duty is no great matter; but when a fellow, like the Editor of the *Mail*, who knows nothing about the circumstances of what he writes, takes occasion to bolster up his political crank at the expense of others, it becomes all important that he should be exposed. It is not even true that "the road has been ready and anxious for the job ever since last winter." When the road was finished through to Warren, Mr. Black, the Superintendent, wrote the Department, asking if a contract could be made to carry the mail. Mr. Dundas, 2d Asst. P. M. General, wrote at once to have him furnish a certificate of the Chief Engineer of the length of the road, and the names of the officers to be supplied. He also informed Mr. B. that until Congress made the necessary appropriation no contract could be entered into. Thus matters rested until the P. O. Deficiency bill passed, when we wrote Gov. Bigler, calling his attention to the matter, and urging upon him prompt action. That letter of ours—not Babbitt's three-part contract. Hall's—was laid before the P. M. General by Gov. Bigler, and upon his representations, backed by the earnest co-operation of the Governor, the service was ordered. The following letter from the Chief Clerk in the Contract office is conclusive on this point.

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT,  
March 10, 1860.  
Sir:—At your request, I herewith return Mr. Sloan's letter left by you on yesterday. I have the honor to inform you a contract has been ordered for the daily transportation of the mail by railroad between Erie and Warren at the Company's proposition, viz. \$50 per mile. Notices to the Company, also Post Masters at Erie and Warren, will go out to-day.  
I am, sir, very respectfully,  
Your Obedient Servant,  
WM. BELL,  
U. S. Senate.

We heard of a man the other day, in conversation with a very worthy clergyman of the city, in one of our book stores, who gave it as his deliberate opinion that there were two papers published which people should be prohibited from reading—and those papers were the *N. Y. Herald*, and the *Erie Observer*. Now here is an opinion as is an opinion! Unfortunately we do not know the name of this very liberal minded gentleman, but we'll wager a pint of peas to a Seward speech that he thinks John Brown a patriot, sage, saint and martyr—that the Union of the States is "a covenant with hell"—and that "were better the Constitution should be abrogated than that its requirements in regard to slave property should be lived up to. That the *Observer* does not suit this class of men very well know. It has applied the salt of truth to their cuticle too often; but we did not imagine that there was even one who, after making so much ado about "free speech," and all that, would be the first to advocate a press censorship.

S. M. Booth, one of the Republican leaders of Wisconsin, who for being engaged in a kidnapping negro expedition, is now lying in jail at Milwaukee for want of money to pay his fine to the United States, makes an urgent appeal to the Milwaukee Democrat. He reproaches the citizens of Wisconsin for their indifference to him, and invokes prophecies of fierce retribution upon them for their apathy. If more of those yelping, howling political disorganizers were in the same place the country would be better off.

### INTERESTING FACTS FOR EVERYBODY

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NO. 1, BROWN'S HOTEL, BELL

## DRY GOODS!!

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## HAYES & JORDAN

HAVE THE LARGEST ASSORTMENT OF SILKS, WOOLLEN AND OTHER

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### GET THE BEST!

## HAYES & JORDAN

THE WHOLE COMMUNITY IS AROUSED AND AWAKENED TO ITS BEST INTERESTS AND BUY OF

## HAYES & JORDAN

THEY HAVE THE MOST CENTRAL LOCATION

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Pure Juice of the Grape.  
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