



TERMS: The "Huntingdon Journal" is published at the following rates, viz: \$1.75 a year, if paid in advance; \$2.00 if paid during the year, and \$2.50 if not paid until after the expiration of the year. The above terms to be adhered to in all cases.

DEMOCRATIC WHIG COUNTY MEETING.

The Democratic Whigs and all friends of the National and State administrations, of Huntingdon county, are requested to meet in COUNTY MEETING on Tuesday Evening, April 9, 1850, for the purpose of choosing a Representative Delegate to the Whig State Convention, to nominate a candidate for Canal Commissioner, and selecting Conferees, to meet similar Conferees from the counties of Bedford and Blair, to select a Senatorial Delegate to said Convention. A general attendance is requested. By order of the County Committee.

New Advertisements.

B. & W. Snare have received a new stock of Spring and Summer Clothing. H. W. Smith has opened a new Book and Stationary store. J. Weichselbaum will offer a great variety of Spectacles, &c., in this place during April Court.

Gov. Johnston and Slavery.

On Friday last Gov. Johnston transmitted to the Legislature a special message, on the subject of Slavery, a somewhat extended notice of which will be found in our Harrisburg letter. The message is too long for publication this week, but shall appear in our next. It is a bold and manly expression of Pennsylvania sentiment, ably written and dignified in its tone.

THE RAILROAD.

The Pa. Railroad is beginning to do a very fine business in the way of carrying passengers. The cars now run to Shaver's Aqueduct, eleven miles east of this place, and they daily bring to that point passengers sufficient to crowd two packet boats. We are pleased to see this evidence of prosperity on this road. It deserves it. The road is well built; the cars are the best we ever rode in, and the fare is cheap—only three cents per mile.

Gen. S. D. Karns.

The travelling public will be gratified to know that this gentleman continues to run the packet "Wm. Colder" between Hollidaysburg and Shaver's Aqueduct. A few evenings since we had the pleasure of making a trip on his Packet from the last named point to this place. As usual, we found everything in the best order. A few minutes after going on board a supper was served up for the passengers that would have done credit to any of the first class Hotels. And then Karns is so obliging and attentive. After getting the passengers comfortably located on his boat he always looks about to see if there are any whose health seems to require extra attention.

CONGRESS.

During the past week the Census Bill received some consideration in the Senate, and the bill to supply the deficiencies in the appropriations, was discussed in the House. The Slavery discussion, however, occupied the principal portion of the time. The South is becoming clamorous for a compromise, but what kind of a compromise will suit them, is not yet made manifest. Mr. Webster's great speech, it is said, is very acceptable to the South, but on the other hand the North will not stand by its doctrines. Indeed we cannot see how any Northern representative can consent to go with Mr. Webster in the wholesale concessions which he proposes to make to slavery.

THE CITY OF LEWISTOWN.—A bill incorporating the borough of Lewistown into a city, passed the House on Tuesday last. Great country, this!

The Legislature.—Private Legislation.

We spent a day or two at Harrisburg during the past week, and after attending to a little private business, we took a look at the Legislature. And we must confess, that with a few honorable exceptions, we were not favorably impressed with either the honesty or capacity of the members. The majority of the members, especially of the lower House, appear to be the smallest kind of narrow minded politicians. Their aim is not the public good, but how they may acquire a little temporary popularity at home or most effectually thwart their political opponents. The Speaker's Chair is filled with one of this class of politicians. In all our experience, we never seen a Speaker of the House of Representatives for whom we did not entertain some degree of respect, until the Chair has been filled by John S. McCalmont. He is a most perfect specimen of arrogance and vanity combined. When seated in his chair, one would suppose from the peculiar curl of his lip and the forbidding expression of his countenance, that some odious matter was in contiguity with his olfactory organ.

The business under consideration was all of a private character. The public business has to remain in the back ground; while every day private acts "too numerous to mention," granting exclusive privileges to the few and infringing on the rights of the many, are passing without a dissenting voice! If an individual wants to overreach his neighbors, and there is no law to protect him in doing so, all he need do is to spend the winter at Harrisburg, pay a little attention to some knave or fool who happens to disgrace some one of the many unfortunate counties of the Commonwealth, get him to read a bill in place to accomplish his purpose, and it becomes a law without perhaps a half dozen members of either House understanding its provisions or its effects upon the community interested. For the truth of this assertion, we appeal to all who have paid any attention to the doings of our Legislature for a few years past, and especially during the present session. And the worst feature of all is, that none but the rich are favored with a grant of these exclusive privileges. All the Locofoco rant against corporations and exclusive privileges with which the people are entertained, on the eve of every election, is but hypocritical cant, intended to deceive. Go to Harrisburg during the session, and you will there see Locofoco members the most active in promoting the private Legislation so fiercely condemned before the people. But we must confess that members of both parties are guilty of this sin, and we do not wish to screen any from merited censure.

But how is all this to be remedied? We answer, by electing honest men to the Legislature. Capacity should not be the only test in selecting representatives. Honesty and unyielding morality should be prominent features in the characters of those selected to make laws. "The greatest good of the greatest number," and not the "greatest good to myself and a few exclusive friends," should be the motto of every Legislator. It is high time that the people should wake up to the importance of this matter. A few years more of the kind of Legislation now in fashion at Harrisburg, will strip the people at large of all their rights, and transfer them to the designing, artful few. We may recur to this subject again.

"Go it" Toll Bridge—Free Bridge "is gaining on you!"

Early in this month an act "relative to bridges," on the Juniata, passed both branches of the Legislature and became a law. As its provisions may be interesting to many of our readers, we give it entire, as follows: SECTION 1. Be it enacted, &c. That if shall not hereafter be lawful to erect any free bridge over the Juniata river or its tributaries within the distance of one mile from any Toll bridge constructed by any company incorporated by this Commonwealth: Provided, That in case the County Commissioners of any county in which such Toll Bridge may be situated, shall be desirous to purchase the same, for the purpose of making it a free Bridge, they may offer the owners of said bridge such a sum for the same as three competent disinterested persons (to be chosen one by each of the parties and the third by the two persons thus chosen) may after a careful view thereof, determine it to be worth; and should said company not accept the said offer (which may be made in writing to the President or Secretary of said company) within fifteen days after it shall be made, as aforesaid, then, and in that event, it shall be lawful for said Commissioners, or any association of individuals, to erect a free bridge or bridges wherever they may see proper over the said river or its tributaries.

Last week, however, the following amendment, explanatory of the above act, passed both Houses, and was signed by the Governor, as follows: "That the act passed the 11th day of March, 1850, entitled an Act relative to Bridges," shall not be so construed as to prevent the erection of a free bridge within the distance of one mile from any incorporated toll bridge which shall have enjoyed the rights and privileges of said act of incorporation, for a period of fifteen years."

Adjournment.

The Pa. Telegraph says:—The House of Representatives took up on Thursday, the resolution for a final adjournment. The day apparently agreed upon was the 9th of April, though no final vote was taken. We have no doubt but that will be the day; though there is an apparent effort making in some quarters, as is evident by not taking up the important bills, to prolong the session. The people have to pay the piper; and for a majority of the Members of the present House, one dollar and fifty cents is high per diem pay, especially with the perquisites which are said to be going.

The Stockholders of the Pennsylvania Railroad, at a special meeting held on the 19th inst., resolved to submit the question of running the cars on Sunday, to a vote of all the stockholders, the polls to remain open for thirty days. The last Foreign News reports a downward tendency in breadstuffs and cotton. No change as yet in Philadelphia market. Flour is selling for \$1 75 per bbl., and Wheat at \$1 04 1/2 for red and \$1 04 1/4 for white.

Letter from Harrisburg.

Correspondence of the Huntingdon Journal.

The Governor's Message—Slavery Question.

HARRISBURG, March 23, 1850.

DEAR COL.—I am one day behind with my letter this week. Absolute necessity compelled the delay, but I trust it will reach you in time. The exciting topic of the day—the rights of the south and north on the question of slavery—is now fairly before the Legislature. The States of Virginia and Georgia, some weeks since, forwarded to our Executive certain resolutions in relation to the preservation of the Union, the institution of slavery, &c., and on yesterday Gov. Johnston handed those resolutions over to the Legislature of our State, accompanied by a message, giving his views upon those interesting and important subjects. It so happened that at the time of the delivery of the message the House was discussing the propriety of the repeal of the kidnapping law of 1817. As may be well supposed, the message sadly discomfited the pro-slavery men.

The message is a calm, dignified, and impartial review of our laws upon the subject of slavery, and a plain unvarnished history of Pennsylvania's feelings thereon. There is no rant—no bragadoocio—no "gammone" to catch the home body by expressive term. It reviews the whole history of the institution of slavery; how and why it was entailed upon our country. It probes beyond all controversy, that, while the fathers of our country found it engrafted and fastened upon us by the cupidity and oppression of the mother country, that they, guided by that patriotism and love of human freedom which was ever heard upon the same side, and not to proclaim it a wrong or that they were not, and actuated by that holy zeal for human rights, they early sought to circumscribe its limits, and to adopt such measures as they believed would finally wipe out the foul stain of human bondage from among the institutions of a people who believed that he alone was a "freeman whom the truth makes free."

The message then recites the laws of our own State upon the subject, and demonstrates with equal clearness that our honest old Commonwealth has never changed the views of our fathers and her children had learned in that school which first taught universal liberty to the bondsmen of every creed, of every clime and of every color. It shows that her sacred love of human rights had never grown cold, that her honor and integrity had never been sacrificed or silenced by the cold and selfish claims of policy. Stern and unyielding in the cause of right, her voice was ever heard upon the same side, and her footsteps ever guided by that chief end and aim of her national being, has been to make more firm the tie that binds us together as one people; and to make universal those holy truths which our common fathers wrote in their own red blood upon a thousand fields, & taught when the toils of strife were over, around their loved hearth stones, and prayed for at their family altars.

An allusion is then made to the wrongs that Pennsylvania has received at the hands of her sister States, or the National government, to gratify the caprice of some of those States; and in a few brief sentences, then shows how meekly and patiently she has borne those injuries, and in none of her complaints mingled threats against this glorious Union; that the chief end and aim of her national being, has been to make more firm the tie that binds us together as one people; and to make universal those holy truths which our common fathers wrote in their own red blood upon a thousand fields, & taught when the toils of strife were over, around their loved hearth stones, and prayed for at their family altars.

No More Slave States.

A Washington Letter writer says:—"There are men who believe that the Missouri compromise line, with sundry declarations of fundamental doctrines, will answer the purposes of securing to the South the Territory south of the line, and the occupation by Slave labor, and under a Slave State Government, of the lower half of California. Furthermore, the South looks, perhaps, to the prospect of maintaining the balance of power by further acquisitions from Mexico, where Slave labor, in the cultivation of Cotton, Sugar and Tobacco, would be highly profitable. With the slightest encouragement from the United States, the whole of Mexico might be annexed without the firing of a hostile gun. In this view the Missouri compromise line is a matter of great and practical consequence to the South."

A Year in Power.

The Union yesterday contains an article which it calls a "Review of the Administration—the First Year." In this review it undertakes to assign reasons, growing out of the policy of the Administration, to account for the fact that "it was compelled to face Congress with majorities in both Houses against it." We can give the Union a better explanation of these majorities. That in the Senate was hostile when President TAYLOR came into power. That in the House arises not from any merit or demerit of President TAYLOR or his Administration. President TAYLOR is stronger this day in the hearts of the American people than he has ever been. But there is a majority against him in the House, growing out of—

A Fight between U. S. Senators.

A personal collision took place in Washington city on Friday the 15th inst., between two U. S. Senators, which is thus noted by a city correspondent: There was a personal collision last evening between Senators Foote of Mississippi and Borland of Arkansas, in the vicinity of the National Intelligencer. It arose from a discussion on politics. Mr. Borland charged Mr. Foote with a desertion of Mr. Calhoun, and of the cause of the South. To this Mr. Foote retorted that Mr. Borland was a mere tender to Mr. Calhoun.

THE BRITISH PARTY.

The fact can no longer be disguised that the Locofocos are the British party of this country—the party that stand up for British at the expense of American interests. The British representatives of the Locofoco party in the Pennsylvania Legislature—the British representatives of the same party in Congress—and the Hon. Henry L. Bulwer, the British Minister resident at Washington, all agree in opinion as to the policy of continuing the present rates of duties, especially upon BRITISH IRON! The Locofocos in our State Senate, several days ago, true to their British sympathies, refused, by a strict party vote, to take up the resolution offered by Mr. King, in the early part of the session, instructing our Senators and requesting our representatives in Congress to use their influence in procuring important modifications of the present Tariff.

A License Law that Works Well.

Among other provisions of the license law of Wisconsin, is one which requires the venders of spirituous liquors to give bonds, with sureties, to respond in damages that can be traced to the sale of liquor by them. Under this law a suit was instituted by one Lovicy Keyser against Joseph Heath and his sureties and on the part of the plaintiff it was proved that the principle, Heath, sold some time in the month of October last, liquors at different times to Jacob Keyser, the husband of the plaintiff; that the said husband was attacked with delirium tremens in the month of November, and was the object of great care and attention on the part of his wife, from which care and fatigue she became sick, &c. The verdict of the Jury was for the plaintiff, \$100—the extreme of the jurisdiction.

A Good Suggestion.

The Register, a staunch Whig paper published in Knoxville, Tenn., says:—"As the disunionists talk of holding a Convention at Nashville in June next, it has been suggested that the friends of the Union in the south, meet in Convention at the same place on the 4th of July next. We are for this most heartily and every other scheme for rebuking the mad spirit of treason to the constitution, which is seeking to alienate the affections of the people from that bond of States that every American citizen should estimate as being above all price. Our motto is:—Down with the Factionists—Every thing for the Union."

IMPORTANT SLAVE DECISION.

The Supreme Court of Illinois, in a case recently before it, discharged a slave on the ground that the State law under which he was arrested, is a nullity, because it assumes to legislate upon a subject matter over which Congress has exclusive jurisdiction.

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So perfectly accordant is the action of the State Senate with the views and feelings disclosed in Mr. Bulwer's impudent letter, that the Harrisburg Telegraph very truly observes, "one might believe our Locofoco friends, in that body had received their cue from its distinguished author himself. It may be, that the Minister's zeal in regard to this matter led him to address himself to the members of our State Legislature, in addition to urging his views upon the attention of the President. In that sort of diplomacy, if the Minister is a good bore, he will probably be more successful than he will in accomplishing the legitimate objects of his mission. But be that as it may, the striking coincidence exhibited in the action of the Locofocos in the Pennsylvania Legislature, and that of the British Minister at Washington, shows the deep sympathy for British interests which is every where entertained by the leading members of the Locofoco party."

The fact is forced upon the masses who have been deceived and injured, that the Loco Foco Tariff of 1846 is indeed a British Tariff—a measure so highly prized at the Court of St. James, that the Cabinet of her august Majesty Queen Victoria, have instructed their Representative at Washington to remonstrate against any change or modification of existing duties! Does not this exhibit, in strong light, the BRITISH POLICY upon which this Locofoco Tariff is based? People of Pennsylvania, will you longer be deceived? Can you support a set of unprincipled politicians who advocate British interests in preference to the interests of their own country—who legislate for the benefit of foreign manufactures and foreign paupers? If not, "come out from among the foul party"—take your place in the ranks of the great American Whig party—and let your voice go up with theirs in favor of American interests!

A Locofoco Martyr.

B. F. Brown the Biographer of Gen. Cass—the calculator of Gen. Taylor—the value of whose great services were so strongly urged upon the public by the Washington Union, and whose dismissal from office was trumpeted forth as a national calamity which his locofoco admirers were about to qualify by giving him a valuable office in the House, has been arrested in Michigan upon that charge from which he lately fled, of drawing money from the Treasury upon forged papers, and is on his way, in custody, for Washington. It is hoped that he has lost nothing of his hold on the affections of the Democracy and the Union editors.

THE CHOLERA AT THE SOUTH.

The southern papers contain frequent mention of the appearance of the cholera in various directions, and in some places with extreme severity. We have already mentioned that in the village of Trinity thirty miles from Natchez, the fatality was so great that those who survived fled in terror, leaving the place depopulated. A party of forty-eight persons embarked at Memphis on an old "stock boat," and before they reached Natchez, on the 25th of February, twelve of them had died of cholera. At West Baton Rouge, La., there were cases of cholera on the 25th of February, but not very severe. At Montgomery, Ala., on the 2d inst. there was considerable alarm, owing to the appearance of the cholera among slaves on plantations near the city. Fifteen or twenty cases had occurred. Nothing is said in the New Orleans papers about the existence of the cholera in that city.

THE TRIAL OF PROF. WEBSTER.

The trial of Prof. J. W. Webster commenced at Boston, on last Tuesday, for the murder of Dr. George Parkman. In opening the case to the jury, Mr. Clifford, counsel for the government, made a succinct statement of the facts which it was his intention to prove.—These, he averred, established two propositions: 1st, that Dr. Parkman was murdered; and 2d, that Dr. J. W. Webster committed the deed. Dr. Parkman would be proved to have been alive on Friday, the 23d of November, and was last seen to enter the medical college, ten minutes before two o'clock in the afternoon of that day. He was a punctilious man, particularly at his meals; had a sick daughter who he was tending, and on whom he was closely attendant. For her comfort he had purchased some lettuce—difficult at that season to obtain—which he left at a store, intending to call for it afterward to carry home to her.—He entered the medical college, and was not again seen. The utmost search was made by his friends, aided by the entire police and liberal rewards; but no person had ever been found who had seen and conversed with him since that time. On Sunday, for the first time, Dr. Parkman's friends learned from Dr. Webster himself, that he had been in company with him on Friday, between 1 and 2 o'clock. On the 13th of Nov. were found in a privy vault in the Medical College, the pelvis and right thigh, to the knee, of a body corresponding to that of Dr. Parkman. On the evening after, were found in Dr. Webster's laboratory, in a tea chest, a thorax and left thigh, from the knee to the hips. Afterward were found, in the furnace of Dr. Webster, bones, a quantity of gold, and a block of mineral teeth. None of the bones found in the furnace were duplicates of those found in the tea chest or vault. The teeth would be fully identified by Dr. Keep, as a set which he lately made for Dr. Parkman, and a mould would be shown which exactly corresponded to a jaw bone found in the furnace. The thorax was perforated in the region of the heart. There have been chemical applications of strong alkali to the remains, and the veins had not been injected with any preservative fluid. This was the evidence going to show that Dr. Parkman had been murdered.

LOUIS NAPOLEON GOING TO ABDICATE.

The Washington correspondent of the Charleston Courier, tells the following queer story: I learn that a letter has been received here, from a gentleman in Paris, who was formerly Minister from France to this country, stating that Louis Napoleon is in a state of actual physical imbecility, that he is incapable of carrying on the Government, that he has been waited upon by a Committee representing the leading parties, and persuaded to abdicate his authority as President. The letter further states that Louis Napoleon consented, at their suggestion, to abdicate in favor of the Duke of Bordeaux, with a reservation of the rights of the Court de Paris. So the monarchy is likely soon to be restored.

GOLD HUNTING.

An incident was related to us yesterday of an old man from Syracuse, N. Y., who had been taken sick at the mines out on Sacramento, and who having exhausted all his provisions, was in a most deplorable state. He went about from tent to tent among the miners to beg a mouthful to eat to keep him from starvation. The miners in scattering out, generally take a rod square, which is considered the limits of their diggings. Entering a camp one day the old man begged for a meal, and told his story of adversity. "Let me give him a chance," said the men, "he's an old man and is sick; what say you let's help him out." "Well, agreed" replied the party. "Here, old man," said one of them "you may have that spot over yonder where you see that rock; so take your pick and go to work."

AWFUL DISASTER.

The steamer St. John was burnt to the waters edge near Bridgeport, Dallas co., on her upward trip to Montgomery, at 6 o'clock on Tuesday evening. It is supposed that about 30 persons were burnt to death and drowned. The fire was accidental and caught from the heat of the boilers. All the ladies on board numbering 7 or 8 were lost. Lieut. Rice of the U. S. A., lost some \$250,000; several Californians also lost their all. The boat was insured for \$20,000. She cost \$40,000.

MR. BENTON AND MR. CALHOUN.

It is reported that Mr. Benton has ordered a considerable number of Mr. Calhoun's speech, for distribution in Missouri. He will not reply to it. When asked if he should answer, his response was—"No, sir; proves all I said of him, sir. I predicted the whole thing, sir, in my Jefferson city speech, sir. Rank disunion, sir; nothing else, sir; all explained in my speech, sir; here are two copies sir; find the whole explained there, sir."

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This lady has, we learn, since the death of her husband, almost entirely secluded herself from society. She seems to be inconsolable in her grief. The huge pillars of the new house into which they had just removed, when the melancholy bereavement occurred, are still draped with black.

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ON THE SECOND HEAD, THAT THE PRISONER MURDERED DR. PARKMAN.

Mr. Clifford went into a minute detail of Dr. Webster's pecuniary relations of 1842, when he borrowed money of him, and had been in debt and embarrassment ever since, and he would show that Dr. Webster dishonestly endeavored to raise money of Robert G. Shaw and others, on property mortgaged to Dr. Parkman, and that Dr. Parkman regarded him as a dishonest man, and pressed him accordingly to recover his debt; he alleged that it would be proved that Dr. Webster had made conflicting statements, and false ones, in relation to money paid to Dr. Parkman, and that at the time of the latter's disappearance, all of Dr. Webster's property was bound to him. Mr. Clifford also dwelt at great length on Dr. Webster's conduct during the time of his arrest, and contended that a great number of circumstances would be found irreconcilable with the supposition of his innocence.

MR. HOWARD.

This lady, who some month since, killed the parson of her husband, Captain Howard, at Cincinnati, has been appointed guardian of her children, who, by the death of their father, have been left some \$40,000 worth of property. Mrs. Howard has recovered entirely her reason, and made personal application to the court to be appointed the guardian.

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.

A mammoth vein of white ash coal, of superior quality, has been struck on the property of Dr. McCarty, a short distance north of Port Carbon, Schuylkill county, in this State. It is from twenty to fifty feet in thickness, and as it was struck on the "saddle," as it is called, or where an upheave has thrown the vein near the surface, they drove across it, through nearly solid coal, a distance of 93 feet. This is regarded as the beginning of new discoveries of coal beds in that vicinity, for which several costly explorations are now in progress.

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Mr. Clifford went into a minute detail of Dr. Webster's pecuniary relations of 1842, when he borrowed money of him, and had been in debt and embarrassment ever since, and he would show that Dr. Webster dishonestly endeavored to raise money of Robert G. Shaw and others, on property mortgaged to Dr. Parkman, and that Dr. Parkman regarded him as a dishonest man, and pressed him accordingly to recover his debt; he alleged that it would be proved that Dr. Webster had made conflicting statements, and false ones, in relation to money paid to Dr. Parkman, and that at the time of the latter's disappearance, all of Dr. Webster's property was bound to him. Mr. Clifford also dwelt at great length on Dr. Webster's conduct during the time of his arrest, and contended that a great number of circumstances would be found irreconcilable with the supposition of his innocence.

MR. HOWARD.

This lady, who some month since, killed the parson of her husband, Captain Howard, at Cincinnati, has been appointed guardian of her children, who, by the death of their father, have been left some \$40,000 worth of property. Mrs. Howard has recovered entirely her reason, and made personal application to the court to be appointed the guardian.

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.

A mammoth vein of white ash coal, of superior quality, has been struck on the property of Dr. McCarty, a short distance north of Port Carbon, Schuylkill county, in this State. It is from twenty to fifty feet in thickness, and as it was struck on the "saddle," as it is called, or where an upheave has thrown the vein near the surface, they drove across it, through nearly solid coal, a distance of 93 feet. This is regarded as the beginning of new discoveries of coal beds in that vicinity, for which several costly explorations are now in progress.

AWFUL DISASTER.

The steamer St. John was burnt to the waters edge near Bridgeport, Dallas co., on her upward trip to Montgomery, at 6 o'clock on Tuesday evening. It is supposed that about 30 persons were burnt to death and drowned. The fire was accidental and caught from the heat of the boilers. All the ladies on board numbering 7 or 8 were lost. Lieut. Rice of the U. S. A., lost some \$250,000; several Californians also lost their all. The boat was insured for \$20,000. She cost \$40,000.

MR. BENTON AND MR. CALHOUN.

It is reported that Mr. Benton has ordered a considerable number of Mr. Calhoun's speech, for distribution in Missouri. He will not reply to it. When asked if he should answer, his response was—"No, sir; proves all I said of him, sir. I predicted the whole thing, sir, in my Jefferson city speech, sir. Rank disunion, sir; nothing else, sir; all explained in my speech, sir; here are two copies sir; find the whole explained there, sir."