...ger Standard

AN, *Publisher and Proprietor.*

...—The powers not delegated to the United ...by the constitution, nor prohibited by it to the ...es, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people. —*Federal Constitution.*

COLUMBUS:

Saturday Morning, December 31, 1853.

FOR UNITED STATES SENATOR

JEFFERSON DAVIS.

DIED.—In this city on the 30th instant, at the residence of the Editor of this paper, JAMES R. SMITH, aged 29 years. Obituary notice next week.

☞ The Rev. T. W. DORMAN will preach his farewell Sermon in the Methodist Episcopal Church tomorrow morning at the usual hour.

Miss. Reynolds.

We announce with feelings of delight to the citizens of Columbus, who were disappointed a few nights since by the inclemency of the weather, that they will yet have an opportunity of hearing this distinguised Lady, as we learn she will remain here for a short time to be joined by Prof. WORRALL of Europe.

From the Baltimore Sun.

Thirty-third Congress--First Session.

WASHINGTON, December 23, 1853.

SENATE.

A joint resolution, authorizing the President to confer the title of Lieutenant General by Brevet was taken up.

A debate ensued, which lasted till 2 o'clock, in which Messrs. Adams, Walker, Pearce and Douglas opposed the resolution, and Messrs. Cass, Mason, Badger, Shields and Seward advocated it. It was finally ordered to be engrossed by yeas 30, nays 12, as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Allen, Atchison, Bayard, Badger, Benjamin, Bodfield, Cass, Clayton, Dawson, Dixon, Dodge of Wisconsin, Dodge of Iowa, Evans, Fish, Foot, Gwin, James, Jones of Tennessee, Mason, Pearce, Pratt, Sebastian, Seward, Shields, Stuart, Stuart, Thompson of Kentucky, Thompson of New Jersey, Wade, Walker and Wright.

Nays—Messrs. Adams, Bright, Chase, Clay, Douglas, Fitzpatrick, Hamlin, Norris, Pitch, Sumner, Walker and Williams.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The House went into committee of the whole on the state of the Union on the President's Message.

Mr. Wright, of Pennsylvania, thought the country at large were unprepared to anticipate the results which had occurred from the debate of the last three days. He was one of those who believed, under both of the great political parties of the nation were together in honorable warfare, and when the great battle had been fought and victory won, that abolitionism was not only dead, but buried. But the day before yesterday the gentleman from New York (Mr. Smith) exhumed its hideous body, and dragged it before the country. Like Banquo's ghost, it is here again. Perhaps he ought not to reply to the gentleman, but he could not keep his mouth closed when such sentiments were avowed by him.

He then quoted from Mr. Smith's speech to this effect that as "great oppressor as Austria is, America is a far greater and gentler oppressor.

"Austrian despotism, compared with American despotism, which chases men, women and children with cattle—as the little finger compared with the loins."

Uncle Tom's Cabin, the object of which was to diminish the character, power and social position of this country abroad, was unworthy to be noticed (perhaps) but when the gentleman from New York, with the reputation which preceded him for talent and eloquence, came forward to stigmatize his country, it was time for republicans to speak openly. The gentleman eulogizes the government which, conjointly with Russia and Prussia is destroying the nationality of Poland and takes the epithet—that nation which but a few years since, not only trampled in the dust thirteen millions of Hungarians, but made them worse slaves than the slaves of the American States. He has eulogized a nation where the press, for practical purposes, is abolished, and where the people are in a worse condition than any other on the continent of Europe, and yet he says this is the country where despotism is inferior to that of this great and mighty country. Does the gentleman side with Hayman, who butchered indiscriminately men, women and children, and does Hayman come within the gentleman's eulogy of Austria? The gentleman has endeavored to cast a fire brand into the country, but will fail in his object. He disingenuously seeks to degrade his own country and make it appear a worse despotism than any on the continent of Europe.

Mr. Wright next quoted Mr. Smith's remark that the "Administration presents the 19th spectacle of having wilfully corrupted Christianity, and the people present the pitiful spectacle of remaining patient under it"—and proceeded to defend the Administration and component measures. How could the gentleman from New York stand up and advocate the higher law as superior to the constitution, which contains the following clause:

"No person held to service or labor in one State, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor, but shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due."

How can the gentleman put his hand on the Holy Evangelist and swear to support the constitution, and yet assert the higher law as superior to the constitution?

Gerrit Smith arose.

Mr. Wright asked, does the gentleman want to make a "speech?"

Mr. Smith—If the gentleman wants an answer he shall have it.

Mr. Wright.—I won't deny the gentleman—having called him out.

Mr. Smith said he was not disposed to take any position which should stigmatize with hypocrisy the framers of our constitution. A few days before the close of the session of the convention which formed the constitution, the committee on style reported that the word "servitude" be stricken out, because it was identified with the condition of slaves, and that "service" be substituted, because it was identified with the condition of freemen. The motion prevailed unanimously.

Mr. Wright remarked that it was not his recollection of the history.

Mr. Smith referred the gentleman to the Madison papers.

Mr. Wright resumed, saying that the clause refers to involuntary slaves as well as to other persons, and so the courts have decided. He (Mr. Smith,) insisted that Congress has no power to legislate on slavery, and declared he washed his hands of the subject for the term for which he was elected.

After further remarks in reply to Mr. Smith, he alluded to the Senate bill requiring the appointment of the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, to be confirmed by the Senate. He was opposed to it in its present form, and wished to make the law applicable hereafter, because to give it a present application might be construed into censure on the parties concerned.

Mr. Bayly, of Virginia, said he would not now reply to Mr. Giddings' remark on the Amistad question, preferring to wait until the bill should be introduced, and report made on the subject. The other day he undertook, when the Senate bill requiring the appointment of Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, to be confirmed by the Senate, came to the House, to show that the constitution requires the appointment to come under the supervision of the Senate. There was a French philosopher and poet of great distinction, (he had forgotten his name,) who never felt complimented at all if any laudatory reference was made to his writings, but was always exceedingly gratified if any one complimented him on his dancing. In other words, he was vain in the capacity in which he was most deficient, and it might be his (Bayly's) position in respect to the constitution. He flattered himself that he understood the constitution, and, like the French philosopher, he was vain of his deficiency. So it was—he could not help it—and, when he made a point, and gentlemen laughed at him, he felt a little sensitive. (Laughter.)

He then proceeded, as he said, to vindicate his dancing. He quoted the constitution and the debates in convention, in support of the position that the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury should be confirmed by the Senate, and came to vindicate the Administration on this precise point. The bill which he had an agency in framing, as chairman of the committee on foreign affairs, simply provided for the appointment of an Assistant Secretary of State, without saying who should appoint or confirm him. But Mr. Marcy and the President decided that question—not that Mr. Marcy should appoint his assistant, but that the President should, and the appointment was sent to the Senate for confirmation.

The words "opposing the administration and the President" had been ringing in his ears until it occurred to him that something else engages the attention of some members of Congress. In Rome, Cæsar had a party, Antony had a party, but the commonwealth none; but he would not pursue this idea. He said, when I came to Washington, and before registering my name at the hotel, a gentleman appeared and asked me "who I was going to vote for for Speaker?" On my asking to be excused from giving an answer, he said, "I hope you are not going to put yourself in opposition to the administration, who are for Orr." The devil they are, I replied.

After I had registered my name, some one else asked what I thought of a distinguished gentleman from Ohio. I said I thought well of him. The reply was, "do you not know he is supported by the Hands, and if you vote for him you will be regarded as an opponent of the administration?" (Laughter.) Everything that was said was as to the policy or wishes of the administration. I don't know how it was, but I was particularly sought, and I was asked if I was not aware the administration had the election of Col. Forney particularly at heart, and they who did not support him would be making war on the administration." I asked if it was possible that the election of Speaker, Clerk, everything, was to be made a test of friendship to the administration.

I was not accustomed to this in Washington. I have been here perhaps longer than I ought to be: during four administrations. I was never nominated for anything, was never before a convention, and never balted but once, and that was in my own person. The clerk was elected. He turned out a constituent of mine, a good democrat, whose father was a democrat, and who belonged to a class of democrats in Virginia well known and understood there. I did not want him turned out. I thought that in the exercise of a constitutional right the House might elect a Democrat. Well, I moved in the matter of electing a librarian to serve us, and take care of our books, but was told the proposition was a slap at the administration. (Laughter.) I confess I moved in the matter, because Mr. Parker, who was turned out, is my constituent.

I am not one of those who speak without authority, and I tell the gentleman from Illinois, Mr. Wentworth, that the President does not regard the conduct of all gentleman who choose to vote as their sense of propriety prompts, for the clerk, speaker or librarian, as an admin stration matter, and I doubt the authority of the gentleman to speak for the administration as he did the other day. I am told he has no commission.—He is a usurper, and assumes authority not conferred on him. But I do not care whether he has authority or not.

The points I have made are before the House and the country. If I have not satisfied the committee, there is enough in the argument to justify me in entertaining the opinions I have expressed, without imputing a design of making a point merely for embarrassment.

Congressional.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 20.

In the Senate, to-day, Mr. SHIELDS gave notice of his intention to introduce a bill authorizing the President to confer the title of Brevet Lieut. General, for eminent services.

Mr. HAMILTON has reported French Spoliations bill.

The Territorial and Railroad bills were taken up; and, after discussing their merits for some time, they were laid over, and the Senate adjourned.

In the House, Mr. BOCOCK reported a Bill authorizing the building of six steam frigates.

The Resolution offered looking to the purchase of Mount Vernon, was taken up, and after a lengthy debate it was laid upon the table by a vote of 63 to 65.

Resolutions of thanks and one authorizing the procurement of a sword to be presented to Capt. INGRAHAM, were offered, and will be taken up for consideration at the proper time.

December 21.

In the Senate to-day, Mr. HAMLIN gave notice of his intention to introduce a Bill to establish a Telegraph Line to the Pacific.

Mr. GWINN, from the Naval Committee, has reported a Bill in favor of building six Naval Steamers.

A Bill granting relief to the owners of the brig *Kate Loyd* has been passed.

The Committee on Foreign Relations have been discharged from the further consideration of French Spoliations, and the subject has been referred to a Select Committee.

Mr. BENJAMIN has offered a Bill to extend the limits of New Orleans.

In the House, a motion to institute inquiry into the expediency of instructing the Committee on Commerce, to inquire regarding completion of Repairs, Rivers and Harbors, was discussed.

Nothing else of importance was done in the House.

Arrival of the America.

HALIFAX, Dec. 22.

The steamship *America* arrived at Halifax from Liverpool, whence she sailed on the 10th inst.—Our advices by her are up to the 10th, inclusive, seven days later than those received by the previous steamer.

The Cotton Market at the sailing of the *America* was quiet. No change in prices had taken place. The quotations are the same as those last reported. Sales during the week have amounted to 39,000 bales; of which speculators took about 4000 and exporters 2100 bales.

SECOND DESPATCH.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 22.

The quotations in the Liverpool Cotton Market on the departure of the *America* are as follows:

Fair Orleans	6¾d
Fair Uplands	6¾d
Fair Mobiles	6¼d
Middling Orleans	6d
Middling Uplands	5¾d
Middling Mobiles	5¾d

The Havre Cotton Market was quiet. No speculative movement in Cotton was visible.

On the day the steamer sailed the Cotton Market was steady.

Flour had advanced 3d. per bbl. Western Canal Flour was quoted at 35 shillings and 3d.; Baltimore and Philadelphia 36 shillings 6d.

Indian Corn, white, per qr. 47 shillings.

Indian Corn, yellow, 44 shillings.

Red Wheat, per bushel of 70 pounds, 9 shillings 6d. a 10 shillings.

White Wheat, per bushel of 70 pounds, 9 shillings 9d. a 10 and 3d. Prices had declined, but afterwards advanced.

Rice was unchanged. The quotations are put down at 21 to 23 shillings.

The Coffee market was firm and advancing.

Sugar has declined.

The Money Market was easy. Consols closed at ninety-five to ninety-five and a half.

American stocks were unchanged.

FROM THE EAST.

Russian and Turkish affairs are pretty much as before. Both armies continued hostile.

The armies are suffering much on account of sickness, hunger and the want of clothing.

England and France are quiet, and entertain peace prospects.

The *Pacific* had arrived out.

NEW YORK MARKET.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 22.

The news by the *America* has produced no quotable change in the market to-day. Sales of the day 1300 bales. The regular trade took 950 bales. No change in other articles of produce.

MEETING AT BUFFALO.

A meeting has taken place at Buffalo, and measures have been adopted to protect travelers over the Erie Railroad.

MILLS DESTROYED.

Rockland mills at Rhode Island have been destroyed by fire.

FIRE IN PHILADELPHIA.

KEEN's warehouses in Philadelphia has been destroyed by fire—two police officers lost their lives in the ruins, and twelve others are injured. One fireman is missing.

CONGRESSIONAL.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 22.

In the Senate to-day, the resolution offered to create the office of Lieut. General was discussed. Messrs. WALKER, PETIT, MASON, ADAMS and DOUGLASS are opposed to the resolution. Messrs. SHIELDS, CASS, and others, made speeches in favor of it.

The Senate will adjourn on to-morrow until Tuesday next.

Nothing of importance occurred in the House.

FROM THE SEAT OF WAR.

The latest information received, advises us that the four Powers are renewing their efforts for a new conference, which has been suggested to the Representatives of Russia and Turkey.

Accounts from Bucharest, of the 6th, state that nothing new had been received.

The Port of Odessa was frozen over.

Three battles have been fought in Asia. The Russians were vanquished. Two fortresses were captured by the Turks.

The Turkish fleet continued in the Black Sea for some time, and then returned to the Bosphorus. The Turks have been successful generally, which has caused much rejoicing.

A good deal of sickness among the soldiers.

There was some excitement in Poland.

The Turks and Russians continue inexorable.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 23.

The Steamship *Hermann* has arrived at New York, from Europe. Her news has been anticipated.

The latest news from France, informs us that NAPOLEON threatens to invade Belgium with an immense army.

ARRIVAL OF THE CITY OF MANCHESTER.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 23.

The steamship *City of Manchester* has reached Philadelphia, from Liverpool. She left on the 7th instant, three days previous to the sailing of the *America;* consequently we have nothing by her out of which to make a report.

NEW YORK MARKET.

The Cotton market presented an unsettled appearance to-day, although no quotable change has been noted. The sales of the day amounted to 700 bales.

Flour has advanced 12½@18¾ cents on the barrel in this market.

The receipts of Wheat have been very large.

No change has been produced in any of the other markets usually reported.

CONGRESSIONAL.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 23.

The proceedings in both Houses to-day were unimportant. They adjourned over until Tuesday next.

The *Union* of this day denies, officially, that Col. GADSDEN, our Minister to Mexico, has been instructed to insist on the recognition of the Garray Grant.

From the Charleston Mercury.

The Union Democratic Party of New York.

The effect of the recent demonstration of the party in New York, calling itself the Union or National party, has been anything else than favorable to the peace or durability of the Union. By turning back to the dead question of Freesoilism, and making thereby an issue on slavery, they have forced into action and organization the anti-slavery feeling and policy of the North. This was playing directly into the hands of W. H. Seward. His re-election to the United States Senate was the great object of all the anti-slavery zealots of his State. If the election took place solely on the grounds of Whig and Democratic principles, he was sure to be defeated. His only hope was in a schism in the Democratic party, and if this could be made on the ground of slavery, his triumph was certain. These Union Democrats made the schism exactly to suit his purpose and policy. Although by this issue they gained a portion of the Whigs—the Silver Greys—they never had a possibility of affecting the general result by this secession. So the only practical effect of this Southern movement of Dickinson and his friends, has been to secure in his seat the man who especially represents the anti-Southern feeling of the North.

We do not indeed suppose that in their movements they gave a thought to the interests of the South, or the safety of the Union, which they believe to be indestructible as far as we are concerned. The South is a convenient card for political gamesters to play. If they really meant to form a party movement on a question interesting to the South, on a living question, about which we might gather for a practical object—why did they no propose some measure of redress for past wrongs? Why did they not propose that the Southern part of California should be purchased (as it could easily be done) by the Federal Government, and opened to the colonization of the Slaveholding State? And that the obstraction of Mexican anti-slavery laws in New Mexico and Utah should be removed? Have they given any intimation, much less any pledge, that any measure tending to redress the wrong South has suffered, or to restore the sectional equilibrium, would receive their support? Not the faintest sound in that direction have they uttered. The South asks for bread, and they give her a stone—for fish, and they give her a serpent. They have given us Wm. H. Seward for a Senator, as an earnest of what we may expect from their good will.

We are not indeed sure that this result is to be deprecated. If the anti-slavery feeling of the North exists in full strength, it may be best for the South that it should be fully developed. We have never been deluded into the belief that Abolitionism was dead. It was gorged with the success of the Compromise, and lay by to digest its food.

The next movement probably will be to repeal the Fugitive act, and this will be pursued till it is accomplished, in the same way that the 21st rule of the House was hunted down. The North will take her time, but will never lose sight of her object. And when the law is repealed, the pen of truth will most likely record that the movement commenced with the Democratic Union party of New York. That they should thus effect an object in direct contradiction of their professions, is in keeping with the whole course of their party. They love the Union, but violate the Constitution which is its bond, to secure Northern predominance. They love the South, but scruple not to join in depriving us of all share in the common acquisition of territory. They will support and protect the institutions of the South, but hasten to re-open the slavery agitation for her injury. We are to be grateful for such kindness, and crown with honor and authority such champions.

STATE OF THE TURKISH ARMY.—A melancholy account of the state of the Turkish army is given by a medical man in the Turkish camp. He states that 3,000 Turkish soldiers had already died, and that over 8,000 were sick and missing; and then adds:—

"In addition to cholera, intermittent fever, and dysentery, the Turkish camp is visited by new plagues in the shape of typhus, ugly wounds, hunger, and cold. The writer of the letter saw the troops, half of which were badly diseased, badly disciplined, and badly fed Asiatics and Egyptians, march to the Danube, 'almost without medical attendants. The Turks, strong in faith, reckoned on the clear skies, the mildness of temperature, the promises of consignments of provisions and uniforms from Varna, and the physicians with medicine, surgical instruments, and bandages from Constantinople. Omar Pasha did every thing that a general could possibly do, but his exertions to secure a footing in Wallachia and Moldavia were in vain. Rain, snow, wind and storm conspired against him, and the loamy roads were soon in such a sad state the transport of the necessaries of life for large bodies of troops was found to be impossible, and the Turkish army had no choice but to retrace its steps. 'The dearth of provisions begins to be very alarming, and the clothing of the men is miserable in the extreme. The skins of newly-killed half-starved sheep are immediately cut up to make coverings for the naked feet of the soldiers.'"

Letter from the Hon. Joseph B. Cobb.

LONGWOOD, Dec. 12th, 1853.

Editors of the Mississippian:

GENTLEMEN,—In a recent number of the *Mississippian*, which came to me duly by mail, I find that, according to a very significant invitation of the Columbus *Democrat*, you republish a card issued by myself and colleagues on the legislative ticket for this county, and which was intended to counteract certain rumors with regard to our position on the "imperilment issue" of the Union Bank Bonds. The high and important character which belongs to the *Mississippian*, both as a State and party journal, induces me to notice matter in its columns which I might deem unworthy of attention when appearing in provincial papers of limited circulation and influence. For this reason, I ask to employ a small place in your next issue; especially as my views on the subject were never given or reported in any of the papers published in this county, during the time of our canvass. There is nothing in that card of which any voter in Lowndes was ignorant, who heard Gen. Wade, Mr. Williams and myself; yet up to the very day and hour of the election some of our opponents were reporting that we favored the levying of a tax to pay the bonds that would fix a prospective, burdensome tax.

I never occupied a doubtful or an equivocal position on the subject of the Union Bank Bonds, or any other subject. I took occasion to say, in the very first speech which I made after becoming a candidate for the Senate, that I considered them to be constitutional, and that I had voted to pay both the Union and Planter's Bank Bonds, whenever they had been brought before the people of the State; also that I would do the same again under similar circumstances. I made like declarations in every speech I afterwards delivered and deeming it, doubtless, proper to make the most of this admission, the honorable gentleman who opposed me put the question directly and succinctly to me on every occasion where he was present. I was well aware that this declaration would seriously endanger the prospects of my election, and turn from my support many who were anxious otherwise to vote for me. They distrusted any candidate who agreed with the decision of Chancellor Scott and the High Court on the constitutional point, although they well knew that, for reasons I assigned, I was opposed not only to a tax, but to *all legislation* on the subject of these bonds, at this time. This question of *time* even was so used as to draw from me scores of Union and Whig votes.

But I stated farther than this that, although I had not changed my opinion on the constitutional point nor regretted a single vote I had ever given in this connexion, I would not argue the question, nor allow it to be thrust upon me as a pertinent issue of the canvass. I gave my friends to understand, moreover, that there were several sufficient reasons why, as a citizen and property holder, I should be opposed to voting any tax to pay these bonds for years to come, or for so recognizing them at this time as would pledge prospective taxation. I did not believe that the issue had been legitimately and properly brought before the people, but was sprung with the sole view of defeating the Union organization of 1851, and the election of Gov. Foote to the national Senate. Besides this, I did not consider that the sovereign voice of the people, which had been heard significantly in three different elections, should be wantonly and presumptuously disregarded by successful candidates for the State legislature. The people had refused to pay these bonds, constitutional or not constitutional; and until *they* shall set aside their verdicts I shall not presume, as a legislator, to impose a tax for their liquidation. But more than all, my county has lately voted a railroad tax for five year's duration, amounting to two hundred and seventy per centum; and such a tax will toll all reflecting men, whether bond and anti-bond, that *this* is no time to advocate taxation to pay repudiated bank bonds. To recognize them now in any manner, even if we had the power, would be an act of bad faith towards the majority of our people, as well as of cruelty towards the bondholders; for every sensible man must know that it would be only consigning the chances for ultimate recognition or payment to a still deeper grave and a more remote resurrection.

I will repeat, what I never have denied, that I always considered these bonds to constitute a legal and honest debt against the State, whatever may be my opinion as to the management of the bank. The State's commissioners negotiated the sale, and the money was paid in accordance with their arrangements. But these points are not now in issue. The *people* have solemnly decided not to pay the bonds, and the Courts, even though prescribed as the arbiters by our own laws, can never overrule or the arbiters by our own verdict. Until the people override the popular verdict. Until the people again act, it is the duty of the minority to obey. The very form of our Government renders such obedience necessary, and practical necessity prompts due submission to this sovereign decree. Nor have I the shadow of doubt but this decree is final, however much and deeply I may regret the fact. I would not have it understood that, simply because the people have so decided, that the decision is therefore right. None but dogmatists or demagogues will assert the absolute infallibility of the people. Being one of the people myself, yet unhesitatingly declare that there is no era in the history of the world which is free from traces of popular fallacy and error. It is an incontrovertible fact, however melancholy and unwelcome. They have been wrong at various times, (to use the eloquent idea I heard advanced by a distinguished friend many years since,) in philosophy, wrong in religion, wrong in ethics, wrong in practical justice. But though often wrong, they are far oftener right than sceptared potentates and despots, and at all events—and happily for us, too—their voice is sovereign and all powerful with us. Whether right or wrong, whether their verdicts be the law or not, they are absolute and final, and must be respected and obeyed.

Nor is it, in my judgment, either republican or wise, to be always, and bootlessly as well hopelessly, contending for question merely because it is right. That sort of pride which prompts men to struggle in an entirely hopeless cause, and after each trial has resulted in a more crushing overthrow, is less apt to be admired than laughed at by the discriminative and politic. This is not the day of Curtius or the Decii; and the active policy of a Hanibal will receive laudation while the senseless and useless devotion of an Æmilius would be almost depised. Great good never results from mere recklessness or desperation. I think, therefore, that is time for the conservative party of Mississippi, if they desire to preserve even the semblance of influence in the political world, to surrender this question forever as a distinctive issue. Nor is anything to be gained by *contending* even for the theory, when the practical point is beyond conquest. Misplaced and unfortunate taunts in times of high party excitement, like those through which we are sure to recoil on the taunting party at the ballot box. A people, conscious of their resistless majority, and fortified by the powerful argument of the dime, cannot be bullied or ridiculed into a contrary course. It is but blundering to hurl sarcasms at those who are firmly embarked in a crusade against the collection of a debt which has been annually increasing, at the rate of a quarter of a million, (and even upwards,) for the past fifteen years. Disallied with all commercial enterprise, having no interest in public credit, and intent mainly on accumulation through individual exertion, the masses of the voters of this State are indifferent to the appeal of "drowning honor" and lost character, when the only chance of ever retrieving either is based on a tax of half a century's duration. If the principle of repudiation could not be beaten down and crushed in the chrysalis state, it is useless to attempt its destruction now when it has marched triumphant through the routed ranks of the greatest and the best, and after it has enrolled as champions the most renowned statesmen and patriots within the borders of Mississippi. A sensitive illustration of this may be found in the unquestioned fact that the Union and Whig candidates in the last canvass were defeated on suspision, simply because most of them had been original bond-payers; and I must frankly say that I regard it as a most unfortunate move for the bondholders, (but still more unfortunate for Gov. Foote and his friends,) that they should have instructed their lawyers to bring suit on the bonds at the time they did. It was a keen and powerful weapon thrown unwarily into the hands of the party which opposed Gov. Foote and the Compromise, and furnished them with plausible pretext for introducing this resistless issue at a time when they were, in my opinion, on the point of another most signal and general overthrow. For myself, though ardently desiring to see the judgment of our own fearless and magnanimous judiciary responded to by the people at the proper time, I have done forever with the Union Bank Bonds as an element of discussion in a political canvass. I am too much devoted to other and equally important principles to stake them all in a desperate contest, for those unfortunate speculators who lent the State their money. We have made sacrifices for them such as never men made before, or are likely ever to make again. The old Whig party, gloriously triumphant in 1840, were ground to atoms and totally ensebled in 1841 beneath the bristling weels of this Scythian chariot. The Union party, so overwhelmingly victorious in 1851, and so justly confident up to a late period of the last canvass, has been buried amidst the quicksands of this Serbonian bog. Men and principles have been offered up in sufficient numbers. Conservatism has been completely ostracised, and repudiation will yet come off conqueror from every battle field where its banner can be raised and unfurled. If its ascendency be reckoned a moral blight, the blame can never be laid to those who have so often and so hopelessly fought for the bondholders and for the credit and character of the State. In submitting quietly and cheerfully to the sovereign power of the State, no one can charge on us the violation of any moral or political obligation. Whatever may be our individual opinions or preferences, we should not struggle desperately and uselessly against repeated decisions of the people, calmly and deliberately rendered. In fine, by throwing off this dead weight, as should now be done, will enable that party to whose sacred principles I am most firmly attached, to engage in equal contest with its opponents on a fair field. When the planting interests of our State shall have been diversified with those other interests consequent on the introduction of manufactories and the much of internal improvements; when the hills and vales of our rich State shall be dotted with signs of industrial energy in the useful arts, and when adventurous and wide-spread commercial enterprise shall have intermingled with and enlivened the dreading monotony of cotton culture; more than all, when increased and increasing resources and perspective thrift shall have conquered the indifference of our people, and learned them the value of public credit, then, *but not until then*, may the eager eyes of the bondholders be at length greeted with the dawn of hope, and their longing hearts gladdened with the chances of payment and satisfaction. Should this time ever come, *taxation* will not be resorted to, in any opinion, for the final liquidation and extinguishment of these repudiated bonds.

I have thought it necessary to say this much as well in justice to those who elected me to the Senate, as to myself; especially as, from the comments appended to your extract from the Columbus *Democrat* my position on this subject may have been wholly misconceived.

Very respectfully,

Your friend and servant,

JOSEPH B. COBB.

THE OYSTER TRADE.—The Journal of Commerce has an article about the oyster trade of the Northern States, particularly Connecticut, which embraces some facts of interest.

Contrary to the prevailing notion, a comparatively small proportion of the oysters for which this region (Connecticut,) is so famous, are natives here, but are brought from Chesapeake Bay in immense quantities, in the spring, when they are planted to be taken up in the fall. Their original cost is about 25 cents per bushel, to which 15 cents for freight is added. Native oysters being generally preferred by epicures, are nearly all consumed at home, while the adopted Southern oyster is sent off in every direction, to all parts of the country. The method of preserving them is singular. They are first opened and put in kegs or cans, which are afterwards packed in boxes containing ice, of a capacity equal to from twelve to twenty gallons each.

The enormous extent of this trade may be inferred when it is known that from 150 to 200 vessels, mostly schooners, are employed in conveying oysters to this port, (New Haven) the cargoes consisting of from 2000 to 3000 bushels. The profits, too, have been highly remunerative where ordinary sagacity has been exercised; one firm having cleared during the last four years from $75,000 to $100,000. "Failure" in the oyster is scarcely ever known. The business is chiefly engrossed by about twenty firms, the largest of whom send off from 1000 to 1500 gallons per day. The firm of Levi Rowe and Co. who have one of the largest establishments, with branch houses in Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit, C. W. &c., estimate that their business this season will amount to 150,000 gallons. No less than twenty vessels are employed by them, and 75 to 100 individuals, mostly girls and boys, find constant employment in taking oysters from the shell, during six months in the year.

These girls often acquire a wonderful dexterity in their department, the several movements required in going through the process being performed with all the regularity and precision observed in touching the keys of a piano forte. If set to music, however, the ear would be grated with a succession of sounds much like this—click—gouge—splash? Click—gouge—splash, &c. The first indicates the use of the hammer in removing the edges of the shell; the second, the insertion of the knife; the third, the final deposition of the disembowelled animal in a tub, prior to packing. The hammer is thrown down each time it is used, but knife is always retained in the hand. These openers receive as compensation two cents a quart, and some of them earn $2 per day, though $1 is more commonly earned. As there are about 150 oysters to the gallon, the individual who opens 100 quarts, or 25 gallons per day, necessarily opens 3750 oysters during that time!

The operation of "planting" is after the fashion: The oyster vessels upon their arrival from the South are anchored near the site of the proposed beds, and their cargoes are removed by small boats which come alongside. The beds are formed by staking off the ground into squares, each of which is spread over with about fifty bushels, so laid that one shell shall not be on another. By fall the oysters have considerably increased in size, and greatly improved in flavor. If allowed to remain too long in the beds, the oyster, not being acclimated to northern wintsers perishes with cold.

MAJOR HOWELL, a brother-in-law of Col. Jefferson Davis, Secretary of War, is about to leave New Orleans, it is said, with a choice party of gallant spirits, to aid the Turks, and to gain glory on the battle-field!

Sol. and Daddy playing "Sweat."

BY NED ALBRO.

'Solomon, my son,' (And he came very quickly 'for'ard,' to use a sailors phrase, for the old man catched him up in the hay loft a 'chuckin' dice with Jim, an older brother, and he knew he was a goner. 'What am you doin' here?' asked his daddy.

'A playin' of *Sweat*,' said Sol. gathering up what constituted the 'bank.'

'*Sweat!* and what's that, sonny?'

'Why you see that 'ere board, with 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, painted on? Well, Jem said he would'nt bet on any other figure than 5, if I'd let him 'double,' and I throws three sixes every time and puts him to perfect smash.'

Old Mr. Science did'nt quite understand this answer, but he reckoned to himself the 'little rashles had been'er gamblin' and a winnin' one another's money.'

'Jim,' said he, 'jest tote yerself in tu the house, an' stay there till I come; and you, Solomon go and cut me a willow branch—directly.'

'What for?' asked Sol.

'I'm goin' to give you a licken' my son. What sez the Scripture? 'Spare the rod and spile the child,' and if I should do that thing you'd continue to go on in this wicked way, until you'd come to the gallus.'

'Daddy,' said the youngster, putting both hands in his trousers pockets, 'there is no talkin' to me in that solemn strain, for I tell you I'm bound to be a gambler—gallus or no gallus! Now, there's Nancy Smith, the female I set up with, she sez as how I'm a lamb, and don't all lambs *gambol?*'

'Hold yer tung, you dratted skunk, you're ignorant as a hoss; an' if you don't take warnin,' you'll come to a dreadful end—sure as you're a human bein' Solomen; I say, that gamblers have dealings with the devil, and if you should go down to New York with ten dollars in yer pocket, they'd win all from you in a day.

'I'll bet they wouldn't.'

'Besides, if they couldn't get it no how else they'd cut your throat with a banana, and then chuck you down some of these hundred foot pits!'

'Who's afraid? I'm a tea pot if I don't think I could beat the captain of the hull crew at shivers with these 'ere dice. Why I can throw three sixes a dozen times—hand runnin'—and, daddy, I can tell you how many spots is on the top and bottom without lookin'!'

'And let me shake 'em up and kive 'em over?'

'Yes, daddy.'

'And you turn yer back and shet yer eye?'

'Kilzactly.'

'It can't be done,' said the old man solemnly, 'the thing's impossible. Angels coudn't do it—I couldn't do it.'

'Well I kin,' said Sol with a grin.

'Silence! you dratted villian; don't I tell you nobody could.'

'What'll yer bet?'

'Me bet? an old man almost in my grave, and a deacon at that! What would sister Crump say, I wonder, if she should hear of such a thing?'

'No dad,' said Sol, 'I didn't mean to say you wouldn't; but I tell you what I did mean. You see I've got five dollars in silver, and I want five more to buy a watch. Now, if you'll give me five I'll do this trick; I'll give you five if I don't.'

'And did you say I should shake the dinges,' asked Mr. S.

'Of course,' nodded Sol.

The old man scratched his head and muttered to himself: 'It can't be wicked to try, it ain't lotting, and the boy can't do it, 'cause it's impossible. Besides, it will drive all them nasty notions out of his head, and he'll never do so no more.—Yes, I'll honor him this venture—I vow, Solomon!'

'Yes, sir.'

'What did you say was the trick?'

'Why, you take them 'ere dice, and shake 'em yourself, and I'll tell you how many spots there is on the top and bottom—and won't ask! If I don't you can have my five dollars; and if I do, you miss give me your five.'

'Well, sonny, I'll do it. Give the dinges to me.'

'There they be,' said Sol, handing the dice to his daddy; 'now put your five dollars in the pile long with mine, so all will be fair you know.'

'I will,' said the old man and put a ragged Indiana V., amongst Solomon's silver, and gets the dice in his hand. After shaking them a good two minutes he dumped them on the floor, and said he was ready.

'Wait a spell,' said Sol, makin' believe he was pazzled; 'all right, I guess there's just twenty-one.'

The old man raised the hat—covered both ends of the dice—top and bottom, and of course there was just twenty-one.

'Bless the Lord!' said he, 'the child has done it—slick and sure. But it won't fair—I declare to mature it won't. If you'll do it again I'll give you another five dollars, and get you a new pair of breeches besides.'

'Well, daddy, go ahead; but I don't think I can guess again, no how. That's right, shake 'em a heap—I hain't got no objection whatever. All right?'

'Yes.'

'Well, there's twenty-one spots there this time too.'

Up comes the hat. 'There's three sixes, daddy, that's eighteen. Turn 'em over—three aces; that makes twenty-one again by thunder!' The old man held up his hands and groaned.

'Merciful Egypt! did you ever? No, I never did. Solomon, my son, how was it done?'

'Done?' said Solomon, gathering up his daddy's dimes. 'Done? I don't like to tell you how that was done; but (aside) you were 'done' omniferous.'—*N. Y. Dutchman.*

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR.—The authorized strength of the Army is stated to be 13,821—officers and men; but its actual strength is only 10,147. Of these 3,313 are employed on the frontiers. The concentration of force on the Rio Grande was required for the protection of our citizens against the incursions of Indians, and for the enforcement of our treaty stipulations with Mexico, to prevent Indian invasion from our own borders. This movement has restrained present depredations, but a much larger force is considered necessary to secure a permanent peace. It is estimated that 1,600 recruits will be required for the service of the ensuing year, to maintain the full complement of rank and file. The strength of the regular army is generally reduced in the proportion of nearly one-fifth, by desertion, debility, death, &c., but chiefly by desertion; and this may be expected to continue so long as the disparity exists between the pay of the soldier and that of the laborer in civil life, and length of service is encouraged by no reward. The average annual loss to the army including discharges by expiration of service, to be supplied by the enlistment of new men, is 3,592, more than one-third the whole force. To obviate the embarrasment resulting from this state of things, the Secretary recommends an increase of pay, with an additional increase of pay for every successive period of five years the soldier shall remain in the Army, and provision for promotion to the lowest grade of commissioned officers as shall merit it. He proposes to give to the soldier who shall re-enlist within a month after his honorable discharge, two dollars per month in addition to the ordinary pay, for the first five years, and a further increase of one dollar a month for each successive period of five years' service. The Military Academy at West Point receives merited commendation. It is proposed to extend the period of instruction to five years.