

THE PEOPLE'S JOURNAL.

JNO. S. MANN,
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FIDELITY TO THE PEOPLE.

COLDERSPORT, FRIDAY, MAY 5, 1854.

There will be Divine service at the Court House on Sabbath morning next, at half-past ten o'clock. Preaching by Rev. R. T. CLAFLIN.

The Quarterly meeting of the Coldersport Library Association will be held at their Library room at the house of Mrs. Kent, on Saturday next (May 6) at two o'clock P. M. A general attendance is requested.

Next week we shall publish the beautiful address which Rev. R. L. Stillwell, of Tioga, read at our mass meeting. We hope no reader of the Journal will overlook it.

We are requested to give notice that a meeting will be held to-morrow (Saturday, the 6th inst.) at four o'clock P. M., at the office of A. G. Olmsted, Esq., for the purpose of making arrangements to organize a brass band in Coldersport.

We call attention to the advertisement of N. S. BUTLER & CO., of Olean, N. Y., and hope that those of our readers who go there to make purchases will give this firm a call before making their selections.

Some of our hunker friends are quite anxious to have the people believe that the active friends of Temperance hereabouts are simply working for popularity. These poor, envious souls can learn of any of the old citizens of the county, if they will take the trouble to enquire, that the same men were equally zealous for the Temperance cause when it was an exceedingly unpopular one.

Col. Benton has given the Douglas fraud its finishing touch—we think. The speech of this veteran statesman, delivered in the House of Representatives on the 25th of April, is among the ablest of the session, and will be read by every voter in the free States, we hope. We shall publish extracts enough from it to induce our readers to send and get it in pamphlet form.

Why did every prominent slaveholder who took part in the Revolution, and in establishing the present Government of the United States, restore his own slaves to their natural rights before his death? Because they knew slavery to be inconsistent with the Government they had formed, and in opposition to the principles they professed to maintain. They knew that to hold on to their slaves was to remain in union with despots. So they "let the oppressed go free," and thereby set an example which, if it had been generally followed, would have abolished Slavery long ago. And yet, unfeeling men, of the present day have the hardihood to quote WASHINGTON as a defender of Slavery. They might as well quote our Savior as a disciple of Beelzebub.

The session of the Grand Division S. of T. of Pennsylvania which met here on Wednesday last, was an occasion of great interest to those of our citizens who took part in its proceedings. The attendance was not large, owing in part to the late freshet, which took several delegates to market with lumber. Still we had delegates from McKean, Potter, Bradford, and Tioga counties, who gave unmistakable evidence of their zeal in the good cause by their attendance at the most disagreeable time for traveling that we have had since last November. The sessions of the G. D. were conducted in good feeling, and we hope to good results. We feel strengthened and revived by the intercourse with friends, and shall look forward with pleasure to the next quarterly session to be held in Coldersport.

The speech of Mr. Hunt, of Louisiana, in the House of Representatives, against the Nebraska bill, is warmly commended by the Whig papers of New-Orleans. The Bulletin subscribes to its views, and says that it is universally approved; the Bee publishes large extracts, and speaks of it in high terms of praise; and the ultra Southern Courier, the Democratic organ of New-Orleans, changes its tone, and deems the bill of no essential importance to the South.—Nat. Era.

Where is the McKean News containing a copy of Goodrich's defense of the Nebraska bill? Let it be forwarded to the New-Orleans Bulletin at once, or there is no telling how soon the Union will be dissolved.

A gift is abused that is not made free use of.

The Mass Meeting.

On the first page will be found the proceedings of the mass meeting which met at the Court House on Thursday afternoon and evening. Taking into consideration the inclemency of the weather, and the horrible state of the roads, we think the attendance at the Court House was much larger than could have been expected, and was a triumphant manifestation of the strength of the Temperance cause in this county.

A large number came twelve and fifteen miles, through a violent storm, to testify their devotion to the Temperance cause, and to pledge themselves anew to the extinction of the liquor traffic. It made the pulse beat quick with pleasure, to see our spacious court room rapidly fill up at the ringing of the bell, on such a day, and for such a purpose.

And then the meetings, we venture to say every true friend of Temperance was delighted with them.

The speaking was forcible, sarcastic, humorous, and to the point. The music was all that could be desired, and the resolutions were adopted by acclamation without a dissenting voice.

It is true, however, that four persons desired to strike out the 5th resolution and adopt in its stead the one offered by Mr. Ellis. But the effort to make the substitution found such feeble support, that on the passage of the resolutions reported by a majority of the committee, not a single voice was raised in opposition.

The minority of the committee took a singular course for men professing to be friends of Temperance, as will be seen by looking at their report. They "deprecate all attempts to mix the question of Temperance with party politics," and yet they were the only members of the committee who introduced that subject into the deliberations of the committee, and Mr. Ellis was the first speaker to introduce "party politics" into the discussions of the convention. The 5th resolution objected to by Messrs. Dike and Ellis, in the committee room, and by two others in the meeting, simply says, that it is the duty of Temperance men to withhold their votes from anti-Maine Law candidates for legislative offices. It does not say a word about the duty of voting for any party, or any body.

Now, we do not believe there is a sincere friend of Temperance in the State who favors the Maine Law, but who will heartily endorse the 5th resolution; and hence, we are compelled to conclude, that the minority of the committee offered their report from no desire to advance the cause of Temperance, but simply to bolster up, if possible, the failing fortunes of a rum-controlled party. We shall see how much capital is to be made by the puny effort.

Will Judge Pollock Decline?

We have received several private letters which intimate a doubt whether Judge Pollock will maintain the field as Whig nominee for Governor. Some strong and conspicuous Whigs are in favor of the Judge withdrawing to leave a free field to David Wilmot to beat Bigler. If it could be made clear the Judge's withdrawal would enable Wilmot to defeat Bigler, and teach the Slave power an everlasting lesson, we do not know we should offer any objection to the arrangement ourselves.

Wilmot is no Whig, but could not the Whigs for once, give their help to beat their enemies, without reward in place or power to themselves? Let us hear from our friends on this mere hint. We are quite ready and willing to make personal and party sacrifices for the defeat of the enemy at this momentous crisis.—Pitts. Com. Journal, April 18.

We like the spirit of the above article. The Commercial is an old and reliable Whig paper, and yet manifests such a liberal spirit as would soon secure union and harmony among the opponents of Governor Bigler; if a majority of its party act thus liberally and wisely.

Whatever the result, we shall always hold the Editor of the Commercial in high esteem for his manly course.

The Philadelphia Daily Register, an energetic, wide awake, independent, and ably-conducted journal, has joined the "Associated Press," and will hereafter rank not only as the ablest in its editorials, but as the first in its news department. We rejoice most heartily in this improvement, for the Register is the only truly independent daily in Philadelphia, and this last improvement will enable it to exert that commanding influence which its ability, integrity, and fearlessness naturally creates.

A HINT.—If girls would spend as much time with encyclopedias as they do with milliners, they would soon find themselves woefully out of their sphere.

Single Districts.

It is evident to every one who thinks on the subject for a moment, that true democracy requires all representative officers to be elected on single tickets. For instance—a few years ago several States elected their whole delegation to Congress on one ticket. The result was that the party having a majority in the State of a single vote, would elect the entire delegation. The people generally were opposed to such anti-republican practices; and Congress passed an act requiring each State to be divided into as many districts as it was entitled to members of Congress. But New-Hampshire and South-Carolina, being under the control of sham democrats, disregarded the act of Congress, and refused to district their respective States in accordance therewith. When the members from these States, elected on the old general ticket system, presented themselves, they were refused admission, and the act of Congress was enforced. Since that the district ticket system has been adopted for all legislative officers in nearly all the States. But in hunker-ridden Pennsylvania, the anti-democratic, log-rolling, double-district system still prevails, notwithstanding the efforts of a large number of the people to secure reform in this respect. An effort of this kind has just been defeated in the Senate of the State, and we ask our readers to note well the names of those voting against this genuine republican measure. On the 19th inst. the following proceedings were had in our State Senate:

The amendments to the Constitution, to restrict the increase of the State debt, and to prevent municipal subscriptions to railroads, were discussed.

Mr. Price offered an amendment, providing for the election of Senators and Representatives by single districts. Lost. Yeas 14, nays 15.

Yeas—Messrs. Barnes, Crabb, Darlington, Darsie, Evans, Ferguson, Frick, Hamilton, Kinzer, Mellinger, Price, Skinner, Slifer.—14

Nays—Messrs. Bubkalew, Cresswell, Fry, Goodwin, Haldean, B. D. Hamilton, E. W. Hamlin, Hiestler, Hoge, Jamison, McFarland, Platt, Sager, McCaslin, Speaker.—15

Every one of the 15 Senators voting against this motion of Senator Price, providing for single districts, is an old hunker democrat; and they are the same, with two exceptions, that voted against the Kunkle resolutions on the Nebraska question.

Thus our readers will see that sham democrats vote consistently. They generally connive to please the slaveholders, the rum-sellers, and the log-rollers, and pretend to be democrats, unless to play the hypocrite, is more than we can tell.

Philadelphia Conference.

This body closed its session on the 25th ult. It reports a membership, probationers included, 56,000 against 53,813 last year, which gives an increase for the year of 2,287. On the resolutions of the Troy Conference, asking the General Conference to insert a rule in the Discipline forbidding "the buying and selling of human beings, except in view of emancipation, and the voluntary and mercenary holding them in bondage," it unanimously voted not to concur.

So then both the Baltimore and Philadelphia Conferences determined to hug the slave trade still to their bosoms. What will Methodists North do?—National Era.

A friend writes us that Rev. Penel Coombe, Chairman of the State Temperance Committee, is a member of the Philadelphia Conference, and voted against the Troy Conference resolution, and therefore in favor of continuing in church-fellowship with those who buy and sell human beings for gain. We respectfully ask our friends of the Lancaster Express, and Norristown Olive Branch, to enlighten the public on this point. If our friend states a fact, then we must conclude there has been an unfair advantage taken of the bone and sinew of the Temperance army, for nine-tenths of its members are honest opponents of oppression in all its forms, and they will not long be willing to have their glorious movements guided by advocates or defenders of "the sum of all villainies."

INFORMATION WANTED!—Of Stephen Arnold Douglas, late resident of Chicago, Ill., who left his home for Washington city in November. When last heard from, he was in that city trying to pass a bad bill. If any of the officers of that city can give any information as to his whereabouts, and will leave the intelligence at the office of the National Era, it will be a great relief to his afflicted friends, who greatly fear he has done away with himself.—Grand River Recorder.

Employ thy time well, if thou meanest to gain leisure.

"Popular Sovereignty."

It is amusing to see the efforts of the pro-slavery press and unprincipled politicians to make the people believe that they are the especial champions of popular sovereignty. The Missouri Compromise ought to be repealed, say these "new lights," because it is in the way of the exercise of the free action of the people. "Let the people rule," is one of the clap-trap phrases by which the extension of slavery is sought to be made palatable. It is a sufficient answer to all this sophistry to say, that the men in Congress who advocate the passage of the Douglas fraud, pay no regard to the will of their constituents.

The people have not asked for any such legislation. On the contrary, all classes and conditions of people, Whigs, Democrats, and Free Soilers, have protested against it.

The National Era forcibly says:

We need hardly say, that the author of the Bill, with its supporters in Congress and out of it, knows, that the only sovereignty over Territories of the Union resides in the Federal Government; that the Bill itself proceeds, from its enacting clause to its last provision, upon this assumption; that only on this assumption, can any Bill for the organization of a Territorial Government be justified; that to assume that the inhabitants of a Territory have the right of sovereignty, is to deny the distinction between States and Territories, and claim for the latter the same rights and rank that belong to the former.

Into what then does this specious declamation about Popular Sovereignty in Territories, resolve itself? Simply into this—a claim that any number of settlers therein, indisposed to earn their bread by the sweat of their brow, shall be allowed to live upon the labor of slaves; and to secure this great and precious privilege, Congress is called upon to repeal the Missouri Compromise in Nebraska, under which the laborer is deemed worthy of his hire, and entitled to the full enjoyment of the fruits of his own work. This is "the simple and sublime" issue presented by the Nebraska Bill—nothing more, nothing less.

In maintaining the act of 1820, and resisting the attempt to repeal it, we stand upon the true doctrine of Popular Sovereignty. By the votes of a majority of the Representatives and Senators in Congress, and by the sanction of the President, representing and exercising the Sovereignty of the People and States of the Union, over United States Territories, that act became a Law; a Law it has continued for the last thirty-three years, the People and States of the Union acquiescing in it, no attempt in all that time having been made for its repeal. If any Law is invested with the sanction of Popular Sovereignty, that Law is.

On the other hand, the Bill to repeal the Missouri Compromise, is not by any demonstration of Popular Sovereignty, but is by the pride and self-interest of a small class of slaveholders, who have no respect for the rights or interests of the People, when opposed to their policy. No Press, no primary meeting of the People, no State Convention, no Legislature, North, South, East, or West, had intimated any dissatisfaction with the Act of 1820, or a desire for its repeal; so that the Bill is nothing but an attempt of a would-be Sovereign Class, to annul a great measure, enacted by the real Sovereign People, sustained by them for the third of a century, and still resting on the sanctions of their will.

The Act bears the stamp of Popular Sovereignty; the Bill to repeal it, bears the stamp of a Class interest, which cares no more for the political rights of the free People of the United States, than it does for the natural rights of the three millions of slaves, on whose unpaid labor it has grown fat and arrogant.

Since reading the above, the following Washington letter has been received and shows up more clearly the total disregard of popular sovereignty, by the entire Nebraska supporters:

[Correspondence of the Evening Post.]

WASHINGTON, April 24, 1854.

The process of incubation over a Nebraska bill has been going on for some time past, and it will be introduced to the House on the very first favorable opportunity, or as soon as the advocates of the measure, either from accident or any other cause, find themselves in the House with a working majority. It has been decided, that it must be pushed through without discussion; and it will probably come in as an amendment to some unimportant bill previously designated, the previous question sprung on it, and the whole affair done up before the opponents of the measure are fully aware of what is going on. At least such is the plan foreshadowed; and if there is found to be a fair chance of success, it is the one which will, unquestionably, be attempted. Whether such a system of legislation can promise any permanent success to a party; or whether measures passed under such circumstances can look for strength and sustenance from the great body of the people, are questions which, it will be found, bring their own solution before the lapse of many months. All concede that the vitality of the measure is gone—that it has no substantial foundation in public sentiment, either North or South, and that, if anything is now passed in the shape of a Nebraska bill, it will be done

palpably against the current of public opinion, and serve as an epitaph to most of the politicians now engaged in fashioning it into a law.

Democratic State Convention.

The suggestion of holding a State Convention in the early part of June, has been a good deal canvassed by many of the most influential and intelligent democrats in different quarters of the State.

The outrage of repealing the restriction against slavery in the Missouri Compromise, is persisted in by the representatives of the slave-holding interests in Congress; and we can no longer shut our eyes to the fact, that the President is urging the measure by all the personal and official influence which attaches to his high position. We had hoped that the recent disasters of the Democratic party, in New Hampshire, Connecticut, and Rhode Island—the only States in which general elections have been held since the introduction of this Nebraska iniquity, had satisfied our friends at Washington that the passage of the Douglas bill, or any other, repealing the 8th section of the Missouri act, would certainly overthrow the Democratic party in every free State in the Union.

No party can, and no party ought to maintain ascendancy under such a load of infamy and guilt. But Slaveholders and their ambitious dupes, are as deaf to the interest of party, as they are regardless of the honor and welfare of their country. Slavery knows no interest, aside from its loathsome and horrid investment in the bodies and souls of men.

In another column will be found a call for a meeting, to elect delegates to represent this County in the proposed State Convention. We trust there will be a full and general attendance. Let the men in high places, who are tampering with the rights and dearest interests of the people, bartering them off for preferment and office, learn that they cannot have the countenance and support of the democracy of Pennsylvania in their schemes of profligacy, and ruin to the country.

We hold up both hands for a Democratic anti-Nebraska State Convention.—Bradford Reporter.

That sounds as if Pennsylvania had some idea of becoming a free State. We hail the appearance of the above article with lively pleasure; and we trust every democrat in the State who is in favor of confining Slavery to its present limits, will do something to increase the interest and power of the proposed State Convention. We think the movers in this matter have acted unwisely in confining their invitation to democrats, but we are so well satisfied to see people act with a view to the overthrow of the Slave power, that we shall not complain of the plan of action. We shall now see how much heart there was in the opposition of the leading Whig men in this section, to the Douglas iniquity. If they take measures to be represented in the State Convention, we shall know they are sincere; but if they do not, we shall suspect they were only trying to make a little capital.

The Hon. Charles Miner.

We are glad to notice an address from the pen of this staunch old Republican in opposition to the repeal of the Missouri Compromise. The following, excerpt from this address states one objection which we have not seen so forcibly done by any other person. Says Mr. Miner:

"From the best lights before me, I suppose, after the apportionment following the census of 1850 there were representatives of slaves 12 1800 16 1810 20 1820 22 1830 23

"My data beyond this period are not perfect. I think the present number not less than 16. Some clear-minded congressional statist should give us a complete list.

"They constitute 6 1-2 of the whole representation from the slave States.

"They equal, save one, the representatives from six southern States, viz: Delaware 1; Arkansas 2; Louisiana 4; Mississippi 5; Texas 2; Florida 1—15. These six States send twelve members to the Senate, equal to the senatorial representation from all New-England.

"These six States, with a free population of less than half that of Pennsylvania, have twelve United States Senators to Pennsylvania's two.

"But this is according to the Constitution; agreed. The proposition does not come from us to change the law. But is this inequality republican, democratic, or just in itself? If not, while we faithfully adhere to existing compromises and the consequent inequality, ought we, can we without treason to Pennsylvania, under any pretense lend our votes to extend it? Is not, in voting, a masterly inactivity the true policy; to say no, is to do nothing, in that you are sure to do no evil. If any member from a free State, who is not seeking an executive appointment, cannot shake off party trammels, and vote no—at least let him take the prudent course, and be absent."

A flattering word is like sunshine to a sore eye; it increases the trouble and lessens the sight.

The Spirit of '76 Reviving.

We find in *The Wesleyan* of April 27 an account of the meeting of the Syracuse Wesleyan Conference, which is exceedingly interesting.

Each minister gave an account of the charge committed to him, and the following reminds us very strongly of the letter which old John Adams wrote to his wife, urging their pastor to preach for Liberty.

Senator Douglas will find he has undertaken something of a task, we opine, and when he has silenced the ministry, he will probably be elected President.

Litchfield.—Bro. Loomis said—This is a free Congregational church, which, in 1842, seceded from the Oneida Presbytery. They are distinguished by anti-slavery and general reform. There is not one who votes for slavery. There is not one but who is opposed to drinking. There is not one who will support Governor Seymour. There is not one who sympathizes with modern necromancy, that Joshua was commanded to root out of the land—that is, conversing with the dead. There is not one who will consent to belong to any secret oath-bound society. A very flattering account of the liberality of the people was given by Bro. L. He closed by stating the topics on which he treated, publicly, embracing the themes of general and special interest, saying that he always preached before each election on the duty of Christians. And on the day of election he took his stand at the polls, distributing tickets and seeing that the work of God was carried on at that point, as well as elsewhere.

More Territory to be Protected.

The Gadsden Treaty, just adopted by the Senate, gives ten millions of dollars to Santa Anna for a large body of territory and for the abrogation of a foolish article in the Treaty of Gaudalup Hidalgo. To get rid of that article, which required us to protect the Mexicans against their northern tribes of Indians, and of all claims for damages under it, we may fairly assume to be worth two millions of dollars. This leaves eight millions to be paid for converting territory now free into slave territory, or that which the most earnest supporters of the treaty mean shall become such. Here is a point which requires explanation. The public ought to know whether the Mesilla Valley, and the other land acquired from Mexico, are to be covered by a Slavery prohibition in the form of the Wilmot Proviso, or a formal recognition of the Mexican Anti-Slavery law, before the money to pay for them is taken from the Treasury. And it would also be well before these millions are paid out for land to build a Southern railroad, to understand whether a million or so cannot be had to improve the rivers and harbors of the North. Or is it to be now as heretofore, millions on millions to Slavery, and not a cent to benefit the soil of freedom?—Tribune.

Cuban Apprenticeship.

Havana letters, brought by the steamship Crescent City, on her last trip, contain an extract from the Havana Official Gazette, giving the names of persons to whom have been conferred in apprenticeship, for one year, the negroes apprehended in the jurisdiction of Trinidad the past month. Attached to each name is the number of apprentices, the aggregate being 574 negroes. As this is an official announcement, it settles beyond question the truth of what has been heretofore said and denied respecting the introduction of the British apprenticeship system into Cuba.

A late waggish printer, while on his death-bed, was requested "to be composed." "Distributed, you mean," was the faint reply.

Duelling Without Danger.

A gentleman of Kentucky being recently challenged to fight a duel, accepted to fight with broad swords at the distance of 700 paces.

War Declared at Last.

The long repose of Europe is about to be disturbed by the single note and the rattle of the drum, calling the slumbering millions to arms in the defense of their firesides and their country. England and France are calling for men and means, and sending forward their armies to battle against the aggressions of the Russian Bear; but while the Old World is convulsed by revolution, unusual peace and plenty reign in the New.

In the peaceful and quiet pursuit of our business we have formed a copartnership under the name and style of N. S. BUTLER & CO., and have taken the store in Empire Block, in the village of Olean, formerly occupied by Thing & Brother, and are now receiving a splendid new stock of goods adapted to the season and wants of the community, which we intend to sell exclusively for cash down, at prices that will cause consternation and dismay in the ranks of old fogymen that has been so long established in this section.

Our stock will consist in part of the following Goods:

| | | |
|-------------|------------------------|----------------|
| Hardware, | Crockery, | Boots & Shoes, |
| Hats, | Caps, | Carpets, |
| Oil Cloths, | Drugs, | Medicines, |
| Dye Stuffs, | Glass, | Paints & Oil, |
| Sash, | Putty, | Chairs, |
| Bedsteads, | Mattresses, | Feathers, |
| | Stone and Wooden Ware, | |

And we mean to keep such an assortment of the above goods that persons from a distance can be assured of finding everything they usually want at prices that will do them good. Call and see for yourselves.

N. S. BUTLER & CO.

Olean, May 5, 1854. 6-51

Clothing, Clothing.

THE place to buy well-made Clothing at a low price (a large stock to select from) is at

OLMSTED'S.