

THE VOLUNTEER.

John B. Brantley, Editor and Proprietor.
CARLISLE, THURSDAY, DEC. 20, 1849.

AGENCY.

W. V. PALMER, Esq., is authorized agent for procuring subscriptions, receiving contributions and making collections for the American Volunteer, at his office, N. W. corner of Third and Chestnut streets, Philadelphia.

Democratic State Central Committee.

The members of the Democratic State Committee are requested to meet at Bruner's Hotel, in Harrisburg, on Tuesday the 29th January, 1850, at 3 o'clock, P. M. for the purpose of fixing the time and place for the meeting of the next Democratic State Convention.

J. GLANCY JONES, Chairman.

G. G. WASTCOCK, Secretary.

DELEGATION.

"We have been requested to state that the new Church of the 'United Brethren in Christ', at Churchtown, Cumberland county, will be dedicated to the service of Almighty God, on Sunday next, the 23d instant. The public, without respect to denomination, is invited to attend.

THE HOLIDAYS.

Our merchants, booksellers, confectioners, jewellers, and dealers generally, have supplied themselves liberally with articles suitable for holiday presents—articles adapted to the taste and circumstances of all classes. Give them all a call. Christmas "comes but once a year."

CHRISTMAS'S HEAD QUARTERS.

"The finest assortment of groceries, in the way of fruits, nuts, cakes, confectionery, toys, &c., may be found at 'Krispinkin's Head Quarters', kept by our friend MONTAGUE, in North Hanover street. He is fully prepared for the festive season, his assortment being large, varied, and complete. His store looks splendidly and his shelves and counters fairly groan under the weight of good things. Give him an early call.

A PRESENT.

Mr. MOVYAN, will please consider our beaver touched, and receive our sincere thanks for the magnificent present of delicious sweetmeats with which he favored us. Mr. M. is a gentleman of decided taste and liberality, and is always mindful of the printer about holiday times.

WE ACKNOWLEDGE.

The receipt of a copy of Mr. TAYLOR'S address, before the Ladies' Society of Dickinson College, delivered at the late Commencement. The subject, "History as a branch of National Literature," is treated with great ability. Mr. Taylor's man of decided talent, and scholarship. The address can be had at Martin's Book Store.

FINE HOGS.

Our townsman Mr. W. B. MATTHEWS, killed two hogs of his own raising, a few days since, which weighed together 935 pounds.

DIETREPPING ACCIDENT.

We learn that a son of Mr. WM. B. MULLIN, of Paperport, met with a distressing accident a few days since, by which he lost all the fingers of one hand. He was at work in the Paper Mill, and, as we learn, his hand was caught in the machinery, and crushed in a most shocking manner.

THE HUNTER RIFLES.

"The Hunter Rifles," the new company of Volunteers lately formed in this Borough, are rapidly acquiring a competent knowledge of the drill. They have the advantage of the instruction of Sergeant Major WILLIAMSON, of the Army, who, though young in years, is a veteran in service, and a first-rate drill officer. Col. Cook, the gentlemanly and obliging commander at this station, is entitled to the thanks of this company for thus giving them one of his best non-commissioned officers as an instructor.

CANAL COMMISSIONER.

We notice by our exchange papers that the Hon. NIMROD STRICKLAND, of Chester County, has been recommended in several counties as a suitable person to receive the nomination for Canal Commissioner by the next Democratic State Convention. Mr. Strickland is well known as the able editor of that old sentinel of Democracy, the "Westchester Republican." He is a man of enlarged views, of strict integrity, and a unquestioned Democracy. He received the appointment of Associate Judge of Chester County, from the late Gov. Shunk, whose full confidence he always possessed. We have known Judge S. long and well, and feel free to declare that he is, in every respect, well qualified for the Canal Board. He is an able writer, a man of quick business habits, of cool and discriminating judgment, and identified with no cliques. Should he be selected as the standard-bearer of the Democratic party, his election would be certain by an old-fashioned Democratic majority.

FEES OF PROTHONOTARY.

HEAVY VERDICT.—The District Court at Pittsburg, on Tuesday last, rendered a verdict of \$5,111 against Alfred Sutton, Esq. (deceased) and his executors, in favor of Pennsylvania, for a balance of fees due the State by Mr. Sutton, who, during his lifetime, was Prothonotary of Allegheny county. The claim arose in this wise: Mr. Sutton construed the law in relation to the fees of the office to mean that the amount received was to be divided with the State after the salary of the office, \$1500, and the amount of clerk hire, were deducted. The Supreme Court have decided that the amount of the fees after the \$1500 was to be divided with the State, and that the Prothonotary was bound to pay his own clerk hire.

IMPROVEMENTS AT HARRISBURG.

The little capital of our State, which has been dull and languishing for many years, has at length caught the prevailing spirit of improvement, and is pushing a head in foreign air. The last Keystone furnishes us with several interesting items relative to the progress of recent enterprises undertaken at Harrisburg. The Cotton Mill, commenced last June, has been run up, and enclosed by a slate roof, and gazed, so as to be ready for the inside work. It will probably be in operation by the opening of the spring navigation. The new Gas Works are progressing, so that they will probably be in readiness to light the Capitol buildings at the meeting of the Legislature. The Inmate Asylum, near the town, has gone on lately with extraordinary rapidity, and the roof is nearly completed. It is an immense edifice, four hundred feet long, and averaging four stories high. Mr. Haviland, the architect, has dispatched much time as well as energy in the erection. The work has been executed under the immediate direction of Mr. Wells, the same accomplished gentleman who was Mr. Haviland's chief assistant in the erection of our County Prison.

THE PHILADELPHIA TIMES.

The Philadelphia Times says Col. J. Watson Webb, among the first friends of Gen. Taylor, and who by some slight of hand came peculiar to Secretary Clayton, received the appointment of Charge to Austria, is likely to be recalled soon, as public indignation is giving its impetus to the circulation of papers, to suspend diplomatically intercourse with Austria, by reason of its tyrannical, its barbarous punishments, its sanguinary atrocities, and judicial murders in Hungary, Austria, and Italy. How Mr. Clayton will withstand this avalanche of public opinion remains to be seen. We suppose he will take this ground for the acknowledgment of the independence of the gallant Hungarians and Italians.

PUT THEM DOWN!

We hold that the man who threatens the peace of the Union, by declaring in favor of its dissolution, is guilty of treason against his government, and should be treated as a traitor. It has become quite a habit of late, with Southern members of Congress, to speak flippantly about a dissolution of the Union. These demagogues have so long pursued this course, without receiving much notice, that they have become bold, and scarcely a question comes up for debate that they do not gabble about a "dissolution." It is time that a stop should be put to these like things. The Member of Congress who so far forgets his duty as to express himself in favor of a dissolution of the Union, is a traitor at heart, and should be expelled from his seat, without a moment's hesitation.

We have been led to these remarks by reading the short speech of Mr. TOOMBS, a Whig Member of Congress from Georgia, delivered in the House of Representatives a few days since. It is enough to cause the patriot to shudder when sentiments like these are uttered within the walls of the Capitol. Mr. Toombs declared "before the House and the country, and in the presence of the living God, that, in a certain contingency (that is, the prohibition of slavery in the territories, and its abolition in the District), he is for dissolution; and if his physical courage be equal to the maintenance of his convictions right to the end, he will die for it. And all this in the name of the Union, and in the name of the Union."

Now, we say that this Mr. Toombs should be expelled from the House of Representatives. No man who is an American at heart could be capable of uttering a sentiment like the above. It is really strange that Southern men cannot see the error they commit in thus giving vent to their feelings. A dissolution of the Union! Such a thing is impossible. Let Southern men apply the torch if they dare; let them attempt a dissolution, and the people will soon fly to the rescue of the Union, and punish the disturbers of her peace. The people of the United States well know that a dissolution of the Union would be death to both the North and the South, and knowing this, they will, by force, if necessary, prevent so great a calamity.

Would that we had a Jackson at the helm of State just now. If a man like "old hickory" occupied the Presidential chair, we would not hear Southern men so ready in promulgating treason. The weakness of the National Administration is one great cause of the present state of affairs. Gen. Taylor is regarded by men of all parties as the President in name, and nothing more; and those who desire to threaten a dissolution of the Union think they can do so with perfect impunity. But, should they attempt to carry their threats into execution, they will find their mistake. The people of the several States—those who appreciate the blessings we enjoy—would act independently of the administration. The people themselves would take the matter in hand, and rescue the Union from danger.

FROM WASHINGTON.

At the time of going to press (Wednesday afternoon), the House of Representatives had not chosen a Speaker, and heaven only knows when an organization will take place. From present appearances the House is not a whit further advanced in that respect than it was the first day of the session. Letter writers at Washington think it probable that the year 1850 will pass without witnessing the organization of Congress. On Monday the fifty-first ballot was taken, and resulted as follows:—Whitcomb, 175; Boyd, Democrat, 87; Stephens, V. of Penna., 9; Morehead, W. 19; Potter, D. 15; Cobb, D. 1; Conrad, W. 2; Strong, D. 3; Disney, D. 3; Outlaw, W. 2; Free Soil vote, 7; scattering, 6. No choice being effected the House adjourned at 3 o'clock.

A SPICAN IN THE HOUSE.

Previous to proceeding in the forty first ballot for Speaker of the House of Representatives, on the 13th inst., the following disgraceful scene took place: Mr. Duer, a proposition to restore the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. H. Cobb) into the Speaker's chair has been offered; that is, calling on this side of the House to make an unconditional surrender. I am willing to organize with a speaker of either of the two sides—under any Speaker but a disunionist. I will not vote for any such person to occupy the chair.

Mr. Bayly was understood to inquire if the gentleman regarded the Democratic nominee (Mr. H. Cobb) as a disunionist?

Mr. Duer was understood to reply in the negative.

A Member. Who then?

Mr. Duer was understood to point to Mr. Meade.

Mr. Meade. It is false.

Mr. Duer. You are a liar.

[Here great commotion arose in the hall—members from all sides rushing towards the neighborhood in which these gentlemen stood. All seemed disposed to advise and take part in the matter.]

The Sergeant-at-Arms bore the music into the scene of the disturbance, and after some time, when the Chamber had quieted down sufficiently to permit him to be heard:

Mr. Duer continuing, asked pardon of the House for what had transpired, on his part, derogatory to the rules of order.

The editor of a country paper says that he never saw but one ghost, and that was the ghost of a slinger who died without paying for his paper.

"'Twas terrible to look upon—the ghast of Hamlet wasn't a circumstance."

THE STATE OF KENTUCKY.

The State of Kentucky has appropriated the sum of \$15,000 for the erection of an appropriate monument, in testimony of the gallantry, daring and valor of her chivalrous sons, who fell in the war of her country. It is to be an obelisk, sixty feet in height, and is to be constructed of the finest Italian marble.

CLOSING OF THE STATE CANALS.

We learn that if the State Canals are not sooner closed by ice, the Canal Commissioners have ordered the water to be drawn off on the 29th inst.

THE WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT OF THE PHILADELPHIA LEDGER.

This correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger thus describes the miscreant who threatened the life of Mr. Clay:

"The person by whom the life of Hon. Henry Clay was threatened is a renowned leader, who afflicts to be crazy, and has been living between here and Baltimore for several years past. He has no visible means of obtaining a livelihood, but by obtaining subscribers to a paper, of which the first number has never been published. The other day he advised a gentleman, by telegraph, that he had drawn on him for \$10,000, and was quite innocent of receiving an answer. He tried to pick a quarrel with the President of the telegraph office, but was quickly transferred from the office to the spacious avenue. He is spoken of as a man who has not enough of courage to kill a chicken, much less to attempt the life of a hoary statesman.

MADE A JUDY OF HIMSELF.

From the proceedings of the House of Representatives of the 12th instant, we take the following abstract of his doings. It will be remembered that the 40th ballot for the election of Speaker, and which lacked but two votes of an election for Speaker, and he doubt would have been elected on the next ballot, but for an imprudent act of his own. Many of our Democratic readers will remember Mr. Brown at the young man who addressed the Democratic meeting in this place in 1847. We have long known him—he is a very clever man, and we are sorry he has made so complete a judy of himself as to let—He never should have answered Winlot by letter.—We are astonished that a man of his intelligence could be guilty of so great an error. But to the proceedings:

Mr. Winlot thanked those who had honored him with their votes, and expressed the hope that they would not again vote for him.

The House then proceeded to the election of Speaker. Two hundred and twenty-six votes were cast. Mr. Brown received 119; Duer 25; Morehead 17; Stanley 18; McGaughey 17; Whitcomb 17; and the rest scattering. Mr. Brown required but two more votes to elect him. Messrs. Allen, Winlot, Giddings, and another free-soiler, voted for him; and several Democrats who voted for him yesterday, declined to do so to-day.

Mr. Stanley offered a resolution, proposing that the Whig and Democratic parties appoint three members each, to confer, together relative to a proper person to be chosen Speaker. He thought there was "something rotten in Denmark."

Mr. Brown had given him votes but he did not desire them further, to extend to him their favor.

Mr. Bayly replied to the remarks made by Mr. Stanley. He said that an insinuation had been thrown out that there was a coalition between the Democrats and the free soiler.

Mr. Ashmun rose merely to say that there were written engagements—such was the rumor. [There were several Democratic members who rose and protested.]

Mr. Bayly said that the report was without foundation in truth.

Mr. Ashmun knew nothing of the matter, except that Mr. Brown repeated that there had been no understanding or arrangement. He did not believe that there were five men who were capable of entering into such a one. Mr. Giddings chose to vote for Mr. Brown; the Southern members did not vote.

Mr. Ashmun asked whether there had not been a correspondence between the Democratic candidate and the free soiler.

Mr. Bayly replied that if there was, he was not aware of it.

Mr. Ashmun. [Laughter.]

Mr. Bayly. [Laughter.]

Mr. Ashmun repeated that he knew no more than common rumor.

Mr. Duer made a humorous speech, in the course of which he opposed the resolution, and contended that not the two parties proper, only, but every member should be heard in the choice of a Speaker. Mr. Duer said that he was not in favor of saying that a correspondence had not taken place. But the correspondence was not of the character intimated.

Mr. W. J. Brown rose to explain, and stated the substance of the letter which he wrote to Mr. Winlot in relation to the subject.

Mr. Winlot added a few words, saying that he addressed Mr. Brown a note, asking him whether he would, in the organization of committees, in case he should be elected Speaker, give every section of the country an opportunity to be heard.

Mr. Thaddeus Stevens asked Mr. Winlot whether by his conversation with Mr. Brown, he had reason to believe that a majority of the committee for the District of Columbia, Territories, and the Judiciary, would be those in favor of free soil.

Mr. Winlot replied that he had reason to believe that a majority would be given to free northern men; nothing more, and that was the inference he drew from the conversation.

Mr. Inge inquired what he meant by northern men.

Mr. Winlot said, men who would sit in committee, from political considerations or attachment to party, and especially to this Administration, seek to secure an expression of the will of the people of the North.

Mr. Inge. I understand Northern men, as committed in the Whig Party.

Mr. Winlot. I mean by my means.

Mr. Stanley. What does that mean?

Mr. Winlot. That they shall say no further. [There were cries of "Read the letter," &c.]

It was read, as follows, by Mr. Brown:

Hon. DAVID WINLOT:—

Dear Sir:—In answer to yours of this date, I will state that should I be elected Speaker, I will constitute the Committee on the District of Columbia, on the Territories, and on the Judiciary, in such manner as shall be satisfactory to your friends and to yourself. I am the representative of a free State, and have always been opposed to the extension of slavery; and further, think that the federal Government should be relieved from all responsibility in slavery where they have the constitutional power to abolish it.

W. J. BROWN.

Mr. Duer again addressed the House, in vindication of his course.

Mr. Bayly offered a few remarks in the course of which he said that Mr. Brown solicited him to declare that he was against the Winlot proviso; and he thanked the Whigs for throwing out the hint that revealed the history made known to the House.

Mr. Harris of Tenn. had voted for Mr. Brown, and desired, if it could be done, to have his name altered on the record.

Messrs. Bart, M'Clun, Venables, Hubbard, Stanton, of Tenn., and Woodward, acknowledged that they had voted for Mr. Brown, and were glad to see the House divided on the slavery question, believing to the contrary of what was revealed by the letter.

Messrs. Robinson and Dunham defended Mr. Brown.

At this stage of the proceedings the House was in the utmost excitement. The Southern members insulted Mr. Brown in every possible manner, and threats of personal violence were made. They called him a "traitor," "infidel," "effeminate," &c. After a general attempt to vindicate his conduct, but they were not listened to. Mr. Brown then declined being a candidate longer for the Speakership, and the House amid great excitement adjourned.

THE U. S. SENATE.

The Washington correspondent of the Public Ledger, in his letter dated the 15th inst. says:

"The Senate to-day came to the conclusion to inform the President that they are ready to receive from him such nominations as he may see proper to present for selection. I heard a Senator express his bitter disapprobation at the rule of the Senate which binds that body to executive session with closed doors. He wanted them to be thrown open, so that the people may understand the motives which may actuate Senators in the rejection of nominees for important offices. That the Senate is determined to throw back upon the administration the onus that no removals were made without charges against the respectably, honesty, and ability of the persons in office, seems by a sort of tacit agreement among all the Democratic Senators, without distinction, to have been determined upon. Wherever an honest and capable man had been removed, his successor will be disappointed, unless the administration comes forward openly and without reserve, and declares that such was not the ruling principle of their actions. Without such a declaration on their part, there will be war between it and the Senate, and what is worse, there will be no constructive force in the Senate among the Whig party which will interest in favor of the victims. The Whigs themselves are eager for the fray, and will do their utmost to bring the guilty to justice.

SUCCESS OF A MINISTER.

A letter from Cincinnati dated the 15th inst. says:

"The Rev. James H. Perkins, Pastor of the Unitarian Church, in this city, committed suicide last night, by jumping from the ferry boat into the river, whilst crossing. He left his wife, sick and memory, and was laboring under temporary insanity. He was much esteemed by all who knew him, and leaves an interesting family to mourn his untimely end.

There are three things that affect a man's spirits—a dull day—an empty pocket—and being in love.

MERRY CHRISTMAS.

As appropriate to the occasion we insert the following admirable production of Professor C. C. Moore. It will be read with delight by all our young readers!

ANNUAL VISIT OF ST. NICHOLAS.

'Twas the night before Christmas, when, all through the house, Not a creature was stirring, not even a mouse;

The stockings were hung in the chimney with care, In hope that St. Nicholas soon would be there;

The children were nestled all snug in their beds, While visions of sugar-plum danced through their heads;

And mamma in her 'kerchief, and I in my cap, Had just settled our brains for a long winter nap—

When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter, I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter!

Away to the window I flew like a flash, To see what was the matter and what was the cause.

The moon on the breast of the new fallen snow, Gave the lustre of mid-day to objects below;

When, what to my wondering eyes should appear, A single and odd-looking figure drew near—

'Twas a little old driver, so tall and so thin, With a little old hat, so black and so shagreen;

I knew it a minute it must be St. Nick, More rapid than eagles his couriers they came;

And he whistled and chuckled, and called them by name: 'Now, touch it down, Daniel! now, Francis! now, Vason!

Now, Lewis! Jones! and Harun! Merrill! good and lawful men, who being charged and sworn to inquire for the Commonwealth, when, how and by what means the said dead man came to his death,

upon their oaths do say—that these parts of the human frame have been identified and proved to belong to Dr. George Parkin, late a citizen of said Boston, now aged sixty years—that he came to his death by violence, on the 23d day of November last, or between the hours of one and a half of the clock, in the afternoon of that day, (about which time he entered alive, and in good health, into the Massachusetts Medical College building, situate in North Street, street in said Boston), and the hour of four o'clock in the afternoon of the 30th day of November last, (when a portion of said remains were found concealed in and under the apartments of Dr. John

Webster, of Cambridge, in the vicinity of Middlesex, in said College building), and the building the residue of said remains were afterwards discovered—that he was killed in said college building by a blow or blows, wound or wounds, inflicted upon him with some instrument weapon to the nature unknown, and by means not yet known to said jurors, and that said blow or blows, wound or wounds, were inflicted upon him; and said means were used by the hands of said Dr. John W. Webster, by whom he was killed. In witness whereof the said Coroner and Jurors to this Inquisition have set their hands and seals, the day and year above said.

The Boston Transcript, speaking of the verdict:

CHRISTMAS—THE POOL.

On this day of general rejoicing, it is not too much to ask of those who have been blessed, by a bountiful Providence, in "their basket and their store," that out of their own abundance they should contribute something to those who are suffering the rigorous hardships of poverty. The following from the pen of Mrs. R. F. Seymour, which we take from the Spectator (N. Y. Star), is a forcible appeal to those who are surrounded with abundance to "forget not the poor."

"Those who are themselves blessed with the comforts of life are apt to forget the necessities of others. There is a habit of mind, and a luxury of habit, that there are those who are eating their last crust, and know not how they shall obtain another morsel; they forget while seated in their comfortable homes by warm fires, or as they enwrap themselves in their blankets, to encounter the chill air, that there are those who are shivering half dead from the icy fingers of their last cold, while the piercing air is blowing through every crevice of their miserable habitations.

There is superfluous wealth enough in our village to relieve the poor in our midst; and in what better manner could the gifts of God, so abundantly bestowed upon many of our citizens, be employed? In what better way could they express their gratitude and love than by helping to give to the poor?

"You who have been prosperous in your various callings, the past year, as you count your gains, forget not the poor—the starving, shivering, homeless, and friendless ones around you. You who are surrounded by all that nature has to give, who are housed by your tables with the various delicacies of the season to entertain a fashionable assembly; who are planning gay parties and expensive balls to lend additional enchantment to the festivities of the season—forget not the poor! You, the rich, give and do not dwell on the gifts of God, so abundantly bestowed upon many of our citizens, be employed? In what better way could they express their gratitude and love than by helping to give to the poor?"

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