

Bedford Gazette.

Freedom of Thought and Opinion.

BEDFORD, PA., FRIDAY MORNING, JULY 23, 1858.

VOLUME 58.

WHOLE NUMBER 2806.

NEW SERIES.

VOL. I, NO. 51.

THE BEDFORD GAZETTE

IS PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING BY MEYERS & BENFORD.

At the following terms, to wit:
\$1.50 per annum, cash, in advance.
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Original Sketch.

For the Bedford Gazette.

HUNGRY OF THE AGE.

"The heart of man is deceitful above all things and desperately wicked," says the word of God.—But in no age has the truth of this Divine declaration been more clearly manifested than in this present age of vanity, this age of Whited Sepulchres. Men, discontent with the small, honest gains of an honorable, yet mayhap, humble occupation, blinded to the many blessings which surround their humble cot, deafened to the innocent, happy voices of their little ones at home, dazzled by the gilding, the vain pomp and circumstance of those whom they deem more fortunate than themselves, set their wits to work to contrive how they may live and flourish without the efforts of honest labor. Oh! vanity of vanities! Let the prisoners, the almshouses, the gaols, tell the thousand disappointments of those who seek the *trick* of life. The ambition which has for its object, the reformation of degraded humanity, the dissemination of useful knowledge, the amelioration of our fellow beings, the strengthening of the bonds of universal love, is laudable, and with proper effort is generally successful. But that ambition which is based on pride—on vainglory—the desire of the flesh—is built upon a sandy foundation and its end is ruin, because it is in violation of God's laws.

"Honesty is the best policy"—honesty in our dealings with men—honesty in our opinions—honesty in our appearances. Ill-gotten gain burns as a living coal the conscience of its possessor and brings him naught but misery. Hence the too frequent exhibition of vain extravagance. Hypocritical and deceitful utterance is but the stench arising from the rottenness within, and the whitened garb which is always put on by some, serves but superficially to cover up the loathsome and wretched mass. Yet men in order to get that which when obtained honestly is too often but really a vexation, seek every source, regardless of conscience, to obtain the selfish prize—not considering that conscience is the light-house in the sea of human life—and when its beacon is extinguished—all is wrecked.

Money is necessary to carry on the affairs of men. It is not only right, but it is the duty of every man, to endeavor by all honest means to acquire such a portion of this representative of wealth as may be necessary for the furtherance and final accomplishment of laudable purposes.

But as the purposes, or ends to be obtained, should accord with the means used, no honest man—no man with other than selfish purposes, evil designs and a foul heart,—will resort to impure sources for material to erect honorable edifices. Clear water cannot flow from a muddy fountain. So that whatever may be his assertions to the contrary, we may set it down as a fixed fact, that the man who resorts to chicanery, to dishonesty, deception, lying and hounding in general, to gain money, or power, (or honor) should be watched with Argus eyes. The laws of his country, or his own innate convictions, only prevent him from becoming a robber, a murderer.—One would think from the many newspaper advertisements of the day that a Panama has been found, in many forms, for all the disorders to which flesh and blood are heir to; that the alchemist's treasure has at last been discovered; and further—most glorious tidings to mankind!—that for a small consideration the lucky philanthropic discoverer will reveal the great secret to all desiring to know it. How unscrupulously do these sharpers impose on the credulity of their weak fellow mortals. How many Old Dr. James' & Old Dr. Brown's and other tender-hearted creatures, "heads of iron" are daily running out in every community, in order to supply our wants for *small considerations*.—And here we may add, as it suits the place—with what tender regard to the vital interests of the dear people of this Old Commonwealth, does the Pennsylvania Railroad Company remind them upon every bill of freight, that the odious 3 mill tonnage tax is drawing really and only from the people's pockets—and with what self-interest do they seek by all means its repeal. Depend upon it, it is all-humbug. If it comes from the people, and by its repeal the people would be exempt from the payment of freight, made high to pay the tax, then why need the Company care whether the odious burden be removed or not? Verily it is all-humbug. How frequently, too, are we amazed at seeing the name of a man presented for our gracious consideration as a candidate for public service in a high place—a man whose merits never would have been discerned had not his own eagle eye discovered them, beneath the trash, the dishonesty, the cunning, the ignorance that alone enveloped him in the sight of others. Be assured there is humbug somewhere!

The fellow who prates his merits week after week, from stump to stump, is working for a consideration. The trick may never be discovered, if successful, because he who holds a place of honor, ever has his vassals to do his bidding, even in this free land—yes, cunning talents seek parts, and versed in lip ethics and morals, stand forth the ready apologists of their lord.

The man of true merit has a rough road to travel; the way is beset with quacks and humbugs that serve to clog for a time the wheels that carry him on. He may not get through safely, nor receive the shouts and huzzas of them by the way. But he has within himself the consciousness of a moral power, unyielding to the pseudo-great.

We would not teach men to be suspicious, nor to think evil of their fellows—but would have all to reason, to exercise their immortal powers of thought.

Is a subject presented for your consideration, consider well, think, examine it in all its bearings, before you come to a conclusion. Is a candidate for office presented for your suffrage, mark well the man. Scan his character. Has he given evidence of honesty of purpose, is he frank, honorable, open in his intercourse with his fellow man, or is he dishonest, tricky, plotting, selfish, is he fit for the post in hand, as well as heart?

Are you solicited to try an article that is now to you—but which you think you need—apply all the tests of common sense and you need not fear of being cheated. Even "fools learn wisdom by experience" and all should be too wise to be caught in the great humbug trap. Examine well the article under consideration. If it be a machine let the vendor give you a full guarantee that it will be represented. But your judgment to work, use the power God has given you for your defence—fortify yourself by the bulwarks of common sense—if your own supply of this article is short, borrow of your neighbors, but not often, as they, too, are fallible.—Does a tradesman offer you through the public prints or otherwise, goods at less than first cost, does he tell you that he will sell you goods at a less price for cash than he would to any body else—*not assured, 'tis all a bait, and a trap encloses it.*

Let men learn to tell the truth—let them pursue an upright and straight onward, honest course—let them throw aside the miserable trappings by which they seek to ease their passage through the world.—Stand forth, O ye, of little faith—do your duty to God and your fellow men—be content with that which results from honest efforts. Court not, borrow not trouble, have no fear of the narrow, for if you do your duty, God will provide for you.—Consider the lilies of the valley, they toil not, neither do they spin, yet Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

DEMOCRATIC CELEBRATION

AT PHILADELPHIA.

In Independence Square,

July 5th, 1858.

The following extract from the speech of Senator Bigler at the late Democratic celebration in Philadelphia, is full of good things and we commend it to the careful perusal of our readers.

It is too obvious that the old enemies of our noble party have already counted on our dissensions as a principal means of their success, in the future. They are talking confidently of a triumph in 1860, with no other capital than I can see, that discord in the ranks of the Democracy. How far their expectations are to be realized will depend, therefore, as much on us as on them. If the Democracy be united then the hopes of the enemy will be vain; if we divide, they may conquer. But I can see no sufficient reason for the ecstasies of the opposition about divisions in our ranks. They may be accounting without their host. They should not be too credulous in judging by appearances; they have often been deluded by them, and it would not surprise me if they should be again. They are in the habit of carrying the elections before the day of voting, and especially of misunderstanding our family feuds. A hallowed member of the old Whig party—Michael Dan Maghlan—used to understand Democratic dissensions better. I shall never forget the remark of that gentleman on the occasion of a stormy State Convention at Harrisburg, when the most violent scenes were witnessed in that body, and when the Whigs were delighted with the row. Michael Dan was seen to note the performance with the gravity of despair; and when asked what was the matter, he replied: "There is matter enough. I never knew the Democrats to commence a canvass by a fight among themselves that they did not lick the Whigs to death before the fight was ended." [Laughter.]

And why should not the Democratic party be united and triumphant as heretofore? What reason is there for a separation? True we hear it said in a spirit of complaint that the President has made some mistakes in selecting his officers. That may be so; but who that ever made appointments did not make mistakes? The great men in the nation have not been infallible in this particular. Gen. Jackson probably made more mistakes in his appointments, than Mr. Buchanan; and were George Washington President at this day, with the countless applications that would be before him, he could not escape complaints similar to those made against Mr. Buchanan.

Then, again, it is said, there are many of Mr. Buchanan's original friends who have received no appointments. That is doubtless true; but the fault is theirs, and not his. [Laughter.] There are too many of them. [Renewed Laughter.] Had there been no more original friends than there were offices to fill, then the President might have come up to this standard; but as it is, the thing is impracticable. Men are generally prepared to conclude that the President has made a grave mistake, when they themselves are not appointed. [Laughter.] I am sure I always think him greatly in error when he refuses to appoint the man I recommend. [Renewed Laughter.] but he does so often that it is useless to complain. The truth is, that the President has a peculiar inclination to do as he pleases on these questions, and take the responsibility.—[Laughter.] This one thing is universally conceded—he is eminently the President. His will usually controls great matters as well as small ones.

But what are these appointments compared with the higher duties of his station? Democrats, bound together by great principles for patriotic purposes, will never separate because of appointments or disappointments. They will look to the settlement of the Mormon question

by the President, to his prompt disposition of the Kansas imbroglio; and to his vigorous resentment of the indignities offered to our flag by the British Government—the settlement in a few short weeks of the long deferred question of the right of search. Who does not believe that the fact that Mr. Buchanan is President had much to do with the prompt adjustment of this complicated question? For one, I think it had. British statesmen know him well, and they were satisfied from the beginning that they would have to come up to the point of his doctrine, and they did so without hesitation.

And I again ask, why should not the Democracy be united? The question of admitting Kansas under the Lecompton Constitution is a past issue. As to it, the struggle has terminated. The position of our party has been taken, and the responsibilities of that measure, whatever they may be, are upon us. Whatever else remains for the people of Kansas; and however they may decide, the consequences must be upon themselves, and all others should be content. Nine tenths, or more, of our party in Congress with the Democratic Administration in the last, have made a disposition of this question; and it would not seem unreasonable that the minority should be expected to acquiesce in it and sustain that disposition, and share the responsibilities it may impose.

They should do this, and they will do it if they intend to be of the party and for it in the future. Many Democrats thought the repeal of the Missouri line an unwise measure; but when the majority had decided, they sustained the decision. [Loud applause.]

It is not to be expected that Democrats will unsay what they have heretofore said in favor of a different policy; but it is expected that they will sustain what has been done by the majority. [Cheers.] Differences of opinion amongst Democrats as to men and measures, is no uncommon thing; but it has always been conceded to the majority to decide the points of difference, and to fix the position of the party. This is the case in selecting candidates for office, as also in determining the peculiar sentiments which such candidates are to represent. When those differences are once adjusted by the voice of the majority in our Convention, it is expected that the minority will acquiesce. [Applause.] In adjusting the differences about the admission of Kansas, the Democratic Congress, with Mr. Buchanan in the lead, was the organ of the party. That organ has decided, and the minority should be content.

True, all men have a right to leave the party and join the enemy, if they feel required to do so by a sense of duty to the country. If any of our Anti-Lecompton friends think that the Democratic party, because of its action on the Kansas question, is a worse party than the Republican, they have a right to leave us and join the latter. But, as the minority, they cannot claim to control or proscribe the majority. [Applause.]

But what is this Kansas measure, that it should drive men from the Democratic party? What is there so offensive in principle or unjust in practice, that it cannot be tolerated? Viewed in a single glance, what does it amount to?—Why, simply this: after a struggle of four months on the proposition to admit Kansas as a State, it was determined, in accepting her under the Constitution which she had presented, to extend to her people the opportunity of deciding for themselves at the polls, whether they would become a State or not, on the conditions proposed. This is the head and front of the offence, if there be any. [Applause.] Surely, no Democrat will leave his party for a reason like this. The people of Kansas are to decide by vote whether they will become a State or remain a Territory; and we are told that, because this is the measure of a Democratic Administration, the friends of popular sovereignty will leave the party! [Laughter.] I do not believe they will do any such thing. Some of the leaders may, for other reasons, and make this the pretext, but the masses will not. "The sober second thought" will bring them back to the Democratic fold; and they will be of the party and for it, as heretofore. They will go for the Union of the Democracy for the sake of a Union of the States. [Applause.]

Nor should any decision which the people of Kansas may make, affect the future harmony of the party. Whatever that decision may be, it will relate wholly to the local affairs of that Territory, and should be satisfactory to the people of that State.

I was among those who voted for the absolute admission of the Territory, as the best means of giving peace to the country. Whatever others may think. I am now more than ever satisfied that, had that policy been adopted, the foul and about Kansas would, ere this, have been ended forever. Enough has recently transpired in the Territory to warrant this belief. The fact that many of those who originally opposed the Lecompton Constitution, are now making active efforts in favor of its acceptance as proposed by Congress, is sufficient evidence to justify this opinion, as it is also, that the wrong doings of the Lecompton Convention were magnified for mere partisan ends. But enough on this topic, and I wish to notice one other.

It is obvious, Mr. President, that this question of admitting Kansas into the Union is not the only one which is to enter into the coming election. There is another topic which is doubtless to have an important bearing, and to which, therefore, I wish to make allusion. I shall do so, not so much because it is a party question, as because it is one of those great questions, which interest our whole people. It is, in the main, a Pennsylvania question; and I am not of those who would drag it into the partisan arena. But it is evident that our opponents intend to do this. I have reference to the question of the tariff. They intend to draw this question into the next election, and, if possible, to turn it to political account. Efforts are now made daily to convert the present depressed and distressed state of the country, not of one branch in industry, but of all, into political capital—into an

element of discontent with the Democratic party. The first effort seems to be to create the impression, if possible, in the popular mind that the present depression in business is the result of the Democratic policy on the subject of the tariff—that the revision under which we are suffering was brought about by a change of the rates of duties in March, 1857.

For my own part, I have no fear as to the effect of this effort upon the popular mind. No such deception as this can avail any party. In the first place, the allegation is without truth or reason; and in the next place, if it were true, the Republican party would have no right to turn it to their advantage, for a majority of their men in Congress voted for the present tariff.—But practical results and stubborn facts will put to rest the absurd allegation. The seeds of the prostration were widely sown long before the tariff was touched. The revision was the natural and inevitable consequence of an unguarded expansion of business and credit. The business energies of our country and of other countries had been stretched to a dangerous extent long before. Wholesome enterprise had given way to visionary speculation; the banks had become expanded beyond their means; merchants and business men were involved to such an extent that all the tariffs on earth could not have averted the blow. The revision extended simultaneously over all parts of our country, and of the civilized world. How, then, could it be the consequence of a change in our import duties? How, then, could it come from a cause which we are told reaches one interest only?—I can understand how the revenue laws of this country might be so framed as to affect injuriously particular branches of industry in this country, and so as to give an advantage to competing branches of industry in other countries; but I cannot understand how the same regulation can prostrate the same interests in both countries. This prostration in business was common to the whole Union; the farmer and the merchant suffered quite as much as the manufacturer and miner.

The truth is, the operations of the tariff are difficult to trace. Nearly every leading principle that is laid down on the subject has been contradicted by experience. For instance, there would seem to be no truer proposition than that a reduction of the rate of duty would increase foreign imports, and that a high tariff would keep out foreign goods. And yet, in the face of this theory, we have seen the reduction of the tariff, in 1857, followed by an immense reduction in the amount of imports—to such an extent, indeed, that the imports for 1858, under the revised tariff, will probably not exceed fifty per cent on the amount imported in 1856, under a higher rate of duties.

I know it will be said in reply, that the reduction in the amount of imports was the consequence of the depressed condition of commerce and general business. And this is true; but what does all this go to show? Simply, that what the Democrats have told the protectionists from the beginning, is true—that the influence of a reasonable tariff on the amount of imports is only secondary and subordinate, not a controlling influence, and that it is always subject to the impulses of commerce and trade and of monetary affairs. The history of the tariff proves this; for we have often had the largest excess of importation under the highest rate of duty. But in the face of this experience, men will talk about the rate of duty as having a direct and reliable effect upon the interest of the American manufacturer. This is not candid in any man or party, and can only serve to mislead and deceive. Those who talk about a high tariff as a panacea for all ills of the manufacturers, trifle with a great question.

I do not mean to say, by any means, that the rate of duty has no effect so far as regards the encouragement of home industry. I believe that it has an influence under almost any circumstance, and at times a very important influence; but it is by means controlling, by no means reliable.

Nor do I mean to be misunderstood in what I have said on this subject. I am not against an increase of the tariff just so often and to such an extent as the necessities of the government may require. I believe that the Democratic doctrine of a tariff for revenue, with such incidental aid to home manufacturers as may result from a responsible discrimination in their favor, is the wisest policy that can be adopted.—[Applause.]—the only policy that can be permanent—the best policy for the manufacturers themselves. [Great applause.] But it would seem that we are to have the exploded dogma of a dual party—"protection for the sake of protection"—and with it the whole tariff question is to be drawn into the partisan arena. For what purpose? For the purpose of securing increased rates of duty to help the manufacturers? Sir, that may be the motive of effect the object, and it may be the motive of all, but I do not believe it is. I believe that it would be the true interest of the manufacturers of this country to keep this question out of the partisan contest, if possible. The enemies of the Democracy in this State intend to use it for partisan purposes and nothing else.

At present, the incomes of the Government are insufficient; the revenue is not equal to the expenditures; and to my mind that is a conclusive reason for increasing the rate and extending the range of the tariff. I have no hesitation in saying that I prefer an increase of duties to an increase of the public debt; for I am in favor of raising the revenues of the Government by means of impost duties. Congress, at its next session, ought to re-adjust the tariff in such a way as to meet the demands of the treasury; and in doing that, due regard should be had to the welfare of great home interests—such as are peculiar to our country and to the habits of our people; for instance, iron, the raw material of which we have in inexhaustible abundance, as we have of the skill and the capital to manufacture it; and there is no reason, therefore, why we should not produce enough to supply the demand, and

by home competition, do justice to the consumer.

Nor can I see any objection in principle to a specific duty on an article of the same value under the same name, like iron. It is the misapplication of the specific principle, as in the act of 1842, that renders it odious and unjust, exacting a higher per cent. of taxation from the consumer of the fine, but where articles of the same quality and value are known by the same name this is not the effect.

I say, also, that so far as home production can be stimulated, with due respect to the rights of other interests, it ought to be done. I cannot understand why any man should entertain any other feelings. I have seen it announced that your Senator from this State is a free trade man. And why? Because he voted for a duty of 24 per cent on iron.—[Laughter.] That is singular logic; your Representative a free trade man because he voted for a tariff! [Renewed Laughter.] I am not for free trade, but for raising the revenues of the Government by duties on foreign goods. I think revenue the primary object of a tariff; but in adjusting the rate of duties, I would consider the interests of the producer and consumer, and the relations of capital and labor, and while taking care that capital should make its full contribution to the Treasury by taxing luxuries at a high rate, I would extend every possible stimulant to our manufacturing operations.

I was by no means satisfied with the adjustment of the tariff in March, 1857. I resisted and voted against the Senate bill throughout.—I did so on the ground that it seemed like an impulsive and inconsiderate change of a policy which had been succeeding very well. I thought the question deserved more consideration. I did vote for the reports of the Committee of Conferees, because by agreeing to do that I could get the schedule in which iron was raised from 22 to 24 per cent. It was obvious, too, that a much lower rate could have been carried. I thought it prudent to take this for fear of worse. Our people must not expect too much. So long as their great staples are kept in the highest class, they have no reason to complain of the arrangements of the duties, though they may of the rate.

But, Mr. President, there is another point connected with this subject to which I wish to refer; and that is, the influence which our system of currency necessarily exercises on the business of encouraging manufactures.

It is ridiculous for the advocate of an extended system of paper money, inflating credit and nominal values to a destructive extent, as it does, to talk about "protection to home interests," "protection to the toiling million."—Mr. President, the manufacturers of this country, and the toiling millions, need protection against the operation of fourteen hundred institutions that make paper money, about as much as they do against the manufacturer of foreign goods. [Loud applause and laughter.] A system of paper-money and inflated price is utterly at variance with the policy of protecting your home interests. The one counteracts the other. Our base system of credit and superabundance of fictitious money begets a spirit of speculation, accompanied with enhanced values, which completely counteract the effect of any just rate of duty. For instance what does it avail the manufacturer that Congress assesses a duty of 25 per cent. upon the article which he manufactures, if credit and speculation be so widely stimulated in this country, that all the elements that enter into the production of this article, immediately become enhanced in value to such an extent, that it costs him the additional 25 per cent. to produce the article? The foreign manufacturer is not affected. He brings in his article, and sells it at 25 per cent. increased price, because the home producer was obliged to put it up to save himself.—He can sell and realize the same profits he did before the duty was assessed.

Our great misfortune, Mr. President, is an unchangeable inclination to high prices. We attach undue importance to the mere nominal value of things. It is in this way that we give the manufacturers of other countries undue advantage over us. Our system of currency inflates the prices of every thing; and then, if we have a balance to pay to John Bull or any body else in Europe, he demands coin.—He won't take our paper-money; and when the country gets right well in debt, and foreigners call on the importers, and the importers call on the banks, and the banks cannot pay, then we have what is called a "crisis," a "financial crisis," and then down go your manufacturing establishments, and then the Democracy "catch Jessy." [Laughter and applause.] In this country we will have everything run up to exorbitant rates; men won't understand, that an article of subsistence will maintain life just as long purchased at fifty cents as if it cost a dollar and in the competition with the world, there is about as much wisdom and success in this policy as there would be in that of the merchant who should attempt to make a fortune by buying with a short yardstick and selling with a longer. [Laughter and cheers.]

But I shall not detain you further with details on this question. My object was simply to declare the views which I entertain, and to reassert my belief that the interests of the manufacturers of this country are far safer in the hands of the Democratic party, under our well known policy of a tariff for revenue, than they would be in the hands of Lawrence, Stone & Co. No man who has been in Congress and understands the feeling which prevails among the representatives from the South and West will take the hazard of promising much on this question. Those States have their rights and their views, and they will stand by them.—They conceive that they are consumers of what we produce, and insist that there is to be a standard of equity ascertained between the conflicting interests. So far as I may have the power, within the limits of due regard to the rights of other States, I assure you, as your representa-

tive, your rights and interests shall be maintained. [Applause.] I am as much attached to the manufacturing interests of my native State as any man in it. I am as much concerned for the welfare of the laboring masses as those who make special pretensions to concern for them. I have more of them than most men; and I think I know as much of their feelings and sympathies as any, and I respect them; and it is for these reasons that I am in the habit of repelling every attempt to impose upon them false pretensions or false theories. [Cheers.]

You have a right to consider the effects of the policy of the government, upon your interests, and to carry out your views, as far as you can, through your representatives. But let me tell you that, for your individual prosperity and success, you must depend on yourselves. [Applause.] The wit of man never devised a more mischievous doctrine than that which certain politicians in this country are attempting to disseminate at this time, to wit: that the mass of the people, mechanics and laborers, are to look the measures of government for their individual prosperity.

We have already witnessed the fruit of this vicious sentiment in the shape of combinations of men in our large cities to demand bread of the Government. Were such a doctrine to be generally received in our country, I should regard it as the very bane of our whole republican system—an endless source of discontent and disloyalty, tending directly to the overthrow of our republican system of government; to give place to anarchy, confusion and agrarianism. The people should have all the aid the Government can properly give them; and they should be expected to sustain a party or a man who would not neglect them; but after protection to life, liberty and property, they can have but little protection besides. But the people of Pennsylvania are a proud people and a just people. They will demand her rights as a member of this Confederacy; they would disdain to ask more; and when this is granted, it will be idle for demagogues to attempt to excite discontent, or raise a whirlwind that they may ride into power on the storm.

There is one other topic on which I wish to say but a few words. We see it alleged by the opposition press that the Democratic Administration at Washington is a prodigal one—that the expenditures of the Government are very great—greater perhaps, than they ought to be. But it would puzzle any man to find an instance in which any of these leading opponents of the Democratic party in Congress voted against any appropriation, unless, indeed, it was one absolutely necessary to keep the Government in motion. [Laughter and applause.] On all the wild schemes of expenditure and all claims, you find them constantly in the affirmative. [Laughter.] Why the idea of electing a man like Mr. Seward, though talented and worthy of respect as he is, in order to protect the treasury, would excite nothing but laughter amongst those who have witnessed his career. He is a leader in the opposition, and he does not hesitate to vote for all kinds of expenditures.

In conclusion, fellow Democrats, let me hope that you will sustain the party organization as heretofore—sustain its principles and nominees. Our State ticket, composed of men worthy of the stations for which they are presented, and competent to fill them, is entitled to your hearty support. [Senator Bigler retired amid hearty and repeated cheers.]

A GOOD TEXT, BUT NOT OF THE BIBLE.—That was a strikingly intelligent person, who called upon a sign painter to have a Sunday-school procession banner painted, and said: "We're going to have a tearin' time with our Fourth of July Sunday school celebration, and our folks wants a banner." "Well," naturally enough responded the painter, "you ought to have one. (What will you have painted on it?)" "Wal, I don't know; we ort to hev a text o' skripter p'inted onto it for a motto, hadn't we?" "Yes; that's a very good idea; what shall it be?" "Wal, I thought this would be about as good as any: 'Be sure you're right, then go ahead.'" It is fair to conclude that he had not "searched the Scriptures" attentively.

PULLING TEETH IN OLD TIMES.—The primitive method of abstracting teeth in Scanton is thus described by a correspondent of the New York Express:

"One end of a firm hemp string was fastened upon the adjoining member, while the other, securely tied around a bullet purposely notched, was put in the barrel of an old flint-lock musket, loaded with an extra charge of powder. When all was ready, the desperate operator caught hold of the gun, and 'let drive.' Out flew the tooth, and away bounded the musket several feet. This mode of extracting teeth became the chosen and only mode practiced in this region for many years."

DREADFUL ACCIDENT BY LIGHTNING.—A young man by the name of Rudolf Cotton was killed by a stroke of lightning, on last Saturday, at the house of Widow McKay, in Indiana, opposite Carrollton, Ky. The electric fluid struck a scythe in the hands of a person near by, and glancing along it entered the hat of Cotton, and passing through his body shivered a stone on which he was standing into a thousand fragments. He fell dead. Two daughters of Mrs. McKay were struck insensibly by the shock at the same time, and the car-rings of one of the ladies were melted from her ears. The girls are not expected to recover. Cotton and one of the ladies were to have been married shortly.

STEAMBOAT ACCIDENT ON THE WESTERN RIVERS.—The following are given as the main losses on the Western rivers for the six months ending May 18, 1858: Steamers burned, 15; exploded, 4; snagged, 9; collisions, 8; total, 36, total lives lost, 69.