

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS ITEMS

A copy of Dr. Cheever's great work, "God against Slavery," was recently sent to the Queen of England, by one of his friends. Sir C. B. Phipps sent a most courteous reply, to the effect that Her Majesty was graciously pleased to accept of the work.

The refusal of the South Carolina Court to convict Capt. Townsend, of the slave Echo, is another and conclusive evidence that the Southern people who are interested directly in maintaining slavery, will do all in their power to reopen the African slave trade. Here is a clear case of piracy, which lacks no link of evidence, and the Charleston Court deliberately acquits the chief and all the parties engaged in it. The battle will have to be fought on this great question before ten years have passed.

The Savannah Republican says:—"Philip McNulty, a traveling agent for a patent bedstead, having from Ohio, was detected last week in an attempt to decoy certain slaves of Covington to a free State. The citizens of that place rid themselves of the scamp by shearing his locks, applying a thick coat of printer's ink to his person, and then riding him on a rail to the depot, where he was allowed to depart. Served him exactly right, only a good cowhiding might have justly been added."

Our Government has been officially informed of the neutral attitude assumed by England and Prussia in the Italian war, and a diplomatic circular will be issued declaring our own position likewise to the world.

Messrs. Jennings, Lowe, Davis and Mitchell, the kidnappers, have been liberated on bail of \$500 each, with good sureties. Their trials are set for the 6th of July next, in the Lorain Common Pleas. They are to be defended by the U. S. District Attorney, free of charge, in pursuance of instructions from Washington. So the people of the United States are to be taxed to pay the expense of defending these land pirates.

The latest intelligence from Senator Sumner gives hope of his ability to occupy the seat from which he was so rudely struck down, at the opening of the next Congress.

Recent letters received in Washington, from sources entitled to credit, mention that rumors were prevalent in various portions of Italy that the Pope might be compelled to take refuge in the United States. Our Ministers at Rome and Naples speak of it as highly probable, owing to the unsettled and precarious condition of things.

The Columbus Gazette states that thirty negroes from North Carolina, who had lately been emancipated by their master, recently passed through that city, on their way, as is said, to the northern part of the county, where they intend settling.

John Bright and Richard Cobden have been elected to the new British Parliament. Mr. Bright had an immense majority from Birmingham, and Mr. Cobden was returned without opposition from Rockdale.

The number of postage stamps, at different times, sold at the Post Office in New York City, from January 1 to April 1, 1859, was 5,680,000; from April 1 to May 9, the number sold was 3,390,000, making a total of 9,070,000 stamps sold in about four months. This does not include the sale of stamped envelopes.

A letter from Rev. Theodore Parker represents him as improving in health. He expected to leave Santa Cruz in an English steamer for Southampton, England.

Richard Cobden has joined Horace Greeley in his perambulations over the mountains to California.

A dispatch from Columbus informs us that the Supreme Court have decided the Bushnell and Langston Habeas Corpus Case, by remanding the prisoners. Judges Sutfill and Brinkerhoff dissented. The majority base their decision upon precedent, and not upon their own opinions as to the strict constitutionality of the Fugitive Slave Law.

A resolution recommending the exclusion of free negroes from the State of Ohio, was introduced into the recent Democratic State Convention held at Columbus. Senator Pugh opposed and prevented its passage, because, he said, public sentiment was not yet ripe for the measure. He said one thousand slaves a year were brought into Hamilton County to be manumitted.

The Annual Meeting of the Friends of Human Progress commences at Waterloo today. The gathering is expected to be unusually interesting.

The Iowa State Reporter estimates the present population of Iowa at not less than 800,000, and thinks the next census will show fully one million.

Mr. Bigelow, in a letter to the Post, from Paris, says that some two hundred blouses came arm-in-arm down the street from the depot, immediately after Napoleon's departure, and the Massacre of the Innocents.

The Richmond Enquirer formally repudiates Thomas Jefferson as a political teacher.—The Enquirer cannot stand his anti-slavery sentiments and doctrines which teach the equality of man.

Henry Clay late has written an indignant letter denying the allegations of the St. Louis Democrat, to the effect that this noted Border Ruffian had been kidnapping slaves.

HOWELL COBB'S SLAVES IN LUCK.—Mr. Secretary Cobb's negroes are in a better financial condition than the Treasury over which he presides. The Macon (Ga.) State Press, says:

"We have been informed by our worthy Mayor, O. G. Sparks, Esq., of the firm of Hardeman & Sparks of this city, that he has sold the crop of cotton belonging to the negroes of Col. John B. Lamar and the Hon. Howell Cobb, to James Rea, for \$3,969 61. This is all clear money to them, and we are likewise informed that the same negroes sell sugar cane, syrup, chickens and eggs, which amount to at least one-half as much more."

Our Correspondence.

THE POPULAR THEMES OF THE DAY.

MR. EDITOR:—Having a leisure hour at my disposal, I thought I would write a few random thoughts upon the popular themes of the day. If you think they will interest your numerous readers, you may give them a place in your valuable paper.

The Sickness tragedy is about "played out," and the troubled sea of popular opinion has again resumed its dead level. While the pulpit and the press of this country have been loud in their denunciations of such men as P. Barton Key, they are dumb upon the subjects of the slave's wrongs, deaf to the pleadings of the whip-scared bondmen, who have no right to defend the sanctity of their homes, and blind to the disgraceful scenes daily enacted in this "Christian land," under the sanction of American law. Should the slave husband murder the invader of his home, all Christendom would stand aghast with virtuous indignation; and yet public opinion applauds the deed of Daniel E. Sickles. The glaring deformity of the slave system is aptly illustrated in the sale of those 429 slaves by Pierce M. Butler of Philadelphia. That was one of the darkest scenes in the drama of American slavery, and any one that can read the particulars, without growing hatred to the accursed system, must be destitute of all the finer feelings of humanity.

And yet, every such scene is only adding more weapons to that moral armory which is destined to overthrow the system of slavery. The Oberlin rescue case is another dark page in the annals of this country, and will be read by after coming generations as one of the barbarisms of the nineteenth century. And yet these scenes fail to arouse the North from the slumber of indifference into which it has fallen. It is almost impossible to create anything like anti-slavery sentiment in the minds of the people; their hearts are encased in an armor of selfishness that resists even woman's pleadings. What to them is the fact that men, women and children are sold upon the auction block with cattle, sheep and swine? Their sympathies are with the heathen in other lands, and the fettered millions at home are left to toil on, crushed beneath the iron heel of oppression. What is it to them that the Fugitive Slave Act has converted the North into one vast hunting ground for men, and that in the State of Ohio men are tried and imprisoned for acting according to the dictates of humanity and reason? Notwithstanding the many evils with which we have to contend, I have yet hope that our cause will eventually triumph. Slavery, like every other sin, hates to be exposed, and it is our work to expose it in all its horrors. Our only hope for the redemption of our race is in continued agitation—for "eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

WATERLY, May 23, 1859.

LETTERS FROM MASSACHUSETTS.—NO. II.

MR. EDITOR:—Since I wrote you, your paper, containing your anti-slavery sermon from the text of the Sickles tragedy, has reached me. I like it; it has the ring of the true metal. True, as you say, the text is not the "highest gospel," but the sermon certainly is, for it is the deliverance to the captive, and the setting at liberty them that are bound.—In the good hereafter, holiness to the Lord shall be written upon all things. Even now, those who have eyes to see, can read anti-slavery written in letters of light upon all things. Even the shameful Sickles affair becomes an anti-slavery sermon, ringing with trumpet tones on the dull ears that had refused to listen to the cry of the slave. I have no fear that this perfect law of liberty shall not yet become the law of the land. Every event and circumstance, in whatever walk of life, is but an earnest protest against slavery; and if these should hold their peace, the very stones would cry out against it.

How beautifully Mrs. Stowe weaves anti-slavery into her new story—"The Minister's Wooing"—or rather how enwoven and enwrought with all the romance of our country is this same hated anti-slavery! It is only that Mrs. Stowe has found the thread, and has the skill to trace it. I believe it is held by botanists that all parts of a plant contain the germ of all other parts—this the root will develop a stalk, and in like manner the stalk will develop a seed, and so on. Just so, anti-slavery permeates every thing; it only needs the sunlight of opportunity to develop the germ of liberty, whose leaves are for the benefit of the nations. But I was speaking of Mrs. Stowe's new story. How unwearably and conclusive are Candace's arguments, "Is neither huffs nor hore; 's a reasonable being—a woman—as much a woman as anybody." Can any thing be more adroit than the way Mrs. Stowe makes Candace answer the silly, but still always repeated arguments, that the lazy niggers would n't work unless they were compelled to, and if they were set free they would all cut their masters' throats? "I want you all to know, dat it's my will and pleasure to go right on doin' my work jes' the same; an' Missus, please, I'll allers put three eggs in de crullers, now; an' I won't turn de wash-basin down in de sink, but hang it jam up on de nail, an' I won't pick up chips in a milk pan, ef I'm in ever so big a hurry; I'll do everyting jes' as ye tells me." How pathetic the exclamation with which she concludes—"Now, you'll try me an' see ef I won't!" Ah! try me and see if I won't—so says the slave in the cotton field, and the rice swamp, earning by his unrequited toil the means by which

his master lives in idleness and luxury, to the insulting assertion that the negro cannot take care of himself. Try me and see, says the African mother, sitting in her desolation, to the delicate northern woman, who thinks the African is but half human, and therefore cannot have the same affections and sympathies with herself.

I have been reading in some old papers some speeches of Carl Schurz. His words thrill me to my very heart's core. There is hope for the slave, there is hope for us all, for we stand or fall together, when such words as these are uttered and cheered in Faneuil Hall:—"Disunion! Will not, with your doctrine, the Union be a rope of sand? Sir, it is better that this Union be a rope of sand around those who are willing to stay together than a rope of hemp around the neck of liberty!" God bless the Germans! Let them come to us with their eloquent words and eloquent deeds, and shame us out of our sordid selfishness.

The two years amendment has, as you see, passed in Massachusetts, and such men as Carl Schurz are proscribed. When shall we learn the great truth that our mother country is the worst?

Charles Hovey is dead! A good man and true—always on the side of the oppressed, and against the oppressor. How can we spare him?

What will come of all this Oberlin excitement? Good, no doubt, for "ever the right comes uppermost." How differently people look upon that authority called law, when it stands in the way of the liberty of the slave, from the manner in which they regard it, when a man like Sickles is arraigned before its tribunal. In the case of the murderer and the libertine, it is easy to find expedients for his release; but if a fugitive slave, or one who has befriended him, is to be tried, the majesty of law must be vindicated, though the whole army and navy are put in requisition.

A. F. R. SPRINGFIELD, May 15, 1859.

THE OBERLIN-WELLINGTON RESCUE PRISONERS.

Why they are in Jail—How they are situated, and how they fare.

To the Editor of the N. Y. Tribune. Sir: The frequency with which the inquiry is made, "Why are you in jail, and how do you fare?" coming to me from all parts of the country, leads me to think that an answer to the question would be acceptable to your many readers. Venturing, therefore, upon your liberality, I offer them the following statement:

The "Rescue" trials commenced on the 6th of April. All of the indicted who had been arrested, except three or four who were excused by the District-Attorney, kept themselves in daily attendance upon the Court during the "Bushnell trial," as their personal recognizances required. While discharging their duties to the Court to the letter, we were, soon after the opening of the "Langston trial," contrary to legal rules and to justice, and for no offence except that of refusing to answer before the Jury, which was a just and proper defence, and which the Court directed to proceed to the trial of the other cases, ordered into custody. Thus shamefully put into prison, they refused to accept of liberty on any terms short of a righting by the Court of the indignity and wrong which they had suffered at its hands.

On the Monday following the commitment, the Court did recede from its ruling respecting the Jury, but it confirmed the insult it had offered to the prisoners in wrongfully putting them into custody, by recording a journal entry which declared that the defendants were ordered into durance because they surrendered themselves in discharge of their recognizances; while the fact was that the recognizances were canceled by the Court itself, after the commitment had been ordered.

From the time that the Court thus redressed one wrong, while it intensified another, to the present hour, the prisoners have seen no opportunity for escaping custody by renewing their recognizances, which did not bring with it necessarily for acknowledging in the act of entering the recognizances, that the fault of the commitment lay with themselves; that the going into custody was self-imposed, for mere effect; that what they had done for effect had failed of its purpose, and that they were conscious of present, and expected final defeat.

These things the prisoners have not been willing to acknowledge. For, in the first place, self-respect has required them to show that they could understand insults if they were not at liberty to resent them. The same motive which made Christ rebel indignities by a bearing, which drew from his persecutors the rebuke, "answered thou to the high priest so?" and which prompted Paul to express a sense of outrage which he had suffered by saying, "They have beaten us open, and have cast us into prison; and now they thrust us out privily; and they say, 'Let them come themselves, and let us hear what they have to say.'"

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has long been celebrated. With this intention every day illustrated before them, they have been constrained to prove by their conduct, that while the prosecution can punish, it cannot subvert that living principle against which it has chosen to pit itself. Hence, what his Honor Judge Nelson saw fit to characterize as "unpunctilious," they regard as duty, and so duty made imperative by circumstances of more than common moment. Such are the facts and such the motives, under the operation of which fourteen men, who mean to obey all righteous laws to the last letter, are made wretchedly tedious and wearing confinement to jail.

But leaving this subject, we close our article with a few paragraphs upon miscellaneous topics connected with the imprisonment, which will be likely to interest the reader.

When the alleged "rescuers" were first imprisoned they numbered twenty. Of these, fifteen are from Oberlin, and four from Wellington and its vicinity. From the beginning of the confinement, strong outside influences, many of them obviously prompted by the "delegation" to induce it to detach itself from its fellows from Oberlin. The motive was probably confessed by an officer who was said to a party which he had underwritten, "We mean to make a point of Oberlin!" (A motive, by the way, which District-Attorney Belden and his assistant, Judge Bliss, had previously betrayed in the malignant intention which they constantly leveled at Oberlin and its saints.) The outside influences, all plied, at length accomplished their purpose. All the Wellington prisoners, except Matthew Gillette, a veteran of 75 years, left the prison on bail and soon after left the city for their homes.

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counseled them to preserve order. Let us make known our rights and our determination to sustain those rights, even to the last issue; but as you value your position as Republicans, as members of the right, let good order characterize your doings, and keep you from any illegal acts. Whist men are prosecuted here to fine and imprisonment for obeying the natural instincts and dictates of our nature, the law against the Slave Trade is treated with contempt at the South, and the offenders against the law are set at liberty.

At least ten thousand persons, says the Cleveland Herald, listened to this address.—Joshua R. Giddings was the permanent President. A Declaration was adopted, setting forth the evils of violations of the Constitution by Congress and Executive, the encroachments upon State and personal rights by the Federal Judiciary, and the use of the Supreme Court as the agent of political parties and Executive tyranny; recommending the abolition of the life-tenure of judges; that a fund, to be called the "Fund of Liberty," to which no subscription above one dollar is to be received from any individual, be raised, for the relief and indemnification of the imprisoned "Oberlin Rescuers," and to be used further in publications; that Hon. J. R. Giddings, Herman Canfield and Robert F. Payne, be a Committee to sue out the writ of habeas corpus in behalf of the prisoners. In conclusion, a declaration of confidence in the Republican party, for a restoration of the Federal Government to the primitive purity of Jeffersonian Republicanism, was made.

Hon. E. D. Wade, Judge Tilden, Mr. Giddings and Gov. Chase, and others, made stirring speeches, counseling only lawful measures of redress for wrongs against the sovereignty of the people and against humanity, but expressing all the sternest feelings in defense of right.—Rockwell Democrat.

GLASGOW NEW ASSOCIATION FOR THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY.

The Eighth Annual Meeting of the Glasgow (Scotland) New Association for the Abolition of Slavery was held in the Wesleyan Chapel, John Street, on Tuesday evening, March 22nd, 1859.

The Meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. J. Edwards, of Ottawa, Canada. David Smith, Esq., Vice-President of the Association, occupied the Chair. After the Chairman's address, the Report was read by Mr. Gow, the Secretary. It was moved by Rev. John Edmond, and seconded by Rev. Alexander Wallace, that this Report be printed and circulated under the direction of the Committee.

The following Resolutions were then moved and adopted:

I.—Moved by the Rev. Dr. Robson, and seconded by Rev. John Edwards:

"That this Association views with deep regret the Scheme of Immigration passed by the Legislative Assembly of Jamaica, and cannot but regard it as unjust alike to the immigrants, and to the colored population of the island, inasmuch as—Firstly, It will be found impossible to obtain immigrants otherwise than by purchase or deception; they will not be allowed to choose their own masters, the kind of labor they shall engage in, the localities they shall inhabit, nor will they have any voice in fixing the rate of wages, nor be able to leave the Colony at their option; the scheme thus reviving many of the evils of Slavery under another name. Secondly, The introduction of the proposed class of laborers will to a great extent, deprive those at present in the Colony of the means they have of supporting themselves and their families, there being ample evidence to prove that there is no general want of labor for the cultivation of the soil. Thirdly, By operating so as to decrease the present inadequate rate of wages, the measure will provoke hostile feelings among the peasantry of the Island, and imperil the peace and order of the Colony. Fourthly, The introduction of a class of heathen foreigners, with their wickedness and superstitions, will act most injuriously upon the inhabitants of Jamaica, and very much retard the operations now being carried on for their religious and moral improvement. And this meeting hereby resolves, that a Memorial embodying this Resolution shall be drawn up, signed by the Chairman of the meeting, and forwarded for presentation of Her Most Gracious Majesty, praying Her to withhold Her Royal assent from this measure of the Legislative Assembly of Jamaica."

II.—Moved by Rev. Dr. Lorimer, and seconded by Rev. Mr. Mitchell, of Toronto, Canada:

"That this Association has seen with both surprise and sorrow the action of the American Tract Society, in rescinding the resolution of 1857, (in which it was agreed to suppress no part of Bible Truth on the duties of masters and servants,) because of the threats of the South to abandon the Society, in the event of its carrying out the requirements of the Great Master to 'keep back nothing of all that the Lord their God had declared'; and this Association considering this retrograde movement, feels compelled to declare entire want of confidence in a Society which openly repudiates the law of that God whose truth it was established to promote."

III.—Moved by Rev. Mr. Troy, of Windsor, Canada, and seconded by Mr. C. J. Russell, Medical Student:

"That this Association views with deep abhorrence the attempt being made in North Carolina and other States, to expatriate or re-enslave, the free colored people of those States, and urgently entreating the friends of freedom, both in this country and America, to lift up their united voice against this iniquitous measure, and if possible, prevent its being confirmed by their Legislative Assemblies. The following outline of the proposed enactment will show the extent of its malignity. A Bill has already been introduced before the Legislature of North Carolina, and provides that any free person of color coming into the State of North Carolina, shall either give a bond for 1000 dollars with approved security, for his immediate removal; or be committed to the public jail, with an order to the Sheriff to expose him for sale to the highest bidder for a period of one year; and that if the required bond be not forthcoming at the expiration of that period, he shall be again sold as a slave for the term of his natural life; the proceeds of said sales being appropriated to the benefit of the common schools of the county. It is also further provided, that all free colored persons at present in the State, shall be allowed two years in which to effect their removal, and that failing to do this, they shall be subjected to the same conditions as those who come into the State."

IV.—Moved by Rev. Mr. Troy, of Windsor, Canada, and seconded by Mr. C. J. Russell, Medical Student:

"That this Association views with deep abhorrence the attempt being made in North Carolina and other States, to expatriate or re-enslave, the free colored people of those States, and urgently entreating the friends of freedom, both in this country and America, to lift up their united voice against this iniquitous measure, and if possible, prevent its being confirmed by their Legislative Assemblies. The following outline of the proposed enactment will show the extent of its malignity. A Bill has already been introduced before the Legislature of North Carolina, and provides that any free person of color coming into the State of North Carolina, shall either give a bond for 1000 dollars with approved security, for his immediate removal; or be committed to the public jail, with an order to the Sheriff to expose him for sale to the highest bidder for a period of one year; and that if the required bond be not forthcoming at the expiration of that period, he shall be again sold as a slave for the term of his natural life; the proceeds of said sales being appropriated to the benefit of the common schools of the county. It is also further provided, that all free colored persons at present in the State, shall be allowed two years in which to effect their removal, and that failing to do this, they shall be subjected to the same conditions as those who come into the State."

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THE ZANESVILLE RESCUE CASE.—Mr. Thos. McLean, the Jailor of this county, went to Columbus last evening for the purpose of making a return to the writ of habeas corpus granted by Judge Brinkerhoff, ordering him to produce the body of the negro Johnson, who pleaded guilty to an attempt to rescue the slave at Zanesville, before the Supreme Court of the State. Mr. McLean will return that the prisoner is in the custody of the United States Marshal, and that he, the Jailor, has no control over him, beyond being the custodian of his person for the Marshal; that the latter refuses the prisoner to pass beyond his immediate control, and therefore the respondent is unable to produce him in Court, as commanded.

In connection with this case, we may add the fact that Col. Sifford, yesterday, received a letter from U. S. Attorney-General Black, directing him to retain possession of the body of the prisoner, at all hazards; that if a writ of habeas corpus from the State Courts is served upon him, to obey it so far as to appear in Court with all the papers connected with the case, showing by what authority he held the prisoner, but not to take the letter before any of the State Courts upon an order made by them. The Marshal is advised that if he should be attached for contempt, to report at once to the Department at Washington, and ample protection will be afforded.—He is further instructed to act generally upon the defensive, and to maintain the laws without regard to consequences. He must