FROM THE AMERICAN MERCURY.

CONNECTICUT POLITICS.

THE OLD CHINA BOWL.

I once knew an old lady, venerable for years, and for very little else. She had an old china bowl which she valued greatly, because it had descended through several generations. It had been cracked and putied, broken and puttied, till it looked like a piece of Mosiac work. Still it was the old family china bowl, & received the old lady's daily homage, and she often declared that it was much stronger than when it was whole, and all the putty mongers joined in this opinion, yet they advised as the surest support of the old china bowl, that it should not be handled ; but there happened a damp snow in the night, and a frosty morning followed, an old friend called in, the china bowl was imprudently bro't forth, & while both were admiring its soundness, it slipped out of her hand and broke into a thousand pieces.

The old lady after her first spasm sent for all the putty mongers, and conjured them by their reverence for antiquity, for steady habits, for pious ancestors, for old china, putty and their craft, to repair the bowl. They promised to try their best, at her cost, but the old china bowl will never be together again.

Thinking of this old china bowl, and comparing it with the present political condition of this state, I could not help saying to myself, O Connecticut, thy old china bowl is broken for the last time, and all thy putty mongers cannot mend it.

The federal party in this state is a composition of as many pieces as the old lady's bowl was broken into.—Some are federal because Virginia is republican. Some are federal because the power of office is in federal hands. Some are federal because they have been taught that the republicans are all infidels, and this last class will pretend to be confirmed in their faith, because we have voted for Mr. Griswold. Many have been federal because the leading men in their towns have tho't proper to declare against republicanism ; but the great host has been federal, for reasons which they nor any other man can define ; yet they have been taught the short creed, that federalism was but another word for religion, talents, morals and good government.

Suppose that *the late* Mr. Treadwell, had suffered the most valuable and fundamental of our steady habits the election law, to have remained in force.—Where would have been federalism in this day ?

Suppose that all men of full age, and capacity, and of fair character, who pay taxes and do military duty, had been admitted to vote, where would have been your federalism.

Suppose that half the power of bestowing offices had rested with us, where would federalism found a place.

If with rational laws, and on an equal footing, the republicans would have prevailed, then the real feelings & principles of the majority are with us, and the present issue of the election shews, that a majority of the state is opposed to a material part of Connecticut federalism. The same cements, which have kept together the parts of federalism, will never answer the same purpose again. Your old china bowl has slipped out of your hands in an unguarded moment, its old fractures are subdivided, and all your putty mongers can never put it together again so as to answer your purposes, as shall be shewn in the sequel.

NEW TIMES.

6,872 Republican votes given for Roger Griswold as governor.

Two thirds of all the votes, by which he is elected to the chief magistracy of this state. There is not, throughout the United States, a single governor who has been elected but by republican votes.

By all parties Mr. G. has been considered a man of talents and integrity—but since he has been named for the office of governor, he has been publicly called a DEIST, and many slanderous anecdotes have been circulated against him. As these slanders came from the friends of his competitor, we were not hasty in yielding credit to them.—We voted, and by the aid of some federal votes have secured his election.

Straightway the friends of Mr. Treadwell say 'Mr. Griswold will not accept the office, because he has been chosen by democrats, in opposition to all the *estabiished* clergy, the influence of the college, the missionary and biole socities, and the main body of federalism. Verily, the friends of the unsuccessful candidate are unanimously of opinion that the governor elected ought to decline his high office, and permit Mr. T. again to declare himself, 'called by public suffrage to govern the state.' Mr. Griswold will give to these advisers all due credit for their modesty and disinterestedness, but he will not decline.—He will resume the family sword, and the governor's guards must escort him—and many an unwilling federalist must follow him.

These are hard sayings to the friends of the late governor, but they console themselves with the hope that if Mr. G. shall not decline, Mr. Treadwell will be lieut. governor. There you will again be disappointed. You may plead that Mr. Treadwell was the father of the new election law, by which the *crafts*-men have gained great advantage ; that he has been a friend to the clergy and to the missionary society has served long and faithfully in many public offices, which has now passed into other hands ; that he is advanced in life, not opulent, and really needing the 600 dollars salary of a lieut. governor, and that it would be cruel to sink at once from the chief magistracy to a private station.

In all these pleas you carefully omit to say, that if you can get him into that station, you will add 4000 more to the 8000 to the votes of this year, and bring him in governor over Mr. Griswold's head, in another year. You calculate that where the people have for one year compared the *pious* Mr. T. with Mr. Griswold, they will turn out and vindicate the steady habits of the state—but you calculate without your host——Mr. G. and his friends know that the body of his electors were republicans, and that on their votes he and they must depend in case of a future struggle. Of course they will join the republicans in opposing Mr. Treadwell, and you may push them so far as to compel them to vote for Mr. Boardman as lieut. governor. We notify you by these presents, that Mr. T. shall not be lieut. governor ; and we farther notify you that if you hereafter set him up for governor you will loose the election, although the majority against you will be less than in the present year.

Your despair of succeeding in the choice of Mr. Treadwell may drive you to take up another of your favorites, with a view of running him against Mr. G. but even him you will not be permitted to elect unless you previously oblige him to pledge himself to the friends of Mr. G. that he will not be Mr. G's competitor for the office of governor. This, again, must be done in secret, but will be known to a few, and they will tell it to their wives, and it will be known throughout the state—and in that day it shall be woe unto Litchfield county, woe unto Sharon, for the friends of steady habits will be offended, and the imprudent of them will say, 'Behold a wicked covenant hath been made and an infidel is to rule over us.'

We wholly deny the truth of any such charges against Mr. G. but we know the impressions which are making against him, and we wish to notify you in due season, that he is to be governor of this state so long as the republicans and the unpriviledged and unprotected christian establishments, continue to support him.

FROM THE BOSTON PATRIOT.

TO THE HONORABLE
HARRISON GRAY OTIS,
President of the Senate of Massachusetts.

SIR,

In two former letters I have considered the nature and tendency of your threatened resistance to law. I have shewn that this resistence can be made only by open, lawless, physical force. The awful consequence of such measures it has been my object to expose.

The Resolutions do indeed affect to deprecate forcible resistance. They recommend "*the election of such men to the various offices of the State Government, as will oppose by peaceable but firm measures, the execution of Laws, which if persisted in* "MUST AND WILL BE RESISTED"

To *oppose the execution* of laws by *peaceable* means, seems to be an absurdity in terms. But it is not consistent with your good sense to suppose that such serious propositions were either designedly ambiguous, or destitute of meaning. The nerves of the author probably trembled when he wrote them, and involved his ideas in paradoxical expressions.

I hesitate in believing that *you* have approved the only meaning of which they seem to be susceptible. But Mr. Quincy has declared in Congress, that a certain other law of the land will justify a separation of the States, "*peaceably if they can*, FORCIBLY IF THEY MUST." The same idea is conveyed to my mind by the resolutions adopted in federal caucus. The plain English of the declaration is, that a law of Congress shall not be executed in this commonwealth: to prevent its execution officers must be chosen who will array the power of the State against the Union ; instead of resistance by a lawless, undisciplined multitude, a commander in chief must be elected who will take "*firm measures ;*" that is, organize the military force of the State against the officers of the Union. Other officers must be cloathed with power who will sanction with legislative authority a non compliance with the law, and make the judiciary of the Commonwealth a city of refuge from prosecutions under the authority of the national government.

I appeal to the common sense of the community if this be not the fair import of the language ; but if you deny the interpretation, it will give me pleasure to acknowledge the mistake. Yet, sir, what other mode of *peaceable resistance can there be*, that to set one law in opposition to another, to use the legislative authority of the State as a counterpoise to that of the Union ; to declare the power of the Commonwealth, that obedience to the general government should be punished as a crime ; to indemnify the violators of public law, against the penalties they would incur, and justify them in the breach ?

Such resistance is more dangerous than riotous assemblies and violence of arms. The latter enlist against themselves the good feelings of every honest and sober citizen, and would soon be suppressed ; the former, under the specious appearance of right, usurp the powers of the federal government, make the State a rebel in the confederacy, and perplex the understanding of common minds between the contrarient obligations of allegiance. It would end by a dissolution of the Union. If the public mind can be elevated to this warmth, it will shatter the fabric of government and scatter the Union in pieces. A NORTHERN CONFEDERACY will take place of our present happy Constitution ; and the inevitable effects of our diminished strength would be an alliance offensive and defensive with G. Britain.

I am not sure but all this may be accomplished by tolerably peaceable means. The States south of the Delaware have as little need of us as we have of them. They would ridicule our folly, and hardly wish, much less fight, to detain us. At home it might produce only the ruin of a few individuals, a little proscription and burning of property by way of terror, and a few murders for the sake of examples !—Perhaps in the rapidity of our change from one government to another, there would be plunder and robbery. A few patriotic citizens who remembered the oath which bound them to the present constitution, might be sacrificed ; a few towns which did not readily accede to the alteration might be ravaged ; a little blood would be shed over the tomb of our martyred republic ; but a new government too strong for internal resistance of any kind, too despotic to permit the murmurs of future disaffection, would rise on its ruins and erect a perpetual throne on the broken symbols & neglected emblems of liberty.

Did these reflections enter into the contemplations of those who voted for *peaceable resistance*, to law ? Is this the scenery which such resolutions if carried into effect will play before our eyes ? And will you pledge your high and responsible name to measures of this kind ? Will you lend the weight of your personal and *official* character to sanction such proceedings ? Are you ready to meet the dreadful extremity, and risk the possession of affluence and honors on the desperate "hazard of a die ?" The man to whom was closed all avenues of *honorable fame*, had some excuse for consuming the temple of Diana, but what would be thought of the high priest at the altar, if he had taken the vertal fire to have wrapt it in flames !

But, sir we need not dispute about the *mode* of this threatened resistance. It is of little consequence whether it be peaceable or whether it be violent.—The Boston caucus declares the law "*must and will be resisted.*" The American congress declares it shall not. Here then the issue is joined. But beware of going to the jury. The costs of the trial would be ruinous to your clients.

To the passing of an act you may make what peaceable resistance you please. Memorial may succeed petition, and remonstrance follow memorial. If you can persuade the legislature to desist or repeal, all may be well. But during the existence of a law, its execution *must and will be enforced* let the consequences be as they may. It is protected by its own sovereignty. It is guarded by the sanctity of justice. It is surrounded by the patriotism of the people. It is the ark of the American Israel.—He who touches it must die.

SIR—These Resolutions are published to the world. They will be thoroughly considered by all classes of our fellow-citizens. As they were adopted by your immediate constituents they will be taken as your political creed, and deriving consequence from your adoption they will be considered as the acknowledged policy of your party. They already excite sensations that will not soon be quieted. Men examine them who compare their situaton under the present government with that of other people in other counties on the globe. The United State is the only habitable spot which unites the enjoyments of civilization and peace. War ravages Europe. The elements are in commotion. Bankruptcy and battle destroy the happiness of society. The concussions of the elder world have reverberated on our own shores—The storm cannot pass us without injury, although its progress has been comparatively harmless. The tranquility and happiness of the U. States is every where the subject of envy. With how much joy would the peasantry of Spain and Portugal exchange their desolated fields, covered with hostile armies and deluged with human blood, for the peaceful scenery of this happy country.—The inhabitants of France must be better situated than you have usually represented them ; they must enjoy more freedom than a millitary government permits if their political happiness is even the shadow of a shade in comparison with ours. And will the subjects of the British empire, that famous "fast-anchored Isle," fixed eternally by debt and taxation, for a moment place their ease, their comfort their peace, their security, *their prospect of existence as a nation* in comparison with the American Republic ?—The ingratitude of denying our advantages would be justly punished by their loss. To be discontented because they are not greater is something worse than folly. Like the dog in the fable, in searching for more, we may grasp at a shadow and lose all we possess.

Did the assembly at Faneuil-Hall think to persuade to this ? Will the farmer who now cultivates his land in peace with his children and family around him, risk the horrors of civil commotion, which must cover his fields with desolation and envelope his dwelling in flames ? Aspiring individuals may be uneasy with their lot ; men who think they can guide the car of state with a better hand, and would, like Phaeton, set the world on fire, may be discontented because they have not the opportunity, but the great body of the American people preserve a sacred attachment to the laws, the constitution, and the country. Confident that they enjoy more political blessings than any other civilized people, they will not destroy the State because every wind of heaven blows not according to their fancy.

On such men the country may rely in her extreme need. The strong sympathies of interest may draw some few towards the enemies of the country ; but the YEOMANRY who own and cultivate the soil are an antidote to the poison of foreign influence and domestic corruption. Of these men we demand —WILL THEY ELECT STATE OFFICERS TO OPPOSE THE EXECUTION OF NATIONAL LAWS ? An election is near. The popular branch of the legislature will speak their sentiments. They will learn your policy. They will be forced to believe that a Boston Caucus has denounced the government, and champions of federalism threatened resistance to the laws. Let your Resolutions be extensively circulated. Let their inevitable tendency be impressed on the public mind. We have no fear of the result.——ON GOD AND THE YEOMANRY WE TRUST OUR POLITICAL SALVATION.

I have now, sir, concluded the remarks which have been offered to your serious reflection. By the celebrity of your name these letters have excited great public attention. I trust they have not exhibited to you either party rancor or personal enmity. Believe me, sir, the writer has no feelings of that kind. He professes much esteem for your private character and loves to contemplate the talents and splendor which adorn it. A sacred duty to his country has impelled him to exert his humble capacity in preventing the effects which such fatal resolutions might produce when advocated by the favorites of the people. The height from which they fell is all that makes them dangerous.

In common with a large portion of his fellow citizens he sincerely regrets the direction in which you have tho't it wise to exert your abilities. He hopes one day to see them conspicuous in the service of the government. There would be illustrious examples to ratify the change. Massachusetts has produced splendid instances and New York it is said will soon follow the example in one of her first characters. If report be not untrue the line of party-demarcation might even now be crossed in company with a conspicuous individual of our own commonwealth whom both parties esteem.

I know, sir, that alliance to the federal cause gives a man some credit for disinterestedness. Little expectation remains that federalism can ever again gratify the ambition which in noble minds is an honorable feeling. Characters like yours are formed for the public. It is a misfortune to the country when she cannot employ them.—But better is it, they should float down the stream of time useless and neglected, than lean with mighty weight on the pillars of a magnificient temple and in a moment of revenge burry it in irretrievable ruin. LEOLIN.

NATCHEZ, (M. T.) March 18.

By a gentleman who left St. Francisville on Tuesday last, we learn that a curious circumstance took place on Sunday. On that morning when the inhabitants rose, they were astonished to find the flag of Florida again waving at the top of the flag-staff ; but as there had been many mischievous pranks played for several nights previous, no person in town thought any more of it than a continuance of those pranks—under that impression, no person attempted to take it down, and more particularly as there was no getting at it, unless by climbing the staff, which was at least sixty feet high, or by felling it. In the course of the day, however, some gentlemen having rode into the country, found that some uneasy sensations had been created, and a belief was like to become current that it was reared in opposition to the government. In the evening, on their return a few persons viewing the thing more seriously, resolved on cutting down the staff. The cutting down the staff was opposed on the ground of its being private property—the contention was like to produce a serious riot, when very happily Gen. Hampton and Lieut. Hukill arrived in town. The General immediately called on a civil officer, and stating that he considered the flag then flying, as an insult to his government, desired that it might be ordered down. The civil officer accordingly repaired to the flag staff, where the right of private property was again contended for. The general observed that if the flag was not taken down by the civil power, he would have a detachment of troops to do it the next day.—The civil magistrate then ordered the staff to be cut down, which was done instantly.

The day following at 3 o'clock, P. M. a few of those who were at the storming of Baton Rouge, buried the flag in a private lot, with great ceremony. A procession was formed, after having placed the flag in its coffin, and marched round the stump of the flag-staff, moved to the grave, where it was deposited, and three volleys of musquetry fired over it. Our informant adds that they had written an epitaph for the tomb, which was said to evince some genius, but he could not procure a copy.

Scarcely was the funeral procession ceased when intelligence reached St. Francisville that the representatives of Florida, had been refused a seat in the Orleans Legislature. This says our informant, produced a considerable sensation, and when he left there Tuesday morning, it was talked of remonstrating to the president of the U. S. against this outrageous procedure of the Orleans Legislature.

For our own part we are not surprised at this Conduct of the Orleans Legislature. A great majority of the members are Frenchmen and enemies to the government of the United States. Any thing they could do therefore to produce anarchy and bloodshed in Florida where all are Americans, would afford them great pleasure—"Mark the end on't." We have already predicted the consequences of making Orleans a state——Congress has differed from us in opinion—we have done our duty—and mischievious as this measure of the government may prove, we trust that the people of this territory, who will be on the frontier, will be prepared to meet the result.

[*Weekly Chronicle.*

FROM NEW-ORLEANS.

From the Orleans Gazette of March 21, we copy the following article, which may correct the erroneous opinions entertained by many persons of the disposition of people in the S. W.

"It is due to the inhabitants of the parish of St. Helena to correct a statement made under the editorial head in the Louisiana Gazette of February 20th. The editors were certainly misinformed as to any serious disturbances having taken place in that parish since the reception of the president's proclamation. With but few exceptions if any *the inhabitants are well disposed towards the American government*, and in no instance have they ever attempted to oppose the "mandates" issued by the "New appointed judge ;"—on the contrary have, in all instances, shew a readiness to be obedient to the laws whenever instructed.

"In the unfortunate affair of capt. Baldwin, it is but barely justice to say that the treatment he received from the persons who took him, was far more mild than could have been expected from young men irritated, and with whom he was unpopular. The editors need be under no apprehension of similar cases occurring in that parish——and they certainly must know very little of the state of the country to suppose that military force will be necessary to support the civil authority."

WASHINGTON, April 27.

The ENTERPRIZE sailed from the Navy Yard at this city on Tuesday. She is destined for Cumberland island, near the mouth of St. Mary's river, with a detachment of marines under the command of capt. Williams.