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The Case of Dred Scott.
This interesting and important case, the argument of which before the Supreme Court of the U. S. some months since will be well remembered, was decided by a majority of the Judges, in Washington, on Friday last. The opinion was read by Chief Justice Taney. The points decided are as follows, and as might have been expected from the Southern affinities and sympathies of the majority of the Court, the great principles of Freedom are virtually repudiated.

First—That negroes, whether slaves or free; that men of the States by the Constitution. Second—That the ordinance of 1787 had no independent constitutional force or legal effect subsequent to the adoption of the Constitution and could not operate to confer freedom of citizenship within the Northwest Territory, on negroes not citizens by the Constitution. Third, that the provision of the act of 1820, commonly called the Missouri Compromise, in so far as it undertook to exclude negro slavery from the Missouri Territory, and to communicate citizenship to negroes in the northern part of the Louisiana session; was a legislative act not exceeding the powers of Congress, and of no legal effect to that effect. In deciding these main points, the Supreme Court determined the following incidental points:—

First—The expression "Territory and other property" of the Union, in the Constitution, applies "in terms" only, to such territory as the Union possessed at the time of the adoption of the Constitution. Second—The rights of citizens of the United States, emigrating into any federal territory, and the power of the federal government there, depend on the general provisions of the Constitution which define this, in all other respects, the powers of Congress. Third—As Congress does not possess power itself to make enactments relative to the persons or property of citizens of the United States in federal territory, other than such as the Constitution confers, so it cannot constitutionally delegate any such power to a territorial government organized by the United States.

Fourth—The legal condition of a slave in the State of Missouri is not affected by the temporary sojourn of such slave in any other State, but on his return his condition still depends on the laws of Missouri. As the plaintiff was not a citizen of Missouri, and therefore could not sue in the Courts of the United States, the suit must be dismissed for want of jurisdiction.

From this opinion two members of the Court, Judges McLean and Curtis, dissented and gave their reasons for disagreeing with the majority, of which the telegraph gives the subjoined synopsis: Justice McLean delivered his views, arguing that slavery is limited by range of the States where established by mere municipal law. If Congress deems slaves, or free colored persons, injurious to the territory, they have the power to prohibit them from becoming settlers therein. The power to acquire territory, carries with it the power to govern it. The master does not carry with him to the territory the law of the State from which he removes—hence the Missouri Compromise is constitutional, and the presumption is in favor of the freedom of Dred Scott and his family, who were free under decisions for the last twenty-eight years.

Justice Curtis dissented from the opinion of the majority of the Court, as delivered by Chief Justice Taney, and gave his reasons for dissenting. He maintained that native born colored persons can be citizens of the State and the United States; that Dred Scott and his family were free when they returned to Missouri; that the power of Congress to make all needful regulations respecting territory, was not, as the majority of the Court expressed, limited to territory belonging to the United States at the time of the adoption of the Constitution, but has been applied to five subsequent acquisitions of lands; that Congress has power to exclude slavery from the territories, having established eight territorial governments without it, and recognized slavery in six, from the days of Washington to John Quincy Adams.

The very important consequences that are likely to follow this decision do not render it probable that it will have the expected effect of allaying slavery agitation in the country. A Washington correspondent remarks as one consequence of the decision that, "it will establish the principle that a master may take his slave into a free State and retain him as such, in defiance of the local law; or rather, that construction will be maintained, and an issue made upon it, between the North and South. This seems inevitable, and if it be not followed by legislation corresponding to it, next session, I shall gladly confess my error. In the case under consideration, the owner of Dred Scott, who brings the action, carried him to Rock Island, or Illinois, and Fort Snelling, north of the Missouri line and resided there for years. He carried him back to Missouri, and then claimed that the status of slavery resumed; thus overturning the law of Illinois, and that of the United States. Missouri, Virginia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Maryland, and other southern States always held, until the late agitation, that the removal of a slave into a free State was practical emancipation, and that once liberated, the original condition could not be re-imposed. All this usage is to be upset; and late decisions, growing out of popular excitement, are to be ratified over a settled practice, which has been transmitted without question, until political feeling invaded the sanctuary of justice."

BOSTON.—Senator Bigler presented in the United States Senate, on Thursday, the protest of the Democratic members of the Pennsylvania Legislature, against Mr. Cameron being permitted to take his seat in that body.

DR. KANE'S REMAINS.—The funeral cortege of Dr. Kane arrived in Baltimore yesterday. They will be conveyed to Philadelphia to-day, and the funeral being held to-morrow or Friday. The highest honors have been paid in all the Western cities.

Town and County Matters.

THE UNION LECTURES.—The Union Fire Company's course of Lectures was closed on Thursday evening last, the concluding lecture being delivered by the Rev. A. H. Kramer, whose subject was "The Religious Character of Washington." Mr. Kramer's lecture was truly interesting and was listened to by a large and intelligent audience with evident satisfaction.

COL. A. G. EGE.—Our friend Col. A. G. Ege, who left here about two years since for Kansas Territory, made a hasty visit to his friends in Carlisle a few days since. Col. Ege gives a glowing account of the new territory, which in richness of soil and all the elements to constitute a wealthy and prosperous State, cannot in his opinion be surpassed by any other section of the country.

A SAD RECORD.—Our obituary department has probably never presented a more affecting record of family affliction, than in the successive deaths of the wife and children of Mr. Andrew Balfour, of West Pennsylvania township, which occurred on the 21st, 23d, and 25th of February.

A FINE IMPROVEMENT.—The new House of the Good Will Fire Company was completed last week, and on Saturday afternoon was opened to visitors. Its external appearance is exceedingly handsome. The interior comprises two large rooms; one on the ground floor for the carriage and implements of the Company, and the other, on the second story, for the meetings of the members. The latter is tastefully and comfortably furnished and is provided with gas light. The design of the building was furnished by Mr. J. K. Turner. It is a decided ornament to Pomfret street. The whole improvement cost about \$1700.

FIRST OF APRIL CHANGES.—Those of our subscribers who intend removing their places of residence about the first of April, and desire the absence of sending their papers changed, will be good enough to give us timely notice, always being careful to state where they wish them changed from. Early attention to this matter will save trouble and prevent the loss of papers.

ANOTHER SNOW STORM.—A fall of snow commenced on Monday morning last and continued throughout the day, making a depth of several inches.

SPRING ELECTION.—The time is approaching for the election of borough officers and it is necessary that some arrangements should be made to secure the nomination and election of good and competent men.

SPRING SALES.—Bills for the following sales have been printed at this office: Sale of James D. Gresson, one mile west of Plainfield, on Tuesday, the 24th of March. Sale of Richard Parker, in Silver Spring Twp., on Friday, the 20th of March. Sale of Jacob Weaver, in South Middleton Twp., on Saturday, the 21st of March. Sale of Tobias H. Seitz, of Dickinson township, on Friday, the 12th of March. Sale by John R. Sharp, Executor of Rev. A. Shorn, dec'd., of Newton township, on Wednesday, the 11th of March. Sale of Jacob Sawyer, South Middleton Twp., on Saturday, the 21st of March. Sale of Elizabeth B. Stewart's Gap, Cumberland Co., on Saturday, the 28th of March. Sale of William Cameron, one mile west of Carlisle, on the Railroad, on Tuesday, the 17th of March. Sale of Jacob Sheffer, in South Middleton Twp., on Thursday, the 19th of March. Sale of S. N. Diven, in Papertown, on Saturday, the 14th of March.

THE NEXT STATE FAIR.—The Executive Committee of the Pennsylvania State Agricultural Society, have fixed upon the 29th and 30th days of September, and the 1st and 2d days of October, 1857, as the time for holding the next State Fair. A Committee, of which the Hon. David Tappan is Chairman, has been appointed to receive proposals from towns and cities, whose duty it will be, if necessary, to proceed to such places as they may deem appropriate to erect a building, which they shall think best calculated to promote the interests of the Society, and report their action to the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

THE BURDELL MARRIAGE.—The question as to Dr. Burdell's alleged marriage to the daughter of the late President of New York, is now undergoing investigation in the Surrogate's Court, the Hon. Judge Burdell being the attorney for the late President of the State. The Rev. Dr. Burdell, the clergyman who officiated at the wedding, is the principal witness. He made a very important statement, which we give in our words:—"In my own mind I know that Mr. Eckel was not the man who I think I did the inquiry to so many words, that Mr. Eckel was not the man I married. From the moment I saw Eckel, I was an infidel that I had married Burdell as I had existed, and an infidel of it now."

EXERCISES.—Every election in the West, of recent days, is attended by a grand row. Last year it was Cincinnati, the year before, Louisville, and this year Chicago. It arises from the old feeling, prejudice against foreign voters, and the very silly and provoking conduct of some of the naturalized voters, who take occasion to get drunk, when they ought to remain sober, and become in consequence violent. A gang of inebriated Irishmen, in Chicago, after rising about one of the polls at the election last week, made an assault upon some German, and a very general fight ensued between the voters of the two races, in which one German got so injured as to cause his death, and the wife of a Norwegian, who went to the assistance of her husband, got an injury from which she died.

Inauguration of James Buchanan.

THE INAUGURAL ADDRESS.
The ceremony of inaugurating James Buchanan of Pennsylvania, as President of the United States, took place on Wednesday, last in Washington. A vast multitude thronged the city for the occasion. The military parade numbered 1000 volunteers, 800 marines, and a corps of U. S. Light Artillery, all under the command of Gen. Quitman. The fire companies, and political and civic societies, turned out in full force, and the President and Vice President were each drawn in an open brough, surrounded by the Keynote Club, and preceded by a female dressed as the Goddess of Liberty, standing on a high platform, drawn by six horses. The cortages were followed by a fully rigged array of war oil wheels. In the Senate chamber were assembled all the members of Congress, cabinet, diplomatic corps, &c. President Pierce, accompanied by Mrs. Buchanan and Mr. Breckinridge. The Senate was organized, Chief Justice Taney administered the oath of office to Mr. Buchanan, and the latter was then escorted to the cabinet room, where he delivered his inaugural address.

FELLOW CITIZENS.—Ladies before you this day, to take the solemn oath, "that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States." In entering upon this great office, I most humbly invoke the God of our fathers for wisdom and firmness to execute the high and arduous duties which are devolved upon me, and to restore harmony and ancient friendship among the people of the several States, and to preserve our free institutions throughout many generations. Convinced that the Union is the basis of our national life, and that the Constitution and the Union, which still animates the hearts of the American people, are our earnestly ask their powerful support in the discharge of my duty, and that I may be permitted to perpetuate these, the richest political blessings which Heaven has bestowed upon my nation. Having determined not to become a party to any measure which may be injurious to the government, except the dearest, and ably and faithfully to serve my country, and to live in the grateful memory of my people, I have recently signed, through a Presidential order, in which the passions of our fellow-citizens were excited to the highest degree by questions of deep and vital importance, and which have been the cause of much suffering and the utmost of our ability, and all was calm. The voice of the majority, speaking in the manner prescribed by the Constitution, has prevailed in the adoption of a peace and Our own country could alone have exhibited so grand and striking a spectacle of the capacity of man for self government. 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