

Democratic State Ticket for 1854.  
FOR SUPREME JUDGE,  
SHEPARD F. NORRIS,  
Of Clermont County.  
FOR MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS,  
ALEXANDER P. MILLER,  
Of Butler County.

—We shall probably issue but a half sheet or slip next week, on account of being busy in moving and arranging our office. Our office will be found hereafter in the third story of the Phoenix Block, at the East end.

FOREIGN NEWS.—We are under obligation to Mr. HARTLEBORN, Baggage Master on the C. & P. Railroad, for Extras of the Cleveland daily papers containing the important Foreign news brought by the Baltic.

REMOVAL.—Mr. JAMES TWITT has removed his Hat, Cap, and Fur Store to one of DAY'S rooms in the Phoenix Block. He has received the Spring style of Hats. Give him a call.

NEW STORE.—J. H. BOSTWICK & Co., late of Campbell-Port, have opened their stock of Goods in the fine store room of Gen. McFARLANE, in the East end of Phoenix Block, and will be pleased to wait upon all those who may favor them with a call.

SCHOOL EXAMINATION AND EXHIBITION.—The examination of the pupils of the Ravensna Institute, under the charge of Mr. E. C. WILMOT, came off at the Town Hall on Thursday last, and an exhibition was given at the same place on Friday evening. The exercises were interesting to the patrons and spectators, and highly creditable to the scholars and their teachers. The different parts of the exercises were well sustained and exhibited thorough training and entire competency on the part of Mr. W. The next term will commence on Monday, March 6th.

OPENING OF THE CANAL.—The Western Division of the Pennsylvania Canal is to be opened on the 1st of March, if the weather at that time will permit.

Court of Common Pleas.  
The Court commenced its present session on Tuesday last. Hon. LUTHER DAY presiding.—Judge DAY, continues to merit the confidence which he has always received by those who know him. As a Judge, there is no one but admits his competency and willingness to discharge his duty faithfully, honestly, and with credit to himself and honor to his position.

The important civil cases have been continued, several important legal questions have been discussed and decided. The case of Chauncey Viets vs Marcus Heath, appeal from the decision of a Justice of the Peace. The defendant moved to dismiss the appeal, for the reason that the amount claimed was less than twenty dollars, the plaintiff claiming that as the defendant had filed his plea to the declaration, he had waived the objection and brought himself within the jurisdiction of the court. Appeal dismissed.

The Township of Randolph vs Justin Belding. This was an action to recover two dollars penalty for neglecting and refusing to serve as a Supervisor of roads. The defendant set forth in his answer, that he was willing to take an oath to support the Constitution of Ohio, and an oath of Office, but would not swear to support the Constitution of the United States, as he believed, that as that instrument was read and construed, it required sacrifices of him, which, if strictly carried out, he would be unwarranted in making as a man and a philanthropist. Judgment for plaintiff.

The State of Ohio vs Abraham Mankins, indicted for arson. The indictment charged the defendant with burning a barn belonging to Rufus Paine, in Atwater in this county. The proof consisted entirely of circumstances, and was one of that kind of cases, that opened a wide field for the display of legal combat. For the State appeared Samuel Strawder, Esq., Prosecuting Attorney, and Gen. L. V. Bierce; for the defendant, S. J. Morse Esq., and Messrs. Ranny & Taylor. The case was opened by Gen. Bierce in one of those speeches that he, only, is capable of making, to say to the people of Portage county, that Gen. Bierce can make a strong speech, would be like my sitting down and writing a puff for the New Testament. He was followed for the defence by E. B. Taylor, Esq. in an ingenious and able argument of two hours and a half, that did great credit to himself and equal service to his client. In this trial, Mr. Taylor has ably sustained the reputation his qualifications as an advocate and a lawyer have established, on the Reserve. Mr. Ranny following with a logical effort in support of Mr. Taylor, and was followed by Mr. Strawder by a clear, well digested and able argument, on the part of the State. Great interest was manifested during the entire trial, the Court House being crowded with ladies and gentlemen, who had come from the neighborhood of the defendant as witnesses and spectators.

In the cases of the State vs R. D. Baxter, charged with counterfeiting; his counsel Bierce and Jeffries, filed a motion for continuance, supported by the affidavit of the defendant stating that he had witnesses absent from the State, and others living in Cincinnati, by whom he could impeach the character of Williams the principal witness on the part of the State, and prove that he has been successfully impeached in Cincinnati where he resides—also that he could prove how he came into possession of the counterfeit bills, in his possession at the time of his arrest.

The State vs Henry Turner, charged with murder in the second degree, was taken up yesterday morning. There are a large number of witnesses and a crowd of spectators in attendance.—The case will probably not go to the jury before to-morrow.

A PROPOSITION.—The Uncle Tom Advertiser proposes to publish Douglas' speech on the Nebraska bill if we will publish that of Chase. Now, we intend to publish the latter whether that sheet does the former or not. We intend to do more—to publish all that those two Senators may say upon the question in the Senate; and it matters little to us whether that journal does the same or not.

Who is the Apostate?  
The wool dealer of the African organ on Main street is becoming rancorous and goes into spasms on account of our position on the Nebraska Bill. He raves, and raves, and bellows like a calf chained to a gate post. But no one need be frightened at his mad ravings, for he can do no harm unless it be to beat out his own addled brains. He charges us with being an apostate! Wherein have we apostatized? Stand up, you contemptible, hair-brained, lying fanatic, and answer. In 1848 we stood by the position of Gen. Cass and the Democratic party, that the people of the territories had the right to manage their own domestic affairs, and were fully competent to do so, and that Congress had no right to deny to the people the exercise of their sovereignty by seeking to control their municipal affairs. When have we ever abandoned this position? When have we ever denied the sovereignty of the people, or their right of self-government? Never; and we challenge the fanatical brawler of the negro organ to show that we have.

That organ asks if we are the "same Samuel D. Harris, Jr., who participated in an indignation meeting against those compromise measures, including the Fugitive Law, in October, 1850?" No, sir; for no such meeting was held here; and the negro organ seeks to convey a falsehood by implication which he dares not utter in plain terms. The meeting of October, 1850, was called and held to express the disapprobation of the people against the Fugitive Slave law, and not the compromise measure generally. We attended that meeting and participated in its proceedings. We disapproved of that law then and do still. Is that apostasy? We denied then the right and power of Congress to establish finalities, and do still. Is that apostasy? If it is, then are we an apostate. The contemptible brawler of the negro organ also participated in that meeting, and what was his position? Did he regard the Fugitive Law as a finality? Did he acknowledge the right or power of Congress to enact a finality? If not, when did he apostatize, and give in his adhesion to the doctrine that one Congress could surround its acts with such a degree of sanctity that they should be binding upon the people and their representatives for all coming time? Apostasy, indeed! And who is the apostate!

Again, he bids the people to mark that "the Sentinel" has gone into the hearty support of the most infamous administration measure ever proposed since the adoption of the Federal Constitution." And what is this "infamous measure" over which this fanatic keeps up his weekly bawling? Why it is simply nothing more nor less than a proposition to permit our colonies to do that which Great Britain prior to the Revolution denied her colonies the right to do—to create their own laws and control their own domestic affairs. If this be an "infamous measure," it is not without a parallel in the history of this country. It stands upon the same footing and is based upon the same principle as that in which the people of the Old Thirteen declared their right to self-government, to control and manage their own affairs. This principle is as old as Republicanism itself, and coextensive with it. If it is "infamous," then do we glory in the infamy, and bid the negro organ to split itself with bawling!

THAT CHARGE OF PECULATION.—The committee appointed in the Ohio Senate in the early part of the present session, to investigate the charges of peculation preferred against C. B. FLOOD, Clerk of the Senate, have made their report, entirely exonerating Mr. Flood from the charges. The committee was an impartial one, being composed of one member from each of the political organizations. In their report they say, that "Mr. Flood has not drawn from the treasury any money contrary to the rules and laws regulating the payment for like services," and further, that the "rule adopted by the Secretary of State for the payment of Mr. Flood, in comparison with the rules heretofore adopted for the payment of like services, has in the opinion of the committee, been a saving of at least one third to the State." The committee was unanimous in the report.

When the charge was first made the African organ on Main street seized upon it with the avidity of a starved wolf and bruted it about, hoping thereby to gain a temporary political advantage. But in this instance, as it too frequently happens with that reckless unprincipled cynic, it had had not facts and truth to back it.

REVIVAL.—A revival has been going on for some time past in the Free Church under the direction of Pres. Mahan, of Oberlin College. We are sorry to say that it has not as yet had the effect to reform either the morals or the manners of the hypocritical pretender of the African organ on Main street. When Pres. Mahan shall have succeeded in accomplishing that great task, he may consider his share of the business of redeeming the world from sin as fully accomplished, lay down his commission, claim his reward, and ask to be discharged.

A tremendous indignation meeting was held in Warren on the 11th inst., to denounce the Nebraska bill. Great efforts were made to get up a large meeting; the call was signed by about a thousand names procured by running the county night and day; and yet the Trumbull Democrat says but about two hundred people were in attendance, a majority of whom were town's people. Among the sensible amendments and powerful arguments produced on the occasion, was an effigy of Senator Douglas and an image designed to represent the Devil, which were paraded thro' the streets amid the shouts of some half dozen fanatical abolitionists and a few boys, and afterwards burned upon the public square. These are the high-toned arguments which the abolition fanatics address to the people upon a grave question of public policy, and shows unmistakably the estimate they place upon the public intelligence. The spirit that prompted the base act would have indicted the cowardly perpetrators of it to have burned Douglas himself if ropes and gallowes had not been invented and a law enacted for using them. It was the same spirit that got up the "coffin hand-bills," in the days of Jackson; the caricature of "Tom Jefferson, Black Sal and the Devil," in Jefferson's time; that crucified Christ between two thieves, and stoned Stephen to death. But the meanest part of the sheet was, that when returning consciousness revealed to them the disgrace their meanness had merited, they undertook to escape the odium by claiming that the affair was got up by Democrats, when no Democrat participated in their disgraceful proceedings.

CHASE'S AMENDMENT.—Mr. Chase has offered an amendment to the Nebraska bill which provides that the people of the territories shall have power to prohibit slavery therein. It strikes us that this is all for buncombe, and that that provision is in the bill already. We have all the time so understood it, and do still. The 21st section of the bill declares it to be the true intent and meaning of the act.

"That all questions pertaining to slavery in the territories, and in the new States to be formed therefrom, are to be left to the decision of the people residing therein, through their appropriate representatives."  
Here it will be seen that the people of the territories are to be the judges of their own internal regulations, and to do their own legislating on this, as well as every other subject. How can it be possible that "all questions relating to slavery shall be left to the decision of the people," unless the question of its prohibition is left to them. Such as significant and important would be a proposition by Mr. Chase to give to the State of Ohio the power to prohibit capital punishment, or to Kentucky the power to modify her tax system. Would any person believe in the rationality of the proposition? There is no doubt of the correctness of the principle contained in the amendment; but that principle is already embraced in the bill. We are decidedly of opinion that this amendment, with all the bugh-boo stuff from the same source, is designed to create a little political capital for the Hon. Senator from Ohio. It is just now necessary that a crisis should arise. Chase is supposed to be fully adequate for the occasion, and would like extremely well to be returned to the Senate. Nothing but a crisis can effect this, and it is absolutely necessary to get one up.

For the Portage Sentinel.  
Examination of Teachers.—A Statement.

At the Examination of Teachers on Saturday, there were 40 candidates; 17 Gentlemen and 23 Ladies.  
Of the 9 questions proposed in Arithmetic, only 19 answered 5 correctly,  
1 " 9 "  
3 " 8 "  
1 " 7 "  
1 " 6 "  
2 " 5 "  
2 " 4 "  
15 " 3 "  
5 " 2 "  
4 " 1 "  
4 " 0 "  
Of the 19 who answered 5 questions in Arithmetic correctly, only 10 answered correctly 5 of the 9 questions in Grammar,  
3 answered 8 correctly,  
1 " 7 "  
3 " 6 "  
3 " 5 "  
These 10 who gave correct answers to at least 5 of the 9 questions in Geography,  
4 answered 8 correctly,  
4 " 7 "  
1 " 6 "  
1 " 5 "  
Certificates were accordingly granted to 10, as follows:

LADIES.	
CAROLINE S. BUMP,	14 months.
PERLEA M. LADD,	14 "
AMANDA M. CONANT,	10 "
MARGARET McMEEN,	10 "
GENTLEMEN.	
ISAAC ARCHER,	14 months.
ISAAC WILCOX,	14 "
G. W. KENDALL,	14 "
W. M. BEARDSLEY,	14 "
G. L. SAWYER,	9 "
E. KOCKRELL,	8 "

There will be no more Examinations until after the Teachers' Institute, in April.

—Read what JOHN QUINCY ADAMS says in relation to the government of territories and apply it to the present issue. See the extract from the Washington Star:

"John Quincy Adams denying the constitutionality of Congressional legislation to regulate the affairs of United States Territories—denying, in fact, the constitutionality of the Missouri Compromise."

We have a communication from John Quincy Adams upon the subject indicated above; and that, too, without the intervention of the spirit rappers. In 1822, he had a violent controversy with General Smyth, a representative from Virginia, upon the constitutionality of the legislation of Congress known as the Missouri Compromise act. General Smyth addressed his constituents, arraigning the course of Mr. Adams among others, on the measure. Mr. Adams replied through the same channel, the Richmond Enquirer, of the venerable Thomas Ritchie. Yesterday, we read his long communication published in that journal on the 4th of January, 1823, in which he distinctly takes ground against the constitutionality and propriety of congressional legislation to determine the institutions of United States territories. That there may be no mistake on this head, we can quote as much of his paper in question, as we can find room for in our limited columns.

Mr. Adams addressed his letter (of five or six columns) to the people of the counties of Virginia, represented in Congress by his antagonist, to whom the paper or address, drawing him out thus, was also addressed."

We quote Mr. Adams on that occasion, as follows: "After those questions had been settled by large majorities of both Houses of Congress, and sanctioned by the acquiescence of the people, both of Louisiana and of the United States, I have considered them as no longer controvertible. But the consequences of the principle then settled, and by those very acts against which I voted, have been as yet very imperfectly developed. When the day shall come for your representatives to determine, whether the territories of Ceylon or Madagascar, or Corsica or of Cuba, shall be governed by rules and regulations emanating from your Congress; whether the inhabitants of these territories shall be governed by a discretionary time by such persons, and in such manner as the President of the United States shall direct, and whether their people shall ultimately be constituted into States, represented upon the floor of your national legislative assemblies, then will be the time for discussing in distant perspective, the full import and final consequences of the 2nd section of the act for taking possession of Louisiana."

Upon the question, in this aspect, my sentiments are recorded in the votes which I gave when it appeared in its first remedial principles upon the legislation over Louisiana in 1803 and 1804. The time is perhaps far distant, when the question in this aspect will bear with momentous weight upon your affections. The seed was but as a grain of mustard seed. The plant may shoot forth its branches, till it over-shadows the earth."

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.  
Washington, Dec. 28, 1822.

—We intend to remove from our residence among the "tombs" to the mansions in the third story of the Phoenix Block to-morrow. As our neighbor of the quadsron organ has a superabundant quantity of gas on hand, we hope to be able to procure his services in ballooning us up.

We publish below another communication from our correspondent "Pro Bono Publico." In this, as in his former article, he assumes that the bill of Mr. Douglas authorizes the people of Nebraska to hold slaves. This is the position assumed by nearly all of those who oppose the bill, whether from an ignorance of its provisions or not, is not for us to say. But we do say that the bill authorizes no such thing. It is based upon the doctrine of the right of the people to self-government, and claiming that sovereignty is with the people, it acknowledges the right of the people, whether of the States, or of Nebraska and Kansas, to fashion and control their own institutions; to make the laws by which themselves are to be governed.—That they are capable of so doing upon all other subjects than this one, the most strenuous and rabid opposers of this bill do not doubt or deny.—Then why should an exception be made in this respect? Have the people ever failed to exhibit a capacity for controlling their own affairs so as to answer their own necessities and interests? Have they ever given any grounds to distrust their ability for self-government? When they do so it will be time enough for the States and the National Government to take out a certificate of guardianship over them. The people of the Territories are supposed to know as well their wants and necessities as Congress or the people of the States are for them. We claim that right as a citizen of Ohio, and what we claim for ourselves, that are we willing to accord to others, and not because the hardy sons of toil may choose to leave the heart-stone and cultivated fields of their childhood to plant the standard of civilization in the wilds of the far West, to deny them the rights for which the fathers of the Revolution fought and bled—the right of self-government—the right to provide for their own necessities without dictation from the parent government.

Again, "Pro Bono Publico" assumes that the doctrine laid down by Gen. Cass in his celebrated Nicholson letter, was intended to be applied only to the territories to be acquired from Mexico as the result of the War, and that the compromises of 1850 had reference only to the territories therein embraced. Can it be possible that "Pro Bono Publico" has so soon forgotten that Gen. Cass in that letter denied the right of Congress to legislate upon the subject in the territories at all, and claimed that such legislation was unconstitutional and void, and that it was a question belonging to the exclusive control of the people of the territories themselves! Does he not know that both the Democratic and Whig National Conventions of 1852 affirmed the Missouri compromise measures of 1850, not as having exclusive reference to the subjects therein embraced, but as a settlement in principle. Now, what did they mean when they declared that part of the compromise which created territorial governments for New Mexico and Utah, acknowledging the right and power of the people to control this subject, to be a settlement in principle of this vexed question, if not that former restrictive enactments should be abandoned, and that in future territorial organizations, this settled principle should be applied! Certainly the language employed bears this plain, palpable construction, and none other.

But great stress is placed upon "antecedents," as though they were the polar star by which our bark is to be steered amid the storm of fanaticism which rages around us. Is our correspondent willing to submit the government to be controlled by precedents all the way through? We opine there are some in the early history of the government that will scarcely suit his democratic palate—some that received the sanction of the very founders of the Republic, who had piloted the country through the stormy days of the Revolution, and periled life, liberty and fortune to maintain the right of the people to form and maintain their own institutions and regulate their own municipal affairs, that would hardly meet his approbation. We regard it as an evil day when Congress first set the example of interfering with the rights of the people of the Territories to control their own municipal affairs. They then "sowed to the wind" and the country is now "reaping the whirlwind" of fanatical excitement which can be productive of no advantage to the country or the cause of liberty, justice or right.

For the Portage Sentinel.  
Nebraska Bill.

As you were willing that I should have my say in relation to the Nebraska Bill, and published my communication on it, I will yet farther trespass on your indulgence, and endeavor to fulfil my promise of writing more on the subject. As you differ with me in regard to it, your admitting me to your columns will be looked upon by all as liberal on your part.

It is claimed that the antecedents of the Democratic party, to which I have ever belonged, are, in keeping with the provision in Senator Douglas' Nebraska Bill which organizes that territory on the principle that its inhabitants may hold slaves, and it be admitted into the Union eventually with or without slavery, as the representatives of the people in convention may determine. This feature of the bill repeats the compromise of 1820, called the Missouri Compromise, which forever excluded slavery from this very Nebraska Territory, and all of the Louisiana purchase north of 36 deg. 30 min. Now, what are the antecedents of the Democratic party in regard to this matter? Thomas Jefferson, who is the acknowledged founder of the Democratic party in this country, was the author of the ordinance of 1787, which declared that the north western territory should remain free territory; and which forever prohibited slavery in all the territory then north-west of the Ohio river which belonged to the United States. This territory was ceded to the United States by Virginia, in a slave-holding State. Thomas Jefferson, in view of the evils of slavery, though by the force of circumstances a slave-holder himself, originated the ordinance of 1787. This was extended over the north-western territory in the early days of the republic, under the auspices of Washington. Yet Douglas and his supporters say that it is unconstitutional; and if there were any territory yet unorganized belonging to the north-west, that by the alleged compromise of 1850, it would be repealed and inoperative.

Here is one of the antecedents of the Democratic party in opposition to Douglas and his supporters. Never, until 1854, was it discovered that the ordinance of 1787 is unconstitutional and inoperative.

But some may say that in the early days of the Republic, when the Constitution was formed, that they did not themselves understand it, and that

Thomas Jefferson did not know himself what were the principles of the Democratic party which he founded!  
But we had another antecedent to the same purpose, called the Missouri Compromise, which was adopted in 1820, the forever prohibited slavery in the territory purchased from France by Thomas Jefferson, in 1803, in all that part of it north of 36 deg. 30 min., except the State of Missouri, which, in 1820, was admitted with a constitution tolerating slavery. This compromise was made when Monroe, a Democrat, was President; and the question of its constitutionality he submitted to his cabinet, consisting of John Quincy Adams, John C. Calhoun, William H. Crawford and William Wirt. Henry Clay was its greatest champion. Its constitutionality and Democracy were never questioned, until it was done by Senator Douglas.

And again, Texas was admitted into the Union by annexing resolutions in 1845, and the principle of the Missouri Compromise was applied to that part of it north of 36 deg. 30 min. This was done too by a Democratic Congress. I never knew, until I saw Douglas' speech, and the article quoted from the Statesman in your paper, that the Democracy of this part of the annexing resolution was ever called in question. But then Gen. Cass wrote a letter to Nicholson in opposition to the Wilmot Proviso, which was intended to apply to the territory which we were about to acquire from Mexico. The Democratic party believed that the Missouri Compromise as much settled the question of slavery in all the territory north of 36 deg. 30 min., and forever prohibited it there, as they did that the ordinance of 1787 prevented and prohibited it in the north-western territory. This territory was not considered an open field for slavery to enter upon, because the south had bargained with the north in a solemn compact that if Missouri was admitted into the Union with slavery, the remainder of the Louisiana purchase should be free territory. The compromise of 1850 only established the application of the principles of Cass' Nicholson letter to the territory acquired from Mexico. What was the compromise of 1850?—An agitation arose, as in the case of the admission of Missouri, on the slavery question, because California asked admission into the Union, with a constitution prohibiting slavery. The opposition to the admission of Missouri came from the north, or free States, because its constitution tolerated slavery. The question was debated and agitated from 1818 until 1820, when the Missouri compromise was adopted, letting Missouri into the Union with slavery, and an agreement to keep it out of all the territory then belonging to the United States north of a certain line. But California asked for admission with a constitution not like that of Missouri, tolerating slavery, but prohibiting it. The free and the slave States here again organized themselves against each other; the north for the admission of California, and the south opposed to it. At length in 1850, as in 1820, a compromise was effected, and California admitted into the Union without slavery, with accompanying measures organizing the territories of New Mexico and Utah, on the principles of Cass' Nicholson letter, that they might come into the Union with or without slavery, as the people of these territories themselves might decide. No territory was here legislated for except that acquired by the treaty with Mexico. The bill defining the boundaries of Texas and New Mexico did not even repeal that part of the Texas annexing resolutions which prohibited slavery in it north of 36 deg. 30 min., for Mr. Mason, of Virginia, offered an amendment which was adopted which was, "that nothing therein should be construed to affect the joint resolution annexing Texas whether in reference to the number of States to be formed out of Texas or otherwise."

What Mr. Mason's motives were, we cannot tell, but probably to secure the passage of the bill.  
Douglas says that the compromise of 1850 repealed the annexing resolution here referred to, as relating to the prohibition of slavery, as the territory to which it applied was set off to New Mexico. This is only sophistry, and unworthy to be replied to; but I see that others have adopted his views in regard to it. The amendment of Mason declared that the annexing resolutions were not affected in any respect by the compromise of 1850, and a part of the territory of Texas is yet north of 36 deg. 30 min. Now I think that all the antecedents of the Democratic party are in favor of the Missouri compromise yet remaining sacred and in full force, and we as faithful adherents to a compact made at the instance of the patriot to save the Union, should anathematize a movement to desecrate and render it void.

PRO BONO PUBLICO.  
Palmyra, Feb. 11th, 1854.

Everett on the Nebraska Bill.—High-School Whig Authority.

To hear the Fusion and Free Soil bawling, about these days, you would suppose the passage of DOUGLAS Bill would plant a slave on every square foot of Nebraska, Kansas and the entire north-western Territory. Let us see what EVERETT says of it. Whatever may be said of EVERETT'S whiggishness, none can deny him the possession of profound and varied learning. His politics and prejudice induce him to oppose the sentiments of the Nebraska Bill. But he strikes at it simply as an abstraction. His familiarity with American history, American mind and American enterprise assures him that, practically, the Nebraska Bill won't help slavery a single jot. He candidly says so in his speech. When it was announced that Mr. EVERETT designed speaking on the question, the Free Soil and Fusion organs all picked up their ears and hearkened. "Now look out for thunder!" said they. Mr. EVERETT, they all agreed would throw more light on the subject than anybody else. Since the speech was made, their enthusiasm has somewhat cooled, and though they have published some extracts, they have been very careful not print the following:  
"I believe it is admitted that there is no great material interest at stake. I think the Chairman of the Committee, (Mr. Douglas), the Senator from Kentucky, (Mr. Dixon), and perhaps the Senator from Tennessee, (Mr. Jones), behind me, admitted that there was no great interest at stake. It is not supposed that this is to become a slaveholding region. The climate, the soil, the staple productions are not such as to invite the planter of the neighboring States, who is disposed to remove or turn away from the cotton regions of the South and establish himself in Kansas or Nebraska. A few domestic servants may be taken there, a few farm laborers, as they are sporadically admitted; but in the long run I am quite sure everybody admits that this is not to be a slaveholding region; and if not this, certainly no part of the Territory still further North."

So it seems, according to EVERETT, that all this fuss is about a simple abstraction—a thrashing of water—beating of air.—Plain Dealer.

Four days later from Europe.  
Arrival of the Canada—Decline in Brandy.—The Queen's Speech.—The Eastern Question.—Position of England and France.—War Estimated on.  
New York, Feb. 17.  
The steamship Canada, arrived at Halifax yesterday afternoon, with dates up to the 14th inst., being four days later than the American.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.  
The sales of Cotton for the week at Liverpool, reach 43,000 bales. Milligan quotes Orleans fair 64d, middling do 54d, upland fair 64d, do middling 54d.  
Wheat—Canada Flour is quoted at 42s. Western yellow Corn, 50s, and blue 51s.  
Lard is unchanged, with a moderate demand.  
The market for Broadstuffs has been heavy since the last report, but improved at the close. Yet, on the week, all qualities have slightly declined, say 1s on Flour, and 2d on Wheat. The Corn market is firm.  
Richardson quotes White Wheat at 12s 6d; 13s; Western Canal Flour 42s@43s 6d; Baltimore, Philadelphia and Ohio 43s, and extra 43s 6d; White Corn 50s@51s.  
Provisions are unchanged, with a moderate business at previous rates. Old Beef and Pork are dull, with more sellers than buyers. There have been sales of Bacon to the home trade, and the market is firm. Shoulders are better. Hams are poorly sustained. There were speculative sales at 58s; but the nearest quotation is 56s, to arrive. Tallow is unchanged.  
Consols are quoted at 90 for money. American Securities are active, and prices are advancing. U. S. five, 1853, 100; do 1855, 99; do sixes, 1862, 104@106; do do, 1868, bonds, 104@104 1/2; do do, 1867 and 1868, stock, 104@104 1/2; Pennsylvania five, 78@80; Ohio sixes, 1870 and 1875, 104@105.

At Manchester, prices were unchanged, with a limited business doing.  
GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.  
England is about sending a small steamer to take soundings of the entrance to the Baltic, for the fleets.  
The allied fleets have returned to anchorage at Beycos Bay, which caused much astonishment.  
Commodore Queequeh has been appointed Naval Commander at Havana.

Parliament was opened on the 31st. The Queen delivered her speech in person. She was much cheered on her way to the House, but Prince Albert was occasionally hissed. The House was unusually full. The members of the American delegation were not present. The Queen alluded to the Eastern difficulty in terms of regret, but said that exertions, in conjunction with her allies, in favor of an amicable settlement, would still be persevered in. Still, she thinks it necessary to make a further augmentation of the naval and military forces, with a view of more effectually contributing to the restoration of peace.  
The revenue of the past year, she says, has been more than the expenses of the Government. She refers to the bill ordered to be framed for opening the coasting trade of the Kingdom to all friendly nations, and looks forward with satisfaction to the removal of the last legislative restriction on foreign shipping.  
A debate ensued on the Eastern question, but nothing was elicited, excepting that all parties are now awaiting the Czar's reply.  
The British army and navy are to be immediately increased. The Queen's proclamation to this effect is expected.

The answer of England and France to the Czar's inquiries respecting the entry of the fleets into the Black Sea, was delivered the 1st of February.  
Count Orloff's mission to Vienna is said to be to ask permission for the Russian forces to pass through Hungary. It is reported that if Orloff fails, the Czar will visit Vienna in person.  
There has been no change in affairs at Kalafat. In Asia, Gen. Guynon was about to cross the frontiers and attack Alexandria.

An unfavorable reply was given in writing, to the Czar's inquiry respecting the fleets. The departure of the Russian Ministers from London and Paris was hourly looked for. It is reported that orders have been sent to withdraw the French and British ambassadors from St. Petersburg.  
France will send 80,000 men to Turkey. England will send 100,000 men, and pays half the total expenses of both countries.  
Funds are quiet and not much depressed. Every thing now depends on the position taken by Russia.

It is reported that Austria and Prussia will cooperate with France and England, but the rumor is doubted.  
Prince Napoleon has been sent to Belgium to impress on the King the necessity of acting fairly with the allies of Turkey, as Belgium cannot maintain neutrality without incurring the displeasure of France. The Prince also goes on similar missions to the German courts.  
The Swedish people have promptly granted supplies to put the country in a complete state of defence.

Orloff's interview with the Emperor of Austria was brief, and is reported to have been un satisfactory. The people are more favorable to the Western alliance.  
Colonel Dain, sent by the French Government to report on the condition of the Turkish army on the Danube, pronounces it capable of keeping the Russians in check a long time; but is deficient in cavalry.

Two French officers have been sent to examine the Turkish Asiatic forces.  
There are current rumors of a naval engagement in the Black Sea, with the destruction of the Russian fleet, but they need confirmation.  
A portion of the Turkish fleet has gone to Egypt with a ship having on board 12,000 well trained troops, including a regiment of heavy artillery, and a regiment of riflemen.  
The Russian regiments on guard are ordered to the Baltic Provinces by March 1st.

The Russian Vice-Commander of Sebastopol has been cashiered for not preventing the English fire-ship Retribution from entering that port.  
Bell, the English engineer, has been released.  
A council was held at the Tuileries on the 30th ult., and it is reported that it was decided to send 80,000 troops, in four bodies, to Turkey, under the command of Generals Caurobot, MacMahon, Pelissier and Bonscquet.

Revolutionary hand bills have been circulated throughout Spain. The popular feeling is strongly against the Queen.  
Great uneasiness exists throughout Northern Italy, and an outbreak is probable. A pontifical decree, which extends to April, grants permission to import breadstuffs, and also gives forced currency to the Roman treasury bonds.

The latest accounts from Persia say that the English influence preponderates.  
The very latest news from Vienna says that Count Buol has drawn up a declaration of neutrality, with a strong leaning towards the views of the Western Powers, and has given this to Count Orloff as a final answer. Orloff's mission has, therefore, failed. The Czar's proposals were, to form a defensive league with all the German Powers, and if the Western Powers attacked any one thereof, Russia would make common cause with them; and would not conclude any peace without consulting their interests. The German Powers, through Austria, have definitely refused, and Russia is, therefore, isolated.

The Western Powers are immediately to demand the evacuation of the principalities, and will compel it forthwith.  
The Russian minister in London has paid a formal and final visit to the Foreign Department.

A majority of the special committee in the Massachusetts Legislature have reported in favor of repealing the present liquor law of the State.  
James A. Pearce (Whig) has been rejected to the U. S. Senate from Maryland.