

REGULAR AND EXACT JUSTICE TO ALL. HENRY RAY, WIKEN FORNEY, EDITORS. BELLEFONTE, PENNSA. WEDNESDAY, JULY 9, 1868.

TO READERS AND CORRESPONDENTS.

Our communication has been received, read, and is politely rejected. It is our duty to hold to be a personal matter in which we are not competent to interfere. The first issue of the Watchman, under the name of the Bellefonte and Lehigh Valley Democrat, was published on the 27th of January, 1845. It was then the only paper published in the county. It was then the only paper published in the county. It was then the only paper published in the county.

THE NEWS.

FROM CALIFORNIA.—The steamship Greena arrived from Aspinwall, City, bringing dates from San Francisco to the 5th inst. The steamship Illinois had left Aspinwall, for New York, with \$2,500,000 in gold and 900 passengers. The excitement in San Francisco continues unabated. Casey and Corv were hung on the 22d ult. The funeral of Mr. King took place on the 29th, and perfect decorum was observed throughout the whole proceedings. The Vigilance Committee had arrested several other desperate characters, including the notorious Yankee Sullivan. On the 18th inst., Sullivan committed suicide in his cell at the Committee's rooms, leaving a confession in regard to the election in San Francisco. On the 21st inst., the opponents of the Vigilance Committee attempted to hold a meeting to denounce the Committee, but it proved a total failure. Several murders and accidents are recorded in the interior. The health of San Francisco is good, and business moderately active. Rumors were circulated that Governor Johnson would call his regulation means to suppress the rebellion; but no such steps had yet been taken. These rumors created much excitement throughout the State, and word had come that one thousand men ready to march to the assistance of the Committee. Sacramento also offers to furnish one thousand men. Martial law has been declared in San Francisco, and the excitement is on the increase. The Committee are determined to carry out their measures, and to continue making arrests. The opposition are organizing with 700 stand of arms, and rumors prevail of an attack on the Committee rooms, which are doubly guarded with two cannon before the case, loaded with grape. All the papers in San Francisco, except the Herald, side with the Committee.

FROM KANSAS.—St. Louis, June 27.—Gov. Shannon, of Kansas, arrived here last night to meet his wife. He derived the reports as to his resignation, and purposes to return to Kansas in about a week. He reports all quiet in the Territory. A meeting of citizens of St. Joseph, on Monday, denouncing the conduct of the Indian agent Jay, and offering \$1500 as a reward for the apprehension of the murderers. They also called on the Governor of Missouri to offer a reward. The Chicago company of emigrants started at Lexington, on Sunday, with on board the steamer Star of the West, with the best band, a committee of citizens, who camp aboard and informed the captain of the object of their visit. He introduced them to the President of the company, who stated that he had seventy-six men under his charge, who were going to Kansas Territory to settle. Each man had a gun, and they were determined to keep them. The committee replied that they were satisfied with the intentions of the party were hostile to the people of Kansas are settled. Their arms were then produced from various parts of the boat, and proved to be Hall's rifles, all loaded and with bayonets attached.

FROM KANSAS.—By the late foreign news appears that the English people had been fully apprised of the dismissal of Mr. Crompton, by our government. On the whole the intelligence appears to have been received in a very pacific spirit. The letter of Mr. May, and the facts he communicated have evidently done much to awaken public sentiment to the real character of the country, and the government is, at present, at a loss how to combat the truthful and overwhelming argument of the American administration. Although the rumored dispatch of a considerable fleet to various points on our coast may have something of a pacific air, the British ministry cannot be so easily pacified as a hostile disposition against us would awaken in England. We think, therefore, there is very little reason to anticipate a war between the two countries, nor is it likely that Mr. Dalmeida will be dismissed. Palmer, the great agitator, has been hung.

THE EIGHTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE.

Eighty years ago, the representatives of the original thirteen American colonies sat in profound communion in Independence Hall; with an anxious crowd waited in silence the deliberation of a body that was to decide the destiny of a hemisphere. The people of the colonies long harassed by oppressive and extortionate taxes, became turbulent, turbulent and defiant. While the mother country was anxious to drain the resources of those who had left their homes, their friends and their friends—helped, wrong upon wrong, and added insult to injury. The representatives of these colonies, backed by the clamors of an indignant people, were led on to the perpetration of a deed, by which they were compelled to consecrate their lives, their property, and their sacred honors. Determined at length to declare themselves free and independent citizens, and take their place as such in the eyes of God, and before the face of the nations of the world, when we consider properly the peculiar position of those who took this high resolve; and when we remember too, that this act was stretched forth to crush the patriots of '70, and the anniversary of American Independence adds new laurels to the transaction and carries us back to the days which tried men's souls. The theme can never be exhausted, it is one of those epochs in time unparalleled in the record of history, and bears upon its face more of the evidence of the work of God than the result of the labors of man. When we remember, too, that on the cold rock of Plymouth the Pilgrim Fathers first consecrated themselves to the liberty of thought and conscience: when the meek and peaceful Penn confidently pled the beautiful Delaware, in quest of a place to erect a free altar of religion; when the great Raleigh sought the wilds of Virginia to give vent to his spirit of enterprise, and that from those adventures—and they were but the adventures of the first El Dorado—there sprang up a race of hardy men, who boldly questioned the institutions of aristocracy, and proclaimed themselves men, free and independent. It had long been the policy of another country—then first beginning to feel the effects of an imbecile ruler and a corrupt dynasty—to drain the American colonies of their resources, to replenish an exhausted exchequer. One extreme followed closely on another: taxation not only became a burden, but a sin punishable with death. The whip and the stake, fire, rape and murder were every day occurrences: until the hardy pioneer of the western wilds, who sought these bleak shores in the hope of escaping from tyranny, and finding free homes for themselves, their children and their children's descendants, were compelled either to strike for freedom or perish in the arms of oppression. Eighty years ago they sat and communed and deliberated in Old Independence Hall, and fearful was the communion. It was no common work, no task of a moment; their convictions of right did not spring from impulse; they were the result of years of long suffering—and that assemblage of plain dwellers had arrived at a point which compelled them either to do or die. The first blow had already been struck at Lexington, and the first free blood cried to Heaven for vengeance. A hostile army surrounded the city, and the citizens themselves, gathered in groups, each man unable to tell the thoughts of the other, each waiting in hope for more than he dared utter, trusted to heaven more than to man for redemption. It was a solemn hour; a spectacle only paralleled by that which crowned the birth of Christianity, and cannot be remembered with too much gratitude by those who now reap the reward of its results. The Declaration of Independence, signed and delivered on the 4th day of July, 1776, at once commenced the struggle. There was no receding from that step; there could be no compromise, and when the inhabitants first found themselves in the breach, face to face with the foe backed by the money and the sympathies of monarchial Europe, they at once discovered that the work to be done was not that of a mere common struggle for the rights of Territory; but that it would be an effort to establish both civil and religious liberty. The idea of self government, although so often broached before, had as often been smothered in its infancy. The republics of Rome and Greece and Sparta, although models within themselves, afforded no guide to the men of the Revolution. Their laws and customs, then known only in classic lore and repeated only in song and romance, were no example. The history of Chivalry and Knight Errantry were passed by, and the rude pilgrims, many of whom bore only a staff in their hands, bare headed and bare footed, were marshaled against the chosen, well-trimmed and well-fed troops of a proud king, backed by the influence of family hereditary and systematic oppression.

How long this struggle lasted and how fearful the contest was, has now become a matter of history; and while we reverence the past, we are often too prone to forget the means which constitute our present glory. From thirteen original colonies we have grown to thirty-two sovereign States, with shores washed by two oceans, holding the balance of power on a continent; with territory in almost every latitude from the torrid to the frigid zone, and the people devoted to the pursuits of arts, sciences and labor. It is well thus to recur to the past, and thus to refresh our memories in what has been done. After the struggle for independence, and after a proud and haughty nation had been humbled at the feet of those who were pledged to rule themselves, the world was divided in ridicule, more than anxiety, the experiment of men determined to govern themselves. New usages and principles were to be adopted and established; new ideas began to fill the minds of men, and for awhile even those who were most anxious and ardent to throw off the bonds of kingship, trembled as to the result of this experiment. Without money and without experience, the issue was indeed a fearful one;

but still the hand of Providence again appeared to guide the Councils of those who had risked so much, and the first really independent nation began to burst upon the astonished gaze of the tyrants of Europe. The administration of George Washington commenced the consolidation of the Colonies. By his wisdom, justice, sagacity and bravery, the war was terminated; and through the influence of his mildness, and the inflexibility of his justice, the foundation of this mighty republic was laid. Consolidating and bringing together the confused masses of every section, healing the wounds of jealousy, curbing the ambitious, and mildly bringing out those great principles which even then were regarded as an experiment, his administration was the intary step to the greatness which followed. He harmonized and systematized the new ideas of man untried to the base of freedom, and had the satisfaction when going into a peaceful retirement of knowing that the government which he assisted in erecting, would exist with time and perish only in sterility.

With the rule of Thomas Jefferson, first commenced the organization of parties; and during his administration the interests of various sections began to come into conflict, which required the sagacity of a wise legislator to ameliorate and systematize. Thomas Jefferson was what we might call the first leader of an organized political party—founded for the general good, whose principles looked to no localities, but whose laws were framed to embrace all interests and all classes. He was the author of what we all believe in and strive for, as Democratic principles, and to him we are indebted for that statesmanlike policy and that sternness of government which has made us equal if not superior to the nations of the world. The doctrines which he then taught survive now, and although interrupted by periodical changes of rulers, the principles of Jeffersonian Democracy have never ceased, to exist.

The first Adams, sustained by the wealth of families who had not forgotten the luxuries of faded aristocratic atmosphere vainly strove to destroy the wise principles of the Republicanism, but he was thwarted by the immortal author of the Declaration of Independence, whose administration may be regarded as sustaining the experiment of self government.

Following Jefferson, the country was blessed by the administration of Madison, who continuing in the path of a policy dictated by Democracy, rendered his administration celebrated for wisdom and impartial justice. During his administration the war of 1812 was commenced, and resulted in further establishing our maritime power, and securing a vast unexplored sea coast. The battles of Lake Erie and New Orleans looked to impress Europe with the weight of our power; and the prowess of our arms; and being the first struggle after the Revolution, it gave the nation at once a place of dignity and respect abroad. The successor of Madison, the profound and erudite Monroe found it necessary to harmonize trade and commerce after this annihilation. The Constitution, in his hands, was not only carefully expounded, but carried out. He encouraged commerce to a degree that spread our sails on every ocean, fostered manufactures, then in their infancy, and opened up to the country new sources of wealth and prosperity. We have, after this glorious rule, another dark page presented to us in the dynasty of the YOUNGER ADAMS, who encouraging factions in his infancy, and yielding to the demand of a wealthy aristocracy, threatened for a time to destroy that fabric of liberty which was reared upon the bones of the heroes of the revolution. He encouraged sectional agitation by drawing geographical distinctions. He refused to acknowledge the sovereignty of the States, by interfering with their domestic institutions, and organized a party from which has sprung the demagogue and agitator with whom more than his imagination; nor must the "Clerk of the Sessions" for a moment believe that the people will receive verbose pomposity as a vindication for official dereliction. When we stated that the "Clerk of the Sessions" had perpetrated an extortion, we merely stated a fact which we are able to substantiate, and which he has not yet denied. He claims to be a printer, and therefore should know the rates which he charged for advertising; were both unusual and exorbitant; he claims to be an impartial public officer, and yet he attempted to make distinctions in the price for the same advertising between different individuals; he claims to have sound legal advice on the subject, and yet he blunders on from one error to another until he has become so embarrassed that we are now obliged to reply that condemn him. However closely the "Clerk of the Sessions" may wrap himself up in his robes of morality, the public eye is yet able to discern his weakness and his faults, and the public press had enough to rebuke them. Whenever a public officer filling an office from whose fees he expects to make a living, attempts to swell its revenues by extortionate charges, and a mispersecution of the law, he comes within the pale of independent newspaper censure, because it is not to be expected that every man can make himself acquainted with the bill of rates; nor will he be satisfied that for this reason the "Clerk of the Sessions" should take advantage of those who do business with his office. Will he inform us how many persons were employed in making out for costs of the cases involved in the question of an overcharge in the liquor cases? If the "Clerk of the Sessions" has any friends who he wishes to benefit, or if he wishes to establish securities in his office, he should do so at his own expense and not tax the people nor attempt to mislead public opinion from the fact that all the labor which he talks about was necessary, by appealing to the public for sympathy, or by claiming a large share of honesty than his neighbors. The "Clerk of the Sessions" replies to us over his official title, and as such only we recognize him, and therefore, the advice which he tenders us personally, and the prayers which he offers up in our behalf should be reserved, because charity begins at home.

THE CLERK OF THE SESSIONS. The "Clerk of the Sessions" becomes lachrymose, but fails to conceal the evidence of a guilty conscience behind a column of words; he does not meet the issue properly, nor has he in a single instance—giving him the benefit of all his misstatements—cleared himself of the charges which we have made. That "Clerk of the Sessions" who seems to haunt his imagination will prove a bird of more ill omen than his imagination; nor must the "Clerk of the Sessions" for a moment believe that the people will receive verbose pomposity as a vindication for official dereliction. When we stated that the "Clerk of the Sessions" had perpetrated an extortion, we merely stated a fact which we are able to substantiate, and which he has not yet denied. He claims to be a printer, and therefore should know the rates which he charged for advertising; were both unusual and exorbitant; he claims to be an impartial public officer, and yet he attempted to make distinctions in the price for the same advertising between different individuals; he claims to have sound legal advice on the subject, and yet he blunders on from one error to another until he has become so embarrassed that we are now obliged to reply that condemn him. However closely the "Clerk of the Sessions" may wrap himself up in his robes of morality, the public eye is yet able to discern his weakness and his faults, and the public press had enough to rebuke them. Whenever a public officer filling an office from whose fees he expects to make a living, attempts to swell its revenues by extortionate charges, and a mispersecution of the law, he comes within the pale of independent newspaper censure, because it is not to be expected that every man can make himself acquainted with the bill of rates; nor will he be satisfied that for this reason the "Clerk of the Sessions" should take advantage of those who do business with his office. Will he inform us how many persons were employed in making out for costs of the cases involved in the question of an overcharge in the liquor cases? If the "Clerk of the Sessions" has any friends who he wishes to benefit, or if he wishes to establish securities in his office, he should do so at his own expense and not tax the people nor attempt to mislead public opinion from the fact that all the labor which he talks about was necessary, by appealing to the public for sympathy, or by claiming a large share of honesty than his neighbors. The "Clerk of the Sessions" replies to us over his official title, and as such only we recognize him, and therefore, the advice which he tenders us personally, and the prayers which he offers up in our behalf should be reserved, because charity begins at home.

He has been so long in office that he has become a matter of course, and the public eye is yet able to discern his weakness and his faults, and the public press had enough to rebuke them. Whenever a public officer filling an office from whose fees he expects to make a living, attempts to swell its revenues by extortionate charges, and a mispersecution of the law, he comes within the pale of independent newspaper censure, because it is not to be expected that every man can make himself acquainted with the bill of rates; nor will he be satisfied that for this reason the "Clerk of the Sessions" should take advantage of those who do business with his office. Will he inform us how many persons were employed in making out for costs of the cases involved in the question of an overcharge in the liquor cases? If the "Clerk of the Sessions" has any friends who he wishes to benefit, or if he wishes to establish securities in his office, he should do so at his own expense and not tax the people nor attempt to mislead public opinion from the fact that all the labor which he talks about was necessary, by appealing to the public for sympathy, or by claiming a large share of honesty than his neighbors. The "Clerk of the Sessions" replies to us over his official title, and as such only we recognize him, and therefore, the advice which he tenders us personally, and the prayers which he offers up in our behalf should be reserved, because charity begins at home.

be forgotten while we continue to exist as a nation. By one of those strange and unaccountable changes in politics, the people were led to the support of Taylor, who was unknown in the science of government, and who was carried into power by the mistaken excitement of an hour. Brief as his time was, he lived to regret his ambition, and died harassed by the cares of a position for which he never was designed. Regretted by his countrymen, because he was a brave and good man; and not because he was a statesman. The Fillmore administration followed in dark and dreary succession, and presents a picture of moral and political turpitude unparalleled in the history of nations. The executive department became the resort of money brokers and land speculators, while the Treasury, with its doors thrown wide open to every political adventurer, was drained of its resources to the amount of millions; the government at last became a prey for the speculator, and a disgrace to the people. Indignant at these wrongs heaped upon him, and impatient for the termination of his rule, the people elevated Franklin Pierce also, by a unanimous voice. He came into the executive chair to find every department of government in a state of confusion; to find our foreign relations perplexing and embarrassing; to find no section arrayed in open hostility to another; and to find, in an almost empty Treasury. His first duty consisted in putting the departments of the government in the amount of millions; the government at last became a prey for the speculator, and a disgrace to the people. Indignant at these wrongs heaped upon him, and impatient for the termination of his rule, the people elevated Franklin Pierce also, by a unanimous voice. 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