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HUNTINGDON, PA.

Thursday Morning, Nov. 27, 1851.

J. SEWELL STEWART—Editor.

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V. B. PALMER

Is our authorized agent in Philadelphia, New York, and Baltimore, to receive advertisements, and any persons in those cities wishing to advertise in our columns, will please call on him.

FOR THE PRESIDENCY IN 1852,

WINFIELD SCOTT,
OF NEW JERSEY.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT IN 1852,

JAMES C. JONES,
OF TENNESSEE.

☞ We ask the attention of our readers to the advertisements of Bricker & Lenney in to-day's paper. These gentlemen have opened a new store in our town, asking a share of public patronage, and, notwithstanding they are strangers amongst us, we have no hesitation in saying that they deserve a liberal share. Do you ask why? We answer, they advertise.

It is a well established fact that the man who advertises most sells cheapest, and our friends in this vicinity will find it to their advantage, before making purchases, to examine the columns of the Globe and Journal, in order to see who advertises and who does not.

THE FUGITIVE SLAVE LAW.

The constitution of the Federal Union contains the following provision:

"No person held to service or labor in one State, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor, but shall be delivered up, on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due."

The above clause is the only fundamental authority by which a Southern slaveholder can come into a free State and recapture his runaway slave. It will be observed that the word slave does not occur in it; a word, which Mr. Madison did not want to see in the American Constitution. Neither does the word, negro, find a place in it, for a reason probably equally as laudable, namely: that it would be inconsistent for a free people recognizing the doctrine of human equality, to acknowledge in their written constitution, that there was a class of people for whom its provisions were not intended. But, although these words are carefully omitted, the servile condition of the persons referred to is plainly indicated, while there is nothing which points out their distinct color or extraction. The clause thus presents what lawyers might call a latent ambiguity, in consequence of the circumlocutory character of the language employed, but which, the history of the country and judicial determination have rendered certainly pointing to the colored bond-men of the South as the persons to whom it applies. We have read labored arguments, the object of which was, to prove that the clause we have recited did not recognize African slavery, and that Congress has the right to abolish it in the States, but they were so technical and transcendental in their character and texture that they failed utterly to convince our judgment. The right of the owners, under the constitution, to recover their fugitives, therefore, is and must be taken to be, indubitable.

There can be no doubt that Congress has the power to pass a fugitive slave law of some kind, and the last Congress saw proper to exercise its power by doing so. The principal objections to the details of the present law are, that it does not afford the fugitive a trial by jury, and that the Commissioner appointed to hear and decide such cases, receives a fee of ten dollars when the claimant makes out a case against the alleged slave, and only five dollars when he does not. The law is tightly put up and contains some curious provisions, but it is to be born in mind that it has been declared constitutional by some of the most respectable tribunals of the United States, and can scarcely, therefore, be considered open to legal attack.

The opponents of the law have also made use of an argument against it, of celestial origin, which is always entitled to great consideration. It is said that the fugitive slave law is in violation of the laws of God, that no human legislature has the right to nullify the decrees of Heaven, and that the great law which Christ proclaimed on earth—"do unto others as you would have others do unto you"—is of higher obligation than the fugitive slave law and the federal constitution. This should be so, and in a perfect state of society where men would ask nothing but right, would be so; but the question recurs is it so. The constitution is a bargain stipulating for the preservation and maintenance of social and selfish interests, and in relation to the particular subject upon which it pretends to speak, it over-rides all other laws, both of God and man. In our political relations, we can look no higher than the constitution, and if any one is dissatisfied with it, he has the right to use his influence to obtain its change or modification, submit to it quietly or move out of the country, but it is his duty as a good citizen to acquiesce in it, while it continues in force. We are as much opposed to the institution and spread of slavery and as much in favor of universal liberty, in the abstract, as any man can be, but at the same time we are not insensible to the obligation of regularly enacted laws. There is not a Whig in Huntingdon county who would obstruct the execution of the fugitive slave law, and we do not believe there are ten, if left to themselves, who would go to the trouble to ask its modification.

This law, though originally not one of the compromise measures, finally came to be considered as one of them. The others of those measures were the admission of California into the Union, the settlement of the boundary between New Mexico and Texas, the organization of governments for the territories of Utah and New Mexico and the abolition of the slave trade in the District of Columbia. These have all been passed, approved and are of such a nature as to be no longer open to discussion, and in point of fact they are scarcely ever spoken of. They are finally disposed of. Whenever the compromise, therefore, is referred to, as a present political question, the fugitive slave law only is meant.

We have thus spoken on this subject because, from present indications, the fugitive slave law, under the name of compromise, will be forced into the next Presidential election, and it is proper that the people should understand their relation to it and the constitution before the question is sprung upon them. We believe there is fully as much money as patriotism in the agitation in favor of the law, and that it would be safer in the hands of the constitutional and legal officers, than floating on the angry sea of political strife; but still, should it be made a question, we are satisfied it will produce no difficulty among the Whigs of this county. If the name of the man of our choice is inscribed on the Whig banner, our brethren may expect a good account from us.

Matter of Partnership.

We give below the section of an act passed last session of our Legislature, in relation to partners, which is of great importance to all business firms, and of which probably but little is known. The attention of all business firms, however, is called to its provisions and requirements. The section will be found on page 52 of the pamphlet laws of 1851:

SEC. 13. That from and after the tenth of August next, all persons who are now doing business in a partnership capacity, in this commonwealth, shall file or cause to be filed in the office of Prothonotary, in the county or counties where the said partnership is carried on, the names and location of said partnership, with the style and name of the same; and as often as any change of members in said partnership shall take place, the same shall be certified by the members of such new partnership as aforesaid, and in default or neglect of such partnership to do, they shall not be permitted in any suits or actions against the peace, or alderman in this commonwealth, to plead any misdemeanor or omission or the name of any member of the partnership or the inclusion of the name of persons not members of said partnership.

SEC. 14. That hereafter, where two or more persons may be desirous of entering into any business whatever in partnership capacity, they shall, before they engage or enter into any such business as aforesaid, comply with or be subject to all the provisions and restrictions in the next preceding section of this act.

☞ The Boston "Hon Fover" is about to break out again. On the 11th of next month there is to be a poultry convention, to last four days.

TERRIBLE CALAMITY IN N. YORK.

NEW YORK, Nov. 20, P. M.—A most terrible accident occurred about 2 o'clock, this afternoon. An alarm of fire was raised among the children in the new Public School House, on Greenwich Avenue, which alarmed the inmates to such an extent that a general rush was made from the building. While a large number were pressing against the banisters of the second and third floors, the same gave way, precipitating the children to the first floor below, a distance of some forty feet. Already twenty dead bodies have been removed from the place, and it is reported that at least forty boys have been killed.

The scene is truly heart-rending.—Mothers appear frantic, in search of their children, and the cries of the mangled and dying, have attracted thousands to the scene of the sad occurrence.

[SECOND DESPATCH.]

The melancholy occurrence of this afternoon, has cast a solemn gloom over our city. Many homes that but a few hours since were all sunshine, now present a heart-rending spectacle. The details of this painful calamity, as far as we have been able to gather them are as follows:

At about 2 o'clock, Miss Harrison, a teacher in the Primary School, No. 26, was observed, probably from the closeness of the room, to faint, which startled a number of children by her side, while others raised the cry of fire. This caused the greatest alarm, when a general rush was made for the windows and stairs. The latter being spiral, and running from the first to the fourth story of the building, the pressure against the ballustrade was so great that it gave way, precipitating to the flagged floor of the play-ground, nearly one hundred little ones, and presenting a most awful spectacle.

The scene was terrific and heart-rending. Child after child rushed down the horrible pit, crushing beneath their weight those who had preceded them—while others leaped voluntarily down the chasm, mingling their life-blood with others.

More than seventy children thus rushed into the jaws of death, and although few escaped except the maiming for life, some fifty were instantly killed.

[THIRD DESPATCH.]

The calamity would have been still greater, but for the presence of mind of Mr. McNulty, principal of the school, who was in the fourth story, and who, on hearing the cry of fire, immediately placed himself against the door, declaring that none of the children should leave. In this manner his class escaped inevitable destruction.

Since the above was received, it has been ascertained that besides those killed, seventy or eighty are maimed, some of them for life. Many of the little ones were so dreadfully disfigured and mangled, as to be scarcely recognised by their parents.

MISSISSIPPI WITHOUT A GOVERNOR.

The offices of Governor, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives having become vacant, the Secretary of the State of Mississippi has issued his proclamation calling the Senate together on the 24th instant, that a President thereof may be chosen to exercise the office of Governor until the first day of January. Mississippi thus presents the singular spectacle of being without a Governor till the Senate shall meet on the 24th, and elect a President. Gov. GIBSON, who succeeded to the office, as President of the Senate, on the resignation of Gov. QUITMAN, has so construed the law as to make his term of office to expire with the period for which he was elected to the Senate, viz: on the 24th of the present month, and hence the proclamation referred to above.

THE IRISH STATE PRISONERS.

There was an immense assemblage in the lower saloon of the Chinese Museum, Philadelphia, on Wednesday evening, called together to take measures in aid of the project for the liberation of the Irish convicted State prisoners in Australia. Gov. Johnston presided, and many influential gentlemen acted as Vice Presidents.—Speeches were made by Gov. Johnston; Robert Morris, Esq; Hon Joseph R. Chandler; Z. Collins, Lee, Esq. of Baltimore; Robert Tyler, Morton McMichael, and John Cadwalader. An address urging upon the President the propriety of making the liberation of these prisoners a subject of negotiation with the British Government, was adopted.

☞ A barrel of pop-corn exploded in Troy, on Wednesday, tearing away the handle of a basket and slightly killing two boys who were sitting on it.

Correspondence of the Journal of Commerce, Life in California. SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 14, 1851.

There is one feature of California life, which, were it known, would doubtless attract many married men to come out here, bringing their wives and children with them. The wages of a common laboring man on a farm vary from \$60 to \$75 per month and found. For a man and his wife \$150 per month is freely offered by those who are disposed to cultivate the land on a large scale; and I do not hesitate to say, that were five hundred, or even a thousand men of good strong constitutions, to come out here, with their wives and families, they could find constant and permanent employment in good and desirable locations, that would insure to them a nett income of one to two thousand dollars per annum.

There is no spot in the world where labor is so high as here, (and living cheap—say \$7 per week for the board of a laboring man; washing \$3 to \$4 per dozen.)—Why is it that California is not what it was a year or two ago. It has improved every way, and is making rapid strides, and will soon rise above all the imaginary exalts that the "Tribune," and others at the East, are constantly charging upon this infant State.

We have even a rich display of goodness which, like the leaven of old, is working good to this whole people and nation. A greater regard for the Sabbath is being manifested. Gambling is diminishing and becoming unfashionable. We are having libraries, reading rooms, &c., to which our young men can repair at the close of their daily labors. In fact the presence of a multitude of the fair daughters and wives of our citizens who have come, and are still flocking to our shores by every steamer, has proved, and will continue to prove conclusively that they are indeed the safe-guard, yes, THEY are the ones to form and mould our society; yes Christianize this people.

LONG SKIRTS.

Chambers' Edinburgh Journal makes the following sensible remarks on the present fashion of ladies dresses:

"That some reform is wanted all the male part of creation agree. Many of the ladies too, admit the inconvenience of the long skirts which have been for some years in fashion, though they profess to be unable to break through the rule. Why should not some compromise be entered into? In order to avoid trailing through mud and dust, it is not necessary to dock petticoats and frocks by the knee, or to assume a masculinity in other parts of the attire. Neither is it necessary to connect a rational length of skirt with certain unhappy foolish notions about equal privileges of the sexes, which seems to be one of the mistakes made by the Bloomer party in America. Let there simply be a reduction of the present nuisance, an abbreviation of those trolloping skirts by which even a man walking beside the wearer is not unfrequently defiled. When the hem of the garment is on the level of the ankle, which once was the case, it answers all the purposes of decorum, and is sufficiently cleanly. A return to that fashion would do away with all objection. Or if one or two inches more be taken off, and the void filled by such trousers as are generally worn by young girls, it might be as well or better. Such changes might be brought about with little fracas, like any of the ordinary changes of fashion."

WHAT PENNSYLVANIA HAS DONE FOR COMMON SCHOOLS.

An address lately delivered by THOMAS H. BURROWS, Esq., before the Lancaster County Educational Society, exhibits among other things, the money expended for School purposes in Pennsylvania, since the establishment of public schools. In the seventeen years that the school system has been in operation the people of Pennsylvania have expended over fifteen millions of dollars in support of this noble effort, exclusive of the large sums annually paid to sustain the numerous private academies, seminaries and schools, which are also giving their invaluable aid to the cause of general education. The number of schools in the State has increased from 762 to 9200, and the teachers, from 808 to 11,500. The pupils number half a million, and the annual cost of the system is now \$1,400,000. Few States in the Union have done more than Pennsylvania to dispel ignorance and qualify its rising population for the duties of citizens required under its free Constitution.

☞ In the city of Boston there are one thousand five hundred places where intoxicating drinks are sold.

LATER FROM THE RIO GRANDE.

The steamship Fanny from Brazos Santiago, with advices from Brownsville and Matamoros to the 12th inst., brings a confirmation of the report that Caravajal had on the 9th inst., after a most persevering effort to capture the city of Matamoras, abandoned the siege. His failure is attributed to want of military capacity and indecision, as much as to disappointment in receiving reinforcements. The Mexicans are greatly elated with the result.

After the abandonment of the siege a feet stampede occurred among the forces of Caravajal, which was increased by the report that large Mexican reinforcements were at hand. This report proved groundless, however, and subsequently Caravajal, took post at Reynosa, where many of his followers rejoined him.

The Rio Bravo newspaper says Capt. Ford, of the Rangers, has recovered from his wounds and will immediately rejoin Caravajal, whose purpose it is to continue the war.

☞ It is said that Kossuth, having been consigned to imprisonment for three years, for disobeying the edicts of the Austrian Government, he applied, at the end of one year, for the use of books. He was offered the choice of one, provided it was not of a political character. He asked for three. The request was granted, and he selected the English Grammar, Walker's Pronouncing Dictionary, and Shakspeare. By attentive study of these three volumes, he mastered the English language before the term of his imprisonment expired.

☞ The steamer Canada left Jersey City on Wednesday, with fifty-eight passengers. She took \$1,295,992 in specie, which is believed to be the largest amount ever taken from this country by any one vessel.

A beautiful commentary this (says the Courier and Enquirer) upon free trade and excessive importations, for the benefit of the pauper labor of Europe, at the expense of every great interest of our own.

WHAT WORK MAY A GENTLEMAN DO?

In an address before an Agricultural Society, Dr. Tuthill thus touches on this delicate subject:—"The day has already come in our cities, that if a man stout as Milo of old, has a load of wood brought to his door, and he really aches for the pleasure of handling it, yet must he hire a man to pitch it into the cellar while he stands idly by, nor so much as touch a stick of it, on pain of losing caste. If a stout and vigorous citizen, whose muscles swell with an excess of strength, has a load of wood lying on the sidewalk, he may as well hang himself at once as be foolish enough to save a dollar and saw it up himself.—Yet if the man has pitched it in, and the grate is down so that he shall not be seen, we are not sure but he may saw on till doomsday, and no one esteem him less a man and a gentleman. If he curry and tackle his own horse, or lead him to the stable when he has done with him he is unpardonably vulgar. He would no sooner be caught carrying a trunk the length of a block to an omnibus, than stealing a body from a graveyard; yet he will boast among his friends of the enormous weight he carries in the gymnasium, having paid a fee of thirty dollars a year for the privilege. And his friends applaud his gymnastic expenditure as wise and exceedingly judicious; for sure, they say, 'how can a man live without exercise?' In short, labour which promotes the ends of economy is an abominable thing; that which advertises their imbecility is a source of pride. These soft-handed gentry may be our sons and brothers; but we fancy they must at times feel ashamed of our common father, old Adam, who farmed it in Paradise."

TERRITORY FOR A NEW STATE.

Governor Ramsey has concluded a treaty with the Chippeways, by which we have acquired enough territory for another large State. The whole valley of the Red River of the North, a tract of country about three hundred miles from North to South, and one hundred and fifty miles from East to West, has been acquired for an annuity of ten thousand dollars per year, and which entirely ceases at the end of twenty years. The tract is called Pembina.

LATE NEWS FROM CALIFORNIA

inform us that the division of the State is seriously thought of. The intelligence from the mining regions is of the most encouraging character, and the yield of the precious metal promises to be greater than ever. There seems to be still some difficulty with the Mexican inhabitants, who will not conform to the laws of the State. The commercial business of San Francisco with the East, and especially with China, is rapidly growing, and shows that that port will yet be one of the great depots for the reception of goods from the East.

INTERESTING DECISION.

An Alderman in Pittsburg has decided, by giving judgment for plaintiff, that railroad companies have no right to refuse excursion tickets from passengers, offered after the time for which they were issued. The plaintiff paid his fare in money, and then brought a suit and recovered the price of ticket costs. The plaintiff's counsel argued that the notice "good for two days only," printed on the face of the ticket, did not amount to a contract, any more than the common notice of stage company and canal tickets, "all baggage at the risk of the owner," did which has been decided again and again to be of no virtue.

GOV. BIGLER'S CABINET.

The Pottsville Emporium learns from good authority, that there is strong probability of the selection of R. C. Hale, Esq. of Mifflin county, as the next Secretary of the Commonwealth. Andrew H. Reeder, Esq., of Northampton county, as Attorney General, and Francis M. Wynkoop, of Schuylkill county, as Adjutant General.

On Dancing.

Dr. Fitch, in one of his lectures on the uses of the lungs, and on the mode of preserving health says:

"Dancing is the king and queen of indoor exercise. It is suitable for all classes, all ages, both sexes. It is one of the most ancient and one of the most salutary. I do not speak of it as a dissipation, but as an exhilarating and valuable exercise. Among the exercises it is second to none. It is extremely suitable for invalids, and for consumptives. I have known one of the worst cases of consumption I ever knew cured by dancing alone, practised daily for many months. The cure was permanent and complete.

"It is deplorable that dancing and amusements of nearly all kinds should have fallen under the ban of the clergy, and should be preached against as sinful. It is doubtful whether the morals of mankind are benefitted by forbidding all amusements, and it is most certain the health of thousands is sacrificed by it. Who are those that sink earliest into consumption among ladies? Allow me to say, it is those who take least exercise, and refrain from all amusements—who, at school, at church, at home, are marked as models; whose looks are demure, whose walk is slow, and whose conversation is always on serious subjects.

"In a few years death does his work, and their long prayed for heaven is soon obtained. No greater truth was ever uttered than that—

"Religion never was designed To make our pleasures less."

"Neither in its letter nor spirit does our happy and blessed religion—the religion of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, to whom be eternal praise and obedience,—anywhere forbid pure, rational pleasures and gratification. 'Use the things of this world as not abusing them,' is the injunction of the Apostle, and is a complete summary of all the teaching of the Bible upon this subject."

About eight columns of the last

number of the Boston Liberator are occupied by a sermon preached by one DANIEL FOSTER, designed to show that the Bible is not an inspired book. Said DANIEL characterizes that part of the Bible relating to the first sin as a "senseless story," a "manifest absurdity," and concludes that "the writer or compiler of Genesis, in this instance, relates a myth of the dim and distant past, which accorded with the superstition of his own time." Of the trial of Abraham's faith, he says "the Spirit of Christ and unperverted reason alike revolt from it and stamp it as a lie!"

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