

FROM WASHINGTON.

Speech of Hon. Thaddeus Stevens.

Correspondence of the Phila. Bulletin.
WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.
After the disposal of some unimportant business, the House went into a Committee of the whole, when Mr. Bay, of Missouri, made a speech on the Slavery question, in connection with the admission of California into the Union. He denounced the idea of disunion, declared that California could not be kept out of the Union; invoked conciliation as the true course for all parties. He was followed by Hon. Thaddeus Stevens, of Pa.

Mr. STEVENS commenced with a reference to the remarks of those members from the South, who had intimated that they should oppose all the legislation of the country, and endeavor to arrest all appropriation bills until this exciting subject of Slavery was settled. From these remarks, and other equally significant indications, he came to the conclusion that they had before them a well devised combination of Southern men, who were determined to do all in their power to make Congress submit to their measures, and cut off those supplies which were necessary to the very existence of the Government—and to persist in such a course until the bonds of the Union were severed. Well might those gentlemen have anticipated that not only the country, but an enlightened posterity would pronounce such conduct to be treason—rank treason. He ventured to say that there was not another country in the whole civilized world in which it would not have been followed up with speedy prosecution. But in this free country they could say almost anything that pleased with impunity, unless perchance some sedulous gentlemen should speak a word in favor of human liberty. What was the cause of all this? For what purpose all this excited feeling and all these desperate resolves? Would posterity believe the record of impartial history when it informed them that the sole moving and immediate cause of apprehension on the part of the South was that Congress would not permit the extension of human slavery on territory now free? It seemed barely possible; yet such it must be confessed was the fact; and such being the fact, it was proper to inquire whether the institution of Slavery was so great a good as to justify them in carrying it into these territories. He did not think so—on the contrary, in his judgment, the institution of Slavery was an evil—and as such they ought to oppose it as statesmen, as philanthropists and as moralists—notwithstanding the startling position which had been taken with regard to it by the gentleman from Alabama (Mr. Hilliard) who addressed the House the other day. He was determined to stand by all the compromises of the Constitution and to lend his influence in carrying them into effect; yet he regretted that some of these compromises existed—and if the question were now open, he would never give them his consent. The Constitution was framed in difficult times, and their fathers felt called upon to admit some compromises which at this enlightened period would not have been tolerated. If they had the power, he would go for some safe and certain means for the utter extinction of slavery throughout the Union—but they could not touch the question within the States—so they must let that part of the question rest. But when they came to legislate for territories over which they had constitutional authority, and which were now stablished with the institution of Slavery, they were bound to discharge their duty so as should best contribute to the prosperity, permanency and glory of the whole nation.

Did slavery then contribute to a nation's prosperity and glory? Was it not rather the subversion of all that was desirable in a nation's happiness? Slave countries never could have large, free and industrious population. Slave holders formed an aristocracy which was at war with all the elements of national prosperity and perpetuity—slaves had no ambition to stimulate them—no love of gain to excite them—no parental affection to animate them. They lacked all the common incentives to labor, consequently they must invariably be idle, and could never thrive like a free and industrious people. With population formed of the extreme classes—aristocracy and slaves—wanting in the middle classes of industrious yeomanry—a nation never could be prosperous. The middle class must always be the support of every liberal government, and the feeble where it was wanting must necessarily be people both in peace and war. A despotic government might long maintain itself with aristocrats and serfs; but a free representative government never could. In a free government, those who compose it must have an interest in it which serfs and slaves never had. White laborers in a slave country were always degraded and despised—denied all social intercourse with the aristocracy and a scorn even to the slaves themselves.

The soil occupied by Slavery was always less fertile than a similar soil occupied by freemen—slave labor never renovating it, but rendering it barren and unproductive. The State of Virginia afforded a striking instance of the truth of this assertion. She was once fully equal in all the elements of greatness, if not superior to any State in the Union, with a delightful climate—with a soil naturally fertile—with rich tracts of timber—with the best water power in the United States, and some of the finest harbors in the world; what was she now? While at the North, in the free States they beheld a soil made productive beyond its natural capacity by labor, new villages springing up all over the land with smiling dwellings almost within hail of each other, and everything prosperous and beautiful—turn to Virginia, and what did they see? with one or two exceptions, not a new town within her borders. Her soil cultivated by unwilling hands, was daily depreciating in productiveness. Her timber was untouched—her water power unimproved. Scarcely any sound was heard in many of her fertile regions, but the noise of the falling elements—her seaports had but few ships—her cities were without commerce. Ask themselves the cause, he would abide the result. Let the evil spread all over the whole country, and it would long continue. Like a cancer it must be eradicated speedily,

or it would eat out their vitals. One of Virginia's ablest men had made the humiliating confession lately that that State was fitted only to be the breeder, not the employer of slaves. Instead of seeking out the best herd of cattle and of horses to stock and to till their farms, the noble sons of that great State were reduced to the dire necessity of selecting the most lusty sires and the most promising wenchies to supply slaves for the South.—[Sensation.] Let them remember he did not say this—he was only paraphrasing the statement of one of their own writers. But let them draw a cordon of freedom around the dark region of slavery—confine it where it is—say it should go no further, and within twenty years it would not tarnish the statue books of a single State, and the name of this country would go down to posterity with untarnished glory.

A nation of slaves could not possibly be as powerful as a nation of freemen—whatever gentlemen might say of the valor, the blood and the treasures of the South. And he would not disparage her valor. He gave her due credit for it.—He admitted that she furnished many worthy patriots—many distinguished officers—those who would live in story. But whence the common soldiery? Almost invariably from the North, except in local emergencies. He quoted official documents in proof of this assertion.

But he was opposed to slavery for still greater reasons. The spirit of republican institutions was against it. In his judgment this government in upholding slavery made itself a despotism. The people were the sovereigns in this country. They were the rulers, numbering sixteen millions, and the subjects were slaves numbering four millions. And what was the condition of those subjects? More servile than that of the subjects of ancient Greece and Rome. How with the rulers! As with Nicholas of Russia and the tyrants of old—they, the rulers, were free, while they bound hand and foot their subjects. They were despots while they did it. So History would brand them. He who would vote for the extension of their institutions over one foot of territory now free, was a traitor to his country and to his God. And yet if the freemen of the North attempted to legislate upon this subject, gentlemen at the South threatened them with disunion—was this the place for threats instead of argument? Not in his opinion. And while the whole civilized world were denouncing the institution of slavery as a relic of the dark ages and utterly opposed to the natural rights of man, he hoped there would not be found when the time to decide this important question came, one single representative from the North who would prove recreant to his high trust, and give his vote for the extension of slavery.

In conclusion, he indulged in some beautiful reflections upon the probability of their being many slaves in heaven, now free and happy, while their unremitting task-masters were shut out.

Mr. Clay and the Union.
In the course of the debate which took place in the U. S. Senate on Thursday, when the subject of the admission of California was under deliberation, Mr. Foote of Miss., made a remark which elicited the following reply from Mr. Clay:

It is totally unnecessary for the gentleman to remind me of my coming from a slaveholding State. I know whence I come, and I know my duty, and I am ready to submit to any responsibility which belongs to me as a Senator from a slaveholding State.

Sir, I have heard something said on this and on a former occasion about allegiance to the South. I know no South, no North, no East, no West, to which I owe any allegiance. I owe allegiance to two sovereignties; and only two; one is to the sovereignty of this Union; and the other is to the sovereignty of the State of Kentucky. My allegiance is to this Union and to my State, but if gentlemen suppose they can exact from me an acknowledgment of allegiance to any ideal or future contemplated confederacy of the South, I here declare that I owe no allegiance to it, nor will I, for one, come under such allegiance if I can avoid it. I know what my duties are, and gentlemen may cease to remind me of the fact that I come from a slaveholding State.

Sir, if I chose to avail myself of the opinions of my own State, I can show a resolution from the State Legislature, received last night, reported after due consideration by a committee. This resolution declares its cordial sanction to the whole of the series of resolutions which I have offered. And I must say that the preparation of that resolution was unprompted by me; for I have neither written to nor have I received a single letter from any member of the Legislature of Kentucky during this session on public affairs. I beg pardon for this digression. These are the sentiments I entertain, and I am neither to be terrified nor frightened by any language. I hope gentleman will not transcend the limits of legitimate parliamentary debate in using any language toward me; because I fear I could not even trust myself if they were to do it. I shall use no such language toward them, and I hope on this floor for a reciprocity of parliamentary dignity and propriety.

I ask it, because I do not know how far I could trust myself language of a personal character were applied to me; I care not by whom.

Webster and Hayne

The following passage from Mr. Webster's reply to Col. Hayne, in the Senate of the United States on a former occasion, when the union was threatened as now, will be read with renewed interest at the present time:

"When my eyes shall be turned to behold, for the last time, the sun in Heaven, may I not see him shining on the broken and dishonored fragments of a glorious union: on states disjoined, discordant and belligerent; on a land rent with civil feuds, or drenched, it may be in fraternal blood? Let their fast feeble and lingering glance rather behold the gorgeous ensign of the republic, now known and honored throughout the earth still full high advanced, its arms and trophies streaming in their original lustre; not a stripe erased or polluted, nor a single star obscured; bearing for its motto no such miserable interrogatory as, What is all this worth? Nor those other words of delusion and folly, liberty first and union afterwards; but everywhere, spread all over in characters of living light, blazing on all its ample folds, as they float over the sea and over the land, and in every wind under the whole Heavens, that other sentiment, dear to every American heart—liberty and union, now and forever, one and inseparable."

During the year 1849 there were 177,655 tons of Iron imported into New York, valued at \$6,887,529. In 1848 the quantity imported into that city was 131,025 tons, valued at \$5,516,585, showing an increase in favor of 1849 of 46,630 tons, valued at \$1,370,944.

Immense numbers of wild ducks and geese are shot at this season of the year, in the head waters of the Chesapeake, and sent to Baltimore and Philadelphia. One gunner killed, a few days since, near Havre-de-Grace, 260 ducks, and over 1600 were shot the same day. It is fair to presume they averaged 75 cents a pair, amounting to \$750. A pretty good day's work.

THE MARKETS.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb 22, 1850.
The Fleur market continues firm. Sales of 1000 bbls at \$1 75 a \$1 81 for standard and fair brands.

Rye Flour is inactive. We quote at \$2 87 per bbl.

CORN MEAL—Sales of 500 bbls, at \$2 084.

WHEAT—Small sales of red at \$1 06, and white at \$1 12 per bu.

CORN is in good demand. Sales of 5000 bbls, at 25c. per bu.

OATS continue in limited request.

WHISKY is in better request. Sales in bbls, at 25c. and hhd, at 24c.

SEEDS—Cloverseed, \$4 44 a \$4 50 per bu. from store. Flaxseed in demand at \$1 50 a 1 55 per bu.

MARRIED.

On the 21st inst. by the Rev. J. Peebles, WILLIAM JACOBS, Esq.; of Lewistown, to Miss SARAH D. PEEBLES, of Huntingdon.

A large and delicious portion of wedding cake accompanied the above notice, for which the happy couple will please accept our kindest wishes.

New Arrangement.

CARRIAGE & WAGON MANUFACTORY.

Edward Summers,

WOULD respectfully inform the public that he has purchased from Henry Smith, his tools, stock, &c., belonging to the above department of his business, and that he will carry it on for the present, in all its various branches, in the shop heretofore occupied by Mr. Smith. He is prepared to execute all orders in his line on the shortest notice and most reasonable terms.

Carriages, Buggies, Wagons, Sleighs,

Carts, Wheelbarrows, &c.,

made to order, of the best materials, and at reasonable prices.

Repairing of all kinds of vehicles, done on the shortest notice.

Those wanting heat, cheap and durable articles in his line of business, are respectfully requested to give him a call.

Feb. 26, 1850.

Auditor's Notice.

NOTICE is hereby given to all persons interested, that the undersigned has been appointed by the Orphans' Court of Huntingdon county, Auditor to ascertain and report liens against the interest or share of James M. Ball, in the proceeds of the sale of the real estate of his father, Josiah Ball, deceased, and to apportion the said interest amongst the lien creditors, &c., and that he has appointed Saturday, the 25th day of March next, at 1 o'clock P. M., at his office in the borough of Huntingdon, for the hearing of the parties, &c. When and where all persons interested may attend if they may attend.

JOHN REED, Auditor.

Feb. 26, 1850.—4.

Justice of the Peace.

THE subscriber, will respectfully announce to the voters of Huntingdon, that he will be a candidate for the office of

Justice of the Peace, at the ensuing Spring Election, and will be thankful for their suffrages.

ROBERT STITT.

Feb. 19, 1850.

Administrator's Notice.

LETTERS of Administration have been granted to the subscriber upon the estate of

GEORGE SCHLENKNER, late of Warriorsmark township, deceased. All persons having claims

will present them duly authenticated, and those indebted are requested to make payment to

HAYS HAMILTON, Administrator.

Feb. 19, 1850.

Last Notice.

PERSONS knowing themselves in

d�ted to the firm of H. K. NEFF & BRO.,

are hereby informed that all balances

found on their books after the 1st

day of April, 1850, will be transferred to

the proper officers for collection. It

will therefore be well, for those concerned

to call immediately upon the sub-

scriber and save further expense.

H. K. NEFF,

for H. K. Neff & Bro.

Feb. 19, 1850.

FURNITURE SALE.

THE subscriber, expecting to leave Hunting-

don shortly, will offer at AUCTION on

TUESDAY, the 5th day of March, his

Household Furniture;

and a variety of other articles, among which is a

ROCKAWAY CARRIAGE, not much worn.

Sale to commence at 9 o'clock A. M. Terms then made known.

JOHN PEEBLES.

Feb. 19, 1850.

REMOVAL.

NEW GOODS! NEW GOODS!

T. K. SIMONTON

WOULD respectfully announce to his old

customers, and every body else, that he

has removed his store from his old stand,

to the room few doors below, on the same side of

the street, and two doors from William Dorris'

Store. In addition to his old stock, he has just

received an elegant assortment of

NEW GOODS,

which he is prepared to sell as cheap, if not a

little cheaper, than can be procured elsewhere.

His stock consists of

Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware,

Drugs, &c., &c.

Feb. 26, 1850.

ADMINISTRATORS' NOTICE.

Estate of WM. STEWART, late of Dublin

township, dec'd.

Notice is hereby given that Letters of Adminis-

tration on the estate of WM. Stewart,

late of Dublin township, Hunt. co., dec'd., have

been granted to the undersigned. All persons de-

dicted to said estate are requested to make imme-

diate payment, and those having claims or de-

mands against the same to present them duly au-

thenticated for settlement, to

THOS. W. NEELY,

JOHN BARRON.

Administrators.

Feb. 26, 1850.

LEMON EXTRACT.

PURE Concentrated Extract of Lemon, a

genuine article for sale at CUNNING-

HAM'S, opposite the Post Office.

February 27, 1850.

SADDLES.

A GOOD assortment of well finished Saddles

now on hand and for sale at the Saddle and

Harness Manufactory of Wm. Glasgow, oppo-

site the Post Office, Huntingdon.

Oct. 30, 1850.

WADDELL'S CLOTHING!

Great Inducements to Persons in

Want of a good Watch.

NEFF & MILLER having received addi-