

THE PROGRESS OF ABOLITIONISM.

The executive of Vermont, in his message to the General Assembly, intimates the opinion that Congress may abolish slavery in States where it exists.

The above is an extract from the late message of the Governor of Ohio. It brings up forcibly to the minds of all southern men in the most striking and irresistible manner the ultimate designs of the North on the South; the emancipation and discharge of four millions of slaves in our midst without compensation to the owners. This despicable miscreant intimates that Congress has the power to confiscate the property of the South to the extent of two thousand millions of dollars in value.

That the progress of abolitionism is onward in its violent mad course, is as plain and palpable as the noon-day sun, and none but those who are secretly working in the traces of the abolitionists, and traitors to the South, can or do deny it. Fifteen years ago, a small and despised sect called the abolitionists existed in a few States. They were mobbed in Philadelphia and Cincinnati. Now what do we behold? They have power sufficient to exclude the slaveholder from every foot of the territory in the United States, and hem in the slaves in a given boundary, thus and starve out the master or the slave. The southern States are now in a state of blockade. They have no outlet for their increasing slave population, which must result in driving the white laborer out of the country as the slaves increase in numbers; and thus the abolitionists are energetically pushing near their attacks on the very vitals of the southern people. The dispersion of slaves over widely scattered territory has resulted most favorably to the master and the slave. It has relieved those sections of the Union where there were too many slaves, and taken them to States and tracts the country where they are more needed—are more profitable to their owners, and consequently are much better clothed and much better treated. The whole matter with the internal slave trade has resulted favorably to the best interests of the slave. Yet these abominable fanatics seem determined to involve master and slave in one common ruin; and the first step in this grand drama is the exclusion of the slaveholder from the territories of the United States, and the placing the South in a state of blockade.

What next do we behold? A man in the chief magistracy who, during his whole course in congress, acted with the most ultra anti-slavery men in Congress, and who, however he may be forced to do as Chief Magistrate, is just as much opposed to the South as Slade or Giddings. Heretofore among the half-way and piece-meal encroachments on the South we have heard at all times protestations that nothing was intended against slavery in the States—no, nothing was intended; and yet the encroachments go on. These lying hypocrites move forward—restless, unceasing, and vigilant. They attack the slave trade in the District of Columbia. That attack is successful. Winthrop calls free negroes "citizens" of Massachusetts—contends that the southern States have no right to pass laws to prevent these citizens of Massachusetts from going to the southern States. He labors to do away the prejudice against color and caste, and thus seeks to undermine the constitution and pave the way for abolitionism and amalgamation. Others attack the existence of slavery in the District of Columbia. Thus the war goes on; and now a leading journal in the North, the New York Express, a journal friendly to the execution of the fugitive slave law, and of the constitution, makes the plain, palpable declaration, that the United States is at an end in all the North out of the limits of that city—and that solely because, as he says, there are 500,000 souls within the sound of the city bell who live on southern produce.

And now the last act of the drama comes from the Banner State of Whiggery. The Legislature of Vermont nullifies the fugitive slave law, and the Governor of the State declares his message to the Legislature, that Congress has the power to abolish slavery in the States.

What next? The sagacious and prudent abolitionists will say to him "Be quiet—you are precipitate—you are in advance of the times—you injure the cause of abolitionism.—State American.

RE-VACCINATION

The late Dr. Fisher, of Boston, after having paid much attention to this subject, sometime since announced the following as his conclusions:

- 1. That one single and perfect vaccination does not, for all time in all cases, deprive the system of its susceptibility of variolous disease.
 - 2. That one or more re-vaccinations do; and that, consequently, a physician should recommend re-vaccination, when questioned as to its necessity.
 - 3. The system is protected from variolous contagion when it is no longer susceptible of vaccine influence, as tested by re-vaccination.
- Every person therefore, who would be fully protected from Small Pox, should be not only once vaccinated, but should have the operation repeated, one or more times, or until the system ceases to be affected by the virus. For most persons one operation would be found sufficient, while others might require several. Re-

vaccination, at least once, should always be practiced. If this was the case generally, this dire disease would soon become almost unknown.

An English paper makes the following observations: "The United States sends to us four-fifths of the raw material, which this immense population works on, and without which this immense population seems doomed to be thrown out of employ. Our yearly supply of cotton from other quarters has been steadily decreasing, and in fact America is substantially the source by which, and by which alone, our cotton manufactures can be kept in healthy condition."

Darlington Flag.
DARLINGTON, S. C.
J. H. NORWOOD, Editor.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MARCH 5TH 1851.

UNITE, AND YOU SHALL FORM ONE OF THE MOST SPLENDID EMPIRES ON WHICH THE SUN EVER SHONE, OF THE MOST HOMOGENEOUS POPULATION, ALL OF THE SAME BLOOD AND LINEAGE, A SOIL THE MOST FRUITFUL, AND A CLIMATE THE MOST LOVELY. BUT SUBMIT, SUBMIT! THE VERY SOUND CURDLES THE BLOOD IN MY VEINS. BUT, O! GREAT GOD, UNITE US, AND A TALE OF SUBMISSION SHALL NEVER BE TOLD!—Chertes.

OUR SALUTATION.

In entering upon the duties of our new and untried position, as the conductor of a public journal, we make no false exhibition of modesty in saying, that we feel that we have assumed a responsibility of no small magnitude. The office of an Editor, at all times important and responsible, is perhaps more so in the present juncture of political affairs in this country, than it has ever been since the adoption of the Federal Constitution. Our Flag is unfurled at a period in our history, when the political sky is overcast with gloom—when the portentous cloud which a few years ago appeared above the horizon, small and insignificant though it was, has nearly reached the zenith and threatens to burst over that section of this Confederacy in which our lot has been cast. It must be apparent even to the most indifferent and casual observer of the signs of the times, that the fell spirit of Abolition, constitutes a centrifugal force in this government, which at no distant day is destined to rend asunder the bands, which have so long united this "family of nations," in one common sisterhood. For thirty years the contest for the ascendancy, has been waged between the two great sections of this Union—the last great battle has been fought, and lost by the South. California the great El Dorado of this western world, conquered from Mexico, chiefly by the prowess of Southern Generals and Southern soldiers, with eight hundred miles of sea coast and a territory nearly if not quite equal in extent to that of the original thirteen States, has been admitted into the Union with a constitution which prohibits a majority of those very men, whose valor, whose blood, and whose money obtained it from Mexico, from emigrating thither with their property; contrary to every principle of justice and equity, and in violation of a solemn compromise, acquiesced in by the South at the time of the admission of Missouri, that the line of 36° 30' north latitude, should ever afterwards form the boundary between free and slave territory. It is true that since their recent victory our enemies have ceased in a measure to assail us through the medium of Congressional debate, which has so long served as a masked battery, behind which they have entrenched themselves, and endeavored to hurl into our midst "firebrands arrows and death." Their batteries are hushed into temporary silence, their thunders have died into an echo, and they would fain have us believe, that there is a final cessation of hostilities—that there has been a "permanent adjustment" of the great question at issue, between the North and the South. But we have no confidence in their "Compromise;" they have grossly and shamelessly violated the Missouri Compromise, and they fail to carry out in good faith the fugitive slave law, which is the only hook left for southern submissionists to "hang a hope upon." Henceforth our voice shall be for a separation—we have long since made up our minds, that it must come sooner or later—it is not for us however to say how or when it shall take place. South Carolina has recently spoken at the ballot box, and whenever her voice through her constituted authorities becomes audible in command, it will be ours to obey. Our first and holiest allegiance is due to her, beneath the shade of her Palmetto we drew our first breath, on her bosom we have been nursed and cherished, with her and her institutions our destiny for weal or for woe is indissolubly linked, and by her we intend to stand or fall.

As to the right of secession, we believe it is as clear and indisputable as any truth can be made by demonstration—we regard it as the sheet-anchor of our salvation, and look to it as the only star that twinkles above the horizon of our hopes—its exercise is, we think, simply a question of time and expediency. Thus much we have thought proper to say in reference to our position. We make no pledge as to the future, we shall reserve to ourselves the privilege of commenting on public men and measures as they shall appear to us by the light of reason and common sense, but at the same time remembering that as public journalists, our search should be after truth, and that the columns of a newspaper should be forever barred against the gratification of private pique or personal enmity. No matter bearing the impress of such feelings shall ever gain admittance into our paper—our object is to instruct and amuse, but not to wound. To our friends the cultivators of the soil, we say your interest shall ever be present to our mind—we hope soon to establish exchanges with the ablest Agricultural journals of the South, from which we will make suitable selections, and at the same time we would be glad to receive from the practical farmers of our District, such items of their experience as they may think worthy of being remembered. To our literary friends both male and female, our columns are respectfully opened and we hope soon, with the aid of intelligent and talented correspondents to make the Flag not an unwelcome visitor at their firesides. We would be doing violence to the impulses of our heart, did we omit this occasion of expressing our heartfelt gratitude, to those friends who have shown us so many marks of kindness and favor and manifested such deep interest in the success of our enterprise. This shall stimulate us on our pathway—and we hope by untiring efforts to show that the confidence reposed in us has not been misplaced. We regret exceedingly the causes which have prevented us from issuing our first number as soon as anticipated—they were such as were entirely beyond our control. But we at length have the pleasure of laying before the people of Darlington District, under very favorable auspices, a paper published at home—it is for them to say whether it is worthy of being sustained. By a rigid adherence to the course we have marked out, we hope to merit the approbation of the wise and virtuous, but should we not be so fortunate, as to receive the plaudit of a well done good and faithful servant, we trust we shall enjoy the proud consciousness, of having done our duty.

COTTON.

By the Europa we have accounts of a still further decline in cotton. The highest quotation in Charleston, at the latest date is eleven cents and the lowest seven.

PRICE'S POEMS.

A handsomely bound volume, of miscellaneous poems, by C. AUGUSTUS PRICE, has been laid upon our table. We regret that we have not had time, for a more careful examination of the work; we doubt not however, from the literary reputation of the author, that it is worthy of a thorough perusal. Mr. Price is a native of Darlington District, and many of his poems are connected with the scenes of his earlier years. The work is to be found at the Store of Messrs. COOPER & HUGGINS.

SATURDAY

SATURDAY last was return day in Darlington. We are informed by the Sheriff that only about sixty cases were returned. This is the smallest return which has been made within the last ten or perhaps fifteen years.

OUR THANKS

OUR thanks are due to our representative General McQUEEN, for important and valuable Congressional documents.

WE WOULD RESPECTFULLY

WE would respectfully commend to the attention of the public, Mr. A. D. GALE, Daguerrean artist, whose advertisement may be found in another column. We have had the pleasure of inspecting a number of his pictures of well known citizens of our town, and its vicinity and can truly say that for beauty, accuracy and elegance of finish, we have seldom seen them equaled and never surpassed. Those who wish accurate likenesses of themselves or friends would do well to give him a call and "secure the shadow ere the substance perish."

A VISIT TO THE MASONIC HALL.

THROUGH the polite invitation of a friend who is a mason, and in his company we had the opportunity, a few days since, of gaining admission into the Masonic Hall, which has recently been erected in this town, for the accommodation of the members of St. Davids Lodge. Before visiting it we had been informed that it was well worth seeing, and our anticipations were fully realized. It is truly a noble apartment and its ample and fair proportions give unmistakable evidence, of the good taste and munificence of its builders. The Hall together with its adjoining rooms and passage, occupies the whole of the upper story of that building on the public square, the ground floor of which was formerly, occupied by Capt. JAMES S. McCALL as a store. The Lodge room is fifty feet long by thirty broad, of proportionate height and its pure, white walls and concave roof, give it an air of lightness and elegance. But it is not of the size and architectural proportions of

the Lodge room alone that we propose to make mention for it is furnished with every article necessary for the mystic work, and elegant convenience of those for whose use it was constructed. A chequered carpet covers the floor, curtains of blue and crimson drapery bordered with bullion fringe, hang in graceful festoons from the windows. Massive arm chairs of dark wood, are ranged around and a splendid chandelier is suspended from the arched roof, which when lighted up throws a flood of brilliant light over the apartment. The seats of the master of the Lodge and the principal officers are made of real black walnut, and the relative size, forms, and proportions of those seats, their exquisite polish and finish prove that the hand of a master-workman, had skillfully executed the plan which science and a cultivated taste had laid down on the trestle board. On the eastern side of the Hall, suspended by a large gilt ring over the master's desk, is a magnificent canopy, formed by the blending and interlacing of blue and crimson drapery. In the center of this canopy, in front is the letter "G," a gilded capital of mammoth size, and on either side are medallions representing Washington, which serve the double purpose of ornament and looping up the festoons of drapery.

In the centre of the Hall stands a pure white altar on which was laid the Holy Bible, and various small silver implements similar to those used by mechanics and operative masons. We noticed also the gilded horns of the altar, and the three very tall candlesticks ranged around it, also two tall and ornate Pillars surmounted with globes standing on either side of the desk of one of the officers, and many other things having no doubt symbolic meaning, but which were strange to our eyes, and of the uses of which we were profoundly ignorant. After surveying the noble Hall, and critically observing its furniture and ornaments, we turned to our friend and enquired which of our masonic acquaintances, had acted as the master spirit and had exhibited so chastened a taste, as well in the design of the building, as in the choice and arrangement of its furniture and ornaments? Our wonder was dissipated when he informed us "that the masons (as they always do when about to commence an important undertaking,) had consulted their wives and daughters, that they were indebted to the taste of lovely woman, for the selection of the ornaments, and that her hands had fashioned the canopy and curtains, and disposed the drapery in its graceful folds." The architect is our esteemed fellow citizen JOHN J. RUSSELL and, it was the skilful hand of Mr. J. E. STEWART, which molded into shape the seats of the officers. Both of these gentlemen have, we understand given entire satisfaction to the Masonic Society, and the work which they have each accomplished, fully sustains the high reputation, which they have heretofore acquired as master workmen.

LAW MAGAZINE FOR 1851.

WE have received the January number of this periodical, edited by JOHN LIVINGSTON, No. 54 Wall street New York, which came to us in a new dress and with other considerable improvements. It contains a well executed mezzotint portrait of Chief Justice Cranch, and several articles of peculiar interest to the profession; that on the practice of the Law is especially worthy of the perusal of every lawyer in the country. On the great question of Southern Rights, the Editor uses the following language: "To our Southern readers it may not be improper here to say, that as the conductor of a National Law Periodical, we shall feel bound, by every consideration of duty, to oppose every attempt to violate the constitution, or obstruct the execution of the laws. Nor will any doctrine, having for its object the encroachment upon constitutional rights of the South, find either sympathy or countenance in his journal. Every citizen who truly loves the constitution, and desires the countenance of its existence and its blessings, will resolutely and firmly resist any interference in those domestic affairs which the constitution has clearly and unequivocally left to the authority of the several States." For a similar declaration which was made by us a year ago, we have received many marks of displeasure from those fanatics who appear to have no proper sense of truth, of reason, of justice, or of the obligations of human laws, and whose design is to ruin the prosperity of the South, to create civil dissensions, and ultimately to destroy this great and prosperous American Union. But we shall go on, regardless of their vilification, relying on those true patriots who acknowledge "higher law" than the constitution, and respect and obey legislative enactments, and desire the common good of our country."

WE ARE ALWAYS

WE are always straining some enjoyment beyond our reach in the distance. Some are but the expectation of future parties, but they are the like; but such people are the now of existence. Rather than anticipation is the sum of all our pleasures to-day. I care not what my living is. When we cease to think, toys should no longer amuse

[We commend to the perusal of our readers the following article from the Charleston Mercury, suggested by the Mobile correspondent of the Columbus Times, who uses the following language, "all my hopes are now centered on South Carolina; if she quails before the Federal colossus all is lost. SOUTH CAROLINA, THE HOPE OF THE SOUTH. We copy an interesting letter from Mobile to the Columbus Times. The reader will pause on the emphatic assertions that the cause of the South is in the hands of South Carolina, and that true and earnest patriots in other States have their gaze fixed upon her as the star of destiny, ready to draw omens a glorious success or a gloomy defeat, from the brightening or paling of her light. It is no arrogance to assume that this is true. The position of South Carolina is peculiar. One of the oldest of the States, her sons are scattered over the South, and the threads of sympathy that lead back to the parent heart, penetrate the circle of every Southern community and make the representative and generation of her a part of the traditional sentiment of many States. She cannot be isolated. Every where she must find friends and adherents. In this respect, no Southern State save Virginia can claim the precedence over her, and Virginia has abdicated the rights that all, and none more cheerfully than South Carolina, conceded to her. Virginia has shrunk from the glory and the peril of leading the vanguard and leading the South to the vindication of her rights and the defence of her safety. Her word, which she pledged so freely and bravely, she has left at the pawnbroker's, too poor to redeem it. After drawing the sword with the air of a hero, by some marvellous mistake, Virginia has cast away the blade and retained the scabbard, hugging the empty assertion of State sovereignty, while she has owned the only means of making good. Never did a great people, long honor and live to distinction, so truly sacrifice to one and forget the other. And for what reward, has Virginia closed her eyes and turned her back equally on the sublime lessons of the past and the noble hopes of the future? Who shall pay the price Virginia, for encroaching to transgress the native and of Henry and Washington, of Jefferson and Randolph, into that wretched neutral ground where the pride of State sovereignty and the subservience of a venal courtship hold a doubtful contest, and wrap around each other in fantastical and we say these things in sorrow a mortification, and if there is bitterness in the words, it comes from the remembrance of hopes betrayed, pledges violated, and a proud position abandoned to her and our enemies.

Next to Virginia, we would bid South Carolina, without arrogancy, to claim the leadership of the South. She has not claimed it over an opponent. Gladly would she have seconded North Carolina, or Georgia or Alabama; whatever one of the States, though the youngest and weakest of them all, had placed herself in the van to champion the cause of the South, would have found South Carolina a honest and devoted soldier in her ranks but when all the multiplied difficulties of stepping forward alone—in the face of the threatened vengeance of the Central Government of the newness and strangeness of the step of the impending force of those thousand associations that have made the Union venerable—then all this is considered it is not wonderful that the young States refused the aid, and demurred rather to be galled than to side. The Southern and too, has been sorely perplexed by the supposed conflicting claims of separate State action, and action the co-operation of all. They have been taught and encouraged by the wisest counsellor that the cause which is common to the whole South, must be cherished and defended by the labors and patriotism of the whole. This is right. But the sprung from a Southern Confederacy might spring up like a treacherous weed without a hand to pluck the seed and defend its first tender shoots. A Confederacy to grow into power and strength within the existing Confederacy, like the ichneumon wasp, a body of the caterpillar! The thing is impossible. The action must either be popular, like that of the Nashville Convention, and wholly without authority; or it must be by the States acting in their sovereign character. In the latter case, some one State must take a decisive step in advance, and whatever the form that act may be, it is, practically, SECESSION. It is useless therefore to give it any other form, and it will only weaken its force, to disguise its character, and, whether from fear or policy, to deny or conceal its purpose.

South Carolina is the only State where this bold and decisive step can be taken with the general approval of the people. Her action is not obstructed by the jealous rivalry of parties, accustomed to war upon each other so long that they coolse without cordiality, and look upon every concession

to the cause of the whole as a surrender of their own hopes of dancy. In South Carolina—the no parties. A small fraction people dissent from the policy of separate State action, because they say it may interfere with the united action of the South. They, too, desire as much as the majority, the independence of the South. A few individuals may be found who prefer submission to all things; to whom the very dust on that Federal heel that is grinding us down, is something sacred, and which giveth beauty and honor to him on whom it falleth. We do not take account of these.

South Carolina is then at this time the natural leader of the South, because she can act; because she is free to follow the general convictions of her people. Her action, we are persuaded, will be but a step in advance of the other States. But in that one step, there is the immeasurable space between resistance and submission; between a future glorious, prosperous, secure,—and a future of cowardly concessions, of darkening hopes, of decaying patriotism, and finally of utter and ignominious destruction.

THIRTY-FIRST CONGRESS—2ND SESSION.

In Senate Friday Feb. 28.

ASSIGNMENT OF MILITARY BOUNTY LAND WARRANTS.

Mr. Underwood moved to suspend the morning business, in order to take up the joint resolution from the House explanatory of the act approved September 28, 1850, granting bounty land to persons engaged in the military service of the United States, by declaring that nothing in that act shall be construed as preventing the assignment of the land warrants issued under the act. He desired the resolution be taken up and voted upon; either pass it or reject it. Mr. Mason urged that the resolution should be taken up and acted upon. Messrs. Hamlin and Borland sustained the motion. Mr. Felch opposed taking up the subject; it would lead to a long and protracted discussion. The question was then put, and the motion prevailed—yeas 29, nays 14. The joint resolution was reported to the Senate, and some amendments were concurred in. Mr. Felch addressed the Senate at length in opposition to the resolution. Mr. Hunter thought the resolution would be debated all day, and therefore he moved it be laid on the table. And the question being taken, the motion was lost—yeas 13, nays 35. Mr. Foote earnestly suggested the propriety of having an executive session, and he said that if debate was continued he would, though friendly to the resolution, move to lay it on the table. Mr. Borland briefly replied to Mr. Felch. Mr. Walker commenced a speech in opposition to the resolution, but yielded the floor to— Mr. Foote, who moved the resolution be laid on the table. And the motion was rejected—yeas 14, nays 33. Mr. Walker then resumed his remarks in opposition to the passage of the joint resolution, and, in conclusion, moved an amendment allowing the parties entitled to a land warrant to take, in lieu thereof, United States scrip to the following amounts. In lieu of a land warrant for 160 acres, scrip for \$100; 80 acres scrip for \$50; and for 40 acres, scrip for \$25. On this amendment he asked the yeas and nays. A few members only rising— Mr. W. said: Well, Mr. President, this is a very singular course. Mr. Foote. Mr. President, we are all heartily tired of this discussion. Mr. Walker. And I am tired, sir, of the Senator's interruptions. Mr. Foote. I don't care if he is, sir. The yeas and noes were then ordered on the amendment; and it was disagreed to—yeas 10, nays 28. The amendments were then ordered to be engrossed for a third reading of the joint resolution—yeas 39, nays 13.

COMPENSATION OF MEMBERS OF CONGRESS.

Mr. Pearce, pursuant to notice, introduced a bill to amend an act entitled "An act allowing compensation to the members of the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States, and Delegates of Territories," and all other laws on that subject. The bill simply provides that no other compensation shall be paid members of Congress, for any session convened on the 1st March, other than eight dollars a day; provided that this shall not apply to members taking seats at that session for the first time. Mr. P. asked that the bill be now considered; but objection being made, it was laid over.

CIVIL AND DIPLOMATIC BILL.

Mr. Hunter, from the Committee on Finance, reported back the bill making appropriations for the civil and diplomatic expenses of the Government for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1851, with many amendments. He moved that the bill be now taken up; which motion was agreed to. Numerous amendments reported by the Committee on Finance were voted upon, and amongst others the following:

to the cause of the whole as a surrender of their own hopes of dancy. In South Carolina—the no parties. A small fraction people dissent from the policy of separate State action, because they say it may interfere with the united action of the South. They, too, desire as much as the majority, the independence of the South. A few individuals may be found who prefer submission to all things; to whom the very dust on that Federal heel that is grinding us down, is something sacred, and which giveth beauty and honor to him on whom it falleth. We do not take account of these.

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