

GREAT LAND FRAUDS IN MISSOURI.

GOVERNOR PRICE AND PRESIDENT PIERCE.

Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribune.

PALMYRA, Mo., Thursday, Nov. 1, 1855.

I enclose you the 25th of September last to enlighten the people of the United States in regard to a fraud of no common magnitude perpetrated by the agents appointed to carry out the act of Congress donating to the State of Arkansas and other States all the swamp and overflowed land lying within their limits. I alleged that the fraud had been arrested by the L. and O. office department at Washington City, and would have been effectually exposed and prevented but for the officious intermeddling of Governor Price of Missouri and the Chief Magistrate of the nation; and the decision of the commissioner of the General Land office made prior to the agreement entered into between the Governor and the officials at Washington, in which the latter sought to close up an investigation into the character of lands selected under the act of 1850 by patenting them to the State. That Gov. Price himself a willing instrument to aid in the iniquitous scheme of defrauding the general Government, with a full knowledge of all the facts, and that the President had become a party to the infamous transaction upon the representations made and inducements held out by Governor Price; and that, too, in the face of ample evidence before the Land office department that a fraud had been committed by the State in selecting lands under the act of 1850.

The Washington Union of the 13th ult., the organ of the Administration, contains a long editorial, evidently cut and dried by the high official functionaries at Washington, in answer to the charges preferred. I intend to analyze this piece of evidence of the constituted authorities at Washington, but before doing so, let me first state the charge in my possession at the time I made the charge of collusion between Price and the President. About the 1st of July, 1855, there were tried before the register and receiver four swamp-land cases, calling in question the swampy character of fifteen hundred acres of land selected by the State under the act of 1850. During the progress of the trials the attorney for the State, or the county of Monroe claiming under the State, said that "Governor Price had been solicited by the county of Monroe and other counties throughout the State, to visit the President for the purpose of getting him to stop an investigation in progress of the character of the lands selected under the act of 1850." Governor Price did subsequently visit Washington, avowedly for the object of obtaining patents for the State of Missouri to the lands selected for swamp and overflowed. The Governor on his return home stated in St. Louis—*The St. Louis Intelligencer and Missouri Republican* are to be believed—that all the lands selected under the act of 1850 would be patented immediately, except some few tracts that the local land offices had permitted individuals to enter, and that President Pierce would call to requisition extra clerks in order to expedite the issuing of patents. And the editor of *The Intelligencer* adds "Governor Price returns victorious from Washington, as he did from the plains of Mexico; the extra clerks, however, will not be of the same political stripe with the governor;" thereby intimating that Governor Price was a Know Nothing.

After waiting ten days expecting the governor's return at Jefferson City to contradict these reports, and seeing no denial, the conclusion was very naturally arrived at that Governor Price had either come back to Missouri with a falsehood in his mouth, or that President Pierce had become a direct party to the fraud. The eyes of the people of the State had been turned to the object of the Governor's mission to Washington, and it was known that the Land department had been imperturbed by correspondence for years to issue patents to the State for the swamp lands claimed under the act of 1850. From these facts and circumstances it was believed that the President had been guilty of an official impropriety. But a high official at Washington writes us "by authority" on the 12th ultimo, "that the President is guiltless of any wrong in the premises;" and *The Washington Union* stoutly denies the charges preferred against Governor Price. He is a witness who has done justice by evidence that he has testified falsely, I shall cheerfully exonerate the Chief Magistrate from all wrong in the premises. But I am not to be intimidated by the boasting of *The Washington Union* and the hirings that throng around the President or Governor Price, to swerve from the obligation we have assumed. Hence, it becomes necessary that we descend more particularly into the minutiae connected with the transaction under consideration, and I propose to submit the evidence upon which my charges were based, that a just public may decide whether the organ of the President has been guilty of falsehood, or whether I am the offending party.

The Union says: "Without caring to inquire whether the letter be genuine or not, we have applied at the proper department and obtained the information necessary to stamp the accusations as utterly false and slanderous." Now, what information does *The Union* give its readers to stamp our accusations as false and slanderous? It quotes the instructions of the commissioner of the General Land office to the surveyors-general of the different States—instructions issued prior to the selection of lands under the act of 1850—the correctness of which have never been called in question. They were issued before the perpetration of the fraud complained of, and throw no more light upon the subject than would a chapter from the book of Genesis.

Again: *The Union* says the State of Missouri selected under these instructions 3,249,755 acres, and adds: "These lands having been approved since the early part of April, 1854, and no question having been raised relative to their swampy character, it has been recently decided to patent the same to the State, and the reasons for this course are obvious." This sentence involves the main question raised in my former letter, and I take issue with *The Union*. That it may be fully understood whether there is any truth in the allegation that there was no "question raised as to the swampy character of these lands," I send you the original of the secretary of the Interior's "let me give the history of their approval. How were the lands in Monroe county and other counties in North-east Missouri approved? The agent for Monroe county selected thirty-one thousand acres where there are not three hundred acres of swamp land, and then repaired to Washington City. Through the instrumentality of a member of Congress, and the late commissioner of the General Land office, his selection of lands under the act of 1850 was submitted to the secretary of the Interior and approved in forty-eight hours afterward. The next mail conveyed affidavits from individuals and letters from the Hannibal and St. Joseph railroad company, setting forth the fact that a fraud had been committed. And the identical congressman who had been induced upon the representations of the agent to recommend the approval of his selection, went forward and wrote his protest upon the back of said recommendation. This document, I understand, is on file in the office of the secretary of the Interior. Yet *The Union* says: "No question has been raised as to the swampy character of these lands, though they have been approved for nearly two years." The Hannibal and St. Joseph railroad company contested the State's claim to lands in Monroe, Shelby, Macon and Schuyler, and although the company could not call in question the State's claim to more than fifteen miles on either side of the road, they gained thousands of acres which had been taken fraudulently under the act of 1850.

Again: more than three hundred individuals from the Palmyra land district—the yeomanry of the country; men who want homes; hard-working men—have filed affidavits since the approval of these lands, and before Gov. Price's visit to Washington, setting forth that the lands specified in them, and selected under the act of 1850, are, and always were, high, dry and rolling, and fit for cul-

tivation. Yet *The Union* has the hardihood to say with all these facts in the Land-office, and which may be proved, too, that "no question having been raised as to the swampy character of these lands," it was right and proper for the department to patent them to the State "at the request of Gov. Price." Now, let me ask, how could the swampy character of these lands be raised if this accumulated testimony could not raise the question? Again: *The Union* says, "Neither did the President nor the Land office possess any evidence that the lands so approved were not of the character intended to be granted by law." I ask all candid and honorable men if the result of the proceedings instituted by the Hannibal and St. Joseph railroad company is not evidence that a fraud was committed in the counties bordering on said road? It will be recalled that this company contested the right of the State only to the odd sections within six miles of the road and the even sections within fifteen and nine miles of the same—consequently, the company did not contest all the land that had been fraudulently selected by the State within fifteen miles of the road. But the company gained thousands of acres as before stated. Were not the affidavits of three hundred individuals, made before justices of the peace, and having the seal and certificate of the county clerk, evidence? The Land office regarded these affidavits as evidence; for the instructor and receiver of this local office have been instructed to permit more than one hundred individuals to contest the State's claim. Yet *The Union* says that "there was no evidence either before the Land office or the President; that the lands approved were not of the character intended to be granted by law." Upon this false hypothesis *The Union* infers that the department did right in agreeing to patent the lands selected under the act of 1850, on the request of the governor of Missouri.

If the facts submitted are susceptible of proof, and the organ of the administration is challenged to disprove them, I have shown that *The Union* is not only *fallacious*, but *fallaciously* in omnibus upon every material point. *The Union* makes this admission: "That lands have been selected under the swamp-land law which were not intended to be granted, we have no disposition to deny. A very liberal construction has been given to the law by parties acting for some of the States, and in other instances more have been chosen to select lands whose elastic character seemed stretched out at the perpetration of fraud—but the vigilance of the Government officials has resulted, it is believed, in the discovery of every case of the kind, and the prompt rejection of the State's claim to the land." Now, observe: Fraud was charged in the selection of land under the act of 1850 by the agents of the State. The administration organ accuses me of wholesale slander, and then turns round and confesses "that lands have been selected under the swamp-land law which were not intended to be granted, we have no disposition to deny." This is the identical thing charged, as to the vigilance of the Government officials, which *The Union* reads in the preceding paragraph. Hence, we have been contending that Congress ought to give any and all individuals, who will prove by credible and disinterested witnesses that a given tract has been fraudulently selected, the preference-right to enter the same at one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre. *The Union* says it is the duty of the Land office to patent the lands to the State because the agents have complied with the instructions, witnesses having sworn that high and dry lands were swampy, on the 2nd of September, 1850.

Now, I ask the people of the United States whether the policy of the Administration shall prevail and Missouri steal more than two hundred thousand acres of land under the act of 1850, or whether a half million of dollars shall be paid into the public treasury for these so-called swamp lands? Thousands of acres in this land district, worth from one to ten dollars per acre, would be forfeited but for the decision of the commissioner refusing to give the contestant the preference right at the ordinary cash price over the speculator. My doctrine is that the contestant ought to have the preference right, because he is at the trouble and expense of proving that the land is not of the character contemplated by law. And for the further reason that the land in its present situation is paid to the general Government unless individuals will pay out of their own pockets the expense of proving the fraud.

Let me now briefly pay my respects to an article in *The Jefferson City Examiner* of the 20th ult. This is the organ of Gov. Price. Before doing so, however, let us inquire who Gov. Price is, and how it happens that he holds the position he does. He was brought on by the Hon. Thomas H. Benton, through the influence of that gentleman he obtained a seat in Congress. Upon Benton's recommendation he was appointed as the Mexican war by James K. Polk. He was elected as a Benton Democrat governor of the State. No sooner was he inaugurated, however, than he proved himself a traitor to his benefactor. But his treachery and treason does not end here. The Legislature of 1854 and 1855 convened, and there being a United States senator to elect, Gov. Price joined the Know-Nothing organization on the eve of the senatorial election, thereby hoping to secure a seat in the Senate. The Legislature, however, adjourned without electing a senator, and the governor, seeing that the K. N.'s had been defeated in Virginia, Tennessee, Georgia and Alabama, withdrew from the order and is now a Simon-pure Pierce Democrat. It is to be wondered at that the official organ of so mean a governor and of such a degraded political trickster should caption an editorial in answer to the charge of fraud in the Swamp Land—*A Missouriian*—claiming the State through "The N. Y. Tribune." Now I have not, and do not intend to assail the State of Missouri; but I have a right to oppose the perpetrators of a fraud, whether they live in Missouri or any other State of the Union, and I intend to exercise that right, though his Excellency may imagine himself the personification of the State. If the swamp lands claimed by the counties in Missouri are really swamp, no power on earth can defeat the right of the counties to it. But the Governor's organ assumes a fact to be true which every citizen of the State knows to be false. I again assert I am not opposing the State or education, but the perpetrators of a fraud under the act of 1850 and those who give them "aid and comfort." The fraud can be successfully arrested and prevented if the General Land office will suspend the issuing of the patents to the State until the next Congress can assemble and pass an act reversing the decision of the commissioner as to the swampy character of the lands. Let the organ of the State, in contradiction to *The Washington Union* and all the facts that stand out in bold relief, say: "We do not believe that a fraud has been committed in any manner or shape by the constituted authorities why they were so solicitous about obtaining patents for these lands? They answer, "Because the trustees were removing the timber from the land." This is untrue. There are not two thousand acres of timbered land selected under the act of 1850 in North-east Missouri. The governor's organ answers the question truly when it attempts to account for the governor's visit to Washington: "The counties were being deprived of these lands through the failure of the department at Washington to issue patents to the State. He (Gov. Price) wrote to the department on the subject, but the difficulty was

not remedied. He therefore resolved to visit Washington for that especial purpose."

It was wrong to issue the patents to the State for the lands claimed under the act of 1850 upon the written request of the governor, now, in the name of all that is just and honorable, could the august presence of the governor make it right? Could his absence or presence in Washington change the application of a principle? In conclusion, let me say to the organs of President Pierce and Gov. Price, if they deny the facts I have given, I invite them to take depositions at a certain time and place upon the ground that has been desecrated by the perpetration of fraud; and I pledge myself to prove that not one fortieth part of the whole number of acres of land selected under the act of 1850 is swamp within the meaning of said act. WM. H. TAYLOR.

LATEST ELECTION RETURNS.

THE RESULT IN THE CITY.

Several of our tables of returns in yesterday morning's TRIBUNE lacked the 1st district of the Twelfth ward, and there were also some slight errors in the addition of one or two of our tables. With the missing district added, the results are as follows:

Table with columns for Ward, Party, and Votes. Includes entries for King, Repub., Healy, K. N., McFlynn, Hard., Moore, K. N., Connolly, W. D., Sherwood, W. D., Schab, H. and S., Dodge, W. H., Gable, H. and S., Hooper, K. N., Vache, H. and S., Morton, K. N., Wilson, H. and S., Aiden, H. and S., Hayward, H. and S., Taylor, K. N., Gunther, H. and S., Oliver, K. N., and a Total row.

VOTE FOR STATE OFFICERS.

Table with columns for Ward, Party, and Votes. Includes entries for I., II., III., IV., V., VI., VII., VIII., IX., X., XI., XII., XIII., XIV., XV., XVI., XVII., XVIII., XIX., XX., XXI., XXII., and a Total row.

STATE TREASURER.

Table with columns for Ward, Party, and Votes. Includes entries for I., II., III., IV., V., VI., VII., VIII., IX., X., XI., XII., XIII., XIV., XV., XVI., XVII., XVIII., XIX., XX., XXI., XXII., and a Total row.

CANAL COMMISSIONER.

Table with columns for Ward, Party, and Votes. Includes entries for I., II., III., IV., V., VI., VII., VIII., IX., X., XI., XII., XIII., XIV., XV., XVI., XVII., XVIII., XIX., XX., XXI., XXII., and a Total row.

STATE PRISON INSPECTOR.

Table with columns for Ward, Party, and Votes. Includes entries for I., II., III., IV., V., VI., VII., VIII., IX., X., XI., XII., XIII., XIV., XV., XVI., XVII., XVIII., XIX., XX., XXI., XXII., and a Total row.

STATE ENGINEER.

Table with columns for Ward, Party, and Votes. Includes entries for I., II., III., IV., V., VI., VII., VIII., IX., X., XI., XII., XIII., XIV., XV., XVI., XVII., XVIII., XIX., XX., XXI., XXII., and a Total row.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

Table with columns for Ward, Party, and Votes. Includes entries for I., II., III., IV., V., VI., VII., VIII., IX., X., XI., XII., XIII., XIV., XV., XVI., XVII., XVIII., XIX., XX., XXI., XXII., and a Total row.

JUDGES OF COURT OF APPEALS.

Table with columns for Ward, Party, and Votes. Includes entries for I., II., III., IV., V., VI., VII., VIII., IX., X., XI., XII., XIII., XIV., XV., XVI., XVII., XVIII., XIX., XX., XXI., XXII., and a Total row.

ELECTION ITEMS.

As this is the day fixed by law for the official canvass by Counties, and as the general result is ascertained, we give little space to-day to fresh details. The K. N.'s are claiming a Senator (Lyon) in the Orange and Sullivan District, another in the Otsego and Chenango District, and do not give up Dodge (Hard) but supported by all but the Republicans in the St. Lawrence District. Franklin Co. gives Dodge 600 to 800 majority. The Schoharie and Delaware District is claimed for all three candidates, but we think Stevens (Hard) has carried it. We append some letters below.

Wm Kelly (Dem.) is said to have 160 plurality in Columbia. Dutches has hardly been guessed at yet—we shall hear from her this evening. Jacob B. Carpenter (Repub.) has beaten Ambrose Wager (Dem.) for Assembly 532 votes in the III District. Geo. A. Dudley, Assemblyman, elect from Ulster, though supported by the K. N.'s, is, we are assured, Republican. Samuel White (Hard) is Assemblyman.

JAMES HENNINGTON (Republican) is said to be elected in the XXVth (Seneca) district, instead of McLane, (K. N.) This is as we expected.

WM. HOSCHKIS (K. N.) is the senator elect in the XIVth (Essex) district.

DELAWARE CO.

Ed. Tribune: All the towns in Delaware county heard from but two, and estimating them, this result may be relied on: Republican majority over Hudson, 100; Republican majority over Sofia, 60. Truly yours, J. A. H.

ST. LAWRENCE CO.

Ed. Tribune: The returns of election from all but one town and two election districts in two other towns are in, and the result shows that St. Lawrence county has elected a Republican senator and three Republican members of assembly, all of whom are sound on the question of prohibition. King's majority over Healey will be 2,457, and Hatch 3,176. Ward was not considered a candidate in this county, except by word and then a constitutional renegade. Yours, &c., A.

ALLEGANY CO.

Ed. Tribune: Allegany has given the Republican State ticket two thousand majority over the Know Nothing and fifteen hundred majority over the Soft. Our county ticket is elected by one hundred to seven hundred majority. The K. N. and Soft combined against us on our county ticket, but we have triumphed over them at low Allegany. Good for two thousand majority next Fall, and for all polls to come over Know Nothingism. Truly yours, W. M. P.

PROHIBITION IN THE HIGHER COURTS.

To the Editor of The N. Y. Tribune: Sir: In answer to your call this morning for the liquor suits to be carried without delay to the court of Appeals, allow me to say that two cases from this city are on their way to that court, and no efforts have or will be spared to urge them forward. I allude to the indictment of James Wallace for selling rye whisky, and the suit against Coleman & Stetson of the Astor house for selling brandy.

These cases are so arranged as to embrace all the points in the law that have been claimed to be unconstitutional. Both are now appealed to the Supreme court, and they will be moved forward on the calendar, so soon as the legal papers and points of argument can be arranged and printed according to law. The court have given encouragement that the cases may be argued at this term; and no good reason appears why they should not be decided by the court of Appeals in January.

The long delay of these cases is not chargeable to the complainants nor their counsel, nor to the City Temperance Alliance, who have assumed all the responsibilities, risks and expenditures. The principal reason that these suits, or others of the same nature, were not brought forward early enough to have been heard and decided by the supreme court and the court of Appeals before the assembling of the new Legislature, is that the City Temperance Alliance had not the pecuniary means to commence and conduct their matured plan of operation in July and August last.

This fact is named because you have, with so great propriety, called upon the "friends of Temperance" to "make up the required amount to secure the energetic and able prosecution of this matter." As you suggest, we "let the fact be publicly stated" that we want the means to work with. We want money to-day to print the legal papers connected with our appeal to the Supreme court; and we may yet have the able argument of E. S. Capron, esq., counsel for the prosecution, and to send it forth by thousands for the benefit of the whole State; for many have called this the clearest explanation and the soundest defense of the Prohibitory law that has yet been made.

And although we have entire confidence in the ability and energy of Mr. Capron to conduct these important trials, and believe that we shall gain such a decision as will compel the mayor to unchain the police and set them at work among the dram shops, yet for the mere look of the thing, if for nothing else, we want to engage an associate counsel, and we will not consent to engage any man whom we do not hold in high respect.

We need also the means of sustaining such other cooperative agencies as are so manifestly essential to our success. For these purposes, we need for immediate use at least two thousand dollars, and five times that sum might be profitably invested in the usual operations of the Alliance, during the Winter and Spring.

All the receipts and disbursements of the Alliance are open to the inspection of persons interested; and any suggestions with regard to general or particular measures will be thankfully received. In behalf of the New-York City Temperance Alliance, C. J. WARREN, Corresponding secretary. New-York, Nov. 13, 1855.

MR. THACKERAY'S LECTURE.

Mr. Thackeray delivered last evening the closing lecture of the series. With that manly truthfulness which is his most characteristic feature, he once declared that while he had conceived at a distance, nothing could be easier than to draw a picture of such a brute as George IV, and nothing of less power of delight than to hunt down and fix on such an animal; when he approached nearer he found he had nothing to do but to write, and a countenance ever smiling with a silly smile. Such game was unworthy of a noble hand, such a delect of the literary pack, as Mr. Thackeray, and he confessed he shrunk from it. We can perfectly imagine this. The exquisite and delicate nature of such a high bred, aristocrat as Mr. Thackeray was never intended to be soiled in the dissection of a hog. Such work belongs to a coarse butcher.

But though this lecture was to us the less interesting by so much as there was the less of Thackeray and more of Wrexall and old magazines and such matters, it afforded, as far as we could learn, undiminished delight to a more crowded and cultivated audience. Indeed, there is in the gay vivacity and pleasant interposition of wit with which Mr. Thackeray unpacks his basket of bright, sparkling gossip an irresistible charm; and there is in his voice an unceasing delight to us which we can hardly describe, but which brings over to our mind those lines applied to another British worthy: "Yet who not listens with delighted ear, To the pure music of the silver voice." "Treat to the State, resulting from the mean."

With a slave and a piece of chalk Mr. Thackeray thought he could form a respectable likeness of George IV, so far as the external form of his friend went; but when he came to look into his history he found nothing but a coat with a star on it, a Trafic brown wig, rucking with oil, and a mask smiling under it, under-waistcoats and more under-waistcoats under them, all false, nothing but a corpulent simulacrum. He signed his name sometimes with a steady, sometimes an unsteady hand as George P. or George R. to State papers. This was his highest moral effort. Others wrote them. Within five days after his illustrious birth, he was dubbed Prince of Wales, Marquis of this in England, Lord of the other in Scotland, and Lord in what many other places. The cradle of the royal infant was encumbered with American gifts. Among others there were wine men in America to bait the appearance of this star in the East, and a curious Indian bow and arrow were sent to the prince from his father's faithful subjects in New York. Before he could speak, stammer, not men, were busy kissing his little feet. As he grew up, this young Julius of England had more pictures taken of him than half England, even than Prince Albert, who has a considerable weakness in that line; and Mr. Thackeray said that he remembered when young there was hardly a dining parlor in any respectable house in England from whose waistcoat the countenance of this sweet prince did not look down.

Still the life fairly pleasure will stand in through the key-hole of the most carefully guarded door, where she finds fit subjects in hot passions and a strong frame, and in spite of the good care of old George and all the vigilant watching of his mother, young George became the most enormous prodigal of the world had ever seen.

But he was such an accomplished youth! When yet young, when his tutor, Lord Bruce, made a mistake in a false quantity, the Prince corrected him. Bruce could, of course, when caught in this flaw, no longer retain his tutorship; but to soothe his wounded feelings, he was made an earl. We presume Lord Derby must have had him in his eye when he announced some weeks since at Liverpool that merit was the only passport to the peerage. Lord Bruce was made an earl; Nelson never rose beyond a viscount. Exhibiting these and similar gratifying proofs of early proficiency, this model prince grew up to the great glory of his kingdom. He was lovely to look on, and his costs cost ten thousand pounds, with everything else to correspond. To calculate the millions that were given by the English people to feed this brute's lusts and luxuries would be appalling. Had he been a manufacturing town or a rural district, or a detachment of an army, he could not have cost more. Yet this man shared with the Count D'Artois, if not as depraved in his appetites as ridiculous in his extravagance and tastes, the honor of being the first gentleman of Europe. And Sir Walter Scott absolutely carried away the glass out of which he drank and vowed it should be an heir-loom in his family. Having placed it in his pocket, we are happy to record, he sat down on it and gave himself a cut, which we only regret was not severer.

Of course this young Prince and all his brothers, hot for pleasure, ran away from old George III, poring over his books, and Queen Charlotte with her snuff and sewing. When he got free he took full flight, and his great person accommodated itself to a stupendous amount of hot meats and rebellious liquors and the passions to which they give birth. The only intellectual feat Mr. Thackeray could discover that he accomplished was the invention of Marschion punch and shoe buckles an inch long and five inches broad. The latter were a sweet invention well worthy of the Prince whom it adorned. Occasionally he might have kept more brilliant company and talked dice with Fox or drank wild Sheridan, but there was nothing more in common, and as a rule the companions he most loved and which were most natural to him were courtiers. No one could trust his friendship for an hour. His friends speedily palled him, and he as speedily threw them off. The Whigs must have expected his base desertion. In middle age his friends were table companions. As he grew old he preferred young guardians and boys whose sprightliness tickled his senseless sensuality. As he was to men, so was he to women. But from this dark portion of the picture Mr. Thackeray did not draw the curtain. Of what purpose would it be to show the beautiful Perdita (Mrs. Robinson) was pursued and deserted. Of what object to say that he married Mrs. Fitzherbert according to the rites of the Roman Catholic church, that the witnesses could be named and the settlements produced? And that the first gentleman in Europe and King of England pledged his honor as kings and emperors can do in our day with unblinking front, to a black dog. All the pleasant devices came coaxingly round, and he sold himself to them all.

Still, notwithstanding dark traits sufficient to have doomed any man but a king to infamy, men of some honorable place in the land were found as guests at his table. The table of Princes is doubtless tempting, and it is wonderful the aroma which with men their presence lends to wine. Fox, and Sheridan, and Scott were often there, and little Tommy Moore twittered about or awhile, and then took wing and attacked him with beak and wing and claw. Indeed most people are willing for "grand" company to take a headache the next day. But the wine itself, apart from the company, was not unpleasant to many great men of the time. Pitt used to take a bottle of port after dinner, and then, on his way to the House, stalk into Belfry's, with Dundas, and throw on top of it a couple of bottles more.

But let us not omit to recount the Prince's virtues. They will not occur much space. He was kind, it is said to his servants, a belief founded on a pleasant story told of an Irish servant named, Molly something, who cried when about to leave Carlton House because he was such a sweet-spoken gentleman. But Irish women are tender, especially in their teeth. Then he sent some money to Sheridan on his death bed, and if his dying "friend" had not spared it, might have sent more. He borrowed eight hundred pounds too one day from one friend, and made a present of it to another, an old soldier whose family were in want, which was a most generous and self-sacrificing act! He kissed Perdita also, very affectionately one day, and did not know her the next. Then poor wretched Brummell, said Mr. Thackeray in words whose beauty we cannot hope to catch—cheated him out of a snuff box, and when the misera-

ble old wren went home, as a token of submission offering him another in hope of winning the memory of Mr. times, he pocketed the snuff and cut the man who was his favorite, his companion, his rival as a snuff smoker. When the Duchess of Devonshire died, so remarkable for her goodness and her heart, George IV said we have lost the best-bred woman in the world. For said we have lost the kindest-hearted woman in the world. These two sayings are no feeble indications of the character of the two men. Thackeray said Mr. Thackeray said, as all base and mean, by their characters, and what else has a man to say of George IV. Empress we turn, as battles lost while he sat fat, and taking his fill of pleasure.

George IV is dead, said Mr. Thackeray, but twenty-five years, and every one asks, as doubtless all here last night asked, how is it possible that could be a society so debased as to tolerate such a man, or a kingdom so fallen as to call him sovereign. Yet in those days, if a stranger had said a word, Newcome's presence what he said that night, the angel would have lifted his bamboo cane. There are numbers of all people who would do the same as to say or breathe a word against royalty, but will get their descendants in some years hence scolded equally as such folly!

George IV was called "the first gentleman" of his day, but the gentleman of that day was a bold boor, and would give any distance to a fight, thought it fast to spend an occasional night in the watch-house, and would swear to make your hair stand on end. Mr. Thackeray then told with most charming pleasantness of low he had met, last Summer we think, an old German gentleman who had once mixed in high society in England, but had not been there for fifty years. Almost every second word he spoke was a monster oath. Then read Byron's letters, laden with demands, and the story of the scab-cut over which they drank at Newstead Abbey. It was quite the thing to run through toll-gates without paying, and a pinner, and treasurer, and lord chancellor once did, and was shot at without its overcoming the world like a summer cloud or exciting any special war.

Mr. Thackeray then introduced some anecdotes of drinking bouts among the lawyers of the day—Eaton, then Mr. Scott, and others, which created much merry laughter. They were giants in those days, in drink, said Mr. Thackeray. Then this modest gentleman the Prince used to poke a German lady, Madame Schwablenberg, sitting near him, in the ribs, and kissing her advice her to shut up her potato trap, and other playful pieces of the same class. As another among the many anecdotes introduced it was told how the prince, assisted by the Duke of York and Clarence, visited the Duke of Norfolk, the premier duke of England, but a man certainly, which somewhat redeems the matter, of the most coarse, abandoned character, and concerted a plan for making him drunk. So when he came every one was eager to drink with him. He soon saw there was a conspiracy against him, but he accepted their offers, and overthrew many of the brave among them. The first gentleman in Europe at last proposed bumper of brandy. The old man stood up and tossed one off, then said he must go home, and called for his carriage. He said a trap had been set for him—he would leave the place at once and never enter it more. In the half hour before the carriage came the brandy had done its work, and the duke's old gray head lay heavily on the table. Nevertheless he stumbled into the carriage, and ordered his postillions to drive home. They, however, drove round and round, and when he awoke, he found himself in the prince's hideous house in Brighton. I cannot fancy how the man who could perpetrate this ever come to be called a gentleman.

From the field of drink Mr. Thackeray turned to that of dice, and carried us back to the small room in Brookes's where Charles Fox once sat for a session of twenty-two hours' play—told how he lost at different times two hundred thousand pounds at play, and how lightly he bore it, and brought as finally down to Lord De Roos's recent snuff in coup-d'oeil in the same Whig club. When Mr. Thackeray, however, stated that the days of gambling in England were past he indulged in a very rosy illusion. It is true that Cockford's is still, and the rattle that once rang in Brookes's is no longer heard, but in a certain club not many yards off in Arlington street scores of play take place each night which are quite worthy of a place along side of the most telling he presented.

Mr. Thackeray then, after a sketch of his conduct on the Catholic question, passed to the picture of his wedded life. When his wife was first presented to him she tried to kneel, but with his usual grace, he lifted her, and, turning to his attendant, said, "I am 'sick—get me brandy!" He then recited into the very chapel and hiccuped out his vows. But let us pass, as Mr. Thackeray did, in loathing from this royal brute—a disgrace not alone to the name of gentleman but of man. Thank Heaven, there were gentlemen in England at the time—men worthy of the name—noble in thought, in deed, in love and duty to their country. Such men as Collingwood, as Southey, and as Heber—men of the sword, the pen, and the Bible—of such men, and they were not few, England may well be proud.

But if one George, said Mr. Thackeray in elegant peroration, on that side of the Atlantic was a disgrace to that age, there was another George on this side who was its redeeming honor—George Washington, the greatest citizen of the Nation race. He did not believe that in this day England would tolerate such a king as George IV. It was, however, fortunately exposed to no such trial, for England had to-day a sovereign to whose virtues she was proud to be loyal.

We cannot agree with Mr. Thackeray's closing opinion that loyalty in England is rendered to an individual as a mark of respect for personal virtues. We have always thought the loyalty of England was given to the institution as a matter of national duty, and was not supposed to be affected by either the vices or virtues of the sovereign. Certainly the way in which England contributes to the support of some members of the royal family at the present day, who, though free from the glaring vices of George IV, are not remarkable for those virtues which distinguish Victoria, supports our opinion. We cannot see any particular reason because a lady happens to be good, amiable and excellent in all the relations of life, that she is to receive three hundred and fifty thousand a-year out of the sweat of the toiling masses. Royalty can only be sustained as an institution; and Mr. Thackeray's lectures certainly go to establish that it is a most foul, rotten and corrupt one. The wonder will be in years to come how people could have submitted to such a monstrous incubus.

Mr. Thackeray's countrymen over how may too learn from him a useful lesson. Words coming from him will have effect, which proceeding from any less distinguished man might waken anger. His name is connected with the glory of England and will live we doubt not when those of kings and queens have passed away. They may learn from him that love of country does not necessarily entail love of every abridgment which belongs to it, but that true love of country rather consists in lifting bravely a voice against all the corrupt institutions which degrade and depress its manhood and prosperity.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

MONDAY, NOV. 12.—The mayor in the chair.

Official Business. Board of Commissioners, stating that the amount paid for arranging and copying papers in this office since last May, 1854, is \$2,854.40.

Increase of salaries.—The resolution in favor of increasing salaries of judges from \$4,000 to \$4,000 per annum, was called up, after some slight remarks from members, of motion of Ald. TUCKER, (Night,) indefinitely postponed.

Several small bills were ordered to be paid, and various bills for advertising, &c., referred. A report in favor of correcting tax to various persons named, was adopted. Several petitions for correction of tax were received and referred.