

Miscellany.

From the N. Y. Independent. A Brilliant Success. BY HARRIET B. STOWE.

Slavery may be said, by the progress of public opinion in our age, to have been put on trial, if not for life, at least for reputation.

Time was when to hold one's fellow beings in bondage was tolerated by the world as a thing indefensible on moral grounds, into which men were entrained by various lower powerful motives, whose force the lax morality of the world admitted as a sufficient justification.

But in our day the spirit of Christianity, urged on by the kindling breath of an Ouse, that ever living Power, is constantly forcing the reluctant masses of society to the logical results of its precepts and principles. So the Richmond Enquirer says. This subject of slavery must come at last to the great test question, "Is it right or is it wrong?"

The great argument on which they rely is that the African race are naturally inferior, incapable of the education and progress of the white races, and only capable of subsisting in a servile and dependent position.

Hence it is that every colored person who achieves anything noticeable in the intellectual world, by that very deed assaults the main fort which defends the castle of slavery.

A colored artist like Ira Aldridge, whose acting has become famous in all the courts of Europe—a colored orator like Frederick Douglass—nay, every gentlemanly, well-educated colored man, in his sphere, is an argument in the face of proslavery politicians and religionists greater than any or all Abolitionists unsupported by this age able to produce.

No race so abused, maltreated and enslaved, could have developed faster than the African during the last fifty years. Although the world has been in arms against them, and all that they have undertaken or achieved has been under crushing odds, yet there is now no manner of doubt that the race is rising, and destined to be a living power and have a living history yet in the world.

Recent papers bring us intelligence of a most signal triumph which has been achieved in this regard, on the most conspicuous theatre of modern Europe.

Three young Haytiens have just carried off the three first prizes in Greek, Latin and Rhetoric, in the old university of the Sorbonne in Paris. We have before us the congratulatory address of M. Audry (himself a Haytian) delivered in a banquet held in honor of his compatriots, and bearing the motto, "Marche à mon pays!" and we assure well, not only from the event itself, but from the serious and manly tone in which it has been recognized. Far from fulsome adulations and so hominical felicitations, we find the grave and earnest tone of men determined on the highest things.

Addressing the victors, he says: "One of you, Faubert, has held honorable rank in this great competition in Paris, and has come out of the field the first among all—the first—mark that—the first in Paris, where intelligence is no rare thing, and where intense study is not, as I understand, considered a marvel. Delva has borne away the first prize in Greek composition; and Dupuy, your youngest comrade, has gained the highest honor in the Latin."

"Such a result is brilliant, my friends, and each of you has a right to rejoice in it, and even to be proud of it; for in having to strive with so many capable and determined rivals, you could have borne away the palm only by the force and perseverance of your application. Note well, I beg of you, I have not said by your talent. I prize highly native intelligence—that precious gift; I appreciate the just happiness of those who enjoy it. But I cannot and would not accord praise to a man simply on the ground of natural talent, because it is a gift which we bring with us into the world—an advantage belonging to our nature independent of any effort of our own, and of which consequently we cannot pride ourselves. But application—labor!—ah, let us pride ourselves more on labor! There only is true merit, for there alone does the man reap himself acting, become a living force, and make felt the power of his will—the will in which is found the true title of manhood."

"Work on then, my young countrymen—work, without trusting to your natural genius—without stopping to consider the measure of your abilities—be very sure that ardent and well-directed labor can never cease to be fruitful, and will always end in triumph. Go on, therefore, without cessation, without discouragement, toward progress—cease not to feed your soul—the absence of which kills the brain, makes it die of inanition. Dig away with fervor, for a certain fire and ardor is necessary in literary toil—application without warmth may enlighten, but heat is as necessary to mature the harvests of the soul as those of nature. Be careful that your present success prove not a sterile one. You have taken one good step, it is true, but what a way yet remains to be travelled, if you would deserve well of mankind and of your country. You have done no

great things as yet—pardon a friendly frankness, you have done as yet very little, you know in truth as yet very little. Man has so much to learn, and you, my friends, are only at the beginning. Selfishness will not be carried away by a too natural self-congratulation—sleep not on this bed of laurels—these crowns which have encircled your sable foreheads will soon be faded if you take not the precaution to renew them."

With such noble and hearty determination, and such examples, we may hope for much in the future of Hayti.

When shall prizes of honor be awarded in our colleges to colored Americans?

Is there not something in the fraternal spirit of France, its absolute and philosophic superiority to the prejudice of races, which may account for this result in Paris? The Africans, as a race, are extremely appreciative. They are sensitive to kindness or unkindness. They need a warm, kindly atmosphere to grow in, as much as tropical plants. The pitiless frosts and pelting storms of scorn, ridicule, contempt and obloquy which have fallen upon them could not have found a race more sensitive, more easily beaten back and withered. But as Christianity, as a public sentiment, as the light reflected from all other civilized nations, helps us to correct this peculiar and local prejudice, we shall see more and more development of talent in this race. The day will, we trust, come when it will be no longer recorded as a prodigy that an African has excelled in anything.

One thing more. It is too often thoughtlessly conceded, because of the great superiority of the African race in our country to their barbarous ancestors in Africa, that the credit is due to the Southern States of having at least civilized and Christianized a race.

It is far safer to say that the natural aptitude of the race for civilization and improvement has been such that they have developed in spite of every effort on the part of their masters to prevent it.

Forbidden all learning—the very initial steps to the temple of knowledge guarded from them by pains and penalties—the family state studiously corrupted and defiled, by the refusal of permanent and legal marriages—all rights of restraint or education taken from parents—in short a systematic warfare directed against every element of manly progress which God has placed in the soul—they yet have risen, as the Hebrews multiplied in spite of the cruel persecutions of the Egyptians. The slave-owners have educated and civilized them just as the Egyptians increased the population of the Hebrews, and not otherwise. Other races so treated have been broken down and disappeared. Witness the native tribes of America. But this African race, with its grand, warm, tropical vivacity, with its noble breadth of physical vigor and enjoyment, is destined, evidently, to a future. This gigantic race, which has stood silent and neglected in the world's garden will yet come to flower and put new vigor into the world's life and history. The young communities of Hayti and Liberia will go on, and from Canada and from the Southern States will rise men to feel an electric thrill of pride and sympathy—and in that day let oppressors tremble. They may have proofs of the capacity of the race far other than they desire.

ANDOVER, Sept. 27.

Great Concern!!! From the Northern Independent.

It is with a great degree of pleasure that we clip the following from the Christian Advocate and Journal of the 9th inst.:

THE SLAVES OF THE ECHO.

"One of those monstrosities of American opinion which disgrace us as a nation is now showing itself in the South. The slaver Echo has been brought into Charleston by our naval officers laden with wretched Africans. No sooner does she arrive than Carolina and Virginia papers propose to have the rescued victims sold into American slavery, instead of being sent back to their country according to the usage of the powers engaged with us in the suppression of the maritime slave trade. It does seem that ultra politicians in the South are demoted on this question of slavery. Perhaps, however, this judicial blindness and infatuation is God's retributive means for the overthrow of themselves and their policy. It seems impossible that the reflecting and especially the professed Christian people of the South can see with indifference this demoralization of public opinion and disgrace of their country before the whole world. This infamous proposition is now to go to Europe, to be spread against us in all its newspapers in connection with the mobocratic affair at Quarantine. We shall soon be a stench in the nostrils of the world, if the laws and public opinion are not speedily brought to bear against such infamies. We are happy to notice that, by order of the government, the slaves in question are to be returned to Africa, and that the noble Niagara is to convey them."

Now while we thank the Dr. for so much anti-slavery as is contained in the above, we wish to ask him a civil question or two.

1. What better are these poor men and women who were taken on board of the "Echo," than thousands who are in precisely the same relations, and held by the same force, within the bounds of the Baltimore and Philadelphia Conferences, many by our own church-members, and why is one class deserving of more sympathy than the other? Does slavery grow better and more tolerable by age

is it worse on the high seas than it is in Baltimore or Maryland?

2. My dear friend and doctor, which should concern us most, our reputation, which in this respect can hardly be made worse, with the *clear* people of Europe, the "demoralization of public opinion," this "disgrace of their" (our) "country before the whole world," or "to do justice and love mercy," and fear God and obey him by "undoing the heavy burdens, and allowing the oppressed to go free," whether upon the ocean or on the land, whether held by pirates on the sea or on the plantations of Virginia or Maryland?

3. If slavery awake our concern and indignation in one place, should it not in the other? Come, my brother, let us be consistent and talk of slavery everywhere and at all times, until the ears of the guilty shall "tingle."

New York Crystal Palace Destroyed by Fire.

NEW YORK, Oct. 5.—The Crystal Palace was entirely destroyed by fire, with all its contents, this afternoon. The fire broke out in the lumber room, which was filled with empty boxes and a large quantity of old lumber. It is believed the fire was the work of an incendiary.

When the flames were first discovered, the Palace engine was brought out, but the hose was so full of holes that it was rendered useless.

It is estimated that upwards of 2000 visitors were present, and it is feared that many were killed. One dead body has been taken out.

The whole building is in ruins—but a small portion of the contents were saved—two only of the many fire engines on exhibition were got out uninjured. The building is estimated to have been worth \$250,000, and the contents must have been worth double that amount.

A CAT RACE.—According to the *Meuse*, of Liege, (to be pronounced *Meuse* on this occasion,) a match of this nature took place three nights ago in that town. Eighteen cats, belonging to different persons in the quarter of the city called the Outre-Meuse, were taken a distance of a league, and let loose at midnight. In exactly half an hour one of the cats reached home, and carried away the prize; and all the others arrived in rapid succession. Three toms, whose roving disposition triumphed over every sporting sentiment, did not, however, make their appearance until after sunrise. Their names have, consequently, been scratched out of all other subsequent racing engagements.—*Galignani*.

ONTONAGON.—The citizens of Ontonagon held a Convention on the 25th of August to adopt measures looking to the proposed formation of a new Territory out of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and the Northern Counties of Minnesota and Wisconsin. Resolutions were adopted and a Committee appointed to prepare an address to the Legislatures of Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota, urging their co-operation.

The following advertisement appears in the *St. Louis Republican*:

"ENGAGED.—Miss Anna Gould to John Candall, City Marshal, both of Leavenworth, K. T. "From this time henceforth and forever—until Miss Anna Gould becomes a widow—all young gentlemen are requested to withdraw their particular attentions."

It would seem that the citizens of Milwaukee are the most law abiding people in the world. One of them being asked why so many people were drowned in their river, replied that it was on account of an ordinance of the city which forbids swimming in the city limits. When one of them slipped in he recalled the ordinance at once, and rather than violate it went cheerfully to the bottom without a struggle.

The Potter Journal. COUDERSPORT, PA. Thursday Morning, Oct. 14, 1858. T. S. CHASE, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER.

The publication of our paper is unavoidably delayed two days this week.

The quadrangular political fight in New York is only second in interest to the triangular fight in Illinois. No one can even give a guess at the probable result, further than that one of the four candidates will be elected. The chances are as good for Mr. Morgan, the Republican candidate, as they are for any of the others. We have much faith in his election without any other ground for our faith than the integrity of his cause.

We would call the attention of our readers to an article entitled, "A Brilliant Success," by Mrs. Stowe. Few women think and write with so much vigor and happy influence as she does, no doubt owing to her enthusiastic devotion to the cause she advocates. Few of our statesmen have studied the question of Slavery more than she has, and fewer of them are better able to wield arguments in behalf of Freedom. She seems to be thoroughly acquainted with the subject in all its bearings—being a good judge of human nature by external developments. She encounters no difficulty in correctly applying the natural laws of humanity to governmental theory and practice.

Election Returns. The following majorities are reported up to time of going to press Thursday noon:

Table with columns: Congress, Assamly, Texas, and various names like Condorsport, Eulalia, Helron, Summit, Sjyeden, Allegany, Genesee, Pleas. Valley, Sharon, Ulysses, Hamer, Bonalt, Wharton, Keating, Oswayo, Portage, Bingham, West Branch, Pike, Abbott, Sylvania.

As indicated by the above returns, Mr. Rees is elected Treasurer by a small majority.

The Postmaster General has ordered that "supplements" or "extras" folded within the regular issues of daily or weekly journals—not actual and bona fide editions of such publications, conveying intelligence of passing events and general intelligence—subject the whole package to letter postage.

This is a decision of much importance to publishers as well as advertisers and subscribers. The question arises: "In the event of a detection of a violation of this order, will the payment of this postage devolve upon the publisher or the recipient of the newspaper?" Common sense would indicate at once that inasmuch as the subscriber is not cognizant of the crime until it is committed, he should not be subjected to the punishment attending it; but the general policy of the present Administration is so very queer, that we would not be surprised if Mr. Postmaster-General Brown would decide to make subscribers pay the penalty. Why should they not be equally as responsible for the misdeeds of publishers as were the free-state voters of Kansas for the election frauds of the Missourians? The principle is the same; and need we be surprised at its application by the same power?

We are confident our readers will feel obliged to us for calling their particular attention to the Agricultural Address of Ralph Waldo Emerson, printed on our first page. The American philosopher handles the subject of Agriculture with an ability a practical application to which few theorists attain. He thinks vividly and applies without fault—he talks with the freedom of an adept, and the eloquence of one truly interested in his theme. He views Agriculture as we do—from below; not as an inferior occupation, but as the basis of all legitimate industrial pursuits, and yet in a great measure dependent upon them for its independence. Society may be compared—(and we crave pardon for the seeming irreverence)—to a universal legislature, with an omnipotent Unity for its "Committee of Ways and Means" and the Farmer as the steward of the Committee—Science and Art being subcontractors to the steward. It also bears a strong similitude to an arch, the Farmer being the key-stone, and all other professions and occupations bearing upon that and giving strength and durability to the arch—none could be removed without materially injuring the entire structure. Society like the world is atomic—made up of men of large and small calibre, professions of great and little concern—and among all the atoms the Farmer and Farming show the largest surface for utility. Read Emerson's address.

THE ELECTION. We will not attempt to give many returns in this issue of our paper, except those in our immediate neighborhood. These we give in another place. Our present object is to present some facts which have made themselves apparent in the result in the Borough, by which it will be seen that Mr. Rees has fallen a little behind other candidates on our ticket. We propose to state the reason for this, as the same cause will no doubt affect his vote in some other districts.

It will be remembered that a few weeks ago a circus visited our place, and that the Burgess organized a special police to guard the property and peace of our citizens during the night of its presence. Mr. Rees was one of the five or ten persons constituting that Committee of Vigilance. It will be remembered, also, that Mr. Rees and a couple of other policemen broke up one or two gambling parties; and carried one person to jail who was in the company but was perhaps innocent of active participation. The place had long been suspected as being a resort for such

purposes, and the moral character of our village as well as the laws of our commonwealth demanded that such practices, if they really existed, should be stopped. The opportunity was an excellent one to investigate in the name of the law, inasmuch as the funds of the Borough were to pay men to protect the moral and pecuniary welfare of its citizens; and no man in the county, perhaps, has suffered more, indirectly, from the effects of gambling than Mr. Rees. He naturally enough availed himself of the opportunity to do his fellow-citizens and himself a simple act of justice. He done so, fully aware that he would perhaps diminish his majority, but he informs us, with the determination that the issue must eventually be made, and now was the time. The issue was made, and the result shown in the figures of Tuesday. No effort—no amount of whiskey and other Loosfool Abolition persuasions—was spared to lessen his vote in the Borough—and it fell below the lowest Republican majority just 6 votes!—vastly better than he or his most sanguine friends had any reason to expect. The Republicans of Condorsport are certainly entitled to great praise for thus manfully sustaining morality and political integrity at one and the same time.

A day or two after our paper was issued last week, we had a conversation with Mr. Rees on this subject, (being the first since the occurrence,) and he authorized us to say that in future he would spare no effort of his to expose and punish the pernicious practice of gambling—believing and knowing, as he does, that the morals of the community, and the welfare of his family alike demand such an effort on his part and on the part of every moral citizen. He believes that the laws of Pennsylvania, if enforced, are sufficient protection against such vices, and that it is his solemn duty, as it is of every good citizen, to see that they are enforced. We regret, on our part, to have seen men of influence and high business position, making such strenuous efforts as they did last Tuesday to uphold Vice, by endeavoring to create votes against Mr. Rees upon the issue above stated. The vice of Intemperance is bad enough inflicted upon our citizens without its contemporary vice of gambling.

We are also informed that Mr. Clark makes use of both of the above issues to effect votes for himself. His Democratic friends even went so far as to promise that in the event of his election he would grant licences under the new liquor law!—when every man of common sense in the county ought to know that the Treasurer can only grant eating-house licences. Whether the promise was made by his authority or not, we cannot say. We intend to show up some of his campaign doings soon, which ought to make the crimson of shame mantle the cheeks of men of much less political integrity than he claims.

Parity of Language. There is, perhaps, no language, aside from the German, so susceptible of adulteration as the English; none, perhaps, is so innoxious for its impurities. Yet, the English language presents a large disc upon which to collect the floating provincialism of which its wide-spread use renders it so susceptible. Even a difference of opinion among its greatest philologists as to pronunciation and orthography, are calculated and do unmistakably tend to disturb its parity and weaken its durability. "Coinage" is another "sapper" at the foundation of our language, and one not easily removed, either by philology or denunciation. Indeed the great wonder with us is that it is so pure, or rather so well preserved, in its popular use. We can only account for this upon the hypothesis of its philological simplicity as the result of the careful pruning and fostering of NOAH WEBSTER. Every age—we might say, every generation—has its standard philologist, among many candidates for the honored trust; but several past, the present, and many to come, have, and will recognize Noah Webster as the standard philologist of the English language—the Columbus who discovered and developed its pristine and progressive excellences, and the great preserver of its primitive purity. No lexicographer perhaps, in any language, has attained to so universal an adoption for reference as he has, and certainly no English lexicon has ever reached so large a use as the various editions of the Webster dictionary. It is from these various editions of the great American work that we now desire to aid our readers to select for use, with special reference to utility and pecuniary cost.

There are but three of the editions commended at all for general reference—the Quarto, (unabridged), the Crown and the large Octavo. Of these, the last named is the cheapest pecuniarily, the first cheapest actually and ultimately. Of the oth-

er edition named we have nothing to say, as it is a new one, and we have never seen it. The reasons why we deem the Quarto Unabridged the cheapest actually are many, but we have room for a couple only at present. First: that edition embraces every legitimate word in the language, its derivation, pronunciation and definition, with quotations from the authors cited as its authorities for the use of words—making it like a dictionary of words and valuable quotations. Our second reason is, that there is a difference of only two dollars in the price of the two editions, while there is a difference of treble the price of both in the utility of them. Every board of School Directors should place a copy of it in each school under their supervision by special contribution of the parents—thus giving each the opportunity to do his children a great benefit at a small cost.

In concluding this article, we would direct your attention to the advertisement in another column, and the following from the *N. Y. Observer*, whose editors are among the most finished scholars in our language:

"Webster is our working Dictionary; always at hand, and in constant use, and invaluable as an aid to understand and impart ideas of the words of our mother tongue. We could better spare all the others than this. The edition which is above all other editions, as the Dictionary itself excels others, is the unabridged quarto, the only one which contains all the merits of the work, and the one which we recommend."

UNITED STATES COURT.—The September term of the United States District Court at Williamsport commenced yesterday morning Judge Irwin upon the bench. Several important cases were upon the trial list. The occasion, as usual, brought hither a number of distinguished gentlemen from different sections of the State, who have business in the Court.—Hon. James G. Campbell, United States Marshal, and R. Biddle Roberts, Esq., United States District Attorney, among the number.

The first case called was the United States vs. Henry Stetler, sr., and Henry Stetler, jr., charged with manufacturing bogus gold and silver coins. The jury returned a verdict guilty as to Henry Stetler, sr., and not guilty as to Henry Stetler jr. Sentence of Henry Stetler, sr. ten years imprisonment in the Western Penitentiary.

The next case was the United States vs. Thomas L. Anderson. Charged with mail robbery. Verdict guilty. Sentence two years imprisonment.

POSTSCRIPT

OFFICE OF POTTER JOURNAL, Friday, Morning, Oct. 15.

FIRE.—A fine barn and three boxes belonging to H. H. Dent, Esq., of this village, were burned at three o'clock this morning. Supposed to be the work of an incendiary. We are not informed of the probable amount of the loss—but it is pretty heavy—the horses being valuable.

A CARD.—Friends, neighbors, and through whose exertions some of my property was preserved from the torch of the incendiary, have my heartfelt thanks. Oct. 15, 1858. H. H. Dent.

THE PEOPLE TRIUMPH

We find the following election news in the Wednesday editions of the New York papers. We give them without comment. The following dispatch dated Philadelphia, Wednesday, 2: 30 A. M.

Fifteenth District.—Miffin County.—In Leiston the whole People's ticket is elected by a large majority, and Hale (Opp.) for Congress has 275 majority.

The following are in the Evening edition, same day:

XVTH DISTRICT.—(White's) Lycoming Co.—Williamsport, Oct. 12.—this District, Allison White (Dem.) has 228 and James T. Hale (Opp.) 482 votes.

PHILADELPHIA CITY.—The following are Opposition majorities in Philadelphia: Supreme Judge, 5,788; Canal Commissioner, 4,990; Sheriff, 5,273; Register of Wills, 5,300; Clerk of Orphans Court, 4,700.

The Republican State ticket is elected by a handsome majority. The figures of the following dispatch are, no doubt somewhat exaggerated, as all telegrams are; but we have no doubt of the election of Mr. Hale, by a large majority.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 13.—The Fifteenth District.—James T. Hale (Opp.) is elected by 2000 majority over Allison White (Dem.); present member.

Every Leocompton candidate for Congress, in this State, excepting Florence, defeated. The people HAVE A GREAT TRIUMPH IN PENNSYLVANIA!

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