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G. BAILEY.

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WASHINGTON, D. C.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1853.

CIRCULARS TO OUR VOLUNTARY AGENTS.

Within a few days we have sent letters to our corps of voluntary agents, soliciting their usual co-operation in renewing the list of the *Era*, and in extending it. They will see that we are aiming this year to increase our subscription to fifty thousand. We hope to hear from them with as little delay as possible. They will observe reference is made in the letters to a printed slip containing the terms. Finding that this could not be enclosed without doubling the postage, we send it to them in the *Era*. We hope they will use it to good purpose.

BILLS! BILLS!!

Keep a lookout for bills. Hundreds of subscribers are now receiving them every week. They sometimes slip out unobserved. We hope they will be honored promptly.

FACTS FOR THE PEOPLE.

After the completion of the publication in *Facts for the People* of Judge Jay's article on Mosaic Servitude, and the invaluable collection of documents under the title of the Southern Platform—the whole of which should be carefully preserved for reference—we intend to devote a portion of the periodical to shorter articles, adapted to current use, and to the wants of those not yet familiarized with the elementary principles of the Anti-Slavery movement.

WE CALL ATTENTION to the plan of the Rev. Thomas H. Stockton for the publication of the Holy Scriptures in separate volumes. The advertisement in another column fully explains the details. The reputation of Mr. Stockton entitles his project to a favorable consideration, to say nothing of its intrinsic merits.

The *Philadelphia Register* is a capital daily, full of spirit and intelligence, a fearless and discreet advocate of Reform and Progress, and deserves the warm support of liberal men. We take great pleasure in publishing its Prospectus, and calling the attention of our friends to it.

CENTRALIZATION—FEDERAL INTERMEDDLING.

The Democracy of this country has always professed strong opposition to Centralization, profound regard for State Rights, and great jealousy of attempts by the Federal Government to interfere in the local concerns of the several States; and the real Democracy has felt all that it has professed. But the Democratic Party which adopted the Baltimore platform, pledged itself to the policy of Finality, declared its purpose to put down free discussion, to uphold a law which pre-eminently outrages State rights, and elected Franklin Pierce President of the United States, is controlled by Slavery, not Democracy, and is now, through its Administration, shamelessly attempting to make the Federal Power supreme, not only within its own constitutional sphere, but over the local affairs of the States. We have lately had occasion to notice its extraordinary interposition in the political quarrels of the State of New York, with a view to compel uniformity of opinion and action among its supporters, carried to such an extent that a faithful servant was summarily ejected from office, because he had not bestowed some petty appointments precisely as the Administration wished. We have now to record another act of gross, insolent, tyrannical intermeddling in State affairs, which must provoke the indignation of every American citizen, not enslaved by devotion to Party. In Vermont, as we have seen, the Old Line Democrats in the Legislature united with the Free Democrats, in the election of the candidate of the latter for the Speakership; and, in return, after a series of unsuccessful ballotings, the Free Democrats aided the other party in the election of its candidate for the Governorship. Without coalition of some sort, there could have been no organization of the Legislature, or of the Executive Power. Since then in Massachusetts, the two sections of the Democracy having united in carrying the project of a Convention to reform the Constitution, and by their union matured and accomplished the measure, have in a few localities in the State, concentrated upon common candidates for the Legislature, with a view of defeating the enemies of the new Constitution, and giving it a fair chance. Clearly, these coalitions are strictly local—they concern the State, and not the nation—they relate to State affairs, not Federal politics. They are no more within the purview of the Federal Government, than would be a combination of Free-Soilers and Whigs and Democrats in a railroad company. If Old Line Democrats and Free Democrats in Vermont and Massachusetts find it necessary to unite in certain localities, or for certain State purposes, it is no business of Franklin Pierce, or his Cabinet, or his organ. When they attempt to interfere, by rebuke, protest, or punishment, they are guilty of a scandalous and an insolent usurpation of authority. And yet this very thing they have done. Read the following royal edict, from that mouth-piece of inflated power, the *Union*. Speaking of the coalition just referred to, it says:

"If any man who holds office under this Administration enters into a coalition with Free-Soilers, such as is described in the foregoing article, *he will be instantly, and by that we mean telegraphically, treated as an enemy of the Administration and of the Democratic party, and promptly removed from office.* President Pierce is determined to make his position understood by all Free-Soilers, and all who form coalitions for the elevation of Free-Soilers, and understood *in a way that cannot fail to carry conviction. Treason to the national creed will be visited with the punishment due to such crime, in all cases, and the condition of things in Massachusetts has already called for action of an unmistakable character.* THE BALTIMORE PLATFORM WILL BE PRESERVED, and traitors, whether they are in New York or Massachusetts—no matter what their antecedents have been—will find that the President has but one rule for his guidance. He stands pledged to reprove his own appointees if they are unfaithful to the Baltimore creed, and he is a man and a President who keeps his pledges. If any Massachusetts Coalition Democrat has misconstrued the position of the President in regard to the defection in New York, let him now learn *that coalition with Free-Soilers is an offence which the President punishes as promptly and as summarily as factious opposition to the Administration in any other shape. The Democratic party is to be cleansed thoroughly of all suspicion of Free-Soilism or Abolitionism, and the remedy will be promptly applied by the President.*"

Remember—Abolitionism seeks the extinction of Slavery, everywhere, by moral means—by State laws where it exists under State authority, by Federal laws where it exists under Federal authority. "Free-Soilism" strictly, is the policy which demands positive enactment by Congress against the introduction of Slavery into Free Territory—in other words, requires that Free Soil *shall be preserved free*. The Administration makes no discrimination between them; both alike are treason to the Baltimore platform—both alike it is determined to extinguish. And this is not all—it passes an act of outlawry, not only against Abolitionists, but Free-Soilers; not only against Free-Soilers, but Democrats, who, for any purpose, no matter although that may relate only to State affairs, coalesce with them, or shall consent to receive their votes for any office! This is centralizing power with a vengeance. This is regard for State Rights! A more abominable stretch of power no Administration has ever been guilty of. Did the Constitution permit, or rather—for we credit such an Administration with no respect for the Constitution—did public sentiment permit, these men, strutting with a little brief authority, would not stop with the punishment of dismissal from office—they would follow up the act of political degradation with personal penalties—with forfeiture of liberty or property. They now stretch their power of punishment to the extreme point allowed by law. Oh, how they must grieve that the era of the Star Chamber and high court of Commission has forever passed away! If Massachusetts has not forgotten her fathers—if the blood of '76 still courses in the veins of her People, she will administer a rebuke to these miserable upstarts—these small imitators of Louis Napoleon, that shall cover them with confusion and dismay. Outlaw Abolitionists—outlaw Free-Soilers, will you, you poor, impotent tyrants! Why, if we were not already an Anti-Slavery man—a Free-Soiler—we would become both instantly, or anything else honest, for the purpose of defying and trampling upon, your paltry acts of despotism.

TRADE AND COMMERCE OF THE BRITISH NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES—FUTURE ANNEXATION.

We are indebted to Israel D. Andrews for a copy of his very interesting report on the Trade and Commerce of the British North American Colonies. It forms a volume of 906 pages, and embraces a wide range of topics.

In a general introductory Mr. Andrews rapidly reviews the origin and growth of the trade of the great lakes, and of the British Colonies. Then follows an exposition of the sea fisheries of British North America. In part second, full returns are presented of the commerce of the lakes, with a particular description of each. A survey of the canals and railroads of the United States is next taken, with their bearings on commerce, domestic and foreign. Parts fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth, are devoted to detailed accounts of the position, condition, and trade of Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland, and Prince Edward's Island, severally. Tabular statements are then presented of the intercourse between Great Britain and these Colonies, and also of the trade of some of the Atlantic ports of the United States with them. In parts twelfth and thirteenth, we have carefully prepared statements of the deep sea fisheries of New England and the French fisheries of Newfoundland. An appendix of more than two hundred pages is filled with statistics of the internal trade of the various sections of the country, of the growth and value of its great staples, and with certain speculations, which we may notice before we have closed our remarks on this very elaborate and valuable report.

Mr. Andrews has devoted much time and labor to the collection and preparation of the mass of facts here presented, and is a strenuous advocate of reciprocal trade with Canada. The chief opposition to the policy springs from two sources—a bigoted devotion on the part of some Northern men to the dogma of Protection, and Southern jealousy of territorial extension on our Northern border. We advocate the policy, because opposed to the dogma of Protection, because free trade is the true interest of this nation and all nations, because we are in favor of territorial expansion on our Northern border as well as elsewhere, and because the increase of commercial and social intercourse between the United States and Canada will facilitate such expansion.

A clear-sighted, independent Administration, unfettered by sectional interests, could have little difficulty in dealing with this question. It is understood that the British Government is willing to settle it at once in connection with the navigation of the St. Lawrence and the Fishery question, on terms honorable and advantageous to both parties. Whether General Pierce is prepared to respond to its proposition favorably, is not yet revealed. He may be well inclined to-day, but an unpropitious wind may set in from the South to-morrow.

When the project for reciprocal trade was brought forward some years ago in the Senate by Senator Dix, its chief opponent was Senator Hunter, from Virginia: but what interest Virginia can have in resisting such a measure it is impossible to understand, unless it be a secret dislike to any policy which shall tend to bring new accessions to the non-slaveholding States. This would be felt as a grievance, not by the good people of Virginia, but by its politicians, who are forever struggling to keep the sceptre of power in the South. The Slave Interest, which, to strengthen itself, sought the annexation of Texas, plunged the country into a war with Mexico to enlarge the area of Slave Labor, is laboring insidiously to establish itself in California, and secretly encourages the plotters for the acquisition of Cuba, cannot be expected to look with any favor upon a policy which might add to the already preponderating weight of the non-slaveholding States the vast provinces of Canada, with their two millions of people, all unfriendly to Slavery. One of the principal objections to General Scott in the South was his declaration in favor of Canadian annexation. Reciprocity in trade does not necessarily involve annexation, but it opens the way for it, and multiplies the inducements to it. It is against Nature, that the vast regions lying in the basin of the great Lakes and the St. Lawrence, with national interests, a vast system of inland seas, and a great highway, all in common, should remain divided, and alien to each other. The laws of Nature are constantly drawing them together; the laws of man alone keep them apart. Establish reciprocal trade between them, and they become dependent upon each other, social intercourse is quickened, prejudices are broken down, populations become amalgamated and assimilated, and nothing but the consent of Great Britain would be wanting, to enable them to become one in form, as they had already grown one in substance.

And what a consummation were this! What a vast accession to our Territory and Power! The Canadas alone embrace some 160,405,210 acres—only about forty millions less than the entire area of the thirteen original States of this Union; and at this time their population must be over two millions—not slaves, but freemen, not a mongrel race, with a language and with habits different from our own, but, as it were, bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh. These Colonies have a trade worth annually some $40,000,000. Their resources and capabilities are almost incalculable. Already their imports from this country amount annually to nearly $9,000,000, while their imports from the mother country do not exceed $13,000,000. What limit could be set to this trade, were they united with us under one political system?

We commend to the reader who would obtain a clear idea of the rapid growth of these colonies and the importance of their commerce with us, to a careful examination of the invaluable tables of statistics presented in this volume by Mr. Andrews.

CUBAN AND EUROPEAN INTERVENTION.

The Washington *Union* is discussing in a tone of great bitterness the question of European Intervention in the affairs of Cuba. It pretends that a scheme is on foot, patronized by England, France, and Spain, to Africanize Cuba, by the importation of Africans, to be held in servitude for ten years on that island, with a provision for the ultimate emancipation of all the slaves at the end of fifty years. The object of this very profound scheme, of course, is to render the island valueless to the United States, and thus put a wet blanket on the ardor of the filibusters. The *Union* remarks: "We are so well satisfied that arrangements are actually made for embarking largely in the importation of African apprentices, with the consent and under the sanction of Spain, France, and England, that we venture to predict that the whole scheme will be openly avowed and made public as soon as the British and French fleets are so arranged and stationed in the neighborhood of Cuba as to make the avowal safe."

It strikes us that there is no little humbuggery in all this. It has always been the policy of that journal, while ostensibly deprecating "filibustering," to minister to its purposes by false alarms and groundless rumors of foreign intervention. If it can arouse the spirit of antagonism to England, the national jealousy of foreign intervention, the lust of territorial aggrandizement, and apprehension of a conspiracy by movements in the West India islands to compel emancipation in the South, it understands well enough that it creates a predisposition in the public to favor whatever steps may be deemed necessary by the Cuban Junto, or the Administration, to bring Cuba under the power of the United States.

We doubt the truth of the rumor on which the *Union* from day to day is commenting in a style calculated to inflame the public mind against England, and strengthen the cause of Cuban annexation. But suppose it to be true, what are we to do about it? If France, Spain, and England, have agreed upon such a measure, and if their combined fleets are to be stationed off Cuba to see that it be carried into effect, how are we to prevent it? Moral suasion could never prevail against such a combination; protests would be idle; filibustering would be check-mated. A *declaration of war* would be the only resort—war against Spain, France, and England. And, disguise it as we might, such a war would be waged to prevent not so much the Africanization of Cuba, as the emancipation of its slaves. How would such a conflict benefit that section of our country which now contains three millions of slaves? Is Slavery so stable a system that it could withstand the shock of such a conflict? Our fleets, instead of annihilating the combined navies of the three Powers, would be needed for the protection of our own coast. But, suppose they should achieve a naval triumph, and appear in the harbor of Havana, would Spain wait for a descent before she put arms in the hands of the six hundred thousand slaves on the island, and bade them strike for their freedom? Meantime, our Government would find it necessary to tax all its resources, and carry on the war by land as well as by sea. The only point where we could assail England would be in her North American Colonies. Our armies would be marched upon the Canadas; their annexation would be the prize to stimulate Northern valor; and all this while the South, impoverished by the loss of the chief market for its great staple, would be the section most exposed to the fury of the Invaders, on whose banners would be inscribed, *Liberty* to the *Slaves*. The upshot of such a war might be the emancipation of slaveholding Cuba, the acquisition of the non-slaveholding Canadas, and a revolution in the social system of one-half of this country; and, so far as we can see, such results would be more likely to follow than the annexation of Cuba, with its accursed system of Slavery.

Has the *Union* contemplated all these contingencies? and is it really in favor of a war against England, France, and Spain, to prevent what it terms the Africanization of Cuba? Or are its inflammatory articles on this subject merely intended to call off the attention of the party, of which it claims to be the organ, from its domestic feuds and difficulties?

THE RIGHTS SECURED BY NATURALIZATION.

Some time since a statement appeared in the newspapers, to the effect that Conrad Schmidt, formerly a subject of the Government of Hanover, subsequently a naturalized citizen of the United States, proceeded on business to Bremen, (bearing a passport from our Department of State,) where he was arrested by the Directer of Police, on a requisition from the Hanoverian Government, for military services due by Schmidt. Mr. King, our Consul, protested against his arrest, and was seconded in demanding his release by Mr. Barnard, our Minister to Berlin. The demand was complied with the next day, whereupon the Philadelphia *Ledger* remarks:

"This principle is good as far as it goes, but it does not reach the case of a naturalized citizen, who places himself again within the limits of the country from which he had voluntarily severed his allegiance. The right of Schmidt to claim the protection of his adopted country, even in Hanover, if he go there in pursuit of his lawful business, is still undecided, though this is a matter of great importance to thousands of naturalized citizens."

Rather a delicate question! Would the naturalization of Kossuth in the United States give him the right to return to Hungary, and invest him there with the immunities of an American citizen? Two of the Irish patriots, banished to Australia by the British Government for political offences, have escaped to this country, where they have taken the first steps towards becoming citizens. Will their naturalization when completed, enable them to visit Ireland, and, while there, protect them against arrest as fugitives from justice? Suppose Virginia should banish certain free colored residents, suspected of participation in an insurrection, and provide that should any of them return they should be sold into perpetual slavery. Some of them find their way to England; in process of time they become British citizens, and, as such, return to Virginia, to look after their relatives and business. They are forthwith seized and sold as slaves. What would be the action of the British Government in such a case?

Our slaveholding caste, for obvious reasons, would be cautious about pushing to extremes the rights acquired by naturalization, its own action having furnished rather embarrassing precedents. For example, free persons of color emigrating from Texas to Massachusetts, would be entitled, after a certain residence therein, to all the rights of citizens in that State. But, should they return to Texas, they would be liable to imprisonment; and, for a second offence, to slavery. The slave States, in exercising what is termed their "police power," pay very little regard to the laws of nations, or the guaranties of the Federal Constitution.

MR. PIERCE'S ADMINISTRATION.

In noticing the terms of disapproval used by this journal concerning the appointment of John Y. Mason as Envoy Extraordinary to France, the *National Era* says of the *Evening Post*:

"We fear that its confidence in the wisdom of the Administration is beginning to be shaken."

It is not easy to see the occasion for this remark. Our confidence in the wisdom of the Administration is as strong now as it has been for many months back. Since it proclaimed its purpose of applying a rule which would exclude from public employments some of the ablest men and best Democrats in the country, we have not had much confidence in the wisdom with which it would confer the public offices in its gift. Any apprehensions we might have entertained, were unfortunately justified by some worse appointments than even that of Mr. Mason, of the character of which we spoke very freely at the time they were made. Still, we are cheerfully disposed to give the Administration the praise of having bestowed many of the public offices on worthy and able men.

N. Y. Evening Post.

We beg pardon of the *Post* for misunderstanding its position, and change our remark so that it shall read, "We apprehend that its confidence in the wisdom of the Administration has been shaken for many months back." Nothing pleases us more than the independence and plainness of speech with which the *Post* comments upon the policy of the Administration. But that paper proceeds to point out what it likes, as well as what it dislikes. "Thus far," it says, "a disposition has been shown to manage the finances of the country with frugality." "Some steps have been taken to abolish the practice of giving jobs to partisans." "The Administration is taking measures, by applications to experienced and intelligent persons, to ascertain in what degree the indirect taxes now levied may be reduced, or dispensed with, to the relief of the country at large." When a journal of so much tact and ability as the *Post* car make no larger showing for an Administration than this, unprejudiced and disinterested persons will not be apt to be carried away with admiration. A *disposition* to be frugal, "*some steps*" towards favoring jobs by contract, *preparations* to modify the tariff so as to relieve the country! Such is a list of the domestic accomplishments of an Administration, which, if we are to believe the "organ," is dazzling and confounding friends and enemies by its brilliant attributes. As to its position abroad, the *Post* says, "Our foreign relations thus far have been, we believe, wisely and prudently managed." The country is apprised of but one demonstration in regard to our foreign relations—the letter of Mr. Marcy on the Koszta affair. That was respectable, and the Administration should receive full credit for it. But in what other instance has it acted at all? What important negotiation has it conducted, or is it now managing? It *has yet to be tried*. When it has acted, and the facts have been laid before the country, we shall know whether it has acted "wisely and prudently."

The truth is, thus far the Administration has confined itself chiefly to mere party politics—to efforts, through the distribution of Executive patronage, to harmonize the different factions of the Party which elevated it to power—in other words, to attempts, by a system of rewards and punishments, to bribe or awe into silence and submission the elements of discord in the Democratic Party. In this work, it has degraded itself by intermeddling with local quarrels in the different States, by dictating to honest and honorable subordinates the manner in which they should bestow their petty patronage, and by suffering itself to be drawn into newspaper controversies with its own employés, in which it has come off second best. Whatever the *Post* may hope, thus far the Administration has not signalized either its ability or magnanimity.

The Administration of a great nation should justify itself by its deeds. Its appointments and its removals should be so clearly right as to relieve it from the necessity of appearing before the public as its own advocate. When it goes into the newspapers to wrangle with its subordinates, or offer apologies for their dismissal, or when its members descend into the arena of newspaper warfare to vindicate themselves against political assaults from the stump or the press, there is a departure from that dignified reserve and decorum that should always characterize the ruling power.

THE AMERICAN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY will celebrate its twentieth anniversary in Sansom street Hall, Philadelphia, on the 3d, 4th, and 5th, of December next.

THE NEW YORK FUSS AT THE SOUTH.

The Richmond *Examiner* is scandalized at the Guthrie and Bronson letters. "What," it exclaims, "will not the enemies of our country and its free institutions say of this correspondence between officers clothed with the highest dignities of our Republic! How will monarchy itself, so nicely observant of the outward decencies and proprieties of Station and Authority, chuckle over this spectacle! How must the cause of republican Democracy itself suffer at home, in the house of its friends, by these bickerings and wranglings of money-changers who have invaded its temples!"

It is not offended at Mr. Guthrie's letter for what it sought to accomplish, "but for the brazen manner in which it discloses its author's action in this dirty and obscene, but necessary work." The Administration, it thinks, ought to have turned its back on "the whole pack of clamorous curs," [the New York Democrats,] "and had them kicked and cuffed until they fawned and crouched under their feet. Better to have excluded New York from the Cabinet, announced every New Yorker ineligible to Federal office, and pronounced the ban of excommunication against the whole Democratic party of the State, than, by billing and cooing with vultures and fondling in the cockatrice's den, to have got themselves so disgustingly smeared with their filth, and so terribly stung with their venom, while bringing so much reproach upon the republican cause and party."

Some of the Southern prints seem to have an idea that Mr. Dickinson's course is prompted by his desire to succeed Mr. Pierce in the Executive chair. The *Southern Argus*, a Virginia paper, says that "discerning minds think they can perceive in his present superserviceable zeal, *a disposition to promote his own views and party schemes, rather than an anxious desire to benefit the cause of the South*," and that it is looked upon "as a *hard* case that he should attempt to make us the tools and playthings in his *soft* impeachment against those whom he may consider as obstructing his progress in the paths of ambition."

The condition of the "united Compromise Democracy" is anything but harmonious, and every day's developments tend to show that the quarrels of the rival factions have just begun.

THE ELEVENTH COMMANDMENT.

The *National Intelligencer* is so in love with the eleventh commandment, "mind your own business," that it is "tempted to wish that it had been incorporated into the decalogue!" It might have been incorporated, if men had been created without sympathies, without common interests, without mutual dependence—had each man been formed to constitute a complete world in himself, without any relations whatsoever to any other being.

Constituted as men are, the decalogue is precisely adapted to them, without the amendment proposed by our respectable cotemporaries. In fact, this is a rule which, admire as they may, they are always transgressing. What right have they to rebuke the Germans of St. Louis for attempting to effect the abolition of jury trial? why do not they "mind their own business?" The attempt is not made in Washington. What right have they to denounce rowdyism in New York? why don't they "mind their own business?" Why read lectures to the women of the Northern States on the impropriety of holding Women's Rights Conventions? Is this, "minding their own business?" Why travel out of their way to condemn coalitions between Free-Soilers and Democrats in other States, to sermonize upon Abolition fanaticism, to reprove people in New York or Pennsylvania for opposition to the Fugitive Law? Why not "mind their own business?" There is not a number of the *Intelligencer* in which the editors do not manifest a most exemplary zeal in minding other people's business. In a word, the rigid observence of this wonderful precept, which the *Intelligencer* would fain have incorporated in the decalogue, would be equivalent to the abolition of the Press, of the Pulpit, of the Government, of Society itself.

THE ADMINISTRATION AND GREAT BRITAIN.

The articles on Foreign Intervention in Cuba, which have lately been appearing under the editorial head in the Washington *Union*, are not in the usual style of its editors, and abound in historical allusions, for which it is impossible to give them credit. The *tone* and *diction* of the series are suggestive of the Hon. Caleb Cushing.

The author, whoever he is, pretends to have information from Havana of the scheme of tripartite intervention, Cuban Africanization, &c. If this is so, why not submit the original information to the Public? Let us have positive evidence, not indefinite rumor. *Who* has furnished such information? From what *quarter* did it emanate? *When* was it furnished? What is its precise nature? Why has it been supplied alone to the *Union* and a few kindred journals? And why invest it with so much mystery?

Every one must be struck with the venomous hatred of England pervading these *Union* articles. No epithet is deemed too severe to apply to her statesmen, and the whole policy of her Government. She is throughout charged with unscrupulous ambition, audacious intermeddling, insolence, violence, fraud, perfidy, utter and habitual recklessness of all interests but her own. In a newspaper, representing no feelings but those of its editor, or its patrons, all this might be overlooked, or set down to the credit of a coarse, national antipathy; but the paper, in which this violent onslaught is made on the Government of a Nation with which we are at peace, and which buys from us and sells to us more than all other nations, *is a recognised organ of the Administration*. Suppose the British Government had a similar exponent—a journal known as its organ for communicating with the Public—and that from day to day its columns contained carefully prepared diatribes against our Government, against its leading members, against its whole policy, charging it with worse than Punic faith, with worse than Roman Oppression, and laboring to inflame the anti-American prejudices of the English people, how should we regard conduct so utterly at variance with that courtesy and respect which should always be observed between nations at peace with each other—conduct which could be excused only by the assumption that it was designed to herald, and prepare the way for, an open rupture?

Does our Administration intend this? Does it intend to prepare the hearts of the People for war? What does it mean by this systematic attempt to provoke hostile feelings between the two countries? It is the more marvellous, as at this time certain important questions are pending with Great Britain, the favorable settlement of which must be retarded, if not prevented, by wanton provocation. It is understood that the Government of that country is willing to treat on terms mutually advantageous, in regard to reciprocal trade between the United States and her North American Colonies, in regard to the free navigation of the rivers St. Lawrence and St. John, the concession of a concurrent right with British subjects to the sea fisheries near the shores of the Colonies, and to the remission of the export duty levied in New Brunswick on timber and lumber cut within the limits of the United States and floated down the St. John for shipment to American ports. These are great questions, of vast importance to the commerce and agriculture of this country, and on the settlement of some of them depends, to a considerable extent, future relations of amity between the two countries. They afford the Administration a fine opportunity for the exercise of a wise and comprehensive statesmanship, and for doing such service to the great interests of the country as shall be remembered through all time. Does it expect to succeed in its negotiations on these important questions, by denouncing the party with whom it is treating, as unscrupulous, selfish, base, insolent and perfidious? Do private gentlemen bully and abuse each other when they are striving to form amicable arrangements? The conduct of the "Organ" and of the Administration, so far as the "Organ" speaks its sentiments, can be explained only upon the assumption that in their insane lust for the possession of Cuba, they have forgotten all other questions, all other interests. Slavery and its peculiar interests are to be cared for, whatever else suffers, cost what it may.

INCENDIARY DOCTRINE IN THE "ORGAN."—The writer of the series of articles in the *Union*, on Intervention in Cuba, is, we apprehend, an enemy of Slavery, of the Compromise as a *finality*, and of conservatism generally. The following is an incendiary doctrine to be disseminated in the South:

"That silent, life-in-death existence, known as the *status quo* in nations, is abhorrent to nature, to God, to the progress of mankind and history, to the laws of humanity, and to the great American law which has created our existence and protects our interests and our progress. It is an unnatural and base state, which has ever existed, and can only exist, by coercion from without. It is the phrase used by stealthy monarchies when they hover around a nation to 'absorb' it or 'tripart' it, or, in other base diction, rob it of its life. It is the very phrase used in the first secret treaty for the partition of Poland. It is the very phrase used by Nicholas in his present disinterested designs upon the Ottoman Empire. It is the very state in which that empire has been held by Great Britain since the time of Lord Chatham, while she has stripped it of province after province, made a British highroad to India over its most important and defensible pass, and at last delivered it, defenceless and betrayed, to its most hungry and virulent enemy. It is the state, to establish which, in France, England waged the wars of the revolution, and consummated the crime called the treaty of Vienna. It is the state which the same England attempted to insure here in our war of independence. It is the same horrible state in which she has held that 'cis-Anglican' isle she calls her sister—with what famines and fearful shrieks of agony we have lately witnessed. It is the state of Hungary now."

It is the state in which politicians at Baltimore attempted to rivet the Democratic Party and the country, by the passage of Finality resolves. It is, also, in African Slavery, the living death of the black man, which those Finality resolves were intended to eternize.

We sympathize with the *Union* in his detestation of the *status quo*, in this nation as well as in all others.

STATISTICS OF BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

According to a law of recent enactment by the Legislature of New York, the City Inspector of New York City has begun to keep a record of its marriages, births, deaths, &c. The record for the months of July, August, and September, presents the following results:

Births.—Males, 2,609; Females, 2,468; Total, 5,077.

Deaths.—Males, 3,890; Females, 3,221; Total, 7,111. Excess of Deaths, 2,034.

Marriages.—Single Males, 1,452; Single Females, 1,404; Widowed Males, 176; Widowed Females, 134; Total Marriages, 1,628.

Of the *births*, there are 10 colored males, and 24 colored females; of the *marriages*, 9 colored; of the *deaths*, 3,821 white males, 3,105 white females; 64 colored males, 61 colored females; 2,552 of native-born males, 2,325 native-born females; 1,292 foreign males, 890 foreign females.

One of the New York papers, looking at these statistics, jumps to some very hasty conclusions. Great cities, it says, are thus proved to be deleterious to human life, and were it not for the constant importation of population, New York would become extinct. It is hardly worth while to generalize so broadly upon statistics so limited. The record presents the deaths for the most sickly season of the year. It shows, too, that nearly one-third of the mortality is among the foreign population, and we all know that the process of acclimation is always attended with considerable mortality. Besides, while the record may be depended upon as to the number of deaths, we must doubt its accuracy in regard to births. The registers of interments furnish the facts in the former case, but how are the facts in the latter ascertained? We shall need much more light, many more facts, ere we can justify the conclusion of our New York cotemporary.

THE FREE WEST.—We are sorry that the faithful editor of the *Western Citizen*, published at Chicago, Illinois, has at last been obliged, by pecuniary reasons, to discontinue his paper. It has always been true to the cause of Freedom, and conducted conscientiously and efficiently. It is encouraging to be informed that the Anti-Slavery citizens of Illinois are not to be left without a press. The closing number of the *Citizen* contains the prospectus of a new weekly, to be called the FREE WEST, and to be published in Chicago, as the organ of the Freedom party of the State. "It is designed," it is said, "to lead off in a thorough system of organization for the repeal of the late Slave Law of the State, and for the overthrow of all parties and combinations of Conservatism and Hunkerism.

"The *Free West* is significant in name of the principles which it will advocate. Its sphere of labor is in the centre of the great Northwest, which was consecrated to freedom by the Ordinance of the Northwestern Territory. From this early baptism has this section of the common country received its most sacred rights and its choicest blessings. The full tide of prosperity, the like of which the world never before witnessed, is the fruit of this fixed policy of freedom bequeathed to us by the terms of the secession of the Territory from the original owners to us through the Federal Government. The West shall be free—it is free, in theory and profession—yet not wholly so in practice. An attempt has been made, and for a time successful, in this and other States, to nullify the freedom proviso of that glorious ordinance. The great object of this paper will be to make this section truly the FREE WEST."

We trust that the new paper will receive a liberal patronage.

"'THE LITTLE PILGRIM.'—This is the name of a new monthly paper just started at Philadelphia, by Grace Greenwood. It is said to be a continuation of the *Friend of Youth*, lately published in Washington by Mrs. Bailey; but we can't quite see how that is, when it has another name, another place of publication, and another editor. But no matter; the name of Grace Greenwood is a guaranty of its merits, and insures for it a large circulation. Terms—50 cents, single copy; ten copies, $4."

Wyoming Co. Mirror.

The subscription list of the *Friend of Youth* was transferred to the new paper, the first number of which will be sent (or has been, we presume) to every name on that list. The late publisher of the *Friend of Youth* earnestly hopes that all who subscribed for her paper will transfer their patronage to the *Little Pilgrim*. It is every way worthy of their hearty support. Printed beautifully, its pages are filled with matter highly attractive, and precisely adapted to its purposes. The editor's experience and observation in Europe will furnish an inexhaustible fund of instruction and amusement for the young, for whose entertainment she justly thinks it no descent from her position as an established author, to provide. We hope the *Little Pilgrim* will grow in grace and favor all the days of its pilgrimage, "shining more and more unto the perfect day."

"The *Alta California* states that it has private advices from the Sandwich Islands, affording the information that an immense immigration thither of Russians, said to be 12,000 in number, is in preparation, under the immediate auspices of the Emperor. We have, on several occasions, and alone among American journals, laid before the public the evidence that the Russian Government has fixed its eye on these islands, as an important political point. Whether, however, the special report in question is genuine, or whether it is prepared by speculators on the islands to get up a party in this country for immediate annexation, we cannot say. We think it quite as likely that the Emperor of Russia has his hands full just now with irrefragable Circassians and awakened Turks, without scouring the Pacific for colonies."

The *Tribune* trusts to the spirit of Democracy to assimilate the Russian emigrants, should they land upon the islands, with the American population. We should hope for such assimilation, but, in any event, the Americans will be apt to take care of their own interests in that quarter.

The Charleston *Standard* says that, "It is said of England that no slave can breathe her air;" and adds, antithetically, "no Woman's Rights woman, such as Lucy Stone, Lucretia Mott, &c., can breathe ours." The true antithesis would be, "And no freeman can breathe the air of South Carolina."

STREET MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON.—An act was passed by the Corporation of Washington, last summer, prohibiting street gatherings on the Sabbath. The Captain of the Auxiliary Guard lately enforced it, in the case of a Temperance meeting on the street, which he broke up. He was sustained in this by the Mayor, who stated that the law was plain, and must be obeyed. The friends of free discussion were indignant, and held a large meeting last week to protest against this course of proceedings, at which the following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the act of the Corporation of Washington, approved June 3, 1853, entitled "An act for the preservation of order and the protection of property," was, in the opinion of this meeting, intended and designed to suppress all riotous and disorderly conduct in the streets and thoroughfares of this city; and is in itself a proper and salutary measure, commending itself to the good sense of every lover of order, morality, and religion.

Resolved, That any other interpretation that shall be given to this law, abridging the privilege of the friends of temperance "peaceably to assemble" themselves together for the advocacy of the great temperance reform, we shall regard as an outrage upon our constitutional rights as American citizens.

Resolved, That the "liberty of speech" is a sacred and cherished right, which we will never surrender; and shall always hereafter, as heretofore, claim and exercise that right, in regard to all evils, outrages, and wrongs, which exist in the community, or which threaten its well-being, and especially in regard to the great evil of intemperance. And we renew the solemn pledge which we have already assumed, to wage unceasing hostility against the manufacture, sale, and use of, all intoxicating liquors as a beverage.

Resolved, That any attempt which shall be made to hinder or obstruct any such meeting held and conducted in accordance with the rights guarantied by the Constitution of the United States, will be regarded by us as a gross infringement upon our rights and privileges, which we pledge ourselves to resist in a lawful manner, to the extent of our power.

Resolved, That these resolutions be published in the papers of the city, and a copy thereof be communicated to the Mayor of Washington.

The meeting then adjourned, at 10½ o'clock.

ULYSSES WARD, *Chairman*.

B. F. PLEASANTS, } *Secretaries.*
ROBERT LONG, }

The Corporation ought to reconsider the act, and amend it so as to prohibit disorderly gatherings alone. It is a delicate matter to interfere with the freedom of discussion and the right of the people peaceably to assemble.

AMERICAN CITIZENS IMPRISONED IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

To the Editor of the National Era:

The public mind appears to be very sensitive on this subject, even when an individual was seized who was not a citizen, but only had declared he intended to become such. One of our commanders threatened to rescue him by force! and yet, notwithstanding all this bluster, we tamely submit to have a *native born citizen* of the United States, an estimable man and a worthy citizen, incarcerated in a jail in England, without making any attempt to procure his release! Out upon such patriotism! such national pride! that would be ready to go to war for a man whom we do not know, and refuse to do anything to release a man whom we do know, and who is loved and esteemed wherever he is known. We allude to George Catlin, Esq., the American traveller, who is incarcerated in prison in England for debt!

Our Government should buy his collection of Indian curiosities at a liberal price, allowing him ample and reasonable remuneration for all the time and trouble, as well as money, spent by him in making that collection, and bring him and it home triumphantly. This collection, properly arranged in the Smithsonian Institution, would add greatly to the many attractions already in Washington city.

How much better would it be for our Government to purchase this collection, than to spend $2,500 for a Scotch carpet *for a single room* in the White House! If the President is the patriot and republican which he is believed to be, he would rather see Catlin come home from England, than to see a hundred carpets come from Scotland.

But the relieving of Mr. Catlin need not prevent the purchase of carpets, or anything else that may be wanted. We have an overflowing Treasury, and can do both; but whatever we do, we should not suffer that worthy citizen to remain in a foreign jail.

VOX POPULI.

If the facts be as stated by our correspondent, the case of Catlin is a hard one; but we should like more information concerning it. What is the amount of the debt for which he is imprisoned, and how long has he been imprisoned? It is a case rather for private sympathy than Governmental interference—although the Government has as good a right to purchase his collection of curiosities, as it had to appropriate money for Powell's Picture, or Greenough's Group, or Clark Mills's Equestrian Statue.—*Ed. Era.*

OHIO ELECTION.—The Cleveland *Plaindealer* says that parties will stand in the next Ohio Legislature as follows: Senate—5 Whigs, 5 Coalitionists, the rest Old Line Democrats—having 15 majority. House—15 Whigs, 7 Coalitionists, and the rest Old Line Democrats—having a majority of 53.

THE UNITED STATES SQUADRON arrived at Japan on the 8th of July last, and was kindly received. Negotiations had been postponed till spring.

VERMONT.—The Vermont Legislature were balloting on the 27th ult. for a Governor. The vote stood: Fairbanks, Whig, 102; Robinson, Dem., 117; Brainard, Free Soil, 17. The Free Soilers had succeeded in electing a Speaker and it is said there was no coalition.

The Georgia Democratic press is congratulating Colonel Underwood, of that State, on his appointment as Associate Judge of Utah Territory, and predicts that he will be returned one of these days as United States Senator from the State of Utah. Col. Underwood of course holds the Southern doctrine, that the slaveholder may carry his slaves into any Territory belonging to the United States.

The *True Democrat* publishes the late vote for Governor in Ohio, from all the counties but seventeen, from which it would seem that Samuel Lewis, the Independent or Free Democratic candidate, received 44,000 votes. The returns from the remaining counties may increase them to near 50,000.

On Ohio, New York, and Massachusetts, depends the great struggle for Freedom. The friends of Liberty in these States are numerous and active, and better organized than in any other.

☞ The Ohio *Statesman* publishes a table of returns, giving Lewis a little over 50,000.

VOTE OF THE WESTERN RESERVE.

	FOR GOVERNOR.			LIEUT. GOV.	
Counties.	*Lewis.*	*Barrere.*	*Medill.*	*Allen.*	*Myers.*
Ashtabula	2,103	1,186	844	3,221	874
Geauga	1,322	586	503	1,782	514
Lake	1,016	393	437	1,216	509
Cuyahoga	2,345	1,206	3,081	3,341	3,062
Lorain	1,918	648	1,224	1,698	1,818
Huron	1,277	1,108	1,705	2,168	1,724
Medina	1,147	907	1,420	1,375	1,501
Summit	1,466	709	1,452	2,056	1,528
Portage	1,222	682	2,160	1,866	2,178
Mahoning	1,004	381	1,360	1,366	1,371
Trumbull	1,047	1,165	2,028	2,812	2,052
Erie	403	873	1,197	1,181	1,247
Total	16,275	9,841	17,431	24,082	17,873

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.—The political complexion of the next Legislature is given by the Harrisburgh *Union* as follows: Senate, 18 Democrats, 14 Whigs, 1 Native; House, 70 Democrats, 26 Whigs, 4 Natives. Democratic majority on joint ballot, 43.