

AMERICAN VOLUNTEER.

JOHN B. BRATTON, Editor & Proprietor. CARLEISLE, PA., APRIL 6, 1854.

Democratic State Ticket:

GOVERNOR: WILLIAM BIGLER, OF CLEARFIELD COUNTY.

JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT: JEREMIAHS BLACK, OF SOMERSET COUNTY.

CANAL COMMISSIONER: HENRY S. MOTT, OF PIKE COUNTY.

We have been informed that the members of the new German Lutheran congregation of Carlisle, have purchased the lot belonging to Mrs. Kean, on the north-west corner of Point and Bedford streets, in this borough. They will proceed to the erection of a church edifice as soon as the necessary amount of money is subscribed.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY VALUATION.—The valuation of taxable property in Cumberland County, as fixed by the Board of Revenue Commissioners, at their recent session in Harrisburg, is \$10,946,856. This is an increase on the valuation of three years since, of \$351,048.

THE BLACK WARRIOR AFFAIR.—The Isabel, at Charleston, from Havana, brings intelligence that the steamship Black Warrior had been given up to Capt. Bulloch. The Cuban authorities offered to give the vessel on condition that a fine of \$5,000 be paid, which proposition was accepted and the fine paid under a solemn protest. Capt. B. took possession of the vessel on Wednesday, the 22d ult., and sailed immediately for New York.

OCEAN POSTAGE.—We are gratified to observe that Postmaster General Campbell, with the advice and consent of the President, as provided in a section of the Postage Law of March 3, 1851, has reduced the ocean postage rate to two cents, on the only regular line or route upon which the opportunity has offered since the enactment of the law. It, at the same time, gives notice that whenever he can in future obtain the ocean-wise transportation of United States mails to foreign countries at two cents per letter, the Department will charge no more than that rate for such transportation, in addition to the inland postage required to be exacted under the existing law; both to be prepaid, of course.

NORTH-WESTERN RAILROAD.—The locating Engineers are now at work on the line of this road westward from Butler, and we are told that it is the intention, to put the road under contract between New Castle and Butler in July, and from the energy manifested on the part of the friends of this important act of Butler, we are inclined to think the whole line will be ready to be put under contract at that time.

IMPORTANT TO MERCHANTS.—The U. S. Attorney General, in disposing of a question submitted to him by the Secretary of the Treasury, decides that a vessel built in the United States, and voluntarily sold by the owner to a foreigner, and then bought back again by the original owner, cannot be registered again as an American ship.

AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP.—The Secretary of State in answer to an interrogatory propounded to him on a point of American citizenship gives his opinion that every person born in the United States must be considered a citizen of the United States, notwithstanding one or both of his parents may have been alien at the time of his birth. This is in conformity with the common law, which law is generally acknowledged in this country. And a person born of alien parents, it is presumed would be considered a natural-born citizen of the United States, in the language of the constitution, so as to make him eligible to the presidency.

THE EXPLOSION OF THE STEAMER KATE KEARNEY.—Captain Bruen and the engineer of this steamer, which recently exploded at St. Louis, causing great loss of life, have been after a protracted investigation, held for trial before the U. S. Court in that city. The explosion is attributed to a leak at the bottom of the boiler, which it is alleged, was known to the officers of the boat the day before the accident occurred, without any attempt to stop it, it being intended to have it mended not until the following Saturday.

WHEAT CONTRACTS.—Flour contracts, and purchases of Corn, weeks and months since, during the inflation, are beginning, says the St. Louis News, to mature and some to fall through, as they usually do when there is a sudden depression or inflation in prices. If the buyer finds he has been deceived in his calculations of an advance, or the seller thinks he has made a bad bargain, there is no lack of conditions and contingencies which are brought to bear in annulling the contract.

SLOOP OF WAR JOHN ADAMS FOR CUBA.—The Boston Chronicle of Saturday week, says that during the present week nearly one hundred men have been received into the Charleston Navy Yard, their services being required to finish repairing the sloop-of-war John Adams. It will require only a week longer to get her ready for sea. It is rumored that her destination is Cuba, though nothing is yet known on this point with certainty. There are now three hundred men in the various departments of labor employed in the yard, although there is no other work than repairing the John Adams, the Vermont, which is in ordinary, and the receiving ship Ohio, are the only vessels now at the Navy Yard. It is generally believed that business there will be more brisk in the course of a month.

FROM SALT LAKE CITY.—Intelligence from Salt-Lake City to the 1st of December has been received. The Saints are progressing with the wall around the city. The Indians are hostile, and have burned several houses. The Legislature was to meet on the second Monday of December. Captain Homer, in charge of twenty wagons, and more than seven hundred head of cattle, reached Salt Lake on the 5th November. This herd of cattle is destined for California. They met with no particular obstruction in their crossing the plains at this late period, either from heavy snow or scarcity of grass. Some snow, however, had to be encountered at the last two mountains.

RESPONSE OF THE PRESS—THE PROSPECT.

The cheering tone of confidence that pervades all the Democratic journals of Pennsylvania, is gratifying to the friends of the Constitution throughout the Union. The harmony that prevailed in the recent Democratic State Convention, is the best evidence that the people are alive to the importance of the contest. Democracy is rousing itself, and as the struggle approaches, its tremendous power will dismay the hearts of the Federalists, and their counterfeit enthusiasm will vanish into thin air. The "signs of the times" indicate a glorious triumph for BIGLER, BLACK, MOTT and Democracy, at the October election.

But, Democrats of Cumberland county and of Pennsylvania at large, do not rely on your own strength too much. To be successful and gain a brilliant victory, we must be watchful, vigilant, active. The Democratic party, when properly organized, never sustained a defeat, and in all probability never will. The party ought now to be awakened to a proper sense of duty; and all that is necessary to lay Federalism in the dust, is activity and vigilance. The Federalists anticipated a "split" in the Democratic ranks, but how sadly were they disappointed? We conjecture that Governor Bigler's unanimous re-nomination occasioned feelings of sadness and despair, and that of an unspeakable character, throughout the whole Federal party. Rejoicing would have been a cardinal circumstance, and the success of the opposition candidate certain, had a division in our ranks taken place. But instead of such an occurrence, there were only one or two objecting voices. They must "get out of the way" and clear the road for Democracy. We are united, and by proper vigilance, can whip our opponents and scatter their forces: we will meet them like Jackson met Pakenham at the battle of New Orleans. Conquer we can and conquer we will, with such an efficient General at the head as Gov. BIGLER, and Federalism, with all its wealth and trickery, cannot prevent us. We will buckle on the armor of BIGLER AND DEMOCRACY, and through the instrumentality of his good measures, we will be able to conduct the ship safely through the foaming wrath and cannonade of our enemy, to VICTORY!

A National Foundry. The Secretary of War, it is said, has appointed a commission, consisting of scientific officers connected with Ordnance Bureau, to examine certain districts of the country and report upon the location of a site for a National Foundry. Now is the time for the citizens of Carlisle to take measures to endeavor to have this Foundry located here. We observe that the citizens of several towns in this and adjoining States, are about to hold meetings to collate information for the purpose of showing the important advantages of their respective places for the location of such an establishment. While we admit the right of all to contend for the prize, we feel we speak but the simple truth when we say, that Carlisle possesses advantages for the location of this Foundry, which no other town can boast. Situated, as it is, in the heart of a beautiful and populous valley, with a healthy and genial climate, and with water power equalled by few and surpassed by no other town; with mountains on either side of us, filled with the best and richest iron ore, and with the means of easy and rapid communication with the great cities on the seaboard; with the means of living as cheap if not cheaper than in most towns in this section, we think the advantages possessed by Carlisle should powerfully recommend it to the Government as the site for the proposed Foundry. In addition to all this, we may add, that here are the Carlisle Barracks, where the Government could very readily and cheaply erect the Foundry upon ground owned by itself. We trust our citizens will at once move in this matter, and endeavor by every means to have the Foundry here. The location of such an establishment among us would be of immense benefit to Carlisle and its citizens. The employees in the works will be wholly consumers, thereby giving the farmers a better market for their produce. It would put in circulation vast sums of money; afford employment for many of our working men; increase rapidly the population, and enhance also the value of property in the borough. With the claims which we have, and the benefits to be derived from its location here, we hope a great while to see the National Foundry in full blast in Carlisle.

A petition is circulating and has been already signed by a majority of the leading merchants of Boston, for presentation to the Legislature of Maine praying that the application for an act incorporating the Atlantic Telegraph Company in opposition to the Halls monopoly be granted. By an arbitrary rule of the present line, no merchant can receive his despatches on the arrival of a European steamer at Halifax, until twelve hours after the news is transmitted to certain parties in New York. This has aroused the indignation of our merchants, and a strong effort, backed up with the necessary capital, will be made to establish an independent line.

THE SOUTHERN COMMERCIAL CONVENTION.—The delegates to this Convention, which assemble in Charleston on the 10th of April, will no doubt be handsomely entertained by the citizens of that city, as we notice they are making extensive preparations with that view. A magnificent ball is to be given at the Military Hall on the night of the 12th, in honor of the delegates. On the 13th, a grand excursion round the harbor will take place, the festivities of the day to close with a fine display of fireworks on the Battery; and on the following day the members of the Convention are to partake of a public dinner.

HONORABLE PRACTICE.—Two clerk last week were publicly whipped in the market place at Charleston, S. C., for stealing from their employers. They were sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes, which were to be inflicted at three different times, and at such intervals that the wounds caused by the first should be healed before the second punishment, and so of the third. At the first whipping, these unhappy victims of the barbarism of the middle ages, after suffering twenty strokes, fell bleeding and fainting, and were carried back to jail. Ten thousand persons beheld this horrible spectacle!

DIFFICULTY SETTLED.—We are glad to learn that the difficulty of Messrs. BARCKENBARD and CUTTING (members of Congress), between whom a challenge had passed, have, by the interference of friends, settled their quarrel to the satisfaction of both parties.

DISAGREABLE WEATHER.

The weather for the last two weeks has been so coquetish as a miss in her teens—one day we have the warm rays of the sun, the next a chilling northern blast, the next snow, sleet, rain, &c. Generally speaking, however, the weather has been very cold and disagreeable for the season of the year, reminding us more of the dreary month of December, when all is gloomy and cheerless, than the month of April, when nature usually decks herself in her richest and most delicate attire. On Saturday night it was so cold, that ice was formed in this neighborhood half an inch thick, and there are some who have expressed a fear that the fruit trees have suffered. We will not venture to predict what kind of weather we are to have during the month which has commenced, as, owing to the variability of the seasons of late years, no correct calculations can be made. We will, however, again caution those of our readers who wish to preserve their health, (and who is there that don't?) not to throw aside their winter clothing, even should we be visited by a warm day or two, until they are fully satisfied that the weather has become perfectly settled, and the cold winds of the North have given way to the balmy breath of spring.

Education in Cumberland County. In our advertising columns will be found the notice of no less than five Select and Classical Schools and Seminaries, located at different points in this county. A "Young Ladies' Select School," in this borough, Mrs. J. F. Downey, Principal. The "Cumberland Valley Institute," in Mechanicsburg, Rev. J. A. LOOSE, A. M., and Rev. W. H. STEIN, A. M., Principals; and G. U. HAY & Co., Principals; and the "White Hall Academy," in the lower end of the county, Dr. DENLINGER, Principal, and the "Plainfield Classical Academy," near Carlisle, under the direction of Professor R. K. BUNN. There may probably be other Seminaries in this county, but we cannot just now think of them. The Seminaries which we have enumerated are all under the control of competent and judicious persons; the teachers employed in them are thoroughly educated gentlemen, and possess the ability of imparting to the youths entrusted to their care, the elements of a first rate English and classical education. Some of these Institutions have been in existence for years, and the great encouragement which they have heretofore received, and the success attending the labors of their Principals and Professors, are the best testimonials which can be adduced in their favor.

Parents and guardians, in this and adjoining counties, desirous of sending their sons and wards to a first rate Academy, may rest assured that in either of the Institutions we have named they will receive a thorough education, fitting them to enter any of the learned professions, and enabling them in the great world to fight the "battle of life" with success and honor.

BRITISH DOCTRINE OF CITIZENSHIP.—In the Vice Chancery Court, England, Sir John Vestart recently decided that an infant, born in New York, whose mother was an American, and her father a naturalized citizen of the United States, born in England, is a subject of the Crown of England! Naturalization, although conferred the right of an American citizen upon the father, did not absorb him from his duties, or deprive him "of his rights as a British subject." This carrying the arrogant and absurd English doctrine of citizenship and allegiance to a most ridiculous extreme. Such a doctrine would make British subjects of every native born American of British extraction, for it is applicable to all succeeding generations. Those, therefore, who have been priding themselves on being true blue "natives," will be amused to hear, that by this decision they are subjects of Great Britain, and nothing but "foreigners" after all.

DESTRUCTIVE INVENTIONS.—The war imminent between the powers of Europe, says the Ledger, will doubtless be the most destructive character. Invention has been busy during the long peace Europe has enjoyed, in devising means for bringing hostilities to a rapid termination, by making the catastrophe terrible and complete at the beginning. Steam will be introduced for the first time as an element of warfare, and its gigantic energies will effect as great a revolution in the science of war, as gunpowder produced on its first introduction into the battlefield. The arsenals of England, it is said, have been closed for a long time, even to members of Parliament, while experiments have been making in new and terrible machines, which are now to be brought into use. One of these is called the "Wagner Floating Gun," which glides along on the water in a straight line till it strikes the vessel at which it is directed, when it thrusts into its side its iron head, containing two pounds of fulminating powder of mercury, which, by exploding, blows a hole in the vessel ten or twelve feet in diameter, which it is impossible to close as the round holes made by cannon balls. Sub-marine boats are so perfected that they can reach and attach a burner to an enemy's ship without running the least danger. Experiments are also made with an asphyxiating ball, to paralyze crews, and in explosive balls, to set fire to ships as soon as they strike, with other engines of destruction equally as terrible and annihilating.

ARKANSAS.—On the 1st Monday of August next, the sense of the people of Arkansas will be taken upon the propriety of calling a Convention to amend and reform the Constitution of that State. The Little Rock Gazette mentions, as among the great objects of the Convention, the extension of the elective franchise, and the election of the Judges of the Supreme Court, Secretary of State, Auditor, Treasurer, and all other public officers, by the people. Southward the star of progress takes its way. Let the power be with the people from forming a State or Territorial Government to the choice of the officers. Those who deny this doctrine are opposed to the fundamental principle on which the Union is based.

IT is said that it was at the solicitation of the Hon. James Buchanan, the U. S. Minister, that Smith O'Brien was pardoned, Mr. B. having previously urged the measure at an interview with Lord Clarendon.

THE STEAM FRIGATE BILL.—The House of Representatives has at length entered upon the consideration of the bill authorizing the construction of six first class steam frigates, with screw propellers, properly armed and equipped, and for altering, completing and launching the frigates Santee and Sabine, and appropriating \$3,000,000 for such purposes. We earnestly hope no obstacle may be thrown in the way of the speedy passage of the bill.

The War against Santa Anna.

When the California steamer John L. Stephens left Acapulco, on her late trip, General Alvarez, Governor of the province, who recently "declared" against the administration of Santa Anna, had six thousand troops, well armed and organized, under his control. Santa Anna had sent a large force to subdue Alvarez, three thousand five hundred of whom had already arrived in the province of Acapulco, and it was daily expected that a collision would take place between the opposing forces. The Acapulco people feeling quite confident that Santa Anna's troops would be easily routed. No actual collision between revolutionists and government troops had as yet taken place.

We see, by advices from the city of Mexico, to the 9th of March, that the Mexican press condemn Alvarez as a traitor, acting in concert with the filibusters of California. They predict with the speedy downfall and punishment. The "pernicious principles" which he sustains are, according to El Universal, federalism and State sovereignty; preponderance of the people over the "cloth coat class"; absolute submission of ecclesiastical to the civil power; freedom of conscience and of worship; suppression of the army, and the supremacy of parliamentary rule; re-organization of the school system, &c. As these are all fatal to the absolute authority which Santa Anna wishes to centre in his own person, the friends of that chittrified revile Alvarez. The old and worn out theories of federalism which Santa Anna has imposed, have caused much dissatisfaction among the people, and his proposition to sell a portion of the territory of the republic does not help to allay the bad feeling already existing. With the money which the sale would place in his hands, Santa Anna and would probably be able to secure his hold on power.

The Law of Libel. The Judiciary Committee of our State Legislature is now engaged in maturing a bill on the subject of Libels, with a view of reporting it to the House at an early day. The bill provides that when an editor, proprietor, or publisher is sued for libel, he may offer in defence evidence to show that the facts, when published with good motives, were justifiable, and necessary for public information. Another section provides, that no editor, proprietor, or publisher shall be indictable for any measure or act of any person in his employment, unless said act is committed with his or their consent.

The Whig Candidates. The following well-timed remarks from the Pennsylvania Patriot, published at Harrisburg, breathe a spirit of unflinching devotion to the Democratic nominations which command our admiration, and is a sample of the tone of our Democratic exhortations throughout the State: "The Whig Candidates.—Well! the child is born, his name is—Pollock. The Hon. member of Congress, is the Whig candidate for Governor. What exciting news will ascend from Whigs of different parts of the State! The will lead in the hymn, and the shrill small notes of the modest country weekly will be heard in echoing the chime. How the type will rattle and the heavy presses groan—to tell the people all the virtues of this new champion. It is not unlikely that Hogarth likeness of him will be hung in every bar-room, in every mill and smith shop, and upon the most conspicuous tree at every cross-road in the State. He is not a military hero—indeed, his voice in Congress in favor of the expedition against Mexico, to the great regret of his constituents, has been his only military service. In a late campaign the Whigs learned that military heroes are not acceptable to the people—with their characteristic shifting, they have abandoned the Whig candidate for Governor, Mr. Pollock's retreating vote would give the lie to any one who would claim him as a hero, or even a bold man. Mr. Pollock's ordinary ability—a good speaker—and socially very agreeable. But did he possess such of these qualities in a much more eminent degree, he could not be made the Governor of Pennsylvania. The Democratic candidate, Col. Bigler, has been tried, and unfortunately for his opponent, has given general satisfaction to the people of the State. His popularity was attested by the unprecedented unanimity with which he was re-nominated. 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