



This country, and which are singularly coincident with the declaration of Joseph Sturge...

THE BIBLE AND SLAVERY.

I have read, with deep interest, the article just concluded in your paper, headed "Slavery-holding always sinful," and signed "A Lawyer,"...

1. "A Lawyer," in no part of his articles, alludes to the fact well known to readers of general history, that at the time the New Testament was written, Roman Slavery had not been extended over Colosse or Ephesus...

2. In discussing the epistle to Philemon, "A Lawyer," omits to notice one fact stated by Paul, which shows it to have been absolutely impossible that Onesimus could have been the slave of Philemon, independent of the facts above stated...

3. In discussing the epistle to Philemon, "A Lawyer," omits to notice one fact stated by Paul, which shows it to have been absolutely impossible that Onesimus could have been the slave of Philemon...

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the elements of Philemon's character, if he were, indeed, a Roman slaveholder.

A LAWYER'S CLERK.

St. Joseph County, Nov. 1845.

THE MICHIGAN STATE BANK.

As you have ever liberally opened your columns to free discussion, pray permit a well known friend for the first time, to canvass some of your sentiments.

Suppose your village of Ann Arbor to become the head quarters of villainy; its inhabitants to be known as cheats and blacklegs; its corporate powers to be abused for infamous purposes...

Just such, it would seem, is a fair parallel to the case of the Michigan State Bank. Six years ago by the abuse of its corporate powers its managers effected fraud. It failed; became of bad fame; the managers disappeared...

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In respect to the State bank of 1839 it was a more political and personal institution. Its officers and the State officers were intermingled. The State threw around them its sanction. Here its deposits were made; and for a State agency, and State officers labored to create confidence and power.

MEETING OF COLORED PEOPLE.

BATTLE CREEK, NOV. 25, 1845.

At a large and respectable meeting of the colored people of Battle Creek, held for the purpose of taking into consideration measures for the Emigration of the colored people, and the elevation of their condition; after an able and eloquent Lecture from Jefferson Fitzgerald, the Agent of the colored people of Green County, Ohio, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we deem the project of Emigration, with its accompanying advantages, one of the most efficient means of elevating the condition of the colored people.

Resolved, That the present condition of our people demands that Lecturers be sent into the field and sustained to awaken our people to the importance of emigrating and purchasing new territory.

REALLY WARM.

The Onondaga County Whigs, at their late Nominating Convention, in a resolution relating to the system of Slavery, go to this extraordinary length:

"We pledge to our brethren of the South without distinction of party, or cordial sympathy and cooperation in any feasible plan which they may adopt for the extinction of the traffic."

Does not this show a high degree of engagedness? Does not this evince a profound knowledge of human nature? How queer it would have looked had the late Temperance Convention held in our village, put forth a resolution in relation to the rum traffic of the same character and form!

BOUNDARIES OF CHRISTENDOM.

Take the map of the world, and encircle with your pencil every country where Woman is not a slave or a prisoner, where life and property are secured by just laws, where civilized manners are found, and when the enlightening sciences have burst the fetters of the mind; and you will encircle precisely the regions on which the rays of revelation shine.

Use of Tobacco.

John Quincy Adams in a letter to Dr. Cox, says:—"In my early youth I was addicted to the use of tobacco in two of its mysteries, smoking and chewing. I was warned by a medical man of the pernicious operation of this habit upon the stomach and nerves, and the advice of the physician was fortified by my own experience."

Habit.—A boy in Vermont, accustomed to working alone, acquired such a habit of whistling, that as soon as he was by himself he unconsciously commenced. When asleep the muscles of his mouth, chest, and lungs, were so completely concatenated in this association that he whistled with astonishing shrillness. A pale countenance, loss of appetite, and almost total prostration of strength, convinced his mother that it would soon end in his death, if not speedily overcome.

The Area of Freedom.—The Charleston (S. C.) papers state that on Sunday evening last, about 150 blacks were carrying on their religious proceedings until after hours (9 1/2 P. M.) when Marshal Prince being informed of the fact, obtained a posse of the City Guard, and succeeded in arresting seventy of the culprits, who were dealt with as the law directs—that is, numerously flogged. Blows and stripes for worshipping God after hours.

SIGNAL OF LIBERTY.

ANN ARBOR, MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1845.

One Dollar a Year in Advance.

SPECIAL NOTICE. We have in the Counties of Shiawassee, Ionia, Eaton, Clinton, and Ingham, 130 subscribers who paid their subscription last year in maple sugar. As the year is just expiring, we would say that they can have the paper for another year by leaving each 12 1/2 lbs of good Sugar with our agents in those Counties, by the first day of May next.

THE TEMPERANCE CAUSE.

Having been among the earliest advocates of this enterprise, we have watched all its varying phases with much interest, through the first and second pledges, Washingtonianism, and the consummation of all the political action that has been asked for.

THE MICHIGAN STATE BANK.

We give place to day for another defence of the Michigan State Bank, by an able and eloquent writer. As we have no personal controversy with this institution, we will say what we have to say in a few words. Let us state the question fairly. It is this: "Ought the Michigan State Bank to be revived and put in operation on the same basis on which it was first organized?"

We said, No; because its charter gave to individuals powers of defrauding the public, which had already been used to the public loss: because the example would be a precedent for other broken Banks: because its charter did not guard sufficiently and as well as another charter might do against future losses by mismanagement or dishonesty; and because the charter was granted ten years since, and there is reason to believe that the people of the State, enlightened by much and costly experience, would not now consent to grant to any set of men, however honest or competent, so great an extent of powers, with such limited restrictions.

These were our reasons. We threw them out frankly, leaving the public to judge of their value and weight. We do not see that their importance is materially diminished by the considerations urged by the friends of the Bank; that it has new and excellent directors and stockholders, with a capital actually paid in, and that its proprietors seek to do only an honorable and just business. All this we suppose to be true; but it is certain that such men will have control of the institution five years hence! And when incompetent or villainous men get possession of it, where will be the security of its creditors?

Our correspondent objects to our use of the word "it." This "it" means the charter of the Bank. "It" is a "tool" by which wicked men have done much mischief. We would prohibit the use of this tool, or so alter it as to prevent its being used to the public injury.

This is all we have to say respecting this Bank; and we have said this, not from any hostility to its proprietors, but from a determination to oppose all institutions of this kind in the establishment of which the rights of the public are not sufficiently protected.

To the other question, "Would the personal liability of Bank stockholders be any security against loss to the public by Banks?" we respond in the affirmative. We shall say something on this in due time. We will, however, advert now only to the opinion advanced by a prominent business man of the State, that "men of character and prudence will not commit themselves in a Bank where they are personally liable." We have three inquiries to make of this gentleman.

- 1. Does he think it would be safe for the public to take the promises to pay of a Bank which is so managed that "men of character and responsibility" dare not become responsible for its issues?
2. Does he think that there are any "men of character and responsibility" among the stockholders of the 63 Banks of Rhode Island, which are chartered on this principle?
3. Does he think that none of the stockholders of the Michigan Insurance Company are "men of character and prudence"? Yet every one of them may be instantly sued on a refusal by the Bank to redeem its notes!

GREAT EVENTS FROM SMALL CAUSES.

Lord Chesterfield, in his "Letters to his Son," very earnestly inculcates on him the necessity of making friends with the lowest subordinates at Court, because the most important national affairs may be determined by a caprice of the king's mistress, or the intrigues of a page of the back stairs. The same diminutive causes are sometimes brought to bear on the legislation of Republics. Com. Stewart, in his review of Ingersoll's History of the War, tells the following story of a very simple device by which Congress was induced to expend two millions of dollars:

"On the 30th of November, 1812, a bill providing, amongst other vessels, for four 74 gun ships, passed the Senate by a large majority. In the House of Representatives it met with great opposition, and the 74s were stricken out by a majority of three votes. On this occasion, Mr. John C. Calhoun, (who boarded at the same house that I did,) when he returned from the House of Representatives suggested the idea of putting Congress in a better humor with the Navy. This suggestion I promptly acted on, and a bill and party were given on board the Constellation, then laying off Greenleaf's Point—all appeared highly gratified. Mr. Calhoun took advantage of this, and called for a re-consideration, which was carried, and that portion of the bill relating to the 74s was re-inserted, and finally carried by a majority of six votes."

"A Condensed Anti-Slavery Bible Argument; By a Citizen of Virginia.—New York: printed by S. W. Benedict, No 16, Spruce Street, 1845." Such is the title of a neat looking pamphlet of 91 pages which we have received. We have not had time to examine it.

They must contribute the necessary means, and hire as many lawyers as may be necessary to prosecute each case to its final consummation. No man must be allowed to sell with impunity in their town, and every offender must be prosecuted as soon as he becomes an illegal trafficker. In this way only can the evil be removed. So long as this course is not taken, the curse will continue.

We are aware that a portion of the Temperance men are opposed to legal prosecutions of Rum-sellers. They lament the curse as much as others do. If they will find any better way to prevent it, we shall be glad to join them in executing it. But if they will not do this, they should join their brethren in carrying out the only practicable remedy that has been proposed.

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WHIG ABOLITION.

Our readers will recollect that before the election, the Liberty men of Jackson county were intreated by the Whig Gazette to "turn in with the Whigs"—to "give them a lift"—to "give them their entire and honest support"—to "go with them"—to "combine their efforts and action" with the whigs—and in return were promised "the right hand of fellowship" by the Whig party. Well, the Liberty men did not see fit to accept the offer, and finding that its efforts for cajoling were ineffectual, it came out, on the eve of election, with two columns of malediction, of which the following is "a sweet extract." It will compare with any form of cursing ever used by Catholics in the dark ages. It is a specimen of the feeling of the Whigs—who "call themselves the true Liberty party," towards the independent Liberty voters of the State.—

Will they not yield to such a pressing invitation, and "turn in with the Whigs"? "But if Third Party men love party dictation better than principle; if they choose to vote for candidates who have no serious hopes of ever being elected; if they desire to be led by the nose, by men who have never been able to obtain any little notoriety in any other party; we advise such men by all means to go for Birney! Oh, yes! Go for Birney, till three more slave States are added to the Union! Go for Birney, till slaveholders have a perpetual lease of the Government of the United States! Go for Birney, just so long as one mongrel is placed in the political balance on terms of equality with seven Michigan Freemen! Go for Birney, till slavery is eternally perpetuated in the Union! Go for Birney, till the right of petition is forever taken from the free citizens of the North! Go for Birney, so that Michigan may have another trio of Lyon, Hunt and McClelland, to minister at the polluted altar of slavery, and disgrace equal rights and northern honor! Go for Birney, till Allen, Dix and Dickinson be again elected, who owe their seats in Congress to Birneyites! Go for Birney, who elected James K. Polk over Henry Clay, and thereby enabled FOUR Senators from Florida and Texas to stalk boldly, over the prostrate ruins of the Constitution, into those very halls which were once sacred to liberty, but are now ruled by the despots of Slavery and Locofocoism! Go for Birney, for there have always been Benedict Arnolds, John Catalines, Aaron Burrs, and James G. Birneys enough to sell the interests of the free North for a mess of base pottage! Go for Birney, and while you stand on the broken and torn fragments of the Constitution, give one grand hurrah for Birney! Do it! Oh, yes! By all means, go for Birney, and may the curses of five millions of freemen rest upon your traitorous heads!

FREEHOLD EXEMPTION.

Our Exemption Law is more liberal than those of most of the States; but it lacks one very important item. It exempts the tools of the mechanic and some implements of the farmer, but no land on which to use them! Will not the Legislature take this question into consideration at the approaching session, and do Justice to the Farmers! The execution, would do more for the amelioration of the condition of the great body of the people, than all the judicial or other reforms which have been brought up in the last ten years. We heard much about favoring the Farmers during the gubernatorial canvass, and now we should like to see justice done them.—Marshall Eax.

We are unable to see what "justice" there would be under such a law, on account of the difference in the value of land. Some forty acre lots, are not worth forty dollars; while forty acres in Detroit or Ann Arbor would be an ample fortune. But excluding all lands within the boundaries of cities and villages from the operation of the proposed law, its practical effect would be most unequal.—In mining districts, forty acres of rocks and gravel may contain a princely fortune. Or, on the margin of streams, forty acres may include water powers worth thousands of dollars. Of three neighbors, each of whom owns forty acres, one might have exempted from execution \$400 worth of property one \$400 worth, and the other \$4,000 worth. What equality or "justice" would there be in this? If any alteration in the law is to be made, a certain amount of real estate, not exceeding a specified sum, should be exempted. The operation of this provision would be uniform upon mechanics, laborers, gentlemen and all other classes, as well as farmers.

The Democrats of the North—those who adhere to the party—will ultimately be prepared to do the bidding of the most rabid slaveholders, as soon as necessity shall require. Symptoms of this may be readily discovered. At the annual meeting of Democrats at Tammany Hall, in New York city, the following was adopted:

"Resolved, (In the language of Andrew Jackson,) That 'the Union must and shall be preserved;' that the efforts of the Abolitionists, here and in England, to disturb its harmony and integrity, will never meet with sympathy from the Democratic party of the North: that the inevitable result of the success of Abolitionism would be to create a pinching competition between the labor of the negro and that of the white man; that an extension of the right of suffrage to FIFTEEN THOUSAND negroes would place in their hands the balance of power in the State; and that this meeting feels it incumbent to declare that any proposition to interfere with the rights of the States, or any project having in view the extension of negro suffrage, will meet with its steady and determined opposition."

George A. Coe, is the only Whig member of the Senate. He is from the District composed of Branch, Jackson, &c.

The Slavery question is not one which is debatable. James K. Polk, Letter to S. M. Gates.

THE TELEGRAPH.

As this wonder of modern times is shortly to be in operation, as it were, before our own doors, every thing connected with it will be of interest. The discovery is yet in its infancy, and there can be no doubt but improvements will be made which will vastly augment its usefulness.

The Washington correspondent of the Journal of Commerce says:—"The line of telegraph between Baltimore and Philadelphia will not be completed during the present season—notwithstanding all assertions to the contrary. The price of telegraphic despatches hence to Baltimore, as fixed by the Postmaster General, is one cent for four letters. Words average five letters, in our language. One thousand words, or half of an ordinary newspaper column, would cost, therefore, twelve dollars and a half for telegraph from Washington to Baltimore.

The time occupied in telegraphing one thousand words, or five thousand letters, would be one hour and twenty-three minutes, at the ordinary calculation of sixty letters to the minute. A very skillful manipulator may do better than that.—Mr. Vail, I believe, far exceeds it: telegraphing eighty-two letters to a minute.

During the late session, advises were sent to the Baltimore papers from this city by the telegraph, gratis; afterward, the government took up the subject, and fixed the rate of postage, as above, by regulation of the Postmaster General. I doubt whether the several companies will serve the press, hereafter, at a less rate than they do others. Mr. Vail supposes that the rate of postage for the press will be fixed at a lower rate than that for the public.

This seems a high rate of charge for correspondence; but it is to be remembered that a vast amount of commercial intelligence and correspondence relating to pecuniary transactions can be conveyed in a very few words.

A late paper gives the result of the meeting of the Magnetic Telegraph Company, in Washington city. Amos Kendall was elected President pro tem.

Mr. Kendall stated to the company that he was in negotiation with gentlemen in the city of New York, for the purpose of raising a sufficient sum of money to extend the line of telegraph from Philadelphia to Baltimore. He also reported that the line of telegraph between the cities of New York and Philadelphia was in great forwardness, and would probably be completed and open for the transmission of intelligence in a few weeks. The following rates of charge for the distance between New York and Philadelphia were agreed upon:

- 50 miles and under, 10 cts.
Over 50 and not over 100 miles, 20 "
From New York to Philadelphia, 25 "
From Philadelphia to New York, 25 "
For all distances over 100 miles, 25 "
For every additional not exceeding ten words, the same rate of charge will be made as on the first ten."

REGULATIONS.—Payment in advance, communications to be sent to managers in writing; first come first served—no one to occupy more than 15 minutes while others are waiting. Foreign arrivals with prices of cotton and other American produce, telegraphed and posted at each station gratis. No favoritism; facilities to be afforded for apprehension of fugitives.

The Buffalo and Lockport Company have adopted the following tariff of charges until Jan. 1, 1846:

- For a communication of twenty words or under, 50 cts.
For an answer of twelve words or under, 0 12 1/2
For an answer over twelve words up to twenty-five, 0 25
For every word over twenty-five to fifty, 1/4 of a cent per word.
For every word over fifty, 1/4 of a cent per word.
For printing a single name 64 cents.

Any answer may be paid for at the office where the original communication is made.

Messages delivered by paying the Messenger a small fee for delivering. Editors or Publishers of newspapers can have communications intended for publication, at 1/4 of a cent per word, by taking the original communication from the office before being deciphered.

The Signal of Liberty seems to be a source of great annoyance and irritation to some of our Whig brethren. The Editor of the Jackson State Gazette bestows two columns upon our "political dishonesty," and finishes with a parting salutation—thus:

"Now let the truth come out. You are a base, egotistical, selfish, unprincipled, arrogant, and consummate demagogue, whose feelings, instincts and interests are with the Locofoco party, to whom it is your highest pleasure to do homage."

We make no reply to such aspersions, as we are commanded not to return railing for railing, or to revile again when we are reviled. To enter on a rational defence against gross ribaldry from such a source, would be ridiculous; while an answer of the same nature with the attack of the Editor of the Gazette would degrade us to his level.

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