Star & Republican Banner.

BY ROBERT WHITE MIDDLETON.

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GETTYSBURG, PENN.

FRIDAY MORNING, DEC. 29, 1837.

Dissolution of the Union!

After a portion of our last paper was struck off the following intelligence was received from Washington. The article is republished this week for the benefit of those of our readers who did not get to see it last week.

(Correspondence of the Baltimore Sun.)
DISSOLUTION OF THE UNION."

WASHINGTON CITY, D.C. 26.

The city is full of excitement, and if we are to confide in the ebullitions of passion, and madness of the times, we are on the eve of a dissolution of the Union. The southern delegation in Congress, are now in the room of the Committee on Claims, discussing the subject.

At the adjournment of the day, added to a press of business, compels me to be brief. To-day, Mr. Slade of Vermont, got the floor to debate a motion submitted by him on Monday, proposing to refer a petition praying for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, to a select committee.

In arguing the motion, Mr. Slade went into a full examination of Slavery in the abstract, and filled the House with excitement. At the outset, Mr. Legare, of South Carolina, implored him to desist, but he would not, and continued his speech.

Various attempts were made to get him off the floor, without success. A motion to adjourn was submitted, but was decided to be out of order. Mr. Slade went on at length and continued to cast fire-brands into the House. Numerous members implored him to desist, but he would not listen to them.

All efforts to get him off the floor were unsuccessful, till Mr. McKay of North Carolina, made a question of order, and contended that Mr. Slade ought not to be allowed to go on. The ayes and noes were demanded on the motion, but before they were taken, a motion to adjourn to prevail. As soon as this end had been accomplished, Mr. Campbell of South Carolina, invited the whole Southern delegation to meet in the Committee room of the Committee on Claims, to devise ways and means for the emergency—to take all necessary steps toward a dissolution of the Union. Such was not the tenor of his language, but such was his substance.

An half hour before this was done, Mr. Wise invited the Virginia delegation to withdraw from the House, as did Mr. Habersham of Georgia. Most of the Southern delegation accepted the invitation of Mr. Campbell, and are now in session in the room of the Committee of Claims. It is impossible for me to say what will be the result.

The Disgraceful Result!

☞We have selected the subjoined article from the Philadelphia National Gazette, a paper that has said less on the subject of the Abolition of Slavery than any other journal received at this office. It will be seen that the subject has been reviewed coolly, dispassionately and fairly—and the result is that to which every freeman—every friend of the Union should come. Let it be attentively read by all.

[From the National Gazette of Dec. 23.]

Our readers will do us the justice to admit that we rarely, if ever, trouble them with our views on the vexed question of slavery—*the slave trade, or its abolition.* The theme is too sublime for the mere of its relations for we willingly to recur to it; and so strongly has been our sense of the innumerable difficulties which are interwoven with it, that we have often, perhaps too often, done violence to our own well ascertained and fixed opinions, rather than endeavor to overcome these difficulties, and in doing so offend the sensibilities of those who differ from us.

The Congressional history of the last few days presents these subjects in a new aspect. It has, in fact, been such that by one of those strange political convulsions that are sometimes seen, a new issue is made, new alliances are formed—new antagonist principles are arrayed; and the North, a generic term that includes those who but yesterday differed bitterly on this single question, and many others like it, now stand and will continue to stand in perfect and indissoluble union of sentiment on a great and vital principle of free government.

We wish to refer to recent occurrences and certain results with calmness—and to carry our readers with us in our views of duty to ourselves and our Southern fellow citizens—our brethren. How has this unexpected result been produced? The history of this last experiment may be briefly told. Mr. Slade of Vermont, a Member of the House of Representatives, in the course of a speech in that body discussed the subject of Domestic Slavery as it exists in the Southern States. He no doubt used strong and perhaps offensive language. In the propriety and expediency of this we do not undertake to be the perfect right to do so, we have not: a doubt. If his reference to this subject were technically "out of order," the Speaker could and would have arrested his remarks. If it were not, then like any other speech on any other subject, offensive or inoffensive, it was open to reply and to retort. But being in order as far as relates to the topic he was discussing, he could not by any legitimate exercise of parliamentary authority be silenced, and was allowed to proceed.

And here let us say why we censure Mr. Slade in the course he has thought proper to pursue. Involuntary servitude as it exists in the South is beyond the reach of Congress. It is on all sides conceded that Congress has no constitutional right to act upon it—so far as respects the States proper. This is the contract to which we of the North are parties, and whether it is a contract for good or for evil, we are bound to maintain it until it is annulled by a power as great as that which made it. Why then discuss a subject that is placed beyond our reach—why even for the sake of illustration or argument refer to what cannot legitimately come within the scope of action? Why with Slavery in the District over which Congress has control—why with a *market-court* in Texas and the imminent chance of its contagion—why with confessed evils before us for which we have undoubted remedies, talk and argue of grievances of which we have no portion of responsibility, and which we cannot remove or relieve? These are the questions which judicious men will we think answer but in one way.

Mr. Slade, however, representing no doubt the views of his constituents, thought differently, and seemed disposed to continue his speech in order. This being the state of things, the Southern members acting under a strong, and we do not mean to say unnatural, excitement, retired in a body, occupied a distant apartment, convoked all who thought with them, and listened to inflammatory speeches, came to a decision, and communicated that decision through their Chairman to the majority, from which they had withdrawn in disgust, with a distinct intimation that unless their wishes were acceded to ulterior measures of greater vigor would be adopted.

We extract of the Majority the House of Representatives of Freemen, that House which for a moment before through its presiding officer sustained as parliamentary the conduct that was so soon to endure the condemnation of a minority, what does it do? Let the record speak for itself.

"After the reading of the journal, Mr. Patton *on the part of the Southern members,* offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That all the memorials, petitions, or papers relative to *Slavery, or to the buying, selling or transfer of Slaves, in any District, State, or Territory,* shall without debate, *reading, printing, or reference,* be laid on the table, and that no further action be had thereon.

And this resolution without debate (the *Previous Question* being called for by the Slave members from the State voting in the negative. Every Van Buren member, except Mr. Potter and Mr. Sheffer, in the affirmative.

YEAS—*Messrs. Anderson, Andrews, Atherton,* Beatty, Boirne, Bicknell, Birdsall, Bond, Boulden, Brodhead, Bruen, *Buchanan,* John Calhoun, Carnahan, William B. Campbell, John Campbell, Timothy J. Carter, Wm. D. Carter, Casey, Chapman, Cheatham, Cilley, Claiborne, Cleveland, Clowney, Coles, Craig, Crockett, Cushman, Debarry, De Graff, Dennis, Dromgoole, Edwards, Farrington, Fairfield, *Fry,* J Garland, J Graham, Grantland, Graves, *Hammond,* Harlan, *Harrison,* Hawes, Hawkins, Haynes, Holsey, Holt, Hopkins, Howard, *Huntley,* William H Hunter, *J. Jenifer,* Joseph Johnson, William C. Johnson, J. W. Jones, Kemble, *Klingensmith,* Lawler, Legare, *Logan,* Loomis, Lyon, *Mallory,* James M. Mason, Martin, Maury, Mav, McKay, Robert M'Clellan, Abraham McClellan, McGee, McKim, Mercer, Milligan, Montgomery, Moore, Morgan, *S. W. Morris, Mullen* berg, Murrar, Noble, Palmer, Parker, Patton, *Paynter,* Pennypacker, *Patrikin,* Phelps, Pierce, Pratt, Prentiss, *Reily,* Rencher, Robertson, A. H. Stepperd, C. Shepperd, Shields, Snyder, Sprigg, Spencer, Stanly, Stewart, Stone, Taliaferro, Taylor, Thompson, Titus, Turney, Underwood, Vail, Wagener, Weeks, John White, Thomas T. Whitlesey, Lewis Williams, Sherrod Williams, Jared W. Williams, Joseph L. Williams, Christopher H. Williams, Yell—122.

NAYS—Messrs. Alexander H. Allen, John W Allen, *Biddle,* Bond, Borden, Briggs, Bronson Wm. B. Calhoun, Chaney, Griffin, Gowin, Graham Curtis, Cushing, *Darlington, Davies,* Dunlap, Dunn, Evans, Everett, Ewing, Fickle, Fletcher, Isaac Fletcher, Fillmore, Foster Goode, William Graham, Grennell, Haley, Hall, Hamer, Hastings, *Henry,* Herod, Hoffman, Ingham, Kilgore, Leadbetter, Lincoln, Marvin, Sampson, Mason, Max well, *McKennan,* Milligan, *Mathias, Morris,* Gary Morris, *Naylor, Noyes, Ogle, Parmenter,* Patterson, Peck, Pillips, *Potts, Potter,* Rariden, Ratchff, R. Ross, Russell, Rudgway, *Sheffer,* Shepherd, Sibley, Smith, Stratton, Tillinghast, *Toland,* Toucey, Webster, Albert S White, Elisha Whittlesey, Yorke—74.

Noble Sentiments!

☞The sentiments avowed in the following resolutions, should be written in letters of gold. We extract the words "Disgrace and Punishment" to the TRAITORS who can seriously entertain a wish—or utter threats of *"disbanding"* this great and glorious Union! The tongue that would wish it should be blistered, and withered be the hand that would attempt it!

THE UNION.—Within a few days past the Capitol at Washington has presented—we will not say an alarming, but at least a most unusual scene. A considerable portion of the members of the House of Representatives, in a private room, apart from the main assembly, discussing what!—A secession of the Union? Shame, shame on the man who could entertain such a thought for a moment! What, dissolve the Union of these States? Tear down that glorious starry flag, which, despite the battle and the breeze, has borne the glory and the triumph of this republic to the furthest ends of earth and ocean! Never, never. Is there an American citizen in our mind capable of appreciating the blessings of the Government under which we live—an American heart alive to the honor of the name we bear—*the Free,* but not the brave with indignation at the thought! We say—we do not hesitate to say it—we can speak it calmly—the wretch who could seriously deliberate upon the dissolution of this Union—the destruction of this great and glorious republic—this nation, for the safety of which, a deep anxiety is felt in every quarter of the civilized globe, which is looked up to by every people as the last hope of freedom, and which, if it fall, will again cast the destinies of earth with the dark and dreadful gloom of tyranny and slavery, deserves to be annihilated as a traitor to the happiness of mankind, and a foe to the greatness and fame of his country.

Our readers we hope will understand us. We do not pretend to condemn this section or that section. We are not taking sides with either the North or the South; we condemn the North for its want of consideration; we condemn the South for its rashness. We are unwilling to say with the South, petitions shall not be received; for we hold the right of a freeman to petition among the most valuable of a freeman's privileges. We are unwilling to say with the North, disposess the people of the South of their property, because they do not agree with us on the subject of negro servitude. Between these two extremes we stand, and planting ourselves upon a firm and firm ground, we say, Our Country—Our Country, right or wrong. Disgrace and punishment to the traitors who would trample in the dust the glorious banner under which our fathers and fathers fought and bled and died to win the inestimable blessings which now are ours. That flag, as the emblem of this Union shall, in the spirit of forbearance, wave over our happy republic for ages yet to come—for ages after the political despotades, who now dare to suggest its dissolution, have sunk into merited contempt and oblivion.

From the Harrisburg Telegraph.

The Repair Bill.

In consequence of there not being a quorum in the Senate, at the hour of adjournment, this morning, the fate of the bill making appropriations for repairs and the continuation of public improvements, was not known. No communication could be received from the Governor, which we understand he was ready to make, and the public are left in uncertainty as to the determination of the Executive in regard to the bill. We know, however, from a source professing to know of intimate the views or course of the Executive in this matter, we take the liberty as an editor, to express our decided disapprobation of such a course. If the Governor is of the first attempt of the Loco Focos in the House, to arrest the prosecution and prosperity of the State improvements, as recommended by the Governor, or force upon him the necessity of approving another "Mammoth Bill." We look upon it, as the commencement of that "Log rolling" system of legislation, which the Governor and the Peoples friends have so long and so unanimously fought in the interests of the Commonwealth. It is in this bill that the contest between *true economy* and *local interests* has commenced, and if the Executive must again oppose the expenditures, upon liberal disposition of the Loco Focos of the House of Representatives, we think that the sooner it is done the better. We are sufficiently acquainted with his firmness and resolutions to take any responsibility in which the interests of the people are at stake, to believe that he is ready to meet the evil at the very threshhold; in which case there would be but little between this and the end of the session, for the people to canvass and decide the difference: and we should be greatly mistaken if the verdict would not be returned in favor of the Governor's course.

In his last message, the Governor went fully into the improvement question, and his views, which were given in a clear and satisfactory manner, has, we believe, received the *universal* approbation of the citizens of the Commonwealth. They were liberal, without being extravagant, or sectional, and economical without being parsimonious, or calculated to involve the Commnwealth in any increase of state debt. He provided ample for the prosecution and completion of the present improvements, without the least embarrassment.

In that message, the Governor recommended the passage of a bill, making ample provision for ordinary and extraordinary repairs, and for the present and urgent wants of the Erie and North Branch Canals, and the Gettysburg railroad, the whole amounting to 927,295 dollars—of which 280,000 dollars was for ordinary repairs, and 347,295 dollars for extraordinary repairs, including 105,000 dollars for the avoidance of the inclined plane at Columbia, 66,000 dollars for the feeder dams, 59,060 dollars for the repair of the Eastern division, North track of the Columbia rail road, &c., including various other estimates, and 100,000 dollars to the North Branch, and Erie extensions, and Gettysburg railroad, each.

The Senate concurred with the Governor on this subject, and promptly passed a bill introduced by Mr. Pearson, in accordance with the reasonable recommendations of the message, with the exception of an appropriation to the Gettysburg railroad.

In this shape the bill went to the House and there, by the influence of the same motives which rolled together the "Mammoth Bill" of last session, the appropriation for ordinary repairs was cut down to $100,000 —$86,000 of which are now due; and others of the most urgent necessity were reduced in the same manner. And to cap the climax, the pitiful sum of $15,000 was given to the Gettysburg Railroad, with a provision that the contractors leave the work by the first of January!!—when the appropriation would not pay 50 cents on the dollar of the money actually due to the contractors, and without making nay provision for the payment of damages caused by the road!!! In short, the bill was cut down in the House, in the most important items, by $327,295; with appropriating $5,000 for the lowering of the feeder level, and building of a new guard lock at Duncan's Island.

Every reader will see that the provisions of the bill as it passed the House, are directly in the teeth of the policy recommended and maintained by the Governor, in all his acts, viz: full, amply, and *unconditional* provision for repairs and other objects connected with the use of the finished works—and the balance of the public funds to be applied to the completion of the unfinished works. That such is the *true policy* of the state there can be no doubt—and those who are disposed to enter the lists against it, we think will hardly be willing to ask an expression of public opinion on the subject.

The bill as it passed, if viewed as a final measure, on the subject of repairs, is wholly insufficient; or as a step to keep the work going for the present moment, with the *intention* to make the balance of the funds required for repairs, *dependent* upon the passage of another "big bill," is objectionable; and we believe that the real friends of the public improvements and prosperity of the State, will say that it ought not to receive the Executive sanction. But we leave it in his hands, with full confidence in his wisdom, and the belief that should he veto it and send out his signature, it will be with sufficient reasons to ensure the approbation of the people.

Doings of the Convention!

Correspondence of the Gettysburgh Star.

PHILADELPHIA, December 19, 1837.

Mr. Chandler of Philadelphia, presented a memorial from citizens of the city and county of Philadelphia, praying that the constitution may be so amended as to provide "That the civil rights, privileges or capacities of any individual shall in no way be affected, diminished or enlarged, merely on account of his religious opinions.

Mr. Miller called for the second reading of a resolution offered by him sometime in June last relative to cutting the Yeas and Nays on a question of daily adjournment. The convention refused to consider.

The Convention again resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the amendment of Mr. Stevens to the amendment of Mr. Read being again under consideration. Mr. Porter, of Northampton, addressed the committee about an hour and a half. In the course of his remarks he said he considered the amendment under consideration as unnecessary and useless, he dwelt rather severely with the message of Governor Ritner. The governor is not willing to go far enough in favor of banks. He went as far or perhaps further in support of banks than any delegate here. He referred to the numerous benefits derived from banks by the State. Mr. Riter, of Philadelphia county, then made his maiden speech in opposition to banks, more particularly to the monster, and in eulogy of the "Greatests and the Best!" Mr. READ, of Susquehanna, then took the floor in reply to remarks made by other members in reference to his conduct as a member of the Convention and legislature. He spoke about an hour, until the time of adjournment, when he withdrew the amendment offered by him about twenty weeks since, and which has occasioned so much discussion and offered in lieu thereof: The rights, liberties, privileges, immunities and estates of religious charitable and literary corporations and corporations for internal improvement purposes, shall remain as if the constitution of Pennsylvania had not been altered. No bank or banking or chartered, rechartered, revived, continued or relieved from forfeiture shall issue any bill, check, promissory note or paper credit of a less denomination than ten dollars.

The committee then rose and the convention adjourned until this afternoon, when Mr. Cochran moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Read, by striking therefrom all after the word "altered," and inserting in lieu thereof the following, viz:

But no company shall be hereafter created by the legislature with banking or discounting privileges without the concurrent action of two successive legislatures.

Mr. Forward addressed the committee in opposition to the amendment and the amendment thereto. He spoke of the benefits derived from banks, that Pittsburg more particularly owed much of its prosperity to banking institutions. He said there was a class of persons, the miser or money lender who were favorable to the prostration of those institutions, that they might the better be enabled to practise their usurious and oppressive arts on community. After having spoken about an hour he gave way on a motion for the committee to rise. The convention then adjourned.

PHILADELPHIA, December 20 1837.

The President laid before the convention a communication from the President of the Controllers of the Public Schools of the city and county of Philadelphia, inviting the members of the Convention to visit the public schools

Mr. Biddle submitted the following, which was adopted:

Whereas, Professor HARE, of the University of Pennsylvania, has invited the members of this Convention, to visit the Laboratory, for the purpose of witnessing experiments in Chemistry, Therefore

Resolved, That the convention return their thanks to Professor Hare, accept his invitation, and will attend on Saturday afternoon at four o'clock.

On motion of Mr. Biddle, ordered, that the Secretary be requested to furnish Professor Hare with a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolution.

Mr. Craig submitted the following, which was laid on the table:

Resolved, That the fifteenth rule be so amended, that a motion or resolution cannot be withdrawn—after its appearance on the journal, except by consent of the Convention.

Mr. Stevens submitted the following, which was laid on the table:

Resolved, That when the question shall have been taken on the section now under consideration, all the reports and propositions received relative to amend the constitution shall be considered as one second reading, proceeded in accordingly.

The convention refused to consider.

The convention then again resolved itself into committee of the whole on the amendment of Mr. Fuller to the amendment of Mr. Read, as modified by accepting the amendment of Mr. Cochran, being again under consideration. Mr. Hopkinson, of Philadelphia, addressed the committee in favor of the committee. He spoke of the inconsistency of Mr. Read, who evinced so much solicitude for the banishment from circulation of all notes under five dollars, and who introduced a bill, after a discussion of the proposition for three weeks, had abandoned the project, entirely lost sight of the subject and substituted something else in its place. Mr. Hopkinson adverted to the remarks about two hours and a half; in conclusion he vindicated the character of the illustrious Marshall from the foul calumny that has been cast upon his memory by Judge Hall of Alabama, and to which, credence has been given here by no less a personage than Mr. Ingersoll. When he had concluded his very able argument, Mr. Chambers took the floor in vindication of the banking system. He talked a long time, and when he had concluded his very powerful speech, commenced on the day before yesterday, after having spoken about two hours and a half. Mr. Read then so modified his amendment as to accept that of Mr. Cochran's as a modification. Mr. Fuller then moved to amend the amendment of Mr. Read, as modified by the adoption of the amendment of Mr. Cochran, by adding thereto the following: "No bank shall issue any bill check, note or paper credit of a less denomination than ten dollars. Mr. Banks then took the floor and spoke about an hour in support of the amendment of Mr. Fuller, when he gave way to a motion for the committee to rise.

The convention then adjourned until half past three o'clock this afternoon, when Mr. Banks resumed his remarks and concluded his very powerful speech in opposition to the hour of adjournment, when Mr. Hopkinson moved for the rising of the committee. The convention then adjourned.

Mr. Stevens then took the floor, and adverted to the declaration made by Mr. Clarke, of Indiana, that "Banks were devices of the Devil," and that of Mr. Cummin, that they were of "Divine institution." He said he could not agree with the last gentleman, being too ultra in his views; he not being willing to go so far. He said that those two gentlemen (from Indiana and Junata,) were both theologians! he would leave them to settle the matter among themselves, and hoped when they had done so, they would report the result to the committee of the whole! Mr. Sergeant addressed the committee about half an hour, when he gave way on a motion for the rising of the committee, the convention then adjourned.

PHILADELPHIA, December 21, 1837.

The members of the Convention assembled at the Hall this morning at 8 o'clock and proceeded in procession to attend the funeral of the late Doctor Philip Syng Physick deceased, after which they assembled in the Hall at half past ten in order to proceed to business.

Petitions were presented by Messrs. Poulrod and Hopkinson, citizens of the counties of Philadelphia and Westmoreland, praying that no amendment may be adopted by the Convention so as effectually to prevent all amalgamation between the white and colored population so far as relates to the government of the State.

Mr. Reigart presented a memorial from citizens of Lancaster county, praying that the constitution may be so amended, as to provide, that the civil rights, privileges or capacities of any citizen shall in no way be affected, diminished or enlarged, merely on account of his religious opinions.

Mr. Harris offered the following preamble and resolution, which were laid on the table:

Whereas, card playing has always been considered by the religious part of the community as an immoral practice, Therefore

Resolved, That the committee on the fifth article of the constitution be directed to inquire into the expediency of so amending said article, so as to make it an impeachable offence for any supreme judge, district judge or associate judge to be guilty of the practice of card playing.

Mr. Doran called for the second reading of the resolution offered by him on Tuesday relative to calling upon the county commissioners for certain information. The convention refused to consider.

Mr. Craig called for the second reading of the resolution offered by him yesterday relative to alterations in the fifteenth rule, the convention refused to the second reading.

The Convention then again resolved itself into a committee of the whole, on the amendment of Mr. Cochran to the amendment of Mr. Read, Mr. Sergeant resumed his remarks commenced on yesterday. He said that banks and the credit system were the enemies of aristocracy, and by the force of his argument and powerful eloquence he made it so clearly that none but the willfully ignorant could fail to be convinced. He referred to language used by Mr. Clarke of Indiana, "that he would prefer the *aristocracy of the sword* to the aristocracy of wealth. Mr. Clarke very frequently used the phrase "aristocracy of wealth," which is so popular among the *pretended democrats,* with similar significance as is attached to that phrase by the little petty demagogues with which the best interests of the country are threatened Mr. Sergeant is truly a great man, one who has few equals; after speaking about two hours he gave way to a motion for the committee to rise, the convention then adjourned until half past three o'clock in the afternoon, when Mr. Sergeant resumed his remarks. He referred to the fluctuations of our monetary concerns, and adverted to facts to prove that those fluctuations were much greater and more rapid in the thirteenth century, long before the establishment of banking institutions than at the present time and since the credit system has been adopted. Without concluding his remarks, Mr. Sergeant gave way to a motion for the committee to rise, the convention then adjourned.

PHILADELPHIA, December 22, 1837.

Mr. Krebs presented a memorial from citizens of Schylkill county, praying that measures may be taken effectually to prevent all amalgamation between the white and colored population in regard to the government of the state.

Mr. Maclay presented a memorial from citizens of Mifflin county, praying that no change in the existing constitution may be made, which would create distinctions in the rights and privileges of any of our citizens, founded merely upon their complexion.

Mr. Read presented a memorial from citizens of Susquehanna county, praying that the civil rights, privileges or capacities of any citizen shall in no way be effected, diminished or enlarged, merely on account of his religious opinions.

On motion of Mr. Doran, the resolution offered by him on Tuesday last, calling upon the county commissioners for information was read the second time, considered and adopted.

The convention again resolved itself into committee of the whole on the amendment of Mr. Cochran to the amendment of Mr. Read. Mr. Cochran then modified his amendment by striking out the concurrent sentence, together with the property of JOHN BUCHER, of Menallen, and HENRY POFF, of Liberty township. Sale to take place on *Saturday the 13th of January next,* at 2 P. M. at the Court-house.

Look Out!

☞Certificates are in circulation purporting to have been issued by the Lancaster Savings Institution." The public are cautioned against receiving them, *as that institution has issued none whatever.*

Good News!—Adjournment.

☞It will be seen, from the last letter of our Philadelphia Correspondent, that the Convention have agreed to adjourn on the 2d of February next. "Better late than never!"

The Presidency.

☞The Falls River (Massachusetts) Gazette has nominated JOSEPH RITNER as a candidate for the Presidency.

We know no man for whom we would sooner vote for that office, nor any one who would fill it better than our noble Governor. But many things are to be considered, and the nomination for President made upon great deliberation.

☞The article from the National Gazette should be carefully read by all. Patton's humiliating resolutions will be found embodied in it.

The Right of Petition—Congress.

☞The late movements in Congress are of the deepest interest to every freeman in the American Republic. We have long looked upon the action which gave rise to these movements, as one of the most momentous consequence to the American people, but we did not anticipate the point at which it was to affect them. We saw that Slavery was a great moral and political evil, out of which many of those exciting political questions, which had well nigh rent the Union, had grown. We know, too, that the Representatives of the people from the non-slaveholding States had, in too many instances, yielded to the blustering and threats of Southern wild spirits, and suppressed their views of questions of a sectional character; but we had not anticipated the craven, abject conduct which characterized the Northern members who voted for the resolutions of Mr. Patton, adopted in a treasonable caucus!

The conduct of the Southern members, in attempting to prevent the reception of the abolition petitions, was exceedingly unconstitutional, and was a direct violation of the spirit and letter of the Constitution of the United States But for them, insanity might be an excuse; these petitions ammalverted on the propriety of emancipation in the States which they represented, and was a reflection, in a remote degree, on the moral character of their constituents. This would produce excitement, and in its heat the members represented in Congress might be expected to act violently and foolishly—But that the Northern members should *assist* them to violate the Constitution, and trample on the rights of *their own constituents* is what astonishes us and excites our indignation!

The *Right of Petition* is guaranteed to the People of this Union by the Constitution of the United States. Indeed, it is one of those unalienable, indefeasible rights which Constitutions nor any human enactments can take away. It is a right which receives no greater validity from such sanctions than it had antecedently to their formation. It is a right which nothing but the worst exercise of tyranny can take away or abridge—*We are in American Congress denies this right to an American citizen*—who, for the invasion of a far less valuable right, braved the horrors of a revolution!

We speak not in composure while treating upon this subject. It is when our blood is heated to restrain our indignation from exhibiting itself in what might, perhaps, be deemed unbecoming or violent language. We feel *that for less than a mere act of postage,* our ancestors DARED AND DID SEVER FROM US and SOLD BY THOSE NORTHERN MEMBERS WHO VOTED TO ABRIDGE OR DESTROY THE RIGHT OF PETITION! But it is perhaps better as it is. The question is—*not the question of African Slavery*—but the question of WHITE LIBERTY, must *now must be made*—the issue must be drawn between LIBERTY and SLAVERY! If the storm must come, let it come—and let those count the cost who are responsible for the consequences, who, by their fatal supineness or cowardice, have provoked it. In God's name, we will abide it as we best may. In such a crisis as this, it is idle to count the value of the Union. If it is to be preserved at the price of Liberty, we will not be wicked enough to cling to it!

In conclusion, we trust that the *last Northern man has been elected to Congress who shall not be pledged to sustain the Right of Petition and the Freedom of Speech.*

☞Isaac Walker has been appointed Post Master at Bermudian, in this county, vice A. E. Temple, Esq. resigned.

STAR & REPUBLICAN BANNER.

At $2 per annum, half-yearly in advance.

GETTYSBURG, PA.

FRIDAY, December 29, 1837

FOR GOVERNOR,
JOSEPH RITNER.

From the Patriot of Tuesday last.

Baltimore Market.

☞Flour, $8 75; Wheat, $1 70 to $1 75.

☞We have again been compelled to crowd out many articles on hand for several weeks.

Saturday Chronicle.

☞There is no paper for which we have felt a greater solicitude for an extensive circulation, than the above paper; and yet there is no city paper that has treated us so meanly. There is scarcely a number received at this office, but what is torn or so disfigured, that it is of no benefit to us. Are the Editors aware of it!

Sheriff's Sale.

☞The Sheriff has again advertised, *in his organ,* the property of SAMUEL S. FORNEY, as mentioned sometime since, together with the property of JOHN BUCHER, of Menallen, and HENRY POFF, of Liberty township. Sale to take place on *Saturday the 13th of January next,* at 2 P. M. at the Court-house.

Look Out!

☞Certificates are in circulation purporting to have been issued by the Lancaster Savings Institution." The public are cautioned against receiving them, *as that institution has issued none whatever.*

Good News!—Adjournment.

☞It will be seen, from the last letter of our Philadelphia Correspondent, that the Convention have agreed to adjourn on the 2d of February next—"Better late than never!"

The Presidency.

☞The Falls River (Massachusetts) Gazette has nominated JOSEPH RITNER as a candidate for the Presidency.

We know no man for whom we would sooner vote for that office, nor any one who would fill it better than our noble Governor. But many things are to be considered, and the nomination for President made upon great deliberation.

☞The article from the National Gazette should be carefully read by all. Patton's humiliating resolutions will be found embodied in it.

The Right of Petition—Congress.

☞The late movements in Congress are of the deepest interest to every freeman in the American Republic. We have long looked upon the action which gave rise to these movements, as one of the most momentous consequence to the American people, but we did not anticipate the point at which it was to affect them. We saw that Slavery was a great moral and political evil, out of which many of those exciting political questions, which had well nigh rent the Union, had grown. We know, too, that the Representatives of the people from the non-slaveholding States had, in too many instances, yielded to the blustering and threats of Southern wild spirits, and suppressed their views of questions of a sectional character; but we had not anticipated the craven, abject conduct which characterized the Northern members who voted for the resolutions of Mr. Patton, adopted in a treasonable caucus!

The conduct of the Southern members, in attempting to prevent the reception of the abolition petitions, was exceedingly unconstitutional, and was a direct violation of the spirit and letter of the Constitution of the United States But for them, insanity might be an excuse; these petitions ammalverted on the propriety of emancipation in the States which they represented, and was a reflection, in a remote degree, on the moral character of their constituents. This would produce excitement, and in its heat the members represented in Congress might be expected to act violently and foolishly—But that the Northern members should *assist* them to violate the Constitution, and trample on the rights of *their own constituents* is what astonishes us and excites our indignation!

The *Right of Petition* is guaranteed to the People of this Union by the Constitution of the United States. Indeed, it is one of those unalienable, indefeasible rights which Constitutions nor any human enactments can take away. It is a right which receives no greater validity from such sanctions than it had antecedently to their formation. It is a right which nothing but the worst exercise of tyranny can take away or abridge—*We are in American Congress denies this right to an American citizen*—who, for the invasion of a far less valuable right, braved the horrors of a revolution!

We speak not in composure while treating upon this subject. It is when our blood is heated to restrain our indignation from exhibiting itself in what might, perhaps, be deemed unbecoming or violent language. We feel *that for less than a mere act of postage,* our ancestors DARED AND DID SEVER FROM US and SOLD BY THOSE NORTHERN MEMBERS WHO VOTED TO ABRIDGE OR DESTROY THE RIGHT OF PETITION! But it is perhaps better as it is. The question is—*not the question of African Slavery*—but the question of WHITE LIBERTY, must *now must be made*—the issue must be drawn between LIBERTY and SLAVERY! If the storm must come, let it come—and let those count the cost who are responsible for the consequences, who, by their fatal supineness or cowardice, have provoked it. In God's name, we will abide it as we best may. In such a crisis as this, it is idle to count the value of the Union. If it is to be preserved at the price of Liberty, we will not be wicked enough to cling to it!

In conclusion, we trust that the *last Northern man has been elected to Congress who shall not be pledged to sustain the Right of Petition and the Freedom of Speech.*

☞Isaac Walker has been appointed Post Master at Bermudian, in this county, vice A. E. Temple, Esq. resigned.

Gettysburg Rail Road--Canal Commissioners' Report.

☞We have received the Report of the Canal Commissioners, but being too large for insertion this week, we have extracted that portion referring to our Rail Road:

The Board, during the past season examined this extension, and were highly gratified with the progress and promising aspect of the work. This improvement cannot fail to be useful to the State, connecting as it will, the city of Philadelphia with the Ohio river at Pittsburg and Wheeling, and with the extensive Cumberland Valley south of the Potomac; and rendering more than two hundred and fifty miles of the Baltimore and Ohio Rail-road auxiliary to that great object, without any cost to Pennsylvania.

The work has been, and still is prosecuted with great vigor. More than eleven miles of the twenty two and a half miles under contract, is already graded, and considerable work done on the remaining eleven and one half miles. It is judiciously and advantageously located, from the nature of the ground, and material which from the bed of the road, it will be of the most permanent character. Some parts of the work are heavy; but when finished it will require so little repair, as to make it upon the whole, less expensive than some other works, the original cost of which is much lighter.

All the heavy sections between that already let and the Gettysburg Street of the Baltimore and Ohio Railway, should be put under contract early next summer, so as to be finished simultaneously with that now in progress. Three hundred and fifty thousand dollars will be necessary to accomplish this object, and complete that already under contract.

Estimated cost of grading the 22¾ miles under contract, $478,079 99
Appropriated by act of 18th February, 1836, 200,000 00

Sum necessary to complete, $278,079 99

Before closing this branch of the report, it is proper to observe that the appropriations for the Gettysburg extension and North Branch extension at this time remain unexhausted, and to the Erie extension nearly so; and to bring to the view of the Legislature the urgent necessity, in relation to economy and justice, of making provision early for carrying on these works. On two of them the work has been prosecuted beyond the limit of the means, although the contractors were informed that the appropriations were exhausted. They, however, continued to prosecute their work, rather than suffer the loss which a cessation would occasion.

LOOK OUT—A NEW TRADE.—We are informed that persons are purchasing up the notes of the Phœnix Manufacturing Company, to take into the country and offer 25 cents on the dollar.—[*Balt. Sun.*

George W. Dixon, the *buffalo* vocalist, has declined being elected to the mayoralty of Boston, in a letter addressed to the Morning Post. Notwithstanding this sacrifice of himself upon the altar of patriotism, he is little doubt that he will hereafter, as formerly, continue to transact occasional business at the mayor's office.

An attempt is about to be made, for the first time, to open a direct trade between Chicago and New Orleans. The ship Canton Packet (belonging to the Canton Packet Line of New Orleans from Canton in the course of the present month, laden with a cargo of silks and other articles designed expressly for the wants of the Western country.

REMEMBER THE WINTER MONTHS.—They are the most favourable for Temperance Meetings. The Farmers have leisure. The young people wish for some resort. A Temperance meeting is one to which all love to go. Let not Temperance be crowded out by other meetings, however important their objects may be. Temperance purifies and blesses your own neighbourhood. Other enterprises bless the ends of the earth. If you give up your meetings this winter, you will lose much of what you have gained in three winters.

The back building attached to the tavern house of Henry Diffenbach, in East King street, Lancaster, was destroyed by fire on Sunday afternoon last. The activity of the firemen, with a plentiful supply of Conestoga water, now brought in by water carts from all the city, prevented the flames from doing any damage to the adjoining buildings.

BANK ROBBER CAUGHT.—The celebrated Bank robber, Thurston, who by means of forged checks and bills of exchange swindled the banks last spring in Milledgville, Columbus, Mobile, Charleston, and some of the Northern cities to the amount of about $100,000, has after a long chase, been caught by Mr. Thos. Banks of this city. He was taken in Louisville, Ky., in the Theatre, and is now in jail at this place. He is said by those who have seen him to be a most accomplished villain. We have not understood how much of the money has been recovered.—*Augusta Sentinel.*

COUNTERFEIT SHINPLASTERS.—The public is cautioned to be on the look out, as well executed counterfeits are in circulation of 25, 50, and 75 cents on the corporation of Newark and Jersey City.

COAL TRADE.—As an illustration of the mineral wealth of Pennsylvania, it is stated in the Harrisburgh Intelligencer, that the quantity of Coal sent to market the present year, from the coal regions of Schuylkill, Lehigh, Lackawanna, and Beaver Meadow, exceed in the aggregate that sent last year, by about one hundred and eighty thousand tons—and this, under all the disadvantages of the distress and embarrassment of the country!. The shipment of coal from those regions, was in 1820, 365 tons. In 1831, the amount sent to market was about 177,000 ton—while in 1837—six years after, the aggregate amount of the shipments of coal, from these mines, is stated at 860,770 tons.

The Tennessee Senate by a vote of 19 to 5, have passed a bill to suppress the circulation of "change tickets" after the 1st. of March next.

A bill has passed the lower house of the Legislature of Georgia authorising limited partnerships.

John Jacob Astor has subscribed $5000 towards the "association for the relief of a aged females."

STATE HOUSE BURNT.—The new and splendid State House erected last summer at Lecanoria Territory, was burned last week. The improvements are a good two-story STONE HOUSE, with a convenient Kitchen attached—a new building well of good water at the back door, a stable, good fence, a good garden, &c. The property is situated in a pleasant part of the Borough; and lies but one dwelling West of the Diamond, well calculated for almost any kind of business. Mrs. Myers, residing on the premises, will shew the property to any person wishing to purchase.

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