

THE VOLUNTEER.

John B. Bratton, Editor and Proprietor.

CARLETON, THURSDAY, MARCH 19, 1851.

An Apprentice to the Printing Business.

WILL be taken at this office, if application be immediately made. A boy from the country, about 15 or 16 years of age, will be preferred. He must be of good moral character, and possess of a thorough English education.

Democratic Ward Meetings.

The Democrats of the East Ward, are requested to meet at Hoffman's Hotel, at early candle light, on SATURDAY evening next, for the purpose of making arrangements for the spring election.

TERRIBLE CONFLAGRATION!

About a quarter past 12 o'clock, on Wednesday morning last, our citizens were again alarmed by the cry of fire, and on proceeding in the direction of the city, we perceived the flames issuing from the stable attached to North Hanover street, and where the fire is said to have originated. The wind at the time was blowing strong from the north west, and the flames spread with incredible rapidity. The various fire companies were soon upon the spot, but owing to their inefficient organization, and the great difficulty experienced in obtaining a timely supply of water, their efforts to check the progress of the flames were entirely unavailing. The flames spread in an easterly direction, destroying in its progress a large number of frame dwelling houses, warehouses, stables, ice-houses, &c., until they extended to the Lutheran church, on Bedford street, which was soon enveloped in a dense volume of flame, and every effort made to extinguish this large and beautiful building, was without avail. The dwelling house of Dr. John Zollinger, nearly opposite the church, was next consumed, and from thence the flames extended to the large Hotel, on the corner of East High and Bedford streets, owned and occupied by Mr. Joseph Hoiser, which, together with a frame building attached, occupied by Mr. Jacob Low, was soon entirely consumed. At this point the progress of the devouring element was arrested, and on East High street, but the work of devastation still went on in Louthier street and in Dickinson alley. In Louthier street, several valuable dwelling houses were destroyed, embracing two large frame tenement houses, the property of Mr. B. E. Shapley, and occupied by Mrs. Rhinehart and Mr. W. F. Friday; a small frame house, owned by Mrs. Hoover; the house owned and occupied by the family of the late Isaac Todd, Esq.; and a brick house belonging to the heirs of Isaac Bell, deceased, and occupied by the family of Sheriff Hoiser. These buildings, together with the greater part of the furniture contained therein, were entirely consumed.

On the alley in which the fire originated, several small tenements and quite a number of stables and out houses were destroyed. Among these was a tenement house of Mr. R. E. Shapley, and the stables of Messrs. Hamer, Keller, Bener, Scott, Monyer, Shum, Arnold, and Miss Sturm's, and Mrs. Alexander's.

On Dickinson alley, a brick building owned by Mrs. Alexander; Saxon's Warehouse, Hoiser's slaughter house, a stable belonging to the Bank, and the stables of Messrs. Hoffman, Hepburn, Zollinger, Healey, Lyon, and Mrs. Bell's and Mrs. Noid's, were consumed.

Upon all this property destroyed, we believe there was no insurance, except that of Mr. Hoiser, upon which there was an amount which will probably cover about two-thirds of the loss he has sustained. It is not known how the fire originated, but it is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

This terrible calamity, the most extensive and destructive which ever occurred in this community, has rendered a great number of families homeless, many of whom have lost all their property, including their clothes. The loss will be a severe one to the Lutheran congregation. It is but a few years since this elegant and beautiful structure was, at great expense, thoroughly repaired and ornamented in its inner part, and now it is a heap of ruins. Not even the carpsa or any of the fixtures of the church were saved.

VERY SODDEN DEATH.

JOHN LEHN, Esq., a highly respectable citizen of North Middleton township, in this county, came to this place about noon, on Monday last. He complained of being somewhat unwell, and repaired to the office of Dr. W. W. DALZ, for the purpose of obtaining medical aid. The Doctor administered to him some drops, which, he said, gave him immediate relief. The Doctor was called out for a few moments, and when he returned, he found Mr. L. in a dying situation. He lingered a moment or two and died. His disease was cramp in the stomach. Mr. L. was about 74 years of age, and leaves a large circle of relatives and friends to mourn his sudden and unexpected death.

RELIGIOUS REVIVAL.

For some weeks past, much excitement has existed in the 1st Presbyterian church of this borough (Rev. Mr. W.) on the subject of religion, and quite a large number of conversions have already taken place. On Sabbath morning last, about 21 members were added to the church on profession and by certificate. We learn that some others give evidence of a hopeful conversion, whilst many more are anxiously inquiring the way of salvation. Religious meetings are held almost every evening in that church, which are well attended, and its estimable Pastor, Rev. C. P. Wino, is constantly employed in endeavoring to awaken the thoughtless, comforting those who mourn, and strengthening and confirming those who have already professed to have found peace and pardon in the atoning blood of Christ.

BOROUGH ELECTION.

The voters of the borough of Carlisle will be called upon, on Friday the 21st inst., to elect Borough Officers to serve for the ensuing year; and also Judges of Elections, Inspectors, and other State officers. We trust that our Democratic friends will all-once take the necessary measures for placing in the field good tickets, upon reliable and able names of men who are known as reliable and true friends of the borough. We have the power to elect our entire strength; and if we can succeed in bringing our whole strength to the polls, we can readily do it, and thus be enabled to bestow upon our party friends the various situations in the gift of the Council.

This is the principle upon which our opponents act; and this is the secret of their success. Whilst they pretend to scout and deride the doctrine that "the voters belong to the polls," no party has ever been more careful to carry it into practice than these same Whigs. In the present Council there are five Whigs and four Democrats; yet, instead of dividing the "polls," our opponents claimed and received all. In the next Council, if our friends will come up to the work manfully, it will be just *vice versa*, and then we will be able to pay them back in their own coin.

VERBOSITY IN THE HOUSE.

Mr. Bratton, who pretends to be very Democratic, talks of his "old friend, Mr. Middlemarch," the ink of federalism and high-sounding antislavery! There is an old proverb which says, "Show me your company and I will tell you your character." The ass, although covered with the lion's skin, is unable to conceal his long ears!

THE EFFECTS OF SARCASM.

The man who is possessed of great powers of sarcasm, coupled with much ill nature, and who habitually resorts to its use, either as a weapon of attack or a shield of defence, can have but few if any friends, whilst he will be surrounded on every side by hosts of enemies, untrusting and vindictive, ever ready to exult at his misfortunes and glory in his downfall. Men often forgive and forget real injuries inflicted upon their person or property; but the remembrance of the studied insult, or the bitter, biting sarcasm, is never obliterated, but is treasured up in the storehouse of memory, and sooner or later, the victim who was made to write under the infliction of a cutting sarcasm will have his revenge upon its perpetrator. Those who are fond of needlessly inflicting pain upon others, are themselves generally the most sensitive of mankind, and can be galled almost to madness by a word spoken at random, a meaning look, or a significant gesture. When the "poisoned chalice" is so easily applied to their own lips, it is somewhat strange indeed that they cannot refrain from meeting out to others that which they so much dread themselves! A sarcastic man is never truly happy, and perhaps is never truly good; and is always in danger of being retaliated upon, in some form or other, by those whose feelings he has wounded or whose self-love he has mortified by his own lips. He may be feared, but he is certain to be hated. He may be intellectually a giant, and capable of true sentiment and advocating with marked ability the true interests of the people, but he never can become popular with the masses. The high talents which are so anxious and so well qualified to fill, will elude his grasp, and be given to men of more moderate abilities, but who are prudent enough to place a curb upon their tongues and a guard over their conduct. Their truthfulness is exemplified by the experience of every day. How often do we see men of commanding abilities and great legal attainments, kept in the background, whilst others, whose talents are not above mediocrity, are brought on to fame and fortune! This can be accounted for only upon the supposition that the people, in whom is centered all power, are afraid and unwilling to entrust that power in the keeping of men whom they look upon as ill-natured, aristocratic, tyrannical, selfish or corrupt. On the other hand, men of a feeble manner, and conciliating disposition, and who prefer to labor for the promotion of the interests of the masses, rather than to subservient their own selfish purposes, will always be respected and cherished by the people, and offices of high honor and emolument continually thrust, as it were, upon them. How careful, then, should we all be to carry into effect the golden precept, and "do unto others as we would be done by?" Savagery of manners, kindness of disposition, and forgetfulness of self, are virtues easily acquired and practiced, and are sure to bring their own reward in an approving conscience, and the respect, esteem and approbation of our fellow-citizens.

TEMPERANCE MOVEMENTS.

The friends of Temperance in this and some of the adjoining counties, are again awakening to the importance of this subject, and are devising measures by which they can more readily and successfully promote the interests of the great cause which they have so much at heart. A Convention of the friends of Temperance, consisting of delegates from parts of Cumberland and York counties, was held in Mechanicsburg, in this county, on Saturday, March 1st. Mr. D. E. ROCKAFELLOW presided, assisted by J. B. Aley and Mr. Hefflinger as Vice Presidents, and G. W. Haldeman as Secretary.

The following preamble and resolutions were then read and adopted, which appear to constitute the principal business which was before the Convention:

WHEREAS, The Temperance cause has been in a languishing condition for some time past in various sections of our country, we would therefore resolve, That the delegates present (and friends of temperance in general) are respectfully requested to use their efforts to organize societies in their respective districts, for the promotion of the cause of temperance in their midst.

Resolved, That as temperance men we ought not to vote for any man or set of men, in any State, County, Borough or Township elections, to fill any office of public trust, who directly or indirectly make use of intoxicating drinks for electioneering or other purposes.

The present license system was also discussed and condemned, but the members of the Convention did not think proper to suggest any substitute to take the place of the present objectionable law.

After the appointment of various committees, and the transaction of some other necessary business, the Convention adjourned, recommending, however, that another central Convention, for the counties of York and Cumberland, be held at Churchtown, this county, on the last Friday of May next.

THE WEATHER.

We were somewhat premature in announcing, last week, the advent of "balmy Spring," as it appears we "whistled before we were out of the woods." Although the early part of last week was soft and beautiful in the extreme, and gave every indication of a continuance, Friday afternoon materially changed the scene! We were then visited by a very pretty miniature snow-storm, and on the evening of that day the earth was completely clothed in white, making us realize that we were still under the dominion of old Winter. By Saturday noon the snow had almost entirely disappeared, leaving behind a goodly quantity of mud and mire; but at night, the snow fell in thick flakes, to the depth of several inches, the winds whistled shrilly, and we were treated to a storm which would have done honor to mid-winter. Sunday was bright and cold, and the snow soon melted away. The weather now continues variable, as the almanac says, "rude Boreas" having taken it altogether under his direction.

AT THE FIRE.

On Wednesday morning, we were pleased to see that a large number of soldiers from the Barracks took a very active part in endeavoring to arrest the progress of the flames. They had with them their own engines, and used every exertion to save the property of our citizens. For their exertions they are entitled to the thanks of the whole community.

DEPARTURE OF U. S. TROOPS.

On Monday last, a company comprising about forty-five fine, healthy looking men, belonging to the United States Dragoons, left this place, under the command of Lt. HASTINGS. Their destination is, we believe, Santa Fe, in New Mexico. These men have been thoroughly drilled and perfected in the use of arms at the Cavalry School of Practice at the Carlisle Barracks, under the immediate supervision of Col. Cooke, and will no doubt make brave and efficient soldiers.

THE CODE OF HONOR.

Nothing could be more effective in putting a stop to the silly practice of duelling, than such a burlesque as the one lately indulged in by Messrs. Stanley and Inge. They stood at a respectable distance from each other, and with pistols exchanged one harmless shot at least, declaring that their honor was satisfied, they shook hands and returned home to receive the congratulations of their friends. *Viva la bagatelle!*

Nothing exercised so powerful an influence in abolishing our militia system, as the fantastical burlesque performed by the young men; and the broad farce recently enacted by two silly Congressmen will do much to bring into contempt the so-called "Code of Honor."

We are indebted to quite a number of our friends in the Legislature, for numerous favors in the shape of public documents.

CLOSING BUSINESS OF CONGRESS.

The second session of the 31st Congress terminated, says the *Reading Gazette*, leaving a vast amount of important business unfinished; but fortunately for the country, all bills necessary to keep the wheels of government in motion, were passed, amid the confusion and excitement which usually attend the close of a Congressional session. Although the last day found much undone, which ought to have claimed attention, in the earlier part of the session, still, something was accomplished towards checking a system of extravagant expenditure, which seems to be growing greater every year. The Military and Naval estimates were cut down several millions of dollars, and all the Steamship projects, which would have transferred an immense amount of public money to the pockets of private individuals, were killed. The River and Harbor bill, that magnificent scheme of Whig extravagance, which would have taken some two millions and a quarter, to begin with, was also defeated, as well as the Fortification bill, which had so repeatedly been acknowledged by Congress, was passed over, for want of time.

The following is a list of the bills passed and bills defeated.

Bills Passed.

The Bill for reducing the rates of Postage.
The Bill establishing new Post-Offices and Post-Routes.
The Post-Office Appropriation Bill.
The Civil and Diplomatic Appropriation Bill.
The Army and Navy Appropriation Bills.
The Bill making Appropriations for Light-Houses.
The Bill to prevent Constructive Mileage.
The Bill limiting the liabilities of American Ship-Owners.
The Bill to adjust Private Land Claims in California.
The Bill providing an Asylum for aged and disabled Soldiers.
The Bill regulating the Appraisal of Imported Merchandise, and providing for the Appointment of four Appraisers at large.
The Joint Resolution authorizing the President to send a Government ship to the Mediterranean, to bring Kossuth and his companions to the United States.
The Joint Resolution, extending to the widows of Revolutionary Soldiers the benefit of the Act of 1841, '43 and '44.

Bills Lost.

The River and Harbor Appropriation Bill.
The Fortification Appropriation Bill.
The French Spoliation Bill.
The Bill making the new Bounty Land Warrants assignable.
The Bill for the publication of the Census Returns of 1850.
The Joint Resolution creating the grade of Lieutenant General in the Army.
The Joint Resolution for the relief of Mr. Ritchie, on account of losses sustained in executing the Printing Contract.

Immediately after adjournment, the Senate was called together by the President, upon Executive business. The following new Senators were qualified and took their seats—Messrs. Bright, Brodhead, Bayard, Cass, Hamlin, Mason, Pratt, Rusch, and Dodge. It is understood that a large batch of appointments are to be acted upon.

LANCASTER COUNTY.

The Democrats of Lancaster county met in County Convention, in the city of Lancaster, on the 5th inst., for the purpose of appointing Delegates to the General and Judicial Conventions.

George C. Bagnaw—a veteran Democrat—was elected the chair, assisted by six Vice Presidents and four Secretaries. The following named gentlemen were then appointed Delegates to the Reading Convention—Col. William B. Fordney, James Patterson, Dr. Samuel Parker, Hiram B. Swartz, J. B. Baker, and Dr. N. U. Coffey. Delegates to the County Convention were George Sanderson, David Laird, Henry E. Lerman, John S. Dougherty and Andrew Leary.

From the resolutions adopted by the Convention, we take the following:

Resolved, That the purity and integrity of the private and political character of Col. WILLIAM BIGLER, pre-eminently qualify him to be the best actor of the Democracy of Pennsylvania in the approaching gubernatorial contest; and his acknowledged personal popularity, and the strong hold he has on the affections of the people, render his triumphant election to the Chair of State a foregone conclusion.

Resolved, That this Convention, representing a large majority of the Democracy of Lancaster county, who wishes have been time and again expressed, hereby nominate Colonel WILLIAM BIGLER, for Governor of the Commonwealth; and the Delegates this day appointed to the State Convention, to be held in the city of Reading, on the 4th of June next, are hereby instructed to vote for Col. BIGLER, and to use every effort to secure his election by the Convention.

Resolved, That our confidence in the patriotism, talents, and strict political integrity of our distinguished fellow citizen, JAMES BUCHANAN, remains unimpaired. A devoted life of usefulness, which has been devoted to the service of his country at home and abroad, has given him a strong hold on the affections of his neighbors and acquaintances, and placed him on a proud eminence before the Democracy of the Nation, who are anxiously awaiting the arrival of the period when they will confer yet higher honors upon him. In this work, when the proper time for action arrives, the Democracy of Lancaster county will heartily and cheerfully recognize and should be selected as the standard bearer of the Democracy of the Nation, the people amongst whom he has resided for the last forty years, will endorse his nomination by a vote equal to that awarded the great and illustrious Jackson.

Resolved, That the measures of the several States of the Confederacy which fostered the great and illustrious Jackson, and which never should have been interrupted, the innumerable wrongs and wrongs of this Union are too dear, and were too dearly purchased, to be filtered away by designing demagogues and traitors to their country; and it becomes every good man, of every party, to frown upon all attempts to alienate one portion of the Republic from the other, or weaken the bonds which have heretofore united us as a happy and prosperous nation.

Resolved, That there never has been a more propitious moment than the present for the employment of every power of Democracy, to reduce the Whig majority in this county, and to strengthen our party throughout the State. The Bank of the United States has been destroyed; the Independent Treasury has been established; the war with Mexico has resulted in glory to the nation, and the acquisition of a vast territory containing the golden treasures of California; and the Slave question, which recently threatened the dissolution of our Union, has been settled on the most popularly in the Resolutions adopted by the Democratic party at the National Convention, held in Baltimore in 1840. From these Democratic measures has resulted the ruin predicted by our Whig opponents, but an unexampled prosperity which our country now enjoys.

Resolved, That we are in favor of selecting as candidates for the Judiciary, men whose moral character is above reproach, who are known to be in possession of a liberal and honest and intelligent mind, and who will be a sufficient guarantee, in their hands, the rights, liberties, and property of the people will be safe. And as, from the silo, port, and importance of Lancaster county, we are entitled to have one of our own citizens, we respectfully recommend to the State Convention our esteemed fellow citizen, Hon. ELLIS LEWIS, whose well known talents, energy and industry, have very properly placed him in the front rank of Pennsylvania Jurists, and whose great popularity in Lancaster county and throughout the State, would strengthen the Judiciary, and insure its election by a triumphant majority.

THE CHEAP POSTAGE LAW.

The Cheap Postage Bill, which passed Congress on the last night of the session, affords ample cause for rejoicing. Below we give an abstract of its provisions. The law goes into effect from and after the 30th of June next:

1. LETTER POSTAGE.—On all letters weighing half an ounce or less, three cents pre-paid, and five cents when unpaid, for any distance within the United States not exceeding 3,000 miles, the rates specified shall be charged. Letters conveyed wholly or in part by sea, and to or from a foreign country, twenty cents for any distance over 2,500 miles, and for any distance under 2,500 miles, ten cents—except where different rates are established by postal treaty. For each additional half ounce, or fraction thereof, an additional single postage, at the rate specified, shall be charged. Drop letters, or letters deposited for delivery only, shall be charged one cent each; and letters advertised, as uncharged, shall be charged one cent in addition to the regular postage.

2. NEWSPAPERS.—All newspapers not exceeding three ounces in weight, sent to actual subscribers from the office of publication, shall be charged as follows:—Weekly papers, within the county where published, free; for any distance not exceeding fifty miles out of the county where published, five cents per quarter; exceeding fifty miles, ten cents per quarter; and papers issued elsewhere than tri-weekly, five times these rates. Newspapers published monthly and sent to actual subscribers, shall pay one-fourth, and newspapers published semi-monthly, one-half the foregoing weekly rates.

3. CIRCULARS, MAGAZINES, PAMPHLETS, &c.—Upon all other papers, circulars not sealed, hand-bills, engravings, pamphlets, periodicals, books, or any description of printed matter, not exceeding one ounce in weight, there shall be charged one cent for any distance not exceeding five hundred miles. Over 500 and not exceeding 1,500 miles, 2 cents. " 1,500 " " 2,500 miles, 3 " " 2,500 " " 3,500 miles, 4 " " 3,500 " " 5 " " 5 " " 5 "

For each additional ounce, or fraction, the rates are proportionally increased. Bound books not weighing more than 32 ounces, shall be deemed mailable matter under this section. Regular subscribers to periodicals shall be required to pay in advance for each issue, and the postage on all printed matter or transient newspapers and periodicals, not sent from the office of publication to actual and bona fide subscribers, shall be pre-paid. If by inattention or otherwise, such matter is sent without pre-payment, double postage shall be charged. Publishers of pamphlets, periodicals, magazines, and newspapers not exceeding 16 ounces in weight, shall be allowed to interchange one copy of each of their publications reciprocally free of postage. Publishers may enclose in their publications, bills for subscriptions thereto, without extra charge for postage.

PUBLICATION OF LISTS OF LETTERS.—The lists of letters remaining uncollected for in any Post-Office, shall be published once only in the newspaper which has the largest circulation within the range and delivery of said office, at the charge of one cent for each letter so advertised—said list to be published once in every six weeks, and as much oftener not exceeding once a week, as the Postmaster General may direct. German or any other foreign letters may be published, by direction of the Postmaster General, in newspapers published in the German or any other foreign language, in lieu of, or in addition to the publication herebefore directed.

5. POSTAGE STAMPS.—The Postmaster General is required to furnish deputy Postmasters with suitable postage stamps, of the denominations of one cent, two cents, three cents, four cents, five cents, six cents, seven cents, eight cents, nine cents, ten cents, and such other denominations as may be deemed convenient to facilitate the pre-payment of postage; to forge or counterfeit which is made a felony, punishable by fine and imprisonment. The deputy Postmasters are directed to accept of stamps attached to letters passing through the office, and persons detected in using the same twice, shall be subject to a penalty of \$50.

6. POSTMASTERS' COMMISSIONS, POST-OFFICES AND POST ROUTES, &c.—Postmasters whose commissions may be reduced by the operation of this act, and whose salaries shall be increased, shall be just and proper. No Post-office now in existence shall be discontinued, nor the mail service on any route now established, discontinued or diminished, in consequence of the passage of this act. The Post-offices and Post-Routes shall be established as heretofore.

7. LETTER CARRIERS, TO RECEIVE AND DELIVER LETTERS.—At all Post-offices where the Postmasters are appointed by the President, the Postmaster General shall have the power to establish letter carriers to receive and convey the same to the Post-office, and also to deliver letters, at a charge not exceeding one or two cents; all sums so received to be paid into the Post-office Department, and the performers to receive compensation from the Postmaster General, in an amount not exceeding the amount paid by each city or town, under the provisions of this section.

8. THREE CENT PIECES.—The coinage of three cent pieces, composed of three-fourths silver and one-fourth copper, to weigh 13 1/2 grains, is authorized, immediately after the passage of this act, to be coined, and to be a legal tender for all sums of thirty cents and under.

HOW CONGRESS LEGISLATES.

The New York Tribune, one of whose editors was a member of the late Congress, gives an account of the manner in which some of the laws of the last session were passed during its last days, and if legislation were by guess instead of by vote, it would probably result in the interests of the country. It is doubtful whether some of the bills were ever read, and the contents were unknown to the members depending upon the committees who reported them for their objects which Congress never designed to favor, among which is the sum of \$350,000 to an individual to construct a magnetic telegraph to the Pacific or the North Pole, one each as practicable as this as the other, and each equally as profitable as an investment. But carelessness and disregard of the people's interests are still further exhibited in the fact that an amendment to the Senate to a bill of the House, striking out a proviso that the latter had adopted, was never submitted to the House again, and the Speaker in signing the bill, took the responsibility of writing into the engrossed and enacted law the proviso which the House had adopted, but the Senate had rejected. With such loose and irregular proceedings, it is not surprising that the committees who reported them for their objects which Congress never designed to favor, among which is the sum of \$350,000 to an individual to construct a magnetic telegraph to the Pacific or the North Pole, one each as practicable as this as the other, and each equally as profitable as an investment. 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