

Frederick Douglass' Paper.

ROCHESTER, JUNE 8, 1855.

THE CASH SYSTEM ADOPTED.

Notice is hereby given that after the first week in July, this paper will be conducted strictly on the cash principle; that thereafter no one will be considered a subscriber who has not paid the subscription price of the paper in advance; and that all subscribers who have not paid the subscription price of the paper in advance...

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Resolved, That in relation to the greatest of American questions, we know no North, no South, no East, no West, cherishing a sincere love for every section of our country...

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But we are hopeful of Senator Hunter. We are surprised that he has assented even to the theory of a "Higher Law." May his conversion prove a genuine one. By the way, we commend the paragraph which we have quoted, to the candid consideration of those advocates of the Fugitive Slave Bill, who, believing in its unrighteousness, profess also to believe "it should be obeyed, while upon the Statute Book."

CALL FOR A NATIONAL CONVENTION. THE CALL FOR A NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE Free Colored People of the United States, which appears in our columns, sets forth in a clear and able manner, the necessity of such a gathering, for deliberation and action at the present crisis.

MASSACHUSETTS, AND THE LIBERTY BILL.—The Personal Liberty Bill, which is now the law of Massachusetts, Gov. Gardner's veto to the contrary, notwithstanding, was so amended as to render it inoperative for a man to hold, at the same time, a State and United States Commission. Judge Loring will, we suppose be under the necessity of resigning either the office of Judge of Probate or that of Slave Commissioner.

ARMED FOR FREEDOM.—The citizens of Kansas are forming armed Associations for the purpose of resisting the invasion of the Missourians, at the next election, and to preserve their personal freedom. This precautionary measure has been necessitated by the murderous marauders, who, with bowie knives, and pistols, prevented the only legitimate voters from exercising the right of suffrage.

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ANOTHER MISSOURI OUTRAGE.—A correspondent of The Boston Telegraph writes from Osawatimie, Kansas Territory, under the date of May 20, as follows: "This place is situated at the junction of the Fortawatomie and Maria de Cenge (Mary de Zeeb) rivers, in a part of the State of the North River. It is one of the most beautiful countries the Almighty ever blessed, being better timbered than any part of the Territory I have heard from."

BOARDING HOUSE AT NEWPORT, R. I.—We call attention to the advertisement of Mrs. F. McCANE, Newport, R. I., on the fourth page of our paper. We hope she may meet with that liberal encouragement, which we think, she so richly deserves.

What will become of the honorable Senator? What will the South think of his resignation and meekness of Uncle Tom, the ill he has, as our reward, he called the privilege of being somewhere in the neighborhood of the white man's Heaven, and having a peep

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THE KANSAS MEETING. FROM THE ROCHESTER DEMOCRAT. This was an adjourned meeting from last week, the Chair was taken by Hon. Wm. S. BASSOR, as President. Hon. DAVID LANEY, of Brockport, Gen. J. GOULD, JOHN T. LACEY, Esq., Hon. T. KEMSHALL, JAMES P. FOGG, and GEORGE H. ROBERTS, Esqs., were appointed Vice Presidents; and G. W. RAWSON and E. B. SHEPHERSON, were named as Secretaries.

A public meeting at the City Hall of all Freedom Loving citizens of Rochester and vicinity to inquire of our returned Missionaries of the truth of the reports of the Convention, which also reach us through the press, with regard to the Territory of Kansas and the State of Missouri.

Whether the right of suffrage has been invaded; the Fugitive Slave Law destroyed; and the Liberty of speech, the last outpost of Human Rights, denied to any class of the inhabitants of said Territory.

And if so, what means should be used to restore these inalienable God-given rights, which we are all sworn to defend, and whether we should not immediately invoke the aid of the Executive Power of this great Republic to restore order where anarchy now reigns, and have peaceful Liberty succeed to the present anarchy.

The remarks made by Rev. Mr. SZAR, at the meeting on Friday evening, were of the most interesting character, and confined chiefly to an account of the state of feeling in Western Missouri, among the slaveholding population.

Mr. SZAR went on to speak of the adoption of the Missouri compromise, showing, by reference to a large map of the United States, the original Louisiana purchase, and the boundary of the State of Missouri. Some few years after that State was admitted, Col. Benton—man who "would not do to bet on," as western men say—then "King of Missouri," by a system of tactics equal to that of Napoleon, in Congress, got that part of the country adjoining Kansas Territory, which was then included in the country sacredly reserved for Freedom, annexed to Missouri, and in that little plot are the city of St. Joseph, Western Missouri, and the town of Leavenworth (the residence of Senator Aitchison's residence), and it has become the very hot-bed of slavery and the scene of the late outrages.

The repeal of the Missouri compromise was agitated by Senator Aitchison, in Missouri, three years before it was broached in Congress, and he had heard that Senator denounce it and the North, in stump speeches in Weston, with the most unparalytic invective. He is, said Mr. S., one of the most able and eloquent men in the country, and seemed to exert himself to invent the most superlative and unheard of blasphemy. He declared that he would rather see Kansas sunk to the very bottom of hell, than to have it a Free State, and it should be a Free State.

Prof. Raymond's remarks were throughout received with enthusiasm and loudly cheered. Mr. DIBBLE, of Indiana, who had been on the stump through his State during last fall's election, was introduced to the audience, and spoke with a vigor and a mingled strain of good humor and energetic appeal. It was glad to see the city of Rochester take the stand, assumed by this meeting, and bid farewell to Slavery.

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Kansas and the adjoining slave State, and that the right of suffrage, in that Territory, was secured by the leadership of Senator Douglas, has its natural employment and conclusion in Senator Aitchison, with his bowie-knife and revolver, at the head of his myriads of lawless confederates, in their recent assault upon Kansas, and their violence upon the free suffrage there, "fit to buy to head."

Resolved, That the day of compromise upon the subject of slavery is forever passed; that the word is an indirect method of expressing the surrender of principle; that henceforth we plant ourselves upon the Federal Constitution, denying the legality of Slavery under the American Flag, or wherever the National Government rules sole and supreme, as in the District of Columbia and the Territories, and that hereafter it should be the mission of the American people to animate the Government and the Constitution with the ancestral spirit of liberty.

Resolved, That we ask for no parallel of latitude, no 37 deg. 30 min., as the landmark of freedom; but that having witnessed the unexampled treachery and bad faith that broke down the Missouri compromise, we demand that all the Territories of the States shall be forever free—the present boundary of the slave States being slavery's black line.

Resolved, That we appreciate the difficult and responsible position of Gov. Reeder, in trying and critical emergency, and tender him our moral sympathy and support in his attempt to maintain the laws of the Territory and the rights of our fellow-citizens there; and that from this day forth, the Missouri mobocrats and the violence which they threaten to inflict upon the best possible evidence that it intends to discharge his duty and be the Governor of the people, and not the servile tool of String fellow, Aitchison & Co.

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Our Correspondence.

For Frederick Douglass' Paper. LETTER FROM HON. GERRIT SMITH.

PETERBORO, June 2, 1855.

DEAR DOUGLASS—I suppose you see, that the eminent man, who writes against our "Maine Law," all agree, that the Federal Constitution authorizes no slavery...

If we have to regret this formidable opposition to our "Maine Law," we have, nevertheless, reason to rejoice, that it turns to the advantage of the anti-slavery cause.

Your friend, GERRIT SMITH.

For Frederick Douglass' Paper. PREJUDICE AGAINST COLOR.

COLEMAN, Pa., June 4th, 1855.

MR. EDITOR—A few months since I ventured, through your columns, to correct what I deemed a slanderous imputation on the character and condition of the free colored population of the United States...

In diffusing from such high authority on a question of such vital importance, I only claim to be governed by the dictates of common sense; the testimony of the colored population, and abolitionists, as expressed in primary and public meetings, and the action of conventional State Legislatures for the last twenty years.

If I fall to make out my case, it will be because the public will reject the testimony of the witnesses I shall bring to the stand.

I did then, and will now purposely avoid the discussion of the social department of the question, yet your numerous correspondents have chiefly confined their arguments to that department, by bringing forward a few isolated cases, which to each, if I chose to reply, I could summon a thousand witnesses from among the whites of all classes, who either in sympathy, or admiration of their condition are led to exclaim, "It is a pity he or she is not white."

The colored population of Pennsylvania have complained of the injustice of being deprived the exercise of the Elective Franchise, and in order that they might successfully reply to the vulgar slander of their opponents, sent to the Reform Convention in 1838 a veritable remonstrance founded on democratic principles, and endorsed by men occupying high judicial and legislative stations, for the purpose of showing that their condition was equal to that which was demanded of them. Now what was the result? The convention scarcely noticed the document. Its argument was superfluous. It was their complexion they ignored, not their condition.

Now in the face of such historical facts, who will dare to say that the "colored men" of Pennsylvania were disfranchised on account of their condition? It is a "colored standard," both on the Reform Convention, and the "Colored population," and the Charter Convention.

Now if I could believe with your correspondents that we were disfranchised on account of our condition, I would think it impossible and presumptuous in us to petition for the exercise of a right we were not fitted to enjoy even on the grounds of our own admission. It is our complexion that disqualifies us, and nothing else. If the genius of prejudice could find another safe standard, she would erect it. This special pleading about our condition being the cause of our exclusion is an insult to the common understanding, and overleaps the boundary of pro-slavery hate by adding insult to injury.

The doctrine of condition as a passport to enfranchisement, has long since become obsolete as an American idea. The only accepted standard is: Birth and Nativity. It has been rejected throughout the Free States, with a single exception in New York, and it is only retained there by a complexional qualification.

Of what use then are monumental piles and Statistical, and Ethnological arguments to prove a standard of condition that conventions and legislators do not question. Why not direct the whole force of our artillery in battering down the conventional standard, it being the only barrier that prevents colored men from exercising and enjoying the rights and privileges of American citizenship? W. W.

For Frederick Douglass' Paper. NEW ORGANIZATION.

I was glad when you said into us all, irrespective of color or position, let us "go to work." "This motto that this step should be taken at this particular juncture, especially so, as two of the most prominent leaders in the allied anti-slavery forces have admitted that the present organized effort has proved a failure.

Besides, a new move for a higher standard of anti-slavery effort has been made in New York, and a call has gone forth for a general convention to be held at Syracuse the present month, for deliberation; all these indicate that a change is desirable. It is not improbable that these latter movements may prove as great failures as is admitted, were their predecessors. But it is not our province to complain, because though we are the party directly interested, we have herefore been but mere lookers on in Vienna. But now the query appears to be, shall we continue to hope and wait, or shall we put forth so much of an effort as to suggest an idea? You, Messrs. Editors, have made the platform of your new organization so broad that none, by any possible contingency, can exempt themselves, or plead an excuse. Although in the language of a distinguished statesman, Americans even know no precedents in this fast age; nevertheless, as we are creatures of circumstances, we have concluded to make the past subserv our purpose, so many sign-borders and stakes to guide our future. The past has taught us this one great lesson, if nothing else, and it is the only lesson we shall make use of at present, viz: that all successful enterprises have made a clean sweep of old issues as safe precedents, and established new ones; or, in other words, the executor of progress demands, and will have the right to change positions whenever the exigency of the case requires it; this has been true, whether viewed morally, physically, socially, or politically.

New principles, or phases of existing ones demand new agencies. New wine will not contain itself in old bottles; so with new principles; they will burst and break asunder from all foggy, and disinclined to fellowship with those whose limit is this far, but no farther. For an application of this fact, instance those amongst ourselves who have taken a new phase, and

started a new chapter in the progress of independence. Are they not those who in the most part have broken loose from the grasp of slavery, despite its own manacles, chained bonds and despotic legislative enactments? And can the present limited, exclusive, and aristocratic organizations expect to hold such spirits in their embrace against their consent to human equality? Their whole proceeding is a farce!

The past has not only given us to understand that the spirit and genius of progress, whenever required, demand a change, and will have it, but insists that all her votaries shall claim a similar change.

Thus the party aggrieved shall become the party interested, and it is for said party to make the issue, and carry out the modus operandi of its release. We are glad that a step toward that end has been already made, as developed recently in your able New York correspondents, as well as elsewhere.

No agency exclusively human have ever been able to mould a satisfactory plan for a general reformation, unless that agency were in some manner identified with the aggrieved party; otherwise selfishness would be the basis of the movement. Instance what is called the West India Emancipation; think you that the negro would have been freed from his chain, had not the mighty dollar (!) ransomed him?

We must, in our opinion, break loose not only from the iron hand of slavery, but also from the "tutelage" of those who have assumed unto themselves the special privilege of manufacturing our thoughts, or have constituted themselves a committee of ways and means for our especial benefit. Our self-esteem must manifest itself in other ways besides that of a pride in exhibiting in other men's cast off clothing. Or, in other words, we must prove our equality by our actual ability to perform all the functions of manhood, socially, morally, physically, politically. A recognition of our manhood cannot be expected until the fact is made known and declared, nor until that declaration be made until its existence is fixed.

Individual existence cannot be recognized previous to its isolation from the parent stock; families are not recognized until organized as such. Nor can there be a claim for a combination in an abstract or crude state. The Methodist Church, as now, was not known previous to John Wesley's time; and had he continued in the pines of the Church of England, it would have had a non-existence to this day, at all events he would not have been its founder. The American nation would not now be in existence, as such, had its founders, and all connected with it remained in the mother country, or had those who started from England gone to Holland, and there remained, and fixed themselves with that nation instead of coming here; that movement would never have constituted them the American nation, so ad infinitum. It is time that colored men, as such, should organize their ideas nationally, declare them to the world, and that they will necessarily ensure a recognition as so much from ourselves; but not before.

But more anon, J. W. ADAMS. May 31, 1855.

LITERARY NOTICES. STAR PAPERS; or, Experiences of Art and Nature. By Henry Ward Beecher. New York: J. O. Derby.

The readers of the New York Independent have all, doubtless, made the acquaintance of the "Star Articles." The contributor of those articles, Rev. Henry Ward Beecher, is one of the greatest geniuses, and one of the most popular men in America; few are more loved or more admired than he. His character is full of contrasts—so are his writings; and whatever he says he brings forward, he is sure to express himself in a manner at once so striking and so original, that the attention of the reader is riveted on it from the commencement to the close.

The beautifully printed volume before us (of 359 pages) contains only such of the STAR PAPERS as "relate to art and to moral subjects." The controversial articles are withheld on the present occasion. Six letters from Europe occupy the first 89 pages of the volume. It is with no common interest that we have read Mr. Beecher's impressions on a recent visit to the "Venerable Ruined Castle" of Kenilworth, and the "Real Baronial Castle" of Warwick. Hear what he says of Warwick:

"WARWICK CASTLE. "Taking a cab, I started for Warwick. The same smooth road, the same trees, the same beautiful sky over them, only the clouds are all island now, floating about just above the horizon; but I have not the same light-hearted, singing spirit which I had in the morning; there is a deep, yet not a sad sadness, which I do not wish to shake off. I was glad that I had visited the place alone; no one should go except alone. While at Kenilworth, had those I love most been with me, we would have separated, and each should have wandered alone up and down and around the solemn old place. The landscape is full of soft beauty, yet my thoughts are running back to the olden time. But here we come to Warwick! What bands of steel had high in the air, and the old gate of the town renewed with modern stone. Ordering dinner at six o'clock, I start for the castle, within the remotest idea of what I shall see. Walking up a high park wall which forms one of the towers, I see the old gate of the town from extending further in that direction—the top covered with ivy, that garment of English walls and buildings—I come to the gateway of the castle. A porter opens its gate lead. Out through a solid rock the road, some twenty feet wide, winds for a long way in the most solemn beauty. The sides, in solid rock, vary from five to twenty feet in height—at least so it seems to my imagination—the only faculty that I allow to combat me. It was covered on both hands with ivy, growing down from above, and hanging in beautiful reaches—Solemn trees on the bank, on either side, met upon my way, and yet familiar old friends. I had never seen them, yet the moment I did behold, all was instantly plain; I knew name and use, and seemed in a moment to have known them always. My mind was so highly excited that I was perfectly calm, and apparently I perceived by an intuition. I seemed to spread myself over all that was around or before me, while in the court and on the walls, or rather to draw every thing within me. I fear that I seem

crazy to you. It was, however, the calmness of intense excitement. "I came up to the moat, now dry, and lined with beautiful shrubs and trees, crossed the bridge, and entered the outer gateway or arched door, through a solid gateway or arched door. The moat was drawn up, but I could see the projecting end. Another similar gateway, a few steps further on, showed the care with which the defense was managed. This passed, a large court opened, surrounded on every side by towers, walls and vast ranges of buildings. Here I beheld the pictures which I had seen on paper, magnified into gigantic realities. Drawings of many-faced, irregular, Gothic masonry, measuring an inch or two, with which my childhood was familiar, here stood before me measuring hundreds and hundreds of feet. It was the first sight of a real baronial castle! It was a historic dream breaking forth into a waking reality.

"It is of very little use to tell you how large the court is, by feet and rods; or that Guy's Tower is 128 feet high, and Cesar's Tower 147. But it may touch your imagination, and wheel it suddenly backward with long flight and wide vision, to say that Cesar's Tower has stood for 800 years, being coeval with the Norman Conquest! I stood upon its mute stones, and imagined the ring of the hammer upon them when the mason was laying them to their bed of ages. What were the thoughts that were in the mind of the world! I was waked backward, and backward, until I stood on the foundations upon which old England herself was built, when as yet there was no stone of her. There far back of all literature, before the English tongue itself was formed, earlier than her jurisprudence, and than all modern civilization, I stood, in imagination, and, reversing my vision, looked down into a sea of fire, where the men and deeds which had been, as if they were yet to be, making a prophesy of history; and changing memory into a dreamy foresight.

"When these stones were placed, it was yet to be the two hundred years before Governor and Chancellor should be born. Indeed, since Governor was wadded and cemented these stones, the original people, the Normans, the Danes, the Saxons, have been mixed together into one people. When this stone, on which I lean, took its place, there was not then a printed book in England. Printing was invented hundreds of years after these foundations were down. When the rude workmen put their shoulders to these stones, the very English language lay unborn in the loins of its parent tongues. The men that laughed and jested as they wrought, and had their pride of skill; the architect, and the lord for whose praise he fashioned these stones; the villagers that wondered as they looked upon the rising pile; who, or to whom, did these men's memories than the grass they trod on, or the leaves which they cast down in falling the oak!

"Against these stones on which I lay, my hand, have been the hands of the men and deeds, on these very grounds, there I gazed, in sight of men that stand where I do, fierce and deadliest conflicts. All this ground has fed on blood.

"I walked across to Guy's Tower, up its long stone stairway, into some of its old soldier's rooms. The pavements were worn, though of stone, with the heavy grinding feet of men-at-arms. I heard them laugh between their cups, I saw them devouring their gross food, I heard them recite their feuds, and to think a word of some knightly outrage, or cruel oppression of the despised laborer. I stood by the window out of which the archer sent his whistling arrows. I stood by the openings through which scaling water or molten iron were poured upon the heads of assailants, and heard the hoarse shriek of the wretched fellows from below as they got the shocking baptism. I ascended to the roof of the tower, and looked over the wide glory of the scene, still blended with the same imaginations of the olden time. My thoughts had flown hence backward, here where warriors looked out, or ladies watched for their knight's return. How did I long to see for one hour, really, in their position and in their consciences, who lived in these days, and then to come back, with the new experience, to my modern self!

"I walked, in a dream, along the line of the westward wall, and saw the old soldier, for some reason, left unfinished; climbed up the moat and kept, steep enough, and densely covered with trees and underbrush, to the very top.

"Grand and glorious were the trees that waved in the grounds about the castle; but, though some of them had seen centuries, they were juvenile sprouts in comparison of those old walls and towers, on which William the Conqueror had his banquet table. I thought about me, I'll warrant—in which matter I have the advantage of him—following in his footsteps along the top of the broad walls, ten times more lofty in my transcendent excitement than ever was he in his royal progress. "Already the sun was dropping down the west, and sending its golden glow sideways thro' the trees; and the glades in the park were gathering twilight as I turned to give a last look at these strange scenes. I walked slowly through the gateway, crossed the bridge over the moat, turned and looked back upon the old towers, whose tops reddened yet in the sun, though I was in deep shadow. Then, walking backward, looking still, till I came to the woods, I took my farewell of Warwick Castle.

"Mr. Beecher is an enthusiast on paintings—He therefore details, con amore his visits to the London, National and Vernon Galleries, (the Dulwich Gallery should not have escaped him,) and to the Louvre, Luxembourg and Paris.

The larger portion of the volume is devoted to Mr. Beecher's "Experiences of Nature," and no man has a more refined love of the beautiful than he. Many of his sketches of country scenes are exquisite. But we must close. The volume will command a vast circulation.

WOMAN IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY, and kindred Papers, relating to the Sphere, Condition, and Duties of Women. By Margaret Fuller Ossoli. Edited by her brother, Arthur B. Fuller. With an introduction by Horace Greeley. Boston: John P. Jewett & Co.

Margaret Fuller has by some been called "the most gifted woman of the nineteenth century." By all she must be permitted to take her place in the foremost ranks of genius, as an original thinker, and a bold and fearless writer. Her principal essay on "WOMAN," now published for the first time, will be read with exceeding interest by all who have mind to grapple with the subject, and who seek to know more of Margaret Fuller's views on the rights and position of her sex.

This volume will insure a wide circulation. THE MISSING BRIDE; OR, MIEBAM, THE AVENGER. By Mrs. E. D. L. N. Southworth. T. B. Peterson, Philadelphia.

This is a thorough-going romance, of the new school! The fertility of the author's imagination is, in no other truth, wonderful! Here are four or five heroines and heroes, placed in all manner of romantic situations; here are private marriages, ill-fated guardians, accidental murders, demented damsels!—"Wandering Fannies" grim weddings; broken-hearted brides! intercepted letters! sprints in the convent! and many other (dare we say it?) most improbable adventures narrated.

The contents of the volume will, however, be greedily devoured by thorough-going novel readers of the new school; but, we don't think they'd devoted admirer of the good and great Sir WALTER SCOTT, would have patience to read six pages of it.

DEVEY HAS IT. BLANCH DEARWOOD. A Tale of Modern Life. New York: Bunce & Brother.

We have been favored with an advanced copy of this new American story. So far as we have had time to glance at it, it seems to us a remarkably interesting tale, and one likely to have an extensive circulation. It is strictly American in its incidents, scenery, and personages.

FORRESTER'S BOYS AND GIRLS MAGAZINE, for June, has come to hand. Good.

NORTH WESTERN CHRISTIAN MAGAZINE.—The June number has reached us. CENTAUR AMERICAN.—Our Welsh friend has come to make us his monthly call.—He is very nicely dressed—looks neat and clean. We wish we could converse with him. THE NEW YORK MUSICAL REVIEW AND GAZETTE comes regularly.—J. G.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS ITEMS.

Gov. Reeder is preparing to return to Kansas with his family. A grand Temperance Celebration will be held in this city on the 4th of July. The Board of Health at New Orleans has officially recognized the cholera in an epidemic form in that city.

The Buffalo Democracy says there was never such a time for counterfeit bank notes, as at the present.

The Washington Globe says that the Know Nothings of that city at least spent \$100,000 on the Virginia election.

We see it stated that Mr. Beardsley expects to furnish the paper, manufactured from Bass Wood, at about half the price of the various articles now in use.

James B. Howard has been sent to jail for three months, in Boston, for amusing himself by throwing cayenne from the windows of his house upon passers-by.

The Know Nothings of Massachusetts and New Hampshire now stand upon the Free Soil platform. In New York they are antagonistic to Free Soilism, and at the South they are, of course, pro-slavery. How are these conflicting views to be harmonized?

A three-masted schooner was loaded last week at Ludus Bay, Lake Ontario, with wood at \$23 per cord, to be sold in Chicago, Ill., where it is held at five or six dollars. This is a strange cargo to carry westward for a thousand miles.

A serious riot occurred in Portland, Me., last Saturday night, caused by the attempt of a mob to seize upon the liquor in the custody of the City Agent. The military were called out and fired upon the rioters, killing one man and wounding several others.

Mr. Gough, the great temperance lecturer, is about to return to America, in consequence of ill health. He intends to return to Great Britain the next year, and remain in it five years, prosecuting the work to which he has devoted his life and energies.

Parks, the murderer, was hung at Cleveland last Friday. He spoke about an hour before the execution, thanking his friends for their attention to him in his misfortunes, and complaining of injustice being done him in the conviction of the crime alleged against him. His last words were: "I die innocent."

A fellow who gave out that he was a son of the celebrated Dr. Nott, of England, and engaged rooms for his father at a boarding house in Buffalo, got access to a lodger's room, and stole a watch and chain, when he disappeared, but he was overtaken at Niagara, and on being arrested confessed to his imposition.

Mr. Park, proprietor of the Luminary, recently destroyed by the Missouri mob at Parkville, has commenced a suit against the rioters, and employed Edward Bates, of St. Louis, as his counsel. Mr. Park is a man of wealth, and will yet put the perpetrators of this outrage to the wall, if there is any justice or decency left in the world.

A family of slaves, eight in number, the wife and children of Rev. Hardy Morley, lately man in Augusta, Ga., have been purchased to freedom, the heirs of the former owner having deducted \$3,000 from the amount, \$6,000, at which they were valued. The family, it is believed, will go to Liberia in the fall.

The Tribune says, "the rains of the last three days, which have ranged far and wide and deep, have been most opportune, coming in fact in a very critical time in many sections of the country. The value is not to be named in dollars, for millions would fail to represent it. We think that with this lift the early crops may be considered pretty much beyond the reach of drought."

A negro named Freeman, living at Alton, Ill., died recently from the effect of injuries received from the police. Freeman was connected with the escape of slaves from Missouri.

From information received, the officers watched and detected him in the act of conveying a party of eight negroes across the river. He was fired upon and shot twice through the body.

W. W. Goodwin, of Richmond, Va., recently took to Detroit, Mich., four slaves, two of whom are children, their mother, who is married to a free colored man, and their grandmother, who was his own nurse in infancy. He gave them their liberty, and also bought a horse and lot for eight hundred dollars on Malcolm street, which he deeded to the old woman, and left one hundred dollars to their credit in the bank.

The St. Louis Republican has authority for saying that Dr. McLean and lady of Franklin Co., Mo., have made a proposition to the Mo. Colonization Society, to send all their slaves to Liberia, through the agency of said Society. The number is stated at fifteen or eighteen. They stipulate to furnish all the means necessary for their removal, and their comfortable subsistence for a fixed period after their arrival at Liberia.

SLAVE CASE AMONG SHAKERS.—Thomas Davis, of Montgomery county, died many years ago, providing by his will that a negro girl belonging to him should serve the heirs of his son till she arrived at the age of forty, and that she and all her increase should be free. Not long since she attained the age of forty, her descendants numbering twenty-one or twenty-two, and being held to service by Lewis Woods, John H. Woods and John McOutchen, of Logan county, near Shakertown.

The negroes wished to see for their freedom, and, in such a suit, the name of a white man was deemed necessary. Under these circumstances, Jas. Richards, a member of the society of Shakers, came forward in his suit as their next friend. The case is to be decided by the court in August.

He says that on an account of the connection of Jas. Richards with this suit, considerable excitement has been got up in Logan county, not only against him but against the whole Shaker Society there. They are denounced as abolitionists. It is not well to take warning of the times that are coming; and to recognize the fact that such a welcome as this, to the most outspoken anti-slavery Senator on the floor of the capitol, is the first ripple of a tide that will not be disregarded, and that cannot be rising surge, which will lift platforms and parties on its inflowing strength, as the surf sweeps a bath-house from its temporary moorings. We trust the words of Senator Sumner, and of those who warmly labor with him for the good cause at Washington, will be bolder, more prompt and more determined than ever, after these recent verdicts of approval and applause rendered to them by the fellow-citizens. And we rejoice to know that there is coming to be "a North," compacted by one sentiment, living and solid in its unanimous conviction, that

From the Utica Teetotaler. LETTER FROM GERRIT SMITH. PETERBORO, May 26, 1855.

MR. BAILEY: MY DEAR SIR—My letter in the last No. of your Paper was written, after my examination of only a part of Mr. Hill's Opinion. On examining the remainder of it, I perceived, and then hastened to express, as a public letter, my misapprehension of Mr. Hill, at an important point.

Mr. Hill's virtual position is, that there can be no slavery under the Federal Constitution. But whether he holds that the Federal Constitution forbids slavery in every part of the nation, as well as in those parts, where the Federal Government has exclusive jurisdiction, I do not know. I now find, that it was without authority, that I supposed, and said, that he so held.

I am happy to see from your Opinion, published in the same No. of your paper, that Chief Justice Beardsley goes as far in the anti-slavery direction, as Mr. Hill does. It is well for the cause of Freedom, that the Federal Constitution should be so interpreted. It is well for the cause, that these lawyers authorize us to say, that there can be no Constitutional slavery in the city of Washington, nor in the Territories. It is well for the cause, that Samuel Beardsley and Nicholas Hill do, in effect, hold that the Federal Constitution, in declaring that "no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law," forbids the great wickedness, of which Congress was guilty in passing the Fugitive Bill, and the Fugitive Slave and Nebraska Bills, and the proslavery Slave Bill. Indeed, Judge Beardsley, virtually goes so far, (and how clearly right he is in going so far) as to say, that the Courts should trumpet these unconstitutional and interfering Bills under the name of the clause just quoted, he says: "This binds the Legislature, (Congress), and divests it of all power to deprive any person, however humble or simple the poor negro, of his liberty (or property) by the process of law." Such a restraint upon the mad fury of factions, and the scarcely less dangerous zeal of over-heated fanatics (the pro-slavery men in Congress, who voted for the Fugitive Slave and Nebraska Bills, and the proslavery man of Congress, who defend these Bills) is above all price, and IS THE SOLEMN DUTY OF ALL OUR COURTS TO GIVE IT FULL EFFECT. Life, liberty, and property can, in this way, only be preserved from arbitrary seizure, by the aid of new-born babes!—I thank the Judges for these brave and timely, and true words!—They are worthy of a tender-hearted, as well as a clear-headed abolitionist.

I see that the abolitionists who are friends of temperance (and all abolitionists are friends of temperance) have something to fear, as well as something to hope, from such Opinions, as these of Chief Justice Beardsley and Mr. Hill. For in the first place, if to reduce a man to slavery, without any trial, or even without process of law, falls short of the requirements of "due process of law," it by no means follows, that the provisions of our Maine Law fall short of those requirements. And, in the second place, if to deprive a man of his life, or of his property, by such summary means as our Maine Law provides, would be unconstitutional, it by no means follows, that it is unconstitutional to take and destroy that, which, though once his property, he has now forfeited, by reckless, cruel, and murderous misuse.

I keep in my house a gun to shoot mad dogs with. But, if, on your visiting me, I aim it at you, you may wrench it from my hands, and direct it to pierce and yet to do no harm to me. It is my property, and I have a right to shoot mad dogs with it. But it ceased to be such, as soon as I perverted it to the shooting of innocent men. The very moment I pointed it at you, I lost all property in it. So alcohol, as long as it is used for its proper and lawful use, is property; but it ceases to be such, as soon as it is devoted to the multiplication of papers and madmen, and to the most frightful destruction of all the precious interests of life. And we are not to be until the abolitionists, destructively sold and drunk, for our authority to destroy it. We are to wait only for clear evidence, that it is put to such purpose. You are not bound to wait until I have actually shot at you, ere you are authorized to take any self-evident evidence that I intended to shoot you in sufficient authority for you to destroy it.

If the friends of temperance are wise, they will base their rights to destroy intoxicating liquors, which are put on sale for a drink, upon a ground lower than that which liquors have ceased to be property. If they are wise, they will not allow themselves to be seduced from this ground to one where they may be plausibly, if not very strongly, contrary to their consciences, induced to do so.

Your friend, GERRIT SMITH. SENATOR SUMNER.

The visit of Senator Sumner to this city, to deliver an address before the Anti-Slavery Society, was changed to a remarkable and significant occasion, by the spontaneous enthusiasm of the multitude who have been attracted to love him, for that devotion to liberty which inspires his powers and consecrates his scholarship. Greeted at first, in the Metropolitan Theatre, by an audience such as is only met rarely in any city, he was received with an enthusiasm numbering at least four thousand, and including a very large representation of the fashion, the wealth, and the political influence of the city, as well as of the clergy and the distinguished laymen assembled here from abroad by the anniversary—attended to with profound and responsive attention from the first to the last of an address occupying nearly three hours in its delivery, and full of the most thoughtful and uncompromising anti-slavery truths.

He was immediately invited to repeat the discourse in the Plymouth Church in Brooklyn. This again was filled, to its utmost capacity, by a most intelligent and influential audience, welcoming the speaker with cheers, and responding to his expressions with the most enthusiastic applause. He was solicited to repeat the same discourse at Niblo's Theatre, where the scene which met him on his first appearance was for the third time reproduced; the immense intention and the most successful management of the population of New York, which were drawn from abroad by the attraction of the occasion, accumulated by their equal enthusiasm that which had already demonstrated its value.

A proud occasion for the man and the Senator, this has been even a prouder one for the Cause which he represents. Not all his varied and elegant learning, not the perspicuous force and measure of his logic, not the living and rhythmic energy of his language, could have welded together such immense and repeated assemblages of the best, the bravest, and the most patriotic of our community, if these had not been employed on any other theme; if these had not been connected with the rare prestige of the speaker's splendid senatorial battles for the dumb and down-trodden millions of the enslaved.

Mr. Sumner was welcomed to New York as on the whole the foremost of the Federal States, and the population of New York, which were drawn from abroad by the attraction of the occasion, accumulated by their equal enthusiasm that which had already demonstrated its value.

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will greet with approval, appropriate with delight, and impress with the tremendous might of its commercial, political, and social power, the utterances of Truth thus fearlessly spoken.—Independent.

Special Notices.

A CALL FOR A NATIONAL CONVENTION OF COLORED AMERICANS.

FELLOW CITIZENS.—The present aspect of the times, and the condition of our brethren in bonds, and our own peculiar position as Freedmen, require of us some well-directed effort to counteract the debasing influence that holds us in our present anomalous condition in this our native country; and in obedience to the demands of stern necessity for united action, the undersigned, agreeable to appointment and by direction of the National Council at its last meeting, held in the city of New York, May 10th, 1855, do call a Convention of the People, through their delegated representatives, to assemble in the city of PHILADELPHIA, Pa., on the 16th DAY of OCTOBER, 1855, under the form and title of a National Convention of the Free People of Color of the United States.

After close observation, and mature deliberation, we have arrived at the conclusion, that the Free People of Color, if they would disengage themselves from whatever tends to impede their march, and remove whatever obstacles are in the way of their progress—if they would fully subserve the cause of Liberty, which is the cause of God, must take upon them the responsibility of doing and acting for themselves—of laying out and directing the work of their own elevation. That so far as being mere aids and lookers-on, the time has fully come when they must be the guides, leaders and active operators in this great Reform.

Who, it may be asked, can lay a stronger claim to a cause, and who, having the power and ability, can better promote it, than the most deeply interested; and upon whom has the elevation of the People of Color in these United States a stronger claim, and who can better direct and promote the work, than the People of Color themselves? In our elevation lies the freedom of our enslaved brethren; in that elevation is centered the germ of our own high destiny, and the best well-being of the whole people.

Years of well intended effort have been expended for the special freedom of the slave, while the elevation of the free colored man has been entirely overlooked. But to every true friend of freedom it must now be too obvious, that the whole process of Operation against the huge and diabolical system of oppression and wrong, has been storn of more than half its strength and efficacy, because of this neglect of the interests of the Free People of Color—interests so vital that we dare not longer permit them to remain in a state of neglect. If nothing else, then, these years of experience have taught every true friend of Liberty, that the elevation of the free man is inseparable from, and lies at the very threshold of the great work of the slave's restoration to freedom, and equally essential to the highest well-being of our own common country.

It is equally obvious that since the work of elevation of the Free People of color is (so to speak) the lever by which the whole must rise, that work must now receive a vigorous and hearty support from all of those upon whom it has a claim.

The work thus foreshadowed for the consideration of the Convention, is various, and much of it difficult; yet, the power of its accomplishment lies in systemization and direction of it—and while we would make no direct specifications—while we would be prescriptive in nothing, still we would recommend such a course as shall prepare us, and those to come after us, to take a manly part in all things in which we have an interest, in common with the rest of our fellow citizens. We would have the Convention ascertain the precise point now reached in our present progress. We would call its attention to the state and character of Education and educational privileges among us, with a view to their improvement, or, if need be, change and adaptation to our demands. We would direct it to an examination of our business relations and habits, and devise such ways and means as will render them more available. We would have it give, if possible, to whatever of mechanical or artistic skill there is among us, impetus and extension.

To the department of Agriculture, also, we would have it direct its attention and encouragement; and so, in all, there will be got in us, and in our youth especially, a strong and increasing desire for these pursuits. There are also Political and Social Rights that lie at the very foundation of our manhood, to be obtained, and confidence in ourselves to be corrected, and confidence to be strengthened or restored. Much of the work commenced in the National Convention at Rochester in '53, demands now a vigorous prosecution; other portions of it re-modelled or shaped to meet our new necessities; and the whole to receive a stimulus that will forward it towards its completion.—The progress of events, too, may have given rise to exigencies

