

AN INTERESTING DEBATE IN THE U. S. SENATE.

Mr. Bigler proceeded to reply to the points in Mr. Douglas's speech. He trusted the legacy of the Lecompton Convention, and in the course of his remarks said he could not foretell what his action would be on the question of admitting Kansas under the Constitution; the case was not fully made up. A very large and generous power was in the hands of those who are to conduct the election on the slavery article. They may abuse it; if so, the result could not be recognized, but if the election shall be fairly conducted he should vote for the admission of Kansas as a State with either a free or a slave Constitution, because he thought that would settle the controversy and give peace to the country. If the institutions should not suit the people, they should be altered more easily and satisfactorily with Kansas as a State than as a Territory.

Mr. Douglas replied, saying that he had no fault to find with the Senator from Pennsylvania for making a series of attacks on his consistency while omitting to answer his arguments. Some persons had furnished him with records of the votes of the Senator on the Wilmot proviso, and some former speeches relative to Kansas matters. He knew not whether those were true or false, but what had they to do with the question now presented? Suppose it were true that in 1848 he was in favor of extending the Missouri Compromise to the Pacific Ocean, as recommended by Mr. Buchanan in his letter to the free press, and suppose that in 1850 he introduced a bill to repeal that compromise, would that be a fair ground for complaint on the part of the President? Therefore he wished to speak on the subject in advance of any possible knowledge of the character of that election. He would remark in advance, while he should feel bound to comment in some views expressed by Mr. Douglas, that he did not desire to read him out of the Democratic party; but he would say a man might, by his own voluntary act, either by promoting discord in the party, or by some other means, place himself beyond the pale of the party organization. He hardly thought the old Democratic party, as such, were put to the necessity of reading persons out of their organization. If, however, there were any persons in that party who wished to take positions outside of it, or who attempted to foment discord in the party, for solely fancied grievances in time past they would do well to remember the fate of every such attempt from the days of Aaron Burr to those of Van Buren. He was in favor of admitting Kansas with whatever Constitution she might present here, provided it be republican in form. The Convention had power to submit a Constitution, or withhold it, and were responsible only to the people of Kansas for the manner in which they exercised that right.

Mr. Douglas, in reply stated that according to his own showing, Mr. Fitch differed from the Senator from Indiana had charged him with faction. If differing from the President was faction, that Senator had double the amount of faction with himself. He (Mr. Douglas) had not become the mere servile tool of any President, so as to feel himself bound to take every recommendation, without examining whether it met his approbation or not. With regard to harmony in the Democratic party, he had only to say it was a sufficient demagogue to bring destruction upon the heads of his present enemies that were his late confederates.

BOGUS MONEY.—The Greensburgh Democrat says: "Within a month past, a large amount has been put in circulation in this State. Most of it is well executed, as to pass very readily among those who do not examine their money closely, or do business in a hurry. The ring of this counterfeit money is good, and it is without the greasy feel to the touch, but it is lighter than the genuine, both in weight and color." The Steubenville Herald of Saturday, says: "Passing counterfeit money, as a business, we understand, is at the present time carried on extensively in this city, as well as at most localities between Wheeling and Pittsburgh, or the Ohio river. Both in bank paper and hard money, is this counterfeit practice. We were shown a specimen of a bogus half dollar to-day, of the new spurious coinage. It is decidedly the best imitation of the original American half dollar we ever saw. In size, weight and general appearance, it is almost, if not quite, perfect. And we have not the least doubt but it could be imposed on ninety-nine out of every hundred business men as genuine silver. Business men and others should be on the constant watch for the spurious money. The only way the coin can be detected, is in the sound—which, like many politicians on the "gossip question," now-a-days has not the ring of true metal."

Important from Washington.—WASHINGTON, December 22.—The Herald's Washington correspondent says an important movement is on foot which promises an easy settlement of the Kansas agitation. It is intended, when the Lecompton Constitution comes on, to take it up by the friends of the administration, both as a party measure and as a formal assertion of the Democratic principle of popular sovereignty. The Constitution will be passed with a proviso that it shall be presented to the people of Kansas for final acceptance and ratification. The movement is a Southern one.

Important from Utah.—WASHINGTON CITY, Dec. 23.—The communication from Brigham Young to Col. Alexander, and from Elder Taylor to Capt. Alcock, and the orders of D. Wells, commander of the Mormons which Col. Johnston enclosed, and the acts of the Legislative Assembly of the last session, show, he says, a matured and settled design on the part of the sect of Mormons to hold and occupy the territory independent and irrespective of the United States; occupying as they do, an attitude of rebellion and open defiance to the government, connected with numerous overt acts of treason. Col. Johnston reiterates the necessity for prompt and vigorous action, or the United States must submit to the usurpation of their territory. The conduct of the Mormons shows a determination not to acknowledge the authority of the United States in any other outside of their church. The supply of subsistence must be forwarded early in the spring; it should reach the army by the 1st of June. Should a long time elapse without hearing from him, Col. Johnston says it must be attributable only to the difficulty of sending expresses across the mountains during the winter months. The officers and men are in fine health, and are animated with an ardent desire to discharge their duties faithfully.

THE UTAH EXPEDITION.—ST. LOUIS, Dec. 22.—An express has recently arrived at Leavenworth from the Utah expedition, which brings information that the whole force, with the exception of Col. Cook and his command, were concentrated at Black Fork, and were moving toward Fort Bridges; their progress was very slow, sometimes making only two or three miles a day, hourly the animals were giving out, and it was thought that all would perish this winter. The supply trains were all with the military, and provisions were abundant. The report that two companies of infantry had met with reverses en route for Utah, is without foundation. Five companies of Col. Sumner's regiment of 1st Cavalry have recently taken winter quarters at Fort Riley.

BEAVER ARGUS.

M. WEYAND, Editor & Proprietor. BEAVER, PA. WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1857.

DISSOLUTION.—THE partnership heretofore existing between M. & J. Weyand, in the publication of the Beaver County Argus, was dissolved by mutual consent, on the 20th of December. All persons knowing themselves indebted to the firm are earnestly requested to call at the Argus Office and settle their accounts.

COAL COAL.—Those of our patrons that desire to settle their accounts with Coal, will please send in as soon as may be convenient.

AN ADDRESS.—Dr. James E. Jackson will deliver an Address in the Academy at Fallston, on the evening of the 5th of January, 1858, at 7 o'clock, P. M., on the subject of Popular Education.

DEVOTION.—The new German Catholic Church in Rochester, will be dedicated on Friday next, the 1st of January, 1858. Tickets of Admission 25 cents. All are respectfully invited.

CANDID'S ADDRESS.—The carrier of the Argus desires to remind his patrons that he expects to call upon them on Friday morning with a New Year Offering, from the pen of one of our distinguished female writers. Having made his weekly visits, he has a handsome and through story, with unending regularity, during the past year, he looks confidently for a very large portion of the "benefit" from each of his friends.

BOY OF AN INFANT FORD.—The body of a newly born male child was found by Mr. James McGeary, at McDonald's Ferry, nearly opposite Economy, on the morning of the 18th inst. It had evidently lived but a few hours. It was nearly wrapped up in two pieces of old linen, and tied in two places with common wrapping paper. An inquest was held by James Irons, Esq. It was the belief of the jury that the child had been drowned to conceal the shame of the mother.

WE WERE NEIGHBORS OF THE STAR.—For their complimentary allusion. There is, however, a slight discrepancy between the remark that "we are the best political writer in the District," and the one frequently made in the heat of a political canvass, that we are the "Prince of work writers." We are at a loss to know which "lords" to lay hold of.

FRANCIS VS. PROFESSION.—The Democratic party has always had the happy faculty of accommodating itself to all sorts of circumstances, and preaching one kind of doctrine, and practicing another. We all know with what intensity they have been lagging away at the poor Banks these many years past. We all know how bitterly they oppose the chartering of banking institutions, especially when out of power; but the moment they assume control of a State Government, they can grant charters with all the ease and facility imaginable. Although claiming to be an exclusively "hard money" party, yet in many States, where their opponents could scarcely ever muster "corporate" guests, they can justly lay claim to the credit of having instituted as pure and as perfect a "Wild Cat" irredeemable paper currency, as could possibly be devised.

SHOCKING ACCIDENT.—We are pained to state that Mr. JAMES ALLEN, employed in Woodrow's Great Mill, near Frankfort, while engaged in unshipping a pair of burrs, was caught between the trunnel and crown wheels, and most frightfully mangled. His left leg was ground into small pieces, and his breast almost wholly severed from his body. It is supposed that he died instantaneously. The deceased bore an excellent reputation; was about 46 years of age, and leaves a wife and two small children. It is only about five years since Mr. John Ballston lost his life in the same mill, under nearly similar shocking circumstances.

CONGRESS.—Both branches of Congress adjourned over on the 24th inst. until the 4th of January. Previous to adjournment, a resolution was adopted instructing the Territorial Committee to inquire into the expediency of excluding the Delegates from Utah from a seat on the floor of the House.

RE-NOMINATION OF MR. BUCHANAN.—A Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Journal says that a powerful Southern combination is forming for the purpose of nominating Mr. Buchanan for re-election in 1860.

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GEN. DOUGLAS.—We have never had any particular love for Stephen A. Douglas. We have not yet forgotten that the country is indebted mainly to him for the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, and all those fierce sectional troubles to which that repeal has given rise. Neither have we forgotten the insulting tone, and haughty mien, and brazen front, with which he stood up in the Senate, and launched his bitterest invectives against the Free Statesmen of Kansas; stigmatising them as rebels; justifying the invasion of the Missourians into that territory; recognizing the validity of the barbarous enactments of the spurious Legislature, and treating the frequent deaths of blood, of arson, and of robbery, as though they were the merest trifles. Nor have we forgotten that he stood by, unmoved, and witnessed the murderous assault upon Governor Sumner, for the utterance of sentiments eminently becoming a free man, and refused either to interpose a restraining word, or lift a protecting finger in his behalf, far less a stern construction might possibly be placed upon his motives. But, however culpable his past conduct has been, and whatever be the motive which actuates him in his present course—whether it be to avenge a slight or grievance received at the hands of the Administration; or to renege himself with the people of Illinois, so as to be returned to the Senate, at the expiration of his term, a year hence—certainly it is not the bold and exalted stand which he has taken against the Lecompton Constitution, and the heroic manner in which he maintains his position, and repels the attacks of Administration Senators, entitles him to commendation, and is calculated to direct toward him the active sympathies of the moderate men of all parties. However much the body of the Northern people may have differed with him heretofore, he undoubtedly occupies a correct position now. So long as he proves faithful to that position, he will entitle himself to the gratitude of the entire Republican party, and will receive the entire co-operation of the rank and file of the Democracy in the Free States.

What Has Become of the Twenty-Five Millions?—Less than a year ago there was a surplus in the Treasury of the United States of about Sixty Millions of Dollars, and it was confidently expected that before the close of the fiscal year, the sum would be swelled to nearly Sixty Millions. For weeks the members of the National Legislature were sweating their brows in devising plans for the disposal of this surplus, and to prevent the accumulation of any more coin, than might be actually necessary to meet the ordinary expenses of the Government. In order to avert a financial revolution, which it was thought would inevitably result from an overflowing Treasury, and by the withdrawal of this vast sum of money from public circulation. To avoid the threatened difficulty, it was deemed advisable to amend the tariff laws, and reduce the revenue arising from foreign imports. The free list was greatly extended, and the duties on articles that had previously been afforded reasonable protection, and which should have received continued protection, were taken off to a considerable extent. The predictions then made have only in part been fulfilled. A financial revolution has swept over the country, and paralyzed its business, but it has not been because of the Millions that were expected to be stowed away in Uncle Sam's strong boxes. The imports fell off in an astonishing degree. The revenue was far short of that which was anticipated. The Twenty-Five Millions surplus, about which there was so much concern, have all melted away like dew-drops before a genial sun, and the Treasury now finds itself in a condition scarcely able to scrape up a dollar with which to meet the necessities of the Government. What has become of all this money? It is an inquiry that would very naturally arise in the mind of every one. Has not a portion of this vast sum been used for electioneering purposes? Has not a good portion of it passed into the pockets of partisan favorites, in the shape of fat contracts? Has not a large portion of it been applied to the erection of many princely, but useless, custom houses, &c., all over the country? Verily, it becomes the Democracy to explain the whereabouts of these Twenty-Five Millions that have been "spirited" away so mysteriously in the short space of nine or ten months, or else it will forfeit the reputation for economy which it has heretofore arrogated to itself.

A Happy New Year.—The year Eighteen Hundred and Fifty Seven has almost reached its allotted time. It is now vibrating between the irretrievable Past and the unknown Future. A few hours hence and it will take its rank in history, side by side with the "things that were." A remarkable and eventful year it has been; remarkable for its Peace, Health, and general Prosperity; for its joys and sorrows, shifts and struggles, and "ups and downs" of like; and eventful for its monetary embarrassments, crippled commerce, and suspended labor, in the Old World and the New. Discarding all unavailing regrets for the past, and with a hopeful trust that the future will be better improved, we wish one and all a "Happy New Year!"

DOUGLAS ON THE SENATE FLOOR.—The Washington correspondent of the Independent gives the following vivid description of the "Little Giant" when under full headway: He is very short in stature, but of such physical proportions, aside from this lack of size, that he attracts the attention of a stranger. A very large head, connected with broad and powerfully built shoulders by a short, full neck; a chest sufficiently roomy to contain the lungs of a giant, and a pair of short, dumpy legs, complete the physical picture of the "Little Giant," if we except the broad, lofty, Websterian brow, and the deep set, cavernous eyes that sparkle and glow, when excited, like miners' lamps beneath it. It is the tremendous brain-power, lodged in that peculiar precipice of a forehead, and projecting out of its fire from its shadowed eye, that has given him the sobriquet which he will carry for several years, and which he will carry in full flow of debate, that mires head rolls and shakes with the ebullience of his thought, and the huge hand Jukes until the nails indent the palm, or else the broad, open hand receives the blow of its mate, and indicates the sentence with a stunning report. The sweat pours from his profusely, and falls from his head, or is thrown clear of his shoulders by those immense flukes of the head, as the rain-drops are shaken from the trees by a storm. Add to this a thick bushy head of black hair, and a restless, uneasy feeling which prevents his being at rest for the consecutive minutes, and keeps him moving from one point to another in the Senate Chamber, and my picture of the "Little Giant" is complete.