THE NATIONAL ERA.

THE BLACK LAW ILLUSTRATED.

WASHINGTON, *December* 25, 1850.

To our Constituents:

In the midst of the rejoicings of this day, which commemorates the advent of him who was sent to "bind up the broken-hearted; *to proclaim liberty to the captive;* and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;" and while the ministers of religion are preaching from the text, "This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears," the United States mail brings the following account of the seizing, fettering, and consigning to bondage, of a free citizen of the country, a husband and a father.

All the *forms* of an atrocious "law" were observed; the prisoner had his "summary" trial; and, to add to the "deep damnation of his taking off," that trial took place in INDEPENDENCE HALL, in Philadelphia, on the very spot where the immortal words, fresh from the pen of Jefferson, that "all men are created free and equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, *liberty*, and the pursuit of happiness;" were proclaimed to the world as the platform of universal man, and the basis of his eternal right to resist oppression.

Were we to address you under other circumstances, upon the subject of the Fugitive Slave Law, we should venture to press upon your attention argument, expostulation, entreaty, in every form of words fitted to arouse freemen to a lively sense of duty, and to its prompt, unceasing, self-sacrificing *performance*. We should make no apology for warning you against influences, everywhere diffused, like pestilential air—from the press, the lecture-room, and, alas! even from the *pulpit*—poisoning the life of liberty, and infusing into the religion of the country the spirit of infidelity to all law, except the law of avarice, lust, cruelty, and oppression. But we forbear, at this time, all appeals to your understanding or to your hearts. The sum of all argument, all expostulation, all entreaty, is briefly presented in the facts we lay before you. If you have become familiar with them already, through other sources of information, we ask you to examine them once more, to ponder upon them, and then to determine what action duty to country, to humanity, and to God, demands of you and of us.

Need we add, that this brief address proceeds from a free Soil Representation in Congress? We transmit to you from the Capitol no false alarms for the safety of the Union; we warn you that the liberties of the People are in peril. We exhibit to you the machinery of despotism in the performance of its appointed work. It is for the People to determine how long this accursed engine shall crush the heart of down-trodden humanity, before itself shall be broken in pieces by the resistless might of freemen.

From the New York Tribune.

KIDNAPPING IN PHILADELPHIA.

Human Liberty under the Fugitive Slave Law.

CASE OF GIBSON.

A friend in Philadelphia has procured for us the following authentic account (mainly as reported for the *Ledger*) of the recent case of atrocious Kidnapping under the shelter of the Fugitive Slave Law. Adam Gibson, the alleged (and falsely *proved*) Fugitive Slave, was seized last Saturday, taken before Edward J. Ingraham, United States Commissioner, and forthwith adjudged a slave and hurried off into slavery. But he happened to fall into the hands of an honest and conscientious man, who knew at a glance that he was not the person he was sworn to be, and refused to receive him as such. That *might* happen in another case, and then it might not. Just consider the facts:

The prisoner was arrested while standing at the corner of Second and Lombard streets, by three men—George H. Alberti, William McKinley, and Robert Smith—who thrust him into a carriage, telling him that he was charged with stealing. The carriage was driven toward the State House, and when it arrived there the prisoner was carried up stairs. Soon after, counsel for the prisoner, who had been sent for, arrived, and demanded of Mr. Alberti his warrant. Mr. Alberti had none, and the prisoner's counsel advised him that he was at liberty to go; but he, not seeming to understand the plot of which he was the victim, declared that he was charged with stealing—that he was an innocent man, and had a right to be regularly cleared. Mr. Alberti then seized and handcuffed him, and he was taken into the jury room, where he was detained in custody until Mr. Ingraham arrived.

A young man, about twenty years of age, was brought before the U. S. Commissioner, by George F. Alberti, who claimed him, by virtue of a power of attorney, as a fugitive from labor, the property of William S. Knight, of Cecil county, Maryland.

W. E. Lehman, Esq., appeared for the claimant; W. S. Pierce and T. B. Hanbest, Esqs., appeared for the respondent.

Mr. Pierce said that the respondent had been only arrested an hour and a half before, and that until then he had been confined in a room by himself, and had not heard the charge against him. That consequently his counsel had neither time to make themselves acquainted with the claimant's case, nor to prepare the defence. That there were persons residing at a distance, some in New Jersey, and some in Wilmington, Delaware, who would be important witnesses in his behalf. He therefore hoped that the Commissioner would grant a continuance, as Judge Grier had done in the case of Garner.

Mr. Lehman said—He hoped there would be no continuance. The law had contemplated a summary hearing. He asked the Commissioner to deliver this property to its owner, to execute the law, and to save the Union.

Commissioner Ingraham said—The hearing is to be a summary one; let it proceed.

George T. Price, sworn.—I have seen that power of attorney before, and that is my signature; George W. Spence was present when I signed it; he resides in Maryland; George F. Alberti was likewise present; I knew William S. Knight in Cecil county, Maryland; my store and place of business is No. 42 Bank street; W. S. gave his power of attorney to Alberti. (Mr. Lehman read the power of attorney.)

James S. Price, sworn.—I know W. S. Knight; he lives in Cecil county, Maryland; I knew his property in negroes; I knew Emery Rice; the way I knew him, I kept a little store on the main road in Cecil county; he passed my store with Mr. Knight's spring horse; I resided at Chester Creek; I traded there with a horse and wagon; I traded in market some seven miles from old Chester; my children worked in a factory; I have followed selling oysters latterly; I live now at No. 15 Vernon street; I have lived there three years; Mr. Knight is a tall man, he is taller than I; I suppose he is thirty odd years old; he lives in Cecil county, three or four miles below Fredericktown; I was born there; I have known Mr. Knight fifteen or twenty years; I expect Knight was born there; I have known this Emery Rice some four years; I did not know him until I moved back to Cecil county, and all the knowledge I have of his being a slave was seeing him pass my house with Mr. Knight's spring horse; it might have been two months since I conversed with Mr. Knight; I can't recollect the time that he ran away; I think he ran away about 1840—I moved in 1845; I can't say how many slaves Mr. Knight had; I never worked with this Emery Rice; he was not there at the time I worked there; I worked with Mr. Knight in 1833; he had but one man and some children; he had ran away before 1833; I can't say how old Emery Rice was when he run away; he was a man grown, and looked to be 21 or 22 years old; I can't say how long I knew him; I knew him in 1828 or 1838; I worked for Knight again in 1833; he was a man grown then; I knew Rice in 1838; I meant to say in 1843; I meant to say he had run away in 1843; Knight had other slaves in his employment in 1838.

Question.—By Mr. Pierce.—Do you know that Rice was a slave?

Answer.—I know that he worked for Mr Knight, and I heard it said that he was a slave.

Q.—The Commissioner.—When a colored man is engaged at work for a slaveholder in Maryland, the presumption is that he is a slave.

Q.—By Mr. Hanbest.—Are not many free colored persons employed at service in the State of Maryland by slaveholders?

A.—At harvest time.

Q.—At no other times?

A.—Sometimes in cutting wood.

Q.—In no other way?

A.—I can't say that there are not colored persons employed who are not slaves.

Mr. Hanbest here asked whether this question was to be decided by the laws of Maryland or by him?

Mr. Ingraham said it was to be decided by the laws of Maryland.

Mr. Hanbest asked Mr. Ingraham whether his construction of the word summary was immediately; whether it did not imply a reasonable time for a man to consult with his counsel, get his witnesses, and make his defence.

Commissioner Ingraham.—I have put my own construction upon it.

Examination Continued.—*Q.*—By Mr. Hanbest.—Knew that he run away from Mr. Knight, a year before I worked for Mr. Knight; I used to trade to Wilmington, Delaware, with peaches; I fix 1838 as the time; I would not stop a slave either running or walking away from his master; I continued to know Rice from 1833 to 1841; I built the house in which my store was kept in 1840; I don't recollect seeing him after the spring of 1840; he had two or three runaways; he had one named John, who ran away; Knight was not then a married man, but was married before I came away.

A.—By David Paul Brown, Esq.—I have lived in the city four or five years; I have not been engaged in this business of kidnapping.

Q.—Are you not bound over to the Court of Quarter Sessions, on a charge of kidnapping?

A.—I decline answering that question.

Q.—(Repeated)

A.—That has not been proved; but I have been bound over. I have seen the boy (Rice) since 1841 in the Second-street Market; I knew nothing of this arrest till a few minutes before 12 o'clock. I saw Thomas Price this morning. I knew of no arrangement to make the arrest. I have seen the power of attorney to Alberti; I told Alberti that I knew the boy Rice; I have no interest in this case; Alberti came after me; I did not tell Alberti where I was to be found; I told Alberti that I was bound over for kidnapping.

Q.—How do you know prisoner to be Rice?

A.—Why, I know him.

Q.—How?

A.—How do I know you, Mr. Brown?

Q.—(Repeated.)

A.—By his familiar looks.

Q.—Is there no mark on him, or have you conversed with and heard his voice, to enable you to say that he is Rice?

A.—There is no mark, nor have I spoken to him since he was arrested, and there is nothing in his figure by which I can judge.

George T. Price, recalled.—I know Mr. Knight; I lived near Mr. Knight; I knew he had a slave named Emery Price; I knew he escaped; I don't know that this is the boy; I live No. 56½ Gaskill street; I am a relation of the previous witness; I am his bail in the case where he is bound over for kidnapping negroes. I have written to Knight about his slaves; I have never written to him about this boy particularly; I have written to him.

Q.—Had you any interview with Mr. Alberti previously to this arrest?

A.—I had several interviews with Mr. Alberti; he was pointed out to me three years ago; I have lived here since 1838; *my business* brought Alberti and me together.

Q.—What was that business?

A.—That is my business.

Q.—(Repeated.)

The Commissioner.—You need not answer that question unless it has some connection with this case.

Mr. Brown.—It is the Commissioner's duty to decide whether it has any connection with this case.

Mr. Commissioner Ingraham.—The witness is to decide whether it has any connection with this case.

The witness declined answering the question.

Q.—Is any of the correspondence between yourself and Mr. Knight in your possession?

A.—No, sir. Mr. Knight asked me to witness this power of attorney; it was at Congress Hall.

Q.—How many other persons were present?

A.—About half a dozen.

Q.—Who were they?

A.—Mr. Spencer, a man named Davis, and Owen Pennington.

Q.—Nobody else?

A.—No, sir.

Q.—Was not Alberti there?

A.—Yes. Mr. Knight sent for me. I can't say who came for me. I don't know this boy.

Mr. Hanbest renewed the application for a postponement. On Mr. Brown's suggestion, the colored boy was sworn. He was asked if he knew the nature of an oath by Mr. Lehman. He answered:

Yes, and that it was to tell the truth, and nothing but the truth. He said that if he had time he could produce several witnesses, whose names were Henry Gibson, Julia Simmons, Rebecca Simmons, Samuel Anderson, Mr. Mason, some seven miles in New Jersey, Mr. Burroughs in New Jersey, and several others, whom he named, some of whom were in Wilmington, Delaware.

Mr. Hanbest said—The decision of this question is vitally important to the public as well as to the boy. This is the first case under the law before a Commissioner, and the public should know whether this law clothes the Commissioner with power to deliver to a claimant a party who has been arrested on a false pretence, without granting him reasonable time to consult his counsel, to collect his witnesses, and to prepare his defence. Whether a free colored man, who has come from the State of New Jersey on an errand of business, and who has been arrested on the charge of stealing chickens, and dragged before a Commissioner, can under its provisions be sent on his way to a slave State, and thus be thrown into a prison, out of which no writ of *habeas corpus*, no judicial act whatever, can take him. If such be the construction of the word summary, no free colored man in Pennsylvania is safe. No free colored man is out of the power of G. F. Alberti and his accomplice Price.

Mr. Commissioner asked how long a continuance was wanted?

Mr. Brown said only an hour.

The Commissioner then said that he had already been there three hours; and that, before he came, the man had been kept in the adjoining room for more than an hour.

Mr. Pierce stated that the boy had been told that he had been arrested for chicken stealing, and that he had not known, until he had been brought before the Commissioner, that he had been arrested as a fugitive; and then the first opportunity was permitted him for consulting with his counsel. That the Commissioner has refused to grant him a continuance for a short time for that purpose, but had directed the examination to proceed instantly, and that the colored man had been surrounded by strangers, and could not send for his friends.

The prisoner here said that he had sent.

The Commissioner at this point directed a messenger to bring him a certificate. This occasioned some delay.

Samuel Anderson, one of the witnesses, residing in Philadelphia, who had been named by the boy, was now brought into Court and sworn:

I know this boy; his name is Adam Gibson; I have known him all my life-time; he lived in Cecil county, Maryland; when I first knew him, he liv d with Robert Robinson; he after that lived with Parson Davis; we lived six miles apart; the water divided us; I never heard Parson Davis say that he was his property; I heard his mother say he belonged to Parson Davis; I never knew him to live with Mr. Knight; in 1843 he lived in Kent county, Maryland, and lived with Parson Davis; I know of no relationship between Knight and Davis; I understood that he was set free by his master, at his death; I know of one boy Knight had, called Emery, that carried a spring horse about; I am certain that this is not Emery that lived with Mr. Knight; Emery was rather taller, not quite so stout built, and was much older than this boy; I was born in 1823; I knew Mr. Knight's boy Emery some thirteen years ago; I know they called him Emery Rice; he is now about 23 years of age.

Cross-Examined.—He first lived with Robert Robinson; he then lived after that with Parson Davis, and afterward with Dr. Davis; his name was Adam Gibson; in Cecil county, Maryland, I lived with John B. Schell; I knew Emery going about with Mr. Knight's spring horse; this boy never went about with a spring horse; I came to Philadelphia in a steamboat.

Q.—Were you a slave, and who was your master?

A.—I never had a master.

Mr. Bushell lived about six miles from Knight's house; the water divided us; I believe he continued to live with Dr. Davis; his name was Adam; he lived in Kent county, Md.; I never knew him called by any other name.

[Here Mr. Brown read a copy of the will of Dr. Henry Davis, freeing, at his death, all his slaves, upon condition that they would go to Africa, this Adam being one of them. The will was certified by the Register of that county.]

Daniel Wilkins, who had been found in the crowd, sworn.—I live in Fettersville, State of New Jersey; I knew the father and mother of this boy some twenty years ago; this boy was then a small child; I did not know his name; his mother's name was Charity; she lived with Parson Davis, in Kent county, Maryland; I left there some twenty years ago; I returned to pay a visit in 1845; I saw this boy Adam Gibson there then; that was the first knowledge I had of Parson Davis's death; I can't say how long he had been dead before that, as he had died since I left; this boy's mother was free then, and this boy was living then; he had no master then; I never knew Mr. Knight nor his slave Emery when I was down there; his mother and he were living on Mill farm, Sassafras Neck; it did not belong to Moses Cannon; I don't know who owns it now.

Cross Examined.—I left there when I was about 22 years old; I was a slave, and belonged to Mr. Stevens; I bought my time of my master, and he set me free.

Mr. Price addressed the Commissioner in behalf of the defence. He spoke of the character of the evidence and the circumstances under which the respondent's counsel found themselves in a judicial hearing, involving liberty or slavery; they had been refused the delay of one hour to procure witnesses, and for what reason? Had the respondent been grossly negligent of an opportunity to communicate with his friends, he might still reasonably have expected to obtain a postponement of one hour; but he had not been so. He had hardly an opportunity of speaking to his counsel. Although he had readily given the name of several witnesses who resided in New Jersey; and although the testimony, that by accident was within his command, was sufficient, if not to break down the claimant's case, at least to raise some doubts as to its validity, one hour is denied him. But the evidence of the claimant cannot satisfy the Commissioner that this is the boy Emery. The witness, (Price,) who pretended to identify him, the man who is under bail to answer the charge of kidnapping, cannot point to any mark upon him, any peculiarity, and he does not even know that Rice was the slave of Knight. His business has been to carry vegetables and fruit from Pennsylvania into the highly agricultural District of Cecil county, Maryland; a very improbable story; and your honor well knows that this is the ostensible business of the men who carry in their dearborn wagon, chained and covered up, free colored people who have been kidnapped. Why has not Knight come forward and offered here a will or deed; or why has he not produced witnesses whose characters entitle them to be believed? The only claimant before your honor is G. F. Alberti, a professional slave-catcher. We have produced the evidence of two respectable colored men, who testify that they know this man to be the slave of Dr. Davis, and their evidence is corroborated by the will, read to you, which they never saw.

Mr. Brown followed Mr. Pierce in a speech of great eloquence.

Mr. Lehman followed Mr. Brown. He said that he hoped that the Commissioner would discharge the boy if he had any doubt of his identity; that he had been retained in the street, and that before he came there he had known nothing of the circumstances of the case; that he had come there simply to discharge a professional duty; and that the claimants had taken the proper course in bringing their testimony before the Commissioner, and thus giving the respondent advantages which he would not have had, had the affidavits of witnesses been used instead.

Mr. Ingraham said that he had no doubt of the identity of the prisoner with the slave Emery Rice, and that all other proceedings must be before the Courts of Maryland, whither he would send him.

The prisoner has a wife and two children, who have not seen him since he left home on Saturday morning.

The prisoner was placed into the custody of twenty-five officers under Police Marshal Kayser, and taken to the dépôt, Eleventh and Market streets. A large crowd of all colors followed, but made no attempt to rescue him. The prisoner was accompanied by Marshal Kayser and several officers to Grey's Ferry, and at this place the prisoner was placed into the keeping of Lieutenants Neff, Corson, and Pickering, to be taken to Cecil county, Maryland.

TO FARMERS AND TEACHERS.

We invite the special attention of Farmers and Teachers to a series of articles on *Agricultural Geology*, commenced in this number of the *Era*. They are so simple, direct, elementary, and practical, as to meet the wants of farmers in their present desire for the science of their art. If generally read in schools, they must in some cases change the worst scholars into the best, by converting surplus *boy power*, now shown in lawlessness, into efforts for practical science.

AGRICULTURAL GEOLOGY.—No. 1.

BY JOSIAH HOLBROOK.

No class of the community have an equal interest in geology with farmers. No science is so interesting to farmers as geology, in connection with chemistry. The two sciences cannot be separated, and justice done to either. While the elements of our globe, especially of soils, require chemical tests to determine their character, these very elements are absolutely essential for experiments to determine the fundamental principles of chemistry. Oxygen, the most powerful chemical agent in creation, is also the most abundant material in rocks and soils. The one as an element, the other as an agent, are alike essential to each other, and both indispensable, as at the foundation of all agricultural science.

A knowledge of each is as feasible as it is important—entirely within the comprehension of a child six years old. Each is a science of facts more than of abstract reasoning—of facts, too, equally instructive and delightful to every young mind.

Take an example: The child has placed before him two glass tumblers—the one containing quartz, the other lime, or sand and chalk. The name of each is of course as readily learnt as the name of iron, lead, gold, tree, horse, or any other object in nature or art. Into each tumbler is poured some sulphuric or muriatic acid. In the tumbler of lime the pupil observes an action—in that of quartz no action. He is told this action is called effervescence. He hence learns to recognise lime and quartz, and the more certainly from the recollection that the one effervesces with acids, and the other does not.

Here is an example of geology and chemistry, alike useful to the farmer and interesting to the farmer's child, or any child. The same simplicity and direct fundamental instruction run through the whole of both of these exceedingly practical sciences.

I may hereafter point out a few of the leading principles of these two sciences; their connection with each other; their essential importance to all classes, and, most of all, farmers; their exceeding fitness for the early instruction of children, and the entire feasibility of having them among the "first lessons" taught in each of the eighty thousand American schools.

No. 2.

Oxus is the Greek word for *acid:* ginomai, in Greek, means *make;* hence the literal meaning of oxygen is *acid maker*. Combined with sulphur it forms sulphuric acid; with nitrogen, nitric acid; with carbon, carbonic acid, &c. Respiration, combustion, and fermentation, are the three principal operations producing the combinations of oxygen and carbon; the results, carbonic acid.

Acids combine readily with metals, earths, and alkalies—as iron, lime, and potash. By chemists these combinations are called salts, designated by the termination *ate*. Sulphuric acid, combining with various bases, produces sulphates; nitric, nitrates; carbonic, carbonates. Sulphate of lime is gypsum, or plaster of Paris; sulphate of iron, copperas; of soda, glauber salts; of magnesia, Epsom salts. The carbonate of lime is common limestone, marbles, chalk, and many beautiful crystals. Carbonates of iron, copper, and lead, are ores of those metals.

About a century ago, water was found to be composed of oxygen and hydrogen, and common air of oxygen and nitrogen. About half a century since, oxygen was found by Sir Humphrey Davy to be an element of rocks, of course of soils, as it was of the alkalies, potash, and soda. The other elements in earths and alkalies, combined with oxygen, were found, by the same great chemist, to be metals very peculiar in character.

It hence appears that oxygen is an element in air, earth, and water, existing abundantly in solid, liquid, and aerial forms. In the whole it constitutes nearly half of our globe. It is, of course, the most abundant element in the material world. It is also the most important agent in producing changes in matter essential to human existence. It is very appropriately called *vital air*, as neither animal life nor any life can exist without it. It is no less essential to combustion than to life. It also acts with great energy upon metals and other solid substances. In this action it produces three very large and very important classes of bodies—oxydes, acids, and salts. Iron rust is the oxyde of iron; the dross of lead, oxyde of lead; burnt lime, the oxyde of calcium; pure potash, the oxyde of potassium; pure soda, the oxyde of sodium; silex, or flint, the oxyde of silicium. The combination of one part oxygen and four of nitrogen constitutes the atmosphere; three parts oxygen and one nitrogen form nitric acid, aquafortis. Combined with other substances, it forms numerous acids. Saltpetre is the nitrate of potash. The large quantity of oxygen it receives from the nitric acid fits it for a material in gunpowder—giving to that powerful agent its principal power.

A plate, tumbler, and scrap of paper, with a little water, will enable any teacher or parent to perform an experiment on oxygen equally simple, instructive, and interesting. In a deep plate pour some water. On the water place a scrap of thick paper, piece of cork, or other light substance; on that another piece of paper or cotton, moistened with oil. On lighting the paper or cotton, place over it a large empty tumbler. The combustion continues for a few seconds, and when it is extinguished the water occupies about one-fifth of the space in the tumbler, showing the necessity of oxygen for combustion, and that it constitutes about one-fifth of the air we breathe. What man, woman, or child, would not like to be familiarly acquainted with an element so abundant and agent so active as oxygen, especially when such an acquaintance is equally simple, useful, and delightful?

No. 3.

Rocks are the oxydes of metals. Silex, the most abundant ingredient in rocks, mountains, and soils, is the oxyde of silicium. This oxyde constitutes nearly one-half of the solid matter of our globe. It is the principal element of quartz, in all its varieties, which are exceedingly numerous, and some of them very beautiful. Quartz is the only mineral found everywhere. Sand is pulverized quartz. Pebbles are fragments of quartz, rounded by attrition. Gunflint is quartz, breaking with a conchoidal (shell-like) fracture. Jasper is red quartz, with a fine compact texture. Amethyst is purple quartz, frequently found in six-sided crystals, which is the common shape of quartz crystals in its different varieties. Agate is clouded quartz, in numerous varieties, some of which are much used for watch-seals, finger-rings, breast-pins, and other ornaments. Carnelian is quartz of a fine texture and of a yellowish red color. Chalcedony, bloodstone, cat's-eye, and many other gems, are varieties of quartz.

Most, perhaps all, the gems used in the breast-plate of Aaron, the high preast, were quartz of different textures, colors, and hues. The precious stones presented by the Queen of Sheba to the King of Israel were probably quartz. The stones mentioned in the Book of Revelations as forming the streets of the New Jerusalem, with all the gems referred to, were but varieties of the stones used for paving our streets, and of the earth moved by the plough and the hoe of the farmer, and of the dirt carted for filling our docks.

The coloring matter giving most of the beautiful hues to gems, and an endless variety of colors to quartz, is the oxyde of iron. The oxyde of silicium and the oxyde of iron are hence united in this same most abundant mineral in the world.

Next to quartz, feldspar, or clay formed by the decomposition of feldspar, is the most abundant element of soils. This, too, is composed of several oxydes of metals in chemical combination. Feldspar is also very extensively united with quartz in the formation of rocks, not by chemical combination, but mechanical mixture. The feldspar and the quartz can be separated by the hammer. Not so with the oxygen and silicium, forming silex. Chemical agency alone can separate chemical combinations. Such combinations in rocks, soils, and other mineral bodies, are exceedingly numerous, complicated, and delicate. The most common stone that meets the eye in any part of the world is composed of two oxydes. The oxygen and the metals are each united by chemical affinity, and then the two oxydes are again combined by the same agency to form a "*common stone*," evidently worthy of more respect than it *commonly* receives.

An experiment: Pour upon a little pearlash in a tumbler some strong vinegar. An effervescence will follow, producing carbonic acid. A burning candle immersed will be extinguished, showing that carbonic acid is fatal to combustion. It is equally so to life.

RIPLEY, BROWN COUNTY, OHIO, *December* 18, 1850.

DR. BAILEY: Brother H. S. Fullerton, in his second number on Secession, has made the following statement respecting my argument, to prove that Christ did not religiously fellowship Pharisees and Sadducees:

"If I understand Brother Rankin, he maintained that our Lord did not commune with the Jewish Church, because he ate the Passover with his disciples alone."

Please publish my argument under his statement, that the public may judge of the fairness of his representation of my argument. Yours,

JOHN RANKIN.

"1st. It is said, that to leave a Church because corrupt, is against the example of Christ, who remained in the Jewish Church, while it was more corrupt than any of our Protestant Churches. That the Jewish Church was thus corrupt is admitted; and more, that it equalled, in corruption, even the Catholic Church. The Sadducees were profane infidels, and the Pharisees devoured widows' houses, and, for a pretence, made long prayers. In moral pollution they resembled the inside of a sepulchre. And they crowned all by murdering the Lord of Glory. They so acted as involved them in the guilt of all the blood of the righteous shed from the foundation of the world. That Christ remained in the Church is admitted. But that he acknowledged the Sadducees and Pharisees as brethren, or communed with them, or associated with them as religious persons, is not true. It is true that he worshipped and taught in the same temple in which they performed their ceremonies but that he received any religious ordinances at their hands, or that he so acted with them as to imply an acknowledgment of them as religious persons, is not true. He declared that they had made the house of God a den of thieves. The Temple was the place where all the people of God were obliged to perform certain religious rites. The fact, then, that Christ worshipped and taught in the Temple is no more evidence that he communed with Sadducees and Pharisees, than the fact that we baptize and administer the Lord's Supper in churches, and Socinians and Universalists perform similar ceremonies in churches, proves that we commune with them.

"While it is true that all had the general name of Jews, as we have that of Christians, they, as well as we, were divided into different sects, that did not fellowship each other. If Christ fellowshipped religiously Sadducees and Pharisees, both of which were sons of Belial, with what propriety could Paul ask, 'What concord hath Christ with Belial?' Christ declared that publicans and harlots should enter into the kingdom of God before the Scribes and Pharisees. And he said to his disciples—'Except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the Scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the kingdom of heaven.' Did Christ fellowship religiously those to whom he said, 'Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers! how can ye escape the damnation of hell?' That Christ did not leave the Church is true, but he no more fellowshipped Sadducees and Pharisees, than we do Socinians, Universalists, or Catholics. These have their Christian ceremonies in the temple of God as well as we, but we do not fellowship with them, neither did Christ fellowship the wicked Jews in their religious ceremonies. When we cease to fellowship a slaveholding body, we do not withdraw from the Church. To withdraw from the Church is to reject her Divine charter, and abandon her ordinances

"If it be said that Christ communed with Judas, who was a thief, I admit it; but then Judas was secretly, and not openly, a thief, and the Saviour treated him according to his external character and profession, and not according to what Omniscience saw in him. Christ did not commune with him as a thief, but as one who appeared to be, and professed to be, a true disciple. The last Passover the Saviour observed, not with Sadducees and Pharisees, but with his own disciples. While then it is admitted that the Saviour did remain in the Church up to the hour of his death, and that he did worship in the Temple, as the Divine law required, there is no evidence that he ever did religiously fellowship Sadducees and Pharisees as brethren. It was impossible that there could be such fellowship between him and them, when he called them hypocrites, serpents, and a generation of vipers. Such communion would blend together perfect holiness and the most consummate wickedness. To urge the example of the Saviour as holding such communion, is to sanction communion with the worst classes of men on earth, and to abolish all distinction between the church and the world. It would more than justify communion with Socinians and Universalists. They do not devour widows' houses, and for a pretence make long prayers. It would condemn separation from the Church of Rome, and drive us back to all the abominations of Popery. It is palpably against the sacred injunction, 'Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins.' Such an argument, therefore, cannot be true."

For the National Era.

OBITUARY.

Our beloved friend ISAAC LLOYD, a respectable merchant of Philadelphia, and a valuable elder in the Society of Friends, died in the faith and hope and perfect peace of the Gospel on Twelfth month 24, 1850, about 5½ o'clock, A. M., in the 72d year of his age.

In noticing this dispensation, it is impossible to give, in the brief limits which it is designed to observe, a full outline of his character, or a complete account of the closing scenes of his useful life. Yet it is believed to be due to survivors to record some of the last expressions of one who was eminently a just man, who, whilst diffident of himself, remarkably laid aside the fear of man in the service of his Creator, and who, renouncing all reliance upon righteousness of his own, and reposing in confiding faith upon his Saviour's bosom, could gratefully rejoice when final hing his course that he had "fought the good fight and kept the faith."

Our dear friend, although of slender health, was able to give vigorous attention to his domestic and religious duties, until within a few weeks of his decease. It is not to be doubted that his exercises for the church, accompanied often with secret sorrow and sighing, augmented his disease, which was an affection of the heart; yet even these painful conflicts were attended, in review of his individual course, with the peace which passeth understanding.

Throughout his whole sickness, even to the last, his mental faculties were preserved clear and unclouded, and he was, through all his sufferings, patient, calm, and sweet, not a murmur escaping his lips. His physician was called to him on the first of Eleventh month, and his symptoms were seen to be of the most critical nature. Our beloved friend early expressed, to different members of his family, his belief that he should not recover, and his entire willingness to go, "if," said he, "it should please God to take me." He was very frequently engaged in prayer, and memorable expressions and counsel fell from his lips, which, although they will probably be confined to those for whom they were intended, afford the most consoling evidence that he was looking forward with the joy of a Christian believer to the end of his earthly race.

A monthly meeting occurring during his illness, he asked a question about its proceedings in a case which had caused him much concern, and said, in reference to it, "Oh! what *true peace* the performance of our duty brings! It is a great comfort to me, now on this sick bed, that I have done my duty in that case. * * * I have no hardness towards any one. * * * I may sometimes have spoken too warmly, but I can appeal to the Searcher of Hearts for the integrity of my motives. It is a great satisfaction to me, that, with my little ability, I have always endeavored to keep our excellent discipline inviolate."

On Fifth day, the 28th of Eleventh month, he observed to his physicians that "the scene was nearly closed." The next day, his pain and oppression being very great, he repeatedly ejaculated, "Oh, merciful Father, oh, gracious God, *if it be thy will*, release me from this suffering!" On First day (the last of his life) being asked by one of his children if he had any directions to leave for their future guidance, "It is remarkable to myself," he said, "that I should feel so entirely relieved of all care of every kind—of my business, of my family, and of the church. I have done what I could." Here again he expressed that it was "a great satisfaction to him on this bed that he had always stood against any infringement of our excellent discipline." Thus giving, in the peculiarly honest hours of approaching death, his solemn seal to the sentiments which he had maintained in life.

Being asked how he felt in mind, he said, "I am a poor creature—I have sometimes been left to myself during my sickness, but I have endeavored while in health to follow my Saviour day by day, and have known what it was to have intimate communion with him." On being reminded how it had been with David in this respect, he said that it comforted him to think of that—he was glad to be reminded of it.

To the query, from one of his family, whether he was willing to leave them, he responded, "Yes, *quite willing*," adding, with difficulty, after a few heavy breathings, "READY." "There is nothing in my way—there is nothing in my way."

Being greatly comforted with the presence of the beloved members of his family, he would notice the absence of the missing, even during spasms of acutest agony. On First day night, after sufferings which it was distressing to witness, he was favored with an abatement of pain, and slept. On awaking, he said, "Is it not remarkable that I should have fallen asleep, after so much suffering?" Soon after, extending his hand to his wife, he faintly exclaimed, "I am very much exhausted," and, with his hand in hers, with perfect exemption from pain, he quietly, peacefully, imperceptibly ceased to breathe, and fell asleep in Jesus on Second day morning about half-past five o'clock.

At his funeral, which was large and a season of great solemnity, many hearts responded to the application of the text, which was impressively revived beside the grave, "Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him, I will set him on high because he hath known my name."

Large is the blank and deep the bereavement occasioned by his removal; yet it is believed that a blessing is intended to the church, in the call thereby extended to those upon whom the support of the cause and of the testimony devolves, to work while it is called to-day, and to follow him as he followed Christ.

SERIES FOR 1851.

A NEW VOLUME AND NEW TYPE.

THE SATURDAY VISITER,

EDITED BY

MRS. JANE G. SWISSHELM.

THIS paper will commence the fourth year of its existence on Saturday, the 18th of January next. It has already passed the most sanguine hopes of its youth, and behaved so well, it is to have a new dress for a birthday present. The new volume will be commenced on new type, large enough to be easily read, and yet presenting a much larger amount of matter than we now give in the same space.

The Saturday Visiter is principally literary and miscellaneous, but independent of everybody, except women and the "dear people," whose interests are especially advocated, and wishes particularly consulted. It will labor, not to change, but to elevate and enlarge the sphere of action of the wives, mothers, and sisters of mankind. The literary department, for the coming year, will be enriched by original tales and sketches, from the pens of writers of acknowledged ability, and the selections shall be from the highest sources within our reach. The important movements and events of the times will receive attention, and the news carefully gleaned and chronicled. Domestic and foreign correspondence, agricultural matters, market reports, &c., will have their places.

TERMS.

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Gentlemen taking rooms will be charged from the time their names are entered, and no deduction will be made for absence, unless notice is given at the Office.

Gentlemen are requested on leaving their rooms, to lock the doors, and deposite the keys at the Office.

Gentlemen who desire washing done are requested to inform the clerk, stating the time they wish the same returned.

Private parlors and fires, with all meals and lunches sent to rooms, will be subject to an extra charge.

Guests inviting friends to the table will please give notice at the Office before seating them.

Gentlemen are requested not to smoke in any of the halls or apartments above the Office.

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Our patrons will confer a favor by giving notice of any inattention or disorder in the establishment.

The Adams House is to be conducted upon the principles of Temperance, and all habits of drinking, gaming, or of otherwise immoral character, are prohibited upon the premises.

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Dec. 12—oly DANIEL CHAMBERLIN.

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