





TO whom all remittances are to be made, and to whom all communications should be sent, and to whom all orders for advertising should be sent, and to whom all orders for advertising should be sent, and to whom all orders for advertising should be sent.

Financial Committee. SAMUEL PHILBRICK, EDWARD QUINCY, WILLIAM BASSSETT.

W. LLOYD GARRISON, Editor. VOL. XII.—NO. 9.

REFUGEE OF OPPRESSION.

South Carolina Legislature. Report of the Committee on the Judiciary, on so much of the Governor's Message, and the accompanying Documents, as relates to the Controversy between New-York and Virginia, and the Bill on that subject, which were referred to that Committee.

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REPORT: The subject which has engaged the deliberations of this committee, involves a grave and delicate issue, and one of the duties and rights of the States of this Union, under their compact of union, and it is one which has been committed to the consideration of the Legislature of New-York.

Three persons of color, having their domicile in New-York, and trading in Virginia, were, in 1829, seized and feloniously abducted in their vessel, and carried to the State of New-York, where they were formally demanded by the Executive of New-York, in pursuance of the Constitution and laws of that State.

The Executive of New-York, waiving exception to the regularity of the demand, as well as objection to the completeness of the evidence on which it was based, declined to comply with the requisition, on the ground that the laws of New-York do not recognize the right of one State to hold property in another State, and that the seizure of a slave in the commonwealth of New-York, is not an offence within the intent and meaning of the Constitution of the United States.

This unexpected and alarming determination of the Executive of New-York, and his views of the constitutional obligations of the Commonwealth of Virginia to comply with the requisition of New-York, were formally demanded by the Executive of Virginia to the General Assembly of that Commonwealth, after mature and wise deliberation, pronounced, in solemn session, the refusal of the Executive of New-York to comply with the requisition of New-York, to be a flagrant and dangerous violation of the Constitution and laws of the United States.

The Executive of New-York, and to enact such legislation as would suffice to protect the property and rights of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The General Assembly of Virginia requested the Executive to renew his correspondence with the Executive of New-York, call upon him respectfully, to explain the grounds of his refusal, and to present the subject to the Legislature of New-York, and to determine whether it was really and actually performed by the Executive of Virginia.

The report was made known to the Legislature of New-York, by the official organ of that State, and that they expressed their approval of its sense and justice, and their duty to a Co-States. They also expressed their approval of its sense and justice, and their duty to a Co-States.

The committee to whom the subject had been confided, expressed its concurrence in the views of the Executive Department, pronounced its construction of the Federal Constitution, the only exposition of that instrument, and its views on the subject of the rights of the States, and the rights of the citizens, and was discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

Concomitant with this proceeding, was the treatment of a law, bearing the species but delusive title of an act to amend the right of trial by jury, and which is the most arbitrary and despotic form of law which has ever been enacted in any of our domestic institutions.

This statute provides, that in proceedings to recover a fugitive from service or labor, the claim to the fugitive, and the fact of his escape, shall be determined by a jury; that the State shall provide counsel for the slave, witnesses attend in his behalf, and that the fees of the jurors and court, shall be paid by the claimant. It provides, that if any party or other person, shall obstruct the removal of the fugitive from the State, or refuse to furnish labor, except in the manner prescribed by the statute, he shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding ten years.

This is a further extension of the statute, that the writ of habeas corpus shall be granted, and that the fact of the escape of the fugitive shall be determined by a jury; that the State shall provide counsel for the slave, witnesses attend in his behalf, and that the fees of the jurors and court, shall be paid by the claimant.

If this species of legislation be supposed to contravene the Constitution or laws of the United States, your committee venture to believe that the competency of the State to make it, depends on principles of sound and just policy, and that the Legislature of the State, in passing it, was acting in the exercise of its power, and that it is a law of the State, and that it is a law of the State, and that it is a law of the State.

If, then, the regulation of commerce be within the competency of the States, as well as of the United States, inquiry arises, whether there is any law of the later regulating commerce, to which the bill proposed by your committee, would be repugnant.

In a determination of this question, it is necessary to consider the bill proposed, and a law of Congress affecting commerce, the question would be whether there is a constitutional repugnancy and incompatibility, as mere inconvenience cannot by implication, be permitted to divest a right of sovereignty.

Occasional interference, in the exercise of the power of the States, is not enough to infer constitutional contradiction, and the exclusion of State authority. The right of the States to enact regulations that affect commerce, and even impose restraints upon it, is illustrated by quarantine laws, and laws relating to the navigation of the waters of the United States, and laws relating to the navigation of the waters of the United States.

But your committee are not apprised of any law of the United States, regulating commerce, with which the bill proposed would be found to conflict.

But the bill proposed by your committee, as they conceive, does not seek to regulate commerce, and to impose restraints upon it, to affect it in any manner, and it is not a law of the United States, and it is not a law of the United States, and it is not a law of the United States.

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To this point, it will be permitted your committee to address a brief argument. Without such provision of the United States, as that alluded to, it would be impossible for the citizens of each State, to have to all the other States the relation of aliens, and be subjected to the inconveniences and disabilities of that relation, and to confer upon them, not citizenship itself, but the rights of citizenship, which is its purpose and object.

But the privileges and immunities contemplated, are fundamental in their nature, and embraced, in the language of an eminent jurist, 'protection by the government, the enjoyment of life and liberty, with the right to acquire and possess property of every kind, and to pursue and attain happiness and safety, subject to such restraints as the government may justly prescribe for the general good of the whole.'

But your committee presume the question is not whether the citizens of each State should enjoy in every other State the privileges and immunities that are common to the mass, then it is apprehended the point is made clear. The qualification of the elective franchise, which is in some of the States, and once existed in this, the eligibility to office, charter laws and the right to practice the learned professions, are examples of the power of a State to create distinctions amongst her citizens, and many others might be mentioned in the enumeration of the elective franchise, which is in some of the States, and once existed in this, the eligibility to office, charter laws and the right to practice the learned professions, are examples of the power of a State to create distinctions amongst her citizens.

But discriminations between citizens of a State and those of other States are of frequent occurrence in all the States, and the right to create them is of unquestionable right.

But the bill proposed by your committee seeks merely to take from the citizens of other States the immunity which is not enjoyed by citizens of this State, and to impose upon them restrictions which are endured by its own citizens.

South Carolina has, however, declared, in the solemn form of legislative enactment, the terms of these provisions of the Constitution, as well as of her police regulations; and as they have not yet been impugned, your committee take leave to decline further vindication of them. By the statute of one thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, any vessel from the State of South Carolina, or any other State, shall be free to trade with the State of South Carolina, and to land any negroes or persons of color, as cooks, stewards, mariners, or in any other capacity, is prohibited from entering any port or harbor of this State, under sanctions which have been found adequate to the suppression of the evil that was sought to be corrected.

It is testimony of the high confidence which South Carolina reposes in the counsel of Virginia, and a manifestation of her determination to co-operate with that Commonwealth, and other States, in maintaining, by all proper methods, an institution in which she has a common interest, your committee beg to refer to the Statute of Virginia, which is a copy of the Virginia law.

Resolved, That this Legislature view with regret, the constructive meaning of the constitutional provision, respecting 'fugitives from justice,' and 'fugitives from service,' asserted by the Executive of New-York, and that it is the duty of this Legislature, in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this Legislature, the forced and dangerous construction put upon the 4th Article of the Constitution of the United States, and the retention to control its operation by the Executive, in the progress of the late controversy with Virginia, and the proceedings of her Legislature pending the same, should be repudiated and discontinued by every State of the Union, as inconsistent with the principles of the Constitution, and as ultimately subversive of that State sovereignty upon which they profess to be founded.

Resolved, That the Governor be requested to communicate to the authorities of Virginia, the high sense entertained by this Legislature of their moderation and wisdom, in their conduct in conducting the recent unhappy controversy with the State of New-York, and the assurance of the hearty co-operation of South Carolina in all proper measures to vindicate her rights as a State, and to protect the property of her citizens.

Resolved, That copies of the report and resolutions adopted by the Legislature, together with a certified copy of the bill when passed, be furnished by the Governor of this State to the Governor of Virginia, and the Governors of the several States of the Union, and that the same be read in the Legislature, to be laid before that body.

Resolved, That the House do agree to the report. Ordered, That it be sent to the Senate for concurrence. By order: T. W. GLOVER, J. C. H. R.

Resolved, That the Senate do concur in the report. Ordered, That it be sent to the House of Representatives. By order: W. E. MARTIN, C. S.

From the Boston Catholic Diary. Slavery vs. Anti-Slavery.

This tortured question has got into vogue in certain quarters, but we have our views upon the subject. That slavery is unjust, we will not—we cannot deny; but, that those zealots who would madly attempt to eradicate the evil by the destruction of our federal union, and the most tyrannical despotism, are the most reprehensible than the most tyrannical slaveholders, we are equally confident.

We are far from solicitous to render our columns the medium of a 'wordy war' upon either one side or the other of the question, but we wish to point out to the friends of the cause, that the most bombastic and certain abolitionist address which a colored gentleman imported from Ireland, and to which are affixed the names of Daniel O'Connell and Father Mathew, is not the illustrious Liberator or the Apostle of Temperance, but an insignificant pamphlet, by a man of the name of O'Connell, who may appear to them equitable; but their autograph, or even an exhortation from the eloquent lips of either, implies no right to shackle the opinions of the Irishmen of America. We respect—we revere those men as the greatest benefactors of the race, and we are proud to be numbered among their disciples; but we do not think it reasonable that we should be required to receive and repel the assumption of such authority. If this African gentleman drew up an address, and procured the autographs of O'Connell and Father Mathew, those distinguished men dreamed not that the abolitionists of America would pay any attention to them, or that they would be required to receive and repel the assumption of such authority.

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LEGISLATIVE.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS. IN SENATE, Feb. 22, 1842.

The Joint Special Committee, to whom was committed the petition of Francis Jackson and others, sundry and other petitioners, for a law securing to colored persons equal rights in railroad accommodation—also the remonstrance of Joseph Nunn and sundry others, of Salem, respectfully submit the following.

REPORT: The circumstances which give rise to these petitions are matters of common notoriety throughout the State. While some of the rail-road corporations (as for example, the Western, Nashua, Boston and Portland, Norwich, Lowell and Worcester) make no distinction among the passengers, but permit every well-behaved person to purchase such ticket, whether of first class or of second class, and to sit in the car, and to select the car and seat which suit them best, and which are the Eastern Rail-road, Taunton and New-Bedford, and Providence, while they in some cases demand of the colored man, in a separate place, either on the Salem road, in a separate car, or in a separate compartment, and in some cases, in cars of a different class, and in some cases, in cars of a different class, and in some cases, in cars of a different class.

That the distinction is made in the cases referred to, admits of no doubt. That it is a violation of his rights as a citizen, is equally undeniable—that it is a disability which would be an insult to any white man, and which would be a disgrace to the public good, and which would be a disgrace to the public good, and which would be a disgrace to the public good.

The only questions for consideration seem to be, whether this matter lies within the authority of the Legislature, and whether any interference on its part is called for.

That it is the duty, as well as the right of the Legislature, to secure to each citizen, not only his own strict rights, but also the greatest possible benefit, and consistency with justice and the public good, to be questioned. These roads exist, and derive all their rights and privileges from the authority of the Legislature. They are concerned, as public highways, to the equal use of each, on certain conditions, and in conformity with the public good, and in conformity with the public good, and in conformity with the public good.

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To this point, it will be permitted your committee to address a brief argument. Without such provision of the United States, as that alluded to, it would be impossible for the citizens of each State, to have to all the other States the relation of aliens, and be subjected to the inconveniences and disabilities of that relation, and to confer upon them, not citizenship itself, but the rights of citizenship, which is its purpose and object.

But your committee are not apprised of any law of the United States, regulating commerce, with which the bill proposed would be found to conflict.

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FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 4, 1842. BOSTON.

A Specimen of Clerical Decency. The following respectful note, from the Editors of the Puritan, in this city, was sent to us a few days since:

Eastern Rail-Road. The Salem Register says, 'We are authorized and desired to say, that the report that Stephen A. Chase, Esq., has resigned his office as Superintendent of the Eastern Rail Road, is incorrect: he has not resigned.'

Southern Chivalry. The Washington Globe is glad to see the Southern indications of preparation for defence. 'If we are to have war with England, all that we South is to be ready to defend, and with the most heroic species of warfare. All that the genius of chivalry (it) provides that region, wants to make it invulnerable, its military skill. Here we have two important admissions. In case of war, the South is first to be assailed. No doubt of it, but why? Because she has two millions and a half of deadly enemies in her midst, who are panting for the first opportunity to avenger their wrongs, and recover their freedom. Again, should war ensue, the South is to be assailed by the most heroic species of warfare. What does that mean? It means that it will only be necessary for a British army to hoist the banner of emancipation at the South, and there will be a servile insurrection of the slaves added to the horrors of a foreign invasion. Thus does the Globe unwittingly give the lie to its own assertions, and the frequent declarations of Southern men, that the slaves are contented and happy, and so attached to their masters, that they would cheerfully lay down their lives in their defence. 'Murder will out! But let the South take courage—she is safe! A Mr. Herbert has established a military school in South Carolina, and the Globe compliments him as a thoroughly educated soldier, a man of talent and patriotism. Now, then, let Great Britain take good care not to get into a war with the United States, and, especially, not to invade the Southern States!'

Resistance to Tyranny. DEAR DR. GARRISON: I have this moment read your comments on the 'Address to the Slaves.' You have misapprehended the intended meaning of the following sentence: 'But the great majority of abolitionists justify our forefathers' bloody resistance to oppression; and, therefore, disavow from such resistance, to a ten thousand fold greater oppression, not on the high ground of absolute morality, but on the comparatively low one of expediency.' The writer of the Address, and, doubtless, the whole Convention also, that adopted it, meant by this sentence that, inasmuch as the great majority of abolitionists think our forefathers' bloody resistance morally right, they were not at liberty to call such resistance on the part of the slaves morally wrong; or, in other words, that as they approve of it in the one case on moral principle, they can condemn it in the other, only as inexpedient. You say that the Address declares, that 'absolute morality does not allow the use of carnal weapons, even in self-defence.' If you will give the Address a second and careful reading, you will see that it does not declare what are the sentiments, on that point, of the body that adopted it. It refers, neither approvingly nor disapprovingly, to the sentiments on that point of the great majority of abolitionists; and under such a reading as I comment to you, you will see that it does not imply that, in the judgment of this great majority, absolute morality does not allow the use of carnal weapons. Whether that is creditable or discredit to the great majority of abolitionists, so that it is that they do, in the judgment of the Convention that adopted the Address, defend 'bloody resistance to oppression on the high ground of absolute morality.'

The CALLEDONIA. This steamship, which was to have sailed from Liverpool on the 4th ult., has not yet arrived at Boston, and we have little doubt that she has shared the fate of the ill-starred President. The Captain of the ship Hibernia, which arrived at New York from Liverpool on the evening of the 27th ult., says that he encountered a terrible gale, which lasted from the 5th to the 15th—the wind blowing nearly all the time a perfect hurricane. He expresses his deep conviction that the CALLEDONIA never could have weathered it, and that she is lost. In consequence of the failure of the CALLEDONIA, the steamship Unicorn was ordered to Boston from Halifax to take her place, and she probably sailed yesterday for Liverpool. On her arrival at Halifax, if the CALLEDONIA has not arrived at the place, a mutual exchange of passengers and freight will take place, and the Unicorn will return to Boston, and the CALLEDONIA to Liverpool, but if the CALLEDONIA shall not be at Halifax, the Unicorn will proceed direct to Liverpool. Worcester, 3pp.

Meeting in favor of Mr. Adams. A meeting in favor of Mr. Adams, was held at the Town Hall, on the 27th ult., at 10 o'clock. The house was crowded with the overflowing, and many citizens from other parts of the city were present. Mr. Adams' district were called to order by C. J. Thoms, Esq., of the Court. The committee reported a list of names, and the meeting was adjourned. SETH SPRAGUE, of Duxbury, presided.

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Texas. The following is from the Boston correspondent of the Salem Observer: BOSTON, FEB. 24, 1842. In the course of the day yesterday, the Governor made two communications to the House. The first covered certain resolutions from the States of Alabama, Georgia and South Carolina, touching the admission of Texas into the Union, the distinction act, etc. Alabama, it seems, approves the conception of a union of Texas with the United States, for reasons, I presume, satisfactory to the friends of a peculiar 'domestic institution' at the South, but which can never satisfy any thinking mind north of Mason and Dixon's line. We have territory enough, and bad morals enough, and public debt enough, and slavery enough, without adding thereto by such a union. If Texas cannot take care of herself, let her renounce her fortunes with Mexico, from whom she is unteemedly separated, and to whom she properly belongs; but let us not be so unwise as to hang such a millstone on the neck of our national prosperity. The same communication also covered certain resolutions from the State of Virginia, manifesting a desire on the part of its inhabitants to be re-united to the State of Virginia—a 'straw,' I suppose, indicating the direction of Southern breeze.

Liberty Party Convention. DEAR DR. GARRISON: Your correspondent 'W.' whose communication appeared in the last Liberator, imposed upon your good nature with a string of misstatements, probably to injure the credibility of the paper, as the fictions were too stupid to do any other injury. The person, however, showed some ingenuity in crowding his misrepresentations so thickly together. The first three or four paragraphs contain at least half a dozen—e.g. 1st. That Mr. B. was absent from the convention with three times three. 2d. That Rev. Mr. Colver made a scolding address. 3d. Proposed a prayer as most appropriate. 4th. That prayer was generally performed by vote. 5th. That an effort was made to find a suitable chaplain. 6th. That Mr. Merrill was called from a distant corner to the desk. 7th. That such exertion was made to induce the Hon. William Jackson to remain in the chair, &c. &c. to the end. These are all absolute and unqualified misrepresentations. They are, indeed, too foolish, and of too little consequence, to deserve attention, but my motive for alluding to them, is, since you have shown a willingness to give an account of the proceedings of the Liberty Party Convention, to offer to furnish you a true account of its proceedings, which will, doubtless, give your readers much pleasure, and encourage them to go on in the good work of doing, as well as saying, until the dreadful moral and political evil of slavery, upheld by moral and political power, shall, by moral and political means, be overthrown. Yours, D. M.

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