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TO

**T H E F R E E M E N**

OF

**THE COUNTY OF FAYETTE.**

*Robert Whittle*

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Ms. A. 9. 7 B. 99

I regret, fellow-citizens, that my absence from the county, and my constant employment since I returned, have heretofore compelled me to delay my reply to the two very scurrilous publications made against me, by the Hon. Garrett Davis. The first one was handed me while I was preparing for my journey; when, to suspend public opinion until I could obtain the documents to defend myself, I handed a card to the Editor of the Gazette. Not doubting, as that paper had published Mr. Davis' abusive piece against me, that the Whig press would, in fairness, give my card a place in their columns, by which, I presumed, every Whig that read it, would not only be convinced of Mr. Davis' unfitness to represent this District in Congress, but that he had denied voting with Mr. Adams, in his war upon the tenure of negro slavery, untruly; and that that untruth was established by the journals of Congress. But the proofs I exhibited were from record, and too conclusive of the guilt of their candidate, for them to let their Whig readers see them; and hence it has been, that, instead of letting Mr. Davis' constituents have a full view of his conduct, by reading for themselves his votes as they stand on the Journals of Congress, they not only refused to publish my statements of his votes, that refer to the journals and pages that record them; but, after giving false and garbled statements of what my card, and my letter declining to be a candidate, contain, they have published the very unfair and abusive reply of Mr. Davis to my card, which they have not published.

As I shall aim at brevity in this reply, it will be impossible for me to expose more than an outline of Mr. Davis' conduct in Congress, and as for the abuse and falsehood of his presses, as I can gain nothing by a contest with them, I do not intend to degrade myself by noticing their filthy scurrilities. Mr. Davis, however, whatever equality there may be between him and his editors in other respects, is your representative, and that places what he says—however untrue and scurrilous—upon a different footing, and in a different point of view, from a debased press, that is fed and upheld by the worst appetites, and generally the worst of a dominant political party, that has lavished the public funds upon their press and creatures, until public credit is tottering to its ruin. No, my countrymen, the condition of the country is a fixed fact, and these slandering vermin still feed on you, and while they do, will uphold such reckless men as Garrett Davis. And the more profligate the statesman, the more scurrilous the abuse the press heaps upon the character and name of every man that attempts to purge the country of such corrupt and incompetent rulers. While the tax gatherer is on you for triple your former taxes, and labor is robbed of its just rewards by the votes of such public servants as Garrett Davis, in giving and granting to their partizans in the East odious monopolies, by which they have reduced the value of labor two-thirds in all the planting States; while Kentucky is burdened with a debt, that must, like an incubus, benumb her energies for centuries, these harpies, are fed from your

treasury, or live upon the follies that corrupt statesmen have created among the people. Yet such a press can only be put down by public opinion acting upon public men, who always degrade or elevate the press of the Republic. When the public servants are pure and honest, the press reflects their virtues upon the people, and when they are corrupt, the press defends their corruptions, or conceals them from the eyes of the people.

My business is, therefore, with your representative, Mr. Garrett Davis, not with his press.

In my letter, declining the invitation of the committee of the Democratic Association of Fayette county to become a candidate for the State Senate, I use the following observations in relation to Mr. Davis, viz:

"And while this was, and still is the condition of the slaveholders of Fayette—while their wives and daughters were in utter insecurity, and murder and violence were almost common occurrences, in this Congressional District, *Mr. Garrett Davis is seen* following in the wake of the abolitionist, John Q. Adams, in his war upon the institution of slavery. The people of Fayette county have only to look at the Journals of the last Congress, to see that by and through the vote of their representative, the 25th (21st) rule of the House was repealed. That rule prohibited the discussion, recording and printing of the petitions of Abolition advocates at public expense, and thereby not only saved the country from the expenditure of immense sums, but saved it from being deluged with emancipation papers and documents, and yet Mr. Davis has assisted Mr. Adams to break down this barrier between the slaveholder and the Abolitionist," &c.

I extract this much of that paper, it being all that Mr. Davis publishes in his handbill. Now, it will be seen that in this extract, I do not state that Mr. Davis *did vote* at the last Session of Congress to repeal the Rule, nor do I state any particular session when he did so vote. But I charge that *he did so vote*, and that the people of Fayette have only to look at the last Journals of Congress to see that they have lost the 21st Rule, "*by and through the vote of their representative.*" I state that he "*is seen in the wake*" of Mr. Adams, following him in his "*war upon negro slavery.*" and that he has assisted Mr. Adams to break down that barrier between the slaveholder and the people. I do not say, when he is seen following in Adams' wake—when he voted, nor when he assisted Mr. Adams to break down the 21st Rule—but I do say, that he did vote to destroy the Rule—that he followed in the wake of Mr. Adams and assisted him to destroy the Rule—that the Rule is repealed, and that the people of Fayette have only to look at the Journals of the last Congress to see that they *have lost the Rule, by and through the vote of their representative.* Every reader of newspapers knows that Adams' war upon the Rule had been of several years' duration, even from its date until its final destruction. And, of course, when I said Mr. Davis had followed in his wake in his war on the Rule, and had assisted him to destroy it—that I referred to his (Adams') entire movement, and his (Davis') entire assistance in that movement. But he and his press, instead of confining themselves to the charge as made, must manufacture a statement for me, making me say—that Mr. Davis voted to repeal the Rule last session,

when the very extract before them detected the fabrication. And by thus distorting my meaning, and making me say what I did not say—have sought to avoid the real charge against Mr. Davis made by *me*, and to mask their stratagem, by filth and abuse of me, for saying what I did not say, and exhibiting Mr. Davis' *single vote* of the last Session, taking good care to avoid saying one word in answer to my charging that he had voted with Adams, and assisted him to destroy the Rule. And when I gave his votes of record to sustain the charge, his Reporter man says, "Wickliffe said Mr. Davis voted to repeal the Rule last session,"—and these votes were given at another session. And Davis says, "I gave the votes, but I was only joking. They did not contain my real sentiments. I was only, by thus voting to suspend the operation of the Rule, setting a trap to catch some fast and loose Democrats, and therefore, *I am slandered.*"—Very well, Mr. Davis, now to the proof.

Reader, bear in mind that this Rule was passed, and went into operation at the session of Congress 1839-'40, immediately after the nomination of General Harrison for President, and before the result of his election was known, and before the election of the Abolition ticket for Fayette to the House of Representatives, headed by Cassius M. Clay, in the month of August of the latter year, and hence Mr. Davis goes back to January of that year to hunt up his vote in favor of the Rule. Up to that time there had been no passes between the newly created faction called Whigs and the Abolitionists for an union against the Democrats. But the Abolitionists stood upon their own ground—supported in their war upon negro slavery by the money and favor of Great Britain—for, although there had been established for many years a regular Abolition Society in Lexington, it had ceased to be active, and the county and country had not been agitated with the operation of the slave question from '30-31, until after the nomination of General Harrison, and the approval of the nomination by a caucus of the opposition to Van Buren's administration, composed of members of the Legislature, of which it was my misfortune to have been an active member. For my sole reason for being concerned in the caucus was by the approval of the nomination to put down what I considered a slander on Mr. Clay, that was, that he was not disposed to sustain the nomination, and was stirring up an opposition among his friends, particularly in the city of Lexington. This was not only circulated, as I understood in Frankfort, by Mr. Clay's political opponents, but that a connexion of his, then a member, it was said had used expressions of dissatisfaction, and given it as his opinion, that the nomination would not be supported by Mr. Clay's friends generally in and about Lexington; and, I think, a print published in Louisville by Mr. Penn, took notice of the probable defection. I considered the report untrue, as it regarded Mr. Clay, and thought myself bound as his neighbor, representative and friend, to take some step to counteract it; and on the day on which, I think, the paper containing the statement was shown me, I, in confidence, conferred with Mr. Hanson, the Speaker of the Senate, whom I then thought, and still believe to be among Mr. Clay's oldest and most disinterested friends, who concurred with me that a caucus was the best remedy, which he promised

to have brought about immediately. This he did, and my resolutions approving of Harrison's nomination were passed. After the caucus had approved the nomination, and, as I believed, put a stop to the injurious reports as to Mr. Clay about the Capitol, that he, Mr. Clay, and his friends, would not support the nomination of Gen. Harrison—my son called on me at my room, as I then thought, on his way to Louisville. I asked him if there was any truth in the reports that the friends of Mr. Clay were dissatisfied at the nomination of Harrison. He replied that he heard of some of them expressing themselves against the nomination, but had no knowledge of any of them doing so, himself. I told him what we had done, and stated that Mr. Clay's friends at Lexington owed it to him, in his absence, to put a stop to the reports, by doing as his friends at Frankfort had done. I think I held no farther conversation with him, and had no expectation of his returning to Lexington. Nor did I know that he had not gone to Louisville, until I received information that he had attempted to have the nomination of Harrison approved in Lexington, and had brought upon himself an opposition from some of the citizens of Lexington, a part of whom were Mr. Clay's relations, but that the approval had passed. Not doubting that Mr. Clay would cordially concur in what was done, and believing that I had performed for him an act of kindness in closing the mouths of imprudent friends, as I should have expected him to do for me, under like circumstances, I paid no farther attention to what his professed or exclusive friends thought proper to say or do in the business. But, on my return home, I soon learned from various sources, that a combination was formed to destroy my influence and standing as a Senator, on account of the part I had taken in the approval of the nomination of Gen. Harrison; and that a ticket was to be formed to exclude my son from a seat in the Legislature, and that as a basis of their attack, they were to take the ground against me, that I was opposed to the negro law of 1833, and had as a Senator voted to modify or repeal it—that they expected in their plan of attack to unite all the Democrats and Abolitionists of the county with the warm supporters of Mr. Clay's pretensions to the Presidency, and to this they were to urge that I had opposed the establishment of Tippecanoe Clubs in the caucus, and refused to be a member of such a club. That a regular organization was made, and I might prepare for an attack; that the party would soon bring out a ticket favorable to emancipation under the pretence of sustaining the Negro Law.

My business called me from the county, but, on my return, after an absence of ten or twelve days, I saw it announced in a Lexington paper that Cassius M. Clay was a candidate, and was shortly duly notified or invited to attend the Tippecanoe Club, and not obeying the summons, I was served with another notice in writing to attend. It is unnecessary for me to give here what my indignant replies were to these insults from a body, whatever might have been then and now my respect for them as men and individuals, I could but detest and despise as a body. However, the work of Abolition went on finely. Their ticket was formed against R. Wickliffe, and an abolitionist was found to begin the work by calling on the candidates through the press to answer, whether they were in favor of re-

pealing or modifying the Negro Bill. Cassius M. Clay responded, and fix-  
ed on the next County Court day for the candidates to answer the call. I  
attended to hear his speech, so far as to satisfy myself that the organization  
of an Abolition party was commenced. In his response to the call, he  
said that he would defend the Negro Law, and that he condemned negro  
slavery, &c. &c. The other two candidates, I learned, gave like res-  
ponses, and all three were then offered to the county by the Club as wor-  
thy of election. Wickliffe refused to give the negro pledge, and was, of  
course, proscribed—finally beaten, and the whole Abolition ticket elected.

From that time to this, with the exception of Wickliffe's election in  
1841, have the Abolitionists ruled and governed the county of Fayette,  
and put up and put down whom they pleased. Their practice is to call  
on some respectable Whig to play chairman for them, to convene Whig-  
gery together on some County Court day, and then to draw up a preamble  
and resolutions for the faithful to have passed. And you, the most en-  
lightened population in this State, obey their mandate, and vote as you are  
bidden. Yes, you—the tax-payers—the bone and sinew of the country—  
you slaveholders are made to bend your necks, and wear the yoke which  
the Abolition clique has made for you. Wo to one of you that dares rebel  
against the decree of these Jacobins! If they do not apply the steel to  
the rebel's neck and sever his head from the body, they bring him to the  
political guillotine, and decapitate him of all his honors, and proscribe  
him as unfit to hold office in State or nation.

And this club or clique, or both, first under the name of Tippecanoe,  
and then under that of Clay, has, through its members, opened and kept  
up a communication with the Abolition Societies throughout the Union  
from the year 1840 down to the present moment. Space does not admit of  
a full detail of the abominations of this Club and its mates. That I re-  
serve for some future occasion. Suffice it here to say, that they will, in  
the sequel, be proven to have enlisted the services of Mr. Davis, for which  
he enjoyed and still enjoys their especial protection and favor. One gov-  
erning passion of the Abolitionists, that ruled and rule the Club, was and  
is to form and have a perfect alliance with the great bodies of Abolitionists  
of the Eastern and Western free States, and one means of effecting this  
coalition was to have a representation from Mr. Clay's old Congressional  
District favorable to their views. The Club, with this object, first selected,  
as their candidate, Henry Clay, jr., but Mr. Marshall chose to run and  
Mr. Clay withdrew. Marshall was elected and entered Congress the  
friend of Henry Clay, but not the favorite or the slave of the Jacobin  
Clubs. And here you will find the true secret, Whigs. He fell under  
their displeasure, and Mr. Davis was made to take his place, and now en-  
joys their smiles and patronage. I shall, therefore, go no farther back  
upon the votes of Mr. Davis than the second Session of the Twenty-  
Seventh Congress, as up to that time Mr. Adams was unquestionably  
against Mr. Clay's election and Clay Clubs, and Mr. Davis seems to have  
voted sometimes with and sometimes against him, until the power and in-  
fluence of those clubites were brought to bear upon him. But here a new  
scene is opened that tears the veil from his face, and when rightly exam-

Charlotte S. F.

ined, will astonish you. my countrymen, as you gaze upon the awful precipice you have escaped, by the election of 1844.

Mr. Adams, having been defeated in his efforts to repeal, or to get round the 21st Rule in his attacks upon negro slavery, during the first session of the 27th Congress, as appears from page 272 of the Journals of that Session, presented two petitions—the one from Durham, Massachusetts, praying Congress to establish diplomatic relations with the blacks of St. Domingo—the other from Haverhill, Massachusetts, praying Congress to take immediate measures to peaceably dissolve the Union.

These petitions were considered an outrage upon the dignity of the House, and produced a meeting of the friends of order and the Constitution, to consider what course should be taken to inflict the proper punishment on him for the insult offered to Congress and the Nation, in presenting a petition to dissolve the Union. A vote of censure was considered, and decided to be the necessary and proper punishment and disgrace for the offence, and Thomas F. Marshall was selected to draw up a preamble and resolutions, condemning the conduct of Mr. Adams, as a member, for presenting to Congress a petition, praying a dissolution of the Union, in violation of his duty as a member, and the respect he owed, as such, to Congress and the Nation. At the meeting and determination to offer such resolution, I understand Mr. Marshall states, and Mr. Davis admits, he was present and concurred. And I further learn that Davis admits that he voted with Marshall once or twice in favor of the resolutions of censure. But I have not been able to find his vote, in the hasty search I have made for it in the Journals, until the 27th of January, when it appears that Adams brought the House to a vote upon his proposition, which was, will the House consider of the proposition to censure, when the yeas and nays were taken—yeas, 118; nays, 43—Garrett Davis voting in the negative with the abolitionists. Up to this vote, from what I can find on the Journals, (as the yeas and nays are repeatedly taken, and his name does not appear,) my mind is satisfied that he was dodging. However, this vote alarmed Adams. Theretofore he had treated the matter as a light affair, but here was a majority of twenty-five votes against him. He had during the discussion, tauntingly said to the House of Mr. Marshall: "He," pointing to Marshall, "is trying to censure me for attempting the dissolution of the Union—let him look to the other end of the Capitol, where his friend or idol," (I do not recollect which, and write from memory, alluding to Mr. Clay,) "has resolutions depending, that if acted out, will be dissolution of themselves." And here at this point, or about it, some wizzard work commenced, that poor mortals like myself can only think not divine, but Garrett Davis, with other deserters from Marshall to the abolitionists, may well know. Thus far the defection was not sufficient to protect the delinquent, though Garrett Davis, first and chief among the deserters, is in his wake and at his back. This vote appears on page 82 of the Journal. Here ensued a pause, and time elapsed for the renewal of broken friendships—for the burial of many feuds—for the coalition of rival and warring hosts—for my search does not bring me upon the track of John Q. and his *little Squire* again until I reach page —, when Mar-

shall and his hosts are frightened at the desertion, and to avoid defeat Malloy, at eight minutes past 6 o'clock, moved that the House adjourn, but the motion was voted down—Garrett Davis voting with the abolitionists, against adjournment. A second motion is made to adjourn and lost—yeas, 85; nays, 95—Garrett Davis voting against adjournment with the abolitionists. A motion is then made to lay the resolution on the table by the friends of the resolution of censure, when Davis votes again with the abolitionists, and against Marshall. For this vote see page 225. Here Mr. Davis is joined by Andrews, Owsley and Underwood, of Kentucky, and Stanley, from North Carolina. Having stood alone in the desertion until the 28th of January, the subject was continued over until the 2d of February, when Isaac Jones, a friend of the resolutions of censure, moved to lay them on the table; which motion was overruled—yeas, 89; nays, 111—Garrett Davis voting for Adams with the abolitionists. Before the journals reached this point, Adams introduced sundry impertinent propositions; one calling on the President for the correspondence between the Secretary of State and the Minister of Great Britain; and another calling on him for the correspondence between the State of South Carolina and the late Judge William Johnson, about the act of the Legislature of South Carolina, directing the imprisonment of persons of color in that State. Mr. Gilmore moved to lay Mr. Adams' first resolution on the table, which passed in the *negative*—yeas, 89; nays, 107—Garrett Davis again voting for Adams with the abolitionists. See page of the Journal 301. The question was then taken on the passage of the resolution, and it passed in the affirmative—yeas, 97; nays, 96—Garrett Davis voting with Mr. Adams and the abolitionists. A vote was then taken on Mr. Adams's second resolution, and it passed in the affirmative—yeas, 95; nays 84—Garrett Davis voting in the affirmative with the abolitionists.

The resolutions of censure were then continued until the 5th of February, when Mr. Adams moved their continuance until the 17th of February, on which motion the previous question was moved by Mr. Arnold, when Mr. Gwinn, a friend to the resolutions, moved a call of the House, which was passed in the *negative*—yeas, 82; nays, 98—Garrett Davis again voting with the abolitionists. The resolutions were then continued until the 7th of —, when Mr. Botts moved to lay them on the table, on which Mr. Hopkins moved a call of the House which passed in the *negative*—yeas, 84; nays, 85—Garrett Davis voting with the abolitionists; and on the question recurring on Botts's motion to lay the resolutions on the table, it passed in the affirmative; Garrett Davis voting in the affirmative.

Thus, my countrymen, ends the prosecution in Congress of this enemy of Kentucky and her insitutions; and thus have I shown you that, but for the desertion and votes of Garrett Davis, John Q. Adams would have been condemned and disgraced by a vote of the Representatives of the whole people of America, and thereby have been rendered forever thereafter, impotent in every evil attempt against Kentucky and the whole South; and you would not this day have been deprived of the protection which the 21st rule gave to the owners of slaves throughout the Union.

■ But if more damning proof of the coalition between J. Q. Adams and

Garrett Davis, and of a coalition of the leading whigs with Mr. Adams, as the leader and organ of the abolitionists, is wanting, it is to be found in the treatment of the Clay party towards Thomas F. Marshall, and their servility and devotion to John Q. Adams. Up to this point, Marshall, as the most talented of the Clay party, took the lead in all the measures of the party, and was considered as their standard bearer. But in a few short days after the acquittal of Adams—he that had been the denouncer of Clay, became the standard bearer of the Clay party. Yes, he that so bitterly and scornfully denounced Mr. Clay's resolutions to amend the Constitution, by striking down the veto power of the Executive, and the re-eligibility of the President—as dissolution of the Union itself, if acted out—not only bears the standard of the Clay party, but becomes their organ and introduces into the House the very resolutions, and passes them, or the most obnoxious of them, that he denounced as dissolution of themselves. And it would seem that this extraordinary bargain, intrigue and coalition, not only inducted Mr. Adams with all his Anglo-Federal and Abolition principles, into the Clay church; but that Marshall was excommunicated, and doomed to perpetual premunire for his contumacious conduct.

However, I have said Garrett Davis followed in the wake of John Q. Adams, and assisted him to break down the 21st rule, that protected the slaveholder from the abolitionist, and I must not lose sight of Mr. Davis and Mr. Adams; and although I could give the reader many precious scraps and votes illustrative of the new era in the affairs of abolitionism and whigery, growing out of the union between Mr. Adams and certain whig leaders, through the desertion of Davis, time and space confine me to the record; and as that is sufficient for my purpose, I will here call the reader's attention to the 8th page of the Journal of the second session of the 27th Congress, where he will read as followeth:

"John Q. Adams, in pursuance of notice given yesterday, submitted the following resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the 21st rule of the House, in the following words—  
 "No petition, memorial, resolution, or other paper, praying the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, or any State or Territory, or the slave trade between the States or Territories of the United States, in which it now exists, shall be received by this House, or be entertained in any way whatever"—be, and the same is hereby rescinded."

A motion was made by Mr. Weller, that the same lie on the table, which passed in the negative—yeas, 85; nays, 93.

On this first vote taken on the subject, Mr. Adams had a majority of eight votes—Davis voting against him. His vote added, would make Adams' majority ten. The previous question was then demanded by the friends of repeal, with a view to carry it while Adams had strength. It passed in the negative. But here Davis jumped Jim Crow, joined Mr. Adams, and pressed for the vote before the Southern members had all come in. See his vote with Adams and the abolitionists on page 10th of the Journals. On the next day, Mr. Adams pressed the question, with Mr. Davis in his wake, and standing at his back. The friends of the rule feeling too weak, again moved to lay the resolution on the table, hoping



the arrival of members; but it passed in the negative—yeas, 90; nays, 91; Garrett Davis voting against the motion of William C. Johnson to lay on the table, with John Q. Adams, and against every other member present from Kentucky. It was then decided that the main question be put; but before they commenced calling the yeas and nays on the passage of Mr. Adams' resolution, the President's message was announced, and the vote was staid for its reading, which postponed the vote until the 8th, when nine additional members took their seats. The House resumed the consideration of Mr. Adam's resolution, but the opposition to the repeal, still fearing the repeal, John W. Jones moved to lay the resolution on the table. It passed in the negative—yeas, 92; nays 95—Garrett Davis voting in the negative with Adams and his host of abolitionists, against every member present from Kentucky. See this vote on page 30. Here Mr. Underwood raised a point of order, that the passage of Mr. Adams's resolution was subject to, or open for debate. The Speaker over-ruled him, and he appealed to the House—Garrett Davis again voting with the abolitionists, but now attempting to deny it, because the Journal does not exhibit the vote on Mr. Underwood's appeal.

Here the question was again put, Shall the main question be now put? and passed in the negative—yeas, 95, nays, 100—Garrett Davis voting with Adams and his abolitionists, against every voting member from Kentucky. See this vote on page 31. This vote was given on Saturday, and the hot haste of Adams and Davis was to get the vote before Monday, as it was expected sundry Southern members would reach the Capitol before Monday, which would defeat the passage of the motion for the year. Well might they fear. On Monday morning, twenty-four additional members took their seats, among whom were Jones and Sellers, from Maryland; Carey, from Virginia; Sumpter and Campbell, from South Carolina; Andrews and Marshall, from Kentucky; Arnold, Brown, Campbell, Caruthers, Meredith, Gentry and Williams, from Tennessee, and Thompson, from Mississippi. When W. Cost Johnson renewed his motion to lay Adams' resolution on the table, which passed in the affirmative, Garrett Davis again voted with Adams and the abolitionists, against the vote of Thomas F. Marshall, and every voting member from Kentucky—yeas 106, nays 102.

I have heretofore laid these votes before the county to establish the brazen effrontery of Garrett Davis, in charging me with falsehood, in saying he followed in the wake of Adams in his war against the 21st Rule.

But can any thing equal the despicableness of his dirty reply to these recorded proofs of my veracity, and his want of it? He says, true, he gave the votes as charged, except that his vote does not appear on the Journals upon Mr. Underwood's appeal from the decision of the chair, precluding the right of discussion on Adams's resolution to repeal the 21st rule. On that vote, he seems to say, I did vote as Mr. W. says I did, but he cannot prove it on me from the Journals, and therefore, does not tell the truth, in saying that I did vote with Mr. Adams and the abolitionists on Mr. Underwood's proposition to discuss Mr. Adams's resolution. But he says that he voted with Mr. Adams to stop debate, that they might go to business.—

If he voted with this object, does it excuse him? Was time so precious that he could not allow the objections to be stated against the movements of Adams to liberate the whole slave population of the country? Certainly not. If it be not true, but an excuse fabricated to deceive you, then what say you of Mr. Davis? To prove that it is not true, I again refer you to page 11 of the Journal, where W. C. Johnson's motion, to lay Adams's repealing resolution on the table, and thereby enable the House to go to other business, is overruled by the vote of *Garrett Davis alone*.—The vote for laying on the table being 90, and against it 91, and that one Garrett Davis. But he wanted to catch certain, fast and safe voting democrats, who were voting to lay Mr. Adams's resolution on the table, to get clear of a direct vote; they denying at home that they were not against abolition. Now how Mr. Davis could have been betrayed into this precious confession, I am at a loss to conceive, unless that conscious guilt will often out with the truth in spite of the culprit. Now what is the naked truth and plain English of this part of his excuse for voting for the repeal, with Adams and the abolitionists? Why, that there were certain democrats in Massachusetts, Vermont, Rhode Island, and other Eastern States, that were against abolition, and voted to defeat Adams in his war upon the 21st rule, by keeping off a direct vote upon it, who owed their seats to abolition votes at home, that dare not vote against Adams's repealing resolution upon a direct or final vote; and believing this, he, with a view to ruin them at home, or force them to vote against their conscience, with himself and Adams, voted with Adams and the abolitionists, to force the final and direct vote.

That this was a part of his reasons, I am willing to admit, and I call upon you, and upon every friend to the country to condemn him for it. To ruin our friends in the East by forcing them to vote—when if they voted for the slaveholder, they were inevitably ruined—is, my countrymen, avowed by your representative as his object in voting as he did. It is a plain admission that he, to strengthen Adams and the Abolitionists in the East, was willing to ruin you, and the whole planting interest in the South. No wonder that our Eastern friends at last left us, or were broken down, and abolitionists substituted for them at home, when your representative Davis, that represented nearly half of the slaves in the State, leagued with the Abolitionist, John Q. Adams, to break them down in their respective States, for voting to protect the South—to protect you.

But I have shown that he had additional reasons for pressing the final vote. He knew, and the final vote taken proves the fact beyond a doubt, if he could get the vote before the Southern members arrived, that Adams would certainly carry the repeal, without his vote; and had it been before Monday, he might, and would no doubt, as he did last session, to deceive you, have slipt his bridle, and given his vote against Adams, knowing that the resolution to rescind would pass without it. But after the arrival on Monday of Marshall, and the other Southern members, it was too doubtful for him to trust a dodge, and he adhered to the last to the Abolitionists and Adams. But on that vote the Abolitionists were defeated—Adams

and Davis sticking together like the Siamese Twins—dying by a close vote of 106 yeas to 102 nays.

I think, my countrymen, that I have holed this coon, and might stop fatiguing you, with tracking him any farther, but, Peter-like, he denies his Lord and Master, and I must, therefore, pursue him a little farther.

It must be in the memory of all, that John Quincy Adams, by way of insulting Congress and the planting States, attempted to force upon Congress, the petitions of free negroes, and slaves against emancipation—contending that the 21st Rule only prevented him from offering petitions in favor of emancipation, and to thus annoy Congress and the slaveholders, on the 22nd of February, 1843, moved the House to suspend the Rules, that he might present to the House petitions from citizens of Massachusetts, which did not come within the exclusion of the 21st Rule of the House, and the question being put it passed in the negative, yeas 80—nays 106—Garrett Davis voting with Adams and the Abolitionists. See page 430 of the Journals of the 27th Congress.

Again, on the 20th of February, John Q. Adams moved to suspend the rules of the House, that he might present the petition of 51,862 citizens of the State of Massachusetts, praying an amendment of the Constitution, so as to exonerate the citizens of that State from all obligations on that State to aid in maintaining the institution of slavery. To defeat this motion, Mr. Weller, at twenty-five minutes before 4 o'clock, moved an adjournment—it passed, yeas 88—nays 76—Garrett Davis voting with Adams and his Abolitionists, against adjournment. Again, on the 2nd of March, John Q. Adams offered sundry resolutions as a substitute for those offered by Mr. Johnson, in substance declaring, that, if any State, in consequence of her repudiating her debts, due to foreigners, involved herself in war with any foreign power, that Congress has no power to involve the other States in war for her; and that, in the event of such a war—that the State so involved will cease thereby to be a State of this Union. These resolutions were, in principle, the same as he offered for a direct dissolution of the Union, on account of his failing to be allowed to keep up a contest with the South about their negroes. But the spirit of the House had been broken down in his triumphant acquittal, by the votes of your representative, Garrett Davis, and none were found bold enough to again beard the daring abolitionist and dissolutionist, and he demanded that the House, at the expense of the nation, should print his resolutions, and that question was put—Garrett Davis again voting with Adams and the Abolitionists.

May I not now ask whom did the little *gentleman* (!) intend by these last votes to catch? My countrymen, here was first a proposition made by Mr. Adams that Congress take steps to dissolve the Union, and Mr. Davis, as I have shown, supports and defends him, and brings him triumphantly out victor over Marshall, and the entire anti-abolition vote of the House. He now offers a set of resolutions to effect the dissolution of the Union indirectly, by getting Congress to invite Great Britain to make war upon Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, and the other States, where, by the imprudence of Whig rulers, the people are already or may hereafter be unable to re-

pay the millions that have been borrowed and wasted by reckless power, and that often against the remonstrances of the people of those States—cruel and merciless war! And, as a further inducement to England to make said war, he proposes to commit Congress by a vote, that the General Government cannot constitutionally protect such States as England may declare war against—and to certainly effect a dissolution of the Union, to declare that the moment such war is waged, the state involved would cease to be one of the States of the Union! A more black-hearted and hellish scheme to dissolve these United States was never conceived of, much less proposed before; and yet he is sustained in his motion by Garrett Davis, your representative.

Thus much, my friends, for Garrett Davis, and the desertions of Mr. Clay's other friends to Adams and Abolition in his movement against your slave property. I have given you only the out-works and lines of the courtship between Garrett Davis on the part of Whiggery, and John Q. Adams on the part of Abolitionism.

But Abolition demanded her dowry to be provided, before she submitted to consummation. Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut were owners of nineteen twentieths of the whole trade in tea and coffee, brought from beyond the Cape of Good Hope. This trade costs the U. States nearly two millions annually, besides the waste of life among our seamen engaged in it. Teas and coffee, however, must be exempted from duty, and be free to those States, at a loss to the Treasury of more than two millions of dollars annually, and this deficit must be made up by the labor and sweat of the South—and these States, manufacturing three-fourths of the calicoes and cottons that are manufactured in the United States to clothe labor. All importations of coarse cottons and linens from foreign States must be prohibited, by inserting a clause in the Revenue Bill, that all cotton cloth, that costs less than 20 cents, shall be taxed as if it had cost 20 cents, though the average cost of such foreign cottons should be less than four cents the square yard; and that all calicoes, or stained cottons, costing less than 25 cents, though its cost shall be less than 5 cents the square yard, shall be tariffed at 25 cents the square yard. This monopoly was worth at least 20 millions annually to the coarse cotton manufacturers, and robbed the Treasury of from three to four millions annually—all of which is taken from the labor of the United States, and the greater part of the monopoly is borne by the labor of the South.

This, however, and more, does Whiggery settle upon Abolitionism, so that Adams and his Abolition phalanx returned to New England to tell them—down with the Democrats! They are Northern men, with Southern feelings—they have voted with slaveholders to protect them in their inhuman possessions! We, the Abolitionists, by joining with the Clayites, have saved to New England two millions annually, by striking out the tax upon teas and coffee; and we have, by our monopoly upon coarse cotton and coarse linens that cover labor, given to manufacturers of cottons, a bounty equal to twenty millions annually. Join with us, and we will elect Clay for President, and these monopolies will be to us and ours forever. Armed with those powerful arguments against the enemies of Abol-

ition in the States of Massachusetts, Vermont, Connecticut, and Rhode Island, Abolitionists, whether they be Whigs or Democrats, were generally returned from New England at the next election. And hence the repeal of the 21st Rule, and the frightful condition of the whole South, and that of Kentucky in particular.

Thus have I shown you, my countrymen, that the Rule was repealed by an union of the Clayites with the Abolitionists, and thus have I shown to you, from the records of the Congress of the United States, that Garrett Davis was the first deserter from the Southern interests to Adams, and the principal cause of the repeal of the 21st Rule.

Now, mark what follows: The Clay Club at Lexington, that then and now rule the destiny of the State, caused the Legislature of Kentucky to lay off the Congressional districts, so as to strike the county of Clarke out of Marshall's District, and to connect it with the county of Greenup, at the mouth of the Great Sandy; and to bring into the district their faithful and obedient servant, Garrett Davis, added the county of Bourbon to this district—whom they ordered the voters of the district, in 1843 to vote for, and a majority of them obeyed. They have renewed their orders to you to elect him in 1845. I admit that none but the brave and the free dare disobey this order. The time *was*, when old Fayette, warned by the voice of the immortal Nicholas, put down Abolition: And, if the same men, that lived then, could breathe the breath of life once more—once more Fayette would be redeemed. No impudent clubs ruled the statesmen of that day—or dared to order the Freemen of Fayette to vote for club slaves and minions to make laws to govern freemen. My countrymen, it is not so now. Twice or thrice has this abolition club ordered the election of the salaried President of the Bank of Kentucky, and a majority has obeyed. When this officer entered the Legislature—the State owned one million of the capital stock of the Northern Bank of Kentucky, and nearly two millions of the capital stock of the Bank of Kentucky, on bonds bearing five per cent, which stock yielded her at the rate of two per cent. after paying the five per cent—the Banks yielding a dividend of seven per cent. leaving to the State two per cent., which, on a million of dollars is twenty thousand dollars from the Northern, and something less than four thousand from the Bank of Kentucky. This two per cent was allowed in place of a bonus for the charter, paid in money; no other bonus was given or promised, owing to the levies feared, and perhaps some minor arrangements.

The whole amount of two per cent. per annum, would not have been due, but as well as I remember, during the membership of Robert S. Todd, the salaried President of the Branch Bank of Kentucky, at Lexington, bargains were struck between the Northern Bank and the Bank of Kentucky with the Legislature, by which the State gave up the whole, or the greater part of this twenty thousand dollars, to the Northern Bank forever, and most of that due from the Bank of Kentucky. I do not perfectly understand these bargainings, but am informed that the consideration the Northern Bank paid to be released from her bonus *was*, that the State gave her the privilege of sending commissioners from her banking house into

certain Congressional districts, to effect loans of their unemployed capital, on which they make a clear profit of about seventy thousand, under a pretence of relieving debtors.

What the Bank of Kentucky gave I know not. But both her and the Northern Bank ought to have paid a premium for the privileges conferred, if I am a judge, and not greatly misinformed. One thing all reports agree in, and that is, that a very considerable sum, once paid for the bonuses, annually into the treasury, is forever gone into the pockets of the private stockholders. I make no charges of want of integrity in either the Banks or your representative. But do you think that the Abolition Club, going under the name of the Clay Club, deals fairly with you, in demanding of you that you shall make a President of one of your State Banks, Senator to make bargains with the Banks for the State for the next four years? Recollect that Mr. Todd had two principals to act for, and will still have two. The bargains were, I presume, in part, made between Robert Todd, agent and attorney in fact for the Bank of Kentucky, and Robert Todd, agent and attorney in fact for the Commonwealth. The State paid their arbitrator, or agent, say one hundred dollars per annum, and the Bank paid the same individual, say five or seven hundred dollars per annum. Mr. Todd is, no doubt, a very honest man, and I am sure he ought to be so to make a fair and equal bargain for two clients that paid so unequally. You have before you, fellow-citizens, Mr. Moore, a *Whig*—a farmer, a patriot, a soldier, and the son of a soldier and patriot—but this Club orders him to stand back, and presents you again R. S. Todd, the sallaried President of the Kentucky Branch Bank, and orders you to vote for him. What does this mean? I will tell you, my countrymen. These arch intriguers want the power of the money of the county to aid in destroying its liberty, by securing the Senatorship in Mr. Todd. They grasp hold of the Five Millions Bank of Kentucky, by which they expect to terrify the trembling debtor against voting independently. They know that the Branch Bank, over which Mr. Todd presides, has a debtor list little short of two millions of dollars, and that much of that is due from the voters of Fayette county, and they believe that merchants and mechanics, and other debtors of the Bank, or that have business with the Bank, will not dare to march up to the polls, and in the face of the President, record a vote against him.

This Club already commands the revenues of the city, and gives laws and salaries by Trustees, a majority of whom they elect, and several of whom belong to the Club. They have also the command of the funds of the Lunatic Asylum. And they mean to keep these funds, and the influence of the money of the Bank, united in their hands, that they may command and control you in the exercise of your right of suffrage. This is what they mean to accomplish, freemen of Fayette: Instead of having an independent farmer to represent the freemen of the county, they intend to secure the senatorship for the use of the Clubs and the Banks. These Clubs, in their origin, when denounced by others, as well as myself, as dangerous engines of corruption and fraud, and enemies to civil liberty, assured the country that they were very harmless, only temporary organizations to

elect Mr. Clay to the Presidency; yet, five years have they reigned and ruined the State, and now they declare themselves perpetual. And pray, what is their business? Why, to divide society, that they may rule it—to set father against the son, brother against brother, and neighbor against neighbor, that they and their minions may feed upon the labors of others, through the offices of the country. By the divisions and broils they create, they hope to rule. A few years since, and the great people chose whom they pleased to represent them. The youth relied on his morals to rise, and the man of years upon the good opinion of his fellow citizens.—But now, if the candidate expect to be elected, he must scrape and bow, and lick the spittle of the leading clubites.

Freemen, how long will you, can you bear this? Has your love of freedom and independence passed to the grave with your fathers? Have you smothered in your bosoms the recollection, that this is the land of freedom, bequeathed you by the bloody strifes of another age? If not, then why not rise in the majesty of your power, and sweep off these sweet flies—these clubites, that, spider-like, are trying to envelope you in their entangling web, from whence there is no escape? Break down their nominations and elect freemen, as freemen should do.

What I say with regard to the choice of representatives, applies with greater force to the choice of a member of Congress. Do you, in the election of Mr. Davis, elect a freeman? Surely not. He would sooner dare seize the forked lightning, than in thought, word or deed, offend the dignity or disobey the mandates of the club. That club, recollect, has for its President, the great beneficiary of the Bankrupt Bill—that, to him, has been a windfall of tens of thousands, besides what it has done for others, members of his family. Mr. Davis, by his vote for the Bankrupt Bill, made the fortune of that individual, while he plunged hundreds of the best men of the land into poverty and utter ruin, besides placing the liberty, property and sacred character of the people of the State in the hands of the District Judge of the Federal Court; hence, the ties are indissoluble between this club and your representative. You will find the passage of this bill, dated August 18th, 1841, at page 379, of the Journals of that Session, and the Kentucky vote to stand for the bill, *Garrett Davis*, 1.—Opposed to the bill, Andrews, Boyd, Butler, T. F. Marshall, Pope, Sprigg, Thompson, Triplett and Underwood, 9.

Having shown you, my whig friends, that Garrett Davis was the first deserter from Kentucky, to the abolitionists, and that he stood alone, battling with John Q. Adams and the whole abolition phalanx, against his colleagues from Kentucky, in the cause of abolition. Now I have shown you, that he stood alone, against Kentucky and all of her representatives, battling with the abolitionists for the Bankrupt Bill—a bill that enabled rogues to defraud their creditors of their just debts, and placed it in the power of the District Judges of the United States, to appoint their sons, brothers and favorites, assignees of whole Districts and States, by which the property, character and liberty of the people of the United States were taken from under the protection of the laws of the States, and placed under the power, and made subject to the tyranny oppression and arbitrary

will of such Judges. I have done more. I have said that by such law, he has made the fortune of the President of the Clay Club, besides giving large shares of the spoils made of the honest trader and merchant's labor, and the millions plundered from creditors, by fraudulent debtors, to his associate clubites, for which, and other evidences of his obedience to the will and dictation of the club, he was brought into this District, and according to order, you have made him your representative in Congress.

When this has been your subserviency to the mandates of these clubites, are you astonished that the abolitionists have located in your city, and in the other cities and towns of the country, their Miss Websters and the Rev. Mr. Fairbanks, to seduce your slaves to desert you? Are you astonished that they have a press in Frankfort and Louisville, devoted to their cause, and while they profess to defend your property, are stimulating the abolitionists every where to action and energy against you? Are you surprised that these clubites have established, openly and avowedly, an abolition press within your good City of Lexington, that bids defiance to you, and is scattering its sheets throughout the length and breadth of the land, proclaiming freedom to your slaves? And are you surprised, that while this is your condition, these clubites have, since 1833, saddled you with a permanent debt of seven millions of dollars, of which, at least four millions is bearing interest, and that they now propose to divest the country, by setting the slaves free, of seventy millions of taxable property, and at least three fourths of its productive labor? If these things are permitted—aye, sustained by you, what can you expect, but that your slaves will rob you, run off from you, and murder you by poisoning and lying in wait? What can you expect, but that they will waste the substance of the country, by burning up towns, cities and factories? Treat this not as a vision, for you will find it history in the end. Yes, rely on it, the gallows will be but a poor security against the war, bloodshed and arsons which this press will stimulate your slaves to commit.

You here ask me for the remedy. I tell you now what I told you in 1840—the ballot box. Had these clubs have gained the election of President in 1844, you would have had no relief but blood and war, or submission to be plundered, murdered, or driven from the country, through the abolitionists. But they have failed, and the power is still left you to reform every abuse, by a firm, decided and patriotic course.

The acquisition of Texas, and the admission into the Union of Florida, as slave States, will go far to relieve this country from the degraded condition into which these clubs, and such men as Mr. Davis have plunged her. But against these measures the abolitionists have two reliances. The first is, that they will bring on a war by England and Mexico, through which they will supplant the Democratic Administration with an abolition party. The second is, that they will be able at the next Congress to prevent Texas and Florida from coming into the Union as slave States. Davis is openly and avowedly with them upon the admission of Texas. He is one of those gentlemen who cried shame upon President Tyler for presuming to annex Texas by treaty—that it belonged to the Congress of the United States, the representatives of the people, not a President and Senate to



annex Texas; and by such means, and foul abuse of that good and great man, John Tyler, prevented annexation by treaty. The people then took it up, and by their votes, hurled from power, the enemies of annexation. And Congress, according to Mr. Davis's own plan, and the other enemies to annexation, have voted annexation. And now Mr. Davis cries, horrible! Annex Texas by an act of Congress! It is unconstitutional; the act will be dissolution itself, and void, and I go my death against it. Here Mr. Davis is with the liberty party. Every abolitionist, East, West, North and South in this Union are against the annexation of Texas, because it gives security to the slaveholder; and many are for bloody war against their country if it is not defeated! Mexico (!) threatens war; England threatens war; and the abolitionists threaten war and dissolution if Texas is annexed!

And will you, my countrymen, and once constituents, cast your votes for the minion of abolitionism—for the enemy of annexation? Will you, in the face of the world, perform the *felo de se* act of voting to weaken the hands of the General Government, at this crisis in your country, by sending Garrett Davis to Congress? Will you thus invite the myrmidons of England to make foreign war upon your country, and the emissaries and pensioners of England to stir up servile war and dissolution within the States? In other words, will you save yourselves, your property and institutions, or surrender all at discretion, to the abolitionists?

The negro thieves in the free States have been protected by the Governors and civil authorities of such States—are now not only insufferable, but evidently on the increase. This calls for additional legislation, with appropriate sanctions by Congress? The British are not only claiming Oregon, but preparing to force their claims at the mouth of the cannon.

In these questions you, my fellow citizens, your country and children have deep and abiding interests. Marshall is, heart and soul, with you in these great interests. You all know his powers, and you all feel that he is with you, and that as far as Congress can go to protect you against abolition, he will urge Congress to go. That nerved with justice and truth, and sustained by every cheering hope of perpetual union of the States, and security against the hireling and prostituted pensioners of Europe, he will apply his powerful mind and eloquence, in defence of the annexation of Texas; of the admission of Texas and Florida into the Union as slaveholding States. With such a representative, sustained by a patriotic President and Congress, you will have Florida, Iowa, Texas and Wisconsin added to the Union, you will have no foreign nor intestine war—the abolition press will die in disgrace, and negro thieves will meet the fate of common rogues; and then, and not till then, you may again sit down in your quieted homes, and there shall be none able to make you afraid. But if you elect Davis, what do you promise yourselves? If he had the will he has not the talents to serve you in these mighty interests. But you know he has not the will. You know that he has voted with the abolitionists to break down the 21st rule. I have proven that to you in black and white, taken from his recorded votes; and you know that his real opposition to Texas is, that it will give strength to the Union, and defeat the British in

their schemes to destroy the growing of cotton, and the growth of sugar cane and manufacture of sugar in America, by the emancipation of your slaves. And that annexation will do more. It will use up the abolition press of Kentucky, and sink the abolition cause into utter disgrace. And still will you vote for him, because he is the pet and obsequious instrument of the clubites. Elect Marshall, and you strike dumb the negro press of Lexington, Frankfort and Louisville. Reject Davis, and you break the principal link that binds together the abolitionists of Boston, and the abolition cliques of Lexington, Frankfort and Louisville, and give a pledge to the other counties of the State, that you have commenced the work of reform, and will follow it up, until every faithless and corrupt public servant is reformed out of office.

And now, fellow citizens, having placed good and evil before you, I have done my duty. It remains for me to say, that you alone can save yourselves—that it remains to be seen whether you will look to your own, your children's, and the high destiny of your country, in the votes you will hereafter give, between your country and the anglo-abolitionists, or take counsel from the abolition cliques that now rule and ruin the County and State.

In speaking of the corruption of the clubs, I speak of them as being formed for the ruin of our institutions, and the right of free suffrage, and of the leaders and contrivers of them, with a view to aid the cause of abolition, and the destruction of the liberties of the country. And when I speak of the evils of whigery, I mean acts of the leaders in the combinations which have been formed of the British party, the negro party, and other factions and parties under the cognomen of the whig party. I speak of those who have made my old political conservative friends destructives—who have bound them by party ties with the corruptionists, and made them supporters of Bankrupt Laws—laws violating the sacred rights of contracts—who have made them constitutional tinkers, and to vote to break down the checks and ballances of the National Government—who have made them consort with their deadliest domestic enemy, the abolitionists, in clubs, and to expend their substance in contributions of money and property to corrupt the presses of the country, and to control and put down the free suffrage of the people.

I thank God that I believe that a large majority of the great whig party are honest and patriotic. and that many—very many of the deluded clubites believe they are right; but that they have been seduced by the serpent of abolition and disunion, to exchange their original name of Democrat, for that of whig, to denounce democracy—a name they and their father once proudly bore, and under which this Nation has attained a strength and glory, that make the people of America the happiest Nation on earth, and our Government the envied of every tyranny in Christendom.

It was under the endearing name of democracy, that you and your fathers hurled the elder Adams and his British partizans from power in 1800, and under that name I trust you will again rally and conquer all foreign and domestic enemies to our institutions, and the rights of free suffrage.

Your Fellow-Citizen,

ROBERT WICKLIFFE.

NOTE.—January 11, 1844—Page 207 of the Journals.—Mr. Campbell, from the committee on the District of Columbia, reported that the petition of the citizens of Lockport, New York, was, in the unanimous opinion of the committee, prohibited by the 25th Rule of the House, and offered the following resolution, viz:

“Resolved. That the Clerk be directed to return the petition above referred to, to the gentleman presenting it.”

On this resolution, the yeas were 116, and 60 against it—Garrett Davis voting against the resolution with Adams and the abolitionists.

John Q. Adams, on the 18th of December, 1843, page 62 of the Journal, offered the petition of James B. Cooper and others, inhabitants of New York, desiring to free their State and themselves from domestic slavery, &c. &c. On the 20th of December, Cave Johnson moved that the said petition be not received, and Mr. Thompson moved to lay that motion on the table, which was passed—yeas, 97; nays, 80—Garrett Davis voting to lay the motion on the table.

December 22, 1843, page 93 of the Journals, John Q. Adams offered the resolutions of the Legislature of Massachusetts, requesting the Constitution of the United States to be amended, so as to deprive the slave population of a representation in Congress, as is now provided, and demanded a select committee, &c., and was about to debate the question of reference, out of order. On motion that he have leave to debate, Garrett Davis voted for the leave with the abolitionists. A motion was then made, that the notorious Giddings should have the rules suspended, that he might debate the same question, Garrett Davis voted to suspend with the abolitionists.

On page 118, of the Journals, December 26, 1843, John Q. Adams presented the petition of citizens of Woodstock, Connecticut, praying Congress to abolish slavery and the slave trade in the District of Columbia, and all the States and Territories; and that neither Florida nor any other new State, be admitted into the Union, whose Constitution tolerated slavery. The chair decided the petition out of order, being prohibited by the 25th (21st) Rule. From this decision Adams appealed—Garrett Davis voting with the abolitionists to over-rule the decision of the chair.—See this vote on page 119 of the Journals.

On the 5th of January, 1844, Edward J. Black moved to amend the motion to re-commit, by inserting that the committee report the 25th rule, as it now stands, viz:

“No petition, memorial, resolution, or other paper, praying the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia, or any State or Territory, or the slave trade between the States or Territories of the United States, in which it now exists, shall be received by this House, or entertained in any way whatever.”

Mr. Houston moved the previous question, when Mr. Henly moved to lay the whole subject on the table, which passed in the negative—Adams

and Garretl Davis voting against laying the whole subject on the table.

The Journals show many other votes of Mr. Davis, than those I have extracted, of the same tendency as those exhibited, all showing that from the year 1840, or the time of the wedding between whigery and abolition, that he has been artfully and efficiently aiding Adams to destroy the 21st rule, and advance the operations of the abolitionists against the slave property of the planting States. But this address is already drawn out to too great a length, by extracts of the gentleman's co-efforts with his friend and file-leader, John Q. Adams, against the South in general, and Kentucky in particular; and if I have not given evidence sufficient to extort from his partisans an acknowledgement of his guilt, they will not believe, though one should rise from the dead to testify against him. Yet, I hope that all of those heretofore deceived into a support of Mr. Davis, are now satisfied of his unfitness to represent Kentucky, and will so vote.

R W







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