THE KANSAS QUESTION.

Interesting History of the Elections in Kansas—Missouri View of Gov. Reeder's Conduct, &c., &c.

[From the Washington Sentinel, May 29.]

We publish below the communication of "An Eye Witness" in relation to the Kansas elections. As will be perceived, the communication was drawn out by Gov. Reeder's Easton speech, in which he took occasion to say that Missourians had invaded Kansas, and taken possession of the ballot boxes. It will be recollected that in a recent article we drew attention to the fact that this charge of invasion contemporaneously with the speech of Gov Reeder, at Easton, Pennsylvania, made its appearance in the Know Nothing abolition legislature of Massachusetts—a fact not without significance.

The communication of our correspondent, "An Eye Witness," sustains, in several important particulars the charges set forth in our article entitled "The People of Kansas vs Gov. Reeder." We are gratified to perceive, as far as heard from, that the response of the pro-slavery party of Missouri to our articles on this important subject is favorable, one or more of our articles having been copied *in extenso* in the local papers.

The friends of good order and constitutional right in Kansas now struggling with abolition fanatics and importers of Sharp's rifles, may be assured of our sympathy, and that with sleepless vigilance we will perform our duty as a faithful sentinel, and will give timely warning of danger to their cause.

The communication of our correspondent is not published entire. Some portions have been entirely omitted, and expressions in the portion published, in some instances, modified. Enough, however, has been retained to show the temper which has been excited in Missouri and Kansas by the ill judged and unjustifiable course of Governor Reeder.

Our correspondent bears the character of a man of credit and standing.

DEFENCE OF MISSOURIANS AGAINST THE CHARGES OF GOVERNOR REEDER.

I have read a letter in the NEW YORK HERALD of the 8th of May, which gives the substance of some of the remarks made by Governor Reeder on his return to Easton, in which he reflects strongly upon the people of Missouri; and, among other things, states that Kansas has been invaded by a regularly organized army, armed to the teeth, who took possession of the ballot boxes. He also seems to be profuse in his use of the terms "fraud and outrage."

Having been in Kansas Territory at both elections, and before and after them, and having had ample opportunity of knowing what took place there from actual observation, I deem it due to Missouri (as none else has thought proper to do so in the Eastern papers, though the whole matter is well understood here) to give a fair representation of the facts.

Before doing so, however, I wish to expose the acts of Governor Reeder since his arrival in the Territory.

By the treaties made with the Indians, reservations were made by some of them of portions of their land; and some of the tribes, under those treaties, have the right, with certain restrictions, of selling such reservations. On his arrival in Kansas instead of attending to the imperative duties of his office in providing laws for the government of a country rapidly filling up, and for the want of which the most serious collisions, from disputes about claims, were to be apprehended, Governor Reeder, reckless of the interests of the people and utterly disregardful of his duty, entered upon a series of speculations in these Indian reservations. This occupied his attention for weeks and perhaps months after his arrival; making, in the meantime, excursions in various directions, in order, as he alleged, properly to district the Territory; but, in reality, visiting the headquarters of various tribes whose lands he wished to buy. * * * * * * *

After this man had excited widespread and open discontent and loud murmurs at his conduct, he reluctantly ordered an election in November last. But for what? Why, any sensible person would suppose for the election of a Legislature, to enact laws for a community composed of a heterogeneous population, liable at any time to be brought into violent collision, for a community suffering for the want of such laws, and which had been driven into the formation of voluntary associations in order to adopt such regulations as were necessary for its temporary protection. This would have been the reasonable conclusion; but it would have been wide of the mark. The election so ordered was for a delegate in Congress. Why a Legislature was not at that time elected, as it could easily have been done, Governor Reeder and his emigrant aid associates can no doubt explain, but until he does so the large preponderance of the pro slavery party there at that time, will be a sufficient key to his conduct. The Aid Society with which this sworn officer afterwards so heartily co operated, had not been able to forward on a sufficient number of persons, who had sold themselves, to meet the exigency; and it was necessary that he should give it the whole winter to operate in, and be prepared by spring to forward their troops of men, who had been bought for money, like the Hessians of old, to make war upon the rights of others.

I would gladly dismiss this personage without another word; but the pains he has been at to calumniate Missourians, makes it an act of justice that his whole character, so far as it is known, should be exposed. * * He was repeatedly, respectfully and urgently spoken to upon the necessity of convening a Territorial Legislature; to which he made reply, that he was using the greatest exertions to do so, and that he would do so at the earliest practicable day, &c.; while, in truth, at this very time he was a member of a secret society whose object was to abolitionize Kansas; and was in correspondence to that end, with the Aid Society, and was engaged in importing, for the same end, abolitionists from Pennsylvania, or preparing therefor, under the pretence that he wanted a thousand mechanics, when he well knew that there were then enough of mechanics already there who would have been glad to have gotten work even at low wages, so destitute was their condition. Whether his secret oath to this association was compatible with the impartial discharge of his duty as Governor, can only be guessed, and that guess must be in the negative.

He however, at last, did order an election for members of the Legislature. Let us now see what was his conduct in this matter. In order to give the greatest aid to his abolition allies, he made a set of regulations for conducting the election calculated to throw all the obstacles possible in the way of voting by the pro slavery party, and wholly repugnant to the provisions of the act of Congress organizing the Territory. By his regulations voters might be required to take an oath that they were *bona fide* permanent settlers. Now, he well knew that no man could swear that he intended to remain permanently there. That might be his present intention; but it was one liable to be changed, and the terms of the oath seemed to require permanency of settlement. He well knew that there were but few conscientious men who would take such an oath, and equally well knew that men who openly avowed their intention of stealing negroes (as many of the abolitionists did) would have no such scruple. I imagine permanency of settlement is not required in any State in the Union. All that they require is a residence for a definite period, some shorter, some longer, and nothing more.

The act of Congress prescribes the qualification of voters to be inhabitants of the Territory, who are actual residents on the day of the election. It does not require any one to be a citizen. But this sagacious Governor not only required them to be citizens, but that they should be bound to the soil as long as they lived. Many other arbitrary and unnecessary regulations might be pointed out, but this is deemed sufficient.

Although the election had to be held for a country as large as the largest State, and almost entirely destitute of mail facilities, yet this paragon of a sworn officer only gave, to the pro-slavery party, some ten or fifteen days notice of it, not even throwing out, beforehand, an intimation as to the time. This was his course only towards the pro-slavery party. His proclamation was printed, it is presumed, under the sanction of secrecy, in an abolition printing office—secretly circulated afterwards among the abolitionists, and it was only by accident that a copy was procured and made public. But this is not the worst part of this man's conduct in this matter. I state it deliberately, and with a full knowledge of its importance, that this Governor communicated to the Aid Society in the East, or to some of his friends there, the time of the election, some two months before he made it known to the people of Kansas. This fact was charged upon him while he was here, and the proof was in Westport. He has never, so far as I am advised, dared to deny it. Comment upon such conduct is unnecessary. It speaks for itself.

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His last official outrage, I believe, was to appoint his town of Pawnee as the place for the meeting of the Legislature. This town exists in lithograph—is far away beyond the settlements in the Pawnee country, and destitute of food or any place for the members to meet or lodge in. Several suitable places could have been selected near the Missouri river.

I will now proceed to answer Governor Reeder's charges. I was at the election and have since read, attentively, the papers, and conversed with persons from various points in the Territory, and I assert, without fear of successful contradiction, that a more peaceable, orderly, quiet election, never took place in any State, since the days of the revolution. In the whole Territory there was but a single disturbance—that took place at the town of Lawrence, and was provoked by an abolition editor in charging some voter with perjury; for which foul charge an effort was made to punish him, but he ran, and as he ran, a pistol was fired off after him, but did him no injury. That there were arms in abundance, and well charged too, is undeniable. But what was the occasion of this? Simply this—The abolitionists generally came well armed; some of them made a show of their arms as they came up the Missouri river, and made their threats what they would do with the "slave catchers." Indeed, some seemed to take a pride in showing their bravado. They also threatened to prevent the pro-slavery party from voting, by force, and it was notorious that they generally carried their arms. A party had already shot down one man, who died on the spot. Under these circumstances, it was nothing more than prudent for the other party to be prepared to resist any infringement of their rights. Had they been so disposed, the returns of the election show that the pro slavery party were in sufficient numbers at every precinct to have "scalped" the last abolitionist in the Territory.

That no violence was committed shows that their arms were for the purpose of protection and not aggression. The only attempt made to overawe voters was made by the abolitionists themselves; who, I think, at some point on the Kansas river, attempted to take possession of the polls, but were promptly subdued.

Nor were illegal votes given. The judges of the election were of the Governor's own appointment, where they could be got to serve. They took an oath, as prescribed by him, of a most stringent kind, to reject all illegal votes; and at nearly all of the precincts there was one or more abolition judges before whom, and in whose presence, the votes were cast peaceably and without challenge, except in a few instances; and generally when challenged, the vote was rejected. The returns were made to the Governor under oath, and he, after taking ample time for reflection, with a full knowledge of what transpired at the election, communicated to him by his faithful spies, and under his oath of office, issued certificates of election to a majority of the members elected. Yet in the face of all these solemn official acts and deliberate proceedings, he has the audacious effrontery to assert in the Eastern States that Kansas was invaded by a band of armed men. A most enlightening statement. * * * * * Why did he not refuse certificates of election to the members thus fraudulently elected? He will doubtless say their election was not contested. But why, if such gross fraud was perpetrated, was their election not contested? Was there a single district that had not many cunning lynx-eyed abolitionists present to watch for and detect the slightest illegality in the election? It is well known that there were many such. In addition to this, the Governor, by his regulations, gave the greatest latitude in contesting elections. They authorized a contest not only by the defeated candidate, but any voter might do so. And yet, notwithstanding these great precautions and this extraordinary vigilance, but few districts have been contested. And why is this? Certainly not from any indisposition to listen to the complaints of contestants; for this pattern of an executive officer, on receiving the specifications of illegality, without giving any opportunity to the person elected to show the falsity of the grounds alleged, or without giving him any hearing whatever set aside the election, and has ordered new elections in all of the districts which were contested. Rather a novel proceeding on the part of an executive officer in these United States! Where his excellency got his authority for such unprecedented acts, I am unable to learn; certainly not from the act of Congress, for that act only conferred on him the power to declare who was elected—(I do not pretend to quote the exact words)—a power precisely similar to that granted to the clerks of the county courts in Missouri, and perhaps in other States; yet these officers never imagined, under such provisions, they had the power of trying contested elections. It would be an insult to the intelligence of the Congress that passed the Kansas bill to suppose that they deliberately designed to subvert and annul a rule that has been considered as sacred ever since our Revolution, to wit: that every legislative assembly shall be the exclusive judge of the returns and qualifications of its members. The rule adopted by the Governor would make the legislature a plastic body, to be moulded and shaped by the executive, and destroy it effectually as a coordinate and independent department of government.

An incident occurred at one of the precincts showing the kind of men whom the Governor appointed for judges, and the disposition manifested by them, which ought to be known. The election there was conducted with the most perfect order, and during the whole day there was but a single vote challenged, and that vote was rejected. There were two pro slavery and one abolition judge. The vote was challenged by the last. It was ascertained that this judge had, in the morning, endeavored to get this rejected voter to vote for the abolition candidates, and had given him a ticket printed on paper of a different color from the other ticket. When the man went up to vote, he offered a ticket on the other side, and then this same judge, for the first time, found out that he was not a legal voter, and had his vote rejected. After the polls were closed, the same judge refused to sign the returns, on the ground that there had been illegal voting, though he had taken a solemn oath to reject all such, and had sat there and received those votes without objection, only objecting to the one before named. He was asked by the other judges why, as he was sworn, he did not object to the votes. He said he was afraid. He was then asked if the election had not been quiet and orderly. He said it had been. He was asked to point out any threats made, and he would not do so. He finally signed out and runaway without signing the returns, which were signed by the others, and an affidavit made of the facts. This district was not contested, for the reason that the candidates were elected, leaving out the votes of that precinct entirely for the ones so elected, and giving the votes polled there for the other candidates to them.

That many persons, who had recently been citizens of Missouri, went over to Kansas just before the election, and voted there, is not to be denied. But I do deny that any one so went there and voted, who had not the right to do so under the act of Congress; and I can show this conclusively. It is well known that people commenced settling in Kansas in the early part of the summer of 1854—too late to make farms and raise crops. Hundreds, and I might say thousands, of Missourians went there, and made and secured their claims according to the regulations of the various "Squatter Associations"—which claims were duly certified. As there were no laws in the Territory regulating such claims, such as some of the border States have, the people found themselves driven to the necessity of mutually agreeing upon some rules of the kind, in order to prevent the anarchy and strife that would inevitably follow the want of them. As there was nothing to live on in Kansas, and no food or provisions to winter their stock on, except what might be carried there, these men returned to Missouri, finished their growing crops, and remained during most of the winter, where they had something to live on. When the election came on, they went to Kansas, where they had claims to land—where they claimed their residence, and where they were actual residents to the exclusion of any other residence, and voted as they had the unquestionable right to do—the act of Congress requiring no previous residence, but only that they should be actual residents on the day of election. If there be wrong in this, let that wrong lie on the abolitionists and free soilers in Congress, who refused, on General Atchison's motion, to prescribe a three month's residence.

But admitting, for the sake of argument, that persons did go to Kansas from Missouri and vote who had no right to do so, I will show that even in that case they were fully justified in doing so. It is notorious that regularly organized companies were established in the East to abolitionize Kansas. It was not merely to settle the country with industrious, peaceable, law-abiding citizens, submissive to the constitution and laws, but with lawless fanatics, land pirates, a reckless crew, bent on aggression against the rights and property of the people of Missouri and the south. So far did they carry their notorious scheme (as it appears from one of their printed pamphlets), they required an oath from each emigrant, which, if he obeyed, would require him to violate the constitution and laws of the United States. Many of these emigrants were indiscreet enough openly to avow their objects to be to abolitionize Kansas—then invade Missouri, afterwards Arkansas, and then Texas. They were loud and boisterous in these avowals, and actually commenced stealing slaves in Kansas.

One instance was that of a female slave, belonging to a widow, whom they decoyed off, and when overtaken they had her seated at the table with them calling her by the endearing title of "Sis." Emissaries of this lawless band were in Missouri, under pretence of selling interest tables, or some other small article, secretly exciting discontent among the slaves; such at least was the result of their visits. Under these circumstances, what did it become Missouri to do? I believe that it will not be denied at this day, that governments are instituted to secure persons in their rights, and that when they become subversive of this end, or the administration of the law is too weak and inefficient to accomplish this purpose, it is not only the right, but it is the duty, of the people to protect themselves and their property. The people of Missouri saw this malign cloud, foreboding the greatest evil to them, gathering on the west. They knew that an important and to them vital provision of the constitution of the United States had been virtually nullified in some of the non-slaveholding States. They knew that Michigan had passed a law making it felony for the owner to claim his slave there. They knew that one of their own citizens had gone to Chicago for his slaves, and although he saw them in the streets, in open day, the marshal or his deputy, frankly told him that the law could not be executed; they saw this same lawless spirit being transferred to their border.

Were they, in view of all this, to sit still, and like base cowards suffer their property to be wrested from them, and for redress appeal to laws that were trampled under foot with contempt? No. Missourians are not men of that temper. They would have drenched these plains with the blood of this detested crew, rather than have permitted them to weave the net work of evil; and had they gone there, and by force of arms driven these incendiaries out of the country, the people of Missouri would have been justified in the eyes of all enlightened and sensible men. Here was a case if ever there could be one, calling loudly for the right of self-protection. To the government they dared not trust for protection, for instead of a pure, high minded, disinterested patriot, they had seen a * * * * * * * appointed Governor of that Territory.

There are still other notorious facts to be brought to notice. Hundreds of these vile emissaries are sent to Kansas for the sole purpose of voting. They have since the election left. Some voted, and started back about 12 o'clock, on a boat, on the day of the election. The defeated candidate for Congress imported by Governor Reeder last summer left so soon after that election that he was the herald of his own defeat. Some who were unable to get there at that election on account of the low stage of water in the Missouri river, returned on the same boat.

These facts are as notorious here as the noon-day sun, and could be established by scores of witnesses. In view of it is wholesale importation of abolition voters, merely for the purpose of voting, what right would Governor Reeder and his abolition allies have had to complain of Missourians, had they done the same thing to counteract and checkmate this adroit movement?—a movement which developes the true reason why General Atchison's amendment was voted down.

In conclusion, it is proper that I should state that some of these eastern emigrants have reciprocated the incendiary designs of the base tools of the Aid Society; have avowed their determination to uphold the laws of Congress, and to respect the rights of their neighbors; and while holding to the opinion of making Kansas a free State, avow their preference of making it a slave State, rather than have free negroes there. It is but right that it should be known that there is such a class there, and that they should not be included among the infamous band of abolitionists. This class is viewed with no disfavor by the pro-slavery party; who see in them men who have a proper sense of their duty as good citizens, and are disposed to perform that duty. Such will never be regarded with unfriendly feelings, however much we may dissent from their opinions.

AN EYE WITNESS.

Hurricane in Dodge County, Iowa.

A correspondent of the Watertown *Democrat* writing from Juneau, Dodge county, gives the following account of a terrific tempest which passed across that town, and through portions of Dodge county, on the evening of the 21st ult.:—

Last evening this village was visited by one of the most destructive tornadoes it has ever been our lot to witness. About half past 6 o'clock a heavy cloud appeared in the northwest, accompanied by vivid flashes of lightning. About an hour after the hail began to pour down in great fury. It seemed as though all the demons of heaven and earth had been let loose—for about an hour and a half the roar of the hurricane drowning every other sound. In all the town, every window on the north and west sides was smashed; hardly a pane of glass was unscathed.

The Juneau House lost about two hundred panes of glass, and the American nearly or quite as many. Not a building escaped—all bearing testimony to the fury of the storm. Never has it been our fate to witness a scene at once so terrible and sublime.

The new building erected by the county last season, for fire-proof county offices, was unroofed, and in its fall came within about six feet of striking a person who was at that time passing in a wagon.

The force of the hurricane appears to have passed principally through the village, the central portion passing directly across the public square. We doubt if the like has ever been witnessed in Wisconsin. Glass is in demand this morning. Five hundred dollars will not more than cover the damage to the county.

EXPORTS OF CANADA.—The following are the total exports of Canada during the past two years:—

Exports in 1853	£5,950,325
For the past year	6,754,797
Less this year	£194,528

National Politics

[From the Charleston Mercury.]

THE SOUTH AND PARTIES.

The imminent prospect of deadly war upon the South devolves upon her people the necessity of a resolute settlement in their own minds of what they will demand of any and all parties who, in the approaching Presidential canvass, shall bid for their support.

Already the call of national organizations is being sounded; already the eyes of greedy and base politicians are turned to the booty in '56, and measures and men are spoken of, by which the North is to be again pampered into insolence, and the South dragged down into loss and shame. It is proper, therefore, that the true mind of the South should speak out now, while opinion is yet in germ and before credulity and hope entrap any into treacherous bargains with party.

There are issues crowding now in federal politics, unparalleled before in their intensity of feeling and practical interest. The Missouri struggle in 1820, the tariff in '32, the repeal of the 21st rule, the Wilmot Proviso in '48, the admission of California, and the Compromise measures, all sink into insignificance, when compared with the great questions which are bursting upon us. Aggravated by feeble palliatives, the disease has broken out more malignant than ever. The declaration is made in bold and emphatic words, "that abolition has the control of the government, and can use it now to carry out its long cherished schemes;" that "there is no further need of compromises with slavery," and, "there shall be none;" "there shall be no more slave States;" the Fugitive law is to be repealed; the Missouri restriction restored; slavery in the District of Columbia, and in all places where the federal government has jurisdiction, is to be abolished; the inter-State slave trade is to be stopped; and that the Northern man or party that dares speak peace to slavery is gone.—"shall surely die;" but, more insolent than all, that "the South" in the language of Giddings, "cannot be kicked out of the Union," and will bear with some grumbling and grimace perhaps, anything that is heaped upon her. Here is the choice which abolition presents to Southern lips! Let us analyze its contents.

The Fugitive Slave law was the poor boon which the South received for her acquiescence in the compromise. It was all she got in that infamous swindle. It would have been spurned by the South as a worthless thing, but for the intercession of the border States. The constitution which made the rendition of fugitive slaves a matter between the States, had proved impotent. The slave owner had been mobbed and murdered in the streets of the North while seeking his property, in accordance with its guaranties. The border States asked for further guaranties, and they thought they had them in the Fugitive law. But, like the constitution, fanaticism has made it from the beginning, practically, null and void, and has trampled it out of the statute book. What burning shame and disappointment must they now feel who see in it the failure of their vain hopes, and for how paltry a price they accepted the indignities of the compromise. Yet abolition demands that this insignificant boon shall be taken from us. It is not enough that the constitution avails us nothing in the recovery of our fugitive slaves—not enough that the law itself is practically a worthless nonentity—not enough that State after State has passed laws nullifying it; but, to stamp upon our hearts the conviction that neither our rights, nor honor, nor feelings, are thought of or respected, it is to be wiped out of the records of the land. The poor refuge which assailed but timid pride might find in the language of an obsolete nugatory law—even that is to be taken away.

The restoration of the Missouri Compromise line is the next feature in the programme. For thirty years has this stigma of the south's first submission been upon us. For thirty years the waves of southern colonization have beat against this barrier raised by Southern hands and been turned back. Still consenting to its inequality, and wrong, the South again and again tendered it to the North as a settlement to the Pacific. But it was always refused. It stood until at the instance of Northern men—it was repealed by the Nebraska-Kansas bill. What is the consequence? Kansas, a region suited in all respects for slavery, is thrown open to the South. The North grows furious at the thought. And now the contest opens. Hireling emigrants are poured in to extinguish this new hope of the South. But true to their institutions, and their homes, the Missourians prepare for the struggle. Away from the old centres of sectional strife, far off in the fair fields of Kansas, the North and the South, fanaticism and slavery, meet face to face. It was a mortal struggle, and slavery conquered.

The result has deepened the hostility of the North. They demand in louder and fiercer tones than ever the restoration of the Missouri line, and Kansas is to be excluded unless she abolish slavery. It is the highest and most aggressive policy yet taken by abolition. It is practical and momentous in all its bearings. Its decision against us settles the fate of Southern progress—settles the superiority and domination of the North, and seals the ultimate doom of slavery. It involves an issue as momentous as any that can come upon a people. It contains the matured fruits of all the hostility, sectional avarice and fanaticism which, watered by compromises and submission, have been germinating for our destruction since the foundation of the government. The repeal of the fugitive slave law, the restoration of the Missouri line, and the rejection of Kansas as a slave State, with other measures no less, constitute the platform of abolition.

Our readers know with what an overwhelming majority it has swept the entire North upon these issues, annihilating every party that stood in its way, prostrating the administration, and sending to the House of Representatives one hundred and thirty members sworn to do its bidding. The next Presidential canvass will be inaugurated in the midst of the crisis. We shall have again parties attempting to patch up sectional divisions, save the Union, and control the spoils of the government. The North will be implored to be moderate in her persecution, and the South patient under her sufferings. There will be again party platforms, framed with euphonious ambiguity, to propitiate the strong and cheat the weak. There will be pledges, given with no honesty, and accepted with no faith. There will be the old story over again, of concession, unity and compromise, during the struggle; of strife, treachery and violated promises in the hour of victory. It is in view of such a prospect, and with the issues and dangers impending over us, that we declare what, in our opinion, the South should demand of any party which hopes for her support.

In the first place, it will not be enough that the question of slavery is shut out of party creed. Whatever importance may be ascribed to other questions, slavery is the one paramount vital question to the South. In the war which is now waging against her, every other issue is made to bow before it. How can she consent to hush it up, or give it a second place in her policy? When the whole North is abolitionized, for the South to enter an organization which avoids the slavery issue, because to touch it is to involve its own dissolution, which agrees to disagree upon this, her question of life or death, in which free-soilism consents to stifle, yet nurses its hostility for the purpose of party triumph and then, when loosed from party ties and clothed with power, it shall turn upon its duped ally and victim to mock and trample upon her—would indeed be a depth of folly and shame beyond our conception.

A party that asks of the South such self-stultification as this—such blind betrayal of all that is valuable or dear, for the sake of the Union or anything else, makes a demand which she must reject with scorn and defiance. The question of American politics cannot be passed over in silence by any party which aspires to govern the country. Its very silence will be its loudest accuser of intended treachery to the South. From such an organization, if successful, the North would come out mightier than ever; for the federal government, through which it expects to achieve its purposes of abolition, would be completely in its power. For Southern men, therefore, to accept such a proposal, is not only to surrender their rights to the mercy of their enemies, but crown them with power to overwhelm and crush them.

What then, do the necessities of the South require at the hads of every party bidding for her support? What has she a right to demand? Not silence, not suspicious reserve, but full and explicit declarations in her favor, upon the issues which are before the country. If they intend to be true to her, let the assurance be given. Let them come up and meet fairly the fugitive law, the Missouri line and the Kansas questions and declare in the face of the world whether they "be with us, or against us." But if the North refuses to do this it will be because she no longer regards our rights, our favors, or our threats, and because, believing herself strong enough, she has resolved to sweep on to the fulfilment of her long settled policy.

A Card for the "Little Villain."

NEW YORK, May 31, 1855.

Mr. Wemyss Jobson presents compliments to the Editor of the NEW YORK HERALD.

As a foreigner grossly assailed, and denied even a shadow of redress, he may perhaps venture to anticipate insertion of the subjoined in the independent columns of that journal.

When he mentions that the pirate firm with which Mr. Raymond is connected, have recently purloined and reprinted a small English work on the history of France, with the sale of which Mr. Jobson's volume might be supposed to interfere, it may sufficiently explain the motive for this attack on his work—vamped up for the purpose, after it had been six months in their hands.

When he adds that this Mr. Raymond at the last New York election endeavored to obtain his influence over the "foreign vote" by informing him that though he (Raymond) "nominally supported the Liquor bill, in private he was opposed to it, and should take care that it never came into force," Mr. Jobson will leave the public to infer who "the precious scoundrel" is.

COPY NO. 1.

TO H. J. RAYMOND, ESQ., EDITOR OF N. Y. DAILY TIMES:—

SIR—On returning from a distant and unexpectedly prolonged tour in the West, I have to direct your attention to a most unwarrantable attack covertly directed against me in your journal of the 21st ult.

In an article which, as it quotes no authority, I must presume emanates from your office, I am spoken of as "a hack of the New York press," and a "precious scoundrel," merely because I had allowed a disreputable fellow-journalist of yours—a vile, unfrocked parson named Burr—to obtain from me by false pretences and publish some European letters concerning the noted English libeller of America.

Two or three days subsequently another copy of your paper was forwarded, marked to my address, containing a review of some work of mine on the French Revolution, in which I was by name held up as a writer too obscene for quotation, merely because in alluding to Marie Antoinette, I had not found myself at liberty to suppress the historical fact of her uncleanliness.

I find no fault with the latter, inasmuch as your reviewer is at full liberty, so far as I am concerned, to express his free and unbiassed opinion concerning any work I ever wrote; though I must say that in justice to me he ought to have remarked that the circumstance alleged was in her extenuation, and based on the authority of Madame Campan (the royal governess), referred to in a note at the bottom of the page.

But in reference to the other, as I have never been "a hack of the New York," nor any other press whatever, and so far from being a "precious scoundrel," can challenge any man to investigate my whole life without finding in it a single act or word inconsistent with the conduct and feelings of a gentleman, I must request an explanation. I have the honor to be, sir, your ob't serv't, D. WEMYSS JOBSON.

NEW YORK, May 25, 1855.

COPY NO. 2.

Mr. Wemyss Jobson requests Mr. Raymond's reply to the letter addressed to him on Friday last, and delivered on the following morning.

TUESDAY (noon), May 29, 1855.

The Eruption of Mount Vesuvius.

The following is an extract of a letter from Naples, dated May 8, 1855:—

You may conceive my delight this day last week, the 1st of May, when I came to dine at ——, and the servants told me that Vesuvius had broken out in a violent state of eruption. I thought the dinner would have never ended, I was so impatient to go and see it. However, at 9 o'clock, —— ordered his carriage, and we drove to Santa Lucia, which is, you know, the *quartier* on the Vesuvius side. It was a lovely night, without a cloud, and the moon as bright as in the month of August. As we turned the Chiatamone there was the mountain standing out of the plain against the blue starry heavens, and a broad stream of lava slowly rolling down its cone, and from the summit a thick cloud of smoke spread over it in the shape of a gigantic pine tree, the lower part of which, from the reflected fire, was red, while higher up a thick black layer of smoke, with a white top, lay curling over like the foliage of the tree. The lava was streaming in one broad flood from about half way up the mountain's cone, whence, when it got to the bottom, it seemed, from the ground being less steep, to crawl along until it reached the edge of the old crater that forms the vacuum between Vesuvius and Monte somma. Here it found itself arrested on the brink of an abyss some 200 or 300 feet wide; and, from the distance we were at, we could see the stream of fire rushing over like a vast cataract, with immense boulders of red hot rocks hurled over, and chasing each other down until the ground got more even, and the speed slackened. From this point the lava crept on, but so slowly, that it was difficult to mark its progress; and the effect was beautiful as it burned the trees it met in its course, which flamed up with a bright blue light like Roman candles. The reflection of the burning mountain was thrown across the sea on the very edge of the spot where we were standing, and formed a lovely contrast to the beams of the pale, silvery moon as they lit up Capri and the Sorrento coast. The best remains to be told. —— proposed going on to Portici to see the eruption nearer. When we got there I suggested Messina as preferable; and, in short, it ended by his taking a donkey we met, and I walked. So we proceeded, both of us dressed as we were, in thin evening shoes and light apparel until we reached the summit of the mountain, after a severe tug of two hours. However, we were well repaid, and I shall never forget the scene, as we stood within a few yards of the cataract of fire which I mentioned before. A strong wind blew the smoke over Monte Somma, but the heat was terrible, for we were very near it, of which you may judge when I tell you that *faute de mieux*, I lit a segar from the edge of the torrent as it rolled over the edge of the mountain. We remained there some three hours, which passed quickly enough, and as we descended the mountain we were gratified at seeing the eclipse of the moon, which took place about 3 o'clock in the morning, and of which previously we knew nothing. In short we were very fortunate in the night, for it was the only one on which the moon had shone since this day last week. As you may suppose, the lava has made great progress, and it does not seem to be diminished. I went again, but to another part, last Saturday night. It was then threatening a village called San Sebastiani, for it has already got into the plain, and has destroyed an infinity of property. I hear to-day that the stream is six hundred feet in breadth, and has ingulfed three houses. They have sent firemen to build walls, to try and turn the direction of the stream. However, that won't do much good. When I was there last Saturday it was a curious sight to see the wretched proprietors cutting down their vines, and trees to save the wood. Thousands of people were standing in front of the advancing flood, for in the plain there is no danger, as it moves about fifty yards in five hours. When it is likely to cease nobody can tell, as every day the mountain opens fresh craters, and it is likely to continue to do so.

To-day we have an awful storm, and it is thundering and lightning and raining torrents, such torrents as are only seen in Naples. If it clears up —— and I are going this evening to see "the village destroyed." Poor little talk of it as if they were going to the Surrey Gardens. However, it is no joke for the owners; and a branch stream has made a direction of its own towards a lovely villa belonging to the Marquis St. Angelo, and in all probability by to-morrow he will have an uglier neighbor in his flower garden. This is the most popular eruption they say that has ever been known, and all the world goes to Vesuvius of an evening. The King and Queen went there the other night and spent it on the mountain. The last three or four eruptions have always taken place on the other side, and consequently have been difficult to get at, and but little has been seen from Naples. This one, if it goes on, will do a great deal of damage, as there are three villages between it and the sea, and the ground is much cultivated. I shall be able to tell you more about it in my next letter, as I have not given you much of an idea of what a grand sight it is. The fact is, it would be very difficult so do so, as any description would fall very far short of the reality. I had heard a great deal of the effect of eruptions and pictures representing them are not scarce, but I can assure you that nothing I had seen or heard gave me the slightest idea of what it really is.

[Naples (May 10) Correspondence of London Globe.]

The lava has now advanced ten miles from its source, and is doing terrible damage. Last night I went to the scene of most stirring interest, after an interval of two days. How changed the neighborhood in two days! Where I walked on Sunday night was now a sea of fire. The side road by which I had come down into the main stream from Follena and Massa di Somma was now full of blackened coke. The houses on the borders of the village had fallen—in one thirty poor people lived; a small chapel was swallowed up, a gentleman's villa, and a vast extent of vineyard and garden ground. On the other side of the great lava bed another stream was branching off to San Sebastiani. We had hoped to have crossed it, and ascended to the cascade again, but it was no longer possible; for, as one says, speaking of a mountainous country in the winter, the lava was out. The fire here had begun to enter the burial ground of the little town, but was diverted from its course by a wall. On the opposite side of the stream were the King and all the royal family. The banks on either side were thronged with curious and anxious multitudes, whose faces were lighted up with the blaze of hundreds of torches, and with the more resplendent flame of the rapidly descending lava. Since the morning it had moved a mile. It was like a vast river of glowing coke. As it moved on the tens of thousands of lamps rolled and tumbled one over the other, cracking, and grinding, and grating; and when, from the very face of it, a large lump fell off the appearance was that of an iron furnace when the iron is being drawn. To make the resemblance more complete, at such times men darted forward with long poles taken from the neighboring vineyards, and pulled out great masses of lava in which they imbedded money for sale. What struck me at first, and still strikes me as the most majestic feature in the whole scene, is the slow, silent, irresistible motion of the fiery flood. Active, almighty power without an effort! Sweeping everything before it, overcoming every obstacle, growing up against intervening walls or houses, and devouring them bodily, and then marching on in the same silent, unrelenting, irresistible manner as before. There was a spot beneath my feet where a wall of mason work had been built to break the violence of the winter floods; to this spot all eyes were directed. The fiery river would fall over it in an hour; as yet it was distant from it seventy yards, perhaps. Gradually it rose in height, and swelled out its vast proportions, and then vast masses fell off and rolled forward; then it swelled again as fresh matter came pressing down behind and so it broke and on it rolled again and again till it had arrived at the very edge. There was a general buzz and murmur of voices. They royal family stood opposite to me intermingled with the crowd, looking on with intense anxiety. At last it broke, not hurriedly, still with a certain show of majesty. At first a few small lumps fell down; then poured over a pure liquid of metal, like thick treacle, clinging sometimes mass to mass, from its glutinous character, and last of all tumbled over gigantic lumps of scoria. Then on it moved once more in its silent, regular course, swelling up and spreading over the vineyards on either side. The expectation is that the lava, should the eruption continue, will flow down to the Ponte Mandaloni, and into the sea. So grand and so destructive an eruption has not been known for many years, and even now we cannot tell how or when it will terminate. The mountain is literally seamed with lava, and many fear a violent explosion as the final scene of the tragedy.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

MONEY MARKET.

THURSDAY, May 31—6 P. M.

The stock market is getting dull and depressed again. For some time past there has been considerable activity among the leading fancies, and prices have in many instances reached the highest point, but the little excitement which at that time existed has disappeared, and we shall without doubt have a quiet week or two. As dividend time approaches holders exhibit less disposition to sell, and the cash stock offering will continue limited. Of the non-dividend paying stocks very little can be said one way or the other. These are pretty well maintained, but would be seriously affected by any stringency in the money market. At the first board to-day Indiana 5's advanced ½ per cent; New York Central 7's, ½; Harlem Railroad, ½. New York Central Railroad declined ¼ per cent; Reading Railroad, ¼; Panama Railroad, ½. Indiana 5's sold to some extent to-day at the advance. Other State stocks were not in demand. The only class of railroad bonds at all active was Illinois Central. The bears are free sellers of New York Central at the decline. The scarcity of cash stock is the only cause of the high prices ruling for this stock. Reading was quite active to-day. The transactions sum up more than four thousand shares. The future of this company is highly encouraging. The immense profits of this year's business will give the company a standing equal to that of any other road in the country; and as for its future business it is beyond competition in every particular. In that respect it has an advantage over every other road. Western railroad stocks have been neglected lately, but prices remain without variation.

After the adjournment of the board, the following sales of bonds and stocks were made at auction by A. H. Nicolay:—

$1,000 New York City Fives, 1860	Int. added.	95
6,000 Harlem Railroad 1st mortgage	do	88
1,000 N. Y. & Erie RR. Convertibles, 1871	do	83
6,000 Cleveland, Painesville, and Ashtabula Railroad 7's	Int. added.	83¾
14,000 Williamsport and Elmira R. 1st mort	do	64¾
100 shares Cumberland Coal Co		2⅝
200 Catawissa, Williamsport and Erie RR.	23¼ a	23¼
40 Bowery Bank		116½
160 do.		104¾
70 Chatham Bank		93¾
30 Commercial Fire Insurance Co		106
20 Irving Fire Insurance Co		95
80 Fulton Fire Insurance Co		81¾
20 Atlantic Fire Insurance Co., Brooklyn		101¾
20 St. Mark's Fire Insurance Co		78¾
50 Grocers' Steam Sugar Refining Co		51
1 Pacific Mail Steamship Co		35
20 Balance Dock Co		70
50 New Creek Coal Co		2¾
183 Vermont Copper Co		50

Simeon Draper's regular semi-weekly auction sale of stocks and bonds will take place to-morrow, at half past 12 o'clock, at the Merchants' Exchange.

At the second board the market was not so steady. In Reading there was considerable business. The transactions in this stock to day sum up nearly eight thousand shares. It closed this afternoon firm, at prices current in the morning. Erie fell off ¼ per cent; Cumberland, ½; Cleveland and Toledo, ½; New York Central ¼.

The transactions at the Assistant Treasurer's office to-day, were as follows:—

Paid on Treasury account	$243,099 40
Received do	133,446 89
Balance do	2,237,976 75
Paid for Assay office	15,371 00
Paid on disbursing checks	65,152 10

The payments to-day include $200,000 sent to Washington.

The annexed statement exhibits the receipts and disbursements of the Assistant