







COMMERCIAL ADVERTISER.

New-York, Friday Afternoon, March 29.

FOR POSTSCRIPT SEE NEXT PAGE.

CONSEQUENCE OF THE CONSTITUTION AND FUTURE SLAVERY.—There are reasons why we should express clearly and frankly our views upon the requirements of the written constitution of our country, and with reference to the delivering up of fugitive slaves on the one hand, and the refusal of our countrymen, both North and South, have misinterpreted on the other, and have consequently drawn inferences, favorable or unfavorable according to their own sentiments, which we did not intend to be drawn from our remarks. We must decline, as unbecomingly, all the commendation and censure bestowed upon us by those who have assumed that we have repudiated the authority, the obligatory character, of any part of the constitution merely because it is not to their personal belief of what is right. With reference to the binding authority of the constitution, we contend, in hackneyed but emphatic phrase, for "the whole or none," and cannot satisfy ourselves that an American citizen can rightly be regarded as a returner on, for the noble spirit of philanthropy which governed the rulers of the United States.

When it was announced by Mr. Clayton to Lord Palmerston, which he communicated to Lady Franklin, it was not carried into effect in 1849—in consequence of not having proper vessels—it was proposed by Lady Franklin and the British Government that the expedition would be sent on an errand of deliverance in 1850. The American Government, however, has not been contented to remain inactive during the apathy which, at Washington, has succeeded the noble burst of national philanthropy.

The same feelings which prompted the reply of Mr. Clayton to Lord Palmerston, and which have since been manifested in the determination to act, which has neither slumbered nor slept till two beautiful briggs have been purchased, and are now fitting up in the strongest possible manner, under the command of United States naval officers, have been manifested in every detail of the expedition. In arranging for the departure of the expedition, it is found difficult to place the crews of the two vessels, Lady Franklin, Lieut. De Haven, and Rescoe, Passed Midshipman Griffin, under such a command as will insure the most perfect discipline. In arranging for the departure of the expedition, it is found difficult to place the crews of the two vessels, Lady Franklin, Lieut. De Haven, and Rescoe, Passed Midshipman Griffin, under such a command as will insure the most perfect discipline.

A full allegiance, then, to the present constitution, in its letter and spirit, is the duty of every citizen. It is the duty of every citizen to be a valiant warrior with sound morals or our duty to the Creator—if it required anything expressly prohibited by the Supreme Lawgiver—the man of pure morals and he who justly revere the law of his Maker, will not be contented with a mere nominal allegiance to the constitution. It demands, as the price of its advantages and protection, services which my conscience will not let me pay. It would be right—it could not be tolerated—that I should enjoy its immunities while I repudiate its requirements. Each part of the constitution is a part of the whole, and justice, being equally binding upon all who elect to live under it. If I reject one of its provisions another citizen may do the same, and another a third, and twenty, or twenty thousand, a fourth, and so on. The result would be a mere nominal allegiance to the constitution, and anarchy would succeed. If the claim exemption from what would afflict my conscience, I must concede the same to others. I have therefore no alternative but to accept the terms of citizenship as they are, and to be contented with a mere nominal allegiance to the constitution, and anarchy would succeed.

Now let us apply the principles to our own case and to the constitution under which it is our happiness to live. It is admitted, we have ourselves admitted—perhaps in terms not sufficiently guarded, for it is that admission upon which many of our exchanges have been made—that we will not be contented with a mere nominal allegiance to the constitution, and anarchy would succeed. It demands, as the price of its advantages and protection, services which my conscience will not let me pay. It would be right—it could not be tolerated—that I should enjoy its immunities while I repudiate its requirements. Each part of the constitution is a part of the whole, and justice, being equally binding upon all who elect to live under it. If I reject one of its provisions another citizen may do the same, and another a third, and twenty, or twenty thousand, a fourth, and so on. The result would be a mere nominal allegiance to the constitution, and anarchy would succeed.

The fire of 1835 and 1840. I took the liberty to ask of you on the 18th inst. to do me the favor of answering this question—Which of the two fires was the greater?—The one of Dec. 15, 1835, or the one of July 1845—and you will much oblige your "Old Subscriber" by an early reply.

On the 15th of December 1835 commenced in the evening of the 16th of that month, the night being one of the coldest that was ever experienced in the city of New York. The inclemency of the weather, and an insufficient supply of water were the great causes of the spread of the conflagration. The fire broke out in the city of New York. The inclemency of the weather, and an insufficient supply of water were the great causes of the spread of the conflagration. The fire broke out in the city of New York.

A PICTURE OF SAN FRANCISCO.—The following letter from a young man who went from this city to California has been handed to me for publication. It is a picture of San Francisco. The following letter from a young man who went from this city to California has been handed to me for publication. It is a picture of San Francisco.

THE DAYS OF THE SAILOR NUMBERED.—An article in the Courier and Enquirer of this morning commencing upon certain changes in the British navy, the substitution of machines for sailors in naval gunnery, quotes from the "United Service Gazette" the remark that "steam or some other motive power doing duty for the sailor, will supersede the sailor who will exist, but the sailor will be no more." The idea has some truth. Greater changes have been slowly wrought by the progress of science.

American Expedition in Search of Sir John Franklin.

[We give place to the following, written by a gentleman in this city, who has long been in regular correspondence with Lady Franklin, and with that lady the originator of the expedition.]

On the 18th of October, 1845, I received from you a copy of the "United Service Gazette," containing an account of the expedition in search of Sir John Franklin, and with that lady the originator of the expedition.]

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FROM BERMDA.

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