ma formed out of the celebrated work of Mr. Sue. This piece was performed for several months in Paris, to the great horror of the Jesuits, whom it attacks, but the Government did not think it prudent to forbid it here. Since the abolition of the restrictions on the Jesuits, the Rouen prefect thinks it contrary to law to attack them. The theatre was crowded during its representation here, and the crowd applauded with great enthusiasm every thrust at the Jesuits. Order has been restored at Rouen, but the theatre is presenting to large houses Moliere's play of Tartuffe.

It is idle for the Government to think of opposing the natural hatred of the people for the Jesuits. It breaks out on all occasions. The magnificent piece now played here, called Bonaparte, flatters it by representing the Italian priests as cut-throats and bravos with a top layer of hypocrisy. Alexander Dumas's new play of Urbian Grandier is an excellent satire of the corruptions, malice, and stratagems of the supple members of the Papal hierarchy.

There is little news from other countries. The Greek difficulty has been brought peaceably to a close, and nothing remains except to pay the indemnity adjudged to England.

Russia is amassing troops in Poland, but protests that her intentions are entirely pacific.

The Pope has left Portici for Rome, but it remains doubtful whether he will return to that city at once. He may tarry some time on the road.

Switzerland is perfectly free from fear of an attack. The gold of the reaction is more busy there than their armies. The Swiss election takes place in May. The allied Governments are straining every nerve to have the *Sonderbund* party successful. They will not succeed in this effort.

Clouds and thick darkness are gathered about the Erfurt Parliament. It will probably result in little else than the return of Germany to the institutions of 1815, and the evaporation of the hopes of the friends of Union.

PRUSSIAN HEMP.

A report has been made to the Minister of Public Works in Prussia, from which I take the following particulars:

In Prussia and Poland hemp is sown at the end of May or beginning of June, according to the weather. It arrives at maturity toward the end of August or beginning of September. The plant is then torn up with the roots and bound in bundles containing from 200 to 300 stalks. The heads containing the seed are cut off and dried separately. If the weather is fair and dry, the curing can be commenced in three or four days, by the immersion of the stalks in standing water of any kind, ponds, lakes, or ditches. Running water would cover them with mud and sand. The hemp remains in the water from two to five weeks, according to the temperature. After the fifteenth day they should be examined at least once every two days, to see that they do not become too much soaked for the temperature and the water exercise an influence so variable that no exact limit can be fixed to the time of immersion; sometimes it is twice as long at [illegible] as it is enough to make the hemp soft and diminish the strength of the fibre, one day too little may leave it hard and brittle.

The stalks are dried by placing them roots upward, so that the water may run out easily. This drying by the air and sun is prolonged during the spring and summer; if wood is abundant, the drying is sometimes done in houses constructed for the purpose. When the stalks are dry enough, they are broken on brakes similar to those employed for flax. The thread having thus been separated from the woody parts, it is put up in bundles or hanks varying from 5 to 10 pounds. The air should be admitted to these in the month of July, when the hemp becomes easily heated.

The hemp dried by artificial heat and broken in winter is softer and more flexible than that dried in the open air, but has not so good a color. Some of it is broken with the flail, but this injures the thread of the hemp—making it weaker and twisting it.

The inspection of hemp is very severe in Prussia. It is visited twice before the permission is given to export it. The purest and longest hemp is sent to America, Denmark, and England.

Yours, &c., W.

MEETING IN FAYETTE COUNTY, OHIO.

Pursuant to previous notice, a Free Soil meeting was held at Bloomingburg, Fayette county, Ohio, April 12th, 1850.

P. Ogden was called to the Chair, and H. C. Stewart appointed Secretary.

H. L. Preston, Esq., of Columbiana county, being present, addressed the meeting in a clear and lucid manner.

Several resolutions were adopted, among them the following:

Whereas we, as Free-Soilers, have frequently expressed our willingness to support any man for office, possessing a good moral character, who would step on the platform of principles laid down at Buffalo, in August, 1848, come from what party they may; therefore,

Resolved, That, having fully tried the old Whig and Democratic parties in supporting for office those who professed to occupy that platform, and have been as often betrayed, we will only support those on whom we can depend for the future.

Resolved, That the signs of the times are such that we have only to hear a man speak, to determine whether he, from the heart, is opposed to the extension of slavery over Territory now free, and when we hear him say that he is in favor of the Wilmot Proviso—but we have no confidence in his professions of opposition to slave-extension, for at the present crisis it should be paramount to every other question.

Resolved, That no change has taken place in the minds of the common people, in regard to the opposition to the extension of slavery over territory now free, but that one uniform sentiment prevails, and that is, no slave Territory, no more slave States, now and forever.

Resolved, That the proceedings of this meeting be sent to the National Era for publication.

PHAROAH OGDEN, *Chairman*.

H. C. STEWART, *Secretary*.

PUBLIC MEETING.

At a public meeting, without distinction of party, held pursuant to adjournment, at the Oak School-House, in Upper Providence township, Montgomery county, Pennsylvania, March 26, 1850—

On motion, Joshua Place, Esq., was called to the Chair, and John Jacobs appointed Secretary.

The Chairman having briefly stated the objects of the meeting, the following gentlemen were appointed a committee to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the call:

Thomas Hopkins, W. W. Taylor, George D. Price, Uriah B. Shade, and Thomas West, who reported the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted.

[We copy some of them.]

Resolved, That the representative, of whatever grade, who proves false to his God and his country in the hour of peril and time of need, upon the great question of human freedom, will be a libel upon the name of man, and the Benedict Arnold of the age.

Resolved, That to meanly entail upon posterity, through the action or non-action of Government, when slavery will have gained more power, the settlement of a question which we are afraid to meet ourselves, would be infamous in the extreme, and any Northern man willing to sustain such action would be a fit instrument in the hands of tyranny to enslave the mass of his brethren.

Resolved, That we feel deeply grateful to freedom's noble representatives, for their manly, dignified, and heroic efforts to preserve inviolate the glorious sentiments of the Declaration of Independence, and to maintain unsullied the honor and integrity of our country. The admiration of the present age awaits them; the blessings of the future will keep their memories green in the hearts of its children.

Resolved, That California having complied with the terms prescribed by the Constitution, it is the duty of Congress to immediately provide for her admission with her present boundaries, separated from all other questions.

Resolved, That a copy of the above proceedings be sent to our Representative at Washington, and to each of the newspapers at Norristown for publication. JOHN JACOBS, *Secretary*.

WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY,
Middletown, Ct., April 29, 1850.

To the Editor of the National Era:

In the Washington *Union* of last week I find a communication to the effect that the students of the Wesleyan University had held a meeting, at which they passed resolutions "denouncing the Wilmot Proviso," "in favor of the Union," "opposing fanatical agitation," &c., &c. "The result," it says, "has astounded the Free-Soilers," and "may be considered as no trifling indication of the change going on in the public sentiment."

Now, sir, I know not how important may be the influence of the action of a few boys on the world's destiny in this respect; but believing that the *truth* will go as far as a *lie*, I will give a statement of the facts in the case. A meeting, composed of about *one half* of the students, after some discussion, *did*, by a bare majority, pass resolutions disapproving of the Wilmot Proviso. But on the next night at a *full college meeting*, the vote was reconsidered, and by an overwhelming majority the resolution consigned to the table; from which the most strenuous efforts of the propagandists have failed to take it up. So it appears that though the "venerable Nestor" of the *Union* might "chronicle this item with joy," he was nevertheless egregiously taken in by the communication of our sapient Freshman. Such political precocity is seldom met with; but it appears, in his hurry to "write for the paper," that our friend was premature in his communication, and thus perpetrated a vile slander on a very respectable body of young men. The final result, Mr. Editor, *we* consider as no "trifling indication" of public sentiment, not merely in Connecticut, but throughout the entire North—an uncompromising hostility to the extension of slavery. So strong is this sentiment in Connecticut that we confidently predict the election of the consistent Free-Soiler, Mr. Cleveland as United States Senator, instead of Mr. Toucey, the non-interventionist.

THE NATIONAL ERA.

WASHINGTON, MAY 9, 1850.

SPEECH OF MR. TOOMBS.—According to promise, we give to-day about the best speech on the Southern side of the Territorial Question, we have heard. It is very able, and better-tempered than might be supposed, coming from a member who threatened the Union so fiercely in the beginning of Congress.

A HINT.—We know this is a busy time of the year with our country friends, but they must not forget to renew their subscriptions in season, and to send us a token of their good will in the shape of subscribers.

Mr. WILMOT made an excellent speech on the Slavery Question in the House, last Friday afternoon. We shall publish it in our next.

☞ Subscribers who do not file the *Era*, and have numbers 155, 162, 163, 165, 166, 167, or 168, on hand, will confer a favor by remailing them to this office.

MR. WEBSTER AND THE WASHINGTON UNION.

The Washington *Union* in its new love for Mr. Webster seems to have forgotten its old favorites. It records all his journeyings and all his speeches; it sorrows in his affliction, rejoices in his joy, glories in his triumph, nurses his reputation, defends him against all attacks, cherishes him with all the tenderness of the "honey-moon."

Scarcely a number of the paper appeared last week, without some affectionate notice of Mr. Webster. Wednesday, he was the honored theme of three articles, occupying two columns and a half—one, denouncing the Administration for its "assaults on Messrs. Clay and Webster," [illegible] with which the "great expounder" was received at home, the third, giving a report of his arrival in Boston, and his speech upon the occasion. *Thursday*, the admiring editor resumes the subject, and devotes a column and a half more to the distinguished representative of what the *Union* used to style, "Blue-Light Federalism." It pronounces his speech, "worthy of the orator and worthy the occasion," "an admirable, we may say, a noble appeal to the citizens of Massachusetts," "in dignity of manner, power of style, beauty of eloquence, and, above all, in firmness of purpose, everything it should be." The *Augusta* (Ga.) *Constitutionalist*, having denounced Mr. Webster for his lack of moral courage, his affectionate friend of the *Union*, conjures that paper not to give way to gloomy anticipations: he is sure Mr. Webster will not disgracefully desert the post of duty. "True," it says, "he coöperated in the proposition of separating California from the Territorial Governments; and, in that respect, Mr. Clay manifested his *superior sagacity*, if *not firmness of character*; but we understand, from the best authority, that Mr. Webster deemed it the best way of effecting the objects he had in view; and that he intended, by that vote, not to abandon an iota of the fine sentiments and bold enunciations of his celebrated speech. Mr. Webster *has it now in his power to bruise with his heel the serpent's head*. Fanaticism must be boldly met, to be put down."

The pleasing theme is resumed on Friday; the *New York Evening Post* and the Free Soil and Abolition press, with their vials of wrath, are thrust aside to make room for the *Boston Courier*, *Newburyport Herald*, and *Baltimore Clipper*, with their vials of incense for the Massachusetts Senator. The *Union* grows more and more confident, and trusts he "will stand up like Mount Atlas, *unmoved*."

The Democratic Press of the West does not relish this new position of the "sole organ of the Democracy at the seat of Government," as the following paragraphs show. The *Indiana State Sentinel*, is the State organ of the Democracy of Indiana, and the *Ohio Statesman*, the State organ of the Democracy of Ohio—both, supporters of General Cass at the last Presidential election.

From the Indiana State Sentinel.

We have been much gratified at the tone of the *Ohio Statesman* for some time past, in reference to the political aspect of affairs at Washington. It has seemed to speak as if it truly apprehended the tendency which has too long existed there, to sacrifice the entire interests of the Democratic Party, for the purpose of unjustly favoring the interest of a certain section of the Confederacy. It is high time that a stop should be put to such a condition of things. It is time to checkmate a game, the end if not the object of which tends to perpetuate the power of Whiggery, because it is willing, for the sake of power, to become the pander of Slaveocracy. It is time to do this, not only to *avoid* any just imputation of *sectionalism*, which may be unfairly made against us, but also that we may at least retain our self-respect as well as the esteem of conscientious men.

The speech of Webster is but the *denouement* of the game which has been playing at Washington during the whole of the present session—a session which passes in disgrace anything ever enacted in Mexico. This speech, which is nothing but a bid by Webster for ultra Southern support for the Presidency, will, as it should, damn him to the lowest pit of political perdition. And yet some *Democratic* papers *puff* the venal thing, and cry hosannas to the most infamous of libels against the Democratic party. The *Ohio Statesman* justly speaks of it thus:

"We have read this late 'remarkable' speech of this most remarkbly inconsistant New England statesman—and we must express our astonishment that any liberal-minded, just-hearted, intelligent *national* patriot, can feel it proper to utter aught but prompt and entire condemnation of the tone, the obvious motive, and the ill-concealed and too palpable object, of such a production, at such a time, and from *such* an author! That Mr. Webster believes the Union in any real danger, we have not the slightest idea. That he has put forth this mongrel mixture of good and bad—a speech aimed to countenance sectional excitement and then to sooth it, and at the same time denunciatory of the whole 'Northern Democracy'—for his *own* mere exclusive personal advantage, we have not the slightest particle of a doubt. A 'noble' and 'manly' effort, forsooth—reeking with poor, paltry, partisan falsehoods against the 'Northern Democracy.' It is easy to conceive in what nook of a man's heart lies the feeling that seeks utterance in the form of praise for such a production as Daniel Webster's late speech!'"

EMIGRATION TO CALIFORNIA.

Emigration to California is going on with great rapidity, chiefly from the free States. It would be well if the country papers would furnish the statistics of the emigration this spring in their respective counties. The *Register*, of South Bend, Indiana, publishes a list of one hundred and seventy persons who have started this spring for St. Joseph's, and the editor remarks that the list does not comprise all the individual cases, or smaller companies. This is a mere illustration of a vast movement going on throughout the entire North. This drain of population, occurring at a time when a new census is about to be taken and another apportionment made, is rather unfavorable to the North. It must reduce to some extent her representative power.

While Americans are pouring upon the Pacific coast, the tide of emigration sets rapidly upon our Atlantic shores. The social and political effect of this change of population, are becoming the subjects of serious speculation, and there are those who profess to apprehend danger to our institutions from this source. There is much to be hoped, little to be feared, from the revolution in progress. It is well that Americans, with their strong attachment to this Union, their habitual respect for law, and their aptness at self-government, should organize the new States on the distant shores of the Pacific. Had a foreign population obtained the numerical ascendency there, our title to sovereignty would have become in time merely nominal, and it would have been long before the frame-work of society could have been established as it now is.

We can spare enough of our countrymen for such a work as this, and yet retain vitality enough to assimilate to our social organization the hundreds of thousands of strangers who come to take their places. The foreign emigrant, feeling himself welcomed into the American family, denied no privileges belonging to the home-born, placed on an equality with all other citizens, soon becomes Americanized, and his interest in the land of his adoption exceeds that in the land of his birth. Finding no prejudices or policy that seeks to proscribe him on account of his foreign peculiarities, or to compel him to sacrifice any of them, no antagonism is aroused in his nature, and he falls insensibly under the silent, but irresistible assimilative process everywhere tending to a homogeneous organization.

NASHVILLE CONVENTION.

The scheme of a Nashville Convention, having answered its purpose, in frightening a sufficient number of the venerable politicians of the North, is now to be given up. A few chivalrous spirits that regarded it as a reality, not a shame, still cling to it; and perhaps there may be a gathering of some sort at Nashville, but it will not be *the* Convention that awakened the patriotic anxieties of the tremulous Mr. Cass.

Richmond, Va., it seems, has decided against the Convention. The good people held three meetings to consult about it, but at the third, resolved that, owing to the hopeful state of affairs in Washington, the thing was not at all necessary.

Mr. Seddon of the House of Representatives being present, tried to move them to a different conclusion, but it was "no go." From his observation of events at Washington, he felt authorized to declare his full conviction that the meeting should decide in favor of the Nashville Convention. He expressed the decided opinion that but for the *decided* movement of those who had urged this Convention, the Wilmot Proviso would at this very moment have been passed by the House of Representatives; and he was sure that the abandonment of the Convention at this juncture would have the most injurious influence by raising the spirit of Southern aggressiveness. Mr Seddon's decided opinions availed nought; the meeting held decided opinions the other way. The resolutions moved as substitutes for the original ones reported, were adopted, 214 to 105; and one of them runs as follows:

"5. *Resolved, nevertheless*, That, under existing circumstances, an earnest attempt being now in progress in the Senate of the United States to adjust, on a satisfactory basis, our present difficulties, we deem it unnecessary at this time, in anticipation of measures of a contrary character, to take any further action in relation to the Convention contemplated to be held at Nashville."

A strong objection urged against the abandonment of the Convention was, that Daniel Webster and Lewis Cass might backslide; but after a full consideration of the chances, it seemed to be agreed that, in view of what had taken place, these venerable gentlemen would continue steadfast. The *Richmond* (Va) *Whig* cannot believe that they will so easily forget the exhibition of Southern spirit which has proved so wholesome in its influences. Admitting, it says, that it were consistent with the known character of these gentlemen to back out—"with their lofty renown—with that love of fame, which is strongest in strongest minds—have they not already seen enough of Southern feeling and Southern spirit to deter them from a step so dangerous?" We "reckon" so.

The Democratic papers in Richmond are scandalized at the conduct of the meeting. One of them, the *Examiner*, is out of all patience, and thinks it simply ridiculous that "a little village" like Richmond, of thirty thousand inhabitants, and half of them nutmeg Yankees, should be considered the exponent of the feelings of the great State of Virginia!

We half sympathize with the *Examiner*. This Nashville Convention has been a sort of pet with us; we have gone out of our way to say a good word for it now and then, but the truth is, there are so many doughfaces on both sides of Mason and Dixon's line, one set anxious to furnish, and the other just as anxious to accept, a pretext for not holding the Convention, that we begin to fear there will be no show at all.

THE COALITION.

We have repeatedly called the attention of the People to the coalition between Whig and Democratic leaders in Washington, to put down Free-Soilism. The policy of Messrs. Clay, and Webster, Cass, and Dickinson is, first to unite to put down their common enemy; this accomplished, they can then fight each other on the ordinary issues. That the *Washington Union* should become their joint organ, in the prosecution of such a policy, that for the time it should suspend its opposition to the Whigism of the great Whig leaders, and devote itself to their vindication, recording every movement intended to do them honor and promote their plans, is what might be expected; and that they, in turn, should be willing to advance the interests of that paper, will surprise nobody. We have not forgotten how anxious Messrs. Cass and Webster were the other day to take up the resolution of Mr. Borland, designed to put an end to the contract system, and to secure the election of public printers, one of whom was to be the proprietor of the *Union*. We find no fault with this exchange of good offices. Men engaged in a common cause, are bound to bear each others' burdens!

It would seem that the exchange of courtesies is not confined to the area of the Capital. Mr. Cass, if we may credit the Peninsular *Freeman* of Michigan, has been kindly cared for at home, by the Whig leaders of the Coalition. That paper states that the Detroit *Advertiser*, the leading Whig paper of the State, was distinguished up to the 1st of February last for its ardent professions of devotion to the cause of Free Soil, and its strong opposition to the rescinding resolutions introduced in the Michigan Legislature; that subsequently, the loss of a portion of the public printing of the Executive Department of the General Government, rendered it necessary for the senior editor to visit Washington.

"Since then, not a word of editorial against the recission has been uttered. Whilst in Washington, leading members of the Whig party undertook to convince the editor of the impropriety there was in expecting General Cass to carry out the expressed and undoubted will of his constituents, instead of the wishes of the people of the South; and advised him to return home and use his influence with the Whig members of the Legislature to release General Cass from his instructions. Among those most conspicuous in doing the amiable to our neighbor, were Messrs. Clay and Webster; and their condescension is said to have had a most *melting* influence upon his convictions."

The *Freeman* proceeds to say that, returning from Washington, for several weeks he maintained entire silence on the subject—that he then took with him the city Postmaster and Mr. Bates, the late Whig candidate for Congress, went to Lansing, and attended a Whig caucus in the Senate chamber to consider whether the rescinding resolutions should pass or not.

"The caucus was attended by several gentlemen who were not members either of the Legislature or of the Whig party. Mr. Bates was called upon to address the meeting, and he did so, making a most vehement Cass speech, and urging the Whig members, if they did not vote for resolutions rescinding the instructions, at least to interpose no obstacle to their passage. He was followed by Mr. Postmaster Williams, in the same strain; and by others, for and against the resolutions. The editor of the *Advertiser* was also called upon for his opinion; but as silence is his *forte*, he said nothing. What the decision of the caucus was, we are not advised; its effects, however, may be judged from the fact that when the final vote was taken upon the rescinding resolutions, *five Whig members were absent from the House, and the resolutions* WERE PASSED BY A MAJORITY OF TWO VOTES!"

"All this explains," says the *Freeman*, "the silent indifference of the *Advertiser* to the passage of rescinding resolutions."

But, what we wish particularly to call attention to, is the positive statement of the *Peninsular Freeman*, that "*leading members of the Whig Party in Washington*," *including* "*Messrs. Clay and Webster*" "*advised him to use his influence with the Whig members of the Legislature to release General Cass from his instructions!*" The editors, Robert McBratney and James D. Liggett, are men of character, and they make this statement without qualification. What think the People of this coalition of Democratic and Whig leaders against Free Soil? Will they sustain it?

For the National Era.

TO THE HOPEFUL.

BY MISS ALICE CAREY.

Hark! for the multitude cry out,
O, watchman, tell us of the night;
And hear the joyous answering shout,
The hills are red with light!

Lo! where the followers of the meek,
Like Johns, are crying in the wild,
The leopard lays its spotted cheek
Close to the new-born child.

The gallows-tree with tremor thrills—
The North to mercy's plea inclines;
And round about the Southern hills
Maidens are planting vines.

The star that tremoled softly bright,
Where Mary and the young child lay,
Through ages of unbroken night
Hath tracked his luminous way.

From the dim shadow of the palm
The tattooed islander has leant,
Helping to swell the wondrous psalm
Of love's great armament!

And the wild Arab, swart and grave,
Looks, startled, from his tent, and scans
Advancing truth, with shining wave,
Washing the desert sands.

Forth from the slaver's deadly crypt
The Ethiope like an athlete springs,
And from her long-worn fetters stript,
The dark Lyberian sings.

But sorrow to and fro must keep
Its heavings until evil cease,
Like the great cradle of the deep,
Rocking a storm to peace.

O, men and brethren, far and near,
Believers in the better day,
Who, learning love's deep wisdom here,
Have better learned to pray—

[illegible]
Before you, seeing not the dawn,
And by the true and living God,
I charge you, labor on!

PENNSYLVANIA AND HER REPRESENTATIVES.

Of all the free States, Pennsylvania is perhaps the least enlightened on the question of Slavery, and the most amenable to the requisitions of the South. In the early stages of the Free Soil agitation, before the slaveholders had organized their system of intimidation, the Whig and Democratic parties of that State, obeying the popular impulse, took strong ground in favor of the policy of Slavery-Restriction. The candidates of both parties for the office of Canal Commissioner, pledged themselves to it, and the Legislature without distinction of party, passed resolutions affirming it.

But a series of reactionary movements affecting the Democratic party was soon instituted, under the auspices of Mr. Buchanan. With the Democratic press of the State and the leading politicians under his control, it was no difficult task to convince the masses of the party, ignorant as they are of the aggressions and demands of Slavery, and of its power in the National Councils, that they had been deluded by the Federalists into a mere sectional struggle, which could have no other effects, if persisted in, than to destroy the union of the Democracy and the union of the States.

[illegible] of the action of the party by these movements, shows how much mastery one mind may acquire over many, that choose to give up the right to think for themselves. Public meetings of the Democracy in various parts of the State revealed the triumph of Buchananism, and the votes of the Democratic members of the Legislature, repudiating the Wilmot Proviso, prove that the revolution is now nearly complete.

"Issachar," said the old patriarch, "is a strong ass, couching down between two burdens, * * and he bowed his shoulder to bear, and became a servant unto tribute"—a true type of the Land of Penn, only it couches under one burden, instead of two. But it is always bowing its shoulder to bear, and becoming a servant to tribute. "Held to service or labor," is a phrase describing its normal condition; and if by any sudden impulse it break away and become fugitive, it scarcely needs a pursuer to bring it back—it returns voluntarily to the yoke. None of the States of the North is under such subordination to the Slave Power; and this is owing chiefly to the excellent discipline of Mr. Overseer Buchanan.

We were unreasonable enough to hope, when Messrs. Brown and Ingersoll of Philadelphia were left at home by their constituents, that Pennsylvania was about to send Representatives to Congress bearing the stamp and attributes of manhood; but she is worse off in this respect than ever. Compared with the treachery of Gilmore, the weakness of Irving, his predecessor, is virtue itself; and the position of Charles Jared Ingersoll was respectable, compared with that of Thomas Ross. The speech of this member was destitute of a single decent sentiment. He denounced the People of the free States in unmeasured terms, for their aggressions on the rights of slaveholders, and denied most vehemently that the latter had ever done more than stand upon the defensive. He even went so far as to denounce California, and avow unqualified hostility to her admission as a State, although, he said, in obedience to his constituents, he should be compelled to vote for it—unless they should change their minds. Some of his sayings were as false as his sentiments were abhorrent. For example; speaking of the publication of incendiary papers and documents at the North, he said:

"Sir, if this be not aggression, then I do not know what constitutes aggression. Restrained by no principle, moral or religious, *by no feelings of humanity for their fellow man, and by no mercy for their intended victims*, these Abolitionists pressed forward to consummate *their wicked designs, with the torch of the incendiary in one hand and the black flag of negro emancipation in the other*. And, sir, in the very front rank of that fanatic throng, stood Hypocrisy,

——with holy leer,
Soft smiling and demurely looking down,
But bid the dagger underneath the gown.

Mr. Chairman, was all this no aggression? Sir, if the Democratic party had not taken a bold, but perhaps doubtful, constitutional ground, it would have been something more than aggression—it would have been *cold-blooded massacre*. The South *would have been lighted up with the conflagration of her cities and towns, and the air would have resounded with the dying shrieks of her helpless women and children; blood would have flowed in torrents, and the war of extermination would have been carried on, until half of the States of this Confederacy had been desolated, if not entirely depopulated*. But the Democratic party saved the country from so direful a calamity. The peril to the South was imminent, and required prompt and decided action. *A bill was passed, empowering postmasters in the Southern States to open the mail-bags, and take out the incendiary publications, which the Abolitionists were secretly circulating throughout the Southern country. It was only by these means that a servile insurrection was prevented, and the domestic tranquillity of the South in some measure secured.*"

This is a pretty illustration of the intelligence of a genuine Democrat from Pennsylvania of the Buchanan school. *Torrents of blood and oceans of fire* have been prevented from rolling over the South by—*just nothing at all!* The bill, which he says was passed, originated in the Senate, but was killed on the third reading. That is not all. It was never expected that it would pass. The design of it was to place Mr. Van Buren, at that time in the chair, and a candidate for the Presidency, in such a position as to compel him to risk the loss of his Southern or Northern supporters. Such a bill, with so mean a purpose, and so effectually killed that nothing approaching it in principle has ever been attempted since, was passed, according to Mr. Ross, and its passage saved the South from utter ruin!

If Pennsylvania were not already so illustriously represented in the Senate of the United States, we should recommend this enlightened gentleman as a suitable candidate for the place of Senator Sturgeon.

After all, it will not do to despair utterly of a State which can furnish such Representatives as Stevens and Wilmot, Strong and Chandler.

THE PRESS.

The *Raleigh Register* (N. C.) has an interesting article on the press of that State, from which we glean a few items.

There are 33 newspapers in the State, all weekly, except two semi-weekly and one tri-weekly. No magazine or other periodical is issued.

The *Register*, from the best information it can obtain, averages the weekly circulation of each paper at 550, which gives a total circulation of 18,150 per week, for the whole State.

This being true, the *Era* alone circulates only about 3,000 fewer copies, per week, than the entire press of North Carolina; and a single New York daily circulates 3,000 more copies every day, than the whole press of that State circulates in a week.

The population of North Carolina is near 800,000—or, we may estimate about 108,000 families. But, the press of the State circulates weekly but 18,150 copies; we may estimate that not more than one [illegible] families is supplied with newspapers.

Here is a table prepared by the New York *Independent* of the circulation of papers and periodicals in New York city in 1849:

No. of Papers.	*Agg'te regular issue.*	*Agg'ate weekly issue.*	*Agg'te yearly issue.*
13 Daily papers issue - - -	125,200	754,200	39,218,400
9 Semi-weekly - - - - -	27,450	64,900	3,347,800
9 Weekly, orthodox - - -	72,950	-	3,845,400
7 Weekly, Irish, R. Cath., &c.	20,000	-	1,066,000
6 Weekly, Sunday - - - -	42,000	-	2,184,000
44 Weekly, miscellaneous -	242,100	377,550	12,589,200
16 Monthly, religious - - -	289,100	-	3,469,200
4 Monthly, miscellaneous -	76,250	-	915,000
10 Monthly magazines, religious	54,250	-	651,360
24 Monthly magazines, miscellaneous	133,350	-	1,600,284
4 Quarterly, miscellaneous, religious	[illegible]	-	[illegible]
9 Quarterly, miscellaneous, literary - - - - - -	27,755	-	111,020
1 Semi-annually - - - -	100,000	-	200,000
168		1,196,650	69,247,864

Number of reams of paper consumed, 147,095. The weight of all this paper is about 5,600,000 pounds, and its cost alone is above $600,000.

By a different classification, we make out the number of *volumes* made up in a year to be as follows:

Daily and semi-weekly papers -	152,650
Religious papers and magazines -	442,600
Other papers and periodicals -	444,914
Total, volumes - - -	1,040,164

We have not taken the pains to ascertain by actual inquiry the average increase in the products of the press in the year 1849. If we estimate it, in the aggregate, at only 5 per cent., it will give the following results:

Daily and semi-weekly papers -	160,282
Religious papers and periodicals -	464,730
Other papers and periodicals -	467,160
Total, volumes - - -	1,092,172

"It may be asked," says the *Raleigh Register*, "why make these mortifying contrasts? Why pull the veil from our mother State, and expose her defects and short-comings to the gaze of a scoffing world? We answer, that in no way can our people be made to appreciate their true position in the social scale. It is not that others may see and deride our backwardness, but that our own citizens may see and strive to remove it, that we make the exposition."

One of our Alabama exchanges presents the following as the total circulation of newspapers in that State:

Democratic, (weekly) - - -	21
Whig, (weekly) - - - -	19
Total weekly papers - - -	40
Democratic, (tri-weekly) - - -	2
Whig, (tri-weekly) - - - -	1
Neutral, (tri-weekly) - - -	1
Total	4
Democratic, (daily) - - - -	3
Whig, (daily) - - - - -	2
Neutral, (daily) - - - - -	1
Total - - - - - -	6

Making, in all, 50 papers published in Alabama, which, we think, speaks volumes for the intelligence and literature of our citizens.

Averaging these weekly at 600 each, the issue weekly would be 30,000 in a population of 650,000.

NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN REPRESENTATIVES.

A personal observation of proceedings in three successive Congresses, and of the characteristics of the Northern and Southern delegations, when brought in collision, has resulted in impressions not very favorable to the former.

The North is cursed with public men, infirm in purpose and in principle; with trimmers and time-servers in politics. Political life has few attractions for the majority of its best citizens, who devote themselves entirely to their own private interests; of course, not excluding the social interests of the communities in which they reside. It is their habit, however, to leave political affairs to the management of inferior, frequently of very corrupt men. Having a common interest, these men, through intrigue, concert, and caucus management, do pretty much as they please, shaping the policy of the party, and selecting candidates, too often totally unfit representatives of the general intelligence and character of the people.

In the South, political ambition is the ruling passion of the more elevated classes. Politics is their study—to the art of governing they dedicate themselves.

Hence, while the North sends many men to Congress who are fit only to be used as tools by the expert demagogue, the South is represented generally by its strongest citizens—men of action and governing talent.

Do we not find in this difference one reason why the Northern delegation in Congress, though more numerous than the Southern, is so often *subject*? It does not lead, but is led. Its inexpert, weak, or corrupt members are soon intimidated, entrapped, or seduced, by the wily tacticians of the South, and, ere it is aware, it has lost the only power it had—its numerical ascendency.

Do you ever find *Southern Doughfaces*? That genus of animals does not exist. A Southern member has the nerve to fulfil his pledges. Difficulties in the way quicken his resolve; his energies rise with the occasion; the stronger the opposition, the more adroit, the more determined his action. Though he may be weak in himself, he is strong and decided in the consciousness that there is no division in his delegation. We refer, of course, to controversies of a sectional character.

The Northern members cannot be depended upon for a long struggle. They may triumph on the first vote, but this is no ground for predicting their ultimate victory. We have never seen a Northern minority overcome or in any way baffle a Southern majority; but we have often seen a Southern minority break down a Northern majority.

We said there were no doughfaces at the South. Even when a Southern man chooses to oppose his own section on a particular question, and side with the North, he assumes leadership; the Northern members seem to fall under his governing power. It was Mr. Benton, a Southern man, who really fought the battle for Oregon. It is Mr. Benton who has conducted the struggle for California.

On the other hand, Northern members who unite with the South sink into subordinate positions. To Mr. Webster, with his vast intellect, and Mr. Cass, the last Presidential candidate of the Democracy, are assigned inferior posts in the work of "Compromise," as it is called, while the part of leader is imperiously assumed by Henry Clay. Mr. Clay is chairman of the log-rolling committee; Messrs. Cass and Webster are his aids, feeling themselves honored, we presume, by being suffered to follow in his footsteps.

The North has a great deal to do before it can secure the political influence in the National councils, to which its population and intelligence entitle it. Its best citizens must spare enough time from their business and literature to preserve their political affairs from the mismanagement of drivelling or sordid politicians. They must send to Congress men of character and courage—not your clap-trap stump-speakers; not traders, accustomed to study politics in the fluctuations of the stock market; not empty brawlers, whose entire capital consists of party prejudices and animosities; not profligates, who, on open questions, where cheatery could not be disguised, generally keep their promises, while on preliminary questions, by covert ways, they are seeking either to thwart the will of their constituents, or place themselves in a position where they may find an excuse *for treason*: not hypocrites, who aim to turn philanthropic sentiment to political advantage; not gentlemen distinguished merely for scholarly attainments, or fine oratory, or great intellect—but men, sound in principle, sagacious in judgment, earnest in conviction, vigilant, ready, physically and morally courageous—men of action and endurance, whose yea is yea and nay is nay. til the free States send such representatives to Congress, they will never be able, whatever their numerical advantages, to meet the slave States on equal terms. We do not say that such representatives from that section may not be found, but we do say that they are too often rendered powerless by colleagues of a totally different character.

For the National Era.

STATE OF THINGS AT JAMAICA.

From a file of the *Morning Journal*, published by Mr. Osborn, a colored man, I have gleaned several interesting items, some of which will doubtless be acceptable to the readers of the *Era*. The conduct of the Home Government, in relation to the Sugar act, continues to be animadverted upon severely. It is pleaded there in exception [illegible] to have been made in favor of the Colonies, in their transition state, and that slave-labor sugar ought not to be admitted into British ports from Brazil and Cuba on equal terms as from Jamaica. This is argued on the ground that the policy injures the British Colonies, and has greatly stimulated the slave trade. The argument, sustained as it is by facts, appears unanswerable. Still, it is strongly recommended to the Colonies to bear up manfully against this state of things; to introduce agricultural and mechanical improvements; to practice economy; to lessen the expenses of Government; to improve their social condition; and to work their way to prosperity, in spite of impediments.

Complaints are made that the Legislature, instead of offering inducements to foreigners to trade with the island, is, by unwise legislation, throwing obstacles in the way. The Home Government is assisting, it is said, by consenting to the alteration in the route of the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company, and thus making St Thomas, instead of Kingston, the landing-place between Southampton and Chagres.

Great satisfaction is expressed at the prospect of having not only American skill, capital, and enterprise, introduced into the island, but also American labor. "If the Americans can come here and work mines, or produce sugar or cotton, at a remunerating rate, we can do the same. And if we do not, it must be because we lack the energy, industry, or skill which they will bring." The island is rich in resources, but it is confessed that "all hands, high and low," have been distinguished for their "pride and indolence," and a hope is expressed, that if the Yankees come among them, the people of Jamaica will be shamed out of their unskilful and wasteful modes of cultivation and living, and the abundant resources of the island fully developed by laborers and employers, uncontaminated by the system of compulsory and unrequited labor.

"Let us," says the Journal, "begin again, and try to work up. How do men in England and Scotland obtain means? By patient, honest industry and economy. But all must needs be gentlemen in Jamaica, and gossip about in broadcloth coats and silk gloves, instead of handling a spade where a plough cannot be afforded, and showing the untaught, uncared-for, uninstructed mass, what a man can do when he has a mind, and is disposed."

Jamaica produce is to be carried to England in American vessels, owing to the new Navigation law. A first-class American ship is advertised to leave Falmouth, Jamaica, direct for London, about the middle of April. The rates of freight will be much reduced—two shillings and sixpence sterling per cwt. for sugar, 2½*d.* per gallon for rum, and a halfpenny per pound for pimento.

The friends of temperance and education will learn with satisfaction that the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in the island have taken measures to arrest the progress of ignorance and intemperance, and lead the people onward in the path of virtue and respectability. Intemperance, it is said, has made such progress, that it is necessary to adopt measures for checking, and, if possible, putting an end to it. "Our experience," says the Journal, "on this side of the island, does not justify us in saying that the bulk of the population have become more intemperate, or are more so than they were." Still it confesses that intemperance prevails, and should be checked. It prefers moral suasion to legislative action. It calls upon all who have influence, to use it, for the purpose of preventing the use of intoxicating drinks.

A lecture on "Jamaica and the Americans," by a gentleman who had recently visited the United States, is published, with editorial comments. The lecturer says—"