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THE SECESSION MOVEMENT.

A Prayer Meeting in a Storm.

BY EYWARD TAYLOR.

[Se: Buchanan's last proclamation.]
A gale came up from the south-west;
"Twas fierce November weather;
But the ship had felt such a storm before,
And her planks still held together,
And thus, though the howling tempest showed
No signs of diminution,
The passengers said: "We'll trust our ship,
The staunch old Constitution!"
The captain stood on the quarter-deck—
"The seas," he said, "they batter us;
"Twas my watch below in the former gale—
I doubt if we'll weather latter."
The wind on the one side blows me off,
The current sets me shoreward;
I'll just lay-to between them both,
And seem to be going forward."
"Breakers ahead!" cried the watch on the bow,
"Hard up!" was the first mate's order;
"She feels the ground-swell," the passengers cried,
"And the seas already board her!"
The fore-sail split in the angry gust;
In the hold the ballast shifted!
An old tar said: "If Jackson parted,
We shouldn't thus have drifted!"
But the captain cried: "Let go your helm!"
And then he called to the boys;
"Pipe all hands to the quarter-deck,
And we'll save her by Devotion!"
The first mate hurled his trumpet down;
The old tars cursed together,
To see the good ship helpless roll
At the sport of wave and weather.
The tattered sails are all a-back,
Yards crack, and masts are started;
And the captain weeps and says his prayers,
Till the hull is "in Jackson's parted."
But God is on the steersman's side—
The crew are in revolution;
The wave that washes the captain off,
Will save the Constitution!

Waifs.

At a debating club the question was discussed whether there was more happiness in the pursuit or possession of an object. "Mr. President," said an orator, "suppose I was courtin' a girl, and she was to run away, and I was to run after her; wouldn't I be happier when I catched her than when I was running after her?"
There are those who refuse a favor so graciously as to please us; and there are others who confer an obligation so clumsily, that they please us less by the manner of the kindness.
Gentlest of her sex—"What is the principle of the stereoscope?"
Alfred—"Why, it makes two people into one."
Best and brightest (innocently)—"Oh, what a delightful invention!"
The red, white, and blue—the red cheeks, the white teeth, and blue eyes of a lovely girl—are as good a flag as a young soldier in the battle of life need fight for.
Tom Hood says that nothing spoils a holiday like a Sunday coat or a pair of new boots. To have time set easy, your garments must set the example.
The malicious censures of our enemies, if we make a right use of them, may prove of greater advantage to us than the civilities of the best friends.
The lash that man does not object to having laid on his shoulder—the eye-lash of a pretty woman.
You must tell some men a great deal to learn them a little.
You will find a deep fox in a shallow burrow.
When we think of good, angels are silent; when we do it, they rejoice.
The brightest dreams awaken the darkest realities.
Cover a fool with gold and he will pass current.
When you cannot see both ends, the middle is uncertain.
Those who shun society are very strong or very weak.
When clams gape, crows shut their mouths.

Legislative Proceedings—Eighth Session.

REPORTED EXPRESSLY FOR THE "STANDARD."

Council.

THURSDAY, Jan. 24.—On motion of Mr. Denny, the House Bill providing that the names of this Legislative Assembly be published with the laws passed at this session, was indefinitely postponed. This is the bill introduced by Mr. Taylor of Clark county, upon which Mr. Miller reported and recommended the publication of accompanying brief biographical notices, after the style of Plutarch. Mr. Burbank reported also, suggesting that the "lives of eminent Americans by John Livingston of New York" be the model. It may be well to remark that the latter is a collection of sketches sometimes exceedingly romantic, of such eminent men, who have paid \$50, to have their pictures published, and their lives printed. Nobody knew why they were eminent, the subjects have the privilege of writing an autobiography to suit themselves. The indefinite postponement of this bill was demanded—as to forget such legislators would be impossible.

The bill relating to the salary of Q. M. General was also indefinitely postponed, as recommended by the committee on Military Affairs. Several bills reported by various committees read a third time and passed.

Mr. Biles introduced a bill to permanently locate the County Seat of Thurston county at such point as might be designated by the popular vote, at next election; referred to committee on Counties.

The Council passed House Memorial for a Port of Delivery at new Dungeness; also a bill from House incorporating the Evergreen Cemetery at Port Townsend; also a House Bill incorporating the St. John's Lodge no. 9, A. F. and A. M. also a House Memorial for an additional Land office at Walla Walla; also a bill introduced by Mr. Simms, authorizing Charles Mullan and R. R. Goodwin to establish a wagon road in Walla Walla county.

The House Resolution relative to paying W. H. Pope for certain services, referred to committee on Claims. A Joint Resolution coming from House providing a Joint Convention for the election of Territorial Printer, the President of the Council (Mr. Hubbs) ruled it out of order, as one of a similar character had been indefinitely postponed by the Council.

The following measures were passed: An act to permanently locate the County Seat of Clallam county; an act in relation to lunatics and paupers; memorial relative to the creation of additional light houses on Puget Sound; an act to incorporate the West Olympia Wharf Company; an act to authorize John Carson to construct a bridge across the Puyallup river; and an act incorporating the Franklin Lodge (Teaklet) of A. F. and A. M.

Two divorce bills were indefinitely postponed, several bills were referred to appropriate Standing Committees. Then adjourned.

FRIDAY, Jan. 25.—The House Resolution in regard to paying Wm. H. Pope for certain services, passed.

The bill relative to sale of School lands in Clark county to raise School Funds, amended on motion of Mr. Simms so as to include Walla Walla, and the title further amended by Mr. Denny so as to read: an act relative to the sale of School lands. Thus amended, the bill passed.

The bill from House creating the office of Territorial Superintendent of Schools, laid upon the table, on motion of Mr. Denny.
Mr. Burbank of committee on counties made a report upon the bill relative to the location of County Seat of Thurston county. Mr. Miller moved to add a section, the purport of which was that before the County Seat should be declared permanent, the title to real estate donated to county for a County Seat, should be approved by the District Atty. of the second Judicial District. Amendment adopted, and bill made the order of the day for to-morrow.
The bill incorporating the Bishop of Nisqually, read a third time and passed. The bill fixing the boundary between Thurston and Lewis Counties, reported back by Mr. Burbank of Committee on Counties, with an amendment to the effect that a majority of voters in the portion of territory sought to be taken from Thurston county, should approve the bill, at next general election, and that the Holmes' estate should still belong to the county of Thurston, to which it had escheated by the laws of the Territory; pending this amendment the bill with amendments referred to a special committee consisting of Messrs. Burbank, Woodard and Miller.

SATURDAY, Jan. 26.—Mr. Hubbs—a memorial relative to the Pilot Commissioners of the Columbia river, referred to committee on Commerce. The Select committee on Lewis and Thurston county boundary bill, reported on said bill, recommending the rejection of amendment, and the passage of the bill as reported from the House. Bill read a third time and passed unanimously; Mr. Miller being absent.

Mr. Clark—a Council Bill requesting the voice of the people on the location of the Seat of government, referred to committee on Public Buildings and grounds.

The memorial from House praying a pre-emption right to Lowry Milford a negro, referred to committee on Federal relations.
A message from the House announced the passage of a bill amendatory of the Capitol location bill and submitting the question to a vote of the people, upon which Mr. President Hubbs ruled as follows: "that a bill of the same import, having been introduced and passed by the House and the Council having rejected it, and it not appearing that the bill before us was introduced with leave of two thirds of the House after a notice of ten days, it cannot be considered by the Council." Thus in the last days of the session did this Democratic Council deny by parliamentary technicalities, a privilege to the people to vote upon a location of their seat of government.

Mr. Clark from Judiciary committee introduced a substitute for House exemption law, which under a suspension of the rules passed.

Mr. Miller from committee on public buildings and grounds, was on motion of Mr. Clark, instructed to report forthwith on the bill asking the people to vote upon a proper place for the seat of government. Mr. Miller reported an amendment which was rejected.

The Council passed a bill authorizing Jno. C. Pickrel to build a bridge across the Wallcut river in Pacific county, and Jno. C. Smith to establish a ferry on the Clear-water river, in Walla Walla county.

Afternoon Session.—Much of the time, Council were in Committee of the Whole on the Fee bill, Mr. Denny in the chair. A number of amendments were recommended, which the Council adopted.

Council passed the House Bill incorporating the Skokomish Lumber Company.
A bill for the protection of Wm. H. Dillon, and J. T. Lovelace in certain fisheries on the Columbia river, was on motion of Mr. Caples, made the order of the day for Monday the 28th January. Then adjourned.

MONDAY, Jan. 28.—Mr. Biles—a Joint Resolution relative to the enrollment of the bills. Under a suspension of the rules, passed.

Mr. Burbank—an act amendatory to the act relating to marriages. This is said to be more restrictive upon parties marrying minors, without the consent of parents or guardians.
Several divorce bills were introduced, others acted upon and referred, one of which was a bill previously defeated by the Council.

The Council indefinitely postponed a bill from the House relative to gates upon toll bridges.

Mr. Clark from the committee on Judiciary reported a substitute for the House Bill repealing the law establishing a District Court for Pierce county. The House Bill made no provision to carry up papers, Dockets &c., to the District Court of the second District, which is looked after in the substitute. The substitute passed under a suspension of the rules.

The fee bill coming up as order of day was amended on motion of Mr. Clark so as to secure to officers, named in special acts, the fees for services imposed, prescribed by said acts. Bill passed.

Several bills from House were indefinitely postponed, others referred to appropriate committees.

Mr. Caples—a bill incorporating the Chehalis Steamboat Navigation Company, read twice and laid upon table.

Mr. Biles—a bill relative to the collection of County and Territorial revenue in the county of Thurston, referred to committee on Judiciary. Then adjourned to 2 1/2 P. M.

Afternoon Session.—On motion of Mr. Caples, Council took up and passed the bill incorporating the Chehalis Steam Navigation Company.
Several bills were indefinitely postponed. There did not seem to be time to examine the business thoroughly, and meritorious measures were there-

fore defeated, because of lateness of the session. What a commentary on the Legislature. The first six weeks spent in passing divorces, log-rolling for the Printer, out-generalizing counties in representation, and making unstable our public buildings.

The House Bill authorizing Antoine Plant to establish a ferry on the Spokane river, passed under a suspension of the rules; also House Resolution relative to paying James Lodge for certain services, also the Council Bill relative to collection of taxes in Thurston county. This bill makes the sheriff, *ex-officio*, collector of taxes.

The Council refused to pass Mr. Burbank's bill amendatory to the marriage law. Then adjourned.

Political Speaking at the Capitol—Our National Difficulties.

We freely give place to the following communication as the individual opinions of one of our most talented and consistent fellow-citizens, but we disapprove the sentiment of "Let the Union slide," under any and every phase it may be presented. Our motto is, *The Union first, last, all the time*—bide the good time coming. Truth must ultimately triumph over error. Freedom and free institutions will yet be the guide-stare of American empire, and in the mean time let us patriotically advance our standard, emblazoned thereon those words of living fire, uttered by the immortal Webster, "Union and liberty—now and forever—one and inseparable."

ED. STANDARD: Having listened to the political speaking at the Capitol, on the evening of the 23d ult., I feel impelled to make a few remarks in relation to some of the points maintained, and also concerning the present crisis in our national affairs.

I was forcibly reminded of the absurdity of attempting to reconcile positions that are, in their nature, irreconcilable and antagonistic—such as blending the "law of force" with the "rights of nature;" the inherent and reserved rights of the individual, with the power of legislation to invade and outrage such reserved rights, and which, by universal consent, is the object of legislation to defend.

Had the speaker, Mr. Garfield, adhered to his pledge made at the commencement of his speech, "not to say anything unpleasant to either Democrat or Republican," no exception would have been taken. But, when those guilty of "eternal agitation on the slavery question," as some Republicans, at least, have been, honestly believing that agitation is the handmaid of progress and reform, are classed with disunionists, no apology is needed for the following strictures.

In relation to the clause of the Constitution making it the duty of Congress "to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory and other property of the United States," he contended that Congress was limited to the making of rules and regulations for the disposal of the soil merely. In short, the unanimous judgment of every administration from Washington down to Polk, that Congress has the power of legislation generally for the Territories was scouted, and the subterfuge of Stephen A. Douglas invented and put forth as a bid for Southern support, substituted in its stead. What good is to be secured rehearsing an issue that after a discussion of six years has been condemned in both sections of the Union by the very section it was intended to serve, is more than I can see.

Towards the Breckenridge wing of the Democracy much sympathy was manifested. Property in slaves was emphatically declared to be "capital, as money, or any other property was capital;" but they were met by the imposing question that "if the people of a Territory, in their Territorial capacity, have no right to prevent the introduction of slaves, how can it be prevented after the Territory becomes a State?" The speaker had never heard the question answered, and was utterly unable to answer it himself.

The above is a fair example of the Popular Sovereignty mode of explaining difficulties. Not a straw would he place in the way of the South securing their Constitutional rights; but alas, that could only be done by converting all the free States into slave States at the pleasure of the southern slaveholders! In this dilemma, resource was to be had only in Popular Sovereignty, which meant simply the rights of Nature, which existed prior to all constitu-

tions and laws. If the Territories want slavery, by "natural right," they can establish it; if not, exclude it. To the question that if the Territories had the right to exclude slaves, the property of the Southern men, had they not also the right to exclude horses, the property of northern men? It was responded yes, though the answer was fatal to the previous position, that "the rights of property were sacred—being prior to all laws," this difficulty was fully apprehended by the speaker in the acknowledgment that "in relation to some points he had not devoted much attention." Seldom has an intelligent audience listened to so much truth and error in the same speech. I presume that it was asserted for the first time that the enactment of a Territorial Legislature was superior to the "rights of nature," and could render a nullity the provision of the Constitution that "no person should be deprived of property without due process of law."

Another question, partly inaudible to the writer, elicited the reply that "slaves were held not by the law of nature, but by the law of force." The law of force is the law of the highwayman. By this law the right to the traveller's effects is acquired. And in all reason, is not his title just as good as the slave-holder's? Both rest upon the same tenure. If property in slaves acquired by the law of force, is covered by the protectingegis of the Constitution, is not the property of the highwayman acquired by the same law to receive the same protection, and by the same right to be carried into the Territories?

Let the Republicans of Washington Territory take courage! Many of them can remember when this classing of slavery in the catalogue of crimes, was confined to some obscure free-soil convention, where politicians might hover around, but were ashamed to enter. Now it is boldly proclaimed in a Democratic meeting, and during the session of a Democratic Legislature.

How long before our leading politicians will learn that consistency is the best policy. The old anti-slavery men have been styled men of one idea; but if a man have but one idea, and is right in that, he is not compelled to take refuge in tergiversations, as parties become disintegrated.

The Constitution was framed in harmony with the spirit of the Revolution. Its leading idea is to secure the rights of nature. While some two or three clauses might admit of a pro-slavery construction, in a community whose interests were identified with slavery, yet it was so constructed in consistency with the spirit of the Revolution, that were slavery to have ceased from the land, and have been blotted from the memory of the nation, there would still have been no discrepancy in the letter of the instrument. "Let the Constitution," said Mr. Madison, "be so framed that when slavery shall have passed from the land, posterity shall find nothing in it by which they could know that it had ever existed."

Now, the real cause of our present national difficulties is, that a pro-slavery construction has been given to the Constitution, in conformity to the practice of the nation, and not an anti-slavery construction in conformity to the letter. From this cause has slavery become entrenched in the government itself, acquiring at last sufficient power to rend the public asunder. The crisis is upon us. The political doctors are alarmed. Something must be done to settle this eternal "slavery agitation." The old nostrum, concession and compromise is called for; but Freedom replies, every compromise we have made with you has only emboldened you for further exactions. Had you not triumphed over us in 1850, in the enactment of the Fugitive Slave Law, you would not have demanded the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, and had you not then succeeded, you would not now be emboldened to threaten to secede.

The last offer which the Union-savers now proffer is an amendment to the Constitution, by which property in slaves shall be placed upon the same footing as other property. This accomplished, and the work is done! Slavery is national and freedom—nowhere! As with the death Kosciuszko freedom expired in down-trodden Poland, so will the "irresistible conflict" have terminated, and we shall have peace and quiet—the quiet of despair.

But thank Heaven! that point is not yet reached. The present crisis should have been reached in 1789, when South Carolina and Georgia might have withdrawn for a short time. It should have been reached in 1820, when results would not have been disastrous as now.

But better now than later, and if it must come, let us meet it like men. It slavery has become too strong for the Union and if freedom or the Union must fall, then by all that is sacred "let the Union slide! We will have population and territory left amply sufficient to demonstrate the feasibility of free institutions, whilst by the commotions that will ensue from secession, slavery will be numbered with the things that were, and if our scattered fragments do not again reunite, we will have two happy and prosperous republics on which the hopes of the patriot may depend for all coming time.

CONSISTENCY.
Olympic, Jan. 24th, 1861.

To Working Men.

ED. STANDARD: It may hardly be necessary to announce that a Delegate to Congress, to represent our Territory, is to be elected next July. A large proportion of our population are men who labor for wages. To those, let me address a few suggestions in regard to the interests of our class. Politicians, a class who always claim to be purely disinterested, urge that this Territory is far remote from contending sectional interests, that we are in a latitude unprofitable to slave labor, that therefore it is of but little interest to us whether the Federal Government protects slavery in the territories, or excludes it. Whether it be of consequence or not, there is a principle involved. The present Delegate stands at the head of a party who assert the right of the master to take his slaves into the territories, and that they are entitled to the protection of the Government.

If I understand the dogmas of the Administration, slavery exists now in this Territory as fully as in Virginia; to use Mr. Buchanan's own idea, slavery exists in the territories as much to-day as it does in Alabama. Only a short time since a slave did escape from this Territory, and I have yet to learn of any feature of our climate to render the raising of negroes impossible, or their labor unprofitable. Negroes do live here and they work at low rates. Suppose some of our wealthy mill companies should consider it to their pecuniary advantage to import a band of negro slaves to perform the common and most onerous of the work about mills, think you they could not greatly reduce expenses? A good stout negro could be hired by the year at \$150 an board, profitable alike to master and the party hiring. There may be white men willing to work for such wages, I there are I do not know them.

In order to compare the systems of free and slave labor, let any man examine the census statistics of 1850—it will there be seen that the average rates of wages in every branch of business, is much lower in the slave, than in the free states. True, it is often asserted, that mechanic's wages in the Southern cities are higher than in the North; but the figures, compiled by one of the strongest defenders of slavery, will no substantiate the assertion. At times wages may temporarily rise, but the do not so remain, and the comparison is not fair. Volumes might be written to show that free labor conduces more to the advancement of a new country or any other, than slave labor.

In a few months we shall have the Popular Sovereignty privilege of selecting a Delegate to Congress—shall we elect a champion of free labor? Or will you prefer a man who is willing that negroes shall be brought here, and their labor put in competition with ours? Suppose a Delegate is elected having pro-slavery proclivities, do we not, by our votes admit that we are willing to compete with slave labor? Then let our choice fall upon one, who will uphold and maintain the true dignity of labor, the true interests of the free white laboring population of Washington Territory. M. D. SILL.

PRINTERS' JOKES.—It is the practice among waggish printers, when a "green 'un" enters the office as devil, to play jokes on him by sending him on an errand to a neighboring office for something he would be sure not to find, and he returns with some strange article or other, thinking that in printer's phrase, he has got what he was sent for. A boy who was rather "verdant," recently went to learn the printing business, and one of the journeymen loving sport, sent him with a dish to a certain editor, to borrow "a gill of editorial." The editor, understanding the game, returned a picture of a jackass. The "jour" finding himself rather "come over," set his wits to work to get even. At last he called the lad, and told him to go and tell the editor that "it was editorial he wanted, not the editor!"