The way the Slave-Power Rules the Nation.

SENATE.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 16.

Mr. ANTHONY (of Rhode Island) submitted a resolution for the appointment of the Standing Committees, according to a list agreed upon by a caucus of the dominant party.

Mr. Hamlin, of Maine, protested against the list as unjust, disproportionate, and sectional. He said:

"What are the facts? We have sixty-two members of the Senate—thirty-two are from the Non-Slaveholding States, thirty are from the Slaveholding States. The whole number of places upon committees is one hundred and twenty-six. Numerically, upon an equal representation, there should be assigned to Senators from the Slave States sixty-one places, and to Senators from the Free States sixty-five. The cast, although it has been slightly modified this morning, I think is not substantially changed. As it was made and presented to the minority, I suppose the changes will not exceed one. By that cast there were assigned to the Slave States sixty-seven, and to the Free States fifty-nine, showing a disproportion of ten. The whole number of committees of the Senate is twenty-two. Of these committees, there are from the Slave States to be found majorities on thirteen, and majorities of but nine from the Free States; and of these nine, where majorities are composed of Senators from the Free States, three are wholly unimportant—the Committees on Enrolled Bills, Engrossed Bills, and to Audit and Control the Contingent Expenses of the Senate—leaving, therefore, in fact, the proportion of thirteen to six.

"Tracing the matter along still further, I find that the party with whom I act upon this floor consists of twenty, being within a fraction of one-third of the Senate. They are entitled, upon terms of equality, to thirty-nine places upon the committees; they have thirty-three assigned to them. Seven of those thirty-three are on the unimportant committees to which I have alluded, leaving them actually but twenty-six on committees of any considerable importance. I find that on sixteen committees of the Senate the chairmen are selected from the Slave States, and on six from the Free States I find, to guard the succession (for I can come to no other conclusion), precisely an equal number of men from the Slave States stand second upon the committees, to insure the successions, when, by declination, resignation, or the expiration of their term, they shall withdraw from the Senate.

"But numerically, although important, it is a matter of much less importance than the particular manner in which the individual committees are cast. With only two exceptions (and compared with the others, they are somewhat unimportant), the great, the principal committees, that reflect the Government, that establish its policy abroad and at home, are all cast with majorities of Southern men.—It is a significant fact; it is a fact pregnant with mischief; it is a fact of which the country will not fail to take notice. I say, sir, that the executive and judicial departments of the Government are now at the foot of the Slave Power.

"Here we have the Committee on Foreign Relations, that shapes and directs the foreign policy of the Government; we have the Committee on Military Affairs, that looks to its Army; we have the Committee on Naval Affairs, that has charge of its Navy; we have a Committee on the Judiciary, which gives construction to laws, and shapes the policy (so far as the Legislature may) of the Government; we find them all constituted of a majority of men who represent the Slaveholding States. I make no objection personally. I want these facts to go to the country, that they may know the mode and manner in which the legislative business is prepared and shaped, and how it is that it is perverted to the behests and made to subserve the purpose of the Slave interest in this country. Who cannot see the object to be accomplished plainly foreshadowed? The majority of the Senate, it is frankly conceded, are entitled to a control in the organization of the committees. But it is this sectional manner of which we have a right to complain, and to which we enter a protest; and from such an organization we have a right to infer the object to be effected.

"Another fact: I find that the Committee on Commerce, with a majority of Southern men, is entirely without a representative in all the far North-West, including the great lakes and rivers. With four of its members from the South, there is not one man to represent the internal commerce of the lakes, that is counted by its hundred millions. More, sir: I would like very well indeed to know why the usual rule was departed from in this case, and why the Senator from Michigan [Mr. Stuart], who so ably and faithfully represented the commercial interests of the North-West, was made to give place, if it be not for the purpose of shaping the legislature of the country to prostrate the commerce of that section of the Union? I think we have a right—all Senators have a right to their opinions—to come to the conclusion that the committee was formed and instituted for that purpose, from the known public opinions that a majority of the committee, I think, have uniformly expressed against internal improvements of all kinds. But a single position on that committee has been assigned to this side of the Chamber, and none for the large section embraced in the northwestern lakes and the commerce of the lakes and rivers.

"Again, sir, I look at the Committee on Patents and the Patent Office, and I find a majority of that committee constituted of Southern Senators. They are worthy men—I make no complaint of the Senators who occupy the positions on these committees; but it is to their sectional cast that I object, and the purposes which we have a right to believe are designed to flow from that organization. That committee is composed of three gentlemen from the Southern States and two from the North, giving to that section the control of all its action.

"While I know that, if there is an honest man in this body who will devote his energies honestly to its purpose, I say cheerfully it is the worthy Senator from South Carolina (Mr. Evans); still, when we look at the fact, that of the inventive genius and enterprise of the country, more than four-fifths, if not nine-tenths, come from another section of the Union, I ask if it were not right that they might reasonably have expected men who feel a local and personal as well as national interest in that department of our Government in what relates to arts and inventive genius?

"Again, sir, I look to the Committee on the Library, and I find no representative whatever from the North. Is it because the North are not qualified for the position? Is it because they have not as deep, as broad an interest in whatever may relate to the affairs of our Library, to the literature and learning of our country, as Southern Senators? Why is it, unless it be for the purpose of taking care of your Library, so that it be not tainted with those doctrines of the fathers who formed the Constitution of our country?

"I say that the whole form and shape of these committees mark and stamp them with a sectionalism which I had hoped never to have witnessed in this body. They come to me in that way and in such circumstances that cannot command my approbation or my vote. But I do not propose to take up the time of the Senate in discussing them in detail. I have only risen for the purpose of stating these objections to the committees, and presenting these facts as the reason why I shall withhold my vote from the resolution, and shall vote against it on the question of its adoption."

The Potter Journal.

COUDERSPORT, PA.,

Thursday Morning, Jan. 7, 1857.

T. S. CHASE, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

☞ The will and power to be *useful*, is the best of happiness.

☞ The first number of the new volume of the *Home Journal* is exceedingly rich, and is full of promise for the ensuing year.

☞ *The Cerodo Crescent* is the name of a new paper just started at Cerodo, Wayne Co, Va., to advocate the free-labor movement inaugurated in western Virginia by the mechanics and farmers of New England. No. 9 of the *Crescent* is before us, and is full of valuable and highly interesting information. We hail this new free-labor movement, as a sign of progress, and commend the *Crescent* to all persons who desire to become acquainted with the progressive elements in Western Virginia. The paper is published by W. Boyd Wilson at $1,50 per annum in advance, and is well worth the money.

If the Lecompton Constitution had come without slavery, Mr. Stevens of Georgia was to have moved its reference back to the people. The result of the election has disarranged his plans.—*Washington Letter.*

And if he had procured its "reference back to the people," we think his plans would have been still more "disarranged." The breach in the Democratic ranks is already too wide to be successfully defended.

☞ To avoid the confusion which occurred in the township elections last winter in this county, the Legislature enacted that hereafter "the time of holding the borough and township elections in Potter County be and is hereby altered and changed to the first Friday in February in each year."

The township elections in this county will therefore be held on the 5th day of February next. The constables will give early notice of this we hope. As an inducement to the voters to select good men for Constables, we are informed the County Commissioners are inclined to appoint the Constables the Collectors of County and State taxes, so far as they can do so, in accordance with the interests of the county.

☞ Rev. C. M. Blake's Introductory Lecture to the course on MISSIONS, which has been announced, was postponed from last Monday night in consequence of Maps, &c. not being received. It will be given next Monday night, 11th inst. at 6½ o'clock in the Presbyterian Church. Tickets have been distributed for the entire course, for which those who are disposed to aid in defraying expenses, will pay 50 cts. for an adult's ticket, and 25 cts. for children. All are invited to attend these lectures, which no doubt will prove of very great interest.

The first Lecture will not only introduce the course, but give some account of the Pacific Ocean and its inhabitants, which will be continued the following Monday, 18th inst. Feb. 1st the lecture will be on India, and the same subject will be continued 15th of that month. These lectures will be deeply interesting, unfolding as they will the history and prospects of British power among the millions of that Empire.

The same may be said of China, which will come before the audience in March. Africa will occupy the month of April. The Turkish Empire May; and June will be taken up with America—North and South. Thus the whole world as it is at present, will come under review; and we are certain that no one will regret the time, or money, which these Lectures will cost. Tickets can be obtained of Messrs. Wm. Metzger, P. A. Stebbins, or Chas. S. Jones.

☞ "Popular Sovereignty" now means, so far as Buchanan and his supporters are concerned, the right of the minority to make Constitutions for, and to rule the majority. But we rejoice to say, that the Hon. S. A. Douglass, whom we always thought a ready tool of the South, repudiates this monstrous proposition, and insists that a majority of the people have the right to govern themselves in their own way. For taking this fair and *consistent* position, all the old party hacks denounce Douglass as a Traitor to the party. This shows that the real object of repealing the Missouri Compromise, was to enable the South to make Kansas a Slave State. Thanks to the energy and endurance of the free State men of Kansas; and to the numbers and unwearried determination of the Republicans of the States, that object *cannot be accomplished*—KANSAS WILL BE A FREE STATE.

"Bleeding Kansas."

A large number of those who sneered at the cry for help which went up from the log cabins of Kansas during the campaign of 1856, are now compelled to talk about the wrongs of the people of that Territory quite as zealously as the most inveterate Republican ever did.

Civil war is now raging in Southern Kansas, and unless the Administration shall be defeated in its wicked attempts to force through Congress a Constitution which three-fourths of the people repudiate, this war will become general. The Philadelphia *Press* truly says:

"The news from Kansas apprises us of the re-opening of scenes of civil war and blood-shed in that unhappy Territory. That these scenes have been occasioned by the apprehension that the Lecompton Constitution is to be forced upon the people of Kansas, against their clearly ascertained will, is beyond all controversy. It is in vain to say that the people can vote upon the slavery question. It is not true, in fact, as they can only vote for or against the importation of any more slaves, and even this poor privilege they can only exercise by voting, at the same time, for the Constitution to which they are opposed. Such an overthrow of popular rights under the elective franchise has never before been witnessed in this country, and will not be endured by the people of Kansas. They insist upon the right of voting for or against the Constitution, or making their own Government, of governing themselves, and not merely of governing Africans who may be hereafter imported within their limits.

It is clear, from the outbreaks which have already occurred, that if Congress should adopt the Lecompton Constitution, we shall have scenes of strife and bloodshed re-enacted in that Territory, from which every patriot must turn with horror and dismay. The people will not submit to the Lecompton Constitution. They have so declared in all their mass Conventions, and they will resist it even to bloodshed. If this state of affairs should occur, what then? Why, the new State authorities acknowledged by Congress and the President, will demand of the latter the aid of the federal troops to slaughter the people. We believe this effort would fail, but if it succeeded, it would be a victory purchased by the overthrow of the Democratic party, and we fear even of the Government itself.

Civil war, it is evident, would not be confined to Kansas. Thousands of Missourians have already illegally voted there on the 21st of December, and would march to the aid of the Lecompton faction, while, on the other hand, from the neighboring Territory of Nebraska, and the adjacent State of Iowa, thousands would flock to the standard of the people, and the civil war would probably be extended throughout the Union. Indeed, even from Missouri, it is apprehended that not a few would join the free-State party of Kansas; for a large majority of the people of that State are opposed to the late incursion and invasion upon the ballot-box. The times are full of danger. We are upon the brink of the precipice, and the adoption by Congress of the Lecompton Constitution would hurl us into the abyss below."

WOMAN'S RIGHTS.—Lucy Stone refuses to pay her taxes at Orange, N. J., on the old Revolutionary principle of "no taxation without representation," and the collector is about to levy on her goods.—*Exc.*

Lucy, we thought, was some time since united to a man for the very purpose of preventing a conflict between her "isms" and the government. We believe she is considerable "spunky," but we also think she will prefer the distress of paying the tax as levied to having her property distrained by the officer and the cost of an affirmative decision of the Court in behalf of that functionary.

AN IMPORTANT CORRECTION.—Some of the papers announce that "Ex-President Pierce and lady" have gone to Madeira, in the Powhattan. Justice to a political opponent, whose moral character we have never heard questioned, induces us to contradict the impression which might be created by this unexplained announcement. The ex-President has gone off with Mrs. Pierce, his own legal wife, and not, as the paragraph might imply, with any strange woman.—*Providence Journal.*

We like the point raised in the above paragraph from our Providence cotemporary. However much of a lady a woman may have been before marriage, she loses all claims upon that appellation by her position as "wife," and we think should aspire to no nobler or more expressive title than that of "wife." She may be a lady though a poor wife; but she cannot be a good wife without being a lady. Therefore, in our opinion the title of "wife" is the nobler of the two. A lady is a "well-bred woman," according to Webster, and the same authority says a wife is the "lawful consort of a man"—the use of the one leaves the character of the woman in doubt, while the other asserts it positively. Which is the better, reader?

"Social Affairs" Again.

For the Journal.

FRIEND CHASE: I noticed in your last edition, under the head of "Social Affairs," some recommendations and statements, from which I take the liberty to demur. While reading the article, I thought it was from the pen of some crusty old bachelor, whose stomach like his mind was so deranged, that he could not easily digest the "chicken fixens." But judge my surprise, when I found it was EDITORIAL!! And now Sir, with you, I join issue. Shall we continue the long *long* established custom of feasting both the animal and intellectual parts of our nature, when we make our social visits? I don't ask the question entirely to those who care only for self, who have never learned by happy experience

"That marriage rightly understood,
Gives to the tender and the good
A paradise below."

—not to him only, who has been so long in the cold icy arms of celibacy that every fibre of his soul is frozen, but to that more generous class, who "multiply and replenish the earth" and who can say,

"Our babies dearest comforts bring,
When tutored *right*, they prove a sprung
Whence ceaseless joys arise."

Hospitality forms the strongest bond of union among both civilized and uncivilized.

"Eat this," said the Moor, giving him half a peach, "thereby knowing that thou mayest confide in me." The wild savages quaff the pipe of peace, and as the smoke ascends to Heaven, the Great Spirit ratifies the treaty, and blood ceases to flow. In our churches we find the love-feasts, designed to cement the bond of union, and unite soul to soul, and the holy Sacraments do the same. Eating and drinking together in our social visits, is always a love-feast, and this—"early tea at home be it far from me. Had those religious gentlemen of Coudersport ever entered my log cabin, and partaken of my hospitality, they never would, clandestinely, have driven my oxen to Wilmansport. But you propose submitting the subject to the ladies, and call on the most heroic to make a *soiree*, treat her guests with mush and milk or nothing at all. This seems to be about the sentiment as near as I can come at it, but my wife and I prefer the "chicken fixens." B.

SWEDEN, Dec. 28th, 1857.

"B." misinterprets our position in this matter. We do not object to a "lunch" at social gatherings—on the contrary it is almost indispensable—but we object to the plea that hospitality consists in feasting those you entertain upon indigestible sweetmeats, cakes and high-seasoned sauces. We object not only to their physical but their *moral* effects. There are hundreds of those who attend social as well as convivial *soirées* for no other purpose than to eat and drink—or rather to gormandize upon the things they are unaccustomed to at home. A large number of our drunkards and gluttons in this generation are the offspring as well as the untimely victims of diseased sociality. Condiments are great enemies to social and moral correctness, and the present era of the world is grievously abused by their extreme use in social gatherings. It is with this system we are at war—and not, as our correspondent infers, with "good cheer." We like good living as well as any one—but we believe that the "chicken fixens" to which "B." confesses himself and wife to be so much attached, are alike destructive of health and morals.

The love-feasts and sacraments are of an entirely different character from social feasts, and *should* be feasts of the soul upon the religion of God, and not, as they are in the majority of cases, mere formula to gain the respect of the "world."

The Moor gave not to eat that which would destroy the health of his friend, but gave such as God provided to be used in its natural condition, and which is a most healthy fruit—the Peach.

On New Year's Eve we attended a soiree at the large and spacious residence of J. S. MANN, Esq., at which there was the true spirit of sociality manifested. It was a feast of the intellectual system *more* than of the physical. There was, however, (much to our surprise, as we anticipated the "breaking of the ice" of the system recommended in the JOURNAL of the previous week) also a bountiful provision for the wants of the stomach. Yet the lunch was plain and acceptable. There was none of that for-weeks-premeditated-and-prepared-for display of "health-destroying" "chicken-fixens"—while Mrs. M. was enabled to enjoy and participate in the pleasures of the society of her friends—because she was not during the entire evening enjoying the very doubtful pleasure of preparing entertainment for her guests' stomachs.

But we have not room to pursue this subject further this week; though we have much more to say—indeed, it is a subject full of rich materials out of which to distil social and moral reforms. We will take up the subject some other time, in the meantime hoping that "B." will always find plenty of the right kind of good cheer at social gatherings until experience shall teach him that "it is better to feast the soul and fast the stomach, than to feast the bowels and destroy the mind and body."

A NEW COUNTERFEIT DETECTOR.—About the most useful thing that any person in business can have in these times, is a correct and reliable Counterfeit Detector and Bank Note List. This want is now to be supplied. Messrs. T. B. Peterson & Brothers have just commenced the publication of "*Peterson's Philadelphia Counterfeit Detector and Bank Note List*"—a monthly quarto publication which contains all the information that can be obtained in regard to all Counterfeits, Broken Banks, and the rates of discounts on all the Bank Notes of the country. Messrs. Drexel & Co., the well known Bankers and Brokers, of that city, will supervise it and make the corrections in each number of the list, so that it may be perfectly relied on, while the well known house of E. W. Clark & Co., Commission Stock and Exchange Brokers, will correct the Stock List.—Not being intended to subserve the purpose of any banking house, as most of the Detectors do, it will be a useful and reliable publication to the whole business community, and we would advise all of our readers to remit the price of one year's subscription to the publishers at once for it. The price is but ONE DOLLAR a year. To Clubs, Four copies for $3,00; or Ten copies for $7,00; or Twenty-five copies for $15,00. Address all Orders to T. B. PETERSON & BROTHERS, 306 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

A Destructive Fire occurred in Philadelphia on Monday, the 7th ult., by which several large warehouses and dwellings were consumed or injured. In the *Harrisburg Telegraph*, soon after, there was an account of the fire which closes as follows:

"We regret to learn that our enterprising townsman, Col. WALLOWER, lost two long cars and some seventy or eighty barrels of whisky by the above fire. We are unable to state whether he was insured or not."

We think there is very little cause for regret in this loss of Col. Wallower—(fit name for a rum-vender,)—on the contrary there is cause to rejoice. The editor of the *Telegraph* had not, when he penned those lines, considered how much misery was prevented by the loss of those 70 or 80 barrels of distilled tincture of strychnine—the countless tears that *might have been* shed over them—the piercing pangs they would have carried to the hearts of many wives and mothers—or the hundreds of dollars which will be thus saved to some higher and nobler cause. It is just such regretting as this of the *Telegraph* that keeps the traffic a-going, and gives misery a premium value in the mart of human existence. Save your regrets, Mr. *Telegraph*, for some nobler object, and crown yourself with the diadem of Justice and Charity.

The New-York Musical Review is published every other Saturday by Mason Brothers, New-York, and presents a rich amount and variety of musical matter.—Dr. LOWELL MASON, WM. B. BRADBURY, GEORGE F. ROOT, and other of the most eminent musicians of the country are among its regular contributors, each number containing more or less from the pen of one or all of them. A very useful and instructive feature of the *Review* is its "Answers to Correspondents." All questions on musical subjects, as to its theory or practice, are carefully answered, often at length. The *Review* also collects musical news from all sources, and keeps its readers well posted up as to what is doing in the musical world. Each number also includes several pages of new and popular music. In this department, it is announced in the present number, will be presented thereafter the gems from the modern operas performed in New-York. Terms of the *Review*: One copy per annum, $1; five copies, $4; eight copies, $6; ten copies, $7; twenty copies, $12.

Agriculture in Virginia.—To the farmer, Virginia is one of the most desirable sections of the Union. Her mild and salubrious climate, richness of soil and other natural advantages, are justly celebrated. It has been truly said, that she is a land "most blessed by Heaven and most neglected by man." Her soil, so easy to cultivate and so faithful in returning the grudged and scanty labor of the husbandman, has been much neglected. But a new era is dawning. The emigration at present tending hitherward, will pretty surely bring out her resources.

We beg to call the attention of our readers to the Prospectus of *Emerson's Magazine* and *Putnam's Monthly*, in another place. It will be seen that the proprietorship of the Magazine is changed.

News Gleanings.

W. H. Appleton, Esq., of the firm of D. Appleton & Co., has received a beautiful letter from Florence Nightingale's sister, acknowledging a copy of "World Noted Women," and expressing high gratification at the appreciation of her sister which it manifests in the exquisite portrait and biography. American sympathy she seems greatly to prize, and it appears, from her letter, that the fair and devoted nurse of the Crimea is beginning to feel the physical effects of her long and arduous self-devotion; her health is seriously impaired.—*New York correspondence of the Boston Transcrip.*

GOVERNMENT GOING BY CONTRARIES.—Government instructions, like Paddy's dream, go "by contraries." Gov. Walker was "instructed" to see that the Lecompton Constitution was submitted to the people. He did his utmost to carry out these "instructions," and—was compelled to resign!

Commodore Paulding was "instructed" to use his utmost endeavors to prevent the violation of the "neutrality laws" by "lawless persons" who were fitting out expeditions against Nicaragua, &c. He obeyed these "instructions" by arresting Walker and sending him home as a prisoner. For this he is be censured, if not disgraced, while the "lawless person" arrested is to receive the apologies of the Cabinet!

Paddy's dream is not the only thing that "goes by contraries!"—*Albany Journal.*

SENATOR SUMNER.—We learn that Mr. Sumner has left Washington, finding the excitement of the Senate too great for his health.

The Springfield *Republican* says:

"Mr. Sumner's course is not fully determined on, but he contemplates returning immediately to Europe, and going to Egypt and India for a year. This was the advice of his European physicians."

BOROUGH ORDINANCE.

AT a meeting of the TOWN COUNCIL of the Borough of Coudersport, held on the 29th day of December, 1857, the following Ordinance was passed:

IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED, That hereafter no Bill shall be received or considered, excepting for work done or contracts finished during the term of the Council to whom said bill is presented; and the Secretary of the Town Council is hereby instructed and required to publish this Ordinance, by sufficient written or printed notices, in the month of December of each and every year, excepting that for the present year, the Secretary shall publish said notices in the month of January next ensuing. E. REES, *Burgess pro tem.*

S. H. STORRS, *Secretary.*

I certify the above to be a true and correct copy, taken from the records of the Town Council in my hands.

S. H. STORRS, *Secretary.*

Coudersport, Dec. 28, 1857.—10:27-4t.

LIST OF LETTERS

Remaining in the Post Office at Coudersport, Pa., January 1, 1858.

Acker, Samuel Y.	Marlin, R. D.
Anson, Silas	Moffit, Mrs. E.
Benson, J. D.	Markham, O. M.
Burdick, L. R.	Nesbit, John
Benum William	Noil, John
Cotter, C. B.	Newton, Cyrus W.
Clark, Amos S.	Reade, Jefferson
Curtis, Henry	Rowley, George
Grant, Benj.	Ross, Rev. J. L.
Galusha, Miss Viola	Stearns, David W.
Huskings, Washington	Swarts, John
Hynemon, M. L.	Strait, Isaac
Hangsford, J. M.	Smith, J. P.
Johnson, Miss A.	Shears, Mrs. Caroline
Kohler, Christian	Thompson, Isaac
Kless, Jonathan	Ellsworth, John P.
Miles, Wm.	Whitney, Rev. E. H.

☞ Persons inquiring for any of the above letters, will please say they are Advertised.

J. M. CUDDEBACK, P. M.