



had experienced on first passing the gateway was gone, and I went rambling over the whole town, solitary and unarm-

Never had I beheld such destruction of property. Scarcely a house did I pass that did not show some great rent made by the bursting of our bomb shells.

During my peregrinations, I came to a lofty and noble mansion, in which a terrible bomb had exploded, and laid the whole front of the house in ruins.

During the afternoon I visited the hospital. Here lay upon truckle beds the mangled creatures who had been wounded during the bombardment.

I went about from cot to cot, and attempted to coudole with the sufferers, by whom I was invariably greeted with a kind smile.

In the course of the afternoon the army took possession of the city of Vera Cruz, and the streets were thronged with our troops.

A PRESS IN CALIFORNIA.—The Rev. Walter Cotton, Alcalde of Monterey and Chaplain of the U. S. frigate Congress, has established a paper called the Californian, at Monterey, Upper California.

OUR ALPHABET.—Our type is a Spanish font picked up here in a cloister, and has no W's in it, as there is none in the Spanish alphabet.

MR. MAFFIT DEPOSED.—We stated about two months ago that charges of a very grave character had been preferred against the Rev. J. N. Maffit, since which he has had his hearing before the New York city conference of the Methodist church, and the result is, that he has been deposed from the ministry and cut off from church fellowship.

"PRETTY GOOD."—The kindness of Northern men who go to the south, and become slaveholders, has never been better hit off than by the following from the Southern correspondence of the Greenfield (Mass.) Courier:

"A gentleman, reclining upon his sofa one warm summer's day, called his waiter to bring him a handkerchief. The order was instantly obeyed. 'Hold it to my nose,' was a further demand. The servant did so. After holding it there a minute or two, the sprawling gentleman sprang to the floor, and put a swift veto—5 toes—whether round or square I don't know, which sent him headlong, at the same time remarking, 'You grand rascal, you! I know what I wanted; why didn't you blow?'"

COMMUNICATIONS

For the Signal of Liberty.

"Supporting the War."

MR. PATTON.—For a long time I have been greatly surprised and pained, at the obsequiousness of a great majority of the Whig and Democratic presses in relation to the war with Mexico.

There is one view of this subject which renders the attitude of nearly all the Whig apologists of the continuance of the war especially inconsistent and even disgusting. It is this: They declare that the commencement of the war was unjust and unnecessary.

During the afternoon I visited the hospital. Here lay upon truckle beds the mangled creatures who had been wounded during the bombardment.

But my especial object in writing this article, is to notice the position of the Detroit Weekly Advertiser—a journal with which I have been intimately acquainted since its commencement, and whose independence and firmness on many subjects I have often admired.

While I do not wish to assume the office of a dictator or a critic, still I must express my deep regret that that paper advocates a continuance of the war with Mexico.

True, we should be loyal subjects and obey the statutes of our country, even if they be wrong, until they are amended or repealed; but this by no means implies our obligation to encourage and promote the bare measures that unworthy rulers may force upon us.

Wishing for peace, still urging on the war! Is the mere success of arms then the sole desire of these war spirits? Is martial triumph the only pledge of an honorable peace?

of an imaginary line through the enemy's country" be a sufficient inducement for us to prosecute the war of carnage and butchery? Who is to determine the location of this "imaginary line?"

What a stupendous intellect, what a critical acumen must animate that "lump of clay" that presides over the columns of the Advertiser. Truly we commiserate his condition, and would recommend the appropriate soliloquy—

"O what a tangled web we weave When first we practice to deceive."

After expressing an ardent desire to see the war prosecuted "that other nations may not despise us," (!!!) this unique logician proceeds to complete his assemblage of silly quixotisms and monstrous absurdities, by declaring that "we wish to see our country in every war succeed over a declared enemy."

WILLIAM H. GREGORY. Plymouth Retreat, 2 May 15th, 1847.

Corwin on the War.

In a letter of April 4 to a gentleman in N. York, Senator Corwin makes some remarks by which it appears that ALL the leading Whigs of the Senate acknowledged the injustice, folly, and wastefulness of the war, and yet voted twenty-eight millions in money, and tens of thousands of men to carry it on!

"I felt, as strongly as any one could, the responsibility I assumed. I differed with all the leading Whigs of the Senate, and saw plainly that they all were to some extent, bound to turn, if they could, the current of the public opinion against me."

That question he will not answer! It is for conquest alone. The great Model Republic of the World makes war upon one modeled after her, to take away her territory and utterly destroy her, till her leading men are driven to beg the aid of kings, to prevent us, the Great Republic, from robbing those, who, as well as they know how to do it, are trying to establish free governments after our example.

We cannot agree with the Advertiser to denounce the Massachusetts Senate for rejecting the vote of thanks to Gen. Taylor. If Gen. Taylor was at home attending to his cotton and sugar and providing for the comfort of his negroes and other live stock, he would, in our opinion, be better entitled to the gratitude of his country.—Michigan State Journal.

SIGNAL OF LIBERTY.

Saturday, May 22.

NOTICE.

The State Liberty Convention, for the nomination of Candidates for the offices of Governor and Lieut. Governor of the State of Michigan, to be supported at the ensuing November election, will be held at Jackson on Wednesday the 23d day of June next, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon.

By order of the State Central Liberty Committee, C. GURNEY, Chairman.

Liberty Meetings!

Liberty Meetings will be held at the Court House at Ann Arbor on Wednesday evening, April 26, at 7 o'clock; and on Thursday, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and at 7 o'clock in the evening.

C. M. HAWLEY, one of the New York State Liberty Committee, and LEWIS WASHINGTON, a fugitive from slavery, and well known through the eastern states as an acceptable speaker, will address the meetings. Liberty men, and the public generally, ladies and gentlemen, are respectfully invited to attend.

The War.

Last week we stated that we had no sufficient data from which we could judge whether the Mexican nation would submit to our dictation and sue for peace, or carry on an exterminating and long continued warfare.

The Van Zandt Case.

On our first page we have published the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in this case, omitting only that portion of it which related to points entirely technical.

The act of 1793, is affirmed as constitutional and proper in all its parts.—The whole argument assumes that the Constitution was intended to secure property in slaves, and that the law of 1793 is just the thing to do it, and will therefore be maintained by the Supreme Court.

We cannot say how important may be the results of this decision in all respects; but we are fully satisfied it will weaken the attachment and veneration of honest and thinking men for the government of their country.

The Western Citizen, Chicago, is out for John P. Hale for President, and Samuel Lewis for Vice President. The nomination in itself, is not a bad one.—We think well of Mr. Hale, although we should like to see what his course will be in Congress before we vote to make him President.

The Popular Man.

An exchange paper received by us a few days since had a brief notice of the political career of a young man, not remarkable for a massive intellect or brilliant talents, who in twelve years, from the condition of a private citizen, without the aid of other friends than he had made by his own conduct, had passed through various grades of civil and judicial office, until he had attained the highest post it was in the power of the citizens of his State to confer upon him.

In religious matters, the Popular Man is very tolerant of all denominations. He is not a church member, but he attends frequently at one of the most fashionable churches in the place where he resides, and occupies a slip near the centre of the house.

In financial matters, the Popular Man, although not wealthy, keeps up a respectable appearance, and seeks, as far as possible, to live within his income.

The reforms agitating in community are sources of some perplexity to the Popular Man. To please parties directly antagonistic to each other is difficult.

The name of the Popular Man is often seen in the newspapers as the Chairman of public meetings, or one of the Executive Committee of Associations, for the interest of which he cares not a straw.

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icate hand which makes him wince with inward agony. The Popular Man is very careful not to show the least signs of aristocratic feeling to country people, as he well knows that a short word or even a sour look towards one who never saw him before and may never see him again, may lose him several votes.

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intoxicated, and never was known to drink too much, unless occasionally at social meetings with members of Congress, Judges, or other high functionaries.

To the Antislavery question he sustains the same attitude. He acknowledges the existence and supremacy of the Slave Power, and from his heart he says he hopes it will be overthrown, yet votes for Slaveholders of his own party to fill three fourths of all the offices in the nation.

Indeed, the Popular Man is conservative to the highest degree. He wishes to make the most out of things just as they are; and if community will move in spite of him, he immediately adapts himself to the new state of things after it is established.

Thus the Popular Man passes through life. He is generally liked, usually respected, and fills an influential station in society. His death will be noticed in all the papers by a lengthened and elaborate obituary, extolling his virtues. A handsome monument will be erected to his memory; but his name will never go down to posterity as the author of great enterprises, or as a worthy coadjutor in any grand project for ennobling and elevating his race.

Mr. Clay and the War.

In a late letter to some Whig Young Men of Auburn, Mr. Clay speaks of the contest with Mexico as a war of "aggression" on our part, commenced in an exceptional manner, and likely to terminate in fearful issues.

"For our common country I do regret the issue of the contest. Had it been otherwise, we should have preserved the Protective Policy, under which we had made such rapid, encouraging advances; the march of improvement in our rivers and harbors would not have been arrested; and above all, we should have avoided this unnecessary war of aggression with a neighbor torn to pieces by internal dissensions.

The National Era says of the formation of the new Antislavery Reform party by Wm. Goodell and his associates.

"On this remarkable movement we shall say but little. The persons engaged in it are frank and above-board. The conduct of the Liberty party has dissatisfied them, and accordingly, as free and independent men, they have called a convention of all who agree in opinion with them; not pretending to call a Liberty convention, or to speak for the Liberty party. We regret the movement, but we like to see men acting in fidelity to their own convictions of duty. It will tend to weaken the Liberty party; particularly in New York, by drawing off some of its most active adherents; but the originators of it, we presume have no idea of preventing a national Liberty convention at a suitable time.— Their action is upon their own responsibility, and will not affect the course of the Liberty party, unless, indeed, it should be responded to more extensively than we now suppose it will be. In that event, it might end in the disruption and speedy extinction of our present organization. As they will put in nomination candidates representing fully all the principles and policy they have avowed, and committed against any organization formed on the simple principle of antagonism to slavery, they understand clearly enough that the Liberty party at its national convention, cannot adopt their nominees without abandoning its own position, and merging itself in the new party.

We see no reason for apprehending that it will do this."



