

THE PEOPLES JOURNAL.

DEVOTED TO THE PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRACY, AND THE DISSEMINATION OF MORALITY, LITERATURE, AND NEWS.

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THE PEOPLES JOURNAL.

JNO. S. MANN, Editor.
EDWIN HASKELL, Editor.
FIDELITY TO THE PEOPLE.
COUDERSPORT, FRIDAY, MAY 5, 1864.

The Sacredness of Marriage.

The National Intelligencer of this morning contains the following local item:

"The Criminal Court met yesterday morning, pursuant to adjournment, and several small cases were disposed of by submission. On Saturday last, a free colored man, George Gaines, was convicted of bigamy; but yesterday the Judge discharged Gaines, on the ground that the prior marriage was void, one of the parties having been a slave, and married without the consent of the owner."

This announcement is made in a leading and dignified American newspaper, published in the metropolis of the Republic!

The fact is bad enough as stated, but not as bad as the reality. With the consent of the owner, the marriage would have been void. The law does not recognize the marriage of slaves under any circumstances; and any man of color, or white man disposed to intermarry with women of color, may in the city of Washington have as many wives as Joe Smith or Brigham Young, provided they are all slaves.

Ours is sometimes spoken of as a Christian country.—National Era.

Since the attention of the reader is drawn to this subject, we may as well show a little more fully how the peculiar institution "corrupts the manners and morals" of all connected with it. The following from the Boston Commonwealth is respectfully submitted to the attention of all defenders of Slavery:

The marriage relations of the laborers of the South seem to give those who claim them as property, a great deal of trouble. The following advertisement, which we find in a recent number of the Charleston Mercury, gives us some idea of the inconvenience to which slaveholders are subjected by the absurdity of their chancery having conjugal affections:

FIFTY DOLLARS REWARD.—Runaway from the subscriber, at his residence in Summerville, his negro fellow Winter; he was purchased last Spring from the Estate of Ville Pontoux—has a wife near Vance's Ferry, where he is supposed to have gone; he had when he left a cut on one of his right toes, made by an axe. The said negro is about 27 or 28 years of age, 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high, and rather quick spoken. The above reward will be paid for proof to conviction of his having been harbored by any responsible white person or free person of color, or ten dollars if delivered to me at my residence, or at Master of Work House at Charleston.

J. PERRY.

It is probable that if Winter had not had a wife at Vance's Ferry, he would not have run away and put his master to all this trouble.

In the same paper and in juxtaposition with the above, we find the following:

TWENTY-FIVE DOLLARS REWARD.—Run away in May last, a mulatto girl named Ceely. She is about 25 years of age, rather short, thick lips, had teeth on her upper lip near the mouth is a small scar; is well known by most of the Policemen of the city. She has been seen repeatedly about town, and has a husband named John, belonging to Mr. Bum, in St. Philip st., near Radcliffe, and is no doubt harbored by him. The above reward will be paid for her apprehension. Apply at this office.

New, in the name of common sense and humanity, what right has Ceely, a mere chattel—nothing but property—to run away from her master and go to her husband? Then again, why should Ceely's husband, John, harbor his own wife?

There certainly must be something wrong, or at least some deficiency, in the statutes of South Carolina relative to this subject. The slave laws have not been carefully drawn, or else these things would not occur. When the laws of the State converted what God made as men and women into personal property, by some oversight the blotting out of the human affections and aspirations was omitted. Hence all this difficulty about men and women running away to their wives and husbands. We would recommend that at the next session of the Legislature of South Carolina there be an act passed to amend the creative act of the Almighty by abolishing the human affections in the hearts of all persons known as slaves. This is the only effectual remedy for this description of runaway trouble.

The decline of literature indicates the decline of a nation. The two keep pace in their downward tendency.

TEMPERANCE MASS MEETING.

COUDERSPORT, APRIL 27, 1864.
THURSDAY AFTERNOON, at the Court House.—Very rainy, cold. At half past one o'clock the people began to assemble. The Whitesville Brass Band, discoursed most excellent music on their entrance into the Court room. Meeting called to order by J. S. Mann, Esq. Thereupon Hon. BARAK NILES, Esq. was elected President, D. W. C. JAMES, and Hon. S. ROSS, Vice Presidents, and T. B. TYLER and F. A. ALLEN Secretaries.

After the organization was perfected, music by the Band and Choir was presented. A Committee of six to draft resolutions, was appointed by the Chair, as follows: J. S. Mann, C. W. Ellis, and N. L. Dike, of Coudersport, Rev. R. Stowell, of Toga, S. Davey of Bradford, and G. M. Smith of McKean.

G. R. S. Wm. Nicholson being called upon, addressed the meeting in a most interesting and effective manner for nearly an hour, which elicited frequent applause.

After music by the Band, Rev. R. L. Stowell, of Toga, was called upon, who read a short but interesting and instructive address. Music by the Choir and Band. The meeting then adjourned to meet at half past seven o'clock.

EVENING SESSION.
Meeting called to order by Hon. S. Ross, Vice President. Prayer by Rev. S. D. MORRIS, of McKean. Music by the Choir.

Mr. NICHOLSON being called upon, addressed the meeting with great earnestness and force. At the close of his address, music by the Band and Choir.

The Committee on Resolutions being called upon, reported the following, as agreed to by a majority of said Committee:

WHEREAS, The cause of Temperance recommends itself to the reason of men; in that community where it obtains, domestic peace, prosperity, and happiness are promoted, and the great interests of mankind more dispassionately considered; and whereas, the dissemination of Temperance principles more generally among us is necessary to secure a complete triumph of the cause in this State, in the enactment and enforcement of a prohibitory law. Therefore,

1. Resolved, That we pledge ourselves to renewed effort to inculcate Temperance principles.

2. Resolved, That the time has come when no person can be found who does profess to be in favor of the Temperance cause, the only question being how that cause is to be promoted.

3. Resolved, That we believe in the mighty power of "moral suasion;" and hence we have met together to-day to have the living speaker preach the Gospel of Temperance, and present in all their different phases the arguments and facts which appeal to the judgment in favor of abstaining entirely from the use of intoxicating drinks.

4. Resolved, That it is the duty of every person to avoid temptation; so it is a like duty to remove temptation from others; and hence, after we have convinced the judgment that the use of strong drink as a beverage is the sure road to pauperism, misery, and crime, we have done but half our duty to the unfortunate whose appetites are stronger than their reason—till we have banished from society the insidious poison that charms but to destroy.

5. Resolved, That this work can only be accomplished by convincing the people of its necessity, and then by repealing those laws which sustain and uphold the traffic in intoxicating drinks, and enacting in their stead a law which shall entirely prohibit said traffic; and hence we deem it the duty of every friend of Temperance to vote for no man for a legislative office who is not an open and avowed friend of the removal of temptation to drunkenness, by the passage of a prohibitory liquor law.

6. Resolved, That those legislators who have been elected with reference to the enactment of prohibitory laws and have neglected to make them, are not deserving the support of a free people.

JNO. S. MANN,
SILVESTER DAVEY,
R. L. STOWELL,
G. M. SMITH,
Committee on Resolutions.
On motion to adopt, the minority of the Committee offered the following as a substitute for the 5th resolution of the majority report:
The undersigned, a minority of the Committee appointed to prepare resolutions for this meeting, regret that they have been unable to agree with the majority in every particular; yet they have consented to all the resolutions except the 5th, which they regret was offered. We would have all parties composed of and controlled by temperance men, thus avoiding all party issues; we would leave the whole lump—and with this view we recommend the adoption of the following in lieu of the 5th resolution of the majority:
Resolved, That the Temperance movement is an appeal to no party or sect, but to the whole family of man, embracing every party and all sects; and it is the duty of each individual to use his utmost influence, with the party or sect to which he belongs, to drive all alcoholic drinks from the country.

ment is an appeal to no party or sect, but to the whole family of man, embracing every party and all sects; and it is the duty of each individual to use his utmost influence, with the party or sect to which he belongs, to drive all alcoholic drinks from the country.

N. L. DIKE, of Coudersport, was called upon to read a paper on the subject of the Temperance movement. His paper was read with interest and approval.

This substitute was advocated by remarks of C. W. Ellis, Esq. J. S. Mann followed in a reply. Rev. S. D. Morris being called upon, spoke against the substitution; also Mr. Rosco, of Harrison.

On motion, the report of the minority was laid on the table, and the majority report adopted unanimously.

Music by the Band and Choir, which the following resolution was adopted:
Resolved, That as an expression of our appreciation of the labors among us of the Grand Scribe, Wm. Nicholson, of Philadelphia, we tender him the thanks of this Convention.

Music by the Choir. On motion, Resolved, That the proceedings of this Convention be published in full in the papers of this and McKean counties, and in the Crystal Fountain.

SOBIESKI BOSS, V. Pres't.
F. A. ALLEN, Sec'taries.
T. B. TYLER, J.

The Whig Party.
The Erie Gazette chronicles the defeat of the Democratic party in Connecticut, and adds:
"The course of the Whig party is onward. A glorious triumph awaits it in '56."

We are not able to discover, in the present condition of the Whig party, as such, anything very flattering for the future. That the position of the National Administration on the Nebraska bill, is destroying the Democratic party in the free States, is most certain; but it is equally certain that if this results in benefit to the Whig party, it will not be as at present organized. As a National party, they are disorganized, by the very question which is making headway against the party in power, and which, with its collateral issues, form the only real live questions now agitating the country.

Let the Whig party in '56, assemble in Convention with its Claytons and Badgers, and other devotees of Slavery, and go before the country on the state issues of other days, and it will meet with a defeat more overwhelming than that of 1852.

In New Hampshire and Connecticut, they have acted with wisdom, and acted up to the living present, fraternizing in good faith with the advance guard in the cause of human freedom; and, working thus in harmony, a glorious victory was the result. And it was not claimed as a Whig, but as a triumph of the friends of freedom. A similar movement, made in good faith, could carry every free State in the Union; and consign the lords of the lash, with their servile followers, to their proper place.

But let the Whig party attempt to consummate this work in a spirit of exclusiveness, and so far as they are concerned, it will prove a signal failure. In some of the States this prediction will be realized at the approaching elections. One of these will be our own State. Here they are under the leadership of a set of conservative fogies in Philadelphia, whose sympathies do not extend beyond the Schuylkill, and do not of course understand the feelings which animate the masses in the rural districts.

When a man was offered as candidate for Governor, who would have rallied the friends of progress in his support, these fogies sought and secured his defeat with the delegates of the party, because, forsooth, it was charged upon him that he had not supported Henry Clay in 1844! This was the "head and front of his offending," but being made the test of Whig orthodoxy, it was decided that he was unworthy a Whig nomination. And placing the selection of their candidate upon this test, they have made the platform too narrow for any but straight out Whigs to stand upon it.

Wherever a similar proscription is pursued, defeat will follow; and if it becomes the ruling element in the councils of the Whig party of the country, the Gazette will find its promised "glorious triumph" in '56, prove a phantom.—Mercer Freeman.

Power of the Press.—Every city and town in New Hampshire, where a newspaper is published, elected opposition members to the Legislature, either in whole or in part; electing in all sixty-six opposition to seven administration. This fact shows conclusively that the people of this country, when informed of political iniquity, will condemn it. Had there been a little more time for information to reach the back towns of New Hampshire before the election, there would have hardly been a vestige of the Nebraska Administration party left there.—Boston Commonwealth.

"A Case for Sympathy."

Another fugitive.—A negro man, belonging to Mr. Richard Doyle, made his escape to the North a few days ago. He had been a co-mensurer for some time. We are called upon to announce almost daily the loss of this species of property. The community of Norfolk and vicinity have, within the last twelve months, sustained a loss of over \$30,000 of slave property by the aid of abolitionists, and are now large stockholders in this kind of property north of Mason & Dixon's line. We would ask if New Bedford, Boston, or any other community of abolitionists were losers in any kind of property, would they sit so quietly, and not call for redress from the powers that be? It is, in fact, the South should take some action. Forbearance has ceased to be a virtue.

Norfolk Beacon, 31st ult.
1. This is a case which shows the want of religious instruction among slaves. Have they read their Bibles? Do they not know the wickedness of running away from their masters? A copy of Dr. Spring's "First Things" might be abridged for circulation South—a plantation edition. The Tract Society and the Sunday School Union issue plantation editions of other works, why not of this? At any rate, as soon as the Nebraska matter has been settled by that sober second thought of the North which the Journal of Commerce was confident would soon reverse the apparent indignity of the North, ought not the Southern Aid Society to send a missionary to Norfolk and neighborhood?

2. Southern families, in their summer residence at the North, delectate us with assurances of the fondness of their slaves. Why, they would scorn liberty, if offered to them! The abstraction is only fit for white folks. Are the slaves about Norfolk of a different breed?

3. As a remedy for this peripatetic tendency of their contented slaves, we would suggest to our noble brothers of the South, disunion. They would cure every thing. They could then keep their slaves so much better, or get them so much easier.

4. As to the question proposed to Boston and New Bedford, what they would do, if suffering a like affliction? We shall not anticipate the answer which those cities will, of course, make. We only express an opinion, that New England, and the North generally, is very apt, when in trouble, to appeal to the farm, the work-shop, and to the powers that be. This is the difference between the North and the South.

N. Y. Independent.

Barbarism Returning.

At the execution at Pittsburg on Friday, the Sheriff employed a professional hangman, said to be the notorious George Alberti, formerly of Philadelphia, and now residing in Baltimore. The same man is said to have been the executioner of Arthur Spring, and one or two other victims of the law. When engaged in the work of his despicable profession, this monster disguises himself in a style that would be absurd, if it were not for the circumstances of the scene, which make it absolutely revolting. At Pittsburg on Friday, he wore a white shirt and white pantaloons, the latter held up by a red scarf around his waist. His face was painted a hideous red; long, false, red hair fell in matted curls over his shoulders, while huge black whiskers covered the lower part of his face. The brute that insulted humanity by appearing in this horrible dress, behaved with corresponding heartlessness on the scaffold, and in binding the prisoner and removing his fetters, was so rough and violent that the Sheriff was compelled to take the task out of his hands. His conduct, up to the time of the prisoner's death struggles, was equally brutal, and it so shocked the witnesses of the execution that they were disposed to lay violent hands on him.—Phila. Evening Bulletin.

This Alberti is the same despicable wretch who was, a year or two ago, convicted of kidnapping, by a Philadelphia court, sentenced to the State Prison, and then pardoned by his sympathizing and political friend, Governor BIGLER, at the solicitation of their neutral friends, the Philadelphia representatives of the slave interest, before any considerable portion of his time had been served out. He has also figured as a standing witness, or in some other capacity equally honorable, in most of the proceedings under the Fugitive Slave act, that have been had in Philadelphia or vicinity.

The various branches of business in which he engages are so nearly analogous in their nature, and require such similar traits of character for a proper discharge of their duties, that we are forced to admit that this miserable libel upon humanity appears to have been peculiarly fortunate, thus far, in the choice of occupations suited to his organization. If we next year hear of the capture of a pirate that answers to his

description, it will be no evidence that he is growing more wicked, but that piracy pays better than hanging, kidnapping, or even false swearing for the Government.—Onondaga Gazette.

Williamsport and Elmira Railroad.

Deeming some information in regard to this road would be of interest to our readers, we have obtained from A. S. Divan, Esq., President of the company, some facts in regard to it. About 25 miles of the rails are now laid down at the south (or Williamsport) end of the road; and on it are placed two locomotives, twenty five freight cars, one passenger and one mail car. There are laid at this end about eleven miles of the track. The iron is on the ground to finish to Troy. The balance of the iron at the other end of the railroad, and at the works in Duville. The ties are all distributed, and as soon as the frost will allow, the track will be laid down in the shortest possible time. It is speaking within time when we say it will be completed by the first of July. The company have at this end thirty freight cars now on the track. The other freight cars for furnishing the road are being made at Corning. The passenger cars are being constructed at the shop of Mr. Ruter, in this village; and if any one wishes to see as neat cars as can be found on any road in this country, let him call and see those now being finished at Mr. R.'s establishment.

This road not only gives us access to the flourishing villages of Canton and Troy, but passes through the richest and most extensive deposits of iron ore anywhere in Pennsylvania. Extensive works are already erected, and others are being erected along this road, for the manufacture of iron. As the coal and iron are found in the same hills, no section of the country offers better facilities for the manufacture of iron, than that through which this road passes. A number of rolling mills and nail factories are already in operation; and as soon as this road is opened, we can hardly estimate the business that will be done in those branches of iron manufacture. At the same time this road will be opened, the Little Schuylkill and Reading—thus forming a direct train from Philadelphia to Niagara Falls, (through in fifteen hours) by the commencement of the traveling season. As this route to the Falls will be the most direct from Philadelphia and Baltimore, we may safely calculate that the immense summer rush of travelers from the Quaker City and the South, will avail themselves of this route. This will, in addition, be the only outlet by railroad for the thickly settled valleys of the Susquehanna west of Harrisburg. The completion of the Susquehanna road, now far under way, will also connect us with Baltimore—bringing us, in fact, nearer to Baltimore than to New York by railroad. That road will, probably, not be completed until another season; but during this season the connection will be made by packet boats between Milton and the mouth of the Juniata, a distance of about forty miles, affording a pleasant relief to travelers.

Thus we are about to be connected with the large and beautiful villages of Williamsport, Jersey Shore, Lock Haven, Milton, Lewisburg, Muncy, Bloomsburg, Catawissa, Sunbury, Northumberland, and numerous smaller towns in the valley of the Susquehanna. These have hitherto been entirely locked in from any great thoroughfare. Notwithstanding this, they are all large villages, averaging not far from two thousand inhabitants each. Our citizens know well what travel such towns afford for railroads, and what increased trade and advantages railroads bring to towns. We have no doubt but that the Williamsport and Elmira railroad will be one of the best paying roads in the State, and will greatly add to the business interests of Elmira and every town through which it passes.—Elmira (N. Y.) Republican.

Movement in Pennsylvania.

The Independent, Free Soil, and a portion of the Whig press of Pennsylvania are urging the formation of an opposition State ticket, which will unite all the elements of opposition to the Administration party. It is generally conceded that the ticket nominated by the Whigs cannot be elected. Judge Pollock cannot combine the element of the opposition.

The Lancaster Whig seems to value to the importance of this course, and advises the support of Judge WILSON, as an independent candidate, and the withdrawal of Judge POLLOCK for Governor. The Coudersport People's Journal favors Judge WILSON, GEORGE DARRIS, or any other good man as a State Reform, Anti-Nebraska candidate.

The Pittsburgh Dispatch takes the same view of the matter. It is hoped that wise counsels will prevail in the Keystone State.

If all the State Reform and anti-Nebraska votes can be united on one ticket,

a glorious triumph awaits them next fall; while, on the other hand, if their strength is frittered away on several candidates, certain and disgraceful defeat is sure to overtake them. The attempt to resuscitate the old whig organization by means of the Anti-Nebraska sentiment prevailing in the North will prove a signal failure, and inflict a heavy blow on the anti-slavery cause itself.—Cleveland Leader.

The Black Warrior Case.

The New Orleans Crescent, after an examination of the documents, in the case of the Black Warrior, comes to the following conclusions:

1. That the seizure and confiscation of the Black Warrior were, under the port regulations of Havana, legal and just.

2. That Captain Bullock, his consignees, Tyng & Co., and our Consul, admit the fact that it was legal.

3. That they only in reality contended that they should be let off, because they were ignorant of the law, and ignorant of the fact that they had done so before; 2nd, because they had done so before; 3rd, because they had no intentions of fraud.

4. That to this the Spaniard replied; "It was your business to know our regulations, that you might comply with them; besides, we furnished you with them in English. 2. We never suspended our laws; and if you have been violating them, it was without our knowledge." 3. "We have no laws that are guided by men's intentions; we can only consider their acts."

5. That the British steamers have always submitted to precisely what was required of the Black Warrior.

6. That while the language and the statements of Bullock, Tyng, and our Consul have been violent and denunciatory, they have been holding to the Cuban authorities only the language of apology and supplication. Thus they were at once encouraging the Spaniard to persist in his course, and exciting our government and people to make war upon him for that course.

7. That the owners, by submitting to take back their ship and cargo, confessed that they had done wrong in abandoning them.

8. That they have since still further given up their whole case, by a fact now brought to light; that they have addressed a petition to the Queen, supplicating her to remit, as of her grace, the fine of \$6000 imposed on them.

Harriet K. Hunt in Ohio.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, April 2, 1864.
Messrs. Editors.—It may not be uninteresting to your readers, and warm personal friends of Harriet K. Hunt, M. D., to hear something of her brief visit to this place.

She had, on her way homeward from Washington, taken Cleveland in her route, and been strongly solicited by her friend Mrs. Severance, who was appointed at the State Woman's Rights Convention, last spring, one of a committee to present petitions, and a memorial to the Legislature, asking equality for women, to take the place of an absent member of that committee, and accompany her to this place. Regarding it as a duty under all the circumstances of the case, she came accordingly, and was present at the presentation of the petitions and the accompanying memorial to the Senate.

Being afterwards requested by those whose acquaintance she had here formed among them a gentlemanly physician of the Senate—to deliver a lecture upon women as physicians, and the 2nd Presbyterian Church having been obtained for that purpose, she gave, on the evening of March 24th, an able and most acceptable free lecture, to an audience of the most respectable and earnest character. As remarked afterwards by a member of the profession, who had attended, the lecture was entirely free from vituperation and bitterness; it was a dignified plea for the admission of woman into medical life and practice; its propriety, necessity and desirability being urgently set forth.

Her reception was in every way gratifying to herself, and her influence beneficial to all who met or heard her. Among other encouraging results, a prominent Professor of the Starling Medical College assured her that their institution should hereafter be open to woman equally with man. A Breckev.

A LOVING WIFE.—There is no estimating the love of a true wife. The woman, Ellen Nolen, who jumped from a window and severely injured herself in trying to escape from a husband who was beating her, is doing very well at the Hospital. She refuses very decidedly to enter any complaint against her husband, and implored the officer not to arrest him; as he would not have been guilty of the outrage if he had not been drunk. How this poor woman must love her set of a husband to abstain from prosecuting him in spite of his cruelty.—Phila. N. Am. & U. S. Gaz.