

## THE OPPOSITION.

The Whig party, essentially, is nothing but an Opposition party. That is really the meaning in England when the Whigs opposed the tyranny and corruption of the oligarchy—and it was its meaning in the American revolution when those persons were called Whigs who opposed the pretensions and assertions of the mother country. If there be any one, either in our own ranks or the ranks of the other side, who is in any doubt of the real character of the "Opposition," to the Democratic party, we propose to enlighten him by giving a comprehensive resume, which we had originally done to our hands by an able Tennessee contemporary. Should any one, then, enquire what is the nature of our "Opposition," let him be answered as follows:

"Opposition to the enormous and unnecessary increase of the public expenditures, and to the extravagances and corruptions practised under the present existing Democratic rule."

"Opposition to the policy of extracting to the executive the purse and the sword, as illustrated by the \$30,000,000 bill, and recommended by the President to Congress to transfer to him the war-making power in respect to Mexico and the Central American States."

"Opposition to the monstrous project of a bankrupt law, which together with other measures of Federal aggrandizement recommended and sanctioned by the present Administration, lays the tax to the root of State rights."

"Opposition to Presidential interference with the freedom of elections and the right of suffrage, as exemplified in the removal by Mr. Buchanan of his own appointees to office in Illinois, because they would not war up a Senator of the United States of his own party, for pursuing a course as Senator, contrary to the wishes of the President."

"Opposition to the national indolence of a morbid and unhealthy appetite for territorial acquisition, which, losing sight of every principle of honor, justice, and sound policy, as it is manifested in the removal of the Southern Confederacy from the Union, will be fatal to the safety of the Republic, and absorb into our system mongrel populations, which, after years of trial, have conclusively shown their utter inability to establish and peacefully to live under a free representative Government."

"Opposition to the slavery question, as leading to no practical good to any portion of our country, but fraught with peril to the peace and prosperity of the Union."

"Opposition to the division of the country into two sectional parties—which will be the inevitable result of the continued ascendancy and course of the Democratic party in the Southern States."

"Opposition to the fomenting jealousies, dissensions and heart-burnings between different sections of our common country by misrepresenting the aims and opinions of the people of the different sections in regard to one another."

"Opposition—determined, uniting opposition—to a dissolution of the Union, and to all parties, as such, which cherish and uphold as leaders men who are known to entertain the spirit of disunion in their hearts, or whose professions, doctrines, and acts necessarily tends to that result."

"Opposition to the wild policy of an exclusively metallic currency, which, if carried into effect, would in the language of James Buchanan, 'since diminish the nominal value of all projects more than fifty per cent'—would in effect double the amount of every man's debts—would enrich creditors at the expense of their debtors—and make the rich richer and the poor poorer."

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**Destructive Hail Storm.**—The North-western portion of Talbotton county, Alabama, was visited on the 18th May, by one of the most destructive hail storms, for the extent of country over which it passed, that was ever witnessed in that section. The hail came very thick and fast, many of the stones being as large as a hen's egg, and descended with such force as to knock down mules, and killing pigs, poultry and hens. After the storm had passed, the hail lay six inches deep on a dead level, and in many places was at least four feet deep. The destruction of crops was very great, indeed, wheat, oats, corn and cotton were utterly destroyed. Many have turned their stock in upon wheat fields from which they had expected to gather from two to three hundred bushels; and corn and cotton totally disappeared, beaten to atoms and driven into the ground.

**An Argument for a Division of the Union.**—One of the best reasons yet heard for division is related by a fellow who went to call on the President. He said he waited four hours, and could not get to see him—"And I concluded," said he, "that if he was so scared away as all that, one President was not enough to attend to the affairs of this Republic, and we had better have another."

**The Humor in Political Circles.**—The subjoined is a sample from Mississippi:

"The Governor's private secretary is a rag. The other day a young man, decidedly intrepid, walked into the Executive Chamber and asked for the Governor. 'What do you want with him?' inquired the secretary. 'Oh I want an office with a good salary—a sinecure.' 'Well,' replied the secretary, 'I can tell you something better for you than a sinecure—you had better try a water cure.' A new plan seemed to strike the young initiate, and he ruminated.

**The Pope.**—The Espano of Madrid publishes a letter received from the Spanish Ambassador at Rome, intimating the wish of Pio Nono to take refuge or permanent residence in the island of Minorca, and inviting the Spanish Government to send a body guard to Port Mahon.

**AMERICAN SHIPPING.—Demand from Europe.**—The advice by the Asia are particularly cheering to American ship owners. It is now settled, the Journal of Commerce thinks, that if hostilities continue, a large number of our ships will be employed in carrying trade on European account, growing out of the necessities of the war, at rates which will pay a handsome profit to the owners. The Journal adds:

"The Senator has been chartered to convey grain from England to Marseilles at one shilling sterling per bushel. Several other first-class vessels had been engaged to carry coal, live stock, provisions and miscellaneous cargo, at corresponding rates, and others have been submitted to owners in this city which will secure the chartering of a number of the larger London packets as soon as their acceptance can be signified."

"Part of these offers have been made on private accounts, and part by the agents of the French Government; but the rates in both cases show a decided improvement upon the previous quotations. This is the first diversion in favor of ship owners which has occurred since the Crimean war. It may not, and if there be no general European war, probably will not be sufficient to force rates up to the high standard formerly reached; but it will serve to revive the drooping spirits of ship owners, at a season when they stand sorely in need of such encouragement."

"As England has officially proclaimed her neutrality, British ships will of course share in the general advantage, but preference appears to be given to American shipping, especially in the longer engagements; probably through some secret arrangement; as far as the length of time which England's neutrality may last, even if the war is confined to Italy, where comparatively few ships can be employed, the effect upon our shipping interests must be highly beneficial, as the withdrawal of a part of the large competition nearer home would give enhanced rates of freight in every branch of commerce."

**IMPORTANT BIBLICAL DISCOVERY.**—The London Atheneum says that Professor Tischendorf, who had been sent by the Russian Government on a journey of scientific exploration, in a letter from Cairo, dated 15th March, states to the Minister of Saxony, Herr Von Falkenstein, that he has succeeded in making some valuable discoveries relative to the Bible. The most important of these discoveries is a manuscript of the Holy Scriptures, from the fourth century, containing the Gospels, the Acts of the Apostles, and several of the Apocryphal Books of the Old Testament; but then the whole of the New Testament incomplete. Another valuable discovery of Professor Tischendorf is described as an undoubted and complete manuscript of the Epistles of Barnabas, and of the Shepherd of Hermas, both belonging to the second century of the Christian era, and originally standing in the esteem of the Scriptural Epistles. Herr Tischendorf hopes from the munificence of the Russian government, that he will be enabled to give immediate publication to these three manuscripts.

**A Negro Acting as Parson for White People.**—On Lynn Creek, Giles County, Tennessee, there is a Hardshell Baptist Church, supported by a number of wealthy communists of that "persuasion," who, for several years past, have had for their regular pastor a negro man, black as the nose of a spade, named George, also known as "Bentley's old George," and belonging to the estate of Matthew Bentley, deceased—George is said to be a most excellent man and a good preacher. Sometimes he has had a noted public discussion, lasting four days, with a white preacher, on the subject of baptism, from which the white man is said to have come off (if any difference) "second best." The Church wants to buy George, but he is unwilling to be sold out of his master's family, and is with a regular Southern pro-slavery parson—George is the "preacher in charge" of a large congregation, nearly all of whom are slaveholders, and who pay him a salary of \$600 or \$700 for his personal services—

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