

about which, we fear, the *Enquirer* and ourselves would not be as unanimous as upon the profound theorem we have quoted from its columns, that "the southern system of slavery is as wise and just in its nature as it is beneficent in its operation."—*N. Y. Evening Post*.

The Contest in Pennsylvania.

We invite attention to the article in another column, headed "The Next Governor," from the *People's Journal*, prefacing some remarks of the *Lancaster Whig*, respecting the approaching election in this State. The *Whig* is edited by THEO. FENN, Esq., who for many years so ably presided over the columns of the *Harrisburg Telegraph*. No man understands the politics of Pennsylvania more thoroughly than Mr. F., and his advice should not pass unheeded by his Whig friends.

In the present juncture of political affairs it was desirable that such a liberal spirit would characterize the councils of politicians, that all who are opposed to the subjugation of the country to the iron rule of the slave power, could fraternize together; that by whatever name they have heretofore been called, henceforth they would present a united front, basing their action upon the only questions that have any vitality in them. In such a union we had no doubt of success. The people of Pennsylvania do not love slavery; and it is only by the deception practiced upon them by political demagogues, who are in league with the slave power, that they are found doing its work.

It was in the power of the Whig party in this State, to have done much towards the accomplishment of this desirable end; and nothing but the perverseness of the commercial Whigs of Philadelphia has prevented it. Had the Whigs foregone a strict party Convention, and a call been issued for all the friends of reform and opponents of the repeal of the Missouri Compromise,—where all such could meet in perfect equality—such a judicious selection of candidates had been made, Pennsylvania would have been redeemed from the degraded position she occupies, of being under the control of as contemptible a race of serviles as ever trod the earth. But a blind attachment to the name of *Whig*—for, whatever peculiar principles the party may once have held, the name is all that is now left—has urged the leaders of that party to the adoption of a proscription course, the result of which will leave them in a hopeless minority. —*Mercer Freeman*.

From the New-York Tribune.

Humors of the Day.

We have hitherto been too anxious and apprehensive as to the fate of the Nebraska bill to enjoy or indulge in pleasantries concerning it, but the sudden lighting up of the horizon caused by the decisive vote of the House which sends the abomination to the Committee of the Whole impels a livelier mood, wherein we gladly hail such sparkles as the following:

"John Brown, Ferrymann," writes to the editor regularly favored with his correspondence as follows:

"P. S.—I understood you to say the other day, in the *Evening Post*, that the President was in favor of leaving the subject of Slavery in Nebraska to the settlers. Will you please inform me whether the New-Hampshire election is one of the 'settlers' he refers to?"

And this from the *New-Hampshire Telegraph* (Nashua) is some:

"After appearances began to indicate that the Democracy had got a pretty severe drubbing at the late election, one of the Utter-ified was explaining the cause to another, and attributed it to the Nebraska bill. 'The Nebraska bill,' said the intelligent sovereign, 'there's money enough in the treasury—why don't they pay the d—n thing, and let it out of the way?'"

And this, from one of our own correspondents, seems in our altered state of feeling, not very bad:

THE DOUGLASES—A SWOP.

Let slavery now stop her mouth, And quiet be henceforth: We've got Fred Douglass from the South—She's got Steve from the North! But that no difference should be paid, "T'were hardly fair to ask her. We've made so much the better trade She claims to boast—Nebraska!"

Bill Nebraska and General Rum.

The result of all the elections which have taken place recently, has been, without exception, one way—a dead hit at Bill Nebraska and Gen. Rum. They seem to stand or fall together—thus far they have invariably fallen—and so it will be. We agree with our cotemporary of the *Butler Democrat* that there will be only two sides to the campaign this fall, and mark the fate of those who attach themselves to the rum traffic and slavery propagandism. It is no use in striving to conceal the fact—those are the main issues now before the people, and every candidate receiving the nomination this fall, will be expected to answer for himself. The candidates, and not the parties, will be held responsible for the opinions they may respectively entertain on these questions, and he who refuses to answer will be held equal with him who goes in for rum and slavery. —*Hester Herald*.

The day laborer, who earns with horny hand and the sweat of his face, coarse food for his wife and children, whom he loves, is raised by this generous motive, to true dignity, and, though wanting the refinements of life, is a nobler being than those who think themselves absolved by wealth from serving others. —*Channing*.

THE PEOPLE'S JOURNAL.

JNO. S. MANN, EDWIN HASKELL, } Editors.

FIDELITY TO THE PEOPLE.

COUDERSPORT, FRIDAY, MAY 12, 1854.

Free Democratic State Convention.

Resolved, That a Convention of the Free Democracy of Pennsylvania, for the nomination of a State ticket, and for promoting the organization of the party, be, and is hereby called, to meet in Pittsburg, WEDNESDAY, MAY 24th, next, at 12 o'clock M.; and that Free Democrats are requested to meet in their respective counties and appoint delegates, and likewise to attend generally as individuals, especially from those counties in which no appointing meetings shall be held.

By the Free Democratic State Central Committee,

WM. B. THOMAS, Chairman. C. B. JONES, Secretary. 52-2t May 1, 1854.

On the outside is an excellent address, read by Rev. R. L. Sijwell at the mass meeting on the 27th of April. We hope none of our readers will pass it by.

Governor Bigler has signed the bill for the sale of the main line of the public works. Very good. Now let the Canal Board be abolished, and we shall have some hope of paying off our enormous State debt, and of a reduction of the oppressive taxes which cripple our prosperity.

Our friends in Ullyses who left a notice with us for a meeting to make arrangements to celebrate the coming anniversary of our nation's birth-day, will excuse its non-appearance, when we state that the day of meeting was the same as the next issue of our paper. Whether this was a mistake in writing the notice or not, we do not know.

There are forty-five students at the Academy, preparing themselves for future usefulness. We dropped in a moment on Wednesday morning, and found Mr. Bloomingdale drilling as happy a set of pupils as one need wish to see. May their numbers increase till our indefatigable Principal shall cry—"Hold, enough!"

We call attention to the communication of Silix Flint, on the first page. This article is a little stronger in its terms than we deem profitable; but there is so much miserable cant used in relation to the proper sphere of ministers, that we exonerate our correspondent from all blame for his hot words. Though inclined to be over mild in our own language, we sometimes feel indignant at the passion which is sought to be put on the ministers' mouth.

The Norristown Olive Branch, an independent and progressive paper, has been greatly improved of late, being newly dressed in handsome style. We rejoice in this evidence of prosperity, for the Olive Branch is one of the few papers in Pennsylvania that dares to say what the editor thinks the occasion requires. We hope the men of Montgomery, Bucks, and Chester counties will see that such a paper is generously sustained.

Our friend TYLER, of the Drug and Book Store, has added greatly to the interest of his establishment by securing for sale an early copy of all the desirable monthlies. We are under obligations to him for much good reading, in Putnam monthly. This number has an excellent article on Nebraska, which ought to secure for it a rapid sale. Then there are two articles suggested by the war in the East, which are timely, and full of interest. "Stage-Coach Stories," "Fireside Travels," and "New-England Spring Flowers," are sprightly and agreeable productions. We know of no better way of procuring a rich treat for a quarter than to step into Tyler's and get Putnam's monthly.

We have received a few copies of the *Juvenile Instructor*, a semi-monthly, published at Syracuse, N. Y., by Lucius C. Mallack.

TERMS—INVARIABLELY IN ADVANCE. For single copies, \$ 25 Five to one person 1 00 Ten 1 75 Twenty, " 3 00 Postage paid, 4 00 Thirty, " 4 20 " 5 75 Forty, " 5 40 " 7 20 Fifty, " 6 00 " 8 60 One hundred " 12 00 " 17 20

This is decidedly the best publication for children that we have yet seen, notwithstanding the constant bragging of the *Little Pilgrim*. We shall say nothing against any other paper, but we advise all our friends to make the acquaintance of the *Juvenile Instructor* before subscribing for a youth's paper. Specimen numbers may be seen at this office.

The Prohibition Question.

We thank the *Pittsburg Dispatch* for its full and intelligent answer to our question as to what possible good would come of the passage of the House liquor bill. Its article satisfies us that a very good argument may be made in favor of the course it recommended, but we are not yet satisfied that any good would come of such a bill. As for the miserable abortion which the Committee of Conference agreed on, it is too contemptible to receive attention; and therefore we think our friends are in a better position than they would be if a bill had been passed which in fact amounted to nothing, and yet having enough in it to secure the partial support of the Temperance strength. We think our true position is, the Maine Law or nothing; and that the thing passed is near enough to nothing to give us an open field and a fair fight. The *Butler Democrat*, in the following, speaks our sentiments:

We differ entirely with our friend of the *Pittsburg Dispatch* in relation to the "House bill, now being up in the Senate," and sincerely hope it may never pass. It is worse than nothing. It does seem there is a short-sightedness in this matter. The examples set us by the Legislature of Wisconsin and by Congress in relation to the prohibition question in the District of Columbia, are sufficient to satisfy us that nothing less than petitions with boots on will answer our purpose. Politicians must be made to feel that they are the servants and not the masters of the people, ere they will try to do right. Pass the bill as prayed for by our esteemed friend of the *Dispatch*, and you will do a vital injury to the cause. You defer living action on the subject for two years, and may be for a longer time. We would give it as our decided opinion, and we think we have viewed the matter fairly, that the best thing the Senate can do, is to insist; and if in consequence the bill falls, let responsibility fall upon the right quarter. Our course is "onward and upward."

Important to School Directors. The school law which recently passed the legislature, and received the sanction of the Executive, makes it the duty of the school directors of the several counties of the Commonwealth to meet in convention at the seat of justice of the proper county, on the first Monday of June next, and on the first Monday of May in each third year thereafter, and select *via voce* by a majority of the whole number of directors present, one person of literary and scientific acquirements and of skill and experience in the art of teaching, as county superintendent for the three succeeding school years, and the school directors, or a majority of them in such convention, shall determine the amount of compensation for compensation, and the Treasurer in half-yearly instalments if desired, and shall be deducted from the amount of State appropriation to be paid the several school districts for said county.—*Harrisburg Morning Herald*.

The above is a very important duty, and we trust the school directors of this county will faithfully discharge it. We wish the act had made it the duty of the directors to meet in County Convention annually; and if the plan works well we have no doubt but such a change will be made next winter.

THE PROGRESSIVE CHRISTIAN.—We learn by the last number of this excellent little paper, published at Cazenovia in this county, that it is hereafter to be issued weekly, instead of once in two weeks, as heretofore, and that the subscription list of the *De Ruyter Banner* is to be united with it. This arrangement we trust will be advantageous. Dr. Pryne is an able and logical writer, and is doing good service in the cause of Reform. The *Progressive Christian* is devoted mainly to the advocacy of Christian Union in opposition to Sectarianism, but also aims to embrace in its discussions an advocacy of all true reforms—to be in fact a faithful exponent of what its name implies. We wish it long life and prosperity.—*Oneida (Madison Co., N. Y.) Telegraph*.

We have seen frequent favorable notices of the above named advocate of reform, and should be pleased to make its acquaintance.

The Legislature of this State adjourned on Tuesday last. It was a great improvement on its predecessors, which is we confess but a sorry compliment, but it is the best that can be said of it, for it failed to do what the people desired to have done, on the most important question that came before them. And thus it always is with sham democrats.

"It is a degree towards the life of angels, when we enjoy conversation wherein there is nothing presented but its excellence; and a degree towards demons wherein nothing is shown but its degeneracy."

Consistency.

Most of our readers have doubtless reflected somewhat on the inconsistency of making the foreign slave trade piracy, while we treat the domestic slave trade as an honorable occupation.

The following extract from the Boston correspondent of the *Anti-Slavery Standard* shows up this inconsistency in a particularly happy vein. By the way, this Boston writer has always been a favorite of ours, and we would tell him so, if we only knew how to reach him with such important news.

But here is his comments on a late arrest for *intending* to take a few savages from Africa to kind masters in the South:

We were refreshed last week by a fanatical demonstration in a quarter whence it was strange to see it come. A vessel was brought into port, the crew in irons, and taken charge of by the United States Marshall, and prosecuted by B. F. Hallett, the United States District Attorney, and all for what, do you think? Why, merely for proposing to go to the coast of Africa and get a cargo of the raw material out of which the Corner Stone of our Republican Institutions has been hewn! Had he been engaged in carrying away slaves from the coast of Maryland and Virginia, in the wrong direction, there would have been some sense in it. The Captain was taken before a United States Commissioner, and instead of being invited to a public dinner, or nominated for the Presidency of the United States, he was committed to jail to await his trial. It is odd what a difference latitude and longitude make in human actions! Had this enterprising mariner only directed his operations to the coast-wise traffic, instead of going into the foreign trade, he would have been eligible to office; and might become a fructifying member of any church, and had the chief of the respectability and of the piety of the country to stand by him. It is hardly necessary to say that he is a foreigner. A native American would hardly be guilty of such an indiscretion. And we cannot but hope that after a brief detention, he will be acquitted by a jury of National patriots and be bid to go and sin no more, but to engage in the honorable and fair trade in negroes from Baltimore and Georgetown instead of the Guinea coast. We should be lenient towards those who, from the misfortune of not being born in a free and enlightened country, fall into the venial errors of this unfortunate gentleman. It would not be a bad idea in these days of Emigrant Societies and Associations for the Information of Strangers, to have one established for the instruction of foreigners in the niceties of our polity, so that, when they think they are in the highway to the steps of the White House they may not find themselves mounting those of the gallows.

"I Had a Dream." Any one who reads the proceedings of Congress in January last, when the *little giant* from Illinois was pompously proclaiming that nobody opposed his bill but Abolitionists and preachers, and that it would become the law of the land in ten days, will not fail to perceive that a change has come over the spirit of his dream. We find this change graphically described in a Washington letter of the *Philadelphia North American*, as follows:

APRIL 24, 1854. Mr. Harris (of Mississippi) to day discharged a volley of hot shot into the Nebraska bill. Mr. H. is a fire-eating Democrat, and opposes the bill because it is useless to the South in the concessions which it proposes to make, and pernicious in the leveling and arguerian principles which it establishes. The speeches of Mr. Harris and that of Mr. Benton yesterday, are by some called invectives against Nebraska. There never was a more undeserved epithet. They were merely funeral dirges, intended to signalize the death, and commemorate the infamy of the deceased.

Mr. Douglas is humiliated. He and his friends do not court public observation. They walk in shady places. Their career and cavoring has declined into a cat-like gait, which seems practising itself for getting through the smallest holes, so that if the little end of the horn, which they now find full in view, be of unexpectedly diminutive proportions, they may still slip through. How different all this from the insolent riddler which they so naturally assumed a few weeks since. Virtue is its own reward, and so baffled crime begets its own punishment in the contempt which it excites.

We commend the above to our anxious friend of the *M'Kean News*, with the suggestion that its attentive perusal will be of more service to his watch-chain oratory than any fees he will receive for advocating the Douglas fraud.

"Whatever convenience may be thought to be in falsehood and dissimulation, it is soon over; but the inconvenience of it is perpetual: because, when a man hath once forfeited the reputation of his integrity, he is set fast, and nothing will then serve his turn—neither truth nor falsehood."

The Ward Case.

The Press all over the country, regard the WARD trial as a farce, and denounce it as such. It was brought to its conclusion by a combined money and social influence, wherein "big men" figured, and "rich men" paid the piper. Alas! that it should be so! But it will tell its story and teach its lesson—an end will be put yet to this foul conduct in old Kentucky: for the people there know what justice is, and will have it.

The case, simply stated, stands thus: The younger WARD is punished in school, (and admit now that BUTLER was severe or unwise in administering it, which was not the fact,) and immediately leaves it. He repairs to his brother; tells his story. They arm; they take pistols, and knives as well; they march into the school room; they abuse poor BUTLER; when in reply to their bitter and burning words of denunciation, he asks mildly to explain, they brand him as a liar, and because he manifests indignation—not anger—they shoot him dead—and a Kentucky Jury says *this is all right!* If a mechanic had acted thus, what would have been his fate? Or if some poor boy, upon greater provocation, had gone into WARD's room and shot him, what would have been his fate? No fouler murder was ever committed than that of WARD upon the poor schoolmaster at Louisville.—*Cleveland Leader*.

Here is another illustration of the way slavery corrupts "the manners and morals" of those connected-with it.

These Wards committed murder, in open daylight, before a score of witnesses. Why were they not convicted? Because the murderers were *rich slaveholders* and their victim was a *poor white school teacher*. The Philadelphia *North American*, a paper noted for its indifference to the encroachments of slavery, contains a very able review of this trial, in which it makes the following statement:

We start with declaring that, in our judgment, and we dare say in that of ninety and nine men in every hundred, equally alien and indifferent as ourselves to the affair, the killing of Professor Butler was an atrocious murder. The essential facts of the transaction have been fully disclosed, and the act of the accused, viewed in connection with its immediate antecedents, cannot, under a just interpretation of the law, be construed as being anything less than a deliberate and cold blooded assassination. A customary and proper reprimand of the younger Ward for some breach of the rules of the school had been inflicted. It is not even alleged that the punishment was excessive or cruel. Upon this provocation, the boy who had been punished and an elder brother, Matthew F. Ward, having first armed themselves to the teeth with pistols and bowie knives, proceed together to the school-house, call out the teacher, demand an explanation of a chastisement performed in accordance with its usual and known custom, and in the necessary maintenance of the discipline of the academy, and having, in the beginning of his apologetic statement, pronounced Professor Butler a liar, emphasizing the charge with an oath, Matthew F. Ward seizes the first intimation of a resentment which he had wantonly and basely provoked, to shoot him down like a dog.

Such are the legitimate and every-day results of maintaining an institution in one half the States, which permits "one half of the citizens to trample on the rights of the other," and thus "transforms them into despots, and then into enemies, destroys the morals of the one part, and the *amor patriae* [love of country] of the other."

The *N. Y. Tribune* in noticing this trial pertinently asks:

"What business had the poor wretch to be a schoolmaster in a State where the rich and strong live in luxury on the stolen labor of the poor and ignorant? His trade is a dangerous one, and the nuisance may be summarily abated. Had a schoolmaster burst in upon one of the sons of the chivalry, as Ward did upon Butler, and treated him exactly as the former did the latter, he might have thought himself lucky indeed if he were permitted to have a trial, and be decorously hung according to law. The probability is, that he would have been strung up to the limb of some convenient tree within an hour after his crime. But chivalry deliberately arms itself and kills a schoolmaster, whose utmost possible offense was an error of judgment in the government of his school, and a Kentucky jury justifies the deed!"

"Mutual good humor is a dress we ought to appear in wherever we meet; and we should make no mention of what concerns ourselves, without it be of matters wherein our friends ought to rejoice."

"A place for everything, and everything in its place," ought to be the rule of every person who has anything to do.

It is proposed to take up David Wilmot for Gov. of Pennsylvania, and put him right through by the people, the Whigs sustaining him. Nothing better could be named, but we fear party bigotry will prevent, as it ever does, the public welfare.—*Portland (Me.) Inquirer*.

The Higher Law.

The *Syracuse Chronicle*, in an able article on the position of the Free Democracy and its aims, after stating that the party aims to work within constitutional limits, and to overthrow the Slave Power by the legitimate use of legal means, closes its article with the following allusion to another class:

This we understand to be the position of the Independent Democracy. They believe this to be all that they can consistently aim to accomplish, as a party, and under the Constitution of the United States. This much faithfully carried out they believe to be all sufficient to cripple and destroy the effect of this unrighteous claim upon the Northern States, and thus under their own bond, the slaveholders may be practically defeated. And now we confess that over and above and back of all this, there is a deep-seated, unconquerable determination (*revolutionary* in its nature and bearings, if you choose to call it so) animating a large and daily increasing proportion of Northern hearts, that the law of kindness, the law of human brotherhood, the law of God shall not be over-riden by any such statute where they can prevent it; in short, law or no law, Constitution or no Constitution, political remedy or no political remedy, *no living man shall be carried by force from a free State to the South, on the pretense that he owes involuntary service to a slaveholder.* There are a great many of this sort around Onondaga County—they are neither Whigs, Democrats, nor Independent Democrats, but men of all parties, and "Jerry men"—who, as one said, "don't care nothing about *pints* of law, *Salt* Pint is good enough to clear a fugitive on"—and with reference to this class, need we add, we are "one of 'em!"

For the existence of this Revolutionary party, the Slave Power may thank themselves. Their insane course in 1850, in pushing through the infamous fugitive slave bill, and their monstrous proposition of 1854 to repeal the Missouri Compromise, have laid the foundations of a Revolutionary party, that will strengthen and grow until slavery shall die.

The Next Governor.

The last *New-Castle Gazette* asks a very important question, and puts forth a strong appeal, which we hope will be heeded. Speaking of the next gubernatorial election, it says:

"Are we willing, as Pennsylvanians, to make any sacrifice in order that the wide world may see and know that we are the eternal and uncompromising enemies of slavery and oppression? If so, let us now, when the opportunity is offered, signify our principles by uniting on the great question, as many other States have done. Let all the material in the State opposed to the Nebraska outrage, unite on the same men for principal officers for State and for Congressmen, and then we will tell the spoilers, north and south, such a tale as will convince them for the future time, that Pennsylvania still has rights and principles which she will not sacrifice even to parties or southern dictation."

We heartily endorse the above, and hope friend SHAW will be found uniting his strength on a ticket we can ALL rally around. We want no party candidate, and will support none. Bring out an independent man, one who is right upon the great questions of the times, and we will forget our attachment to old organizations, and we will rally around, and elect him in spite of opposition. The Whig press have this question in their hands, and on them be the responsibility. If they wish to see the opponents of Wm. Bigler and slavery misrule defeated, let them hoist the name of WILMOT, or LARIMER—provided always that they are right on the temperance question—and we will promise them a victory worthy of the cause. Thousands on thousands of Democrats stand ready to unite under an independent banner, but will never be found supporting the cohorts of Whiggery.—*Conneautville Courier*.

It is now apparent that Judge POLLOCK is not satisfactory to the independent, anti-Nebraska voters, and that union of action among the opponents of Bigler and Hunkerism can be only secured by bringing out an independent candidate. It is not yet too late to concentrate the State Reform, Maine Law, and Whig vote on a ticket that will sweep all before it. If this result is not accomplished, the responsibility will rest on the Whigs, for they alone have it in their power to open the way for such a ticket to be presented.

The New York "Hards" have passed the following resolution:—

"Resolved, That the National Democracy of this city and county approve of, and sustain the course of Hon. Francis B. Cutting, and other Democratic Representatives in Congress, in thwarting the effort of the Administration to force the Nebraska bill to a vote without discussion, by a preconcerted plan of dragooning and attempted intimidation, and that we applaud the chivalric conduct of Mr. Cutting in promptly meeting the attempt of the Administration to coerce members of Congress into compliance with executive will."