

# THE FELICIANA DEMOCRAT.

BY G. W. REESE.

THE CONSTITUTION.—STATE RIGHTS.

TERMS.—\$3.

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## TERMS.

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HAVE a full and complete assortment of every thing in their line. Their old customers and the public in general are requested to call.  
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Music and Musical Instruments.  
Paints, Oil, Lead, and Varnish,  
Brushes of all kinds,  
Fine Cutlery, Razors, and Soap.  
See Advertisement (fourth page).  
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Arrangements have been made for receiving the best material now in use for completing every style of running gear, by painting and trimming, which taste or we can desire.

All kinds of repairing done the shortest notice to insure neatness and durability. All work warranted, with proper care. a14

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The above stock was selected New York and New Orleans by the subscriber, and is the largest and most superior ever offered in this market.

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WATCHES, CLOCKS, AND JEWELRY, repaired and warranted.

His store is on Brick Row, door north of W. W. Chapman & Co.  
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**HOME MANUFACTORY WAGONS,**  
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CONTINUES carry on the WHEELWRIGHT business in all of its various branches.

He has on hand a large assortment of superior well seasoned material, and orders for work will be executed with promptness, and in a workmanlike manner.

Repairing of all kinds done immediately. His shop is immediately opposite the stables of the Union Hotel. a 14

**S. LOOMIS,**  
Saddle, Bridle, and Harness Maker,  
I SOLICIT public attention to my large stock of ready made work, and the fine assortment of Leathers, Saddle, Bridle, and Harness Hardware and lings.

With such material on hand, good and faithful workmen, I feel assured being able to make and sell at lower rates than has ever been done in Clinton. All I desire to attract the attention of customers can suit them.

Call at my shop and examine us get acquainted, and I am certain they can make it your interest to address your orders to me. No humbug about my shop.

**NORTH SIDE OF THE SQUARE**  
is the best manufactory of the kind in the State. a 14

**Gold and Silver Spectacles,**  
A WELL SELECTED superior assortment of Gold, silver and Steel rimmed Spectacles to suit all ages, instantly on hand, and for sale by  
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**WM. SADLER, Brick Row.**

## The Feliciana Democrat.

### Public Opinion at the North.—Prospects of the South.

In all the elections that have taken place in the Northern States during the past season, the question of African slavery has entered as a controlling element. No party took very high ground in favor of the institution. The only issue that any party dared to make, was, that the people of the States and Territories had a right to the exclusive management of the domestic relations of the inhabitants. In no single instance was the party successful that stood upon this platform. So far as this argument is concerned, it is not important to say which party it was that made this issue with our enemies, nor what claims it had to public confidence. The startling fact to which we desire to call particular southern attention, is that in every instance, the party that made it was crushed by popular majorities unequalled in the previous history of political warfare—that even in their Gibralters and Sevastopols, they were unable to make any resistance, but fell before their opponents, like ripe corn in the path of the hurricane. This untoward result took place in no one locality—it was no less uniform than it is universal. In the hills and valleys of New Hampshire—in the prairies of Iowa, in the thronged cities of Massachusetts and New York, and in the rural hamlets of Pennsylvania and Ohio, the almost unanimous voice of the people has rendered a verdict against the South and her institutions.

Those persons who represent that the virus of Abolition fanaticism is confined to particular classes in certain localities, are therefore, most grossly deceived. The plague has infected the whole body of Northern society.

If the South was disconnected with the North, we might view with indifference the ravings of its fanaticism. Connected in the close bonds of Federal Union, errors of opinion at the North are almost as fatal to our peace and prosperity as errors of opinion at home. Our laws are based upon opinion, and the controlling section gives law to the rest of the Union. Now we take it that if a general election were to take place to-morrow, the majority of the electoral College, the majority of the United States Senators, and the majority of the Representatives in Congress would be in favor of restricting slavery. We are protected from this calamity by those provisions of the constitution, which fix the terms of office to six, four, and two years. Very soon, however, these offices will be vacated, and must be filled by men representing the popular feeling. If we are right in the opinion that the controlling section of the Union is hostile to Southern rights, then it cannot be long before the power and patronage of the Federal Government will be wielded by our enemies. The threatened danger is imminent—the day of battle draweth nigh—it is even at the gates.

In view of these appalling realities, what is the South doing to meet the emergency? Nothing, worse than nothing. A large body of our most intelligent and active fellow-citizens are busily engaged in forming secret societies to guard the Republic against the influence of foreign born and Catholic fellow citizens; another large party are denouncing the Democratic party and its patriotic President, whose chief sin, in the eyes of our enemies, is his too great friendship for the South; and the balance of us? what are we doing to guard our hearth stones from the untold evils which will flow upon us in the event the abolitionists get control of the Federal Government? Here and there, it is true, a faithful watchman sounds a note of alarm, but he is scarcely more heeded than he who, in days of old, walked upon the walls of the city and cried "Woe, woe to Jerusalem!" Until this fatal lethargy is removed, and the Southern people look their danger in the face, there is no hope for the South. She is sleeping in the lap of Delilah while her enemies are clipping the locks of her strength. God only knows what her resources will be, when she hears the appalling cry, "The Philistines be upon thee, Samson."

**LOUISIANA LAND TITLES.**—A case recently came before the Land Office for decision in which the claimants rested their title on a Spanish survey. The Board of Commissioners recommended the claim, making that survey a part of the record, and Congress confirmed it accordingly. Before the confirmation, the United States Deputy Surveyor had executed a survey somewhat at variance from that executed by the Spanish authorities. It has been held that although the survey was made before confirmation, yet, it was acquiesced in by the claimants and not disputed by the United States for a quarter of a century, all parties were

stopped from taking exception to it, and it must accordingly be traced, and adhered to by the Surveying department. The principle here recognized of adherence to ancient surveys, even where there may be a variation from the original basis of title, is a sound one, familiar to the courts and indispensable to the quiet and security of land titles.

### The Administration of Franklin Pierce.

We cannot refer to the administration of President Pierce at this period of its existence without an expression of sincere approval of its course. Although met at every step of its progress by the most malevolent opposition from the combined efforts of every fanatical party, it has triumphed in every issue.

The veto of the French spoliation bill was met by the people in a proper spirit. They saw in it a determination to maintain the interests of the country. The President believed these claims were not justly due; his antecedents were on record against their payment. The people, with these views on record and still unchanged by any subsequent information, raised their authority to his present position, thus endorsing his present public course of action, to which he had referred them for principles which should shape his policy in the event of election. He therefore, unless subsequent events had produced stronger proof of the justice of these claims, was bound to veto the French spoliation bill. After the lapse of several months, we believe the public sentiment to be fully satisfied with the position of the president on this question. Few men would have stood firm in opposition to the decisive vote on this question in both houses of Congress. Well might any man have doubted the correctness of his position when so many master minds were found in opposition to his opinions.—But not so the President. By this veto we believe these claims have been placed in such a position that they will never be paid unless Congress by a two-thirds vote direct them to be discharged over the veto power or the people in their sovereign capacity elect a President known to be favorable to the settlement thereof. And to Franklin Pierce is the republic indebted for retaining these millions in the treasury.

The nonsensical cry of the opposition press about the unpopularity of President Pierce is as false and corrupt as is the course they have been compelled to pursue to defeat the Democratic party. Twice has the whig party "stooped to conquer"—once sacrificing every honorable principle, but adhering to its name; now sacrificing even its name and all else that marked it as a great party bound together by strong national principles. In stooping thus to conquer, it has lost its existence, and will in future be pointed to as a thing that was. Thus it was only by descending to form a union with the malcontents of the Democracy (men whose personal aggrandizement was superior to their patriotism, and who could not be accommodated with office without detriment to the public interest) and the factionists of every school, that a temporary triumph, the opposition press attempt to cry down the popularity of the President. This they know will gratify the disaffected. But they should bear in mind that the measures of the administration as they develop the wisdom thereof, are daily vindicating the President before the people from the fallacious charges hurled at him with such vindictive force. Ere another year, we believe Franklin Pierce will be as strong in the affections of the people of this Union as he was on the day of his inauguration as their President.

**FACTS ABOUT THE UNITED STATES.**—The United States of America are composed of 32 States and 9 Territories. They contain a population of 25,000,000, of whom 21,000,000 are white. The extent of sea coast is 12,600 miles. The length of the principal rivers is 20,000 miles. The surface of the five great lakes is 90,000 square miles. The number of miles of railway in operation is 20,000, which cost \$600,000,000.—The length of canals is 5,000 miles. It contains the longest railroad on the globe—the Illinois Central which is 734 miles. The annual value of its productions is \$200,000,000. Its most valuable production is Indian corn, which yields annually 400,000,000 bushels. The amount of capital invested in manufactures is \$600,000,000. The amount of foreign imports in 1853, was \$27,978,947, and of its exports, \$230,971,167. The annual value of the products of labor (other than agricultural) is \$1,500,000,000. The annual value of the income of its inhabitants is \$1,000,000,000. The value of its farms and live stock is \$5,000,000. Its mines of gold, copper, lead and iron, are among the richest in the world.—The Surface of its coalfields is 138,131 square acres.

**CUBA AND THE FEDERAL UNION.**—Thirty years ago, John Quincy Adams, as Secretary of State, under Mr. Monroe, addressed an official letter to Mr. Nelson, our Minister to Spain, in regard to the importance of the acquisition of Cuba, which ought to be carefully read at the present time by every American citizen. It contains a remarkable prediction, which seems likely to be on the eve of fulfillment. He said, that "in looking forward to the probable course of events for the short period of half a century, it is scarcely possible to resist the conviction that the annexation of Cuba to our Federal Republic will be indispensable to the integrity and continuance of the Union itself." Under existing circumstances, we can not perform a more valuable service than to reproduce the following full and interesting extract from Mr. Adams' letter:

"DEPARTMENT OF STATE.  
Washington, April 28, 1823.

"In the war between France and Spain, now commencing, other interests, peculiarly ours, will in all probability be deeply involved. Whatever may be the issue of this war, as between these two European powers, it may be taken as granted, that the dominion of Spain upon the American continent, north and south, is irreversibly gone. But the islands of Cuba and Porto Rico still remain nominally, and so far really, dependent upon her, that she yet possesses the power of transferring her own dominion over them, together with her own possession of them to others. These islands, from their local position and natural appendages to the North American continent, and one of them, Cuba, almost in sight of our shores, from a multitude of considerations, has become an object of transcendent importance to the commercial and political interests of our Union. Its commanding position with reference to the Gulf of Mexico and the West India seas; the character of its population; its situation midway between our southern coast and the island of St. Domingo; its safe and capacious harbor of the Havana, fronting a long line of our shores destitute of the same advantage; the nature of its productions and of its wants, furnishing the supplies and needing the returns of a commerce immensely profitable and mutually beneficial, give it an importance in the sum of our national interests with which that of no other foreign territory can be compared, AND LITTLE INFERIOR TO THAT WHICH BINDS THE DIFFERENT MEMBERS OF THIS UNION TOGETHER.

Such indeed, are between the interests of that Island and of this country, the geographical, commercial, moral and political relations, formed by nature, gathering, in the process of time, and even now verging to maturity, that, in looking forward to the probable course of events, for the short period of half a century, it is scarcely possible to resist the conviction that the annexation of Cuba to our federal republic will be indispensable to the continuance and integrity of the Union itself. It is obvious, however, that for this event we are not yet prepared. Numerous and formidable objections to the extension of our territorial dominions beyond sea, present themselves to the first contemplations of the subject; obstacles to the system of policy by which alone that result can be compassed and maintained, are to be foreseen and surmounted, both at home and abroad; but there are laws of political as well as physical gravitation; and if an apple severed by the tempest from its native tree, cannot choose but fall to the ground, Cuba forcibly disjoined from its own unnatural connection with Spain, and incapable of self-support, can gravitate only towards the North American Union, which by the same law of nature cannot cast her off from its bosom."

**THE VITALITY OF DEMOCRACY.**—To such of the Know-Nothings as have really a serious idea of "prospecting," to use a California phrase, we recommend the following for their instructive perusal. It is copied from the Albany Argus:

"The Know-Nothings constitute the only party except the Democratic, which can now be said to be really 'alive and kicking.'—But theirs is a kind of spasmodic vitality, which has no element of life to sustain it permanently, and which however lively and active it may be for a time, must with no great delay, expire.

"The Democratic party has the vitality of full developed, vigorous manhood. It rests upon principles sound and enduring, and embracing the whole country in their scope. It can rally its followers throughout the length and breadth of the land, animated by a common purpose, and co-operating in support of doctrines equally cherished by all. The Detroit papers speak with truth and discernment in denouncing it the only 'public political organization of any vitality.'"