AMERICAN TELEGRAPH.

An Hour in the Car of a Balloon.

The following letter has been addressed to the editor of an English journal:

SIR: Although numerous have been the descriptions given of the beauty and delights experienced in a balloon voyage, still, perhaps, the following account of my visit to the regions of space on Monday last, in Mr. Hampton's Erin-go-Bragh, from the Rosemary Branch, Islington, may not prove altogether uninteresting:

At a quarter past seven in the evening, everything being in readiness, we took our seats in the car, viz: Mr. Hampton, Mr. Dean, and myself; and just as the signal was given to let go, Mr. Coxwell, in the Sylph, which started from the Eagle Tavern, passed directly over our heads, but was almost immediately afterwards lost sight of in a cloud. Being released from our earthly ties, we darted upward in pursuit of our rival; and it was not long before we followed his example, by entering the same cloud, and for some time remained in a considerable state of doubt as to whether he was above or below us; and although an aerial collision would have been a novelty, I doubt much if it would have been very agreeable.

We continued floating silently along in the midst of a dense mass of scud, when suddenly I perceived before us, in a thin white vaporing cloud, a spectral-looking balloon, with car, passengers, &c. "There's the Sylph," I instantly exclaimed, but Mr. Hampton knew better, for he sharply replied, "No, no; look, look; 'tis the reflection of ourselves in the cloud;" and then saluting the spectre æronaut by taking off his cap, and waving the flag, which compliment was as quickly returned, our ghostly companion melted into thin air, and was seen no more.

Immediately afterward, we emerged from the clouds into a glorious sunshine, and the gas, thus suddenly acted upon, changed color, from a dirty yellow to a state of perfect invisibility, at the same time rapidly expanding, which caused us to ascend with increased rapidity.

Such a sight as was now presented to our astonished gaze was, perhaps, never before witnessed for grandeur and magnificence; it is almost past the power of pen or pencil to depict with truthfulness the glory of that scene. To the westward there appeared to be a range of gigantic mountains, covered with snow, piled one upon another, in frightful confusion, and assuming the most fantastic shapes, which were constantly changing; there were huge domes, lofty spires, vast pyramids, giant castles, dashing against and finally annihilating each other, but only to take new forms. Above, in the clear blue sky, myriads of little pink and white fleecy clouds floated gently on, like fairies or angels of another world; below, the vast city of the earth, with its thousand steeples, its countless streets, its bridges, its railways, its wide-stretching suburbs, and its noble river, winding like a silver thread far, far away into the rich verdant country. Up, up we go, and another change comes on; the mountain tops are burnished with the brightest gold; anon another change, the sun sinks near them, and they are on fire—yes, fierce volcanoes appear on every peak, and molten lava runs down their snowy sides; and now the sun finally sinks to rest in the midst of streams of fire, shooting upward, brighter than the flight of a million rockets. Again a change—the spell is broken, the magic of the scene is past; the fierce fires rage no more; domes, spires, castles, fade away, and nothing is left but the bright blue sky, (even the little fairies and angels are gone,) and a mass of shapeless leaden clouds lazily floating far away beneath us.

During my travels, in various parts of the world, I have seen many strange and beautiful scenes. I was on one of the loftiest peaks of the Alps on the night of the memorable storm which passed over Switzerland, in the month of August, 1840; I have seen many a glorious sunset from the summit of the Lebanon; the wild and strange appearance of the sky while traversing the burning deserts of Egypt; a moonlight night on the calm Mediterranean, amid the Grecian Isles; a tempest on the broad Atlantic; but never can I call to my recollection a scene of such surpassing grandeur, magnificence, and sublimity, as that which I witnessed from the car of that balloon; and I firmly believe that, had the most skeptical man, with regard to the existence of a Deity, been present, that scene, so awfully grand, would have done more to have convinced him that there is a Supreme Being, than all the arguments and preaching his fellow-man could bring forth.

Immediately after the setting of the sun, the gas became condensed, and we began rapidly to descend, and effected a safe landing in a meadow, near Enfield, close to the Eastern Counties railway. Here we received every kindness and attention from the farmers, peasants, and especially the station master at Waltham, who acted in the most gentlemanly manner, and gave every facility in forwarding the balloon to London.

The greatest height we attained was about two miles, and the time we were up exactly an hour. In conclusion, I must say that in this, as well as former ascents I have made with Mr. Hampton, I have always found him the same—cool, resolute, and careful in the extreme, and just the man for a person to make his first ascent with; and although it will now be years, if ever before, I have the pleasure of taking another aerial flight with him, I can never forget the hours I have spent in the car of his balloon.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,
J. C. MOON.

London, July 21, 1852.

WHITEHURST'S GALLERY OF PREMIUM DAGUERREOTYPES,

Over the store of Duvall & Bro., between 4½ and 6th streets, Pennsylvania avenue.

This establishment possesses many advantages over others in this city, being built expressly for Daguerrean purposes. It contains one of the finest skylights in this country, and best arranged; for which reason artists prefer Daguerreotypes taken at this establishment above *all others.*

There are now on exhibition some of the largest Daguerreotypes in the world, taken at this establishment, with a large collection of others, free to the public at all hours of the day.

Awarded the first medal at the late Fair of the Maryland Institute in 1850 and 1851, and a premium at the Great Exhibition at Castle Garden.

GALLERIES.—No. 347, Broadway, New York; No. 205 Baltimore street, Baltimore; Pennsylvania avenue, Washington, D. C; No. 77 Main street, Richmond, Va.; Lynchburg, Va.; Norfolk, Va.; and Petersburg, Va.

aug 4—

BOOKS ON GARDENING.

McMAHON'S AMERICAN GARDENER, adapted to the Climate and Seasons of the United States.
Bridgeman's Young Gardener's Assistant. 1 vol.
The Fruit, Flower, and Kitchen Garden; by Patrick Neill, LL. D.
The Fruit Garden, illustrated with 150 figures; by P. Barry. 1 vol.
The Ladies' Companion to the Flower Garden; by A. J. Downing. 1 vol.
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Schenck's Gardener's Text-Book. 1 vol.
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Breck's Book of Flowers, &c., &c., together with all the latest works on Landscape Gardening, Rural Architecture, &c., &c.

For sale by TAYLOR & MAURY,
mar 30—tr Booksellers, near Ninth street.

J. R. THOMPSON & CO.,
Merchant Tailors,
Penna. Avenue, (under National Hotel,)

HAVE on hand a full supply of CLOTHS, CASSIMERES, and VESTINGS, suited to the season—the best assortment they have ever offered—to which they respectfully invite the attention of their customers and the public. Superior goods are made up promptly, in the best style, and on reasonable terms.

june 5—tf

CENTRAL HOTEL,
Warren street, east end of the Railroad Depot,
SYRACUSE, N. Y.

On the left hand as you enter the Car House going west; on the right going east, only ten feet from the Depot.

☞ No danger of being left, as the cars remain here thirty minutes for passengers to dine. Efficient and trusty waiters always at hand on the arrival of each train to attend to baggage entrusted to their care.

MEALS, TWENTY-FIVE CENTS.

Good accommodations for passengerrs remaining over, at one dollar per day.

N. B.—The proprietors' efforts will always be to please their guests. Having eight years' experience both East and West, they feel confident that all will be satisfied, and solicit the patronage of the public.

jan 17— B. A. CLARK & CO.

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.

Mexican Mustang Liniment!
THE EVIDENCES ACCUMULATE!

READ the following proof of what we have long since asserted, viz: that the Mustang Liniment is the *sine qua non* of all external remedies ever before offered to the afflicted:

"Wm. M. Johnston, No. 112 Second street, Pittsburg, says that he had a severe attack of Rheumatism in his right hip; after suffering some ten days, the left hip also became affected, and he was obliged to 'lay up.' The pain was constant and excruciating. He had heard of the wonderful effects of the Mustang Liniment in Rheumatism, and determined to try it. One small bottle, thoroughly applied, performed a perfect cure! B. H. Meekings, 189 Walnut street, Cincinnati, was confined to his bed and under treatment of a physician some six weeks with Neuralgia of the whole of his right side, leg, arm, and face. His sufferings were indescribable, and the only cessation from the most agonizing pain was while under the influence of opium or morphine. His doctor finally advised him to try the Mustang Liniment; he did so, and in two days was able to go about his business, perfectly cured."

"THE LAME MADE TO WALK.—About the first of April I cut and laid open the fore finger of my left hand, through the bone and across the second joint, nearly dissevering it from the hand, being about two-thirds off. I was fearful that I should lose the use of my finger forever; but I bound it up with the Mexican Mustang Liniment, and it soon healed up, and is now perfectly well, though somewhat scarrified. I used nothing but the Mustang Liniment.

"About one week ago I had the misfortune to cut the cap of my left knee in two with the sharp corner of an axe. The cap was split asunder, and for a day or two I could not use my leg at all, and I was afraid that I would lose its use forever. The cap was cut and cleft to the joint with a deep and alarming gash, and it gave me great pain and uneasiness, lest I should be entirely deprived of the use of my leg. I applied the Mexican Mustang Liniment, and that alone, in both of the above cases, and I am now quite well, except the cap of my knee is a little swollen, and is tender about the cut, which is healed up and shows a fresh red appearance of about one inch and a half in length and a quarter of an inch in width, but gives me no inconvenience whatever.

"I walked fifteen miles yesterday out of the thirty miles from the place where I live near the Sulphur Springs, in Jefferson county, and feel able to walk as many more today. My recovery has been so wonderful that I feel it my duty to make it public, that the world may know the value of the Mexican Mustang Liniment. AARON ROSE.

"SULPHER SPRINGS, JEFF. CO., MO."

PRICES OF THE LINIMENT.

It is put up in bottles of three sizes, and retails at 25 cents, 50 cents, and $1 per bottle. The 50-cent and dollar bottles contain 50 and 100 per cent. more Liniment, in proportion to their cost, so that money is saved by buying the large sizes.

A. G. BRAGG & Co., sole proprietors: Principal Depots, 304 Broadway, New York, and corner 3d and Market street, St. Louis, Mo. For sale by all Druggists in Washington and Georgetown.

CHARLES STOTT & Co., Agents, Washington.

jy 23—eo3m

THE PHRENOLOGICAL CABINET contains Busts and Casts from the heads of the most distinguished men that ever lived: also Skulls, both human and animal, from all quarters of the globe, including Pirates, Robbers, Murderers, and Thieves: also numerous Paintings and Drawings of celebrated individuals, living and dead: and is always open free to visiters.

PROFESSIONAL EXAMINATIONS, with written and verbal descriptions of character, given when desired, including directions as to the most suitable occupations, the selection of partners in business, congenial companions for life, etc., etc., all of which will be found highly useful and exceedingly interesting.

☞ OUR ROOMS are in Clinton Hall, 131 Nassau street, New York, and 142 Washington street, Boston.

feb 26—d6m FOWLERS & WELLS.

BANK OF METROPOLIS STOCK FOR Sale at the BANK OF THE UNION,
mar 25—tf [News.] Browns' Marble Building.

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.

Splendid Lotteries
FOR SEPTEMBER, 1852.

GREGORY & MAURY, Managers,
(SUCCESSORS TO J. W. MAURY & CO.)

$31,500—10 prizes of $3,000!

Lottery for the benefit of the
STATE OF DELAWARE, CLASS 79, FOR 1852.
To be drawn at Wilmington, Delaware, on Saturday, Sept. 4.
66 number lottery, 12 drawn ballots.

SPLENDID SCHEME.

1 prize of	$31,500	10 prizes of	$500
1 prize of	6,700	10 prizes of	300
10 prizes of	3,000	20 prizes of	200
10 prizes of	1,000	158 prizes of	150
&c.,		&c.,	&c.

Tickets $10—Halves $5—Quarters $2.50.
Certificates of packages of 22 whole tickets, $110.00
Do do 22 half do..... 55.00
Do do 22 quarter do..... 27.50

$51,554—20 prizes of $5,000 are $100,000!
100 prizes of 1,000 dollars!

Lottery for the benefit of the
STATE OF DELAWARE, CLASS 85, FOR 1852.
To be drawn at Wilmington, Delaware, on Saturday, Sept. 11.
78 number lottery—13 drawn ballots.

BRILLIANT SCHEME.

1 prize of	$51,554	145 prizes of	$500
20 prizes of	5,000	65 prizes of	200
20 prizes of	1,500	65 prizes of	100
100 prizes of	1,000	&c.,	&c.

Tickets $15—Halves $7.50—Quarters $3.75—Eighths $1.87½.
Certificates of packages of 26 whole tickets, $200.00
Do do 26 halves..... 100.00
Do do 26 quarters..... 50.00
Do do 26 eighths..... 25.00

$40,000! $20,000! 20 prizes of $1,000!

Lottery for the benefit of the
STATE OF DELAWARE, CLASS 91, FOR 1852.
To be drawn at Wilmington, Delaware, on Saturday, Sept. 18.
75 number lottery—13 drawn ballots.

GRAND SCHEME.

1 prize of	$40,000	1 prize of	$3,255
1 prize of	20,000	20 prizes of	1,000
1 prize of	10,000	20 prizes of	500
1 prize of	6,000	20 prizes of	400
1 prize of	5,000	20 prizes of	300
1 prize of	4,000	199 prizes of	200
&c.,		&c.,	&c.

Tickets $10—Halves $5—Quarters $2.50.
Certificates of packages of 25 wholes.....$120.00
Do do 25 halves..... 60.00
Do do 25 quarters..... 30.00

$64,780! 3 prizes of 10,000 dollars!

Lottery for the benefit of the
STATE OF DELAWARE, CLASS F, FOR 1852.
To be drawn at Wilmington, Delaware, on Saturday, Sept. 25.
Fifteen drawn numbers out of 75.

SPLENDID SCHEME.

1 splendid capital of	$64,780	1 prize of	$10,000
1 splendid prize of	20,000	3 prizes of	5,000
1 splendid prize of	10,000	50 prizes of	1,000
1 splendid prize of	10,000	397 prizes of	200
&c.,	&c.,	&c.,	&c.

Tickets $20—Halves $10—Quarters $5—Eighths $2.50.
Certificates of packages of 25 wholes.....$220.00
Do do 25 halves..... 110.00
Do do 25 quarters..... 55.00
Do do 25 eighths..... 27.50

☞ Orders for tickets and shares and certificates of packages in the above splendid Lotteries will receive the most prompt attention, and an official account of each drawing sent immediately after it is over to all who order from me.

Address E. E. O'BRIEN, Agent,
aug 20— Alexandria, Va.

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&Tu1m

LAND WARRANTS BOUGHT and SOLD at the BANK OF THE UNION,
mar 25—tf [News.] Browns' Marble Building.

[From the National Intelligencer of August 6.]

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.

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☞ For particulars apply to W. S. F. GRAHAM, President.
NEWARK, DEL., March 30, ap 6—tf

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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