

# THE SIGNAL OF LIBERTY.

THE INVOLABILITY OF INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS IS THE ONLY SECURITY TO PUBLIC LIBERTY.

T. FOSTER, & G. BECKLEY, Editors.

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## THE SIGNAL OF LIBERTY

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## MISCELLANY.

### VISIT TO NAUVOO AND THE MORMON PROPHET.

After a ride of two hours from Fort Madison, in Iowa, we arrived at the corporation line of the "Holy City," which is three miles from the river, on which the most densely built part of the city is situated. The limits of the corporation are, I was told, four miles square, and the population from fifteen to twenty thousand, and daily increasing, which I could readily believe from what I saw. On entering the limits of the corporation, we drove a mile without seeing any indication of a city, except a house here and there, at one of which on stopping to enquire how and where we could find entertainment, we received a very sultry reply, and were closely scanned by the man to whom we spoke; presently, however, we got into a more friendly region, and meeting several pedestrians coming out of the city, whom we should have recognized as belonging to the fraternity of saints, only from their style of dress, were on accosting them kindly directed to the best of their knowledge.

After a very circuitous drive we arrived in front of the Temple, which when completed will be an immense and beautiful as well as very novel edifice. The workmanship is of the first character, and the material the most beautifully polished stone. Although a great number of workmen are constantly employed in building, the progress is hardly perceptible; so immense are its dimensions. The basement appeared to be more finished than any other part. It contains the baptismal font, the appearance of which is quite imposing. Around the font are twelve brazen oxen as large as life, and so natural that but for their color I should have taken them for living animals. In front of the temple at about two hundred yards distance is the vault or cemetery of the Prophet and his family. It is large and well constructed; the front neatly finished off with polished stone. The remains of some members of his family are deposited there I was told. I did not go into it. The buildings more recently erected in Nauvoo are generally good, and many of them exhibit a taste and style far surpassing our anticipation. A great number of buildings go up every year, and we were told that seven hundred were in progress at that time, the truth of which I rather doubt; but I should suppose there were from three to four hundred being built when we were there.

After refreshing ourselves at an excellent hotel, kept by the way by a Peorian, who had recently located there, we salied forth to pay our respects to the self-made Prophet. On arriving at his house which is large and neat, though quite unpretending, we were invited into a small room by an aged lady, whom we soon discovered was the mother of the celebrated Joe. She received us with much kindness, which with all my prejudice against Mormonism prepossessed me in her favor. After a few minutes the great imposter entered the room; and I must confess I felt amused at the difference of his appearance from what I had anticipated. His address was remarkably fine, his personal appearance very genteel, and his whole manner that of a gentleman. He entered at once with ease and politeness into conversation on the different topics of interest of the present day. From his conversation when unexcited, I should not have supposed him an uneducated man. He spoke with fluency and great propriety, exhibiting much humor and playfulness in his manner, but in speaking upon doctrinal points he became excited, and was rough, coarse and vulgar. When calm, his eye is soft and pleasing, but to me there was something unpleasant about his mouth, a voluptuousness I can scarcely endure. With the little skill in phonology which I possess, I should think his propensities were licentious and wicked. I came away wondering that Joe Smith should obtain such an influence over the minds of intellectual men.—West. Citizen.

MYSERIOUS PROFESSION.—Now Tom, said the printer of a country newspaper, in giving directions to his apprentice, "put the foreign leaders into a galley and lock 'em up"—let Napoleon's remains have a larger head—distribute the army in the east—take up a line and finish the "British Minstrels"—make the "young Prince" run on with the "Duchesses of Kent"—move the "Kerry hunt" out of the chase—get your stick and conclude the horrid murder which Joe began last night—wash your hands and come to dinner, and then see that all the pi is cleared up." Some printers are devils and no mistake.

In the present U. S. House of Representatives there are 5 Smiths, 4 Browns, 3 Blacks, 2 Greens, and 1 White.

## SELECTIONS.

### [TRANSLATION.] APOSTOLIC LETTER—[BULL] OF OUR MOST HOLY LORD, GREGORY, BY DIVINE PROVIDENCE, XVI. POPE (OF THAT NAME), RELATIVE TO REFRAINING FROM TRAFFIC IN BLACKS.

#### [ARMS.]

#### ROME: PRINTED AT THE URBAN COLLEGE, 1840.

#### GREGORY XVI. OF THE POPES (OF THAT NAME) For the further remembrance of the case.

Placed at the supreme head of the Apostolate, and, although with no merits of our own contributing thereto, acting as vicegerent of Jesus Christ, the son of God, who, in consequence of his very great love for us, having been made man, deigned to die also for the redemption of the world, we think it falls within the sphere of our pastoral care, that we strive by every means in our power to turn away the faithful from the inhuman traffic in blacks, or in any class of men whatsoever.

It is true, when the light of the gospel began

first to be diffused, those wretched beings,

who at that time were falling in so great numbers into the cruel servitude by reason especially of wars then prevailing, felt their condition to be most alleviated with Christian masters.

For, inspired by the Holy Spirit the Apostles taught slaves themselves on the one hand to obey their masters in the flesh, as they would Christ, and to do the will of God from the heart; while on the other hand they directed their masters to treat their slaves kindly, and to render unto them whatsoever is just and fair, and also to forego any threats, well knowing that the Lord of these, as well as of themselves, is in the heavens, and that there is with him no respect of persons. (1.) Since, however, true love towards all was most strongly recommended everywhere by the law of the gospel, and since Christ our Lord had declared that he would consider as done, or refused unto himself, whatever of kindness and compassion should have been extended or refused to the lowly and the needy, (2) it easily resulted therefrom that Christians not only regarded their slaves, especially if Christians, in the light of brothers, (3) but were also more ready to bestow freedom on those who might deserve it, which Gregory of Nyssa shows was a custom to be done on the celebration in particular of the Paschal Rites. (4) Nor were there wanting those who, animated by a still more ardent love for their species, consigned themselves to bondage in order to free others therefrom, many of whom that Apostolic Man, and also Predecessor of Ours, of most holy memory, Clement I., testifies that he was acquainted with. (5) In process of time, therefore, now that the darkness of human superstition has been more fully dispelled, and when the manners of less civilized communities also have been softened down by the gentle influence of Faith working through Love, things have come at length to such a pass, that for ages back no persons have been held in slavery among very many nations of Christians. There were, it is true, from time to time, we say it to our very great sorrow, some of the very number of the Faithful, who, shamefully blinded by the desire of filthy lucre, did not hesitate to reduce to Slavery, in widely separated and remote Lands, Indians, Blacks, or other wretched individuals, or else by establishing and gradually enlarging a traffic in those, who have been made captives by others, to countenance the shameful conduct of these last. Many Roman Pontiffs, it is true, of glorious memory, Predecessors of Ours, did not fail, in accordance with their high office, to censure severely the practices of those men, as injurious to their spiritual safety, and disgraceful to the Christian name; and from which also, they clearly saw that this result would follow, that unbelieving nations should be more confirmed to their hatred toward our true Religion. The Apostolic Letter of Paul III., given May 29, 1537, under the Fisherman's Seal (St. Peter's) to the Cardinal Arch-Bishop of Toledo, has this same object in view; as well as others in succession still further than this same one, given by Urban VIII., on the 22d of April, 1639, to the "Collector Jurium," of the Apostolic Churches in Portugal; in which Letters those individuals are severely censured by name, who dared or presumed to reduce to slavery, to sell, to buy, to exchange, or to give to those pursuing the aforesaid line of conduct, advice, aid, favor and assistance, under any pretext or color whatsoever, or to preach or teach that this was lawful, or to aid in any other way whatsoever the practices above aluded to. (6) Those decrees of the Pontiff's just mentioned, Benedict XIV., subsequently established and renewed by a new Apostolic Letter to the clergy of Brazil, and of certain other regions, given on the 20th day of December, 1741, in which he strove to arouse the anxious feelings of the Priests themselves towards this end. (7) Before this also, another Predecessor of ours still earlier than these, Pius II., on the Empire of the Portuguese being extended in his time to Guinea, a country of the blacks, gave on the 7th Oct. 1462, a letter addressed to the Bishop of Rubio who was about to set out for those parts, in which he not only bestowed upon that Prelate full power for exercising his sacred

functions therewith in greater advantage, but, availing himself of the same opportunity, admonished severely upon those Christians, who were accustomed to drag the Neophytes into slavery. (8) And even in our own times, Pius VII influenced by the same spirit of religion, and love, as his Predecessors, zealously interposed his official influence with those in power, that the traffic in blacks might at length entirely cease among Christians.

These decrees and anxious care on the part

of our predecessors have, with the blessing of

God, proved of no little avail in protecting

the Indians and others above mentioned,

from the cruelty of invaders and from the

Christian traders. Not to such an extent,

however, that this Holy See can congratula-

tion itself on the full success of its zealous ef-

forts for the accomplishment of this end; see-

ing that the trade in blacks, though some-

what lessened, is still carried on by numerous

Christians.

WE, THEREFORE, desiring to remove

so great a disgrace as this from all the bor-

ders of Christendom, and the whole subject

being maturely weighed, (some of Our Ven-

erable Brethren the Cardinals of the Holy

Roman Church being also admitted to our

council,) do hereby, treading in the footsteps

of Our Predecessors, by virtue of our Apostolic

Authority, admonish and earnestly adjure

in the Lord all faithful Christians of every

condition, that no one of them dare for the

time to come, to harass unjustly Indians,

Blacks, or any other persons of this class,

or to despoil them of their property, or to re-

duce them to slavery, or to lend aid, or favor

to others while doing such things towards them,

or to exercise that inhuman traffic, by means

of which the Blacks, as if they were not

human beings, but the merest animals in what-

ever way reduced to Slavery are without any

distinction, in violation of the laws of justice

and humanity, bought, sold, and sometimes

condemned to the endurance of the most pain-

ful labors, and by which, moreover, through

the hope of gain, that originally offered itself

to the owners of slaves by means of this same

traffic, dissensions also and perpetual hostilities

are as it were continually nurtured in the

countries of those unfortunate men.

WE, THEREFORE, by virtue of our Apostolic

Authority, censure all the aforesaid practices,

as utterly unworthy of the Christian name,

and by that same authority, we strictly pro-

hibit and interdict any Ecclesiastic or Layman

from presuming to uphold under any pretext

or color whatsoever, that same traffic in

Blacks, as if it were lawful in its nature, or

otherwise to preach (predicare) or in any way

whatsoever publicly or privately to teach (doce-

re) in opposition to those things which we

have made the subject of admonition in this

our Apostolic Letter.

In order moreover that this same Letter

[Bull] of Ours may the more easily become

known unto all, and that no one may al-

lege an ignorance of it, we decree and com-

mand it to be promulgated according to cus-

tom by one of our messengers at the gates of

the Church of the First of the Apostolic,

[St. Peter's] and of the Chancery, as

also at those of the Palace on the Monte Cittorio,

and in the Compo Di Fiore; and copies

of the same to be left affixed in those

places.

Given at Rome, at the Church of S. Maria

Maggiore, under the Fisherman's Seal, on the

23d day of December, 1839, in the 9th year of

our Pontificate.

ALOISE LAMBRUCHINI, CARDINAL.

NOTES.

(1.) Epist. to Ephesians VI 5, seqq. Epist.

to Colossians III 22 seqq. IV. 1.

(2.) Matt. XXV. 35, seqq.

(3.) Lactantius Div. Insti. Lib. V. c. 16 Tom.

(v. fl.) IV. o. of the Bibl. Vet. Pat. edited by Gal-

land, and published at Venice, page 318.

(4.) De Res Rom. Orat. III, vol. III, page

420. Works edit. Paris 1628.

(5.) Epistle to Corinth, I ch 55, vol I Bibl.

Gall. page 35

(6.) In the Collection of Roman Bulls printed

by Meynard, vol VI part 2, Const 634, page

183.

(7.) In Collection of Bulls of Benedict XIV,

vol I, Const. 1, page 38.

(8.) Raynald's Eccles. Annals, 1462, n. 42.

NO ANTI-SLAVERY STANDARD IN CONGRESS.

In our own country, one of the most usual arguments in behalf of a protective tariff is that of furnishing a home market to the farmer. To demonstrate the unsoundness of this argument it is only necessary to refer to the statistics contained in the last census, from which it will be seen that the agricultural productions of the United States so greatly exceed any domestic demand for consumption, that the very idea of creating a home market is absurd. The surplus of the State of Ohio will more than supply the deficit in all the manufacturing states. What then is to become of the surplus of other states? The whole country being taxed to create this market a correspondent advantage ought to be shown.—

What then is that advantage? Does the farmers produce more? No, because the supply at home being greater than the demand, its price is determined by what it will bring abroad. Indeed, no substantial advantage to the nation can be derived from a market so limited that a single state will furnish a full supply. It would be idle to talk of an increase of manufacturers sufficient to consume the surplus produce of the country. In such an event where would their fabrics find a market? At home, the demand would bear no proportion to the supply and abroad, others would undersell.

The price of our wheat is not increased by a protective tariff—it will not bring a farthing more in the market, and yet for all manufactured articles we pay an additional price. The price of this great staple of the West at this moment and for all time past, has been fixed by foreign demand; and no doubt will be so fixed for all time to come. The domestic demand has scarcely ever had a perceptible influence upon its value.—And the very object of a protective tariff is to increase the price of manufactures. The protection to the manufacturer is a protection against low prices; and the excess of price obtained by reason of a protective tariff is a tax upon other classes.

The Supreme Court of the United States, at its last session, decided that a state cannot pass retrospective acts injuriously affecting the rights and relations of debtor and creditor. That clause of the federal constitution which prohibits a state from passing any law impairing the obligations of contracts, has been construed to restrain a state from so changing the nature of the remedy upon existing contracts, as thereby to impair the rights and interests of a creditor. While it is conceded that whatever belongs exclusively to the remedy may be altered according to the will of the state, yet it is held the alteration must not impair the obligation of the contract. That effect can be produced as well by acting upon the remedy as upon the contract, for the interests of the creditor will be equally injured, whether his remedy be rendered ineffectual, or the contract itself annulled. A state may properly regulate the proceedings in its courts—it may extend or shorten the time given for filing pleas or making defense—it may adopt a statute of limitations—it may exempt from execution a number of articles of prime necessity, but it cannot abrogate a contract nor take away the remedy for enforcing it, nor so impair that remedy as to destroy its efficiency in securing vested rights.

Apart from constitutional considerations, laws, retrospective in their character, and unjustly affecting the rights of parties to antecedent contracts, are destructive of the best interests of society, because, by the invasion of private rights, they weaken existing moral obligations. Government is designed to protect each individual in the enjoyment of what his labor has earned, and when it interferes in the business of the citizen, it departs from its legitimate sphere.

Stay laws, stop laws, suspension laws, and relief laws, are impolitic, unjust and immoral in their tendency. They are adopted as temporizing measures to ward off threatening evils, consequent upon our own improvidence, and yet they ever fail to effect the object designed. If they give relief to one class they bring distress upon another. If they enable one man to avoid the payment of his just debts, they at the same time deprive another of his vested rights. Besides, almost every person in society occupies the double relation of debtor and creditor, and as debitor, he cannot discharge his own obligations, because, as creditor, he is unable to enforce the contracts made in his favor on which he relies for resource.

All acts and parts of acts retrospective in their character and intended when passed to affect past contracts, so far as they come within the decision referred to, should be repealed; but so far as such acts were designed to be prospective and to affect future contracts only, and are therefore constitutional, although impolitic and unwise, they should not be repealed with blind and inconsiderate haste.—Should you be of opinion that their modification or repeal is required, it will be a proper subject of inquiry at what future time such modification or repeal may best take effect, consistent with public good.

A reasonable amount of property, consisting of the most needful articles, should

be secured to each family in the state, except from execution. A difference of opinion may well exist as to the limit to which exemptions may be extended. It would be better to err and exempt too much, than too little. All property beyond such exemptions, I have no doubt, should be subject to pay the debts of its owner.

The reports of the adjutant general and of the quarter master general, will be laid before you at an early day. The whole number of the militia of the state, including officers and privates, is 50,428; of which authentic returns have been made to the general government, in order to obtain our quota of the arms annually distributed. During the last year, arms equal to 1,565 muskets, and estimated at about \$20,000, have been received from the ordnance department of the general government. The report of the quarter master general will show the manner in which a portion of them have been distributed, and the quantity still remaining on hand. Previous to the last year, Michigan had not received its quota since the Indian disturbance in 1832, when a quantity of arms equal to 1,054 muskets, having been supplied from the arsenal at Dearborn to the militia mustered into the service of the U. States, and not having been returned, was charged against the then territory, and ordered to be deducted from future apportionments. The charge has been set aside by order of the war department, and the arms furnished to the state. But for the imperfect organization of the militia since 1832, and the consequent impossibility of making accurate returns, the apportionment of arms since that time would have greatly exceeded the amount actually received.

The constitution of this state, as well as that of the United States, contemplates and requires an efficient organization of the militia. The laws of this state on that subject, were mostly passed by the legislative council, under a territorial government;—and, from their obscurity and inapplicability, do not afford either officer, or soldier, a sufficient guide in the discharge of his duty. The attention of the legislature has frequently been called to the subject, but from a difference of opinion, little or nothing has been done. The inefficiency of the existing laws has not been called in question, and the postponement of their revision has been caused wholly by attendant difficulties, which, I fear, have not yet been altogether removed. But the constitutional requirement will, I hope, induce you to take the subject under consideration, and, if you do not deem it advisable to adopt a new and more efficient system, that you will at least, digest and perfect the details of that now in force.

The reports of the inspectors and agents of the state prison will acquaint you with the condition of that institution. During the year ending on the 31st day of October last, forty-three convicts were received, being less than during the preceding year. Since the last annual report, one has died, three have escaped, eight have been pardoned, and twenty-four discharged by expiration of sentence,—The number of prisoners remaining is 94.—The whole value of the labor of the convicts is estimated at \$10,846 56, being an excess of \$2,346 56 above the amount drawn from the treasury. The earnings of the convicts have been applied to the construction of the prison and in rebuilding the principal work-shop which was destroyed by fire during the season. The inspectors make favorable report of the management of the prison, and speak in approving terms of the manner in which the duties of the agent and his subordinates are discharged. The inspectors also suggest the propriety of adopting measures that will prevent a competition between convict and free labor. While at present such competition does not exist to an injurious extent, they anticipate the time when the improvements in progress being completed and the number of prisoners increased, a large amount of articles manufactured in the prison will be offered at prices less than the honest mechanic can afford, and advise that such a direction be now given to convict labor as will prevent a competition thus unequal and ruinous. The recommendation of the inspectors is well worthy, and, I doubt not, will receive your careful consideration, and, so far as consistent with the interests of the State, I have no hesitation in advising its adoption.

The geological and topographical survey of the state has, during the past year, been steadily progressing towards completion. With the exception of a small amount of labor in the field, the work has chiefly consisted in arranging and compiling for the final report, the large amount of materials on hand, and in drafting the state and county maps directed by the legislature to be published. That portion of the work relating to the lower peninsula is nearly completed, but much of that relating to the upper peninsula remains to be done.

In addition to its legitimate duties, this department has, by the direction of the legislature, furnished the state land office with the township maps required for its use.

The state and county maps directed to be published, have nearly all been drafted, and the state map, together with the maps of fourteen counties, have been placed in the hands of the engineer. The engraving of four of the county maps have been completed and the maps received.—In consequence of the delay in the engraving of the state and remaining county maps, they will not probably be received before the opening of navigation in the spring. The maps of the counties are prepared in pursuance of an act approved March 28, 1840; but it is respectfully suggested as worthy of your consideration, whether, under present circumstances, their publication, in cases where the engraving has not been commenced, may

not with propriety be suspended, as it is

believed their sale will be limited, and the expense incurred must be defrayed mostly by the state, from a treasury that cannot well bear additional burdens.

It is desirable, if it can be accomplished, to take advantage of the surveys about to be carried forward by the United States, in the mineral district of the upper peninsula, for the purpose of perfecting the geological surveys in that district. If this can be effected, it is believed that a more perfect geological map may be made, than is to be found in any other state, and without any additional expense.

A part of the final report of the State Geologist will be ready for publication during the present year, and an appropriation will be required for that purpose.

The report of the Board of the Internal Improvement will bring you acquainted with the progress made in the construction of public works, the amount of income received, and their condition generally. The disadvantage consequent upon the inability of the state to pay ready money for work and materials, is felt with full force at every step. If, therefore, the works have not advanced so rapidly towards completion as the public had hoped and expected, the causes of delay were such as the board could not control or remove.

By the act of 21st February, 1843, the board were authorized to purchase railroad iron and spikes sufficient to complete the central road to Marshall and the Southern road to Hillsdale, and to pledge for payment the net proceeds of the public works.

The legislature in making this appropriation probably supposed that ample means were thus furnished for effecting the object intended; but the scrip then outstanding, which constituted a large portion of the receipts upon the works, greatly lessened the availability of their income. A great portion of the scrip issued had been withdrawn from circulation during the preceding year, and the opinion was entertained that the remainder would in like manner be withdrawn during the year then commencing and now brought to a close. The net proceeds of the works of internal improvement, however, constituted by far the greatest item of the sinking fund by which that species of indebtedness could be diminished, and their entire appropriation to another object would leave the scrip in circulation without any adequate fund for its immediate redemption.

Such was the state of things presented to the board under this appropriation.—They were in doubt whether the legislature designed they should use in the purchase of iron all the net proceeds of the public works, including scrip, or only such portion as should be received in specie funds. With a view to promote what they deemed the best interests of the state, they determined to contract, if possible, for the iron on such terms as would enable them to pay for it without making sacrifices on account of the depreciation of scrip, and though a longer time may in consequence be required for making the payment, they believe they have effected that object.—The whole quantity of iron requisite has been contracted for and the greater portion does not exist to an injurious extent, they anticipate the time when the improvements in progress being completed and the number of prisoners increased, a large amount of articles manufactured in the prison will be offered at prices less than the honest mechanic can afford, and advise that such a direction be now given to convict labor as will prevent a competition thus unequal and ruinous. The recommendation of the inspectors is well worthy, and, I doubt not, will receive your careful consideration, and, so far as consistent with the interests of the State, I have no hesitation in advising its adoption.

The Southern road is now completed and in use from Monroe to Hillsdale, a distance of 68 miles. As, however, by reason of unavoidable delay in the reception of the iron, the season was far advanced before its completion, and as the necessary locomotives and other stock could not be obtained until some time afterwards, the amount of receipts the past year will not afford correct data on which to predicate estimates hereafter.

The construction of the ship canal at Monroe, conducted by private enterprise, was not so far advanced in the early part of the season as to afford to vessels navigating the lakes an accessible harbor; and on this account the business of the road was also diminished. I have heretofore had occasion to call the attention of the legislature to the importance of a safe and convenient harbor at Monroe. Several years ago the general government commenced the construction of a ship canal near the mouth of the Raisin which was designed for that purpose; but having abandoned the work, the citizens of Monroe, at their own expense, have re-commenced it, and notwithstanding the magnitude of the undertaking, they have made considerable progress. It is, however, only from an appropriation by Congress that the original design can be completed and the consequent advantages fully realized.

It has been represented to the board of internal improvement, by petitions numerously signed, that the interests of the state would be promoted by continuing the use of the branch railroad from the Monroe depot to La Plaisance Bay.—The board, however, under the joint resolution of the eighth of March last, deter-

mined to relinquish to the proprietors of the latter place, gratuitously, or at a nominal rent only, the use of this road until the ensuing spring, with a view of referring the subject to the decision of the legislature. The road is deemed to be no longer of any benefit to the state, but it is represented that the owners of the warehouse at La Plaisance Bay, if granted its gratuitous use for a period of years not less than five, would make it tributary to the southern road, and thereby increase the business and revenue of the latter.—The subject is of sufficient importance to merit the investigation of the legislature.

Under the disadvantages alluded to, the whole receipts upon the Southern road, during the year ending November 30, 1843, were \$24,064 50, which have been expended in running the cars, repairs and construction of road, and in repairs and construction of cars. The superintendent estimates the net proceeds to be \$7,906 85.

The Central railroad is yet completed only to Jackson, a distance from Detroit of eighty miles. The board, at the time of making their last report, hoped and expected to finish this road to Marshall before the close of the last fiscal year; but the extreme difficulty of obtaining timber for the superstructure, with the means put in their hands for the purpose, has caused great delay in the progress of the work. The grading can be effected for the pay offered without much inconvenience, other than, perhaps, an increased price for the labor performed; but in the purchase of materials, of every description, necessary to finish the road, the board have encountered obstacles difficult to be overcome, and embarrassments of a most perplexing character. It should be borne in mind that, though the legislature has made appropriations, it has not, during the last two years, furnished a dollar in money towards the construction of any of our public works, and their accruing revenue had all been previously anticipated by the issue of scrip. The wonder then is, not that the board has done so little, but that it has been able to do so much.

The work upon the Central road between Jackson and Marshall, is, however, in such a state of forwardness, that the board confidently believe they will be enabled to complete that portion of it the ensuing spring. The grading has also been let between Marshall and Kalamazoo, and considerable progress has already been made in the work. The principal engineer estimates that, to complete the grading and superstructure to the place last named, a further appropriation of seventy-five thousand dollars will be required, and nearly an equal addition sum to purchase the iron necessary to finish the road.

The whole receipts upon this road the last year, were \$149,987 51, of which \$74,960 20 was expended for repairs, and running the cars, leaving net profits, \$75,026 31. Of the net profits, \$32,074 21 being scrip, was paid, into the treasury and destroyed; \$24,333 13 paid on account of iron, and the remainder expended in the purchase of new locomotives and in the increase, otherwise, of the stock of the two roads.

By an act of the legislature, approved March 1, 1843, the board of internal improvement were authorized to complete the Clinton and Kalamazoo canal between the villages of Rochester and Frederick. Accordingly, the board advertised for proposals; but it being made a condition that the work should not be let at a price exceeding the estimates of a competent engineer, and all the bids exceeding such estimates, the contracts could not be let, and the object of the act, consequently, could not be carried into effect.

The unusual high stage of water in the St. Joseph river, the last year, together with the unavailable character of the funds appropriated, has rendered it impracticable to make any improvement in the navigation of that stream.

The amount of unexpended appropriations from the internal improvement fund for which warrants will be issued, added to the amount of warrants already issued and outstanding, will equal the value, at the minimum price, of the unsold portion of the half million acres granted by Congress for purposes of internal improvement.

The revenue upon our public works the ensuing year will probably be greater than during the last, but the increase cannot now be estimated with accuracy. As already intimated, the receipts upon the Southern railroad will be increased, but from want of means the necessary repairs have not hitherto been made, and the road, being in a bad condition, will require the expenditure of large sums to put it in a proper state for use. The stock also is insufficient and a considerable portion of its income must be used in building cars and furnishing machinery, indispensably necessary. For these purposes the whole estimated revenue of the Southern road will be required the ensuing year. The receipts upon the Central road, when finished to Marshall, will be also increased; but as additional stock will then be required, a large amount of accruing revenue must be expended in its purchase.

In the scrip outstanding and the late purchase of railroad iron, the net proceeds

of all our public works have been fully anticipated until the first day of July 1845; after which period by the second section of "an act to liquidate the public debt and to provide for the payment of the interest thereon and for other purposes," approved March 8, 1843, such net proceeds are appropriated to pay accruing interest on the bonds and other indebtedness of the state.

The report of the board of Auditors will make you acquainted with their proceedings, under the "act providing for the final adjustment of all unsettled claims for damages growing out of the internal improvements of the state," approved March 8, 1843. The board have allowed claims on the several works as follows:

Upon the Central railroad,	\$3,377 31
" " Southern "	4,749 00
" " Clinton and Kalamazoo canal,	3,436 66
" " Grand River canal,	666 66

Making an aggregate of \$12,229 63 for which certificates have been given and warrants upon the internal improvement fund issued by the Auditor General.

The Central railroad is yet completed only to Jackson, a distance from Detroit of eighty miles. The board, at the time of making their last report, hoped and expected to finish this road to Marshall before the close of the last fiscal year; but the extreme difficulty of obtaining timber for the superstructure, with the means put in their hands for the purpose, has caused great delay in the progress of the work. The grading can be effected for the pay offered without much inconvenience, other than, perhaps, an increased price for the labor performed; but in the purchase of materials, of every description, necessary to finish the road, the board have encountered obstacles difficult to be overcome, and embarrassments of a most perplexing character. It should be borne in mind that, though the legislature has made appropriations, it has not, during the last two years, furnished a dollar in money towards the construction of any of our public works, and their accruing revenue had all been previously anticipated by the issue of scrip. The wonder then is, not that the board has done so little, but that it has been able to do so much.

The Board of trustees, to whom has been committed the charge of the assets of the Michigan State Bank, have made a report of their proceedings, which will acquaint you with the condition of that fund. You will see that at every step they have met with obstacles and been embarrassed by difficulties. The attorneys with whom a large amount of the assets had been deposited for collection previous to the organization of the board of trustees, refused to recognize their authority or to render to them an account, alleging that the late Auditor General was their client, to whom they would render such statement as he should require on payment of costs. Proceedings in chancery were instituted against those gentlemen and a decision obtained favorable to the State. An appeal has been taken and the matter is now pending in the Supreme Court.

The work upon the Central road between Jackson and Marshall, is, however, in such a state of forwardness, that the board confidently believe they will be enabled to complete that portion of it the ensuing spring. The grading has also been let between Marshall and Kalamazoo, and considerable progress has already been made in the work. The principal engineer estimates that, to complete the grading and superstructure to the place last named, a further appropriation of seventy-five thousand dollars will be required, and nearly an equal addition sum to purchase the iron necessary to finish the road.

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done with the labor of the convicts, except cutting the stone for the cells, and the labor of one man in laying the same, with the assistance of one master mechanic.

The total cash disbursements for the support of the prison, for the year ending 31st Oct., 1843, is \$2,812.51  
Amount of cash receipts 8,740.68

The earnings of the convicts during the year, exceed the amount drawn from the Treasury by the sum of \$2,346.58, an amount nearly double the excess of the preceding year. In estimating the earnings, the labor of the convicts for the state is included.—*Free Press.*

## SIGNAL OF LIBERTY.

ANN ARBOR, MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 1844.

For President,  
**JAMES G. BIRNEY,**  
of Michigan.  
For Vice President,  
**THOMAS MORRIS,**  
of Ohio.

## THOSE PETITIONS!

Petitions to the Legislature now in circulation, should be forwarded immediately to some member who is favorable to the object of them, accompanied by a letter requesting his action in their behalf. *Don't delay!* We have the promise of a short session, and petitions should be forwarded at the commencement of the session.

## AMERICAN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.

A special meeting of this Society was lately held at Philadelphia. Some resolutions respecting the Liberty Party were presented by the Business Committee, but were withdrawn, and the following resolutions on political action were adopted:

"Resolved, That we earnestly exhort all abolitionists, not to be seduced into the support of any candidate for any office, connected with any legislation, on the pretext that such candidate is favorable to the right of petition for freemen, or opposed to the admission of Texas, or to the encroachments of southern slaveholders on northern rights; insomuch as these questions, taken altogether, are of slight importance in comparison with the great question of slavery itself; and we therefore recommend that such candidates receive no support, directly or indirectly, from abolitionists, unless they publicly and unequivocally avow themselves favorable to the abrogation of all laws and constitutional provisions which require the public offices, or private citizens, for retaining human beings in a state of slavery."

Resolved, That neither this Society, nor its official organ, will undertake to prescribe or recommend to its members, what course of political action they should pursue, further than they vote for none who do not come up to the standard indicated in the foregoing resolution; nor will we condemn or oppose any mode of political action, which shall be consistent with that standard."

We commend this action of the Society to the notice of those Whig politicians who have been praising the liberal spirit of the old fashioned abolitionists, by way of contrast with the narrow-mindedness of the Liberty party. It will be seen that they require, in the candidates they support, precisely the same anti-slavery principles that the Liberty party do. The only difference between us is, that they are seeking for such candidates among pro-slavery politicians where they cannot be found; while we have abandoned the fruitless chase, and expect to find those who will properly represent us only among ourselves.

## ANOTHER SLAVE CASE.

"Samuel Weller, Jr.", the Washington Correspondent of the Albany Patriot, gives the particulars of the arrest of ten slaves in that city, just as they were about starting for Canada. A poor colored person, bought up for the purpose, had turned traitor. The master had placed his team under the sled of one Bush, a colored man, without his knowledge or consent; but he was taken up and held to bail for aiding and counselling the escape of slaves, and also for "kidnapping" slaves, under an old law of Maryland, long since repealed, but in force in the Federal District. Under this law, if found guilty, he must be hanged! David A. Hall, Esq., is preparing the defence in this case.

It involves nearly or quite all the points in the Van Zandt and case, also the constitutionality of Slavery in the District of Columbia. It is intended to take the case to the Supreme Court on this latter point at the earliest day. The case can be brought on in February, when Seward, Morris and Chase will be in Washington to attend to the Van Zandt case.

The last arrival from Europe brings little intelligence of interest. The State trials have been adjourned to the 15th January, and O'Connell has gone to visit his "mountain home" at Derryrane. Reports are circulated that the trials will be abandoned, and that Sir Robert Peel has determined to apply to Parliament for summary powers to put down the agitation in Ireland. It is also stated that measures of amelioration are in progress.

The Democrats are disputing which is the banner town of this State. The Pontiac Jacksonian claims the honor for Addison, a town in Oakland County, in which the vote stood thus for Congressmen:

For Hunt, Dem. 84 votes.

For Drake, Whig. 2

For Canfield, Liberty. 4

Truly this was a close vote.

Mr. Leavitt describes the Speaker of the House of Representatives thus:

"Jones is an indolent looking, rather uncivilized sort of a person, with a particular vulgarity of appearance from his inordinate consumption of his native weed, in fact, a living and overflowing fountain—nay, river—of tobacco juice."

*The Texas Question Settled.*—We are able to announce to our readers, on the authority of the Detroit Advertiser, that the project for the annexation of Texas has been defeated! So that no longer need danger be apprehended from this source. For this great achievement we are indebted, it seems, to the nomination of Mr. Clay! The Southern Whigs were so overcome with gratitude to the Northern Whigs for their support of a Slaveholder, that they have resolved to stand by the North against the admission of Texas. Political Abolitionists may as well disband, when their interests and views are so well cared for by Mr. Clay and the Whigs! So thinks our Detroit neighbor. Hear him:

The bill, introduced by Mr. McDougal on the Tariff, is—  
1. To abolish all fixed minimum values in the assessment of ad valorem duties.  
2. To reduce immediately to 30 per cent all duties now above that rate; on December 31, 1843, to 25 per cent; and on December 31, 1844, to 20 per cent.

On the introduction of this bill, Mr. Evans Chairman of the Finance Committee, remarked at the proper time he would undertake to show that, according to our experience, the present Tariff does furnish revenue enough to carry on the Government.

In the Senate, Mr. Atchinson introduced a bill to encourage the settlement of Oregon.

In the House, Mr. Adams presented a resolution of the Legislature of Massachusetts, proposing an amendment of the Constitution to take away slave representation. A debate of interest and importance arose in which many members participated.

Mr. Wise gave notice that he should hereafter cease to war on this subject. He would throw the responsibility on the North.

Mr. Holmes of S. C. took the opposite side, and would rather sound the tocsin of alarm. Both gentlemen complained of the recent course of things.

Mr. Beardsey of N. Y. followed, opening new ground. He maintained the right of petition, which he thought was infringed by refusing to receive Abolition petitions while he professed his desire to protect Southern Rights.

Mr. Weller of Ohio, next addressed the House in reply to Mr. Beardsey. He went into a violent tirade against Abolitionists and their petitions.

Judge French, of Ky. followed in a temperate constitutional argument on the subject, after which the House adjourned.

Both Houses adjourned over from Friday to Tuesday, and the only thing of interest done on Friday, was the reference of the Massachusetts resolutions to a select Committee of nine. These resolutions adopted by a Locofofo Legislature, propose to amend the Constitution so as to deprive the slaveholding States of representation on account of slaves.

It will be recollect that Mr. Wise, Mr. Holmes, Mr. Weller and Mr. French of Ky., had all addressed the House on the subject of petitions on the preceding day. Mr. Adams now replied in a very interesting speech, which repeatedly brought these gentlemen to their feet in explanation, apology and retraction. He evidently carried the House along with him, in spite of their prejudices. He declared his unalterable devotion to the perpetuity of the Union—he thought the abolition of slavery would promote that object—but he wished it done by the Southern States themselves, and disapproved of many of the measures of the professed Abolitionists.

This being true, and it is certainly in perfect keeping with the character and past history of Henry Clay, what are we to think of a man who can lightly speak of the cold blooded murder of a fellow being as "a nine day's bubble"? And this is one of the God's of the American people!

Further extracts are then given from the article of Mr. Wise, in which he affirms that Mr. Clay wrote the challenge with his own hand, urged Mr. Wise to be the bearer of it, when Wise protested against the terms as barbarous and unusual. Mr. Clay said that no Kentuckian could back out from a rifle &c. These particulars we have before published.

Our authority then, is a written statement of Henry A. Wise. That would have been accounted first rate by the Whigs in 1840. We fully believe his statements in this case, as we have never seen them denied.

*Ypsilanti Sentinel.*—This is the title of a paper just commenced in Ypsilanti, by John Van Fossen. It is published weekly at two dollars a year. Its prospectus assures us that the paper will be "strictly democratic," according to the original meaning of the word; but the editorial articles read very much like those of other Whig papers! Washtenaw is the only county in the State that has two Whig papers published in it.

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Can you prove your assertion, sir?

We publish to day the Message of Gov. Barry to the Legislature. It is well worth reading. It exhibits quite distinctly "the lights and shadows" of our State affairs.

*A Growing Evil.*—Political Abolitionism, may be truly termed a "growing evil."—*Coldwater Sentinel.*

Mr. Ramsdell was opposed to the latter clause of the resolution, and that it be

would no longer be needed.

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**HALSTEAD'S  
BRISK PILLS.**

28 PILLS FOR 25 CENTS.

THE Brisk Pills answer the purpose more effectually for any disease for which any other pill is recommended, and supersede them altogether in medical excellence and virtue. If you doubt this, just try them; it will cost you only two shillings—and then you, with me, will be satisfied. If they are not what I recommend them to be, denounce them and put them down, for I cannot conscientiously recommend them for a cure for every thing. But this is not without fear of contradiction, for they are the equal in remedial diseases originating in the stomach or bowels. For liver and bilious diseases, as also ague, fever and ague, intermittent and remittent fevers, the Brisk Pills possess peculiar properties for their speedy removal. From ten years experience as a practising physician, I am convinced that none can equal them. Read what other pills are good for, and what they will cure, and then discard their use. Do not believe all that is said about an infallible pill—that neither fails to cure any disease—but try the Brisk Pills—the cheapest pills in use—28 pills for 25 cents—and then you will have a chance to judge of their merit & dement. As far as clearing and purifying the blood goes, they are perhaps the best.

**E. DEAN'S  
CELEBRATED  
CHEMICAL PLASTER.**

The most effectual remedy yet discovered for Rheumatism, Fever Sores, White Swellings, Inflammation in the Eyes, Swelled Throat in Star-let Fever, Quinsy, &c.

THE CHEMICAL PLASTER is an important remedy for those who are afflicted with chronic and inflammatory complaints, by its easiness in application, its rapid action, and giving pain counteractive properties, and giving special relief by its astringent, antiseptic, antidiysenteric and counterirritant properties.

It is particularly recommended for Chronic and Inflammatory Rheumatism, Ague in the Breast, Scals, Burns, Bruises, Scrofula, Ulcers, Old Sores of almost every description, Canker and Swelled Throat arising from Scarlet Fever, Felons, White Swellings, Chilblains, &c. Persons suffering from Liver Complaints, Pulmonary Diseases, Inflammation of the Lungs, with pain in the side, back or lungs, will find relief by the use of this Plaster. In all cases it may be used with perfect safety.

E. DEAN'S CHEMICAL PLASTER is put up in boxes at fifty cents and one dollar each, with full directions accompanying each box. Manufactured and sold wholesale by H. HAR-RISS & CO., Ashtabula, Ohio, sole proprietors, to whom all orders should be addressed. Sold also by their Agents throughout the country.

U.P.A. liberal discount made to dealers and physicians.

For testimonials and certificates from persons of the highest respectability, who have used the Chemical Plaster, see another column of this paper.

For sale by the following Agents in Michigan:

H. W. Root, Niles,  
J. C. Larimore, " "  
C. Skinner, Edwardsburgh,  
Wm. O. Austin, White Pigeon.  
Isam Benham, Jr., Constantine.  
Danl. L. Kimberly, Schoolcraft.  
H. B. Huston & F. March, Jr. P. M. Kalamazoo.  
James W. Cathen, P. M. Galesburg.  
T. L. Bolcom, P. M. Battle Creek.  
James M. Parsons, P. M. Marshall.  
Paul Raymond, Druggist, Jackson.  
Wm. Jackson, P. M. Leoni.  
Hale and Smith, Grass Lake.  
John C. Miller, Lapeer.  
J. Miller & Son, Dexter.  
Thomas P. May, Jr., Plymouth.  
Perin & Hall, Northville.  
Mead & McCarthy, Farmington.  
Peter Van Every, Franklin.  
Julius Dean, Pontiac.  
Mack & Sprague, Rochester.  
James Stephens, Utica.  
E. C. Gallup, Mt. Clemens.  
G. & J. G. Hill, Detroit.  
Dr. Thos. M. Sweeny, Dearbornville,  
E. Samson, Ypsilanti.  
J. H. LUND, " "  
W. S. & J. W. MAYNARD, Ann Arbor.  
CHRISTIAN EBERBACH, " "

49-ly

**FASHIONABLE  
TAILORING ESTABLISHMENT.**

J. R. WALKER would announce to his friends and the public in general, that he is now in the receipt of the fall and winter fashions for 1843-4, which have been selected and furnished by two of the best establishments in the United States, on the first of the present month after the kinds of goods and fashions for the season had become permanently established, which is beautifully illustrated by two of the most splendid fashion plates ever presented to this community. Any gentleman who wishes to have the "LONDON FASHION," can find it here furnished at a season when there can be no mistake as to what is now most fashionable. Gentlemen, please call and examine for yourselves, and if we cannot exhibit something that will satisfy you that the style of goods and fashion of garments are chaste and beautiful, then we are much mistaken.

Mr. Walker would take this opportunity to return his sincere thanks to all who have hitherto favored him with their patronage, and hopes he has given general satisfaction. All who feel disposed to have an easy, at the same time a fashionable garment, can be gratified by calling at the shop of J. D. Irish, one door south of Beach & Abel's old store, where for the convenience of himself and customers he has located for the season, where all demands in his line will be executed with neatness and despatch, on reasonable terms for cash or country produce, but positively no credit.

N. B.—Cutting done, and warranted to fit properly made up.

October 11, 1843. 27-45.

**YPSILANTI ACADEMY,**

*AND*  
**TEACHERS' SEMINARY**

H. H. GRIFFIN, PRINCIPAL.

Mt. CHAS. S. WOODARD, ASSISTANT.

THE winter term of this institution will commence on Monday, Nov. 20, and continue 11 weeks. While this school is equally open to all of both sexes, who wish to acquire a good education, particular attention will be given to those who are preparing to teach. The exclusive and uninterrupted attention of the principal will be given to impart a practical knowledge of the English branches. He occupies about half an hour daily in lecturing, with the aid of the apparatus, minerals, or otherwise.

APPARATUS.—The Institution is furnished with Chemical, Philosophical, and Astronomical apparatus, Surveying Instruments, Geometrical solids, &c., to the amount of \$300; also, a good Cabinet of Minerals worth \$50.

TUTORIAL IN THE COMMON ENGLISH BRANCHES, including Composition and Declamation from \$2.00 to \$3.50. In Philosophy, Chemistry, Astronomy, History, Rhetoric, Botany, Algebra, Geometry, Surveying, &c., from \$1.50 to \$5.00. Mezzotint and Chinese of "Theorem Painting," \$3.00 each for 12 lessons, taught by Mrs. Griffin.

HALLOCK & RAYMOND, Detroit, Sept. 28, 1843. 23-45.

**TO CLOTHIERS,  
MANUFACTURERS AND MER-  
CHANTS.**

THE subscribers are now receiving, at their stores, 128 Jefferson Avenue, and corner of Randolph and Woodward Streets, Detroit, a large and general stock of

DYE-WOODS AND DIE-STUFFS.

35 tons Logwood, Rustic, Limewood, Narcegum, Hyperion Wood, in the stick;

130 lbs. grand Canwood;

150 do Rustic;

120 do Logwood;

100 do Redwoods;

20 do Alum;

4 lbs Copperas;

4 lbs Blue Vitriol;

4 pipes Ombre and Crop Madders, prime;

500 lbs Extract Logwood;

600 do Bengal, M. dras and Carcasses Indigo;

300 do Blue Murgals, (Allopy,)

250 do Powdered Curcuma;

200 do Verdigris;

10 Carboys Oil Vitriol;

6 do Aqua Fortis;

2 do Spiritus Sea Salts;

4 do Nitric Acid;

2 cases Lac Dye;

300 lbs Banque Tin;

250 do Cream Tartar;

500 do Quercetron Bark.

Together with a complete assortment of all the minor articles in the trade, to wit:

Press Papers, Teazles, Brushes, Jacks, Tent Hooks, Dy Kettles, Picklers, Burling Irons, Nippers, Pruners of Potash, Salt Ammonia, Sal Soda, Sugar of Lead, Steel Reeds, Card Cleaners,

**MACHINE CARDS,**

Satinet Warps, Shears, &c.

This entire stock has been purchased within the last two years, and selected personally by one of the concern, who has no interest in the trade for the last eleven years, and they have no hesitation in saying that the quality of these goods is unexceptionable. They will positively be sold at the lowest New York Jobbing prices, with the advantage of transportation only.

The subscribers have the sole Agency in this State for the sale of

"PARSON'S SHEARING MACHINES,"

and the celebrated "LEICESTER MACHINE CARDS," decidedly the best in use.

THEO. H. EATON, & CO.

April 11, 1843. 51-5.

**JAMES G. BIRNEY,**

ATTORNEY AND COUNSEL-  
LOR AT LAW.

AGAWAM CITY, MICHIGAN.

J. G. B. will also act as Land Agent in this

Land District in which this (Agawam) County is; he will make investments for others

lands, pay over for non-residents their taxes, and give information generally to persons interested in this part of the country, or desirous of becoming immigrants to it.

S. W. FOSTER, & CO.

Scio, April 30, 1843. 1-1f.

BROKE out of the enclosure of the subscriber on or about the night of the 28th ult., a small gray Mare, four years old, not shod. Any person who will give notice to the owner by letter or otherwise where said Mare may be found, shall be rewarded by CHARLES HUDSON,

North Lake, Wash. co. Oct. 14, 1843. 46-3w

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