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Christendom versus the Democracy.

John P. Hale, that intrepid wag in the U. S. Senate from New Hampshire, made a speech on Kansas affairs on the 18th of January, from which we make the following extracts: "This brings me to another part of my subject, in answer to a question which the honorable Senator from Illinois (Mr. Douglas) propounded when he asked if he was to be read out of the party for a difference on this point. I have great regard for the agency of that honorable Senator, but I confess it was a little shaken when he asked that question: Is a man to be read out of the party for departing from the President on this great cardinal point? Why, sir, he asks, is a man who differs from the President on the Pacific Railroad to go out of the party? Oh, no, he may stay. If he differs on Central America, very good; take the first seat, if you please. You may differ with the President on anything and everything but one, and that is this sentiment which I shall read; Mr. Buchanan shall speak his own creed. On the 19th of August, 1842, in the Senate, Mr. Buchanan used this language: 'I might here repeat what I have said on a former occasion'—you see it was so important he must repeat it—'that all Christendom'—mark the words—'is in league against the South upon this question of domestic slavery.' All Christendom includes a great many people. If that be true, and you have got any allies, it is manifest they must be outside of Christendom—[laughter]—because Mr. Buchanan says all Christendom is against you; but still he leaves you some allies, and you will see—it is as plain as demonstration can make it—that your allies are not included in Christendom—Where are the allies? I will read the next sentence: 'They have no other allies to sustain their constitutional rights except the Democracy of the North.' There is light for you; all Christendom on one side, and the Democracy of the North on the other. [Laughter.] That is not my version—it is Mr. Buchanan's. That is the way he backs his friends; for he went on, after having made this avowal, to claim peculiar consideration from Southern gentlemen, and intimated that he might speak a little more freely, having previously intimated them as high as this. Well, sir, when all Christendom was on one side, and the Democracy of the North on the other, and the Democracy of the North growing less and less every day—a small minority in the New England States, how could the Senator from Illinois be so unkind, or how could he doubt, if, on this vital question, he deserted the Democracy and went over to Christendom, [laughter] as to how the question would be answered whether he was to be read out of the party. Read out, sir! That question was settled long ago. On this great vital question he is out of the party. 'I would not say anything unkind to that Senator, nor would I say anything ungenerous in the world; but my experience in the country life of New England does present to my mind an illustration which I know he will excuse me if I give it. A neighbor of mine had a very valuable horse. The horse was taken sick, and he tried all the ways in the world to cure him, but it was of no avail. The horse grew worse daily. At last one of his neighbors said: 'What are you going to do with the horse?' 'I don't know,' was the reply. 'But I think I shall have to kill him.' 'Well,' said the other, 'he does not want (stitch killing) [laughter]. You see, in ordinary times, and on ordinary questions, a little wavering might be indulged; but when it is on one question, and a great vital question, and all Christendom is on one side, and the Northern Democracy on the other, to go over from the ranks of the Democracy to swell the ranks of Christendom, and then ask if he is to be read out! I leave that point. [Laughter.]'

One of the keenest contests on the U. S. Senate floor this session, was that between Fessenden of Maine and Davis of Mississippi a few weeks since. Fessenden said that he had argued no disunion sentiments, and inquired whether Davis could say as much. Mr. Davis, with much warmth, replied in the affirmative, and said, 'I have long sought a respectable man who could charge the contrary.' The charge comes in the form of reports of home speeches by Mr. Davis, published in papers friendly to him. If he has not avowed himself a disunionist on very slight provocation, the Mississippi papers, whose editors are devoted to him, have misrepresented him grossly. The New York Herald's continual talk about 'Jeff. Davis the fire-eater,' has made a bugaboo of him, and given the public a very erroneous impression regarding him. He is not a fool or a fanatic—but is an able, adroit, and dangerous demagogue, whose statesmanship does not look beyond the slaveholding States. He will never either see the Mississippi on fire, or destroy this Confederacy.—(In Commercial.)

A DISSENTING MEMBER.—Joe Smith II, son of the original Mormon prophet, who resides at Nauvoo, Ill., is a Mormon, but disapproves of polygamy and of the treason of Brigham Young. There is a rumor that young Joe will go to Utah and insist upon his rights to the succession. The government would do well to patronize him in this enterprise; it may prove the easiest solution of the Mormon difficulty.

DISGRACEFUL RIOT!

In the House of Representatives!!

On the morning of Saturday, Feb. 6th just before 2 o'clock, a disgraceful row occurred in the House of Representatives, which will furnish the European press with matter for another course of lectures on the barbarous manners of the United States. It seems the House had been in session near fourteen hours on the question of referring the Leocompton constitution.—The proceedings were exceedingly dull, a large number of the members being either asleep or nodding in their seats. Mr. Quitman of Mississippi was on the floor addressing the Chair, when Mr. Grow of Pennsylvania objected to Mr. Quitman's making any remarks.

Mr. Keitt of South Carolina said—If you are going to object, return to your own side of the House. Mr. Grow responded—This is a free hall, and every man has a right to be where he pleases. Mr. Keitt then came up to Grow and said—I want to know what you mean by such an answer as that? Mr. Grow replied—I mean just what I say; this is a free hall, and a man has a right to be where he pleases. Mr. Keitt, taking Mr. Grow by the throat, said—I will let you know that you are a damned Black Republican puppy. Mr. Grow knocked up his hand, saying—I shall occupy such a place in this hall as I please, and no nigger-driver shall crack his whip over me.

Mr. Keitt then again grabbed Mr. Grow by the throat, and Grow knocked his hand off, and Keitt coming at him again, Grow knocked him down. Instantly there was a great uproar.—The respective friends of both parties rushed to the rescue. The Southern members, in the midst of whom Grow was standing, sprang to their feet and rushed at him. He was instantly surrounded, but did not flinch an atom. Cool and collected, he defended himself manfully against his assailants, who, however, were not many, for most of the Southern members behaved admirably during the affair, and ran to the scene of conflict rather as peace-makers than as combatants. But to the Republican side of the House, their rush upon Grow had all the appearance of a hostile onset. Under this impression, Potter of Wisconsin, a young and new member, bounded into the throng of Southerners, and striking right and left with great vigor, soon forced his way to Grow's side. Washburne of Illinois and Washburne of Wisconsin (brothers), both strong men and in the prime of life, were equally prompt in springing to the rescue. Others of the Republicans followed them, some to fight and some to suppress the strife.

The Southern men thus furiously attacked without much discrimination, for so sudden was the affair that discrimination was hardly possible. They defended themselves, and some who entered the arena as peace-makers left it as combatants. Davis, Barksdale, and Lamar, of Mississippi, all of them terrible fire-eaters, were particularly conspicuous in the fray. Davis is bald-headed, and went in as a peace-maker, but got severely mauled. Keitt was picked up by his friends, and carried to a sofa in the lobby of the hall.

The interposition of the officers of the House soon restored order, the combatants separated, and after a while good humor was restored. Mr. Davis, and the other Southern members who were engaged in the fight, came over and conversed with their opponents in a frank and courteous manner during the rest of the night session. The correspondent of the Tribune, in describing the affair, says: "As seen from the Reporter's Gallery, it presented a droll enough spectacle. There were some fifty middle-aged and elderly gentlemen pitching into each other like so many Tipperary savages—most of them incapable, from want of wind and muscle, of doing each other any serious hurt. Mr. Barksdale of Mississippi, who was among the most active, encountered at one moment Mr. Potter of Wisconsin, who was decidedly the champion of the ring. Potter grasped Barksdale by the hair, with the evident intention of putting that gentleman's head into chancery. To his unutterable surprise and disappointment, the hair came off. The Mississippi man was scapled, he jumped about bald-headed, making frantic efforts to recover his wig, which Potter had disdainfully tossed among the crowd, some one of whom kindly restored it to its proper owner."

The correspondent of the N. Y. Courier & Enquirer gives a dramatic coloring to the scene, as follows: "Of course, as the melee was sudden and general, no member could understand the intentions of any other. In fact, the presumption from the beginning was that the attack upon Mr. Grow was premeditated, like the outrage on Mr. Sumner, and Republicans were seized with a desire to punish Keitt. Had the ruffian been found after the beginning of the disturbance, he would have been severely handled. Mr. Barksdale was collaring Mr. Washburne of Illinois; seeing this, Mr. C. O. Washburne

of Wisconsin bore up to the relief of his brother. Mr. Lamar of Miss., ranged up by the side of Mr. Barksdale, and Mr. Potter opened in artistic style on the whole.—Mistaking Mr. Washburne of Illinois for the enemy, Mr. Potter saluted him roughly on coming into action; but, correcting himself, charged upon Mr. Barksdale's wig with one hand and his countenance with the other. Mr. Barksdale received two severe blows, but whether from Mr. Potter or Mr. C. O. Washburne cannot be determined. Mr. Potter was thrown off his balance by Barksdale's wig coming off and remaining in his hand, and his blows probably failed of their object. Mr. Potter was slightly marked under the left eye, Mr. C. O. Washburne had his thumb sprained, and Mr. Washburne of Illinois had his throat compressed. Mr. Lamar, it is stated, drew his penknife, but with what purpose cannot be known. When Mr. Davis of Mississippi felt himself struck in the face, he drew a weapon in self defense, but quickly replaced it.

Mr. Matt of Ohio, a Quaker member much respected, and Rev. Owen Lovejoy of Illinois, were thickly engaged, showing, holding, choking, and crowding friends and enemies by turns—as peace-makers. "It was infinitely amusing to witness the miscellaneous poundings and passes which diversified the progress of the fight. "After its termination there was a good-natured explanation between Messrs. Grow, Potter and the Washburnes on one side, and Messrs. Davis, Barksdale and Lamar on the other, in which each and all professed regret for the misunderstanding which had led to the individual collisions between them. "The intolerable insolence of Keitt on this occasion is only one of many instances calling for his summary punishment. It is the subject of general regret, shared by many Southern members, that it was not more complete."

The correspondent of the Herald says the precise words used by Keitt to Grow were—"Go over to your own side of the House, you damned Black Republican puppy." The response of Grow, that he was not to be driven by the lash of a slave-driver, was a natural retort, and entirely justifiable under the circumstances. It was one that could hardly be ruled out of order, even in debate.

"In an instant the Southern chevalier had jumped from the semi-recumbent attitude which he had been occupying with his heels on his desk, and grasped the Northern cavalier by the throat. They are both young men, strong and athletic, and the blood of the Northern is no less fiery than that of the Southern. Grow seized Keitt, and there was a momentary struggle between them. Mr. Davis, of Miss., a tall, powerful man, with not a morsel of love for those abolitionists who don't believe in the Leocompton Constitution, promptly interfered, and lashed the combatants from each other. Then Keitt struck at Grow, Grow struck back, and Keitt went down. The backers of the Southern champion say that he stumbled; those of the Northern champion say that he fell under the prowess of their man. It was such an instantaneous thing that I fear the question must ever remain a disputed one. On the moment, the forces of the Republicans, headed by Potter of Wisconsin, and supported by the Horatio Washburnes, rushed down the several gangways of their side to rescue their chief out of the enemy's hands and country.—Down the gangways of the opposite side rushed the Leocomptonites. The forest met in the neutral space in front of the Speaker's chair, the area where the House divides by tellers. The conflict is described as terrible. Potter is an accomplished professor of the noble art of self defense, and pitched in right and left with a vim that upset the perpendicularity of friend and foe; for in the heat and passion of the moment there was little chance for selection. It is said that one of the Washburnes went down under his indiscriminating blow.—Lamar of Mississippi was the leader on the other side—a stout, broad shouldered, lusty youth—and administered "a doubler" to his friend from North Carolina in the melee, not distinguishing him from a Black Republican. Harris of Illinois, and the other anti-Leocompton Democrats, stood by unmoved spectators of the scene."

The following is from the N. Y. Times correspondence: "Mr. Barksdale's wig came off in Mr. Potter's left hand, and his right fist expended itself with tremendous force against the unresisting air. This ludicrous incident unquestionably did much toward restoring good nature subsequently—and its effect was heightened not a little by the fact that in the excitement of the occasion Barksdale restored his wig wrong side foremost."

On Monday, Feb. 8, Mr. Keitt made a manly apology to the House, which more than half redeems his character from the imputation of ruffianism. Mr. Grow also made a suitable apology. Mr. Keitt said: Mr. Speaker, the House will remember that its proceedings during the session of Friday were broken by an unpleasant incident. It is due to fair dealing that I should assume upon myself all the responsibility for the act involving a violation of its order, its dignity, and its decorum. I was the aggressor, and whatever responsibility attaches to the act properly belongs to me alone. It was, however, casual, accidental, and sudden.—It is also due to justice that I should make whatever reparation is in my power to the dignity and decorum of the House thus violated. I do that in the expression of my profound regret at the occurrence.—Personal collisions are always unpleasant, seldom excusable, rarely justifiable—never in a legislative body.

In this connection I have but one more remark to make, and that is, if any blow

was directed at me I am not conscious of it. I am at least utterly unconscious of having received any. With this explanation I part from the subject.

Mr. Grow said: Mr. Speaker, I have been taught from my childhood that all fights among men are disgraceful to human nature and to a Christian community, and especially when they occur among the law-makers of a people, in the midst of their deliberations. The judgment of my riper years has fully satisfied me that my education in this respect, at least, has been good and true. Yet the right of self-defense I recognize as one of the inalienable rights of man, to be exercised on all occasions and under all circumstances where it is necessary to protect life or person. At the last sitting of this House I found myself unexpectedly engaged, for the first time in my life, in a personal conflict. To the House I tender most cheerfully whatever of apology is due for this violation of its order and decorum. No man can regret more than I do that there should have been any occasion for a violation of either.

As we said before, this shameful occurrence will furnish the European press an occasion for commenting on the 'barbarous' manners of the United States, and from it draw conclusions unfavorable to the durability of republican institutions; but we view such things in the same light that Mr. Slick does—as merely "the wandering breezes that cool the wings of our glorious Eagle," and bode no harm to our Government. Just here we will introduce a conversation between Mr. Slick and Mr. Punch, the latter an English gentleman—which we find published in a London paper, on the present difficulties in the United States. Mr. Slick, it will be seen, stands up for his country in true American style:

Mr. Punch.—I don't seem quite to understand this disturbance between your President and Mr. Douglas. Can you tell me in a few words what is its character, Mr. Slick? Mr. Slick.—Guess I can. Buck's in a fix. Mr. P.—By 'Buck,' if I apprehend you aright, sir, you would indicate the head of your Republic? Mr. S.—That's the critter. Promised Leocompton Con. should be overhauled.—Mr. P.—Promised the gentleman what? Mr. S.—Who on airth said gentleman!—by Kansas. Mr. P.—Promised Mr.—a—Leocompton Con. that he should go to Kansas. Mr. S.—Guess you've a brick in your hat, stranger. Mr. P.—My facetious friends, sir, have been pleased to say there is a brick under it. Mr. S.—Taint that. Have you liquor? Mr. P.—I never take anything before dinner. Mr. S.—More fool, you. Yes, sir, or—Guess I've a kinder liking for ye, but I don't hanker after your old world habits. Take notice, now. Walker throws up, his dandier being rix by Buck. Mr. P.—Mr. Buchanan should hang the ruffianly Filibuster. Mr. S.—Jerusalem and snakes! Don't be it such a darned hurry. There's a brace of Walkers, and one's not 'otter. Mr. P.—Oh, I beg pardon. Mr. S.—Hold hard, and grip. You see, Douglas has peeped through the hole in the blanket, and seed a bit of light. Mr. P.—The blanket—Oh! Ah! A bit of light, eh? Mr. S.—Spect you don't see none.—We'll begin at fust causes, and come on promiscuous. Air the great and glorious Republic, the only nation in the world where the golden Eagle of Liberty can wave her alabaster wings, and scream her— Mr. P.—I know all that. Mr. S.—Guess you're hard to please, stranger. Wall, air we to have more Slave States than we've got! That's the question. Mr. P.—I trust not; and that the abominable— Mr. S.—Calculate you'd better shut up. Slaves or none, we'll always be ready to whip you. Besides, look at your Irish, and your Jews, and the others that you keep in abject and grinding slavery.—Cock-a-doodle-doo! Mr. P.—I am silent. Mr. S.—Wall, then, Buck's with the South, and meant to have it all his own way in Kansas, and make a Slave State of it, but the Kansas boys kick, and Governor Walker—not the Filibuster, mind, you old 'possum.— Mr. P.—Really, Mr. Slick— Mr. S.—Shut up, I tell you. Governor Walker, who was sent by Buck to Kansas to do the work, finds it ain't to be done.— Says Buck promised him that the Leocompton Constitution should be submitted to the people, and so throws up. Buck's a wide-awake 'b'og, but Douglas he's a wide-awake, and he sees that to force laws on free and enlightened citizens like ourn won't pay, especially when a critter has his eye on the election in 1860. So he just throws Buck over, and there's a difficulty. Mr. P.—The most influential man in the States, his opposition to the President would be formidable. Mr. S.—That's it, reeled out unconcom fine. Mr. P.—Sir, I thank you for your explanation, and I hope that no serious trouble will arise in the United States, for which I always entertain the warmest regard. Mr. S.—Don't worry yourself into no sort of perspiration about that, stranger. In a corrupt and debilitated old rotten country like your'n, a political difficulty might bring ruin and dismay, but where a Western sun glids the proud pinnacles of American Liberty, such things air but the wandering breezes that cool the wings of our glorious Eagle, and help him to fly still higher toward the transcendental firmament. Will you liquor!

Senator Crittenden on the Union.

In the U. S. Senate, Feb. 1st, the proposition to take up the bill admitting Minnesota into the Union being under consideration, Mr. Mason of Virginia and others threw out some hints that Minnesota is not to be admitted until Kansas is prepared—besides some dark intimations by Mason of a dissolution of the Union in case Kansas should be rejected. This brought out Mr. Crittenden, the noble Senator from Kentucky, in favor of Minnesota's immediate admission, and in the course of his fervent remarks thus alluded to those threats of dissolution: "With all these arguments and views, and in almost every argument and controversy that I now witness on this floor, are mingled, to give them strength and point, either prognostics of the overthrow of this Government, or threats against its existence. This is the common strengthening means now thrown into every argument here. While we prize the Union, while we would, I am sure, and the very gentlemen who use this language would do all they could to preserve and perpetuate the Constitution and the Union, there is not a day that we are not doomed to listen here, over and over again, to threats of its overthrow; predictions made, little prophecies thrown out, to-day, or to-morrow, or some day near at hand, this Government is to be no more. Sir, this is the most unfortunate and ominous sign that exists in the whole country, in my judgment. If such language can be familiarly used, and thrown into every argument as a make-weight—as a dust in the balance—if these threats can be made here against the existence of the Union, and if they can have any effect upon the people of this country, then, indeed, sir, we may well apprehend that it cannot last long. I hope it will last forever; and if nobody threatened it until I did, it would last forever. [Applause in the galleries.] Yes, sir, and it will last much longer than gentlemen here, by continual repetition, and reflection, and meditation, believe to be so near at hand; and it would last much longer, perhaps, but for these meditations. They prize it so highly that the remotest danger affects them; and they forthwith begin to prophesy that it is end is near at hand; or they are provoked at something which is done which they think is adverse to the interests of the Republic and the Union, and then they threaten; but all this is promoting the very purpose and the very end against which I know, in their heart, they are opposed, and with their hands would oppose. "We should do well, I think, to throw out of all our ordinary course of argument these threats and these prophecies.—I believe the Union is to live, not because I wish it, or you wish it, sir, but it is to live for ages; I believe it is enshrined in the hearts of the people, and they will be its sustainers and maintainers even if we should be recreant to the part we are to act, and desire its overthrow. It is not in our power—thank God it is not in the power of the Senate, or of the Congress of the United States, to overthrow this Government; and I rejoice in it." [Applause in the galleries.]

The Washington correspondent of the New York Herald says that he "never saw so much feeling exhibited" as in the Senate in the debate relative to action on the admission of Minnesota. This correspondence says that Mr. Douglas has given notice that he will make war to the knife against Leocompton, and that the President may take the consequences.

AN UNCOMFORTABLE POSITION.—In referring to the late passage at arms between Senator Fessenden and Jeff. Davis, a correspondent of the N. Y. Evening Post makes the following hit at a third distinguished individual:

"Douglas appeared in the debate once or twice, but the impossibility of maintaining his present attitude is manifest to every one, except apparently himself. He is in all the discussions on subjects connected with Kansas, like the Irishman's frog, an ambitious animal that couldn't live on land and died in the water."

THE WIDOWED DEMOCRACY.—The States, Major Heiss' paper at Washington, in the course of a severe denunciation of the Leocompton Constitution, says:

"The old adage says, 'Marry in haste and repent at leisure.' If this hollow, checked and consumptive Leocompton constitution, however padded up and painted for the bridal occasion, be wedded by the Democracy, the latter will have soon and sudden a lengthy widowhood for repentance.—It will behold the projects of its manifold overthrow, its household gods leveled, and the very foundation of its hopes blasted; for the offspring begot of the temporary union will all have in them the seeds of that constitution, wrecking disease, which no healing power can eradicate, nor fate itself alter. Under any circumstances, the disease only can be prolonged."

Gen. Houston of Texas, in a late speech in the Senate, said he had been read out of the Democratic party, but did not care enough about the matter to ask the reason why. Jackson, said Mr. Houston, had principles without a platform—the present Administration had a platform without principles.

OLD BUCK AT HOME.—At the recent municipal election in Lancaster, Pa., the President's home, Thos. H. Burroughs, an anti-Leocompton candidate, was chosen Mayor, over Zimmerman, a Buchanan demagogue.