

Political.

IMPORTANT FROM WASHINGTON

The Leecompton Fight Finished.

PASSAGE OF THE ENGLISH SWINDLE!

BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION Triumphant at Last!

SPECIAL DISPATCH TO THE N. Y. TRIBUNE.

From Our Own Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Friday, April 22.

1:30 p. m.—The House is having a stormy session this morning. Horace F. Clark was too ill to make a speech, and could only say a few words of indelible opposition to English's swindle, which he described as objectionable in form and dangerous in substance.

Shorter of Alabama, and Bryan of Texas gave in their adhesion to the bill, and Campbell of Ohio, with much difficulty, got the floor to reply. He made an animated speech, giving Cox many hard rubs. While Campbell was on the floor, Washburn of Maine, requested permission to make a statement in reference to certain proceedings made in the debate yesterday by Mr. Marshall of Kentucky, in regard to the position of the Republican party. Objection was made on the Democratic side of the House, and Mr. Washburn gave notice that he would take some future occasion to explain his vote on the Crittenden amendment. Messrs. Quitman and Bonham are the only fire-eaters who hold out, and the bill will assuredly pass if a vote is taken to day.

Two p. m.—Mr. Haskin, after much opposition and amid great confusion, got the floor, and has just stated that on Monday last Mr. Cox came to his desk and read to him a letter which he had written in *The Ohio Statesman*, denouncing English and his bill as infamous; also, that Cox on Tuesday night was against it.

The Leecomptonites are greatly excited, and are trying to glorify him down. He will not be silenced, and has made his statements heard and understood.

Mr. Cox is replying, amid laughter from all sides of the House.

The Leecomptonites themselves have interrupted the exhibition he was making of himself, and Mr. Haskin is proceeding.

Later.—Mr. Haskin made a very manly and forcible speech, denouncing English's bill as the meanest contrivance yet brought forward; as a thimble-rigging invention, degrading to the North, and dishonorable to the South. The passage of the bill would destroy the Democratic party. For himself he would oppose it to the last.

The House is now voting on the main question.

Vote on agreeing to a report of the Conference Committee: Yeas, one hundred and twelve; Nays, one hundred and three.

Messrs. Quitman and Bonham, fire-eaters, voted No, Mr. Gilmer voted Yes. The other five South Americans voted No. Twelve Douglas Democrats, No, as follows:

Messrs. Adgion, Chapman, Horace F. Clark, John G. Davis, Thos. L. Harris, Haskin, Hickman, McKibbin, S. S. Marshall, Isaac K. Morris, Aron Shaw, Robert Smith.

The pairs are:

Messrs. Arnold and Washburn of Wis.; Matson and Reuben Davis; Dumnick and Purviance; Faulkner and Morrill; Hill and Ford; John C. Kinkead and Miles Taylor; Montgomery and Warren; Stewart of Maryland and Thompson; Wool and Geo. Taylor.

After the vote was declared, Mr. Keitt and other prominent Southern men crowded around English, shaking hands with him and congratulating him. There were no other demonstrations in the Hall, the Speaker, before the vote was declared, having given warning to the audience.

Mr. English made the usual motion to reconsider the vote and lay the reconsideration on the table.

Mr. Washburn of Illinois demanded the Yeas and Nays.

Mr. Campbell said that it was no use, as the battle was over.

Mr. Washburn replied that the battle was not over. He would fight to the end of time.

The Senate has passed the bill by a vote of 31 to 22. The House has adjourned.

Evening.—The Democrats have fired salutes this evening in front both of the Capitol and the White House in honor of their victory and to please the boys, who always are jubilant. The thoughtful portion of the Administration party regard this as a Bunker Hill victory. They have surrendered almost every point for which they contended at the outset, without having the grace to do so in a frank and manly manner.

The Republicans are buoyant and exultant, in spite of their seeming defeat. They regard the overthrow of the Leecompton Democracy as already decreed, and desire no better weapon for future political conflicts than the record of the English swindle. Giddings was in the House to-day, and voted on all questions that arose. This, his third attack of disease of the heart, was slighter than the former ones. He is, however, still feeble.

We give the following editorial remarks of the *Tribune* on the above, in lieu of offering any of our own, and which are much more comprehensive and to the point than we could pretend to offer. We hope our readers will give them an earnest and careful perusal.

Well! Leecompton Junior has passed them!

Nothing, but a very brief dismissal of the Kansas question from the floor of the two Houses. This bill settles nothing, establishes nothing, but leaves all at as loose ends as ever.

The original Leecompton bill had at least this merit—it assumed to be a finality. Kansas might upset or transform the Constitution thereby imposed on her, but Congress was precluded from again meddling with the subject. True; the question would have come back again, in the shape of contested elections to the House or Senate, or both; but the bill contemplated nothing of the sort. It professed to remit all that remained of the controversy to the People of Kansas. And what Mr. Greeley's bill fully professed to do, the Crittenden-Montgomery bill actually did.—That bill said to the People of Kansas, "Ratify the Leecompton Constitution if you like it, and you are in the Union; if you don't like it, frame another and fairly ratify it, and you will then be in the Union, without further action by Congress." Here was an end of contention, a balm for agitation, a practical end of controversy. The People of Kansas might quarrel further, should they see fit; but Congress resolved and pledged itself to do nothing but secure them even play. But this English bill does not even aspire to be final. It says, "Accept the Land-Grant as we have fixed it, and we shall consider you in the Union under the Leecompton instrument; reject it, and you may not form another Constitution until a census shall have shown that you possess a population equal to the Federal ratio for a Member of the House." In one case, Kansas comes in at once as a Slave State, receiving a large bonus from the Land Sales about to take place; in the other, she waits for a much larger population, an official census, a formal proclamation of the fact, a Convention and new Constitution, and an acceptance of the latter by Congress. The strong probability is that this will keep her out at least two years longer. For what?

Five thousand sophists, each gifted with miraculous and well-oiled tongues, could not efface the fact that here are heavy bribes offered, and menaces held out, to a harassed, struggling, impoverished community, designed to impel them to accept a Slave Constitution on the plea that they can change it at pleasure. Here are solid, palpable, immediate advantages proffered to tempt them to this course, with corresponding penalties to be incurred by standing out. If they reject Leecompton by rejecting the modified Land-Grant, they get no Lands at present, no provision for Railroads, no five per cent. on the Proceeds of the Lands about to be sold; and they are thrust back into Territorial vassalage for an indefinite period, with Denver for their Governor, Leecompton and Cato for their Judges, and Buchanan for their Grand Seignior.

These are long odds; but the People of Kansas are too strong for them. They will spurn the bribe; they will hold fast their integrity; they will remain a Territory under many disadvantages rather than drop into the Union a slaveholding State. Two or three thousand of them may, perhaps, go in for Leecompton, wealth and infamy, swelling the Pro-Slavery vote to Five Thousand; but this will not reduce the Free-State vote below Ten Thousand. A full poll is the only requisite; the popular weariness of election after election which settles nothing, accomplishes nothing, is the only danger.

The Federal Administration has most unwisely decreed that Kansas shall still be a watchword in our National struggles. The Crittenden-Montgomery bill would have obviated this; Congress would gladly have passed that bill; but the Executive was implacable. By Cabinet influence and Presidential patronage, the Kansas feud has been kept open; there will be no more cessation till Kansas is fully in the Union the acknowledged Free State that all know her rightfully to be. We give her oppressors fair notice that the unjust disabilities imposed on her by the English bill are utterly scouted by earnest Free-State men; that the population which is confessedly large enough for a Slave State will be held sufficient for a Free State; that if the foolish, useless, inequitable constitution of an Election Board consisting of three Federal officers to two elected by her People, shall be made a cloak for foul voting or false returns, those votes, those returns, will be rendered of no avail; and that by a large majority of the People, all other issues will be postponed or subordinated until Kansas shall have been fully delivered from her oppressors and added to the galaxy of Free States.

So, Messrs. Leecomptonites, move on!

The New Liquor Bill.

The new Liquor License Bill, which has passed both Houses, contains twenty-four sections, of which the following are the most important:—

SEC. 3. That all hotels, inns and taverns shall be classified and rated according to the estimated yearly sales of liquors authorized to be sold therein, or in the house intended to be occupied for such purpose, as follows, to wit: in all cases where such estimated yearly sales shall be ten thousand dollars or more, such hotel, inn or tavern shall be rated as of the first class, and the sum to be paid for license shall be four hundred dollars; when more than eight and less than ten thousand dollars, as second class, pay two hundred and fifty dollars; when more than six and less than eight thousand dollars, as third class, and pay one hundred and fifty dollars; when more than four and less than six thousand dollars, as fourth class, and pay one hundred dollars; when more than

two and less than four thousand dollars, as fifth class, and pay fifty dollars; when more than one and less than two thousand dollars, as sixth class, and pay thirty dollars; when more than five hundred dollars, and less than one thousand dollars, as seventh class, and pay twenty-five dollars; when less than five hundred dollars, as eighth class, and pay fifteen dollars. Provided, That in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh no such license shall be granted for a less sum than fifty dollars a year; nor in any other city or incorporated borough for a less sum than twenty-five dollars a year; and the estimated yearly sales of all applicants for such license, shall be assessed, as provided in the fifteenth section of an act to regulate the sale of intoxicating liquors, approved March thirty-first, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six.

SEC. 4. That license shall be granted for the keeping of eating houses, which shall authorize the sale of no intoxicating liquors, except domestic wines and malt and brewed liquors, and persons so licensed shall be classified and rated according to the provisions of the twenty-second and twenty-third sections of the act to create a sinking fund and to provide for the gradual and certain extinguishment of the debt of the Commonwealth, approved April tenth, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and forty-nine.

SEC. 6. That licenses to vend the liquors aforesaid, or any of them, shall be granted to citizens of the United States, of temperate habits and good moral character, whenever the requirements of the laws on the subject are complied with by any such applicant, and shall authorize the applicant to sell the liquors aforesaid for one entire year from the date of his license: Provided, That nothing herein contained shall prohibit the court, board of licensers or commissioners, from hearing other evidence than that presented by the applicant for license: Provided further, That after hearing evidence as aforesaid, the court, board of licensers or Commissioners, shall grant or refuse a license to such applicant in accordance with the evidence: And provided further, That if any person or persons shall neglect or refuse to lift his, her or their license within fifteen days after the same has been granted, such neglect or refusal shall be deemed a forfeiture of said license, and such person or persons selling vinous, spirituous or malt liquors after the expiration of the fifteen days, as aforesaid, shall be liable to prosecution and conviction in the proper court, as fully and effectually as if no license had been granted to such person or persons.

SEC. 7. That no license to vend the liquors aforesaid, granted under this or any other law of this Commonwealth, shall be transferable, or confer any right to sell the same in any other house than is mentioned therein, nor shall any bar or piece where such liquor is sold by less measures than one quart, be underlet by the person licensed to sell thereat; but if the party licensed shall die, remove or cease to keep such house, his, her, or their license may be transferred by the authority granting the same, or a license be granted the successor of such party for the remainder of the year, by the proper authority, on compliance with the requisitions of the laws in all respects except publication, which shall not in such case be required: Provided, That where any license is transferred as aforesaid, no payment, other than fees, shall be required; and where a license is granted under this section, for a portion of a year, the party licensed shall pay pro rata a sum proportionate to the unexpired term for which the same is granted.

SEC. 11 makes the sale of adulterated liquors a misdemeanor. SEC. 12 deprives an informer in a prosecution for violation of license of any portion of the fine. SEC. 13 forbids the vending of intoxicating drinks in less measure than a quart by any person who keeps in his store or warehouse any hogheads, stand-casks or liquor pipes, or who keeps a grocery store. The following are provisions relating specially to Philadelphia:—

SEC. 14. That, in Philadelphia, all applicants for license to sell intoxicating liquors by any measure less than one quart, shall appear before the commissioners of said city, between the first day of May and the first day of June in this year, and during the month of March in each subsequent year, and make and sign an oath or affirmation of the amount of their respective sales of liquors and refreshments at their respective bars, to the best of their knowledge and belief; and said commissioners are hereby authorized to administer such oaths or affirmations, and required to file the same in their office, and rate and classify each applicant in accordance therewith: Provided, That any applicant for a license for a place not previously licensed, shall be rated and classified by them for the first year as they may deem just, after considering the locality of the premises for which license is asked, and they shall make out a correct list of all such applicants, with their names, place of business and the class in which they are respectively placed, and furnish the same to the City Treasurer, who shall advertise the same once a week for three weeks in two daily papers, for which the sum of twenty-five cents, and the expense of advertising the same, provided it does not exceed twenty-five cents, in each case to be paid by the applicant.

SEC. 15. That every applicant for license to vend intoxicating liquors in the city of Philadelphia, shall file a bond with a clerk of the Court of Quarter Sessions of said city, in accordance with the tenth section of an act to regulate the sale of intoxicating liquors, approved March

thirty-first, Anno Domini one thousand eight hundred and fifty-six, which shall be approved by the Recorder of said city after justification of the bail before him before license can in any case be granted: And provided further, That each applicant, on his bond being so approved and filed, shall receive from the clerk of Quarter Sessions a certificate of the fact, which certificate he shall produce to the City Treasurer; and on the production of the same the City Treasurer shall collect the amount of the tax for which he has been assessed by the City Commissioners, under the provisions of this act and give the applicant his receipt for the same; and on the production of said receipt the Clerk of the Court of Quarter Sessions is hereby authorized to issue to such applicant a license; and no license shall issue unless these provisions be complied with.

SEC. 16. That keepers of drinking saloons shall be licensed in the city of Philadelphia, to sell such liquors on the premises described in their license, as licensed keepers of hotels may lawfully sell; and all keepers of licensed eating houses, in said city, shall have the same privilege as to their sales, and all keepers of eating houses and drinking saloons, in said city, shall pay for such license at the same rate paid by keepers of hotels and taverns, in said city, to be ascertained in the same manner.

SEC. 17. That applicants for license to sell intoxicating liquors, in the city of Philadelphia, shall not be required to file any certificate of citizens herebefore required, nor shall any publication of such applications be required.

SEC. 18. That the clerk of the Court of Quarter Sessions shall not charge or receive more than one dollar for any frame and glass he may furnish therewith, and these fees shall include all his compensation for furnishing, preparing and filling the bond required in any case.

SEC. 19. That the ninth, sixteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth, nineteenth, twentieth and twenty-first sections of an act to regulate the sale of intoxicating liquors, approved March 31, A. D., 1856, be, and the same are hereby repealed; so far as relates to the city of Philadelphia; and that the mode of assessment provided in the 3d section and the provisions of this act shall not apply to said city.

The Potter Journal.

COOPERSTOWN, N. Y., Thursday Morning, May 6, 1858.

T. S. CHASE, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

John Mitchell, in a late number of his Southern paper, says: "I am a moderate man, and confine my views for the present to a Dissolution of the Union—Revival of the African slave Trade—Americanization of Cuba, Central America, Mexico and the West India Islands—and establishment of a potent Southern Confederation, based on Slavery, that's all. As for the conquest of the Northern States, I would defer that."

That venerable champion of Freedom in Congress, Hon. Joshua R. Giddings, of Ohio, had his third attack of disease of the heart on the 29th inst., while making a few forcible remarks in vindication of his vote for the Crittenden amendment. The attack, which was not so severe as the previous ones, soon passed off, and it will be seen by reference to our Congressional news that he was at his post voting on the Kansas question the next day. We hope he may live to behold the final triumph of the great principles of which he has been so long a faithful and unflinching advocate, as well as many of the fruits of that success.

MODERN DEMOCRACY.—Senator Hammond, of South Carolina, in the recent debate in the Senate of the United States, tells us that all laboring men are "slaves." This is one of the "points" of modern democracy, practically upheld at Tammany Hall, and vindicated by some of her Representatives. Here is another "point," which has been put forth by Senator Clay, of Alabama, in his recent speech: "Establish, as a principle, that to give sanction to law it must be approved by the majority at the ballot-box, and you take away this security and surrender those rights to the most capricious, rapacious and cruel tyrants. I regret to see the growing spirit in Congress, and throughout the country, to concede away from home until he is able to take a second paper. His first paper will be his home sheet, and he will so identify his own interests with that of his country paper as to consider his subscription as much a matter of yearly duty as a payment of his taxes."

SUPPORT YOUR HOME PAPER.—An exchange talks thus gently upon the duty of supporting home papers. We commend this "talk" to the five or six hundred Republicans in this county who do not take the *Journal*, as also to the three or four named but give it the equitance of their names who withhold the warm rays of their purses: "Recollect if a home weekly is to be supported, home influence must do it. Every dollar sent to eastern papers is at the expense of the local papers. A county acquires prominence through its paper more than in any other way, and to every one who has county interest at stake, his home paper is a necessity. Never will such a man take a paper printed away from home until he is able to take a second paper. His first paper will be his home sheet, and he will so identify his own interests with that of his county paper as to consider his subscription as much a matter of yearly duty as a payment of his taxes."

In a letter dated Washington City, April 16th, Joshua R. Giddings says: "It is due to my junior associates to say, there is less intoxication and less appearance of vice among the members of the present, than of any Congress with

whom I have associated. It is now the fifth month of the Session, and I have neither seen nor heard of intoxicating liquors being brought to the Capitol or kept there; nor, with two exceptions, have I seen any member on the Republican side of the Hall give evidence of intoxication. It is true, however, that men of observation with whom I have conversed, uniformly attribute this improvement, in a great degree, to the fact almost every member is attended by some portion of his family; and that man has lived to little purpose who, at the age of forty, fails to notice the salutary and sanctifying influence of the domestic circle. That member of Congress must be depraved indeed, who can be seduced from the path of rectitude while surrounded by the holy influences of the family circle. Northern society is already exerting its moral power upon Washington City, and upon the councils of the nation."

The Effect of the Debates on Leecompton.

Perhaps no subject which has been presented to the consideration of Congress in the last thirty years, has been so thoroughly and efficiently debated, as that involving the political rights of Kansas—indeed, there is scarcely a new view of it left to the ingenuity of members of either branch of our national legislature. This fact is not surprising to any contemplative mind, because such a mind will at once see that it is the pivot on which is balanced the future character of our government—whether laws shall be made by and for the people, or, by or for the people—whether sovereignty is the right of the people, or of their delegated servants.

The effect of these debates has been to awaken the masses from the stupor with which a long misplaced confidence in the integrity of their representative nationality has imbued them. It is convincing proof to them that their rights are never secure in the hands of their representatives, unless jealously watched by themselves; that individuality, as a general, disrespects nationality under any circumstances that involve the distinctive interests of the two; that corruption and bribery are fast becoming characteristics of legislative practices, and that there is an unmistakable tendency in certain quarters to overthrow entirely the sovereignty of the people.

One other happy effect of these debates will be to interest the masses in the politics of the country, induce them to pay more attention to the tendency and bearing of the national as well as the special legislation of Congress, and result in a more general diffusion of healthy principles than now exists. Just so far as the people inform themselves upon politics, just so far do they place their rights beyond the control of selfish designers. All monarchical governments are unsubstantial when a majority of their subjects become enlightened—absolute monarchies being founded on the ignorance of these governed; and to the same general cause may be assigned all the failures which have hitherto resulted to attempts to establish republican institutions in the Old World. Wherever constitutional monarchies exist, the masses will always be at variance with the governing power—as, for instance, in England. This is natural, inasmuch as the people are well enough informed to appreciate the right and detect the wrong.

But we did not set down to write a dissertation on governments, though our caption presents ample scope for a long article on political comparisons. We, for one, are glad that this issue has been made now, whatever may be the result of the trial of party strength in Congress. We believe it will result greatly and gratefully to the good of the people; and, while it has warned them of the danger their rights are in because of their own indifference, it will also warn politicians of the danger of trifling with popular rights. It will also make each voter a sentinel on the battlements of his own sovereignty—a watchful guardian of his own rights in the future. It will also result in the glorious triumph of principle over party, and of freedom over slavery—and establish the triumph of the principles of the Republican party throughout the nation: God grant it may.

An Army of Spies.

In addition to "the king's friends," there is at this time an army of spies, called into service by James Buchanan, with a view to aid in the work of forcing Leecompton through Congress. We commend the following description of this army and its dirty service to those who still think James Buchanan is a fit man for President. It is from the pen of John W. Forney, late democratic nominee for Senator from Pennsylvania: AN ARMY OF SPIES.

I can hardly believe my senses, that this is the city of Washington, and that James Buchanan is President. What is the aspect? One wide reign of terror,

A test is erected here, like some horrid instrument of torture, upon which demagogues are tried and executed for their opinions. The work of decapitation has ceased against life-time foes, and is now waged against old and cherished friends. Men are removed and calumniated not for being opposed to democratic principles, but for being too much in favor of them. The humblest clerk, with his little family, who struggles along on his thousand dollars a year, must hide his sentiments or leave his place. For the bold and upright democrat, who dares to think aloud, there is short shrift. If he has an office, he must be ready for the ominous *carrot* of dismissal on the instant. If he is an independent citizen, he is excluded from the departments and from the white house like a common leper. An army of spies are on the alert, hunting for victims. We to the unguarded gentleman who, in the presence of one of these eager cases-droppers, may let fall a free opinion! It is at once caught up and carried, with no lack of exaggeration, to the ear of power.

THE RACE OF INFORMERS.

If there is on this round globe a race more despised in civilized society than any other, it is the race of informers.—The noblest invective of the noblest of Irish orators has made them immortally infamous. These mercenaries now hold high service in Washington. I could name several of them from our own state, but I forbear for the honor of Pennsylvania. They glory in their shameless trade. Broken in fortune, reckless of their own fame, laughing at conscience in others and rejecting it for themselves, they swarm here anxious to earn their guilty wages. The most of these creatures, perversely, are the men who have pursued and persecuted the President with the same venom which they now display towards those who differ from his Kansas policy.

It is their vocation to make public opinion here against the intrepid sentiment of the people; to bully in the hotels, to infest the rooms of members, to "pump" the new arrivals, to coax the doubtful, to intimidate the weak, to supply false motives for honest differences, to fill the town with rumors of defection among the friends of the right, to flatter power, and to applaud to the echo everything that falls from the lips of greatness.

REMOVALS FROM OFFICE.

Let me give you the last instance of the way things are done here. One of the best men ever sent from Western Pennsylvania to our state legislature was Maxwell M'Caslin. His very name is a household word in Washington, Fayette and Greene. Everybody liked him during his long residence in the latter county. Honest, faithful, intelligent and brave, he is a fine specimen of that Scotch-Irish element which has infused so many sterling traits into our Pennsylvania character. Well, Maxwell is not over-rich; and so, after having served his constituents with honor, for many years, he asked for and obtained an Indian agency in Kansas, about two years ago, from President Pierce. He had been a Buchanan standard-bearer in Greene county; for, I think, some fifteen years. M'Caslin saw the wicked and merciless tyranny in Kansas. His honest nature revolted at it. He saw the man he had labored for about to be damaged by the authors of this bold villainy. What did he do? Did he wait to think of himself? No! Like the man who sees his brother in peril—for Maxwell M'Caslin is about Mr. Buchanan's age—he rushed in to save him. He wrote imploring letters from the territory, telling the powers here that they were deceived. He begged them to halt in their career. He told them that the people of Kansas never would submit to Leecompton, and that it was cruelly to ask them to submit to it. He appealed to the friends of the President to drive off the venom from that territory, who were here besieging power, and deluding and deceiving the executive. These letters, written in all the ardor of old friendship, and in the credulous belief that no one would question their sincerity—alas! vain hope—cost him his head. One of them got into the Press through Mr. Kincaid, of Greene, now a member of our legislature. It doomed the writer. On Tuesday last he was removed from his little place, and his successor appointed.

SILENCE A CRIME.

You will see that I am committing a great imprudence by writing so plainly. I certainly do so with no personal purpose. My frankness may disturb some sensibilities—and may give some greedy and aspiring gentlemen a good chance to help themselves by abuse of me; and if so, I shall not be sorry. But I claim the right to speak out on this grave subject. I do it more in sorrow than in anger. I feel that we are on the verge of a frightful abyss; and in my vocation as an independent journalist, and as one who would to-morrow serve James Buchanan if I felt he was right, with all the ardor of the olden time, silence would be a crime. But there is a cheerful side to the picture. Yesterday was a bright day for the people. There was a gorgeous sunshine in the sky and on the earth; and spring seemed to be breaking from the clouds of winter. There was also a glorious gleam of hope in the House.—The great principle of the will of the majority asserted its majesty, and seemed to be strong enough to wrestle with the gigantic influences that have fretted it so long.

The editor of the *New York Herald* advises: Blessed are they who do not advertise, for they will rarely be troubled with customers.