New Orleans Daily Crescent.

RIO GRANDE CORRESPONDENCE.

Favorable Contrast between the Rio Grande Valley and other Sections of Western Texas—A Word about the new K. G. C. Movement—General Bickley and his Prospects—The Crescent Correspondent Kicking up an Excitement—A Negro in the Scenery!—Revival of the Slave Trade—Present to Major Ford—New Steamboats for the River—The Steamship Austin, etc.

(Special to the New Orleans Crescent.)

BROWNSVILLE, August 9, 1860.

Mr. Editor—A flying trip from this place to Austin and back has more than ever impressed me with the superior advantages of the Rio Grande valley as a suitable place for living and independence. The town of Brownsville is not only superior in point of trade to any of the towns on the line of travel from Indianola to the city of Austin, but it rivals them all in matters of comfort and its prospects for the future. The weather is now pleasant, the scenery prettier, and the soil better. We have cooler days, sweeter drives, and more vegetables. We have more money, less trouble in collecting it, and less difficulty in keeping it. We have more people, less disorder, and a better police than any other town in Texas. Our tables are filled with better and cheaper vegetables than those of any town in the South, and we have them longer and at cheaper rates than anywhere else. A man and his wife can live here very comfortably, with fresh meat, vegetables, bread, milk, etc., for $25 per month, including house-rent; and if he is industrious, both himself and his wife can earn as good, if not better, wages on the Rio Grande than anywhere in the State of Texas. I do not write to persuade any man to move to this place, but I am simply speaking of Brownsville as it appeared to me after a trip through what is called the garden spot of Texas. I am better satisfied than ever with the Rio Grande valley, and if we can ever get a government in the United States which will acquire the State of Tamaulipas from Mexico, so that slave property can be owned with safety in this vicinity, the land about Brownsville must command very high prices in the market. I really think Western Texas a very desible section of the world to live in, and therefore have nothing to say against the valley of the Guadalupe and the Colorado; but than the Rio Grande takes precedence of all the country I have seen in the West both for the character of its soil and the freshness of its atmosphere.

I observe that the telegraph and Gen. Bickley are again stirring up the popular inquiry about the designs of the K. G. C. organization. Let me caution the over sanguine believers in manifest destiny to look out that they are not swindled in this matter. I happen to be pretty well posted about the movement against the Republic of Mexico, and I can assure you and the public that there is no more ground for this new excitement than there was for the furor which brought five or six score of deluded young men to this frontier four or five months ago. Gen. Bickley is supposed to be a humbug, who is using the popular feeling for his own selfish purposes; and as good causes are polluted by such men, it is better to put the public on its guard, lest that the assistance afforded to a worthless and impracticable affair may be used as an argument against contributing for the advancement of a cause really worthy. It is beyond measure desirable that the Americans should possess the country between the Rio Grande and the Sierra Madre mountains, and I am heartily in favor of any plan which promises to extend our boundary to its natural limits; but I am well satisfied that the organization under Gen. Bickley is not the proper method of pursuing the project, and that Gen. Bickley is the last man who should have control or direction in the matter. It is this conviction which induces me to warn the public against being deluded into the contribution of subscriptions for the selfish purposes of this new filibuster chieftain, whose sole claim to notice is his persistence in imposing on the public. Mexico is not ripe for such an enterprise at present, and any promise which Bickley may hold out as having been received from Mexican authorities is bogus, for all the parties with which I am acquainted on the other side of the Rio Grande absolutely detest the Americans, and express a decided preference to being eaten up by each other, to being pacified and civilized by the filibusters. In conclusion, let me caution young men not to venture on an excursion to this place, or in this direction, under any inspiration from the telegraph or Gen. Bickley, until they hear that the K. G. C. organization have two thousand men on this frontier. By taking a note of this, some valuable time may be saved, and some right hard swearing and useless drinking may be avoided.

The Crescent of the 25th created quite a sensation, and the federal office holders made haste to swear in their allegiance to the true faith, as shadowed forth by Breckinridge and Lane. It was a hard dose to swallow but the knowledge that the Crescent circulated under the eyes of John Sidell, and that their heads were in danger, made them come down to the work bravely, and now the Custom-house is a mint and the postmaster followed suit. I am glad that the gentlemen have found the true path, for the South cannot afford to fritter away her strength on Douglas when Lincoln is to be beaten either by Breckinridge or Bell. We have got to unite on somebody who believes that white people are entitled to the benefits of this Government, and that niggers come as an afterthought.

The correspondence which I wrote you about four weeks ago concerning the landing of a cargo of slaves on Padre Island, has created a profound impression throughout Western Texas, and on my short trip to the capital of this State last week, I heard more speculation upon the subject of the truth of my statements in my letter than I could write in a duodecimo volume. Being unknown as the author of the letter in question, as a matter of course I could draw opinions from all classes of people on the subject of the importation of more Africans, and I am firmly convinced that two-thirds of the southern-born citizens of Texas are to-day in favor of the revival of the slave trade. The arguments in fact, in favor of that measure are so strong, and the reasons against it so namby-pamby, that it only needs to be brought forward to be the most popular measure ever proposed in Texas. People want more niggers, and all the cant in the world cannot overcome the desire. Poor men cannot afford to pay $1500 for a nigger, and they do not feel like being debarred from the ownership of such property while darkeys can be had in Africa for $600. If you can beat that argument, you have a stronger pair of lungs than any man in Western Texas. In passing through the town of Victoria last week, a sleek looking nigger tipped me a knowing look and remarked that if I wanted to purchase a darkey, "dar was lots on 'em down in de swamp!" I felt like treating all creation just then, for I gloried in every cargo of new laborers that is added to the productive wealth of Texas. I hope that the time will come when Southern people will open their eyes to the bold hypocrisy of the North which manifests itself in making slaves of her own white folks, while she goes mad and foams at the mouth when she thinks that we are improving our own condition by importing more niggers. Let her take care of herself.

Maj. John S. Ford, of ranger and filibuster notoriety, has been presented by Mr. Woodhouse, of this city, with a magnificent rifle, as a token of appreciation for his services in ridding the country of Cortina and his thieving bands. Maj. Ford has permanently located in Brownsville, and is one of the most popular men in the county of Cameron.

We have had an addition to our transportation department in the shape of a little steamer, the Mexico. She formerly ran between Indianola and Corpus Christi; but finding the trade unprofitable, she was sold to a company in Brownsville, who intend to run her as an opposition to the present monopoly, which now does all the business on the Rio Grande. In addition to the Mexico, we are to have a new boat in a few days, named the Mustang, which is designed for the up river navigation.

I am indebted for valuable favors to Mr. Wyatt, the present purser of the steamship Austin, and I can recommend him to the press of New Orleans as a gentleman in every way worthy of the confidence of newspaper men and travelers generally. Mr. Wyatt keeps his office as thoroughly as if he had grown gray in the service, and he makes every effort to procure news for the public and the press. The Austin is very punctual in her movements at present, for Capt. Forbes does not wait on anything but the tides. I believe, however, he resigns her command shortly, to be succeeded by Capt. Denistoun, of the Mexico or Texas.

Several desertions have taken place in the garrison lately, and it was only last week that a party of soldiers ran off to Monterey, carrying with them their arms, and also their fine horses. They stopped at Matamoras, when the Mexican officers soon arrested them. The property was returned to Maj. Hunt, in command here, but the men were allowed to go about their spreading.

A light battery complete, with the usual quantity of ammunition wagons, forage wagons, caisons, forges, etc., two or three thousand rifles and several hundred Colt's revolvers, crossed the river at this point last week. They were purchased some time ago by the State of Zacatecas, for the purpose of arming her National Guard, and have for the last six months been lying in the warehouse of Messrs. Stillman & Co., awaiting the payment of charges.

The goods crossing into Mexico during the month of June were valued at $105,460, upon the books of the Custom-house. The imports during the same month, consisting mainly of lead, wool and hides, amounted to $194,723.

Mr. J. P. Bain, U. S. Deputy Marshal, has just returned from Hidalgo county, where he has spent some time in taking the census. He reports the few fields planted in corn as returning a fair yield, and informs us that a great many immigrants are coming in along the line of the river.

RAILROAD EXCURSION CORRESPONDENCE.

Departure of Excursionists from Chicago—Arrival at Detroit and Niagara.

(Special to the New Orleans Crescent.)

NIAGARA FALLS, Aug. 6, 1860.

Mr. Editor—I have accomplished one of the great desires of my life; I have seen Niagara Falls, and the immensity of my expectations are doubly realized. I have watched already for hours this terrible, grand and sublime scene, and have never tired in my increasing admiration.

A description of the various points of interest has been so often and faithfully portrayed, that I do not intend to enter into details, as your space and my time will not admit it.

Our party first crossed to Goat Island, where the celebrated "Terrapin Tower" is situated on the jutting rocks, immediately among the roaring waters, from which point you have an admirable view of the great Horse Shoe Fall and also the American cataract, with an extended sight of the river. We then descended to the Cave of the Winds, one hundred and twenty-four steps, and several venturesome individuals indulged in the terrific excitement of entering the same and getting well drenched. One of our party had the temerity, after leaving the cave, to plunge into the waters of the rapids, where the current is not very strong and generally considered safe, but having gone too far out, was with some difficulty brought back by the guide. We then took positions on various parts of Goat Island, where an altered view continually met our admiring eyes. The scene from Prospect Point, immediately below the American Falls, with a descent of one hundred and sixty-eight feet, was grand. We have also visited the Canada side, where the most extended view can be obtained; and dressing ourselves in the oil cloth pants and jackets of a bold sailor boy, descended a few hundred steps by a tower erected at Table Rock, and ventured underneath the huge sheet of waters as far as any human could go, receiving another delightful and pleasant cold shower bath; then visited the Museum, saw a live buffalo, genuine mummies and many curiosities; got swindled by the Canada Yankees, who can outcheat and are a dead cutter than any down-easter.

We had a delightful ride about two miles north of the falls, obtaining at many points other fine views of the rapids above the cataract, and came to the Burning Spring; the water, being charged with sulphurated hydrogen gas, takes fire when a light is applied to it, and burns with a pale blue light. The battle of Chippewa was fought in this neighborhood in July, 1814; and Landy's Lane, so well remembered in our Revolutionary annals, is in this vicinity.

To stand upon the Horse Shoe Fall and watch the hurried water gathering strength and precipitating into the foaming abyss below, is certainly the grandest of all views, with the immense banks of the river on the American side overgrown with green nearly to the top of the bluff, and the miniature "Maid of the Mist" in constant motion, penetrating boldly into the dense clouds of mist close to the foot of Horse Shoe Falls. The following beautiful lines of Mrs. Sigourney are most appropriate:

"Flow on forever, in thy glorious robe
Of terror and of beauty. Yea, flow on,
Unfaltered and unwearied, from the hour
His rainbow on thy forehead, and the cloud
Mantled around thy feet. And He shall give
Thy voice of thunder power to speak of Him
Eternally—bidding the tide of man
Keep silence, and upon thine altar pour
Incense of awe-struck praise.

Thou dost speak
Alone of God, who made thee! Mortal man
From His right hand—bidding the soul that looks
Upon thy fearful majesty to fall
Its humble worship at the throne of Him
And lose itself in Him."

The International and Cataract hotels are both crowded, and gay parties night and morning make things quite lively. We were fortunate to have with us upon our excursion a young artist provided with a convex glass, which presented a perfect miniature of each scene, and also a spy glass to look at distant objects.

I could linger in this charming spot for many days, but as my time is limited, will leave to-morrow with the excursion for Buffalo and Cleveland, returning to Chicago by that route.

I will now go back to our departure from Chicago. After receiving the unbounded hospitalities of its citizens, many of them, and some of the gentler sex, accompanied us to this place—our urbane and well-to-be remembered hosts of the Richmond House, Messrs. Taber & Hawk, taking along with them a couple of their own waiters and any quantity of goods for the comfort of their guests.

Superintendent Rice and Agent Sergeant, of the Michigan Central, came as far as Detroit, and were unceasing in their attentions, and also Messrs. Wyman and Gray. At the above place fire-works and a magnificent ball were given at the Russell House in our honor, and the next morning we left by the Great Western Road, having had a fine sight of this old city, and paying a visit to our venerable statesman, Gen. Cass.

On our trip from Chicago to Detroit there was a rumor that a band of Black Republicans intended to meet us at Kalamazo, Michigan, and revile and insult us. Instead of finding reproaches or taunts, we were welcomed by an immense crowd of citizens, with hearty cheers and a great brass band, which discoursed sweet music while we ate our dinner; after which, a welcome speech was made and properly responded to amid great enthusiasm.

To the present time we have received from all sorts of people but one unanimous grasp of the hand, and I trust many of the same excursions may be carried out, which will have the best effect in conciliating our two extremes. NUX.

Mrs. L. S. G., of Boston, says: A ragged little urchin came to my door not long since, asking in pure native dialect to be given some old clothes. I ran up stairs, and directly had searched out and brought him a vest and pair of pants, which I thought would be a comfortable fit. Young America took the garments and examined each with the look of a connoisseur; then raising his eyes to my face, with an air of disconsolateness, remarked:

"There aint no watch pocket!"

This is the same young chap—I instantly recollected him now—who called at my door last summer and asked for something to eat. A slice of nice, white bread was put in his hand, when he looked it over deliberately on both sides, and then inquired, as though in some perplexity:

"Where's the butter?"

The first rainy day, I shall expect this beggar boy to ring my bell and request the loan of an umbrella.

A young fellow having been charged with getting drunk the night before, and wishing to justify himself, declared that he never was drunk, nor never meant to be, for it always made him feel so bad the next morning.

ADDRESS

OF THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

—OF THE—

CONSTITUTIONAL UNION PARTY

—TO THE—

People of the United States.

ROOMS NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, }
502 D street, Washington, D. C., August 1, 1860. }

Fellow-Citizens—We beg leave to present to you, for your consideration, a few of the reasons which in our judgment, make it the imperative duty of the reflecting and patriotic voters of the United States to cast their suffrages at the coming Presidential election for John Bell and Edward Everett, the candidates of the Constitutional Union party. All men, whatever be their political convictions, and in whatever parts of the country they may live, must admit that our political condition at this time is at once unnatural and alarming. In all free countries, governed by representative bodies, there are, and ever must be, political parties. The natural division of these parties is in conformity with certain original principles in humanity itself. One party represents permanency, and one progression; one the propelling and one the guiding principle. The prosperity and healthy growth of free countries depend upon the adjustment and proportion of the forces represented by these two parties, moving within the sphere of the Constitution, and alike inspired by patriotic impulse. The parties which, under various names, have, until a few years ago, divided the country, have represented, or professed to represent, these principles, though it has often happened that the particular issues on which they were opposed were accidental, and not essential.

THE SLAVERY QUESTION.

But recently a change has come over the spirit of our politics, and the natural antagonism of parties has been disturbed. In fifteen of the thirty-three States which now compose our confederacy, the institution of African slavery exists; and all admit that, within these States, it is entirely beyond the sphere and jurisdiction of the National Government. At the time of the formation of the Constitution it had a legal existence, at least, in nearly all the States. From that time to this it has been a subject powerfully moving the sympathies and passions of a portion of the community, and it cannot be denied that it has considerably enhanced the difficulty of governing and administering the country. But the grave questions which grew out of the existence of slavery were always met with that wisdom and patriotism which were requisite for their adjustment and solution. The Constitution itself was the birth of a spirit of generous concession and magnanimous compromise; and in a like spirit the country was long governed. One crisis of more than common magnitude and peril occurred in 1820, upon the admission of Missouri; and another in 1850, upon the admission of California: but both were happily passed, and in both cases, after some moments of anxious suspense, the coals of strife were quenched and harmony was restored.

At the adjournment of Congress, in 1850, the country was at peace. There was no portion of the territory of the United States which had not its condition fixed by positive, and as was supposed, irrepealable laws. The anti-slavery agitation had been mainly confined to a few zealots resolved upon in certain localities. It had excited a disturbing force in the politics of some of the States; it had sent some ardent partisans to the national legislature; but it had no marked influence upon the politics of the nation. No better proof can be adduced in support of this position than the fact, that at the Presidential election in the autumn of 1852, Mr. Hale, the candidate of the Free-soil party, received but 155,123 votes, to Mr. Pierce's 1,596,395, and General Scott's 1,386,580.

REPEAL OF THE MISSOURI COMPROMISE.

But this auspicious calm was disturbed, and all the winds of sectional strife were let loose by events occurring between the Presidential election of 1852, and that of 1856. Prominent among these were the untoward abrogation of the Missouri compromise, in 1854, the acts of violence which occurred in Kansas, and the persistent efforts of the Federal Administration to force that Territory in the Union. So great was the effect produced by these causes, that instead of Mr. Hale's meagre vote of 155,123, Col. Fremont, the Republican candidate, had 1,341,514, to Mr. Buchanan's 1,838,232, and Mr. Fillmore's 874,707. Since that time the Republican party has maintained its imposing character, and now presents as formidable a front before the country as it ever did.

REPEAL OF THE MISSOURI COMPROMISE A DEMOCRATIC MEASURE.

Great pains have been taken in the Northern States by Republican speakers to represent the disturbance of the Missouri compromise as a Southern measure, and some of them are, I think, we want to call the slave power; but such speakers show more party zeal than love of truth. The feeling in regard to that compromise was substantially the same in both sections of the country; each conceived that it had yielded something of constitutional right, but both acquiesced in the result as a measure of healing and peace. Its repeal took the North and South alike by surprise; not a petition to that effect was presented from any Southern State, and the hand that set this disastrous ball in motion was the hand of a Northern Senator. Thirty-seven Senators voted with him, and thirteen against him, and of these fourteen were from the Northern States; had these fourteen voted the other way, the compromise would not have been disturbed.

The measure was a Democratic measure, and the leaders of the Democratic party are alone responsible for it, and for its consequences. They having sown the wind, are now reaping the whirlwind. The retribution which is falling upon their once powerful organization can awaken no sympathy, for it is no more than the righteous penalty exacted from those who break the law of right. Their party is now cleft in twain, and the two divided portions turn toward each other a countenance of "irreparable conflict" and unextinguishable animosity. There are many of these like family quarrels, and there is no hatred like the hatred that once was love.

MR. DOUGLAS AND MR. BRECKINRIDGE.

Mr. Douglas, representing the principle or rather the policy (for we deny it the name of principle) of popular sovereignty, is strong at the North. Mr. Breckinridge, representing the doctrine of national intervention in behalf of slavery, and identified with the present Administration, is strong at the South. Mr. Douglas will probably command a larger popular vote than Mr. Breckinridge, but he certainly cannot carry a single Southern State, and unaided by other parties his success in any Northern State is questionable. It is doubtful whether Mr. Breckinridge can obtain the vote of more than one Southern State, and he cannot hope to carry a single one in the North.

The election of either Mr. Breckinridge or Mr. Douglas we should regard as a serious misfortune to the country. Except upon the particular point on which they are at issue, we may presume that the course and policy of their administrations would be substantially the same. The election of either would continue those abuses and corruptions which have done so much to demoralize our people, which have brought our institutions into such undeserved distrust abroad, and against which the unperverted conscience of the whole country so energetically protests.

NO CHANCE FOR DOUGLAS OR BRECKINRIDGE.

But we deem it unnecessary to speculate upon the consequences of an event which can never take place. The election of either Mr. Douglas or Mr. Breckinridge is simply an impossibility, and the Democratic party North and South may as well look this fact steadily in the face to-day as hereafter, for to this conclusion they must come at last. A political house divided against itself cannot stand. Every man in the country of sound mind, whose wish is not father to his thought, must be convinced that neither of the Democratic candidates can be chosen by a popular vote.

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY A SECTIONAL PARTY.

Before the people of the United States the contest is between Mr. Bell and Mr. Lincoln; and, assuming this as a fixed fact, we proceed to state some of the reasons which should induce all well-wishers to their country to vote for the former rather than the latter. These reasons apply with equal force to the North and the South.

The great objection to the insuperable objection to Mr. Lincoln's claims, is founded upon the fact that he is a sectional candidate, and that the Republican party is a sectional party. In fifteen out of the thirty-three States which compose our Union, the Republican party has no substantial existence; and, should Mr. Lincoln be chosen, his administration could have no Southern support, but only Southern opposition. We are well aware how energetically the Republican party disclaims all designs hostile to the constitutional rights of the South; we believe that many of its members are sincere in these disclaimers; the distrust awakened throughout the South by the existence and attitude of the Republican party may be a groundless distrust. That the Republican party is honestly believed through the whole South to be a sectional party, and as such is viewed with uncompromising hostility, is enough for the purposes of our argument. If they have earned such a reputation without deserving it, it is a misfortune, to the consequences of which they must submit. But surely they have not earned it without a cause. To say nothing of the atrocious and unwarrantable language which their most popular speakers are in the habit of using—to say nothing of the fact that many of their campaign documents are mere abolition harangues, made up of the foulest and fiercest abuse of the entire South, the unconstitutional statutes which some of the Northern States have passed, against the execution of the Fugitive Slave law—are in direct opposition to the professions of the party, and justify the distrust which the South entertains of them. We do not say that the election of Mr. Lincoln would be fatal to the Union. We are no disunionists; and no disunionist has a right to be a member of the Constitutional Union party. Under any possible combination of circumstances, we cannot conceive of a dissolution of the Union as anything but the greatest of calamities. Come what will, we shall stand by the Union as the most precious jewel of our souls. But knowing the proud and sensitive spirit of the Southern people, we do say that the election of Mr. Lincoln would expose the Union to a peril to which no true patriot should wish to see it exposed. And, further, we do say that the attempt to govern the country upon the distinctive and peculiar principles of the Republican party would be fatal to the Union. In other words, the attempt on the part of the National Government, by positive law, to exclude slavery from such portion of the national domain as would become slave territory but for such exclusion, would, in our opinion, break up the Union. And the converse of the proposition is equally true; any attempt on the part of the National Government to force slavery, by positive law, into such portion of the national domain as would become free territory but for such intervention, would also break up the Union.

The calm and dispassionate observer can see in the Republican movement only a combination of the Northern States to take the government of the whole country into their hands, and to administer it with reference to an exclusively Northern policy. And in like manner, the supporters of Mr. Breckinridge propose to take the Government of the whole country into their hands, with a view of administering it with reference to an exclusively Southern policy. In either case, the result would be a diversion of the General Government from its legitimate sphere; or rather an assumption of powers on the part of the General Government not delegated to it, which one-half of the confederacy would regard as a usurpation, and to which it would refuse to submit. The fact that our Union is composed in part of slaveholding States and in part of non-slaveholding States, imposes grave duties upon both sections—duties of forbearance, concession and conciliation; respect for each other's convictions; tenderness in handling each other's sensitive points—in short, such rules of self-control and self-government as regulate in social life, and in the relations of business, the intercourse of gentlemen who may chance to differ widely on the gravest questions. To these duties we would fain recall both the North and the South. The Union is a blessing, the continuance of which imposes some sacrifices on both portions of the country. Neither pro-slavery zealots nor anti-slavery zealots can use the powers of the General Government for the advancement of their own peculiar views, however honestly entertained.

SLAVERY AND ANTI-SLAVERY AGITATION.

It is a necessary consequence of the unhappy fact that our political contests have become mere struggles for the possession of power between the North and the South; that our political discussions have become little else than mutual recriminations and recriminations. The people no longer listen to arguments, addressed to their reason, in defense of particular measures, or a certain course of policy, but to exciting appeals to their sectional prejudices, which only heat the blood and inflame the passions. The North is taught to hate the South, and the South is taught to hate the North. On both sides, language is used which is studiously selected for its galling and exasperating qualities. There is no recognition of the law of charity, which suffers long and is kind; there is no admission of the tremendous difficulties which environ the whole subject of slavery; Northern speakers denounce the South for maintaining the system, and yet they are unable to suggest any scheme for getting rid of it; Southern speakers make no distinction between the maniacal Abolitionism and that abstract opposition to slavery in itself, which is an almost universal sentiment at the North. And out of the immense mass of speeches on the subject of slavery which have been inflicted upon this country, in Congress and out of it, not one hint or suggestion can be gathered of the least practical value towards the solution of the problem of slavery, or even a mitigation of its assumed evils.

The consequence of this miserable agitation have been of the most mischievous kind. The attachment which formerly united the North and the South is fast disappearing, and estrangement, alienation and ill-will are taking its place. The two sections of the country are learning to look upon each other as natural enemies. This state of feeling renders it impossible for the National Legislature to legislate calmly, judiciously, dispassionately, for the common good of the whole country. Congressional debates have degenerated into mutual vituperations and denunciations, and are disgraced by the most offensive personalities. All propositions are judged of, not by their essential expediency, but by the quarter from which they come. Of what use is it, then, for the Republican party to spread forth in their platform an elaborate array of measures and principles, so long as a sectional division exists in our politics which makes one-half of the country look with suspicion and distrust upon every movement of the other?

Nor is this all. The tendency of this sectional excitement is to repel wise and good men from the sphere of politics, and thus to lower the tone of government. Men endowed with statesman-like powers will not take part in an agitation which dwarfs the understanding while it inflames the passions. The consequence is, that while we are rapidly increasing in wealth and all the indications of material civilization, and surely not declining in virtue and intelligence, the series of our public men marks a descending scale, and the standard of Congressional debate is constantly lowering. Intelligent foreigners who come among us are puzzled to account for the singular fact that so few men of superior ability are taking part in the government of the country. Indeed, the virtue and the intelligence of the country are fast flying away from the sphere of politics, and its vices and passions are usurping their places.

THIS AGITATION UNNECESSARY.

The pro-slavery and anti-slavery agitation which has been so long convulsing the country, is as unnecessary as it is mischievous. The more conservative portion of the Republican party has tacitly acquiesced in the fugitive slave law, in the existence of slavery in the District of Columbia, and in the right to carry slaves from one State to another; and they have always disclaimed any right, or any intention to interfere with slavery in the States themselves. The subject of slavery in the Territories, and the power of Congress over it there, are the only points they leave for discussion and difference. Slavery in Nebraska is a practical fact, as surely it is—if the object of government be, not to ennobulate principles, but to provide for each emergency as it arises—all this excitement, and all this conflict, are utterly purposeless and idle. We have been familiar with slavery long enough to know by what laws it is regulated and controlled. Experience and observation have shown that slavery is dependent upon conditions of soil and climate, and lies beyond the reach of political combinations. These will not force slavery into regions where it is not profitable; nor will they exclude it from regions where it is profitable. At this moment no one will question the correctness of the statement that there is not a foot of the territory of the United States, the condition of which in reference to slavery is not already fixed by law, and there is no place within the Federal domain, upon which the abstract theories of the extremists of either section, in regard to the exclusion of slavery from the Territories or its introduction into them, can be practically applied. The whole question of slavery in the Territories, as now presented, is an abstract one and simple, incapable of any practical application, and prolific of serious mischief. It has already produced sectional alienation, and now menaces the integrity of the Union.

REPUBLICANS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS AGITATION.

To create and maintain this unhappy agitation, North and South, Democrats and Republicans—we need not stop to inquire in what proportions—have both contributed in times past; but at this moment, the Republican party are mainly responsible for its continuance. The great object which they proposed to accomplish was the admission of Kansas as a free State. This was the excuse and justification for the formation of a purely sectional organization. This element gave them their great strength in 1856. It was for this that many moderate and conservative men in the Northern and middle States gave them their votes at that time. But that object is now accomplished. No one doubts that Kansas is to be admitted as a free State. The Democrats have lost the stake for which they played so desperate a game. What need, then, is there for the further continuance of sectional agitation, and for keeping it up by a mischievous sectional organization? What immediate end do they propose to accomplish? What tangible object have they in view? They have not now that great element which gave them strength in 1856. They can now take no higher attitude than that of a combination of ambitious aspirants and greedy office seekers, who, having tasted the sweets of power, and its substantial rewards, in many of the States are panting for the more splendid prizes of a national victory, and for that purpose are diligently fanning the fires of sectional hate which every true patriot should wish to have extinguished.

QUALIFICATIONS OF MR. LINCOLN.

So far as the claims and qualifications of candidates are concerned, we surely need not shrink from comparison with the Republican party. For the first time in the history of the country, a great party has nominated for the Presidency a man unknown, even by name, to a majority of the people of the country. Mr. Lincoln, we admit, is a respectable man, a respectable lawyer, and as a popular speaker, of more than ordinary and average ability; but what a meager catalogue is this of claims for the highest office! Nothing whatever is known of his executive or administrative capacity—nothing of his views as to the great questions of foreign and domestic policy which are likely to arise in the conduct of the Government—nothing as to his knowledge of the great interests and relations of the country. He served but a single term in the House of Representatives, and there earned no conspicuous distinction. His nomination was extorted from the Chicago Convention by the force of local pressure, and presents the most glaring example of the pitiful doctrine of availability that the political annals of the country has ever shown. His claims for the office of President of the United States rest upon the fact that, in a popular contest before the people of Illinois, with Mr. Douglas, he sustained himself with energy and fair ability. Nor need we do more than to allude to the fact, which is another illustration of the sectional character of the Republican organization, that their candidate for the Presidency is taken from the extreme Northwest, and their candidate for the Vice-Presidency is taken from the extreme Northeast. What means can they have for knowing and ascertaining the qualifications of persons to fill the Federal offices in the Southern States?

MR. BELL AND MR. EVERETT.

The candidates presented by the Constitutional Union party have every possible claim upon the confidence and support of the American people. There is little need of setting forth these claims in detail and by particulars, for to suppose any one ignorant of the merits and services of John Bell and Edward Everett, is to suppose him ignorant of the history of the country during the last thirty years. Both have been distinguished and influential members of both branches of Congress. Mr. Bell has been Speaker of the House of Representatives and Secretary of War. Mr. Everett has been Governor of Massachusetts, Minister to Great Britain, and Secretary of State. Both are men of great political experience, and both have proved their fitness for the highest trusts. Both are animated by the spirit of a generous and comprehensive patriotism. Of all Southern statesmen, none is more popular at the North than Mr. Bell; of all Northern statesmen, none is more endeared to the people of the South than Mr. Everett. So commanding, indeed, is the merit of both our candidates, that it is fully and freely conceded by all our opponents, Republicans, supporters of Mr. Douglas, and supporters of Mr. Breckinridge, all admit that, while they prefer others, the interests of the country would be entirely safe in the hands of Mr. Bell and Mr. Everett. So commanding, indeed, is the merit of our candidates, that it is fully and freely conceded by all our opponents. Republicans, supporters of Mr. Douglas, and supporters of Mr. Breckinridge, all admit that, while they prefer others, the interests of the country would be entirely safe in the hands of Mr. Bell and Mr. Everett. So commanding, indeed, is the merit of our candidates. Indeed, the argument most generally and most persistingly pressed against them is, that they cannot be elected. We need not say how grave a charge against the intelligence and integrity of our people is involved in this declaration, and we do not believe it may who resolves to vote for them, be the result what it may, does something to lessen the weight of the objection. Let us have the vote of every man in the country who sincerely believes that ours is the best ticket, and we ask no more.

DUTIES OF THE PEOPLE.

Such, fellow-citizens, are a few of the most obvious arguments in behalf of the candidates of the Constitutional Union party. We cannot disguise it from you that we look forward to the future with grave anxiety. This is natural when we consider the excitability of the American people, and the inflammatory character of the political issues which now divide them. Surely, great dangers lie in the path on which we are moving. Our appeal is to the patriotism, the reason and the conscience of the country to leave these perilous edges of sectional strife, and thus avoid these dangers. We would fain recall the American people to a fresh sense of the affectionate and fraternal wisdom which breathes through the Farewell Address of the Father of his Country. There are men now living who, when this address first appeared, were of an age to comprehend its spirit, and to be touched by its counsels; what a change have they lived to witness in the sentiments entertained towards each other by the alienated sections of our once united country. And how do our altered hearts and averted countenances vindicate the prophetic sagacity of Washington! We readily admit that there have been great faults on both sides; let us not employ ourselves in the ungracious office of comparing offenses and weighing provocations, but let us open wide the arms of reconciliation, and cease to use the language of reproach. The blessing promised to the peace-makers shall rest upon all who address themselves to this beneficent work. We wish to preserve the Union, and transmit it to our children; and a Union animated by the life-blood of a paternal spirit, without which it is a shadow, and not a substance.

Let us revive in the hearts of our countrymen the prophetic declaration of the patriot Clay, in his memorable speech before the Kentucky Legislature, in which he was called, in 1850, to breathe out his life in the last grand effort to give peace to a distracted country.

"I may be asked, as I have been asked, when I would consent to a dissolution of the Union? I answer, Never! Never! Never! * * * If the agitation in regard to the fugitive slave law should continue and increase, and become alarming, it will lead to the formation of two new parties, one for the Union and the other against the Union; * * * and the platform of that Union party will be THE UNION, THE CONSTITUTION, AND THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAWS. And if it be necessary to form such a party, and it should be accordingly formed, *I announce myself to this place a member of that party, whatever may be its component elements.*"

The time so eloquently and graphically predicted has arrived. That Union party is now organized. It appeals to the countrymen of Washington and Clay for their support. It entreats them to gather in unrivled phalanx around the Union and the Constitution, and defend them from the fierce assaults of sectionalism whence-soever they may come; and by the election of our national and patriotic candidates, to preserve for our sons the glorious heritage bequeated us by our sires, and that shall remain the boast of American citizens that they have one country, one Constitution, and one destiny."

By order of the Committee.

ALEX. R. BOTELER, Chairman.

L. A. WHITELY, Secretary.

Breakfast or Dinner.

A young Parisian lawyer, accustomed only to French breakfasts, (a cup of coffee and a slice of bread) arriving in the morning at Dover on his way to London, was surprised to see a robust John Bull seated at a small side table, loaded with meats and other accompaniments. He surveyed him attentively for a moment or two, and then began to soliloquize in an "undertone audible" of the sturdy English at his command: "Mon Dieu!" said he, "can it be possible zat ze gentlehomme is eto his breakfaste? Never mind; I shall sink I shall ask heem. Monsieur, I am a strangure. Vil you have ze politeness to tell me wezzer zat is your breakfaste or your dinny vat you eta?" John Bull, with indignation, hit the table heavily with a large portion of his substantial meal, and is about to resent what he deems an affront; but discretion gets the better of valor, and he sits down again to finish his meal. The Frenchman paces the floor dubiously for some minutes, until his enhanced curiosity overcomes his temporary timidity, when he again accosts the sharp-set but "perplexed Albion!" "Sare, if you knew ze reason wherefor I rekquire for know wezzer zat is your brekfaste or your dinny wat you ete, you would 'ave ze politesse to tell me immediate, and suns offense!"

John was silent before, but his face actually glowed with excitement and suppressed passion. All these evidences of displeasure, however, were lost upon the curious traveler, who once more addressed his "unwilling witness," and this time fairly brought him to the use of his speech; for he arose in great anger, accused the Frenchman of having insulted him; a blow followed, and a duel was the "met purport and upshot" of the affair. Had the Frenchman's curiosity been satisfied, he would doubtless have been more steady-handed; "but destiny had willed it otherwise." Bull's bullet pierced him, and the wound was decided to be mortal. Englishmen are seldom intempered upon a full stomach; our hero relented; he was filled with remorse at having shot the poor fellow on so slight a provocation, and was most anxious to make amends for his fault. "My friend," said he to the dying man, "I grieves inn much that I should have been so rash as to lose my temper for so trifling a matter; and if there is any way in which I can serve you, rest assured you have only to name it, and I will faithfully perform your last request." "Vill you, my frien' zen," gasped out the Frenchman, writhing in the agonies of death "if you will be so kind as to tell me wezzer zat was your brekfaste or your dinny wat you eta, I shall die ver' mosh content!"

THE SUN OF THE EAST.—The following passage is from Godwin's History of France: Beyond the extreme limits of the empire, within that zone of rock and sand, and beneath those serene and fervid skies which had already given its two greatest religions to the world, a new and imposing faith had been proclaimed by an obscure Arabian named Mahommed. A youth of genius and piety, whose early life, passed in conducting caravans from Western to Southern Asia, had made him familiar with the condition of the nations that traversed the tracts of the desert. His profound religious sensibilities were shocked by the chaos of idolatries which paralyzed and debased the intellect of his people. Weltering in all the corruptions of natural religion, of Sabaism, of Judaism, and Greco-Syriac Christianity, they still yearned with the dim traditions which had promised them a prophet who should fulfil their hopes of glory and salvation. On the lively temper and fiery imagination of Mahommed these dreams of his nation wrought, till, in the caves of Mount Hira, whither he often retired to pass the night in alternation of deep thought and ecstatic prayer, the angels of Allah announce to him a supernatural mission. God is one, God is infinite, God is almighty, was the single thought which pealed through the depths of his being, like a voice from heaven, and with that thought, shearing away, as with a sword, the wretched wrappings of all subsisting creeds, he strode forth as the prophet of God. The sentiment of awful holiness, as with the Jew, shaded in his religion the fierce blaze of the divine almightiness; no tender feeling of infinite mercy, as with the Christian, responded to the soul's longing for sympathy and for love, and even the common ethical elements of humanity and the consciousness of moral liberty were scattered in the intense splendor of his idea of God. It was the Sun of the East, shining down hot and unclouded upon the burning deserts.

Josiah D——— is a most estimable gentleman, upright, strictly pious and withal a staunch, thoroughgoing Democrat. During the Mexican war, he was called upon at a regular church meeting to pray, and he closed with this addition: "Be with our army in Mexico; whether it be right or wrong, bless it! We of the Democratic party are charged with making a war of conquest, but we believe it to be a war of defence. But we would not enter into argument on the subject, and for further particulars would refer to the President's message."

MISCELLANEOUS.

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