

THE SIGNAL OF LIBERTY.

THE INVOLABILITY OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS IS THE ONLY SECURITY TO PUBLIC LIBERTY.

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THE SIGNAL OF LIBERTY

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POETRY.

HYMN OF THE CITY.

BY W. C. BRYANT.

Not in the solitude
Alone, may Man commune with heaven.
Only in savage wood
And sunny vale, the present Deity;
Or only hear his voice
Where the winds whisper and the waves rejoice.

Even here do I behold
Thy steps, Almighty—here amidst the crowds
Through the great city rolled,
With everlasting murmur, deep and loud—
Choking the ways that wind
'Mongst the proud piles, the work of human kind.

Thy golden sunshine comes
From the round heaven, and on their dwelling lies,
And lights their inner homes—
For them thou flit'st with air the unbounded skies,
And giv'st them stores
Of Ocean, and the harvest of its shores.

Thy spirit is around,
Quickening the reckless mass that sweeps along;
And the eternal sound—
Voices and footfalls of the numberless throng,
Like the resounding sea,
Or the rainy tempest, speaks of Thee.

And when the hour of rest
Comes, like a calm upon the mid-sea brine,
Hushing its billowy breast—
The quiet of that moment, too, is thine;
If breathes of him who keeps
The vast and helpless city while it sleeps.

MISCELLANY.

SWALLOWING OYSTERS ALIVE.

At a late hour, the other night, the door of an oyster house in our city was thrust open, and in stalked a hero from the Sucker State. He was quite six feet high, spare, somewhat stooped, with a hungry, anxious countenance, and his hands pushed clear down to the bottom of his breeches pockets. His outer covering was hard to define; but after surveying it minutely, we came to the conclusion that his suit had been made in his boyhood, of a dingy, yellow linsey-woolsey; and that, having sprouted up with astonishing rapidity, he had been forced to piece it with all colors, in order to keep pace with his body. In spite of his exertions, however, he had fallen in arrears about a foot of the necessary length, and consequently, stuck that far through his inexpressibles. His crop of hair was surmounted by the funniest little seal-skin cap imaginable. After taking a position, he indulged in a long stare at the man opening the *bivalves*, and slowly ejaculated—
"Istahs?"

"Yes, sir," responded the attentive operator; "and fine ones they are, too."
"Well, I've hearn 'tall of istahs afore," says he, "but this is the fust time I've seed 'em, and prehaps I'll know what thar made of afore I git out of town."

Having expressed this deperate intention, he cautiously approached a plate, and scrutinized the unopened shell-fish with a gravity and interest which would have done honor to the most illustrious searcher into the hidden mysteries of nature.—
At length he began to soliloquize on the difficulty of getting them out, and how queer they looked when out.

"I never seed any thing hold on so— 'akes an amazin' site of screwin', hoss, to get um out, and aint they slick and slipry when they does come? Smooth as an eel! I've a good mind to give that fellar lodgins, jest to realize the effects, as uncle Jess used to say about specklans."

"Well, sir, was the reply, 'down with the two bits, and you can have a dozen."

"Two bits!" exclaimed the Sucker, now come, that's stickin' it on rite strong, hoss, for istahs. A dozen on 'em ain nothin to a chicken, and there's no gittin' more'n a picayune a piece for them. I've only re-alized forty picayunes on my first ventur' to St. Louis. I'll tell you what I'll gin you two chickens for a dozen, if you'll conclude to deal."

A wag standing by and indulging in a dozen, winked to the attendant to *shell out*, and the offer was accepted.
"Now, mind," repeated the Sucker, all fair—two chickens for a dozen—you're witness, mister, turning at the same time to the wag; 'none of your tricks, for I've hearn tell you city fellars are mity slipry coons."

The bargain being fairly understood, our Sucker squared himself for the onset—deliberately put off his seal skin, tucked up his sleeves, and, fork in hand, awaited the appearance of No. 1. It came—
"I saw—and quickly it was bolted! A moment's dreadful pause ensued. The wag dropped his knife and fork with a look of mingled amazement and horror—something akin to Shakspear's Hamlet on seeing his daddy's ghost,—while he burst into the exclamation—
"Swallowed alive, as I'm a christian!"

Our Sucker hero had opened his mouth with pleasure a moment before, but now it stood open. Fear—a horrid dread of he didn't know what, a consciousness that all wasn't rite, and ignorance of the wrong—the uncertainty of that moment was terrible. Urged to desperation he faltered—
"What on airth's the row?"
"Did you swallow it alive?" enquired the wag.

"I swallowed it jest as he gin it to me!" shouted the Sucker.
"You're a dead man!" exclaimed his anxious friend; 'the creature is *alive* and will eat rite through you,' added he in a most hopeless tone.

"Get a pizen pump and pump it out!" screamed the Sucker, in a frenzy, his eyes fairly starting from their sockets. "Oh, gracious—what'll I do?" 'It's got hold of my innards already, and I am as dead as a chicken!—do somethin' for me, do—don't let the infernal sea-eat me afore your eyes."

"Why don't you put some of this on it?" inquired the wag, pointing to a bottle of strong pepper sauce.
The hint was enough; the Sucker, upon the instant seized the bottle, and desperately wrenching out the cork, swallowed half the contents at a draught.—
He fairly squealed from its effects, and gasped, blowed and twisted, as if it were coursing through him with electric effect, while at the same time his eyes ran a stream of tears. At length, becoming a little composed, his waggish adviser approached, almost bursting with suppressed laughter, and inquired,
"How are you now, old fellow? did you kill it?"

"Well, I did hoss; ugh-ugh-o-o-o my innards. If that istah critter's dying agones didn't stir a ruction in me equal to a small earthquake, than 'tain no use sayin' it; it squirmed like a serpent when that killing stuff touched it; but—and here, with a countenance made up of suppressed agony and present determination, he paused as if to give force to his words, and slowly and deliberately remarked—
"If you get two chickens from me for that live animal I'm d—d!" and seizing his seal skin, he vanished.

The shout of laughter, and the contortions of the company at this finale, would have made a spectator believe that they had all been *'swallowing oysters alive.'*

THE SHEEP STORY; OR, WILLIAM LADD AND HIS NEIGHBOR.

"I had," the Apostle of Peace used to say, in relating the anecdote, 'a fine field of grain, growing upon an out farm at some distance from the homestead. Whenever I rode by I saw my neighbor Pulcifer's sheep in the lot, destroying my hopes of a harvest. These sheep were of the gaunt, long-legged kind, active as sparrows; they could spring over the highest fence, and no partition wall could keep them out. I complained to neighbor Pulcifer about them, sent him frequent messages, but all without avail. Perhaps they would keep out for a day or two, but the legs of his sheep were long, and my grain more tempting than the adjoining pasture. I rode by again—the sheep were still there; I became angry, and told my men to set the dogs on them, and if that would not do, I would pay them if they would shoot the sheep."

"I rode away much agitated, for I was not so much a peace man then as I am now, and I felt literally full of fight. All at once a light flashed in upon me. I asked myself would it not be well for you to try in your own conduct the peace principle you are teaching to others? I thought it all over, and settled down in my mind as to the best course to be pursued.
"The next day I rode over to see neighbor Pulcifer. I found him chopping wood at his door. 'Good morning, neighbor.' He answered, 'Good morning.' I repeated. He gave a kind of grunt, without looking up. 'I came,

continued I, 'to see about the sheep.' At this, he threw down his axe, and exclaimed in an angry manner, 'Now aren't you a pretty neighbor, to tell your men to kill my sheep?—I heard of it—a rich man like you to shoot a poor man's sheep!'"

"I was wrong, neighbor," said I, but it won't do to let your sheep eat up all that grain; so I came over to say that I would take your sheep to my homestead pasture, and put them in with mine, and in the fall you may take them back, and if any one is missing, you may take your pick out of my whole flock."

"Pulcifer looked confounded—he did not know how to take me. At length he stammered out, 'Now Squire, are you in earnest?' 'Certainly I am,' I answered, 'it is better for me to feed your sheep in my pasture on grass than to feed them here on grain, and I see the fence can't keep them out.'"

"After a moment's silence—'The sheep shan't trouble you any more,' exclaimed Pulcifer. 'I will fetter them all. But I'll let you know that when any man talks of shooting, I can shoot too; and when they are kind and neighborly, I can be kind too.' The sheep never again trespassed on my lot. 'And my friends,' he would continue, addressing the audience, 'remember that when you talk of injuring your neighbors, they will talk of injuring you.—When nations threaten to fight, other nations will be ready too. Love will beget love; a wish to be at peace will keep you in peace. You can overcome evil with good. There is no other way.'"

Communications.

For the Signal of Liberty.

FEMALE BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION.

The Detroit Female Benevolent Association, held their third annual meeting on Friday evening, Jan. 17th, at 7 o'clock in the colored Methodist Church, pursuant to a public notice. The President having taken Chair, called the House to order, and the meeting was opened with singing and prayer, by Mrs. Hyrbred. Then proceeded to business; the object of the meeting was stated by the president, the constitution was read after which a hymn was sung to the occasion. The secretary then gave the full proceedings of the Society from Jan. 17th 1844, up to Jan. 17th, 1845. The relief committees reports was numerous of what they had given out for charitable objects. The Treasurer then made a report of what had been taken from the treasury during the past year which was eighty-one dollars fifty-three cents. Received in, seventy dollars three cents. Remaining, \$64.13. Goods on hand \$24.33 cts. The amount taken in from the first organization of the Society was two hundred and fifty dollars; the whole paid out one hundred and eighty-six dollars up to the present time.

The business then being through with, the president, Mrs. Hall, and the Treasures Mrs. Banks, addressed the society in a very appropriate manner, and also agreeable to a previous solicitation from the Society, Mr. J. M. Brown delivered an address. Several other gentlemen spoke for the encouragement of the society. A collection was taken up.
On motion it was Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the Signal of Liberty and the Mystery.

The meeting then adjourned with prayer, by the Rev. Mr. Hargrave.

MRS. LOUISA HALL, Pres.
SARAH B. TUCKER, Sec'y.

For the Signal of Liberty.

REVIVAL IN MILFORD.

Messrs. BECKLEY & FOSTER:
As most of your readers are alike interested in revivals and abolition, and rejoice to hear of the prosperity of Zion, I think it would be gratifying to the friends of religion to learn, that amidst all the darkness which surrounds the churches, and the deep sleep into which so many of their members have fallen, that Milford has been visited by a refreshing from the presence of the Lord. Although the work has not been as extensive at present as could be expected or desired, yet the series of meetings which have been held there, in which all denominations have shared, have resulted in great good to each church.—
The Baptists and Methodists have received quite a number into their churches. The Presbyterian and Congregational churches, which have long been hostile to each other's interest and greatly at variance with each other, have amicably settled their church and private difficulties, and these hostile churches are now harmoniously blended in one upon terms highly satisfactory to all parties. There will soon be an addition of young converts to their number.

Yours, &c.
O. PARKER.

Flint, Feb. 12, 1845.

For the Signal of Liberty.

THE SMARTY FUND.

Messrs. BECKLEY & FOSTER:
I have just this moment seen the letter of James Canning's Fuller, in the Emancipator, making the inquiry—'Are there three hundred Abolitionists in America, who will pledge themselves four dollars a year to sustain the wives and children of Wives, Walkers and Terry until the husbands and fathers once more shall unfettered breathe heaven's pure air.'—
I will be one of that number, and give my pledge for 4 others, and my name may be put upon the list of the friends of those outraged, insulted and robbed families, and whenever I learn that the three hundred are obtained, and the place where the money is to be divided, I will send twenty dollars. I think we ought to show the South that we have some benevolence as well as sympathy, and that it

they will enslave and imprison the husbands and fathers of the North, that until the tax amounts to more than twelve hundred dollars, we can maintain those crushed families by our free offerings, which their injustice has made paupers.

Your Brother in Christ,
O. PARKER.
Flint, Feb. 12, 1845.

For the Signal of Liberty.

SLAVERY AND THE CHURCH.

At a regular meeting of the first Congregational Church of Litchfield, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:
Whereas Slavery, as it exists and is tolerated in this our Christian land, we believe to be a moral evil and a great sin in the sight of God, and whereas, by the blessing of heaven we have Liberty, light, and knowledge with the golden rule in our hands which instructs us that 'whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do you even so to them;' and whereas slavery does violate this rule, therefore we feel it our duty, as the professed followers of the Lord Jesus Christ to publicly discountenance this sin.

Therefore, Resolved, That viewing Slavery to be a great sin in the sight of God, and a deep stain upon our christian land, we cannot invite to our pulpit, church fellowship or communion, any person who traffics in human blood, or who in any way, voluntarily countenances or sustains the institution of Slavery.

Also, at the same meeting, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted.
Whereas Intemperance is making inroads and ravages in communities, destroying the peace and happiness of families, and dooming to eternal death its victims, deserves a severe rebuke at our hands as the professed followers of the Lord Jesus Christ:
Therefore, Resolved, That we as a church will wholly abstain from all intoxicating drinks, and that we will use all laudable means to discountenance its use as a beverage. And further Resolved, That to be consistent in the cause of temperance, and that its principles may be fully carried out, we, as a church, will banish all alcoholic wines from our communion table.

Resolved, That the above preamble & resolutions be forwarded by the Clerk and published in the Signal of Liberty.

LEMUEL LONG,
Church Clerk.

J. J. BLISS, Pastor.
February 1, 1845.

SELECTIONS.

ROYAL EDICT.

The kingdom of South Carolina has published the following edict, passed at the session of the legislature of 1844. All the republics in this blessed Union had better look out.
An Act to provide for the punishment of persons disturbing the peace of this State, in relation to slaves and free persons of color.
1. Be it enacted, by the Senate and House of Representatives, now met and sitting in general assembly, and by the authority of the same, That any person or persons who shall on his, her or their own behalf, or under color, or in virtue of any commission or authority from any State or public authority of any State in this Union, or of any foreign power, come within the limits of this State for the purpose or with the intent to disturb, counteract, or hinder the operation of such laws and regulations as have been or shall be made by the public authorities of this State, in relation to slaves or free persons of color, such person or persons shall be deemed guilty of a high misdemeanor, and shall be committed for trial to the common jail of the district, by any one of the judges of the courts of law or equity, or the recorder of the city of Charleston, unless admitted to bail, by the said judge or recorder; and upon conviction thereof by any court of competent jurisdiction, shall be sentenced to banishment from the State, and to such fine and imprisonment as may be deemed fitting by the court which shall have tried such offence.

2. That any person within this State who shall at any time accept any commission or authority from any State or public authority of any State in this Union, or from any foreign power, in relation to slaves or free persons of color, and who shall commit any overt act with intent to disturb the peace or security of the State, or with intent to disturb, counteract, or hinder the operation of the laws or regulations of the public authorities of this State, made or to be made in relation to slaves or free persons of color, such persons shall be deemed guilty of a high misdemeanor, and upon due conviction thereof before any competent court, shall be sentenced to pay, for the first offence, a fine not exceeding one thousand dollars, and to be imprisoned not exceeding one year; and for the second offence, he shall be imprisoned for seven years, and pay a fine of not less than one thousand dollars, or be banished from the State as the court may see fit.

3. That the governor, for the time being, may require any person or persons who shall or may have come within the limits of this State, on his, her, or their own behalf, or un-

der color, or in virtue of any commission or authority from any State in this Union, or from any foreign power, having relation to the laws or regulations of this State on the subject of slaves or free persons of color, to depart from the limits of this State within forty-eight hours after such notice, and such person shall thereupon be bound to depart; and in case of his neglect or refusal so to depart, as aforesaid, the said person shall be deemed guilty of a high misdemeanor, and shall be committed by the same authority heretofore stated, for trial, to the common jail of the district, unless admitted to bail as heretofore stated; and upon due conviction before any court of competent jurisdiction, shall be sentenced to be banished from the State, and to such fine and imprisonment as the court shall think expedient.

4. That any person who shall be convicted a second or any subsequent time, under the provisions of the first or third section of this act, shall be imprisoned for a term not less than seven years, and shall pay a fine not less than one thousand dollars, and shall in addition thereto be banished from the State.

5. That it shall be the duty of the sheriff of the district to see that any sentence of banishment be duly executed, and that the offender be sent without the limits of the State; and in case any persons so banished shall return within the State, (unless by unavoidable accident,) the sheriff of the district where he may be found, shall hold him in close confinement under the original sentence, until such offender shall enter into recognizance before the clerk of the court, with sufficient sureties, to comply with the terms of the said sentence, and forever to remain without the limits of this State.

C. M. CLAY'S POSITION DEFINED.

The Frankfort Commonwealth contains the following, as the expose of position of Mr. C. M. Clay.
T. B. STEVENSON, Esq.

Sir:—I ask the Liberty to make through your columns a summary statement of my views upon the subject of slavery. By a portion of the people of this State I never expect to be fairly represented. To the great mass of the people, who have no interest in suppressing truth, I would appeal against the calumnies of unscrupulous partizans.

Slavery is a municipal institution. It exists by no other right and tenure than the Constitution of Kentucky.

I am opposed to depriving slaveholders of their slaves by any other than constitutional and legal means. Of course, then, I have no sympathy for those who would liberate the slaves of Kentucky in other ways. I have no connection with any man, or set of men, who would sanction or undertake the illegal liberation of slaves; and I feel bound, by my allegiance to the State of Kentucky, to resist (by force, if necessary) all such efforts.

Whilst I hold that the United States Constitution has no power to establish slavery in the District of Columbia, or in the Territories, or in any place of its exclusive supremacy; so I contend, that in the States, once admitted into the Union and thereby become sovereign and independent, Congress has no power or right to interfere with or touch slavery, without the legitimate consent of the States.

I believe that the addition of new Slave States, or slave territory, to this Union, is unconstitutional and impossible.

I am the avowed and uncompromising enemy of slavery and shall never cease to use all Constitutional, and honorable, and just means, to cause its extinction in Kentucky, and its reduction to its constitutional limits in the United States.

Born a Kentuckian and a Slaveholder, I have no prejudices nor enmities to gratify; but impelled by a sense of self-respect, love and justice, and the highest expediency, I shall ever maintain that Liberty is our only safety.

For the freedom of speech and of the press, I never shall cease to battle while life lasts. If there is any Kentuckian so base as to yield these Constitutional and glorious privileges, without which it is the veriest mockery to talk of being a free people, I envy him not: A slave to slaves, let him sicken in his infamy.

With such I hold no fellowship—from such I ask no quarter. All I ask is an open field and a fair fight.

Your obedient servant,
C. M. CLAY.

Frankfort, Ky., Jan. 8, 1845.

A Slight Mistake.—It turns out that Miss Irene Nichols, the Kennebec factory girl, instead of marrying Gen. Herrera, the new Executive of Mexico, as has been stated, married quite a different personage, by the name of Hassington or Hanschild, a book keeper in some Mexican establishment. So that instead of 'reveling in the Halls of Montezuma,' Miss Nichols probably reigns supreme goddess of her quiet husband's private parlor. What a fine dish of romance has been spoiled by a few lines of plain, homely fact! Like seasoning a rich oyster soup with a sprinkling of glauber salts.—Wachtower.

CONVENTIONS.

After the result of the Presidential election was known, the wise among the whigs predicted the speedy overthrow and death of the Liberty party. This prophecy, unfortunately for the fame of the prophets, is not in the fair road to fulfillment. The Liberty Convention held in Albany, in the early part of December, gave signs indicating any thing but a dying condition in our little party.—The three great pro-slavery parties received manifest proofs that it was 'alive and kicking.' Since that Convention, others have been held in different sections of the country, all of which have given token that Liberty men everywhere were more animated, zealous and persevering than ever.

The Massachusetts Liberty Convention was the largest and most efficient ever held in that State.

The meeting for western Pennsylvania, held here on the 22d January last, was the largest meeting of the party ever held in the State. The most effective measures were taken to spread the leaven of truth through the whole mass.

Vermont and New Hampshire have also recently held Conventions, which were extremely well attended.

Michigan held a state gathering this week, and eastern Pennsylvania speaks out on the 22d instant. Besides these, county conventions without number have been held, and efficient plans of organization formed.

There is one remarkable feature about all these meetings, which we trust, has not escaped the notice of the whig prophets, to wit, that though they were held in mid winter, when the roads were bad, and traveling dangerous, yet they were more numerous attended than any ever held before, even in good seasons, and in times of high political excitement. If this be dying, let us die.—*Spirit of Liberty.*

INCIDENT IN THE FLORIDA WAR.

The following statement is made in the True Wesleyan, by W. H. Houck, a Wesleyan Methodist who has resided ten years in the South:

"I went to Florida in 1839, during the perpetuation of that inhuman and deplorable war, and here you could see some 30 or 40 trains of transportation wagons, and from 50 to 60 in a train, all furnished with negro drivers, hired by the Quartermaster Deputy, for \$20 per month, and their lives chartered at 700, 800 and 1000 dollars apiece to their pretended owners; and scarcely would a train go from Palatka to Fort King or any other point, but a train would be attacked and from ten to twenty or thirty negroes killed by the Indians, and Government pay for them. The truth of the matter is, the whites would not take a team to drive, knowing if they did they would be killed; but the poor unprotected slave could be forced into the field of danger, and immolated on the altar of speculation; thus making a sarilegious disposition of the image of God! This inhuman butchery is sanctioned and paid for by heavy appropriations from our General Government, and we the constituents and conservatives of said Government! This is but one moiety of the diabolical, God-hating, Heaven-daring soul-and-body-destroying system of slavery."

Taxation in Illinois.—The people of Illinois, or at least the Legislature, to once more establish and maintain their solvency, have reported a bill, which will no doubt pass, laying on the taxes pretty deeply. Attorneys and physicians, in addition to a usual tax, are required to pay \$10 a year license—which if they do not pay, the delinquency incapacitates them from collecting fees or practicing. Brokers pay \$100 license—peddlers, for the State \$50, for a county \$10. The personal property and assets of every person in the State, consisting of pleasure carriages, horses, slaves, neat cattle, salaries and emoluments of office commissions, ships and vessels, stocks, money on hand and at interest, household furniture, and every other description of personal property; all capital employed each year in merchandizing, adopting as a criterion the value of the greatest amount of goods on hand at any time during the year, are subject to taxation. The rate of taxing for State purposes, is fixed at thirty cents on the hundred dollars for the year 1845; at thirty-five cents for the year 1846, and at forty cents for the year 1847, and forever thereafter. Twenty cents of this rate is set apart for defraying the contingent expenses of the State government, and the residue is pledged as a fund for the payment of interest upon the public debt.—*Free Press.*

One cent a day carefully saved from the earnings of the poorest class of our laboring citizens, would be more than sufficient to pay the whole expense of the most useful newspaper in the country.—Such a measure would ensure for his children a treasure of knowledge, which could never be spent by them, however poor in vulgar wealth, and would enable them to become the most useful of all the members of our republican family."

A young lady remarked to Dr. Johnson that she was very glad he had omitted all improper words in his dictionary. Yes, madam, replied the Dr., I have endeavored to do so—but I perceive you have been looking for them.

KAREN MISSION TO THE UNITED STATES.

In Dr. Wayland's eighth Letter to Mr. Fuller on Slavery, we find the following exposition of its character, which we commend to the special attention of those of our readers, who are deeply interested in Missions. What a picture does our own nation present to the heathen converts which our missionaries have made!

"To place this subject in what seems to me a correct point of view, let us imagine a very possible case. We have sent the gospel to the Karens, and thousands of them are, we hope, partakers of the faith of the gospel. Suppose that they, hearing that there are in the United States millions of persons in great moral destitution, should send a missionary and his wife from their own number, to labor among the slaves in the Southern States. They are not of the Caucasian race.—They are of darker skin than many of our slaves. The race is as weak in intellect as as rude in the knowledge as the native Africans. Precisely so far as I can see, the same reasons exist for making slaves of the one race as of the other.—Let these missionaries land on our shores. They can show no certificate of freedom, written either on paper or parchment, as the law directs. On the first day of their arrival they might, for ought I can see, be arrested, lodged in jail, and after the legal time had elapsed, be legally sold for the payment of jail fees to different owners, separated from each other for life, and their children, if they had any, consigned to endless bondage. But suppose them to escape this peril.—They go among the destitute and open schools, such as we have established among them, for the purpose of teaching these immortal Africans to read the word of God. They are immediately arrested, and fined for each offence, it may be, five hundred dollars. In default of payment they are again sold to endless bondage, and separated from each other for life. But suppose them to escape this danger. They attempt to preach Christ crucified. There are more than five slaves present, and there are not present five slaveholders. They are fined again, and the sale and endless separation takes place. They do it again, they are whipped again. And if they persevere, they would, as it seems to me, soon perish under the 'overseer's lash.' They ask, with their Master, why what evil have we done? They are told that all this is done because it is for the pecuniary advantage of the masters. It is done on a calm calculation of dollars and cents. They learn also that all this system is established either by, or with the consent of, his brethren in Christ; the very men through whose contributions he had been taught the way of life, convinced of his duty to love all men as himself, and to preach the gospel to every creature.—Would he believe that they were the disciples of that Jesus of whom he had read in the Evangelists and the Epistles?—Would they seem to him to be acting under the eye of that God who cannot bear the appearance of evil, and who has said, ye cannot serve God and mammon?—Could the blessed Saviour look with indifference upon such wrongs inflicted upon these his little ones? And is not this, in all essential particulars, an illustration of the essence of all the colored Christians in the Southern States?"

Cranberries.—Cultivated cranberries were exhibited by S. Bates, Billingham, Norfolk Co., Mass., grown on his own land. He states that 'low meadow land is best for them, prepared in the first instance in the same manner as for grain. The wild cranberry is transplanted into this in rows 20 inches apart. At first they require a slight hoeing, afterwards they spread and cover the field, producing crops annually thereafter without further culture. In this condition they produce much larger and finer fruit than in their wild state, the yield being from 200 to 300 bushels per acre, worth on an average in the Boston market at least one dollar per bushel. A damp soil, on where wet predominated, has generally been considered necessary, but Mr. Bates thinks this not essential to their successful cultivation; any soil, unless when inclined to bake, will answer. Early in the spring, is the best time for transplanting.'—*Amer. Agriculturist.*

A Present to Daniel O'Connell.—A crucifix of pure Wicklow gold, a gift to O'Connell, is described as follows by the Dublin Freeman's Journal:—
"A solid rustic cross, made of the finest Wicklow gold, and of course is, in every sense of Irish manufacture. The entire cross stands ten inches in height. The figure representing our divine Redeemer nailed to the ignominious gibbet, after being condemned by his unjust judges, is five inches long, the figure being admirably proportioned. The relief weighs fifteen ounces, and the gold, exclusive of workmanship, is worth nearly £50.

Good Spunk.—A Kentucky girl, having married a fellow of mean reputation, was taken to task for it by her uncle.

"I know, uncle," replied she, "that Jo is not good for much, but he said I dare not have him, and I won't take a stump from any body."

SIGNAL OF LIBERTY.

ANN ARBOR, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1845.

One Dollar a Year in Advance.

The Monthly Concert of Prayer for the Enslaved will be observed at the Presbyterian Church this (Monday) evening at half past six.

FALSE DEMOCRACY.

The Democrats, as a party, profess to be guided by the broad principles of natural right. They are for universal liberty in its fullest extent: they are for equal rights, and exact justice to all men; and they claim to be the especial advocates of the ignorant, the poor, and the oppressed against the injurious attempts of the intellectual, the rich, and the powerful. It is obvious that this continued proclamation of fundamental principles establishes a standard by which the acts of the party can be properly judged. The Democratic party claims support on the ground of its adherence to these principles; and just as far as it departs from them—just so far as its acts contravene its own acknowledged standard of rectitude—to just that extent must its adherents confess that it is unworthy of support.—How, then, stands the case with the party? Has their action coincided with their profession, or have practice and precept been direct antagonists to each other?—We think it would not be difficult to show, that in reference to one sixth portion of their countrymen, the Democrats, as a party, have violated, and propose in future to violate every one of their professed fundamental principles. We do not assert this as mere declamation, but as a sober fact, which can be demonstrated by the most ample proofs. We will to-day enumerate a few instances of legislative tyranny and injustice, that are perpetrated, sanctioned, and sustained by the Democratic party, and pursue the subject in future numbers.

1. The Democrats, as a party, are for continuing the legal disabilities of the free colored people in the States where they now exist. We do not know of an instance in the 26 States in which the removal of these disabilities has been taken up as a measure of the party. In the States where the Democrats have had a permanent majority for many years, they remain in full force. Take, for instance, the State of Illinois, which we believe has been a Democratic State for a dozen years or more in succession. According to the statute of that State, a colored man may be arrested on suspicion of being a runaway slave, and detained in prison until his white lord and master shall reclaim him; and if he be not claimed and proved to be a runaway slave, the sheriff is authorized to sell the FREE MAN into temporary bondage to pay the expenses of his arrest and imprisonment.—What Democracy is this! To arrest a man on mere suspicion of being a slave, and after trial, when he has been legally declared to be free, to sell him to defray the expenses of the outrageous wrongs he has endured! Would white Democrats, who prate about "equal rights," endure such Democracy in their own persons? This act is not a mere dead letter. Our last exchanges inform us that the Sheriff of Kendall county advertises that he has in his custody a black man, supposed to be a runaway slave; and he gives notice that any person having a right to said black man, call, prove property, pay expenses, and take him away; or he will be disposed of as the law directs. Neither does the statute remain through ignorance of its existence, on the part of the people. The fact is notorious to all; and the Democratic Legislature have been besieged upon the subject year after year, but all in vain.

In all the States where legal disabilities of the colored people exist in any shape, it is not too much to say that the Democratic party is chargeable with their continuance: because in every State, they have been enacted by Democratic Legislators, advocated by Democratic papers, approved by the action of their party conventions, or suffered to remain silently on the Statute book, when the continued and cordial action of the Democratic party of that State would have been amply sufficient for their removal.

2. This party, which professes to advocate universal freedom and equality, sustains slavery as it is, in every part of the Union—in the States in the Territories, in the District of Columbia and upon the High Seas. Where they have the acknowledged power to act against Slavery, they will not use it, but they make war upon Abolitionists, and upon every practicable measure for general emancipation, whether gradual or immediate.—These things are a matter of universal notoriety; they need no argument: they are indisputable.

3. The party are laboring to add more slaves to those already in the country.—They propose to enslave, by the authority of the United States, and to hold as such by its military power, 25,000 persons in Texas, and all their descendants, whose right to personal liberty is as good as that of any Democrat in the Union. One would suppose that a real Democrat would

be so ashamed of the multitude of slaves in his country, that he would never consent to add to their number by taking in those of a foreign nation. But such is not the case. When Texas shall be annexed, the slaves will be held and kept in subjection, and their posterity enslaved by the laws and authority of the United States; and we see almost the whole Democratic party eager and earnest for thus making more slaves, through the power of the National Government!

4. The party are trying to add more Slave States to this Union, with their three fifth representation for slaves, and thus increase the immense disparity in power already existing between Slaveholders and northern Freemen. As an instance of this disparity, we subjoin the following statement of the American and Foreign A. S. Society:

"In the presidential election of 1840, 13 free States had 163 electors, and gave 1,716,705 votes: 1 elector to 10,215 votes.

12 slave States had 115 electors, and gave 693,005 votes: 1 elector to 6,026 votes.

Ohio had 21 electors, and gave 273,840 votes: 1 elector to 13,040 votes.

Virginia had 23 electors, and gave 86,394 votes: 1 elector to 3,750 votes.

In the presidential election of 1844, 13 free States had 161 electors, and gave 1,890,084 votes: 1 elector to 11,739 votes.

12 slave States (South Carolina having no popular vote for President) had 105 electors, and gave 708,848 votes: 1 elector to 7,608.

Michigan had 5 electors, and gave 56,222 votes: 1 elector to 11,244.

Louisiana had 6 electors, and gave 26,965 votes: 1 elector to 4,477 votes."

By the recent vote in Congress, which the Democratic party sustained, Texas, if admitted, is to make any number of States, and if the people (white people of course) of all those States shall wish for Slavery, Congress solemnly agrees to receive them with Slavery, and of course guarantees the faith and power of the nation for its support and perpetuity!—What beautiful Democracy is here!—Some of the States may not ask admission in fifty years; and yet a Democratic House of Representatives, in 1844, is found willing to solemnly agree to receive Slave States in 1844, and of course to defend the institution in those States with all the energies of the American people!

5. Nor is this all. The party profess and as far as possible, excommunicate every man in it who dares to oppose these nefarious projects. The Richmond Enquirer, a leading Democratic paper of the South, thus threatens every one who does not pronounce the slaveholding 'shibboleth':

"We rejoice that those deserting Democrats who oppose the vital question, which Mr. Polk so anxiously desires to be settled at this session, will have nothing to expect from his administration. Those Northern Democrats who avail themselves of this critical contest with our great transatlantic rival, to indulge their fanatical hatred of the South, will find themselves mistaken in their calculations—marked by a great national sentiment in their turn—and we dare to say, that if they should defeat us, we shall have, at least, the consolation of knowing, that they will be hereafter, defeated in their own aspirations."

The Hon. John P. Hale, of New Hampshire, having declared his determination to oppose the whole scheme of annexation, the Democratic party press of that State are after him in full cry, denouncing him as an abolitionist, and a traitor to the party, and are eagerly bent on his immolation. The District Committee have met to prepare for nominating a candidate in his place; and John P. Hale, like Thomas Morris, will be sent into retirement for expressing his honest convictions, unless a majority of his constituents shall be found sufficiently patriotic to frown upon this attempt to render Slavery perpetual in our land.

But the party is not only committed as a body to this project of making Texan Slavery our own, but its representative, Mr. Polk, has declared it a measure second in importance to no other. This being the case we may expect that the influence of the whole Government, wielded by the united energies of the Democratic party, will be used to the utmost for its consummation.

We might enumerate many more serious charges against the party, but we have not space to-day. But are not these enough to show that it stands, self-condemned, by a mere citation of the principles it preaches to others? With loud professions of "equality," it sustains the most absurd and wicked political distinctions between citizens of the same States: with "the largest Liberty" for a watchword, it goes for Slavery in all parts of the nation where it now exists: it goes for introducing more slaves and Slave Territory, into our Union, and for excommunicating every member of the party who dares to oppose the project! Poor, blind, servile, rotten Democracy! If such be the proper action of a Democratic party, what a course of action could be considered appropriate in a Slavery party?

Miss Fairbanks is said to be the only female confined in the Kentucky Penitentiary. Her employment is mending the clothes of the convicts. It is generally supposed that she will be pardoned after a short period.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR FORTIFICATIONS.—The Bill recently reported to the House of Representatives, makes the following appropriations for the public defence, in the various sections of the Union:

"For defensive works, near Buffalo, \$85,000; repairs on Fort Ontario, 7,400; Fortifications at the outlet of Lake Champlain, 38,000; Narrows of the Pentecost river, Maine, 10,000; Fort Preble, Me., 10,000; Fort McClary, 2,500; Fort Independence, Mass., 7,000; Fort Warren, 50,000; Fort Adams, R. I., 10,000; Fort Trumbull, Conn., 50,000; Fort Schuyler, N. H., 60,000; Fort Wood, N. H., 35,000; Fort Hamilton, 20,000; Fort Washington, Md., 20,000; Fort Monroe, Va., 60,000; Fort Mifflin, N. C., 4,000; Fort Moultrie, S. C., 12,000; Dike to Drunken Dick Shoal, Charleston harbor, 35,000; Fort Sumpter, 70,000; Fort Johnson, 1,000; Fort Pulaski, Ga., 17,000; Fort Jackson, Ga., 10,000; Sea Wall at St. Augustine, Florida, 6,400; Fort Barancas, 30,000; Fort Morgan, Ala., 15,000; Fort Jackson, La., 7,000; Fort St. Philip, La., 10,000; Fort Livingston, Barrataria Bay, 50,000; Fort Pickens, Pensacola, 12,000; Fortifications on the Florida Reef, 30,000; Contingencies, 41,000.—Virginia.

The above appropriations give to the Free States, \$259,900; to the Slave States, \$444,400.

Liberty men are often asked how the North supports slavery. The above is an illustration. It is one of the thousand avenues by which public money silently finds its way to the South. The statement, if correct, as it probably is, shows an excess of \$167,500 in the single item of fortifications, and in a single session, spent in the south and for its benefit, out of the public purse. In like proportion are the other appropriations for the army, the navy, and improvements. By much the greater part is spent in and for the South.

The above sum of \$444,400, (nearly half a million) will not only be expended for slavery's benefit, in building fortifications to overawe the slaves, and ensure their servitude, but three-fourths of it will probably find its way into the pockets of slaveholders, in payment for work to be done by their slaves, in carrying out appropriations. The labor in all the southern public works is performed by slaves hired by the contractor, at wages varying from \$15 to \$50, a month; he furnishing the scant clothing and food of the slave. The master pockets the wages clear of all charges, and thus derives a fat income through his slave, out of Uncle Sam's purse. No wonder he should deem slavery to be heaven-born, and the best basis of a republic! While he can get \$50 a year for each slave, out of Uncle Sam, he will hug the institution of slavery, and denounce abolition.

It is also thus with the army expenditures. The greater part of the army is always stationed in the South, to aid in keeping down the slaves. The soldiers wages are spent there; and the vast expenditures for the army contingencies find an easy channel through the unpaid slave into the master's pocket.

Nay, our very vessels of war are taken to southern ports to be refitted, though the work would be done cheaper and better in those of the north. And in Washington, as a general thing, a white laborer is not permitted to work in the Navy Yard. A monopoly of work is even there created for the benefit of the slaveholder.

But are these things so? yes! sober facts: the necessary result of the possession of our government by slavery. The slaveholding secretary of the navy or of war has but to issue his order—"his 'ipse dixit,'" and it's done. And this is the system continually, but quietly, year after year going on, whereby northern money is drained into the slaveholders pocket, and the vile system of slavery, profligate and perishing in itself, is forced into health and lucre by northern vigor.

Mr. Schouler editor of the Lowell Journal, (Whig) in March 1843, visited Washington. In his Journal he thus comments on matters there:

"Congress this morning voted an appropriation of \$100,000 to build a dry dock at the Navy Yard at Pensacola. This is another of those schemes by which the slaveholders endeavor to retain in their hands a large portion of the public patronage. Since the commencement of the Government, nearly two-thirds of the whole naval expenditure has been expended in Pensacola, Norfolk and Washington, notwithstanding the cost for repairs of vessels are always much higher than in New York, Charleston, (Mass.) and Portsmouth." "I am told that Mr. Kellogg, the Tyler Representative from the Norfolk district in Virginia, has a large number of slaves whom he hires to THE GOVERNMENT to work in the Norfolk Navy Yard for the fine little sum of \$20 a month. Slaves are also employed in the Navy Yard in this City, to the exclusion of free whites; and it has become a source of great complaint, but it is of no use." "At Pensacola most of the labor is done by slaves, and thus the large naval appropriations made every year find their way into the pockets of the slave masters."

Some time since the Liberty Press published a letter from the Rev. W. Hook, of the Methodist Church, which stated among other things that during the Florida war, slaves were hired as wagon drivers, at wages of \$30 a month, to carry provisions to the troops, and that Mr. Hook saw them pass each day in vast numbers.

It is also known that a steamboat was chartered of government during this same war, the hands being doubtless slaves, and that during a single year the price paid for hiring amounted to about treble the value of the boat.

The case of the slave discharged, not long since at Boston, as free, from on board the Frigate "United States," is another exhibition of this draining system of the skillful slaveholder. The slave belonged to the purser, by the slave laws, and earned \$12 a month for the master, being rated at such wages on the vessel's books, and all the time was the body servant of the purser.

Freemen of Michigan! How long will you give life to this abominable system? how long will you permit your money to go thus helpfully to make slavery profitable? Recollect the money thus spent is public money—that it is accumulated by our customs and land sales, of which the north contribute at least three-fourths. How long we say, how long? "

The amount of ice exported from Boston during eight months past, is \$1,852 tons. We are not informed of its estimated value.

THE NEW COUNTIES.

We would suggest to our old friends who lecture or otherwise labor in the Liberty cause, the importance of early disseminating our principles through the newly settled counties. There are several weighty reasons why exertions should be bestowed there in preference to the older counties.

1. There is far less attachment to the old parties there than in the more densely settled counties. Party lines have been less strictly drawn, and party cliques less effectually organized.

2. If there be an effective anti-slavery influence established in a county at an early period, it will propagate itself among the emigrants that come; and thus easily maintain its position.

3. The other parties do not expend much labor on the new counties. Gen. Cass, C. M. Clay, &c. visited Detroit, Ann Arbor, and Jackson, and other prominent places; but did not penetrate through the untravelled roads of Shiawassee, Clinton, Lapeer, Kent, Van Buren, &c. In all these counties the Liberty vote doubled or trebled at the last election.

4. The influence of Liberty papers and lectures is far greater on a thinly settled population. It meets with less opposing and distracting obstacles. Consider the case of the tenant of a solitary log house, who takes but one paper and reads it through every week—who thinks of its contents when alone at his daily avocations, and talks them over when at work with his neighbors—who seldom sees a politician, and cares little for his opinions, and who carries out his own notions of things, in his own independent manner:—the influence of the newspaper which he takes will be prodigious upon such a man and upon his family. Now suppose that newspaper to be a Liberty paper—suppose it come to him fifty-two times a year, bringing principles, thoughts and suggestions which commend themselves to his conscience and his judgment—suppose him to read no other papers by which the force of these can be averted or misrepresented—suppose the paper to be conducted with that regard to truth and candor which gains his approval and confidence—will not the influence of such a Liberty paper be powerful upon him, his family, and his neighborhood? In fact, the more isolated he is from his fellow men, the greater will be the energy of those influences which do reach him, whether they be for good or evil. Let Liberty men then, see to it that this class of our fellow citizens, be reached by antislavery truths.

The fact that slaveholders fill by far the greatest portion of the national public offices, is becoming generally known among all classes of people. The Abolitionists have long proclaimed it; and established it by statistical tables: many northern Whig papers often refer to it, now that they are no longer trying to elect a Slaveholder to the Presidency; and here and there a Democratic paper mutters its indignation. The subject has been broached indirectly in Congress by the introduction of a resolution requiring that in the appointment to office under the General Government, said officers shall be apportioned among the States according to the proportion of their representation in Congress. This proposal, if it will be seen, gives the slaveholders a large amount of offices on account of their slaves: but were it adhered to, the approximation to equity would be far greater than it now is. Slaveholders will possess an undue proportion of the public offices, so long as individuals of that class are made Presidents.

Mr. Wentworth offered to amend the resolution by adding the words "providing there are not men enough in the District of Columbia and the States of Virginia and Maryland to hold the offices."

The resolution was then laid over, on notice of debate.

The case of Thurlow vs. the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, now before the Supreme Court, is exciting considerable attention. It seems that the case has been carried up to test the validity of the license laws of Massachusetts. The plaintiff contends that after having imported brandy from France and paid the duties upon it, he has a constitutional right to sell it. Messrs. Webster and Choate spent two days in arguing this position. They contended that if a State could step in and interfere or embarrass the traffic in one article of trade it might in another, and by taxation indirectly control the commerce of the country. It will be seen that the decision will be of interest to all the States.

The four Democratic Representatives from Maine voted against the joint resolution for annexing Texas. They have addressed a letter to their constituents, stating as the principal ground of their opposition, that it secured the institution of slavery in nearly all the territory, and intimating that they would have voted for a bill which would have divided the territory equally between freedom and slavery. This, it seems, is Northern Democracy! Slavery is to be recognized as an established fundamental institution of the nation, which is to receive precisely the same amount of homage and obedience that is due to Liberty!

The U. S. Gazette publishes a letter from Father Matthew, in which he states that the recent derangement of his pecuniary affairs has rendered it impossible for him to fulfil his promise of visiting America the ensuing summer, neither can he set a time, but will come as soon as possible.

For some weeks we have been intending to write an article in which we would attempt to show the Liberty men of Michigan, that the progress of their cause depends mainly on the circulation of the Signal, or other anti-slavery papers; and that all other agencies, however useful, without the aid of the Press, would be inadequate to accomplish their object. But having received the following article from a Liberty man who is extensively acquainted with the condition of our cause through the State, we have concluded to publish it, in accordance with his request, in place of any suggestions of our own.

TO THE FRIENDS OF THE SIGNAL.

I would enjoin it upon those who love our cause, to enter in earnest upon the work of extending light and knowledge through every community and neighborhood—every nook and corner of the State. All will acknowledge that the advancement of Liberty principles must be proportionate to the amount of antislavery intelligence diffused. Now, in what way can this be done more effectually than by increasing the circulation of the Signal? It is acknowledged that it will compare with any of our Liberty publications, and we know that in those sections where the Signal has been most read, its influence has been felt for good. The Agents of the paper say that in those neighborhoods where it has once been introduced, they always find room for extending its circulation, and that our cause in those places is advancing from year to year.

I consider it the duty of every man to take this matter in hand, and do what he can to extend the circulation of the paper. We should be interested in its prosperity and welfare, because the Liberty party cannot be sustained without such a publication in the State. And, under present circumstances, it cannot live and have that influence it ought to possess, unless the anti-slavery men of the State will interest themselves in its success. The price has lately been reduced from two and two and a half dollars to one dollar, so that it is now within the reach of every man. Hitherto the proprietors have been obliged to employ agents to obtain subscribers and collect the pay, at an expense of several hundred dollars a year. This they cannot afford to do, when the compensation paid by each subscriber is only one dollar. Thus the proprietors are obliged to depend mainly on the voluntary co-operation of their subscribers and friends for that aid in sustaining and enlarging the circulation of the Signal, for which they have heretofore paid their agents. The present number of subscribers but little exceeds 1,600, being no more than it was when the price was two dollars a year; whereas, to give it a fair support at its present reduced price, the number should be not less than 5,000. The prosperity of the cause in the State is greatly dependent on the wide circulation of the Signal; and the only way to extend this will be for each subscriber to exert himself to obtain more. In order to do this, you must start out, and go to your neighbor and say to him, "I want you to subscribe for the Signal of Liberty." His answer perhaps will be, "I am no abolitionist." Tell him that that is not any of his affairs; an indispensable requisite: that the other matter aside from its abolitionism is worth more than two cents a week, embracing every kind of intelligence, foreign and domestic, besides miscellaneous reading and such items of interest and utility as every family needs. If he says he cannot pay for it, and pleads the extreme scarcity of money, say to him that he can pay for it in almost any thing he has to sell. Let him pay in you, and order the paper sent on your account, and forward the Shingles, Sugar, Lumber or whatever you receive by the first opportunity to the proprietors at Ann Arbor, or otherwise dispose of them. In this way almost any man might obtain three, five or ten subscribers, help sustain the paper, and immediately increase the Liberty vote in his own town. TRY IT, FELLOWS!

Mount Pleasant, Jan. 27, 1845.

GENERAL PROGRESS OF THE ANTI-SLAVERY MOVEMENTS.

A summary of the recent advances made by Liberty upon Slavery in our nation, we see in some of the Antislavery prints of this sort:

"Every thing indicates the rapid progress of our cause. Many religious associations have lately been formed, on the basis of no compromise with the sin of Slavery. Synods, and other church organizations have acted boldly against it—politicians gave it great prominence in the recent canvass—between sixty and seventy thousand voters maintained at the polls their fidelity to the cause of the slave—the Supreme Court has published its decision, freeing slaves taken from one county to the other in the District of Columbia—the odious Gag rule has been repealed—our petitions have been referred to the proper committees—in Congress, slaveholding politicians have lowered their tone—in the Slave States, they show in every way a consciousness of their weakness. Abolitionists are multiplying in Kentucky, Virginia, and Maryland, as well as in the Free States. Our past efforts have been signally useful also, in multiplying the number of private emancipations. These are now much more numerous than at any former time, except immediately after the revolution."—Oberlin Evangelist.

We noticed last week that the colored man in Pontiac who had been sentenced to death for the murder of another man, had had his punishment commuted by the Governor to imprisonment for life in the Penitentiary. As the sentence of several other criminals in like circumstances has been commuted in a similar manner, and as no execution has taken place since Michigan was admitted to the Union, it may be said that the punishment of death is virtually abolished in this State. A respectable minority of the people are much opposed to hanging, and while imprisonment for life gives general satisfaction to the majority, the Executive acts wisely in thus adapting the execution of the laws to the state of public feeling.

Ann Arbor, Feb. 1845.

Our "Chapter on Correspondents" seems to have been just the thing. We anticipate much good from it. The first fruits of it are seen in the following spirited reply; and notwithstanding the bribe so temptingly offered to us in the conclusion, we can say in the language of Gen. Jackson on another occasion, that we "shall not relax one particle from our position!"

REPLY TO "CHAPTER FOR CORRESPONDENTS."

Dear Mr. Editor, 'tis true I think as many others do, The name of author sounds sublime, And therefore wish the honor mine. 'Tis great, indeed, to find our name Enroll'd upon the page of fame; Then why, the lucky chance deny To such deserving ones as I? You little know, how sharp the pain, When we have toil'd, and toil'd again, By mid day sun, and midnight taper, To form a bright gem for your paper; To find that it has been rejected, And like a worthless thing, neglected. And then, to aggravate us more, You tell our faults, by score and score; Some cannot write, some cannot spell, Some cannot show the head or tail—Some taste too sweet, some taste of gall, And some have scarce a taste at all; Some come too late, some are too long, And all, or nearly all, are wrong. 'Tis hard sir, thus to criticize What seems so precious, in our eyes, And with one cold, and withering breath, To lay our cherished hopes in death. Granting indeed, our death of lore, We do our best—who can do more? And then, to give us but our due, We write, kind sir, to favor you. Most folks like you, are fond to show, How far their own resources go, And deem their correspondents' fame, As link'd with theirs, or much the same. When'er a little fame we seek, 'Tis with a blush upon our cheek; So modest are we, in most cases—Your readers know us, but by guesses—The initials of our name we give, The town, or village where we live; These signs you know, but few can tell, And none, but those, who know us well. We unassuming writers, dare, But seldom meet the vulgar stare; A share of praise we think our due, And kindly leave the rest to you. Then why, so impudently us, As if you meant sir, to abuse us?

Yet while I thus remonstrate, I shun the form of a debate, Though sure I might dispute, with force, The policy of such a course. In every patriotic heart, Home, always holds a sacred part; Domestic manufacture, still Should have your favor, and good will; Our homestead goods we deem the strongest; If not so fine they last the longest; Then why, for foreign goods apply, When you at home, may cheaply buy, And patronize the worthy few, Who lend their patronage to you. 'Tis true, that you may call with care, And gather much that's good and rare; But, if from other sheets you borrow, What's theirs to-day, is yours to-morrow; So you, behind most slowly tread, While they, are flying on ahead. Now, this at least, might be prevented, If you could rest yourself contented, To take the favors that we send; We freely give, we do not lend; And though, they may not suit your taste, To others, they may seem the best. Some, richest dishes only please, Some, choose to dine on bread and cheese. You wish to please your readers, don't you! I do not mean sir, to affront you, But, as you must look it in the face, And if you should on second thought, Give us the countenance you ought, We'll prove our gratitude most strong, And laud our virtues, in a song. Salem, Feb. 10th, 1845.

TO THE PUBLIC.

It will be recollected that on the 5th of Dec. 1842 there was published in the Signal of Liberty an article respecting Enos Dutton, of Albion, in which certain unfavorable reflections were made respecting him and his family, growing out of a difficulty respecting certain Liberty tickets which were left in his house. The substance of what I published was communicated to me by Messrs. Johnson, Child, and Taylor, residing in Albion. Since the publication referred to, an investigation of the subject has been had, and it turns out that the representations made to me were in part false, and that Mr. Dutton was censured beyond what he deserved. One of the gentlemen (Mr. Johnson) has since confessed to Mr. D. and family that he was wrong in representing to me the matter as he did. Therefore, as it respects the reflections unwittingly cast upon Mr. D.'s family and heirs, they being without foundation are most cheerfully retracted.

G. BECKLEY.

The intelligence from Mexico is of such a nature that it cannot be entirely relied on. But the civil war between Herrera and Santa Anna still continues. The forces of the latter are much reduced, and his capture is considered very probable. It is said he has made overtures by way of negotiation, either in earnest or from motives of policy. Having a large amount of wealth in England, it is thought that a liberal use of it will at all events save his life.

There has been great abundance of snow through New York and the New England States. In the vicinity of Boston the drifts of snow were so great, that the running of the cars was temporarily stopped.

ANN ARBOR, Feb. 21, 1845. During the last week, the weather has been moderate for the season. The frost is partially out of the ground, and mud abounds everywhere. The markets are without alteration. Wheat sells from 72 to 75 cents.

The Blacks and Mulattoes.—A bill of importance, concerning the interests of this class, has just passed both branches of the Maryland Legislature. By the act of 1851, chap. 323, 2d section, they were allowed to leave the State for an unlimited period and return again, upon filing with the clerk of the county of their residence a bill, stating the reasons of their departure, and their intention to return. The clause of the bill, making this provision was stricken out—whereby, under no circumstances, will they be allowed to return to the State, after having absented themselves for thirty days.—Baltimore Clipper.

Can any act of the Autocrat of Russia respecting any portion of his subjects, be cited, that is more unreasonably cruel, or barbarous? Under this act, a citizen of Maryland, free born, may be banished from his native State, if he leave it even to attend the burial of a beloved wife or mother, and through sickness, or any other fatality, he should be unable to return in 30 days! What is the reason of this? Because the proscribed man is black? No; because some black men in Maryland are highly valued. But the man is a free black, and he may whisper in the ear of the bondman some tales of freedom elsewhere which will render him no longer a willing slave. The Slaveholders find all the free blacks to be dangerous to their interests, and in Maryland, they are legislating for their expulsion from the State, by heaping accumulated oppressions upon them. To us this is convincing evidence that they feel the anti-slavery influence which begins to roll in upon them.—Had all things continued as they were, this additional act of republican tyranny would have been necessary.

That veteran in the Anti-Slavery cause, William Goodell, has published a large pamphlet on the connection of the U. S. Constitution with Slavery. So we are informed by our eastern exchanges: for we have had as yet no visible demonstration of it. The work is highly spoken of. We learn from the Patriot that a second edition of 10,000 is now in the Press. We trust that we shall be favored with a copy.

The petition for the Annexation of Canada, first circulated in Detroit, was considered an admirable device for burlesquing the reasons assigned for the admission of Texas. As such, it was well enough for those who chose to express their views in that way. But the Detroit Advertiser now gravely insists that the scheme is to be regarded soberly, as a real project, and not a temporary anti-Texas argument. Wonder what they expect to make out of it?

The Jackson Gazette, in its notice of the late Anniversary, says that Mr. Birney took the ground that slaveholding and allegiance to the code of honor, as manifested by repeated duels, were proper disqualifications for office. Does the Gazette agree or disagree to these positions? Yea or nay?

The Michigan Christian Herald, the Baptist paper at Detroit, is publishing the correspondence between Dr. Wyland and Dr. Fuller of South Carolina upon slavery. They are both able writers and leading men in that denomination, and the consideration of the many great and prominent truths brought to view in that discussion cannot fail to be highly beneficial. We had thought of publishing Dr. Wyland's letters, but their great length would infringe too much upon that variety that we deem necessary in our paper.

Our eastern exchanges bring accounts of numerous fires. By one of these the Tribune office was partially destroyed. The loss was partly covered by insurance, and the publication of the paper was not suspended.

We have received the first number of the "St. Joseph County Advertiser," published weekly at Centerville, by M. Metcalf and A. E. Massey at \$1.50 a year: it is Whig in its politics, and contains a large amount of reading matter.

The Liberty Convention of Western Pennsylvania held a spirited meeting at Pittsburgh on the 22d. The establishment of three more Liberty papers are contemplated, to be located in the counties of Beaver, Washington and Crawford. A resolution expressing not only undiminished but increased confidence in the abilities and integrity of the James G. Birney was unanimously adopted.

An Anti-Texas convention was recently held in Faneuil Hall, Boston. A very large number of delegates was present from all sections of Massachusetts. The proceedings and discussions are represented as having been animated and spirited.

The Ohio American of Feb. 13, publishes a letter from E. Roberts dated Dec. 10, 1844, in which there is this statement:

"At a Whig Meeting, held on the eve before the Election, while Mr. GIDDINGS was making a speech in this place, he introduced and read the Garland letter, and said, 'he had no doubts as to its genuineness, for HE HAD RECEIVED A LETTER FROM MR. HOWARD, WHICH SUBSTANTIATED IT IN HIS MIND THAT IT COULD NOT BE A FORGERY.'"

The Mr. Howard here referred to we learn from the American is Hon. J. M. Howard of Detroit. We have no comments to make. We only mention this as another evidence of the industry manifested by that celebrated traveller, Major Rooback, just before election.

