AMERICAN TELEGRAPH.

Salaries of Government Clerks.

The Philadelphia Sun says:

"There has been a good deal of talk in Washington about increasing clerks' salaries, especially those rated at a thousand a year and below that sum. If clerks are gentlemen, as we presume they are, they cannot support a family on that moderate sum, in view of the increased rents and all other articles of living. Considering that the chances of promotion are exceedingly slim, and that no pensions are granted to clerks' widows and orphans, the least that a respectable government can do is to see that, while living and performing their duties, they shall be paid in a manner which, with economy, may serve them to lay up a few pennies for rainy days. It is not in clerks' salaries that the government can ever be beggared, and it is a poor economy which would stint public servants and afterwards vote money in large sums to contractors and speculators.

In some of the offices there, the clerks are already treated worse than day-laborers. They must report themselves when coming to office, ditto when they leave; they are not allowed to talk to each other or to keep newspapers: and by such state-prison labor they are expected to benefit the treasury. The genius of our government consists in paying the humble grades of labor *well*, and in diminishing the remuneration as honor and fame are attached to the office.

A Singular Enterprise.—A company is about to be formed in London, with a capital of one hundred thousand pounds, in twenty thousand shares, for the purpose of introducing sea-water for bathing into the metropolis. It is ascertained that the water of the German ocean is purer and better than the sea-water of the southern coast of England; moreover, the elevation of the coast along the German ocean is higher than London, consequently the sea-wall will have a natural fall to the metropolis without the aid of expensive machinery to raise it from the ocean. Brighton lies below London several feet, and the sea-water is not pure. It is, therefore, proposed to bring sea-water through three lines of pipes running alongside the Eastern Counties railway, and buried in the ground. The water will be taken from the coast at Lynn, which is nearly one hundred miles from the metropolis, and distributed at the west end of the town, each mansion being adequately supplied at the annual charge of about five pounds. The whole expense of this novel scheme, it is calculated, will not exceed one hundred thousand pounds, and it is confidently believed that share-holders will realize upwards of 100 per cent. of the capital.

The Catholic Test.—Edmund Burke has come out with a letter charging that the Whigs are responsible for the continuance of the "Test," although the Democrats have the ascendancy in that State. The minority must govern the majority, and that majority lack power, sagacity, and disposition to help themselves.

The following statements have been made by the Whigs, and, though attempts have been made to evade them, they have not been denied:

1st. That the Democratic party of New Hampshire, being largely in the ascendant, are responsible for the maintenance of the anti-Catholic test.

2d. That the Whig towns of New Hampshire have given large majorities for the repeal of the test; while the Democratic towns gave large majorities to uphold it.

3. That the town in which Franklin Pierce resides, being essentially Democratic, was amongst the towns that elected large majorities in favor of the maintenance of the test.

4th. That the Democracy of the State, with the view of rendering the repeal of the test more difficult, provided that a two-thirds majority should be required to repeal it.

5th. That by this step the Democracy of New Hampshire added trickery to intolerance.

6th. That the maintenance of the test is in accordance with the policy pursued at other times by the Democracy of New Hampshire in relation to foreigners, especially to Irishmen.

7th. That Franklin Pierce made no exertions to induce his party to repeal the test; that his only speech upon the subject was feeble, indecisive, and not delivered until too late.

The physician who attends *sic transit* has arrived, and taken rooms at the Tremont.—*Boston Times.*

The pugilist that *nihil fit* has gone to Boston, and expects to see *sic transit* in *gloria mundi* morning.—*Springfield Post.*

He arrived safely, but soon *delta* blow at *sic transit*, and *beta* hole in his head.—*Boston Bee.*

We understand that *nihil fit* him and *noctes* head completely off.—*Boston Museum.*

The meanest part of the whole affair is, that after he was down, *verbum sat* on him.—*Northern Light.*

That must be a mistake, for *sic transit* was *inter se* Dr. Bigg last evening, and staid till *tecum.*—*Carpet Bag.*

Queer lingo this. We wonder what the *ducit* means, and what the writers *mentii* for. It sounds *cur sed ridiculus.*—*New Orleans Picayune.*

Don't ask *mecum* and explain it. It is *sed fugit* into such a *ridiculus mus.*

Items.

He is rich who owes nothing.

Mr. Wise appears to be making a balloon ascension every Saturday, from some town in the northern part of Ohio.

The steamer Black Warrior will commence running between New York and Mobile on the 25th instant, touching at Havana.

A dog, with a wooden leg, was recently seen in St. Charles street, New Orleans, getting along quite comfortably.

Gen. Franklin Pierce, Mrs. Pierce, and their son, are amongst the guests at the Ocean House, Rye Beach, N. H.

If you would not be forgotten as soon as you are dead and rotten, either write something worth reading or do something worth writing.

Counterfeit dollar and ten-dollar pieces are numerously circulated in New York, and so well executed, it is said, that a chemical test only proves their spuriousness.

The Queen of Spain attended a grand bull-fight lately, got up for *charitable purposes.* The affair is pronounced a failure, on account of the want of "pluck" displayed by the animals. Fourteen bulls were slain, and "*only*" eleven horses, whereas the number of horses *ought* to have been greater than of the bulls.

Seizures of liquor are taking place in Rhode Island. Three thousand dollars' worth was seized at Fall River on the 10th. At Newport complaints were entered against the Ocean, Atlantic, and United States Hotels, and a seizure was made at the Ocean House. The informers were assaulted with rotten eggs, &c. One man drew a pistol. He was arrested and bailed.

The "black laws" of Indiana were repealed at the late session of the legislature of that State. It was done unintentionally, by the passage of a general repealing law, repealing all laws of the State not enacted at the same session, with certain exceptions. The blacks are now on the same footing with the whites, as to giving testimony, and in certain other respects. Some of the Indiana papers think the old laws will be re-enacted at the next session.

During a learned lecture by a German adventurer, one Baron Vondulibrains, he illustrated the glory of mechanics, as a science, thus: De ting dat is *made* is more superior as de *maker.* I shall show you how, in some tings. Suppose I make de round wheel of de coach? Ver well; dat wheel roll round five hundred mile!—and I cannot roll one myself! Suppose I am a cooper, vot you call, and I make de big tub to hold vine? He holds tuns and gallons, and *I cannot hold more as fife bottle!* So you see dat what is made is more superior as de maker.

THE WHIG PLATFORM.

The Whigs of the United States, in Convention assembled, firmly adhering to the great conservative republican principles by which they are controlled and governed, and now, as ever, relying upon the intelligence of the American people, with an abiding confidence in their capacity for self-government and their continued devotion to the constitution and the Union, do proclaim the following as the political sentiments and determinations for the establishment and maintenance of which their national organization as a party is effected:

1. The government of the United States is of a limited character, and it is confined to the exercise of powers expressly granted by the constitution, and such as may be necessary and proper for carrying the granted powers into full execution; and that all powers not thus granted or necessarily implied are expressly reserved to the States, respectively, and to the people.

2. The State governments should be held secure in their reserved rights, and the general government sustained in its constitutional powers, and the Union should be revered and watched over as "the palladium of our liberties."

3. That, while struggling freedom everywhere enlists the warmest sympathy of the Whig party, we still adhere to the doctrines of the Father of his Country, as announced in his Farewell Address, of keeping ourselves free from all entangling alliances with foreign countries, and of never quitting our own to stand upon foreign ground. That our mission as a republic is not to propagate our opinions, or impose on other countries our form of government by artifice or force, but to teach by example, and show, by our success, moderation, and justice, the blessings of self-government and the advantages of free institutions.

4. That where the people make and control the government, they should obey its constitution, laws, and treaties, as they would retain their self-respect and the respect which they claim and will enforce from foreign powers.

5. Government should be conducted upon principles of the strictest economy, and revenue sufficient for the expenses thereof, in time of peace, ought to be mainly derived from a duty on imports, and not from direct taxes; and in levying such duties, sound policy requires a just discrimination, and protection from fraud by specific duties when practicable, whereby suitable encouragement may be assured to American industry, equally to all classes and to all portions of the country.

6. The constitution vests in Congress the power to open and repair harbors, and remove obstructions from navigable rivers; and it is expedient that Congress should exercise that power, *whenever such improvements are necessary for the common defence*, or for the protection and facility of commerce with foreign nations or among the States; such improvements being, in every instance, national and general in their character.

7. The federal and State governments are parts of one system, alike necessary for the common prosperity, peace, and security, and ought to be regarded alike with a cordial, habitual, and immovable attachment. Respect for the authority of each, and acquiescence in the constitutional measures of each, are duties required by the plainest considerations of national, of State, and of individual welfare.

8. The series of acts of the 31st Congress commonly known as the Compromise or Adjustment (the act for the recovery of fugitives from labor included) are received and acquiesced in by the Whigs of the United States as a final settlement, in principle and substance, of the subjects to which they relate; and, so far as these acts are concerned, we will maintain them, and insist on their strict enforcement, until time and experience shall demonstrate the necessity of further legislation, to guard against the evasion of the laws on the one hand, and the abuse of their powers on the other—not impairing their present efficiency to carry out the requirements of the constitution; and we deprecate all further agitation of the questions thus settled, as dangerous to our peace, and will discountenance all efforts to continue or renew such agitation, whenever, wherever, or however made; and we will maintain this settlement as essential to the nationality of the Whig party and the integrity of the Union.

J. G. CHAPMAN, of Maryland,
President of the Whig National Convention.

Vice Presidents.—Nathan D. Appleton, of Maine; George W. Nesmith, of New Hampshire; Carlos Coolidge, of Vermont; Seth Sprague, of Massachusetts; R. W. B. Cranston, of Rhode Island; Samuel B. Hubbard, of Connecticut; Edward P. Cowles, of New York; James Stewart, of New Jersey; John Strohm, of Pennsylvania; Caleb S. Layton, of Delaware; Francis P. Phelps, of Maryland; William L. Goggin, of Virginia; A. H. Sheppard, of North Carolina; William Whaley, of South Carolina; Seaton Grantland, of Georgia; Thos. J. Frow, of Alabama; Joseph B. Cobb, of Mississippi; J. C. Van Winkle, of Louisiana; Samuel F. Vinton, of Ohio; John S. Williams, of Kentucky; William H. Sneed, of Tennessee; Milton Stapp, of Indiana; Benjamin S. Edward, of Illinois; Hon. J. G. Miller, of Missouri; William H. Gaines, of Arkansas; Jones M. Edwards, of Michigan; Gen. Joseph M. Hernandez, of Florida; J. U. N. Murray, of Texas; N. McKinney, of Iowa; J. E. Arnold, of California; and R. W. Heath, of Wisconsin. (A true copy.)

R. A. UPTON, of Louisiana,
Secretary of the Whig National Convention.

Assistant Secretaries.—James W. Bryan, of North Carolina; S. M. Ballard, of Iowa; W. F. Stewart, of California; S. Colfax, of Indiana, John C. Kunkle, of Pennsylvania; William C Worthington, of Virginia; N. S. Perkins, of Connecticut; G. W. Meeker, of Illinois; William Thompson, of Michigan; G. W. Dunlap, of Kentucky; J. Murrell, of Vermont.

The New Gallery!

ECONOMY IS THE FOUNDATION OF PROSPERITY!

If "*a dollar saved is a dollar made,*" why not be frugal in the purchase of Daguerreotypes by calling at THOMPSON'S, where hundreds come and go away weekly, satisfied that they do not pay too much. His long experience in this business, and his excellent location, enable him to satisfy the most fastidious.

☞ Don't forget the place—*THOMPSON'S SKY-LIGHT GALLERY*, Lane & Tucker's Buildings, where likenesses are taken, and put in morocco cases, for fifty cents.
june 8—tf

WILL OPEN TUESDAY, AUGUST 2d, 1852,

THE WASHINGTON EMIGRANT AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICE,

F street, (Island,) between 4½ and 6th streets, east of the Wind-mill.

All Foreign Emigrants, (of whatever class, nation, or creed,) in pursuit of employment, are requested to call and have their names registered for situations. Citizens requiring help, male or female, by calling at the office personally, or by written communication, may have the opportunity of securing it. Overseers, Waiters, Porters, Coachmen, Farm Hands, Laborers, Cooks, Chambermaids, Housemaids, Nurses, &c., may all find employment. Persons at a distance supplied. All letters must be prepaid to receive attention.

☞ No office fee charged to newly-arrived Emigrants. Office hours from 9 o'clock a. m. until 3½ p. m.

J. THOMPSON GREHAM, Agent.
jy 17—S&Tulm

FRESH BUTTER, EGGS, VEGETABLES, NEW MILK, &c.

Just received, and will continue to be received nearly every day through the season, Fresh Butter from one of the best dairies in Fairfax county, together with Vegetables, Eggs, &c. Also, PURE NEW MILK, and a large variety of excellent family Groceries—*cheap for cash.* For sale by

TRUMAN M. BRUSH,
opposite the Garrison, Garrison street,
may 25—tr Navy Yard Hill.

Rehbach's Premium Polygrades, or Drawing Pencils—the best now in use for drawing and architectural purposes.
Cohen's Office Pencils, hard and soft.
Cohen's superfine prepared Polygrades, do.
Also Fendler's "Cravons superfine," and red lead Pencils, at WIMER'S, next to Mrs. Collison's Fancy Store, 6th street.
mar 11—tr

CITY EXPRESS.

The subscriber takes this method of informing the public that he will commence from this day to run his Express to Georgetown at 2 o'clock p. m., and will deliver packages in every part of Georgetown at moderate charges. Orders left at Clagett & Dodson's, Washington, and Messrs. English's and Linthicum's, Georgetown, will receive his strict attention.
mar 29—tf JAMES ARTHUR O'CONNER.

A COMFORTABLE SHAVE!

Fenney's Warranted "Tally-ho Razors"—good, or the money will be returned
Shaving Creams, German Cologne
French Paste Blacking—a superior article
Blacking Brushes, Key-Rings, &c. At
WIMER'S, Sixth st., adjoining Mrs. Collison's
may 24—tr Millinery and Fancy Store.

SAMUEL T. WILLIAMS, Attorney at Law,
65 *Fayette street, Baltimore, Md.,*

Practises in the various courts of Baltimore. Prompt attention given to Collecting. He refers to—
Hon. S. U. Downs, Senator from Louisiana.
Hon. G. W. Jones, do. Iowa.
T. C. Connolly, esq., Editor American Telegraph.
Dr. John O Wharton, Baltimore, Md.
feb 21—tf

Who is Winfield Scott?

What has He done to merit Our Gratitude?

These questions have been thus answered:

At the age of twenty-one, and in the summer of 1807, he volunteered into a troop of Virginia horse.

In 1812 he fought the battle of Queenstown Heights.

In 1813 he was the instrument of saving our Irish citizens, taken in arms against the British, from the savage penalties of the English law of constructive treason.

In the same year he fought, as Colonel, in the battle of Fort George.

In 1814 he made a new army and restored the military spirit of the country—took Fort Erie—fought the battle of Chippewa—and fought the good fight of Lundy's Lane.

In 1832 he won the proud title of the "Hero of Humanity," by nursing the sick and dying troops of his army, upon which the Asiatic cholera fell blightingly, on its march to the field of the Black Hawk war.

In the same year, by negotiation, and not by force of arms, he brought the Black Hawk war to a just and favorable issue.

In the same year he soothed the spirit of Southern Nullification, and saved our country from civil discord.

In 1836 he served against the Seminole Indians in Florida.

In 1837, with admirable energy and tact, and without troops, he calmed the patriot disturbances upon our extended Northern frontier.

In the same year he effected the removal of the Cherokees, in a manner that won the gratitude of the noble tribe and the admiration of his whole country.

In 1839 he earned the distinguished title of "The Pacificator of the Northeastern Boundary," and saved his country from a bloody and wasteful war with Great Britain.

In 1847 he opened the splendid military drama of the second conquest of Mexico, by reducing the city of Vera Cruz and the impregnable Castle of San Juan d'Ulloa after an active siege of but four days.

April the 8th, he fought and won the admirable battle of Cerro Gordo, and opened to the Americans the path to the dominion of the entire Western Continent.

On the 19th of April he entered the city of Jalapa.

On the 22d of April, he occupied Perote.

On the 15th of May, he took Puebla.

On the 20th of August, he won the three great victories of Contreras, San Antonio, and Churubusco.

On the 8th of September, he fought and won the brilliant battle of Molino del Rey.

On the 13th of September, he carried by storm the terrible Heights and Fortress of Chepultepec—scattered the Mexican army from the gates of Belen and Sar Cosume, and made a lodgment in the capital of Mexico.

On the 14th of September, he marched his army of heroes, scarce six thousand men, into the halls of the Montezumas, and broke the Spanish dominion in America.

Who is Franklin Pierce?—What has He done?

Franklin Pierce was born in 1804, at Hillsborough, N. H., and graduated at Bowdoin College, Maine—studied law, and commenced practice in Hillsborough county. He was elected to the legislature of his State, and shortly after chosen speaker of the House.

In 1834 he was elected to the lower House of Congress, in which body he served until 1838, at which period he became a Senator of the United States, and served till 1842–3. He resigned his seat in the Senate and returned to the practice of law in 1843.

In 1845 he was nominated for governor of the State, but declined. President Polk offered him the Attorney Generalship, which he also declined.

In 1848 he was appointed a Colonel in the ten regiments raised for the service of the United States in Mexico. Subsequently, he was made Brigadier General. He performed no achievement of note during the war, nor has he ever done so in any position, civil or military.

TRY THE ENGLISH VERMIN-DESTROYER,

If you want to get rid of the bedbugs, ants, and roaches—*Price 25 cents a bottle.* Daily evidence is given us of its efficacy in destroying these pests of housekeepers and lodgers. Call and get a bottle at
WIMER'S Cheap Cash Stationery Store,
july 21—tr Sixth st., near Louisiana avenue.

GEORGETOWN FEMALE SEMINARY,
GEORGETOWN, D. C.

This seminary, so long known as Miss English's, will open on the 1st of September next, under the exclusive charge of Rev. W. J. Clark, who will be assisted by competent and accomplished professors and teachers in every department.

Every effort will be used to make the institution a happy home for all its inmates.

Terms for boarding pupils, including tuition in English and Mathematics, $200 per annum, payable half-yearly in advance. Music, Ancient and Modern Languages, Drawing, and Painting, extra. Circulars, containing the terms in full, may be had on application to the Principal, in Georgetown.
WILLIAM J. CLARK.
July 20—tf

D. H. Tebbs & Co.
NEW DRY GOODS STORE,
In the house formerly occupied by Mr. Andrew Boyle, four doors east of Centre Market, and next door to Mr. Jesse B. Wilson's Grocery Store.

We would announce to our friends that we have opened a large and general stock of Dry Goods, consisting of all kinds of Bleached and Brown Cottons; Prints from 6¼ cents up; heavy yard-wide Cottons at 6¼ cents; Lawns at 10 and 12½ cents, worth 25; Cottonades from 6¼ to 12½ cents; Bedticks, heavy and wide, at 6¼ cents, with a good assortment of all kinds of cheap dress goods; Flannels; Irish Linens; Cotton Sheetings, bleached and brown, all widths; Cotton and Linen Table Diaper and Damask, all prices, by the yard; Brown and Bleached Table Cloths, all grades and sizes; Napkins; Towellings; Russia Diapers; Huckabacks; a good stock of Cloths and Cassimeres, in plain and fancy colors; and, in fact, every kind of goods pertaining to a well-regulated establishment, and all at the very lowest cash prices.

FANCY GOODS.

We have in Fancy Goods—Bonnets, all styles and prices; Ribbons, Flowers, Wreaths, (Bonnet Cap,) Lace Veils and Fall; Crapes and Tarletons, all colors; white and colored Illusions; plain and embroidered Swiss Muslins, in white and colors; plain and plaid Cambrics, Lisle and Cotton Edgings; black Silk Laces, all widths, and very cheap; Nets and Tarletons, low priced, in colors, for covering furniture; Swiss and Lace embroidered Undersleeves; worked Bands, Chemisets, Cuffs, and Collars, in great variety and very cheap; Gents' Collars, fine and good, all sizes, $1.50 per dozen; Combs, Brushes, Porte-monnaies, Pocketbooks, Purses, Suspenders, Cologne, Pomatum, Scissors, Thimbles, Needles, Pins, Hooks and Eyes; Silk, Cotton, and Thread Gloves; Black Silk Mitts, all kinds; brown and bleached Hose and Half-Hose, (striped Half-Hose,) Silk Hose and Half-Hose, Linen and Silk Pocket Handkerchiefs, Linen Cambric and Clear Lawn Handkerchiefs, all prices; Spool Cotton, white and colored, from 8 to 50 cents per dozen.

Persons wanting goods in our line will do well to give us a call, as we are determined to sell the cheapest goods in this city.

Don't mistake the place; flag at the door, with D. H. Tebbs & Co., cheap dry goods store, on it.

P. S.—Carpets and Mattings very cheap. Don't mistake the place! Flag at the door! jy 17—d1m

JOE SHILLINGTON receives all the Political Caricatures as fast as published.
Dickens's Bleak House, No. 5.
Blackwood's Magazine for July.
The Discarded Daughter, or the Children of the Isle, by Mrs. Southworth.
The Prairie Scout, a Romance of Border Life.
Fair Rosamond, or the Queen's Victim.
Gleason's Pictorial for this week.
All the New Books as fast as published.
Newspapers, Stationery, and everything in the cheap publication line for sale at JOE SHILLINGTON'S
Bookstore, Odeon Building, cor. 4½ st. and Penn. av.
jy 22—tr

NOTICE.

All persons by whom small balances are due us will please call and settle the same, thereby saving themselves trouble and our time, as time is money.
jy 21—tf STEVENS'S Fancy Store, A No. 1.

Whatman's Drawing Paper!
Letter Paper, 10, 12½, 15, 18, 20, and 25 cts. a quire
The celebrated TALLY-HO RAZORS, 31¼ cents
Fancy Cut Paper for Picture Frames
A few more of those pretty Grate Aprons, at reduced prices
Shaving Soaps, Tooth Brushes, &c., &c., at
WIMER'S Cheap Cash Stationery Store,
6th street, near Louisiana av.
☞ HAMPTON'S VEGETABLE TINCTURE always on hand, direct from the manufacturers. june 19—tr

Fine Double Enameled French Cards.—Another lot of fine Cards for engraving and writing upon with the style and pencil; and a variety of Cards for printing purposes of the different numbers and qualities—at Mrs. COLLISON'S Fancy Store, Sixth street,
feb 20—tr near Louisiana avenue.

NEEDLES!

Genuine Smith & Son's Drilled-eye Needles, a fine assortment, at wholesale. E. WHEELER,
june 11—3m Opposite Browns' Hotel.

[From the National Intelligencer of August 5.]

Gen. Scott on the Subject of Slavery.

We received yesterday, from a gentleman in Maryland, the letter which we give below. It was written nearly ten years ago, and was first published in the Danville (Virginia) Reporter, and thence transferred to the "Maryland Colonization Journal," from which journal it is now copied. Our correspondent is of opinion that General Scott's views on the delicate question of slavery have been misrepresented, and therefore desires to see this letter, in which they are fully and authentically set forth, inserted in the Intelligencer.

The views expressed by the General appear to us to evince a wise and comprehensive statesmanship, as well as a characteristic philanthropy, and we therefore, with pleasure, give the letter a place in our columns:

Washington, February 8, 1843.

My Dear Sir: I have been waiting for an evening's leisure to answer your letter before me, and, after an unreasonable delay, am at last obliged to reply in the midst of official occupations.

That I ever have been named in connexion with the Presidency of the United States has not, I can assure *you*, the son of an ancient neighbor and friend, been by any contrivance or desire of mine; and certainly I shall never be in the field for that high office unless placed there *by a regular nomination.* Not, then, being a candidate, and seeing no near prospect of being *made* one, I ought, perhaps, to decline troubling you or others with my humble opinions on great principles of State rights and federal administration; but as I cannot plead ignorance of the partiality of a few friends, in several parts of the Union, who may by possibility, in a certain event, succeed in bringing me within the field from which a Whig candidate is to be selected, I prefer to err on the side of frankness and candor, rather than, by silence, to allow any stranger unwittingly to commit himself to my support.

Your inquiries open the whole question of domestic slavery, which has in different forms, for a number of years, agitated Congress and the country.

Premising that you are the first person who has interrogated me on the subject, I give you the basis of what would be my reply in greater detail, if time allowed and the contingency alluded to above were less remote.

In boyhood, at William and Mary College, and in common with most, if not all, of my companions, I became deeply impressed with the views given by Mr. Jefferson, in his "Notes on Virginia," and by Judge Tucker, in the Appendix to his edition of Blackstone's Commentaries, in favor of a gradual emancipation of slaves. That Appendix I have not seen in thirty-odd years, and, in the same period, have read scarcely anything on the subject; but my early impressions are fresh and unchanged. Hence, if I had had the honor of a seat in the Virginia legislature in the winter of 1831–'32, when a bill was brought forward to carry out those views, I should certainly have given it my hearty support.

I suppose I scarcely need say that, in my opinion, Congress has no color of authority under the constitution for touching the relation of master and slave in a State.

I hold the opposite opinion in relation to the District of Columbia. Here, with the consent of the owners, or on the payment of "just compensation," Congress may legislate at its discretion. But my conviction is equally strong that, unless it be step by step with the legislatures of Virginia and Maryland, it would be dangerous to both races in those States to touch the relation between master and slave in this District.

I have from the first been of opinion that Congress was bound by the constitution to receive, to refer, and to report upon petitions relating to domestic slavery, as in the case of all petitions; but I have not failed to see and to regret the unavoidable irritation which the former have produced in the Southern States, with the consequent peril to the two colors, whereby the adoption of any plan of emancipation has everywhere among us been greatly retarded.

I own, myself, no slave; but never have attached blame to masters for not liberating their slaves, well knowing that liberation, without the means of sending them in comfort to some position favorable to "the pursuit of happiness," would in most cases be highly injurious to all around, as well as to the manumitted families themselves, unless the operation were general, and under the auspices of prudent legislation. But I am persuaded that it is a high moral obligation of masters and slaveholding States to employ all means, not incompatible with the safety of both colors, to meliorate slavery to extermination.

It is gratifying to know that general melioration has been great, and is still progressing, notwithstanding the disturbing causes alluded to above. The more direct process of emancipation may, no doubt, be earlier commenced and quickened in some communities than in others. Each, I do not question, has the right to judge for itself, both as to time and means; and I consider interference or aid from without, except on invitation from authority within, to be as hurtful to the sure progress of melioration as it may be fatal to the lives of vast multitudes of all ages, sexes, and colors. The work of liberation cannot be *forced* without such horrid results. Christian philanthropy is ever mild and considerate. Hence all violence ought to be deprecated by the friends of religion and humanity. Their persuasions cannot fail at the right time to free the master from the slave, and the slave from the master; perhaps before the latter shall have found out and acknowledged that the relation between the parties had long been mutually prejudicial to their worldly interests.

There is, in the order of Providence, no evil without some compensating benefit. The bleeding African was torn from his savage home by his ferocious neighbors, sold in slavery, and cast upon this continent. Here in the mild South, the race has wonderfully multiplied, compared with anything ever known in barbarous life. The descendants of a few thousands have become many millions; and all, from the first, made acquainted with the arts of civilization, and, above all, brought under the light of the Gospel.

From the promise made to Abraham, some two thousand years elapsed before the advent of our Saviour; and the Israelites, the chosen people of God, were for wise purposes suffered to remain in bondage longer than Africans have been on our shores. This race has already experienced the resulting compensation alluded to; and as the white missionary has never been able to penetrate the dark regions of Africa, or to establish himself in its interior, it may be within the scheme of Providence that the great work of spreading the Gospel over that vast continent, with all the arts and comforts of civilization, is to be finally accomplished by the black man, restored from American bondage. A foothold there has already been gained for him, and in such a scheme centuries are but as seconds to Him who moves worlds as man moves a finger.

I do but *suggest* the remedies and consolations of slavery, to inspire patience, hope, and charity, on all sides. The mighty subject calls for the exercise of all man's wisdom and virtue, and these may not suffice without aid from a higher source.

It is in the foregoing manner, my dear sir, that I have long been in the habit, in conversation, of expressing myself, all over our common country, on the question of negro slavery; and I must say that I have found but very few persons to differ with me, however opposite their geographical positions.

Such are the views or opinions which you seek. I cannot suppress or mutilate them, although now liable to be more generally known. Do with them what you please. I neither court nor shun publicity. I remain very truly yours,

WINFIELD SCOTT.

T. P. Atkinson, esq., Danville, Va.

CORSET STORE.

Mrs. Wright respectfully informs the ladies of Washington and others that she has commenced the Corset business at her store on Pennsylvania avenue, between 12th and 13th streets, north side. Hosiery, Trimmings, Fancy Goods, &c.

☞ Several Rooms for rent in the second and third stories. jy 26—3t*

Qualifications of Gen. Scott.

[Extracts from the Speech of Mr. Bell, of Ohio, in the House of Representatives, July 20, 1852.]

INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS AND RIVER AND HARBOR APPROPRIATIONS.

The Whig party and Gen. Scott are in favor of and support these measures. *Proof*—Resolutions of Baltimore Convention and votes. Gen. Pierce is opposed to those measures. *Proof*—His votes and Democratic platform.

TAXES TO SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT.

The Whig party are in favor of an economical administration of the general government, and of raising a revenue to support it mainly from duties on imports. See resolution of Whig Convention, as follows:

"5. Government should be conducted upon principles of the strictest economy, and revenue sufficient for the expenses thereof, in time of peace, ought to be mainly derived from a duty on imports, and not from direct taxes; and, in levying such duties, sound policy requires a just discrimination and protection from fraud by specific duties, when practicable, whereby suitable encouragement may be assured to American industry, equally to all classes and to all portions of the country."

The Democratic party refused to proclaim their opinions on this subject at their Convention. But it is well understood that many of that party favor direct taxation.

RELIGIOUS TOLERATION.

General Scott is known to be an American at heart and practice on the subject of religious freedom. He is for equal privileges to all. The Democratic party of New Hampshire, who first nominated General Pierce for President, exclude Catholics from office, and require a man to hold a certain amount of property to qualify him for office. Such is the constitution of that State; and that party, who had the power, voted against amending it.

PROTECTION TO AMERICAN INDUSTRY.

The Whig party and General Scott are in favor of affording protection to American agriculture, manufactures, commerce, and all branches of industry, by a discriminating tariff of duties, &c. General Pierce and his party are opposed to it.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE PROCEEDS OF THE PUBLIC LANDS.

The Whig party are in favor of dividing the money arising from the sale of our national domain among all the States in an equitable proportion. The Democratic party oppose it.

THE RIGHT OF PETITION.

Gen. Scott never denied the right of an American citizen, under the constitution, to petition for the redress of grievances.

Mr. Pierce voted against it in Congress. I refer to the journals.

ACTUAL SETTLERS UPON PUBLIC LANDS.

Gen. Scott, in his letter of acceptance of the nomination, uses the following language:

"I therefore barely suggest, in this place, that should I, by the partiality of my countrymen, be elevated to the Chief Magistracy of the Union, I shall be ready, in my connexion with Congress, to recommend or to approve of measures in regard to the management of the public domain, so as to secure an early settlement of the same favorable to actual settlers, but consistent nevertheless with a due regard to the equal rights of the whole American people in that vast national inheritance."

By reference to the Senate Journal of January 14, 1839, you will find the following proposition pending in that body:

"*And be it further enacted*, That when any of the public lands of the United States have remained unsold for the space of fifteen years after the termination of the public sales, the same may be entered and purchased by *actual settlers* on the following terms, to wit: If a settler is desirous to purchase a residence of eighty, or less than eighty acres, he may enter and purchase the same at fifty cents per acre."

Upon this proposition the vote stood—ayes 21, noes 23. Among the noes were Franklin Pierce and William R. King. The votes of the Senators from Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Michigan, and Tennessee, without regard to party, were given for this provision, which was defeated by the votes of Pierce and King; and yet the poor man of the West is asked to vote for these men.

VETO POWER.

General Scott disclaims the exercise of the one-man power to thwart the legislation of the people's representatives.

General Pierce, when interrogated upon that question, either refuses to answer or keeps his answer pocketed, but permits his friends in one part of the country to say he is in favor of, and in another part against, the exercise of such monarchical power.

QUALITIES OF THE HEART.

General Scott's whole life has been spent in that kind of service that has made him familiar with the sufferings of all classes in all conditions of life, of which he has been among the sufferers. But, sir, the wounded, sick, or hungry soldier, the afflicted and disconsolate widow, the victim of the cholera, the captured prisoner, or the wayfaring man in distress, always found a sympathetic friend in Winfield Scott. No man was ever turned away from his door or his tent, in distress, without relief.

As to General Pierce, I will not say that he does not possess these qualities in a high degree, for I have no personal acquaintance with him; but if he does, he has at least on one occasion had a bad way of showing it. Mr. Chairman, after the death of General Harrison, when his widow was mourning the loss of her late bosom companion and earthly protector; when she was poor, and her husband had spent all his means in moving to your capital,—there was a bill brought forward in Congress to allow the widow Harrison one full year's salary for her deceased husband. Franklin Pierce not only voted against this bill, but used his influence to prevent its passage. But, thanks to the benevolence of the members of that Congress, there were few that thought as Mr. Pierce did. The bill passed, and the lonely widow's heart was cheered with some relief.

CIVIL QUALIFICATIONS.

Gen. Scott is far superior to Mr. Pierce in this respect; yet the Democratic party—no, sir, I will say the *locofoco* leaders of that party—are trying to depreciate the merits of the old patriot for civil qualifications, and trumpet forth Franklin Pierce as the greatest civilian of the age. But they tell us of nothing that Mr. Pierce has ever done in or out of the legislature or Congress to warrant such an assumption or claim. They have politic reasons for such a course. They know he never did a single act in his life to merit the confidence of the people in him as a statesman. I challenge a successful contradiction of this statement. He was educated a lawyer, and that has been his practice except when in the legislature or Congress; and in the latter capacity all his influence and votes were cast in opposition to measures calculated to advance the prosperity of the country, as I have before proved.

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