

They were the pioneers of the new States—the cultivators of the soil—the defenders of the country against Indian aggression. It was to them, in a great degree, that the West was indebted for its early advances in settlement, cultivation, and civilized comfort. They had made the wilderness blossom as the rose—the desert smile with gladness and joy. Was it proper to denounce such men as heartless trespassers, fraudulent speculators, robbers of the public lands, as they have been denounced by the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. Clay.)

Appendix to Cong. Globe, 129.
Mr. YOUNG of Illinois said, "Yes, Sir, it has been emphatically said by an honorable Senator, (Mr. Clay of Kentucky,) that they might as well 'seize upon your forts and arsenals, your ships upon the ocean, or plunder the money in your Treasury, as thus to seize upon the public lands, and appropriate them to their use in violation of law, and against the just rights of the nation.'" Sir, the honorable Senator much mistakes the character of this people. There is not, Mr. President, a more peaceable, orderly, industrious, hospitable people to be found in any country."

App. Cong. Globe, Page 131.
Senate Jan. 29, 1838. Mr. LYON. Yet these settlers have been denounced by the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. Clay.) "as land pirates," "plunderers," "robbers!" Do they deserve such epithets? Whom have they robbed? Certainly not the Government. They are ready to pay for the lands they occupy, all the Government could have sold them for, had the policy of the Senator from Kentucky been adopted, and the settlers kept off those lands. They have committed no waste, injured no one, either the Government or any individual. They have in truth been service to the Government, by giving additional value to lands lying in the neighborhood of their improvements, and thus enabling the Government to sell those lands at an earlier period than it could have done had their improvements not been made."

App. Cong. Globe, Page 138.
Mr. CLAY followed Mr. Lyon and did not deny that the terms "LAND PIRATES," "PLUNDERERS" and "ROBBERS," expressed their ideas he intended to convey as to the character of the settlers on the public lands. A part of what he did say is thus reported: viz.

Mr. CLAY of Ky. (followed Mr. Lyon.) "Sir, said Mr. C. 'I will meet them with the laws of the country. Let the lands be exposed to public sale, and afterwards at private sale, and then put in force, if necessary, the existing laws, and REMOVE these LAWLESS INTRUDERS from the property they have forcibly appropriated to their own use. What right had they to the public domain more than any other description of PLUNDERERS to the goods they may seize upon?—An auctioneer has his warehouse broken open by a lawless body of armed men; one man seizes upon a bale, another upon a hamper, and another upon something else, and says he has a right to it at his own price. When other persons come to auction, and say, Mr. Auctioneer, why not give me these goods on as cheap terms as these gentlemen who have broken open your warehouse obtained theirs? Why, what sort of answer would it be to say that these gentlemen are pre-emptors, their moral sense has been outraged by locking up these goods, and keeping them from their use, and as they particularly wished for this bale or hamper at their own price, and are honest, industrious men, who are unable to give the real value for the goods, they have taken this natural and harmless method of getting possession of them.'"

App. to Cong. Globe, Page 139.
Here the Settlers are directly compared to a band of ARMED ROBBERS.

Senate, Jan. 30, 1838. "Mr. WALKER.—Were the Settlers more meritorious than (1830) than they are now; or is it only of late that the Senator from Kentucky has become willing to endorse the libels of the British reviewers in regard to the American settlers of the West? Why, if these settlers are, as the Senator from Kentucky proclaims, LAWLESS INTRUDERS, PLUNDERERS of the public property, as criminal as those that would seize the public ships, or stores, or arsenals, why was not all this announced in 1834, when the act was passed without opposition in the Senate, to legalize and sanction all these proceedings? And if it is indeed just, as the Senator from Kentucky proclaims, that these settlers should be driven by force from the public lands, I hope that the Senator from Kentucky will be permitted to lead the army which is to perform the work of expulsion and desolation; that he will lead the forces which are to drive from their homes and consume the dwellings of these hardy pioneers, whose only crime is this: that they desire to secure, at the Government price, the farms they have selected, and cleared, and cultivated, against the overbearing of capitalists and speculators. And when the Senator from Kentucky unfurls his banner, and calls for recruits for such a purpose, can he obtain one, even in the State of Kentucky, for a service so odious and detestable?"

App. Cong. Globe, Page 142.
Mr. CLAY followed Mr. Walker, but denied nothing he said.

A portion of what he did say, is thus reported: viz.
Mr. CLAY said "We have been told of the extent of the evil, of the number of squatters who have got on the public land and the difficulty of removing them; and that therefore there was a necessity for passing this law, to give them the lands they have unjustly seized on. Do we, said Mr. C. live in a country of laws or not?"

"How was it with that White House, now so amply furnished—with that famous east room, and the little man who occupies so small a part of it? Suppose a pre-emptor was to go there and say, Mr. President, this house is too large for you; I am an industrious cultivator, one of the bone-and-sinew men, and claim a pre-emption to part of this house. Would he not have as much right to squat down there as to squat down on the public lands?"

App. Cong. Globe, 143.
What can be more contemptuous than these expressions relative to the Settlers?

But, says Mr. Clay in one of his letters, an explanation took place at the next session of the Senate "on which occasion a Senator from Illinois, [Mr. Young] acknowledged that he had inferred the exceptional expressions from the tenor of my speech, and that I had not used them."

Now, here is the "explanation" which Mr. Young made as reported at the time: viz.
Senate Jan. 8, 1838. Mr. YOUNG of Illinois. "The Senator (Mr. Crittenden,) asks, why it is, that his colleague (Mr. Clay) has, alone of all others, been singled out as the object of vituperation by the friends of this measure; why the whole fountain of their bitter waters has been poured out upon

his devoted head; and why it is, that he alone is to be offered up as a sacrifice upon the altar of Western interests, for having done what he considered to be his duty in respect to the greater interest of the whole Union. Sir, if the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. Clay) stands conspicuous as the object of attack in this debate, I would ask his honorable colleague, (Mr. Crittenden) who placed him in that condition? Has he not, above all others, at all times, and upon all occasions, when the subject of the Public lands has been the topic of discussion, taken the lead in denouncing these 'LAWLESS INTRUDERS' upon the public domain, as he is pleased to term them? Has he not in fact, to use his own expression, battled it for days together, 'solitary,' if not 'alone,' against our pre-emption and graduation bills, when scarcely a man of his party would venture to the rescue? These things considered, Mr. President, and how can it be matter of wonder or surprise to the Senator, (Mr. Crittenden) that his colleague should be met by the Senators from the new States, upon the ground he himself has seen fit to occupy, so far in advance of his associates, as to have left them almost out of sight behind him? Mr. President, during the progress of the debate on the pre-emption bill, at the last session of Congress, the honorable Senator from Kentucky (Mr. Clay) indulged in expressions towards the settlers of the new States who had gone upon the public lands for the purpose of procuring homes for themselves and families, which, in my opinion, they did not deserve; and as they were repeated on more than one occasion during that protracted debate with the utmost deliberation, I took note of some of them at the time that they were uttered, in the precise terms employed by the speaker as I understood him; and as I wish to recur to these expressions, for the purpose of showing how far, in this respect, the honorable Senator (Mr. Clay) may or may not have been misrepresented, as is supposed by his honorable colleague (Mr. Crittenden) I will refer to them as I took them down, and leave the Senate to judge whether we of the new States, or the honorable Senator's colleague, have had the most cause to complain of misrepresentation.—

"The honorable Senator (Mr. Clay) said, when discussing the merits of the pre-emption bill, and of those who were to be benefited by its provisions, in the debate of the 27th of January last, according to my memorandum, that he knew of no law, or principle of propriety, which authorized us to give away the public lands as a bounty to the poor—as a bounty for the violation of the law; that he viewed it (the pre-emption bill) as a license to a set of LAWLESS INTRUDERS to go upon the public domain, and prevent its sale in the manner prescribed by law; that he looked upon the whole system of pre-emption as a SYSTEM OF BOUNDLESS, HEARTLESS, SCANDALOUS, FRAUDULENT SPECULATION; that it was full of fraud—ABOMINABLE, EXECRABLE FRAUD; a system that TAINTED, CORRUPTED, and PUTRIED every one who touched it; that these men (the settlers upon the public lands) might, with equal propriety, SEIZE UPON OUR FORTS AND ARSENALS, OUR SHIPS UPON THE OCEAN, or PLUNDER THE PUBLIC MONEY IN THE TREASURY, and appropriate the spoils among them, as thus to seize upon the public domain, and hold it against the just demand of the Government. Such, Mr. President, are some of the expressions in which the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. Clay) indulged at the late session of Congress towards the settlers of the West. But it is said that he has been misrepresented—intentionally misrepresented; and that language has been attributed to him on the occasion referred to which he never uttered. This, sir, to some extent, may be true. I have seen some newspaper reports of that debate which contained expressions which I do not remember to have heard in the terms supposed to have been employed; but the inferences drawn there, nevertheless, in most instances, correct logical deductions from the premises, as admitted to have been stated in the debate. As, for example, the Senator (Mr. Clay) did not say, in so many words, that the settlers upon the public lands were pirates; but he did say, that they might, with equal propriety, have seized upon our ships on the ocean, and hold them against the lawful right of the nation, as thus to seize upon the public lands, and defeat, by unlawful combinations, a just competition at the public sales in the manner prescribed by law. And what is this but a CHARGE OF PIRACY? And what else is a man who commits an overt act of piracy, such as the Senator (Mr. Clay) has described, but a pirate? He did not say they were robbers; but he characterized them as robbers, assimilating their supposed offences to a seizure of the public forts and arsenals—to a plundering of the public Treasury; and what is this but ROBBERY or LARCENY, according to the circumstances of force or no force, in despoiling the Government of its property?"

App. Cong. Globe, page 55, 1838-9.
By the National Intelligencer, and the explanation of Senator Young, therefore, it is conclusively proved that Mr. Clay characterized the Settlers on the public lands—

As a LAWLESS RABBLE.
As a set of PIRATES.
As a gang of TRIEVES.
As a band of ROBBERS.

If he did not call them by these names, he gave them these characters, and he proudly said, he would not be deterred from doing his duty in resisting their claims by menaces, or by any considerations personal to himself. He moved, as we have seen, an amendment, requiring Mr. Van Buren to have the settlers removed therefrom. To show how far he would have gone, we copy from the National Intelligencer of the 5th February, 1838, part of a discussion which took place between him and the lamented Senator Linn, of Missouri, on the 27th day of January, 1838.

"Mr. LINN said, that it was utterly vain and idle to suppose you could, by legal enactments or military force, arrest the onward course of our free and restless population. Onward, onward it has rolled, and onward it would continue to roll, until it reached the borders of the great Pacific Ocean, where its accumulated masses would sit down and weep that there were no more worlds to settle.—The American population have, and ever will, consider the wilderness as their property, their inheritance. Who could or would dare say to our people—thus far shalt thou go, and no farther? No man worthy to be President of the United States—no man can be President of this great Republic—who would be tyrant enough to order, by military violence, these people to be driven off the lands they had reclaimed from the wilderness which they owned in common with the people of the United States."

"Mr. CLAY of Ky. said: can it be possible that

this government cannot protect the property of the people of the United States? Can these settlers hold possession against the whole force of this government, THE REGULAR ARMY, the militia, under the command of the President? If the case is so with the public domain, how soon will it be the same with all the public property? Sir, I hope it is not true! I trust the people will be able to protect their property."

Will not the People of the Western States generally agree with Senator Linn, that "no man WORTHY to be President" would be TYRANT enough to order the "REGULAR ARMY" into the new settlements to dispossess the occupants of the land AT THE POINT OF THE BAYONET? Say, Pre-emptors, SHALL such a TYRANT be President? If so, give your votes for HENRY CLAY.

But this man would have you believe that he only concurred with Mr. Van Buren on this point: Hear what the equivocating candidate for the Presidency said on the 27th January 1838, as reported in his favorite Intelligencer: viz.

"Sir," said Mr. Clay, "when I had gone thus far [in reading Mr. Van Buren's Message] I thought our Chief Magistrate would take care of the property of the people of the Union. But when I had followed him a little further and perceived that he had adopted all the WILD LAVENTIONS of pre-empt and graduation, and all the NEW-FANGLED NOTIONS of which we have heard so much in years past, I almost despaired of him."

His attack upon Mr. Van Buren for being in favor of the pre-emption law, was much more violent than is here reported; but here is enough to show, that so far from concurring on this point they were directly at issue.

But Mr. Clay says, he was not opposed to the grant of pre-emptions upon a final settlement of the land question, and as evidence, points to his vote for a proposition offered by Mr. Crittenden in 1840, uniting a pre-emption system with a scheme for giving to the States the moneys arising from the sales of public lands, and to his distribution Act of the Extra Session in 1841. What! HENRY CLAY sanctioning what he had so long and so vehemently denounced as a scheme of plunder, piracy, and robbery! Henry Clay approving of the seizure of the public arsenals, the public ships, and of the money in the Treasury! It is even so—if he is to be believed.

But let us see when Mr. Clay became willing to join the thieves, robbers and pirates, as he substantially called the settlers on the public lands.—These denunciations of the "squatters" and of the whole principle of pre-emption, were at the December session of Congress in 1837-38. Prior to that time, Mr. Clay had FIVE TIMES reported in the Senate his plan for giving away the proceeds of the public lands, viz, on the 11th December 1832, December 18th 1833, December 16th 1834, December 29th 1835, and December 10th 1836.—IN NOT ONE OF THESE BILLS WAS THERE A PRE-EMPTION CLAUSE, or any provision for the protection of actual settlers!—He then considered them but robbers and pirates, unworthy of protection. But Mr. Clay had been for years vainly striving to SEIZE ON THE MONEY IN THE TREASURY HIMSELF, to aid in making him president through a plan to throw it into the hands of a little aristocracy of each State; and in the hope of getting the aid of the frontier people in his scheme of plunder, he turns round and attempts to BUY UP the settlers with a promise of pre-emption! Yes, the man who in 1838 denounced them as a "lawless rabble," no better than thieves, robbers and pirates, in 1840-41, is graciously pleased to sanction all their lawless acts of theft, robbery and piracy, if they will only aid in actually "seizing the money in the treasury" and MAKING HIM PRESIDENT.

SETTLERS, PEOPLE OF THE NEW STATES! Will ye be thus bought? Will ye take of Mr. Clay as a BRIBE, what Mr. Van Buren yielded as a just concession? Will you acknowledge Mr. Clay's slanders to be JUST, by taking the stand never for your President? NEVER! NEVER! NEVER!!!

Yes, NEVER will echo around our east frontier, until the sound shall reach the ocean, and be thrown back in one continuous NEVER, NEVER, NEVER!!!

From the Baltimore Republican and Argus. WORKINGS OF THE TARIFF. BALTIMORE, June, 1844.
My Dear Sir:—You appear to be greatly alarmed for the interest of yourself, mechanics, and day laborers, on account of the unprecedented rise of all kinds of Fall and Winter Dry Goods, and to be candid with you, I don't wonder at it, and as you state to me you are a plain farmer you want a plain statement of facts, as you know me to be connected in Dry Goods for twenty years past. I will cheerfully comply with your request, and think it likely you will be more alarmed than you had any idea of. Below I send you the price we paid by the case from the manufactory and agent last June, and also the price they are selling this June, and defy contradiction.

June, 1843.	June, 1844.
Pd. for mixed Cassinets	27 Same kind, 37
" blue mix'd	32 " " " 40
" drab or sheep gray	31 " " " 50
" dark mix'd	45 " " " 60
" blue	45 " " " 60
" super blue	60 " " " 85
" Eddy	62 " " " 87
" black	62 " " " 80

The above is only a few examples of prices.—Now for white and colored woollen flannels:—

June, 1842.	June, 1844.
Paid for white,	Same kind, 27
" " "	22 " " " 30
" " "	28 " " " 37
" " "	32 " " " 42
" " "	34 " " " 50

6-4 green Baize, which all working men wear for jackets in their workshops 50—this June 70.
I wish you to distinctly understand, that the above prices are by the large quantity, 20 to 1,000 pieces.

Now I will give you the prices the farmer mechanic, and day laborer, have to pay for them, and if it is not enough to alarm you, I will give up.—You must admit, that we wholesale men can't live without 'em 10 per cent. profit on the case cost, and that the country merchant must have 25 per cent. on what he sells, to live upon, which we will make our calculation. The price they cost you at retail last June 1843:

Drab or sheep's gray	with the per ct.
Cassinets,	81c " " 41
Dark mix'd	45 " " 60
Dark	60 " " 81
Black,	61 " " 83

FLANNELS.

White Flannel,	17c	with the per ct.	22
" " "	28	" " "	37
" " "	32	" " "	43
" " "	34	" " "	46
6-4 green Baize,	50	" " "	67

Now I will give you the price you will have to pay this year for the same goods:

Drab or sheep's gray	with the per ct.
this Fall,	30c " " 67
Dark mix'd,	67 " " 81
Dark blue,	85 " " 116
Black,	90 " " 121

FLANNELS.

White Flannel,	25c	with the per ct.	33
" " "	27	" " "	50
" " "	42	" " "	67
" " "	50	" " "	87
6-4 green Baize,	70	" " "	76

The above woollens were manufactured out of woollen sheered sheep last year; as a farmer, you know you sheered your sheep last of May, or the present month June, and it is impossible for them to make them up in 10 or 15 days from the sheep's back, so there is no excuse on that head.

Now, I ask you, is your corn, rye, oats, wheat, and potatoes, which you raise by the sweat of your brow, higher, so that you can afford to pay such ungodly prices; and are you, as a farmer, with the mechanic and day laborer, going to put up—yes, I say put up—with such abominable imposition— I trust not, I cannot believe you will.

These are American, manufactured goods; now show the existing tariff on each kind, and let the farmer, mechanic, and laboring man, see who it is that are so greatly benefited by the present unequal tariff.

Now, one word more. If you go into a manufactory and ask him the reason he asks 15 cents a yard for calicoes he can sell at a profit at 10 cents a yard, he immediately replies, that you can't import them at the present prohibitory tariff for less.

Yours, &c.
Market Street Baltimore.

LATE FROM MEXICO.
Death of Sentmanat and Total Failure of his Expedition—Renewal of the war against Texas—the Texas Prisoners at Perote.

An arrival at New Orleans brings advices from Vera Cruz to the 20th ult. and Mexico to the 16th. We copy the following important intelligence from Picayune:—

The daring General Sentmanat, of whose departure from this place with a band of followers to revolutionize Toluca we have already spoken, has been taken prisoner and shot, and it is supposed that his comrades will share the same fate.

It would seem that on nearing the coast of Toluca, the vessel which had on board Sentmanat and his men was discovered, chased and finally driven on shore, between the bar of Christepac and the principal bar, by the Mexican man-of-war brig Santa Anna. The revolutionists, some of whom had arms while others had nothing to defend themselves, immediately betook themselves to the mountains. After several brushes with the Mexican troops, in which several of his men were either killed or taken prisoners, Sentmanat himself was finally captured with only one follower, and shot at Jalpa, near Toluca, on the 18th ult., after the consolations of religion were administered to him. According to one letter which we have seen, his head was cut off, fried in oil, and after being put in a species of caging, was stuck upon a pole to adorn the principal plaza of Toluca—truly a most horrible end. It was thought that his comrades would all share the same fate.—

Thus has terminated an expedition which was conceived in daring. But in which wisdom had no counsel.—That the Mexican authorities were justifiable in putting to death the leader we are not prepared to dispute; but nothing can palliate the horrible mutilations committed upon his person after his life had paid the forfeit of his revolutionary attempt. What became of the vessel which transported Sentmanat, or her officers and crew, we have been unable to learn.

From our papers and correspondence, it would seem that Santa Anna has sent orders to Gen. Woll to publish a decree at once to the effect that the armistice with Texas is at an end, and hostilities are to be immediately recommenced with vigor. Report has it that Santa Anna has also ordered Gen. Woll to advance on Texas. He had called upon Congress to furnish him 30,000 men, and \$4,000,000, where-with to recommence the war against Texas. General Reyes has been appointed minister of war and Marine, in place of Tornel, and General Gomez de la Cortina first officer of the war bureau. Gen. Valentin Canalizo has been chosen commander of the army destined to operate against Texas.—The new minister of war has ordered the militia into immediate and active service, and from present appearances it would seem that Santa Anna is determined to make a strong attempt to resubjugate Texas.—Balt. Clipper.

CARRYING OUT THEIR PRINCIPLES.
It will be seen by the following from the Bay State Democrat that King and his satellites in Rhode Island have as little regard for pecuniary as political rights.

"A precious set of Scoundrels.—We are informed by a friend from Providence, that Lieutenant Martin, of the 'Cadets,' a strong Algerine company of Providence, who has been detected by forging the name of the mayor of that city to certain bank checks to the tune of several thousand dollars, has decamped, leaving his bondsmen to 'step

up to the captain's office and settle." It will be remembered that the city clerk's accounts were found to be minus about \$6,000, a short time since, and Gov. King is under bonds for his bank exploits. What a precious set of scoundrels these Rhode Island Algerines are! These men were all loud in their denunciations of the patriot Dorr. These three officials have prated much about Dorr's dishonesty. Lieut. Martin! His honor the city clerk!! and his excellency Gov. King!!!

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE—ARRIVAL OF THE HIBERNIA—TWELVE DAYS LATER.

By the arrival of the Hibernia, at Boston, we have intelligence from Liverpool twelve days later than that received by the Great Western. The intelligence is not of much interest.

Preparations were made to telegraph the intelligence of the Queen's health from Windsor Castle to London, on the occurrence of a certain event daily expected.

The stock of cotton in Liverpool on the week previous to the departure of the steamer was 924,700 bales, the largest ever known. Prices remained firm, and the demand steady. Sea Island was quoted at 13 to 20d; other qualities 4 to 6d.

Nothing of importance had occurred in parliament, except the appointment of a committee to investigate the charge that a system of espionage prevails in the British Post Office.—The discoveries of the committee are not to be made public.

Incendiary fires still continue in Norfolk and Suffolk.

The big iron steamer Great Britain had not yet been got out of the dock at Bristol.

Sunday, the 28th of July has been appointed as a day of fasting, by the Irish Catholic Clergy, for the imprisonment of O'Connell. The receipts of rent for each of the four weeks since Mr. O'C.'s imprisonment, average a little more than £3,000.

Lord Heitsborough has been appointed Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

The Overland mail from India, had arrived. The demand for British goods for the east had somewhat abated.—"American domestics" were quoted in the price currents.

The French troops had had a brush with the soldiers of Morocco, near the borders of Algeria, and the loss of the African Army was more than 300, while the French lost 6 only killed, and had 50 wounded.

The Prince de Joinville had sailed from Toulon, with three ships of the line.

The difficulties between France and Morocco had been nearly adjusted by treaty and there was no danger of war.

Domestic visits have been made by the French police to several of the Carlist noblemen. Nothing resulted from this, however.

The Steamer Manchester was lost at the mouth of Elbe, on the 17th June, with all her crew and her passengers, about 6 in number.

Charles Dickens is now on a tour in Italy.

From the Fayette (Mo.) Democrat. THE MISSOURI RIVER.
The rise in all the streams in this State has been unprecedented. The Missouri is at least six feet higher than ever before known. The destruction of property is immense. The bottoms were full of fine farms, the most productive in the country. All these have been inundated, in some cases ten feet under water; the fencing in many cases the houses have been washed away, the stock drowned, and beds of sand, in some cases, cover what were before fertile fields. The people are driven from their homes, with but little more than their clothing. The distress is appalling, and we call upon every man in the name of humanity, to contribute so far as he can to its relief. As the river recedes, stagnant pools, and a slimy deposit, very offensive to the senses, are left. We fear much that our present misfortunes will be followed by violent epidemics. Truly we have been afflicted.

A stumper and a Poker. A gentleman now at one of our principal hotels, has in vain sought for a whig who will cover thirty thousand dollars on the Presidency. He offers that sum in either of four ways, to try the faith of the Clay gentlemen who are always playing at brag. First, on a majority for Polk in Pennsylvania; second, on his majority in Ohio; third, on his majority in the State of New York; and fourth, on his majority in the general result of all the States. In either of these ways, we understand, thirty thousand dollars are offered in one sum, and ready to be produced at any moment. Where's Henry Clay and his backers? Here's a stumper for you! N. Y. Plebeian.

Henry Clay has never carried the State of New York, and what is more, he never can or will. To use the language of Mr. Frelinghuysen, "the atrocious murder of Cilely," and the "seven deadly sins" of his great old age, will not be forgotten, however lightly the offences of youthful days might by some be regarded.
Troy Budget.

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Spirit of Democracy.

Mr. Editor:—A number of the Spirit of Democracy of the 19th inst. has just been put into my hands in which I find a communication over the signature of one Alexander Shaw! of a most libelous and villainous character, charging me with having sent by mail for a copy of the Journal of the House of Representatives, of the State of Ohio, of the last session, that I might learn the course pursued by a certain member upon the militia law. This charge, I pronounce destitute of the least foundation of truth. I did send for the journal, as I had a right to do, without the advice or consent of Mr. Shaw; but it was for my own convenience, and for information upon some more important question than the militia question. This sage writer has seen fit to issue a political bulletin, supposing that he is in charge of the political morals or affairs of the day, defending the representative from this county in the last legislature, upon a question that I care nothing about. I did, and do, object to the course pursued by our late representative upon another and important measure, viz the Wooster bank bill, and I feel it my privilege and duty to oppose any man who would vote for such a loose and unrestricted bill. After prating upon the subject of truth and justice, he proceeds to state that injustice has been done our late representative, and yet the miscreant acknowledges that I favored him with the journal that he might examine it for himself, (supposing that he could read,) and he even goes on to state the page in my journal on which the final vote is recorded, (page 524,) which vote, from Shaw's communication might be inferred, was the only one that our representative gave upon the militia law. Why does he not refer the reader to page 529, upon the journal, where our representative voted against Mr. Alexander's amendment to reduce the labor on the highways to one day instead of two, and on the same page where he voted for the engrossment of the bill? for he saw both those votes recorded in the journal. That was a part of the truth that did not suit this lover of justice to notice. I here charge him with a wilful and wanton misrepresentation of the matter, as will be evident to any one who will examine the page on the journal I have mentioned, and his communication.

He further proceeds to affect a holy horror for the political slang of the day, and to deplore the course pursued by political aspirants to attempt to ride into office by calumniating their opponents. Let us see which of us occupy the position of political aspirants, I now assert that I have never occupied that station, and it is well known to every one in the community the ground Shaw occupies and has occupied with regard to that matter. I leave the public to judge of his honesty and truth with regard to that matter, and "let justice be done though the heavens should fall."

I have deemed it necessary to say thus much, and to set the matter in its proper light, although I detest a newspaper dispute, having always considered it a small business, but I could not well say less to dispose of this small subject. I was dragged into it, and I feel it my duty to see the matter through, and to hurl back the vile slander where it properly belongs, and leave him to revel in his own perfidy, so characteristic of the man. If his self-importance and political influence have gained for him any capital in the minds of the community, he is welcome to it, and any office it will command. But he may rest assured that he will not domineer over me, for he has remarked to me personally that I have not resided long enough in the county to take part in the political affairs of the county, consistent democrat, (or demagogue I should have said) I have lived in the State for some years, and if that does not give me the privilege of participating in our political affairs what would? I think he had better join the Native American party, for his principles would be in perfect keeping with that party.

I shall hold myself in readiness to defend the position in any shape or form that I have here taken, and upon all occasions to expose fraud and villainy whenever it is in my power.

JOHN HAMPTON LEWIS.
Correspondence of the Spirit of Democracy.

CLEAR FORK, Monroe County, July 22, 1844.

Mr. Editor:—Have you heard of the most extraordinary effect that Clay has had on a whig, coon, abolition stumper, over in these diggings? By the too free use of clay mixed with a little tobacco, taken for the same purpose that the whig operator Henry Clay, "the hops of pecuniary gain," it operated so entirely different to what he expected, (whether as an emetic or cathartic I know not,) but true it is, there is not even his toe nail or a grease spot left in him hereabouts. Whether he is now to be numbered among the living, the dead, or gone to Texas, I am unable to determine.

I wish, Mr. Editor, you would make some enquiry, and ascertain, if you can, if he has gone to Texas. If I become satisfied that he has "put" for Texas, and that there is many more such scoundrels there, I will go against annexation, although I go in heart and soul for it now.

This coon had 4 or 500 pounds of tobacco which he attempted to make weigh 1000, by secreting a lump of clay in or near the butt-end of each hand; but the covering was too thin. It was too much like the covering which the friends of Henry Clay attempt to throw over his wicked acts, in order to shield him from the public indignation. But it will go—was exposed as all rascality should and will be.

If you publish this communication, send me a few extra copies of your paper. I wish to hand them to some of my whig neighbors (though they are very scarce here) so that they may amuse themselves by reading it, instead of the whig song made by some drunken coon about our representative. Let them take warning from the fate of their friend, and use Clay only for the purpose for which God designed it, else their and their country's fate may be even worse than his. Can't you give us a song on "Clay and Tobacco?"

POLK.
An incident is related by a gentleman who visited the scene of the first riots in Philadelphia soon after their occurrence. He entered into a conversation with one of the persecuted Irish men and asked him whether it was true as reported, that his countrymen had torn down and trampled upon the American flag. "My God!" said the warm-hearted son of Erin, "we would as soon trample on the Cross!"

Such are the people who are charged with hostility to our institutions.—Espositor.