The Watchman

EQUAL AND EXACT JUSTICE TO ALL.

OUR WHOLE COUNTRY!

E PLURIBUS UNUM

DEMOCRATIC MASS MEETING

OF THE CITIZENS OF THE COUNTIES OF

Centre, Clinton, Clearfield, Mifflin, Blair, Lycoming and Huntingdon,

IN FAVOR OF THE

CONSTITUTION AND THE UNION,

AND THE ELEVATION OF

JAMES BUCHANAN,

AND

J. C. BRECKINRIDGE

To the Presidency and Vice Presidency of the United States, will be held in

Bellefonte, Wednesday, Sept. 24,

The Democratic State Central Committee having designated Bellefonte, Centre county, as the place for the assembling of the Democracy of Central Pennsylvania, in favor of preserving the Constitution and the Union—all who would preserve undivided and unimpaired the glorious inheritance bequeathed to us by the Patriots and Sages of the Revolution—all who would reverence the memory of WASHINGTON, the Father of his Country, and one of the framers of the Constitution—all who admire JEFFERSON, JACKSON, CLAY, WRIGHT and WEBSTER, whose energies in life were devoted to the preservation of the Union as it is—

The following distinguished speakers will be present and address the meeting:

HON. WM. BIGLER,
HON. JOSIAH RANDALL,
JOHN W. FORNEY, ESQ.,
HON. J. GLANCY JONES,
GEN. WM. F. PACKER,
GEN. J. L. DAWSON,
COL. SAMUEL W. BLACK,
HON. CHARLES R. BUCKALEW,
HON. WM. H. WITTE,
COL. BEAH FRAZER,
GEO. A. CRAWFORD, ESQ.,
SAMUEL H. REYNOLDS, ESQ.,
HON. ALLISON WHITE,
HON. GEO. R. BARRETT, AND OTHERS.

Invitations have been extended to the following distinguished Democrats, and it is expected that they will be present:

HON. LEWIS CASS,
HON. STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS,
HON. ROBERT TOOMBS,
HON. JAMES B. ORR.

The Bellefonte and other Brass Bands will be in attendance.

No effort will be spared to make this one of the most brilliant demonstrations. The Democracy of Centre extend to their brethren of the adjoining counties a cordial invitation to be present. Let all who love our glorious Union, and all who desire to put an end to disunion agitation by the election of BUCHANAN and BRECKINRIDGE, turn out in their strength.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMITTEE

To the Delegates of the last Democratic County Convention. You are hereby notified to assemble in Bellefonte, on WEDNESDAY, Sept. 24th, at half past 10 o'clock, A. M., in the Democratic Club Room, for the purpose of nominating a candidate for County Commissioner, and Deputy Surveyor.

WM. J. KEALH
Chairman Standing Committee

Democratic Meetings in Centre Co.

Millheim, Saturday, Aug. 30th.
Milesburg, Thursday, September 4th
Centre Hall, Monday, September 8th.
Boalsburg, Tuesday afternoon, Sept. 9th
Pine Grove, Tuesday evening, Sept. 9th.
Stormstown, Wednesday, September 10th.
Port Matilda, Thursday, September 11th
Julian Furnace, Friday September 12th
Unionville, Saturday, September 13th
Rebersburg, Monday, September 15

Geo. A. Crawford, Esq., and other distinguished speakers will address the meetings.

BELLEFONTE, PENNA

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1856.

FOR PRESIDENT,

JAS. BUCHANAN,

OF PENNSYLVANIA.

FOR VICE PRESIDENT,

JOHN C. BRECKINRIDGE,

OF KENTUCKY.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS

SENATORIAL.

Charles B. Buckalew. Wilson McCandless

DISTRICT.

1 George W. Nebinger,	14 Reuben Wilbor,
2 Pierce Butler,	15 George A. Crawford
3 Manuel Wademan,	16 James Black,
4 William H. Witte,	17 H. J. Stahle,
5 John McNair,	18 John D. Roddy,
6 John M. Brinton,	19 Jacob Turner,
7 David Leary,	20 J. A. J. Buchanan,
8 Charles Kessler,	21 William Wilkins,
9 James Patterson,	22 James G. Campbell,
10 Isaac Slenker,	23 T. Cunningham,
11 E. W. Hughes,	24 John Keafly,
12 Thomas Osterhout,	25 Vincent Phelps.
13 Abraham Edinger,	

FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER,

GEORGE SCOTT,

OF COLUMBIA COUNTY.

FOR AUDITOR GENERAL,

JACOB FRY, Jr.,

OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY.

FOR SURVEYOR GENERAL,

JOHN ROWE,

OF FRANKLIN COUNTY.

CONGRESS,
ALLISON WHITE.
ASSEMBLY,
JOHN SMITH, Penn township.
ASSOCIATE JUDGES,
WM. BURCHFIELD.
HENRY BARNHART, Sr.
COMMISSIONER,
JACOB POTTSGROVE.
AUDITOR,
WM. P. KERR.
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY,
JAS. H. RANKIN.

HIGHLY SIGNIFICANT.—In the town of Fremont, near Toledo, Ohio, a Black-Republican procession had two coal-black negroes as its standard-bearers. One of them carried a flag in front of the procession, upon which was emblazoned thirteen States, with the motto, "*Free Kansas and Fremont.*" The other negro carried a black eagle upon a standard.

DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS IN DAUPHIN.—The Democratic Convention of Dauphin county, met on Monday and nominated Gen. Wm. F. Miller for Congress, and Jacob R. Fry, of Harrisburg, and A. W. Loomis, of Halifax, for Assembly. Hamilton Alricks, Wm. Lanman, and Geo. Boyman, were elected Delegates to the State Convention, and were instructed to vote for Gen. Wm. F. Packer, of Lycoming county, for Governor.

THE PEOPLE SHOULD REMEMBER,

That Wm. L. Dayton the Black-Republican candidate for Vice President voted against appropriations to open the fire imposed upon the old hero by Judge Hall for declaring martial law and saving the city of New Orleans from the grasp of Britains hireling soldiers.

That when the question of abolishing the brutal practice of flogging in the American navy, was before the United Senate, HE VOTED FOR FLOGGING WHITE MEN!

That this *intensely* Africanized gentleman, who can shed crocodile tears over the pretended wrongs of the *negroes*, and scream long and loud for "bleeding Kansas," has not the least sympathy to express for his brave countrymen, who, amidst the storm of battles have carried the flag of our country in triumph upon every sea.

That for the most trivial breach of naval decipline, he would HAVE OUR BRAVE SAILORS STRIPPED NAKED AND TIED UP TO THE MAST AND THEIR QUIVERING FLESH CUT FROM THEIR BONES.

WHITE MEN REMEMBER,

That Wm. L. Dayton is now before you soliciting your votes on the plea of his love for the negroes.

—A man with a soul so small as Wm. L. Dayton's should not receive the vote of any true lover of his country, although he may be the candidate of the bastard American and mock Republicans.

HON. RUFUS CHOATE.

This illustrious Whig, statesman and patriot, whose whole heart is devoted to the Union and the Constitution has written a letter to the Whigs in Maine, declaring his intention of supporting Mr. Buchanan as the only candidate "who carries the flag and keeps step to the music of the Union." In his letter he says, "I have hastily and imperfectly expressed my opinion through the unsatisfactory forms of a letter, as to the immediate duty of Whigs. We are to do what we can to defeat and disband the geographical party. But by what specific action we can most effectually contribute to such a result is a question of more difficulty. It seems now to be settled that we present no candidate of our own. If, we vote at all, then we vote for the nominees of the American or the nominees of the Democratic party. As between them I shall not venture to counsel the Whigs of Maine, but I deem it due to frankness and honor to say, that while I entertain a high appreciation of the character and ability of Mr. Fillmore, I do not sympathize in any degree with the objects and creed of the particular party that nominated him, and do not approve of their organization and their action. Practically, too, the contest in my judgment is between Mr. Buchanan and Col. Fremont. In these circumstances I vote for Mr. Buchanan. He has large experience *in public affairs*, his commanding capacity is universally acknowledged; his life is without a stain. I am constrained to add that he seems at this moment, by the concurrence of circumstances, more completely than any other, to represent the sentiment of nationality,—tolerant, warm and comprehensive—without which, without increase of which, America is no longer America; and to possess the power and I trust the dispositions to restore and keep that peace, within our corners and without, for which our hearts will yearn, which all our interests demand, through which and by which alone we may hope to grow to the true greatness of nations."

CONGRESSIONAL.—The extra session of Congress still continues without any nearer prospect of accomplishing the object for which it was convened, than was apparent a week ago. A new Committee of Conference on the Army Appropriation bill has failed to agree, and as the House has several times refused to recede from its obnoxious Kansas proviso by a vote of 97 yeas to 100 nays, and the Senate has as often insisted upon striking out the proviso by a vote of 35 yeas to 7 nays, it is difficult to see how any settlement of the difference between the two houses can be accomplished. There is a little hope, however, that the bill will eventually pass in some shape, as both the Senate and the House yesterday voted down motions for a final adjournment.

—Since the above was in type, we learn that the Army bill has passed by a vote of 101 to 98. The Black-Republicans are defeated in their measure to embarass the government. Provision has been made for the maintenance of the army, and this branch of the public defence has been preserved from the paralyzing influence of faction and revolution. A bill providing for the army, without restriction or condition, passed finally, on Saturday, and Congress adjourned *sine die* at 3½ o'clock, P. M.

WHERE ARE THE OLD WHIG SENATORS?—The above question is thus answered by the Albany *Argus*: "Clayton, the premier of the Whigs in the Senate, has declared his hostility to both Fremont and Fillmore.—Choate stands apart from the Whigs of Massachusetts. Senator Pearce and Pratt, of Maryland, have given in their adhesion to Buchanan. Senator Benjamin, of Louisiana, is on the stump in the same cause.—Senator Geyer, of Missouri, is to follow. Kentucky has sided with the Democracy. Tennessee will follow. Yet Maryland, Louisiana, Kentucky, Tennessee, and sometimes Missouri, were once Whig States!"

THE LYCOMING GAZETTE.—This old and staunch Democratic sheet has passed into the hands of N. S. Atwood, Esq., one of the soundest political writer in the State. We hope he may be able to make a fortune.

GREAT BRITAIN AGAINST MR. BUCHANAN.—Is there anything strange in that? Great Britain was against Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Jackson—why should she not also oppose Mr. Buchanan?

CONSISTENCY.—G. W. Youngman, the Fillmore elector for this district made a Black Republican speech at the fusion convention which met in Williamsport last week.

SINGLE COPIES of the *Watchman*, with or without wrappers, can be had at the office.—Price three cents.

BACKED OUT.

David Wilmot, the great guy of the Free-soilers, who challenged Wm. Bigler and Mr. B. Schnabel, to discuss the issues before the people in the present campaign, Mr. Wilmot accepted the challenge with the provision that the discussion should take place in his own district. A few days since, Mr. Schnabel visited the district and informed Mr. Wilmot of his readiness to commence the discussion. The latter now refused to enter into a discussion in his own district, as he had himself proposed to do, but said he would meet Mr. Schnabel in some other part of the State. Mr. Schnabel insisted upon carrying out the original proposition, whereupon David backed out "entirely," and refused to meet him anywhere. The people of that district have as yet heard but one side of the main question to be decided, and Mr. Schnabel has determined that the other shall be laid before them. He has accordingly made arrangements with other able and distinguished speakers to hold meetings in all parts of the district.

The *Williamsport Gazette* says, that on Friday evening, August 22d, Mr. Diven, of Elmira, made a speech to a Black Republican meeting in the Court House and threw out a challenge for a discussion. At the conclusion of his speech, Mr. Schnabel who was present accepted the challenge and proceeded to reply to Mr. Diven. The fire was too heavy to be endured, and soon drove the whole party out of the house. First the President retreated and was soon followed by the orators of the party. The Fremont freedom of speech advocates howled, shouted stamped and insulted, for the purpose of choking Mr. Schnabel down, but without success. He continued his speech till after the flight of his opponents, when the meeting adjourned without further debate. Mr. Diven after giving the challenge, backed out, by saying "he had other fish to fry," &c., showing that his challenge was more brag. As he ran out of the house, Mr. Schnabel called to him, that he would meet him in his own town of Elmira.

FOREIGN NEWS

The steamship North American has arrived, bringing news from Europe four days later. Cotton is unchanged; breadstuffs improving. In Spain all was quiet. Espartero had taken an amicable leave of the Queen. O'Donnell had not yet promulgated the programme of his ministry. The Russian government is said to have chartered companies to build three thousand English miles of railway. The cholera is committing terrible ravages in Maderia. In Funchal alone, 5,500 cases and 1,500 deaths had occurred, and there was a deficiency of medicine and doctors, and owing to the fear of infection, the dead remained unburied. One of the Philadelphia and Liverpool steamers is believed to have been spoken at sea. The Russians have notified the Turkish government that they are prepared to give up Kars, but insist that the Isle of Serpents belongs to her dominions. The Emperor Napoleon is said to have sent a supplementary note to form the basis of a treaty on the subject. Portugal has agreed to the maritime law laid down in the Paris conferences.

MERITED REBUKE.—Hon. Wm. H. Witte, while recently addressing a meeting of the Norristown Central Buchanan Club, was interrupted by Gause, the editor the *Olive Branch*; and, after the adjournment, Rev. Samuel Aaron made his way through the crowd to the speaker and challenged him to a discussion. "No sir," said Mr. Witte, "and I will tell you my reasons:

"A proper respect for my character as a Democrat, entirely forbids a discussion with a so-called Minister of the Gospel who had desecrated the pulpit, and soiled the sacred robes of his office by dragging them in the slimy pool of party politics, and proved himself a traitor to his God, his country and the Constitution."

A rebuke which we trust may prove beneficial to others, if it should not be the madman to whom it was so properly administered.

DEATH OF HARRISON WRIGHT.—We deeply regret to announce the decease of Harrison Wright, Esq., member of the last Legislature from Luzerne county. He died in Wilkesbarre on the 18th ult., after a very brief illness. He was a gentleman of fine abilities of much experience in public affairs, and as a member of the Legislature his clear judgment and foresight gave him a wide and very marked influence. The people of Luzerne lose in him a prominent and worthy citizen, and the Commonwealth, one of the most promising of her rising statesmen.

GREAT LONGEVITY.—A mother of five generations, named Katurah Cleveland, widow of Isahbel Cleveland, a revolutionary soldier, died at Hackensack on Monday, aged 92 years. She had 10 children, 55 grandchildren, 106 great grandchildren, 10 great great grandchildren, making a total of 181 offspring, 135 of which number were living at the time of her decease. She has a son aged 71, a granddaughter aged 56 years, a great granddaughter aged 26, and a great great granddaughter aged 7 years—all living at her death.

THE BEAR MAN.—There are hundred of thousands of people who profess to pole their votes always for "the best man." Can any one doubt that Buchanan is a thousand times better man than Fremont, so far as regards qualification and ability? The truth is, Buchanan possesses every desirable requisite for the office—honesty, capacity, and experience—while Fremont has no presidential qualifications whatever.

LITERARY.—We have received the following Magazines for September, the *Democratic Review*, *Knickerbocker*, *U. S. Magazine*, *Arthurs Home Magazine*. They are filled with choice and able papers, but our space will not allow us this week to notice them more particularly.

AN OLD GREEN DEAD.—Maj. Coverly, for a long time proprietor of Coverly's Hotel, in Harrisburg, died on last Monday week, at the advanced age of 75 years. He was well known throughout the State.

THE MISSOURI COMPROMISE—WHO COMPELLED ITS ABANDONMENT.

In relation to the abandonment of this measure, the Portland (Maine) *Argus* says, now the Northern restrictions are disregarded. The Compromise was in twelve months after its adoption, by the resistance which they made to the admission of Missouri, we had occasion to note recently.

An opposition, similar in its character was devoted against the admission of Arkansas, but without success.

The truth is, the Compromise represented the *general policy* of the government on the subject of slavery in the territories. This policy was the *policy of division*—prohibition above the line and freedom of choice below it, a policy not easily defended upon principle—not acceptable to the entire South—but acquiesced in by the majority of the country for the sake of peace. Wise men were unwilling to re open the slavery question, because they knew how difficult it would be to close it again; and they preferred to bear the ills they had; rather to risk new dangers and uncertain results.

Hence, when Texas was annexed to the Union in 1845, this same policy was applied to Texas. Mr. Buchanan was then a Senator from Pennsylvania, about to leave Congress for the Cabinet, and he expressed his satisfaction that the old adjustment had been continued. On this subject of slavery, reviewing, as he did, all the dangers which might grow out of its renewed agitation, Mr. Buchanan was always a man of peace. No statesman did more than he did, to prevent that disturbance of the compromise policy, which the Northern prohibitionists finally succeeded in accomplishing.

Soon after the Mexican war began, and while a bill was before the House, making a war appropriation, Mr. Wilmot, of Pennsylvania, moved a proviso to the bill that no part of the Territory to be acquired from Mexico should be open to the introduction of slavery. This was the "Wilmot Proviso." It was out of place, ill-timed, powerless for good, and prolific of evil. It fomented a new slavery agitation, wholly without necessity, aimed a blow at the Compromise policy, in advance of expected acquisitions, and although it failed of adoption at last, it was a most successful mischief.

The bill organizing the Territory of Oregon came up in the House at the same session. The whole of this Territory was north of 36 degrees 30 minutes, and slavery was excluded by the Compromise, but the South had taken alarm at the "Wilmot proviso," and in order to take the sense of the North, directly upon the question of abiding by the policy of 1820, Mr. Burt, of South Carolina moved the following amendment to that clause in the bill which excluded slavery from the Territory forever, viz:

"Inasmuch as the whole of said Territory lies North of 36 degrees 30 minutes North latitude, known as the line of the *Missouri Compromise*."

For this amendment, and in recognition of the Compromise, every Southern man in the House voted. The ayes were 82. The noes 113, and every man was from the North! The amendment failed and the Compromise was rejected. The bill itself failed at this session and Oregon remained unorganized.

Another bill to establish a Territorial government of Oregon came before Congress in 1848. Again, the anti-slavery clause was put into it, and *again* the Missouri Compromise was proposed, this time by a distinct proviso, which carried the line of 36 degrees 30 minutes to the Pacific Ocean. This proviso passed the Senate, every Southern Senator voting *for it* and twenty-two Northern Senators voting against it. The House refused to concur—yeas 82, nays 121. The South was unanimous in favor of it. As Oregon, however, was wholly *above* the line of 36 degrees 30 minutes, the Senate yielded, and allowed the bill to pass *with* the prohibitory clause, and *without* the proviso for extending the Compromise line to the Pacific. President Polk approved the bill, but explained his reasons for doing so in a special message. He referred to the position of Oregon, as being all above 36 degrees 30 minutes, to the Compromise as having given quiet to the Missouri controversy, and as having prevented a fierce agitation upon Texas, and then added:

"And it is because the provisions of this bill are not inconsistent with the terms of the Missouri Compromise, if extended from the Rio Grand to the Pacific Ocean, that I have not felt at liberty to withhold my sanction. Had it embraced territory south of that Compromise, the question presented for my consideration would have been of a far different character, and my action upon it must have corresponded with my convictions. Ought we, at this late day, in attempting to annul what has been so long established and acquiesced in, to extend sectional divisions and jealousies; to alienate the people of different portions of the Union from each other; and to endanger the existence of the Union itself."

This appeal was addressed to the Northern prohibitionists, who were then the only practical opponents of the Missouri Compromise. But it had no effect upon them. The Sewards and Giddings and Hamlins answered substantially to this question—"we ought"—and persued their war upon the policy of 1820. They had abandoned and spit upon the POLICY OF DIVISION, and had adopted the policy of the "WHOLE OR NONE." At the close of the war with Mexico, new Territories were acquired, as had been expected, and the *prohibitory policy* was urged upon them without delay. In vain, the Missouri Compromise was proposed repeatedly; in vain the South expressed its willingness for division of the Territories, in vain a portion of the Northern Democracy invoked a settlement on the old basis; the blood of the prohibitionists was up and they would make no terms. Everyone remembers the agitation that ensued. The two sections stood in hostile array against each other. Ordinary legislation was suspended. Men began to mutter *disunion*. The agitators rejoiced and clapped their hands. But good and wise men mourned. California, contrary to every prediction of the Wilmotites, had formed a free State Constitution, and now applied for admission—But, as in the case of Maine and Michigan, she was delayed in consequence of the demands of the prohibitionists.—WHAT WAS TO BE DONE? The Missouri policy had been overthrown. What was to supply its place? Then it was, that the great principle of POPULAR SOVEREIGNTY was invoked by Congress. Why debate we here, it is said, about what shall be the local institutions of the Territories? This is what the British Parliament might have done for its American Colonies: but why should an American Congress undertake to do it for an American Territory? LET THE PEOPLE OF THE TERRITORIES DECIDE FOR THEMSELVES!

This solution was so much in conformity with the the theory of our institutions, that it was impossible to resist it. The venerable Cass had prefigured it in his Nicholson Letters and it was now to be practically inaugurated as *the territorial policy* of the country. Seldom was the baptism of a principle attended by nobler sponsors. Clay and Cass and Webster united at the ceremony—Clay, with all the glorious patriotism of his youth and all the matured wisdom of his age—Cass venerable in years, weighty in judgment, and rejoicing at a consummation which he had approved in 1848—Webster, majestic in intellect, renowned in reputation, and now giving evidence of a broader range of thought and a more deeply patriotic heart, than his political opponents had ever thought he possessed. That speech of Webster's was, perhaps the turning point of the occasion. He spoke "*vera progidia*"—the *truth*, whether palatable or not—and he said:

"I am agaist agitators North and South. I am against local ideas North and South, and against all narrow and local contests. I am an American, and I know no locality in America. My heart, my sentiments, my judgment demand of me that I should pursue such a course as shall promote the good, and the harmony, and the Union of the whole country. This I shall do, God willing, to the end of the chapter."

Under such auspices was adopted the COMPROMISE OF 1850. The Missouri Policy had been killed off—not by Southern slave-holders, but by Northern prohibitionists—and the NEW POLICY—the policy of popular sovereignty—the policy of trusting the people—the policy of the Kansas bill—was substituted in its place. This policy was approved, or acquiesced in by every man who endorsed the territorial measures of 1850, by every man who sustained the *Democratic platform of 1852*, and by every Whig who supported General Scott upon the Whig platform of the same year. This is THE TRUTH OF HISTORY. The Democratic party did not kill off the Missouri policy.—THE MISSOURI COMPROMISE RECEIVED ITS DEATH BLOW FROM NORTHERN FREE SOILERS!

ANOTHER CLAY WHIG FOR BUCHANAN.—A. Murray McIlvaine, Esq., of Bucks county, who has been for many years, a leading and influential member of the old Clay Whig party, and who never ceased to follow the Whig banner as long as it waved over a national party, has written a long and eloquent letter to the editor of the Doylestown *Democrat*, in which he declares his determination to support Mr. Buchanan, as the only hope of defeating the sectional candidate, Fremont, whose election, he firmly believes, "would dissolve the Union, destroy the hopes of the world in the success of a free government, array one portion of the Confederacy against the other in horrid civil war, crush our commerce and manufacturing interests, and lead inevitably and of necessity to a military despotism which would extinguish forever the last ray of hope for freedom."

ARKANSAS.—The vote at the late election was the heaviest ever polled, and the proportion about two to one. The Democratic triumph is unprecedented. Out of a vote of some thirty-five or forty thousand, the majority of Elias N. Conway, the Democratic candidate for Governor, will be ten, if not twelve thousand. We have elected by overwhelming majorities, both our candidates for Congress; we have elected every one of the Circuit Judges; we have elected twelve out of the thirteen, if not the whole thirteen, State Senators; we have elected sixty-two or three of the seventy-five members of the General Assembly; and, finally, we have elected more than three fourths of the sheriffs, clerks and other county officers.

THE FILLMORE ELECTORAL TICKET.—The Norristown *Herald*, a full-blooded Fremont paper, appears to be pretty well satisfied with the Electoral Ticket recently nominated at Harrisburg by the professed friends of Fillmore and Donelson. It says:

"Thus we have five well ascertained Fremont men on the Fillmore Electoral Ticket.—

Caleb N. Taylor,	of the 7th district.	
G. W. Youngman,	" 25th	"
S. E. Duffield,	" 17th	"
John H. Wells,	" 20th	"
Henry D. Philips,	" 22d	"

There are said to be several others on the Ticket, of the same sentiments, and if they have been put on with a view of making a Fusion Ticket, we shall hail it with great satisfaction."

MASSACHUSETTS IN DANGER!—The Boston *Atlas* of Saturday, says:—"Affairs have assumed such an appearance in Massachusetts that unless we have at once a union of all Fremont men, *it is very possible that the State may give her electoral vote for James Buchanan.*" * * * "We say plainly, that up to this time, there has been no union of the FREMONT FORCES in Massachusetts; that there has been only folly, wrangling and dissension; that we have lost all power of exercising any influence upon our sister States."

THE MODERN WHITEFIELD.—During the year 1855, the Sunday morning sermons of the Rev. Mr. Spurgeon, of London, has been regularly published for one penny, or two cents, and some of them have reached as high a sale as 60,000 copies. These 53 sermons are now published in volume form, with a preface by Mr. Spurgeon, in which he states that he has documentary evidence that every sermon has been "an instrument in the conversion of sinners to Christ."

GAMBLERS DECLARED VAGRANTS.—E. Belmar, Charles Capiter and John Castello, said to belong to the "sporting" fraternity, were arrested at Chicago, last week, charged as vagrants under a clause of the city ordinance which declares that "any person who shall lead an idle, immoral and profligate course of life, shall be deemed a vagrant," etc. They were fined $15 each, on the payment of which they were released.

NEW POTATOES sold in the vicinity of Louisville at $4 per barrel.

For the Democratic Watchman.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—Since the fact has become known among the circle of my acquaintances and friends, that my vote is to be given to the nominees of the Cincinnati Convention, at the next ensuing election, rumors have reached me of charges that have been as unnecessary as to hinge some dishonest and impure motives; intimating that I was truckling for some petty office. This circumstance seems to make it necessary that I should do, what my private feelings, under ordinary circumstances, would condemn, to wit: make known to all who may feel sufficient interest in the subject, to read, through your columns, and by your permission, the reasons that have induced me to be a Democrat. In direct response to the imputation above alluded to, suffice it to say, that I ask no party favors. I have neither the vanity nor the desire to set myself up as a candidate for any office in the gift of the people, and the only privilege I ask, is that of being an American citizen. However, in these troublous times of political controversy and dangerous agitation, it is certainly the imperative duty of every freeman, to examine calmly, deliberately and judiciously, all sides of the great question to be passed upon by the American people, and uninfluenced by prejudice, uncontrolled by former associations, unmelled by personal influence, unintimidated by persecution, to form his conclusions, and mark out the course he intends to pursue, fully appreciating the responsibility that rests upon him as one of the sovereigns (for in this country every man is sovereign) of the most free, happy and prosperous nation that ever existed on the face of the earth. It has been my intention thus to do, and the determination at which I have arrived, is the legitimate result of calm reflection, I am resolved to pursue, until convinced that I am in error. Surely no member of the Democratic party can question the validity of my reasons for acting and battling in their ranks, unless it be some party-serving politician, actuated by the motives he has imputed to me. No member of the opposition, who will assume the undeniable right that belongs to him, of free thought and free speech, and examines, after the manner of a candid inquirer for living Truth, the various platforms, together with their inherent, adherent and coherent qualities, and speaks the result of his faithful inquiry, can condemn the patriotic principles and conservative measures of that party, which, throughout the long years that have intervened since the adoption of our Constitutional League, has always been that Constitution's jealous guardian, protecting it from the incendiary torch of fanaticism, from the murderous hand of the assassin. That same party has been the almost omnipotent, omnipresent, infallible protector of our country itself, in every hour of danger coming to its rescue, and casting about our sacred institutions the impenetrable helmet of Democratic principles, in which all parties have at last been compelled to acquiesce—rescuing us from the calamities of financial revolution and distraction—protecting the laboring man from the monopoly and imposition of manufacturers and capitalists—preserving the honor of our nation in foreign courts, and maintaining her dignity at home. To those who within a year or two have abandoned the principles and the party for whom they had before done service, and under whose banner they had proudly borne honors. I would ask, what does the Democratic party advocate now, that it did not then? What new reform does the popular voice ask, or the nation's weal demand, that the party of your former affections and attachment refuses to grant? Is it the spirit of your dreams, or your parties that the charge has infected? Oh! Demoralds of old, pause in your erratic course! Reflect before you unite your hand with your former political enemies to paralyze our country's vitality, and shock the national heart. Democracy is always right. It can not be otherwise. Any one who will do himself the justice to study its philosophy, cannot fail to discern therein the vital element of popular government. Its principles are as varied as our country's interests, its platform is broad enough for the entire nation to stand upon, and solid, firm enough for the civilized world. To descend from generalities, let us briefly particularize. Between whom is the present contest? Gerrit Smith has no hopes of success. Millard Fillmore is abandoned by his own friends, who have said that he cannot expect a single electoral vote. The battle then must be between James Buchanan, the Pennsylvania statesman—the hero of political conflict in days gone by—the patriot of forty years—the shrewd diplomatist of foreign courts—the ripe scholar and perfect gentleman, and John Charles Fremont, the Rocky Mountain ranger—the surveyor of wild and unexplored paths—the speculating millionaire—the exponent of those who deny the Bible, disregard the sanctity of the Constitution, and in certain emergencies would consent to "let the Union slide." Between these two candidates the people of the American nation must decide. The people of the North, especially, have a fearful responsibility resting upon them. Will they vote for a sectional candidate, and give their aid to elect to the Chief Magistracy of the Union, a man, with whom a great portion of the country can have no possible sympathy—among whom he will get but few votes, and by thus violating at the national ballot-box, the sacred and conservative compromises of the Constitution that binds us together, blast our national hopes forever.

Slavery is a local institution. It existed at the time of the adoption of the Constitution—it was a source of contention and difficulty then—and any one who will read the debates in the Convention, will discover that the vexatious question was settled then, by men of practical experience, prudent foresight and sage philosophy, better than the agitators of popular opinion would ever do, if given full sway. It was settled then on the principles of a compromise, and this broad land could only be harmonized and consolidated by mutual concessions. The question of slavery can only be peaceably and happily controlled now, on the Democratic principle of State Sovereignty—and when the voice of the people of any State is legitimately expressed by a bona fide majority of its voters, that voice should be the law of the State, and should receive no indignant rebuke from the citizens of other States, who may deem themselves fortunate in not having this *dark* course hanging over their confines. The sober thinking, Constitution-loving citizens all over the nation, will take this view of the subject, and their invincible power will be felt after they have deposited their ballots quietly for the conservative national candidates of the Democracy. Laboring men, James Buchanan never made a speech derogatory to your interests. Listen what he says in that patriotic oratorical effort that his enemies stigmatize as his "top sent speech:" "From my soul I respect the laboring man." "That society is most prosperous where labor commands the greatest reward." The strongest proof that those who charge him with intending to reduce the price of labor, are self conscious that they slander him, is found in the fact that they dare not give publicity to that entire speech. Baldered extracts, with forced constructions to suit the contrasted views of the party that may choose to torture them, can be taken from any man's speech, and his sentiments turned into the reverse of his intentions. Read for yourselves, voters! Take not what I say, rely not on the assertions of your own family newspapers, but get the authentic source, and examine for yourselves. If any allegation is made here that you doubt, apply to it the test, that truth alone will bear, and you will then believe that James Buchanan is the laboring man's candidate.

The Cincinnati Platform contains no endorsement of Kansas outrages—promulgates nothing inconsistent with the unchangeable principles of Democracy—no clause that violates the people's power, when legally expressed. My investigation has fully satisfied me that the charges of the opposition on this point, are as false, base, and calculating, as all their other slanders, with which they seek to corrupt the popular mind, and advance their antipatriotic ends. Let all examine for themselves. Popular clamor and public indignation is no criterion by which to judge of the correctness of any principle or proposition. In the days of the United States Bank excitement, the fearless Jackson who could not be intimidated when in the execution of what he believed to be right, was more bitterly condemned and outrageous than the man who have had the boldness to repeal the Missouri Compromise. Those who were most bitter against the "veto" and the removal of the deposits, are now compelled by the force of practical demonstration, to admit that Jackson was right. Whether they are triumphant or not, it will not be so long, in the humble opinion of the writer, until all parties admit the wisdom, expediency, and correctness of every plank in the Cincinnati Platform.

The Harrisburg *Telegraph*, the organ of the State administration, and a standard Democratic paper, candidly admits the importance of Fremont to the Democracy, and frankly states that the issue to be presented to the people "but one may be properly stated. It is the single question of freedom or slavery for Kansas."

Is it possible that the most enlightened, prosperous and flourishing nation on the face of the globe, extending over twenty-four degrees of latitude and 67 degrees of longitude, with a population of over twenty-six millions, has no interests to protect no policy to advance, nothing else to do but to interfere with the inhabitants of a remote territory and secure for them the institutions they desire to have accompany them? Can it be true that a President of the United States of America is to be elected, and his election warmly contested on a single question of whether the negroes shall be free or slaves? So says the Harrisburg *Telegraph*. The writer of these remarks has other issues—other interests—other great and important questions to be passed upon.

Ancient Republics whose history is all that exists of them, spent much of the decline of their existence in contending such men and such measures, and placing in the chair of State men of little or no experience in the science of statesmanship. That every day brings something new is a familiar truism, and even admitting the truth of the above quotation from the *Telegraph*, vast and important questions will undoubtedly arise in the course of the next four years, that will require prompt action governed by the wisdom of experience to regulate. James Buchanan is a Pennsylvanian. The Democrats of his native State have long and anxiously looked forward to the day when their favorite statesman would be nominated for the highest place in the gift of the American people. That day has now come, and his fellow citizens will take a pride in the success that bears his name and do justice to that honest feeling of state pride that animates the breast of every true American. Many of them, if his age, would have been proud to cast their votes for the sage of Wheatland, are now already against him. Why is it? Has he changed? The answer is no. They themselves have been made the subjects of the imposition of political tricks. They have been gulled and coaxed and influenced until they believe it is right to oppose him. Calm reflection will restore them "to their first love" before the election.

James Buchanan will make a good President.—He has the experience and wisdom to do so, and human suspicion cannot surmise a motive for him to do otherwise. He is old and fast sees his end approaching. The Patriarch tinge has woven his threads of silver among his once sunny locks, and left the marks of his heavy hand upon his frame—Should he be elected to the office that the people desire to see him adorn, the lofty limits of his ambition will have been attained. Further political aspirations cannot influence him, and it will be his pride and he never can, if his administration go down to posterity under a cloud of shame, and his name remain behind him encircled with glory—his memory consecrated with the veneration of a grateful nation. I am confident that posterity, which always does justice while contemporaries seldom do, will accord to his administration the honor due to the actions of a pure statesman, and will rank it with those of Washington, Jefferson, Adams and Jackson.

If a good and pure president was ever needed it is now, and if an American citizen should ever place importance upon his vote, and consider well, before he casts it, it is now. Now when the country is agitated and alarmed—now when great questions are open that firmness and resolution can alone decide and control—when disunion with all its alarming consequences is threatening to engulph us.—Let every voter then ask himself before he votes, Who is the best man for the times? We answer James Buchanan, because

1. He has experience as a statesman.
2. He is a pure patriot.
3. He is national in his views, and stands upon a national platform.
4. He is the friend of the laboring man and has invariably advocated their interests.
5. There is no issue now before the people, that the Cincinnati Platform does not fairly meet, on Republican principles, and on that platform James Buchanan stands.
6. He is a Pennsylvanian, and will protect Pennsylvania interests.
7. There is no imaginary motive why he should not make a good president, and leave behind him a glorious administration.
8. His opponents are anti Democratic, sectional, and inexperienced, and our Constitution would be desecrated by an anti Democratic administration.

Such are some of the reasons that have induced my political action, and which I have been precluded upon by the force of circumstances to make public. To give them all would be tedious, and I have only to say that if any one should discover an absence of logical connection, or a feebleness of reasoning in this letter they will attribute it not to the weakness of the cause but of the advocate.

That a healthy reaction of popular sentiment and the proper appeal to American patriotism, may avert the evils that a prosperous Republican people are too likely to invite, and in the language of Aristides the noblest of the Athenians when banished by the Ostracism from the land he loved, "may the people of America never see the day which shall force them regretfully to remember James Buchanan, and call in vain for his assistance.

Now, Messrs. Editors, I have not sought that purposely to appear before the public, but the inquiries of friends, and solicitation of others, have forced me to this lengthy explanation, and in conclusion, I have only to say, that however much my "declaration of principles" may be criticised, or the writer of it arraigned in the sanctums of opposing editors, I have made no assertion that I do not feel fully prepared to defend at any time or place. Hoping that the candidates who stand between our beloved Constitution and disunion, may be triumphantly elected, I am very respectfully yours.

THO. C. MITCHELL.

FREMONT'S BEEF SPECULATION

An examination of the *official* documents laid before Congress by the late President Taylor, will show that Col. John C. Fremont, when in command of his regiment in California, made a contract for six hundred cows. These cows were purchased by him under pretence that they were needed for beef for the troops, and the sum of $6,975 was paid for them by the government. These animals were never used by the soldiers, but were delivered to a man named Abel Stearns, with whom Fremont had made an agreement to take and keep them on the shares for three years as his (Fremont's) *private property*.

We repeat, this fact is officially stated in a letter addressed to Adjutant General Jones, at Washington City, by Col. Mason of the first regiment of U. S. Dragoons, who had been called upon to foot the bill for the General Government.

Just think of it. An officer in the U. S. Army to buy six hundred cows, ostensibly for beef for his regiment, at the public expense, and then make a contract with a private individual to take the cows and breed them on shares for three years! Monstrous! And yet this fact is officially stated, and accompanied by documents to prove the allegation. Will the honest yeomanry of the country support any man for the high office of President of the United States who is guilty of such an act of fraud, corruption and peculation? To assert it, is to libel the American people.

It is not to be wondered at that George Law, the great steamship monopolist and rusty musket