

WEBSTER'S SPEECH.

EXTRACTS.

Slavery Excluded by Nature from California and New Mexico.

As to California and New Mexico, I hold slavery to be excluded from those territories by a law even superior to that which admits and sanctions it in Texas. I mean the law of nature—of physical geography—the law of the formation of the earth. The law settles forever, with a strength beyond all terms of human enactment, that slavery cannot exist in California or New Mexico. Understand me, sir; I mean slavery as we regard it; slaves in the gross, of the colored race, transferable by sale and delivery like other property. I shall not discuss that point. I leave it to the learned gentlemen who have undertaken to discuss it; but I suppose there is no slave of that description in California now. I understand that peonias, a sort of penal servitude, exists there, or rather a sort of voluntary sale of a man and his offspring for debt, as it is arranged and exists in some parts of California and New Mexico. But what I mean to say is, that African slavery, as we see it among us, is as utterly impossible to find itself, or to be found in Mexico, as any other natural impossibility. California and New Mexico are Asiatic in their formation and scenery. They are composed of vast ridges of mountains of enormous height, with some of the most fertile valleys. The sides of these mountains are barren, entirely barren, their tops capped by perennial snow. There may be in California, now made free by its constitution, and no doubt there are, some tracts of valuable land. But it is not so in New Mexico. Pray, what is the evidence which any gentleman has obtained on this subject, from information sought by himself or communicated by others. I have inquired and read all I could in order to obtain information on this subject. What is there in New Mexico that could by any possibility induce any body to go there with slaves? There are some narrow strips of tillable land on the borders of the rivers; but the rivers themselves dry up before midsummer is gone. All that the people can do is to raise some little articles, some little wheat for their tortillas, and all that by irrigation. And who expects to see a hundred black men cultivating tobacco, corn, cotton, rice, or any thing else, on lands in New Mexico made fertile only by irrigation? I look upon it, therefore, as a fixed fact, to use an expression current to the day, that both California and New Mexico are destined to be free, so far as they are settled at all, which I believe, especially in regard to New Mexico, will be very little for a great length of time; free by the arrangement of things by the Power above us. I have therefore to say, in this respect also, that this country is fixed for freedom, to as many persons as shall ever live there, by as irrevocable and more improbable a law than the law that attaches to the right of holding slaves in Texas; and I will say further, that if a resolution or a law were now before us to provide a Territorial Government for New Mexico, I would not vote to put any prohibition into it whatever. The use of such a prohibition would be idle, as it respects any effect it would have upon the Territory; and I would not take pains to reform an ordinance of Nature, nor to re-enact the will of God. And I would put in no Willamette proviso for the purpose of a re-negotiation. I would put into it no evidence of the votes of superior power, to wound the pride, even whether a just pride, a rational pride, or an irrational pride, to wound the pride of the gentlemen who people the Southern States. . . . For myself, I will say that we hear much of the annexation of Canada; and if there be any man, any of the Northern Democracy, or any one of the Free Soil party, who supposes it necessary to insert a Willamette proviso in a Territorial Government for New Mexico, that man will of course be of opinion that it is necessary to protect the everlasting snows of Canada from the foot of slavery by the same overpowering wing of an act of Congress. Sir, wherever there is a foot of land to be staid back from becoming slave territory, I am ready to assert the principle of the exclusion of slavery. I am pledged to it again and again, and I will perform those pledges; but I will not do a thing unnecessary, that wounds the feelings of others, or that does disgrace to my own understanding.

Reclamation of Slaves.

I will state these complaints, especially one complaint of the South, which has, in my opinion, just foundation; and that is, that there has been found at the North, among individuals and among the legislatures of the North, a disinclination to perform fully their constitutional duties in regard to the return of persons bound to service who have escaped into the free States. In that respect, it is my judgment that the South is right and the North is wrong. Every member of every Northern Legislature is bound by oath to support the constitution of the United States; and this article of the constitution, which says that these States shall deliver up fugitives from service, is as binding in honor and conscience as any other article. No man fulfills his duty in any Legislature, who sets himself to find excuses, evasions, escapes from this constitutional duty. I have always thought that the constitution addressed itself to the Legislatures of the States themselves, or to the States themselves. It says that these persons escaping to other States shall be delivered up, and I confess I have always been of the opinion that it was an injunction upon the States themselves. When it is said that a person escaping into another State, and becoming, therefore, within the jurisdiction of that State, shall be delivered up, it seems to the import of the passage is, that the State itself, in obedience to the constitution, shall cause him to be delivered up. That is my judgment. I have always entertained it, and I entertain it now. But when the subject, some years ago, was before the Supreme Court of the United States, the majority of the judges held that the power to cause fugitives from service to be delivered up was a power to be exercised under the authority of the Government. I do not know, on the whole, that it may not have been a fortunate decision. My habit is to respect the result of judicial deliberations, and the solemnity of judicial decisions. But, as it now stands, the business of seeing that these fugitives are delivered up resides in the power of Congress and the national judiciary, and my friend at the head of the Judiciary Committee has a

bill on the subject now before the Senate, with some amendments to it, which I propose to support, with all its provisions, to the fullest extent. And I desire to call the attention of all sober-minded men, of all conscientious men in the North, of all men who are not carried away by any fanciful idea, or by any false idea whatever, to their constitutional obligations. I put it to all the sober and sound minds at the North as a question of conscience. What right have they, in their legislative capacity, or any other, to endeavor to get round this constitution, to embarrass the free exercise of the rights secured by the constitution to the persons whose slaves escape from them? None at all; none at all. Neither in the forum of conscience nor before the face of the constitution are they justified, in my opinion. Of course it is a matter for their consideration. They probably, in the turmoil of the times, have not stopped to consider of this; they have followed what seems to be the current of thought and of motives for the occasion, and they neglect to investigate fully the real question, and to consider their constitutional obligations; as I am sure, if they did consider, they would fulfil them with alacrity. Therefore, I repeat, sir, that here is a ground of complaint against the North well founded, which ought to be removed, which it is now in the power of the different departments of this Government to remove; which calls for the enactment of proper laws authorizing the judiciary of this Government, in the several States, to do all that is necessary for the recovery of fugitive slaves, and for the restoration of them to those who claim them. Wherever I go, and whenever I speak on the subject—and when I speak here I desire to speak to the whole North—I say that the South has been injured in this respect, and has a right to complain; and the North has been too careless of what I think the constitution perpetually and emphatically enjoins upon it as a duty.

The Anti-Slavery Agitation.

Then, sir, there are those abolition societies, of which I am unwilling to speak, but in regard to which I have very clear notions and opinions. I do not think them useful. I think their operations for the last twenty years have produced nothing good or valuable. At the same time, I know thousands of them are honest and good men; perfectly well meaning men. They have excited feelings, they think they are doing something for the cause of liberty, and in their sphere of action they do not see what else they can do, than to contribute to an abolition press, or an abolition society, or to pay an abolition lecturer. I do not mean to impute gross motives even to the leaders of these societies, but am not blind to the consequences. I cannot but see what mischief their interference with the South produced. And is it not plain to every man? Let any gentleman who doubts of that recur to the debates in the Virginia House of Delegates in 1832, and he will see with what freedom a proposition made by Mr. Randolph for the gradual abolition of slavery was discussed in that body. Every one spoke of slavery as he thought; every ignominious and disparaging name and epithet were applied to it. The debates in the House of Delegates on that occasion, I believe, were all published. They were read by every colored man who could read, and if there were any who could not read, those debates were read to them by white men. At that time Virginia was not unwilling nor afraid to discuss this question, and to let that part of her population know as much of it as they could learn. That was in 1832. As has been said by the honorable member from Carolina, these abolition societies commenced their course of action in 1835. It is said—I do not know how true it may be—that they sent incendiary publications into the slave States; at any event, they attempted to arouse, and did arouse, a very strong feeling; in other words, they created great agitation in the North against Southern slavery. Well, what was the result? The bonds of the slaves were bound more firmly than before; their rivets were more strongly fastened. Public opinion, which in Virginia had begun to be exhibited against slavery, and was opening out for the discussion of the question, drew back and shut itself up in its castle. I wish to know whether any body in Virginia can now talk as Mr. Randolph, Gov. McDowell, and others talked there openly, and sent their remarks to the press, in 1832. We all know the fact, and we all know the cause, and every one that this agitating people have done has been, not to enlarge but to restrain, not to set free, but to bind faster the slave population of the South. That is my judgment. Sir, as I have said I know many of them in my own neighborhood, very honest good people, misled, as I think, by strange enthusiasm; but they wish to do something, and they are called on to contribute, and they do contribute; and it is my firm opinion this day, that within the last twenty years as much money has been collected and sent to the abolition societies, abolition presses, and abolition lecturers, as would purchase the freedom of every slave man, woman, and child in the State of Maryland, and send them all to Liberia. I have no doubt of it. But I have yet to learn that the benevolence of these abolition societies has at any time taken that particular turn. (Laughter.)

Colonization.

In my observations upon slavery as it has existed in the country, and as it now exists, I have expressed no opinion of the mode of its extinguishment or amelioration. I will say, however, though I have nothing to propose on that subject, because I do not deem myself so competent as other gentlemen to consider it, that if any gentleman from the South shall propose a scheme of colonization, to be carried on by the Government upon a large scale, for the transportation of free colored people to any colony or place in the world, I should be quite disposed to incur almost any degree of expense to accomplish that object. Nay, sir, following an example set here more than twenty years ago by a great man, then a Senator from New York, I would return to the Virginia—through her for the benefit of the whole South—all the money received from the lands and territories ceded by her to this Government, for any such purpose as to remove in whole or in part, or in any way to diminish or deal beneficially with the free colored population of the Southern States. I have said that I honored Virginia for hercession of this territory. There have been received into the treasury of the United States eighty millions of dollars, the proceeds of the sales of the public lands ceded by Virginia. If the residue should be sold

at the same rate, the whole aggregate will exceed two hundred millions of dollars. If Virginia and the South see fit to adopt my proposition to relieve themselves from the people of color among them, they may have my free consent that the Government shall pay them any sum of money out of its proceeds which may be adequate to the purpose.

Not likely to change his Opinions.

I have sought only to speak my sentiments fully and at large, being desirous once and for all, to let the Senate know, and to let the country know, the opinions and sentiments which I entertain on all these subjects. These opinions are not likely to be suddenly changed. If there be any future service that I can render to the country, consistently with these sentiments and opinions, I shall cheerfully render it. If there be not, I shall still be glad to have had an opportunity to disturb the conscience from the bottom of my heart, and to make known every political sentiment that therein exists.

The Peroration.

And now, Mr. President, instead of speaking of the possibility or utility of secession, instead of dwelling in these caverns of darkness, instead of groping with those ideas so full of all that is horrid and horrible, let us come out into the light of day; let us cherish those hopes which belong to us; let us devote ourselves to those great objects that are fit for our consideration and our action; let us raise our conceptions to the magnitude and the importance of the duties that devolve upon us; let our comprehension be as broad as the country for which we act, our aspirations as high as its certain destiny; let us not be pignies in a case that calls for men. Never did there devolve on any generation of men higher trusts than now devolve upon us for the preservation of this constitution, and the harmony and peace of all who are destined to live under it. It is a great popular Constitutional Government, governed by legislation, by law, by judicature, and defended by the whole affections of the people.

No monarchical throne pressed these States together; no iron chain of despotic power encircled them; they live and stand upon a Government popular in its form, representative in its character, founded upon principles of equality, and calculated, we hope to last forever. In all its history it has been beneficent; it has trodden down no man's liberty; it has crushed no State. It has been, in all its influences, benevolent, beneficent; promoting the general prosperity, the general renown, and, at last, it has received a vast addition of territory. Large before, it has now, by recent events, become vastly larger. This republic now extends, with a vast breadth, across the whole continent. The two great seas of the world wash the one and the other shore. We may realize the beautiful description of the ornamental edifice of the buckler of Achilles— "Now the broad shield complete the artist crowned, With his last hand, and poured the ocean round; In living silver seemed the waves to roll, And beat the buckler's verge, and bound the whole."

The Anti-Slavery Bugle.

I LOVE AGITATION WHEN THERE IS A CASE FOR IT—THE ALARM BELL WHICH STARTLES THE INHABITANTS OF A CITY, SAVES THEM FROM BEING BURNED IN THEIR BEDS.—Barker.

Salem, Ohio, March 23, 1849.

HENRY C. WRIGHT will hold meetings on War and Slavery at Dearfield on Sunday, March 31st. He will spend next Sunday (to-morrow) with the friends at Fairmount.

Speech of Daniel Webster.

The extracts we this week present from Mr. Webster's Speech will command general attention; and so also will the many critiques of the New York Tribune, on the First Page. All things considered, we regard the Speech, (of which we have only given some of the most important passages, but quite enough to exhibit its true character,) as the most degrading and servile yet made in either House during the present session. His dought is even flatter and sorer than that of Cass, his yeast of a poorer quality than that of the great Compromiser himself. What ailed the political idol of New England, the pride of Puritan piety, that he should have made such a speech? It were charitable, perhaps, to conclude that he spoke under the inspiration of the wine-cup or the brandy-bottle, but that conclusion is rebutted, not unfortunately by his reputation for sobriety, but by the evidences of cool deliberation which pervade the entire performance. There must be some other explanation of what the North and South both regard as a strange and unlooked for phenomenon. What can it be? Mr. Webster has not turned his back upon the North and courted the praises of the Washington Union and the panegyrics of John C. Calhoun without a motive. Why should he, a politician, be true to the North, when the North is not true to herself? When New England goes to Kentucky and Louisiana for a Presidential candidate, and hastens to throw herself at the feet of slaveholders and warriors, why wonder that her own sons should hope to commend themselves to her favor rather by truckling and subservience to the South than by a bold and manly adherence to the interests of Freedom? That Mr. Webster wants to be President, nobody doubts, and past experience having taught him that the North never supports for that office any man who does not stand well with the Slaveholders, he doubtless resolved to obtain from them a 'reward of merit,' in the hope of thereby securing the approbation and favor of his more immediate constituents. Glad in the praises of Calhoun, Foote and Clemens, of the Washington Union, the Charleston Mercury and Bennett's Herald, he may hope to compete successfully with the next Slaveholding aspirant for Presidential honors.

The speech is remarkable as well for what it does not as for what it does contain. There is not in it one bold or manly word for Freedom, one expression of sympathy for the slave, or a single rebuke of the South for her numberless

outrages against the laws of hospitality and the Constitutional rights of Northern citizens. In point of humanity, he is even behind Mr. Clay, in that he offers not a word against the traffic in human flesh in the District of Columbia—His heart—if he may be supposed to have one—is steered against the cries and agonies of the oppressed. No sentiment of moral indignation against the oppressor escapes his lips.—The Constitution is to him the end of the law for righteousness. He can see no 'broad line of distinction between Right and Wrong,' and in his estimation it is no more unnatural that some men should hold slaves than that others should regard the practice with abhorrence! No wonder that a man whose moral perceptions are thus confused should be found willing to barter the hopes of millions and trample his own professions and the honor of his country in the dust for the sake of political preferment.

We have neither time nor room to review the speech. Let every one look at the extracts we have given, and judge of it for himself. Note his impudent pretence that the Wilmot Proviso is unnecessary to exclude Slavery from New Mexico. As if the whole country did not know that the Ordinance of 1787 was applied to a region lying wholly North of 36° 30'. Behold, too, his readiness to make all our Postmaster slave-catchers, and to punish the citizens of the North for feeding the hungry and clothing the naked. The business of catching and returning the fugitive bondman to his tyrant master is one in which, in his judgment, 'conscientious' men at the North should engage with alacrity—yes, that is the word—ALACRITY!!

We rejoice that this infamous speech is condemned by many leading presses at the North. Even the Boston Atlas declares: "We cannot agree with Mr. Webster; his sentiments are not our sentiments. They are not, we venture to say, the sentiments of New England."

The Washington correspondent of the Boston Courier, another Whig paper of high authority, says: "We are unable to find that any Northern Whig member of Congress concurs with Mr. Webster in the propriety of establishing territorial governments for New Mexico, without the 'Wilmot.' And it is freely said, that his argument, that it is not worth while to re-enact what God has ordained, would have been as good an argument against the original passage of the ordinance of 1787, as it is against the application of the 'Wilmot' to a territorial government for New Mexico."

The Boston Journal takes ground against Mr. Webster's views and shows that the Resolves of Annexation do not require the erection of new slave States in Texas, the language being may erect slave States, not shall.

The Pittsburg Gazette condemns Mr. Webster's remarks on the reclamation of slaves. It says: "It is not in the power of Congress to pass a law to compel a great community to violate their consciences. They may make as many laws as they please on the subject, and the moral sense of the people of the free States will render them inoperative. The laws of God and the dictates of humanity compel us to sympathize with the distressed, panting, hungry fugitive from oppression; and no act of Congress can convert a community which abhors slavery into a society of 'slave catchers.'"

On the other hand, Mr. Webster has earned the praises of John C. Calhoun, the Boston Post, the Washington Union, the New York Herald, and the Hunker Democracy generally. In view of this the New York Tribune hits him thus:

"Mr. Webster has a strong head, and we trust no such flatteries, anticipatory or compensatory, will suffice to turn it. He will yet find that they are but Judas kisses, given to mislead and betray. They were dearly earned, and will vanish like the dew of summer. Mr. Webster cannot outbid Mr. Buchanan in the Propagandists' favor, and if he could his good intentions would be futile. We doubt whether he can carry a single Northern Whig vote beside his own even to the extent indicated in his Speech. In short, the speculation is a bad one for all parties engaged in it. They have only deceived each other and compromised themselves."

THOMAS CARLYLE.—This eccentric genius has issued what he calls a 'Latter Day Pamphlet'—the first of a series, in which he proposes to give the world the benefit of his views of government and society. Democracy in America he considers a failure. He says:

"My friend, brag not yet of our American cousins! Their quantity of cotton, dollars, industry, and resources, I believe to be almost unpeakable, but I can by no means worship the like of these."

"What great human soul, what great thought, what great noble thing that one could worship, or loyally admire, has yet been produced there? None; the American cousins have yet done none of these things. 'What have they done?' grows Smefungus, tired of the subject. 'They have doubled their population every twenty years. They have begotten with a rapidity beyond recorded example, Eighteen Millions of the greatest heroes ever seen in this world before; that hitherto is their feat in history.'"

Mr. Carlisle, we fear, is a somewhat fickle genius. How long is it since he pronounced West India Emancipation a humbug, because it did not put 'dollars into the pockets of the planters, but only brought 'Quashee' plenty of 'pumpkins,' and made him too independent to work for nothing? And yet now he turns up his genteel nose at his 'American cousins,' and affects inability to worship his own idols, when they are found bending before them! One would think 'Brother Jonathan,' for his opposition to Emancipation and his hatred of 'Quashee,' entitled to Mr. Carlyle's special commendation; and yet he exhibits toward him a spite amounting almost to malice. We insist that this is simply ungrateful. If the Americans have produced nothing but 'cotton, dollars and industry,' it is because the churlish Scotchman's philosophy is susceptible of no better fruits, for they have practiced it with a zeal that can hardly be exceeded.

Letter from Henry C. Wright.

CINCINNATI, March 7, 1849.

DEAR OLIVER: The contest deepens, and this Slaveholding Confederacy rushes to its doom. The nation is now reaping the bitter fruits of the violation of natural justice perpetrated by those who formed this Union. They sought to unite, in loving fellowship, the most glaring and revolting contradictions. They undertook the fearfully wicked and absurd work of forming a Union between Liberty and Slavery, Truth and Falsehood, Justice and Injustice, Love and Wrath, Purity and Pollution, Christ and Belial. The result has been just what any sane mind might have foreseen. From the first moment of its existence the war began; and never, for one hour, has it been intermitted; and never will be, till Slavery or Liberty has annihilated its antagonist. A union with slaveholders to secure the blessings of justice and liberty, and domestic tranquility! The world never witnessed a more stupendous crime. At once the whole Northern section of the Nation was thrown into a position in which all must begin a stern and determined warfare against those with whom they had formed an alliance; or begin to exert their ingenuity to reconcile with all that is just and good all that they feel to be unjust and evil. The Religion, the Literature, and Government of the country, entered the lists to reconcile the most revolting crimes with the most exalted virtues. The Church and Clergy, the College and Seminary, the priest and politician, the poet and orator, have done little else, in this land, than seek to throw the sanctions of the Bible and God around deeds perpetrated by their Southern allies in plunder and murder, which, when done in Ohio, they say ought to consign a man to the dungeon or the gallows. What a fearful state is that people in, when they are driven to justify their conduct by seeking to make the most atrocious deeds and principles seem in harmony with a God of justice and love!

Of the abolition of Slavery there is no hope while this Confederacy exists. The glorious consummation is impossible while the Federal Government is pledged to return fugitive slaves, and to put down servile insurrections. Therefore my prayer, by word and deed, shall be—down with this bloody Union, begotten in sin, born in sin, nurtured in sin, and now, like a boa constrictor, gorging itself with the very vitals of humanity.

Glad was I to read the doings in Salem, as recorded in the two or three last Bugles. This is tangible ground. Raise the moral sense of the people of Ohio and all the North above the Constitution, in regard to protecting the fugitive slave; get up a public sentiment that will stamp every man and woman as the meanest and vilest of the mean and vile, who will refuse to hide the hunted slave and to protect him, by right means, against the kidnappers; and then let men as voters and office-holders go, if they can, and swear to support the Constitution that forbids them to hide the fugitive.

This subject is talked of down here among all classes. No one subject causes more talk on Slavery, or is doing more, practically, to dissolve this Union with slaveholders, than the proposition of Clay to make penal laws to punish us as felons for feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, sheltering the outcast, and aiding the slave to his liberty. The truth is, the Constitution is a dead letter in Cincinnati, and no law passed by Congress could ever be executed now in this city and vicinity. I have read the expressions of opinion in the public press of the city. They seem determined to hold to the Union, yet say, no law by Congress could ever prevent the people of Ohio from extending "kindness and protection to the fugitive," and "scorn and contempt to the kidnapper." Not one in ten of the people of this city and State would heed such a law; or refuse to aid the fugitive. So the Federal Government is a dead letter in Ohio touching runaway slaves. So it should be. Thanks to the Disunionists; for they have done the work. As to the consciences of those who swear to slaveholders to return their fugitives, when they have no intention of keeping their oath—as does Judge McLean, Chase, and most all politicians—they must answer to their own nature for these outrages.

Disunion is becoming the theme of the daily and weekly press. The people will ere long get used to it. Enclosed is a slip from a strong Democratic paper. It is replete with meaning. Use it or burn it. Deeply should all Disunionists feel the greatness of this hour. Will they not rally to the support of the Bugle, in the hands of its present Editor? Sure am I that those whose war-cry against Slavery is, "No Union with Slaveholders," are the conservative power of Liberty, Truth, Justice and Right in this nation. Let them gird on the armor of God, and rally around their paper, the Bugle, and prepare for a vigorous campaign of aggressive warfare upon the citadel of oppression during the coming season.

Where are Samuel Brooke, J. W. Walker, and all every other laborer? Will not Parker Pillsbury come West this summer? The position of Ohio, in reference to Slavery, cannot be overrated. She is the advance guard, by position, especially in reference to fugitive slaves. But I must stop. I hope to be in Salem in two weeks. Sound the loud trumpet over Egypt's dark—dark, and deep sea.

HENRY C. WRIGHT.

STEPHEN S. FOSTER gives in the Standard an account of a very cowardly mob at Canaan Four Corners, Columbia Co., N. Y., of which a clergyman named Wicks was the chief wire-puller, and in which several members of his church and two cousins of our late Minister to England were conspicuous actors. An Executive Committee of the Peace proposed to give Stephen and his wife a suit of tar and feathers.

C. M. BULLOCK is laboring with success in parts of New Jersey hitherto neglected by Abolitionists. His reports in the Freeman are very encouraging.

Portage A. S. Society.

MALDEN, March 14, 1849.

DEAR OLIVER: The Portage A. S. Society, you will see by referring to the published proceedings, resolved to hold its next Quarterly Meeting at Fairmount south of Mt. Union, on Saturday and Sunday, the 18th and 19th of April, commencing at 10 o'clock, A. M. The Exec. Committee, at its last session, made it a part of my duty to address you with a request to attend and participate in the proceedings of the Meetings.

If it meets your approbation and you can possibly attend, you will be the hearty welcome of many friends, besides the consciousness of aiding in striking another deadly blow at the dread monster, Slavery.

We are fully of the opinion that now, almost above all past times, it is incumbent on reformers to act—act promptly and energetically—because every well-directed effort put forth at this crisis will be felt as it may never be in future if neglected now. Now that the State is just on the eve of holding a Convention for the re-organization of our State Constitution, we ought not to be found lethargic. We need at their post every man and woman who can appreciate the work before us, and the favorable time now presented for efficient labor.

At the contemplated meeting we expect to take efficient measures for the circulation of petitions, to adopt other means to influence the Convention in favor of stringent measures to secure the equal rights of all the citizens of the State, and to further this we greatly need your cooperation at that time. Please come.

This invitation is also extended to B. Jones, J. Barnaby, and I. Treccott. Respectfully, &c. K. G. THOMAS.

It is our intention to comply with the above invitation—Ed. Bugle.

"SINGULAR REVELATIONS."—We have received from the publishers, E. W. Capron and H. D. Barron, Auburn, N. Y., a copy of the new and enlarged edition of the pamphlet entitled, 'Explanation and History of the Mysterious Communion with Spirits, comprehending the Rise and Progress of the Mysterious Noises in Western New York,' &c. This edition differs from the first only in presenting more fully the testimony of those who have witnessed the wonderful phenomena therein described. The witnesses are all said to be (and we personally know that some of them are) worthy of the fullest confidence. They are, moreover, so far as we know them, no greedy and credulous swallows of marvels, but as cool-headed and cautious as they are honest. Among them are lawyers, doctors, deacons, clergymen, farmers, mechanics, and merchants, and also a large number of women of the highest respectability as well as intelligence. The testimony of such persons in relation to facts which have fallen under their own observation, is not to be set aside by a sneer or overcome by heartless ridicule. We do not affirm that these remarkable phenomena are proved to be revelations from the spirit world, but we do say that we have seen no attempt to explain them on any other hypothesis that is not a thousand times more incredible and absurd than the supposition that they proceed from that source. Believing most fully in the existence of spirits after death, we can see nothing absurd in the idea that they should be able to hold communication with those who remain in the body. We can see, moreover, how such communications might be of inestimable value to the human race, by removing the terrible superstitions which prevail in relation to death, and giving us clearer and more rational views of human destiny. Let us preserve our minds free alike from the incredulity of the Sadducee and the credulity of ignorance and superstition.

As we have already said, the pamphlet above noticed may be obtained at the Salem Book Store for 25 cents.

THADDEUS STEVENS'S SPEECH is decidedly the best made in the House during the present session on the Slavery question. We did hope to publish it in full, but the pressure upon our columns has prevented. We may find room for an extract next week. Mr. Stevens is one of the few members of Congress from the North whose faces are free from dough.—Intellectually he is not inferior to any of his contemporaries, whether from the North or South, and as a speaker he ranks among the best in the country. He is a 'Green mountain Boy' by birth, and the stand he has assumed in Congress is honorable alike to the State of his nativity and to that of his adoption.

SLAVERY is still the almost exclusive topic of discussion in Congress. The Southern leaders have resolved that no important business shall be transacted till this question is settled to their satisfaction. When any move is made to push forward the public business, a drilled cohort is ready to squander hours and days by calls of the Yeas and Nays on motions which have no other object than the waste of time. The Northern papers grumble over this state of things, but they should remember that this is the appropriate reward of the North for the crime of entering into a confederacy with slaveholders.

THE PEOPLE READY TO LISTEN.—S. S. Foster, writing from Columbia County, N. Y., to the Standard, says: "At no former period in my experience has there been so general a desire to hear, and such ready acquiescence in the truths of Anti-Slavery. If the friends of Freedom fully understood how much can be done at the present time, by the living speaker, I am sure they would furnish the Executive Committee of the American Society with the means of sending out a much larger number of agents. The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few."

THE same readiness to hear, the same urgent demand for laborers, exists also in Ohio. How important, at such a crisis, that Abolitionists should be sensible of their responsibilities!