

THE PEOPLE'S JOURNAL.

JNO. S. MANN, A. AVERY, Editors.

COUDERSPORT, PA.

THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 19, 1855.

TO SCHOOL TEACHERS.

Wanted—an experienced female teacher to take charge of a small school in Abbott township, Potter Co., Pa. Apply to PETER YOCHAM, Cartee Camp P. O., Potter Co.

Our "Union Springs" friend has our thanks, and we presume will have the thanks of all our readers for his timely and profitable communication.

We learn from Mr. Pradt, our efficient County Superintendent, who has just returned from the State Convention, that there were about forty County Superintendents in attendance, and that he thinks the meeting was a profitable one to all concerned. The cause of education is looking up in the Keystone State.

On Saturday last the Massachusetts House of Representatives requested the Governor to remove Judge Loring from office on account of his agency in sending Burns back to slavery. The vote on this motion was 207 for, and 111 against. Thus, step by step, does the North throw off the yoke of slavery.

We are glad to learn from a private source, that Governor Pollock is a most efficient friend of education, and that the State will take no step backward in this great movement while he is at the helm. We consider this most important news, and that it "settles" the question of the County Superintendency, for three years at least.

A Convention of radical political Abolitionists is to be held in Syracuse on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, the 26th, 27th, and 28th days of June next. The call for the Convention is signed by Lewis Tappan, William Goodell, Gerrit Smith, S. S. Jocelyn, W. E. Whiting, J. McCune Smith, George Whipple, and Frederick Douglass.

An unfortunate break occurred in the belfry of the new Court House on Sunday afternoon last. The striking weight of the Town Clock, some eight hundred pounds, broke loose and fell through the frame-work placed under it for protection, breaking timbers, joists, and everything that came in its way, till it struck the second floor, where it stopped. We are not able to say what damage has been done, but are compelled to admit that Town Clocks are pretty expensive luxuries.

The reader will see in another column, the anti-License law, which has just passed both branches of our Legislature, and received the Governor's signature. This is not such a law as the friends of temperance desired, but it is a long stride in the right direction, and is a sure indication of that better day coming. We presume no one will pretend that William Bigler would have signed this bill if he had unfortunately been elected; and hence we ask our friend of the M'Keen Citizen to admit that something was "settled" in favor of temperance by the last election.

We hope every farmer in the county is preparing to raise his own provisions the present season. Don't depend on raising oats enough to buy your wheat and pork. So long as you do this, you will be subject to hard times. There is no difficulty in raising good crops of corn and buckwheat, and a fair crop of spring wheat, if you failed to sow winter wheat last fall. Make every acre of plow land produce something to live on, and peace and plenty will smile around your fireside. But neglect the present golden opportunity, and want and suffering will be very likely to follow. The privations of the past season should admonish all to make good use of that portion of the earth which is under their control. Even the gardens of Coudersport may be made to produce largely of the necessaries of life if properly cultivated, and we think their owners will be guilty of a great wrong if they neglect to improve every foot of ground at their disposal.

"SLAVERY IS ESTABLISHED WHERE IT IS NOT PROHIBITED."

That is a truth which Jefferson and his associates well understood, and so they prohibited the existence of slavery in the North-West Territory. At a late date it was prohibited in all Territory north of 36 deg. 30 min. But the slaveholders, assisted by northern doughfaces, procured the repeal of the prohibitory statute so far as it relates to Kansas and Nebraska, and now see the result. What was commenced in fraud is followed up with the bowie knife and revolver. We gave our readers some time ago a letter from one Stringfellow, who seems to be the hired agent of Atchison, which showed the true spirit of slavery. On the 24th of March this mouthpiece for the slaveholders held a meeting at St. Joseph, Mo., which is thus reported by a correspondent of the N. Y. Tribune:

"I tell you," said he, "to mark every acre of ground among you that is the least tainted with Free-Soilism or Abolitionism, and exterminate him. Neither give nor take quarter from the d—d rascals. I propose to mark them in this house, and on the present occasion, so you may crush them out. To those who have qualms of conscience as to violating laws, State or national, the crisis has arrived when such impositions must be disregarded, as your rights and property are in danger; and I advise you one and all, to enter every Election District in Kansas, in defiance of Reeder and his myrmidons, and vote at the point of the bowie-knife and revolver. Neither give nor take quarter, as our cause demands it. It is enough that the slaveholding interest wills it, from which there is no appeal. What right has Reeder to rule Missouri in Kansas? His proclamation and prescribed oath must be repudiated. It is your interest to do so. Mind that Slavery is established where it is not prohibited."

After this ferocious monster got through instigating the violation of all law and order, urging fraud and violence with bloodshed and murder, he was followed by four political bloodhounds, who breathed nothing but violence and destruction to every one who would not sustain the almighty cause of Slavery. They demanded the suppression of the freedom of speech and press all over the Union. They not only want all blacks to be made slaves, but all poor white folks. If they cannot obtain their infernal demands, they declare for a dissolution of the Union—the sooner the better. The North, they said, was but a curse to them at best, and the sooner they got rid of the North the better. They discarded the Declaration of Independence as a great lump, and Free States as a curse to any people. The rights of man commenced when the first slaves were manacled in the chains of Slavery, and those rights they were determined to maintain with their blood.

WHERE STAND THE FREE-SOILERS?
—We do not wish to take any improper liberties with the Free-Soilers, but we trust we may presume so far as to inquire of them whether they consider themselves an element of Know-Nothingism, without incurring the charge of rudeness. Inasmuch as the Know-Nothingism are endeavoring to nationalize their party by a connection with the pro-slavery men of the South, we think the inquiry at this time is very pertinent, and we should like an unequivocal answer. It is impossible to tell what the parties of the country may assume within the next six months; but suppose that circumstances should arise which would compel the democracy to assume a position hostile to the admission of any more slave states, while the Know-Nothings, for the sake of nationality, should league firmly with the South—where, then, would the Free-Soilers stand?—Harrisburg Union.

Senator WILSON, of Massachusetts, has answered that question for the Free-Soilers, who are supposed to favor the Know-Nothing movement, in a way that "he who runs may read." Free-Soil men are governed by principles, not "circumstances," and they will always be found opposing the admission of any more slave States, no matter what position the sham democracy may be compelled to assume. We never doubted the hollowness of the Union's professions of friendship for its Southern allies; but we confess to some surprise at this open proclamation of their willingness to advocate any principles as soon as "circumstances" shall indicate which is the strongest side.

What a patriotic set of men these Union-savers are! We have a class of men hereabouts, who control the party in this county, equally anxious to join the "People's Party," no matter what the principles of that party may be. Such is patent democracy the world over.

There is a fine flood in the Allegheny, and we hear favorable accounts from all sections of the success of our lumbermen in getting off with their lumber.

The Teachers' Institute was organized on Tuesday morning with eighteen teachers in attendance, which under the circumstances is quite as favorable as we expected. We hope the exercises will be found so profitable to those in attendance that the next Institute will secure the attendance of every Teacher in the county.

A Bible and a good newspaper in every house, a good school in every district, and a Christian church in every neighborhood, and all appreciated as they should be, are the sure support of virtue, morality, civil liberty, and pure religion.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

The death of Nicholas has made no change in the war movements of Russia. The Vienna Conference has made but little progress, and there is nothing of importance to communicate, but the following from the Tribune of the 14th, will give in few words the present state of affairs abroad:

The America reached Halifax on Thursday night with three days' later advices from Europe than those of the Washington. Vienna is now the point of attraction; and attention was wholly concentrated upon the Conference, which is represented as being in great difficulty upon the all important Third Point—so much so, indeed, that, although the demands of the Allies had been much modified, the Russian Plenipotentiary had referred the matter to St. Petersburg, and nothing further could be done until a reply was received. The French Minister of Foreign Affairs had also been in London, to confer with the English Cabinet upon the question. Affairs in the Crimea had undergone no change. Letters from there report the British army as much improved. The Russians continue to strengthen their works. They are in strong force near Euphratir. Night-skirmishes between the French and Russian riflemen continue, without decided advantage to either side. The treaty between Turkey and Sardinia is signed. The Sardinian Convention has occupied the attention of Parliament, and it is stated that England is to borrow money at five per cent. and lend to Sardinia at four. Parliament was about to adjourn over the Easter season, meeting again on the 16th inst. Mr. Roebuck's Committee is still at work. The latest news from Spain is called satisfactory. The Vienna papers state that Spain and Portugal acceded to the Western Alliance, and signed the treaty at Paris on the 21st of March, but this statement is not confirmed. The difficulty between Austria and Prussia is increasing. From China we learn that the French had again attacked Shanghai, but were repulsed by the insurgents. Report says that the insurgents around Canton had taken the Tiger Fort and plundered the surrounding villages.

A SPARK OF MANLINESS AT LAST.

The Harrisburg Union, a pro-slavery, Douglas defending paper, in view of the anticipated desertion of the Virginians, is letting its readers see a stray fact now and then in relation to the encroachments of the Slave Power. Here is one taken from the Union of the 11th:

From the accounts which have reached us of the late election for members of the territorial assembly, we learn two important facts: 1st, that the pro-slavery party have succeeded in every district by large majorities; 2d, that the Atchison scheme of temporary colonization from Missouri, which we, at first, considered too monstrous for belief, was actually carried into operation, thus giving the control of the election to non-residents, thousands of whom have since returned to their homes in Missouri. When we characterize this as an infamous outrage, we use the mildest terms we can think of to convey our meaning.

We hope our readers will weigh well the full extent of this sorry confession. The Nebraska Kansas bill is bearing its legitimate fruit. It was passed in defiance of the public will, and it is not to be expected that a bill matured and enacted in fraud will produce anything but "infamous outrages." And now, what is the remedy? Why, simply undo the first wrong. Prohibit by act of Congress, the existence of slavery in any Territory of the United States.

DIFFICULTIES WITH SPAIN.

Most of our readers are aware that the men who rule this nation, the slaveholders, have determined to have Cuba, and that they are not over nice in the means by which that object shall be accomplished. The Administration offered Spain one hundred and twenty millions of dollars for this coveted Island. Spain replied, she did not wish to sell. Then our minister hinted that some of our Southern friends considered the safety of this nation required the possession of Cuba, and we would have it,—to which Spain made the same reply. Our minister came home, and now, the administration, having ruined itself with the people on the Nebraska bill, is trying to find an excuse for making war on the Spanish authorities in the Island.

The latest pretext for a war with Spain is the fact that a Spanish commander brought one of our merchant vessels to, until her character was ascertained, when she went on her way unmolested.

The administration, in order to divert the attention of the Northern people from the Nebraska outrage, insists that this is a gross insult and a sufficient cause of war.

The law of Nations, applicable to this point, is well stated by the N. Y. Tribune, as follows:

On the pretext under which it is all feigned to be done, we have on previous occasions commented. The assertion that Spain has outraged and insulted our flag, is a lying subterfuge. And all the special pleading now put forth to show that our maritime rights have been invaded, is but so much rhetorical gas let on to illuminate a freebooting descent upon the coveted Island. But we will once more advert to the ground we have already touched upon respecting the police of the seas;

of which the enforcement in a limited degree by Spain, is now made the occasion for the filibustering demonstration in question.

No writer or statesman of intellect and reputation has gone any further on the claim of the exemption of our vessels from the right of search and visitation of foreign ships-of-war than Mr. Webster did, in his celebrated disquisitions on maritime rights, in his letters to Lord Ashburton and Mr. Everett. Indeed, he went to the extreme length of denying in toto the right of searching and of visiting our vessels on the high seas, of the ships of foreign Powers. He claimed that the right of visit, was not defined, or at least established, as in any respect different from the right of search; and that in denying the right of one, we necessarily denied the right of the other. Mr. Webster's doctrine, though popular at home, and perhaps just and sound, is, and always was, controverted. Great Britain, while she relinquished the right of search in the memorable correspondence referred to, insisted to the last upon the right of visitation, for the purpose of determining the nationality of the vessel examined. And this right, Lord Ashburton conceded in terms, so far as British ships were concerned. But while Mr. Webster thus went to the extreme length of the doctrine that every regularly documented American ship was a part of the soil of the country, over which no power on earth had any claim or jurisdiction, or any right to enter, while she was upon the high seas, he nevertheless made an exception. He declared that no right to visit exists, except where the vessel is justly suspected of violating revenue laws, or the law of nations, by piratical aggression. Thus the most stringent rule of exemption is brought down to this, that no foreign ship-of-war can visit a ship under the American flag, unless she is a suspected vessel. Where a vessel is suspected and visited, but the suspicion is found to be without foundation, then it is no invasion of rights, but a case of involuntary trespass. It is an injury by mistake, and not an injury by design, and is to be measured solely by the damages arising from detention or otherwise. But for such cases, public law has no rule, and this Mr. Webster distinctly admits. Upon the highest ground, then, that can be taken on the question of maritime rights, we have no cause for complaint against Spain while she is engaged in examining vessels suspected of piratical objects approaching her shores. We thus come back under the lights of the strictest legal construction of our maritime rights, the most jealous assertion of our claims, to the ground dictated by common sense in this matter. Clearly, a police of the seas is a mockery and a sham, unless the authority exists to examine suspected vessels on the high seas. Especially must this be admitted under the circumstances in which Spain has visited the few American vessels approaching the coast of Cuba that have been overhauled by her cruisers.

A HERCULEAN TASK.—In the Louisville Journal we find an account of the late Cincinnati Slave Case, in which the closing paragraph reads thus:

"Mr. Penderly was very severe in his admonitions upon the conduct of parties in respect to this case in other courts, and declared his determination to assert and maintain the authority and dignity of his court."

Do, good Penderly. But you will never get people to respect your "court," as you call your paltry ten-dollar slave-catching concern. You may get the government to maintain its authority, but as to its dignity, the less said about that the better. Never, until human nature is essentially changed for the worse, can the business of hunting men and women become dignified. It is the lowest of all earthly employments, and the most debasing.—Pittsburg Gazette.

The Ocean Journal states that the raftsmen are busily employed all along the Allegheny river in getting their lumber ready for the lower market. None went down last fall, and the accumulated stock of two seasons is consequently on hand. Immense quantities will of course be run. The improved and improving condition of money matters indicates a prosperous season for the lumbermen, and easier times at home.

"The strength of the passions will never be accepted as an excuse for complying with them; they were designed for subjection; and if a man suffers them to get the upper hand, he then betrays the liberty of his own soul."

Now is "sugaring time" in Vermont, and the Vermonters are full of work and sport. The amount of sugar annually made in that state is 6,000,000 lbs., worth \$650,000.

"John, how does the thermometer stand?" "Against the wall, dad."
"I mean how is the mercury?"
"I guess it's pretty well, dad; it hasn't complained lately."
"You little rascal, is it colder than yesterday?"
"I don't know, dad, I'll go out and feel."

Correspondence of the Journal.

THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES.

Our Savior once asked his disciples this question: "Can ye not discern the signs of the times?" As much as to say, Can ye not discern, by the moral manifestation of the times, that man, as a social and moral being, is passing on to a higher level—to a better condition? And is not that question applicable to the present day? Are there not indications that a brighter day is about to dawn upon the world, in the progress of which, a better state of society shall exist than the present; when there shall be more love, and harmony, and good will among mankind; when human rights shall be better understood and respected than they now are; when the great law of brotherhood shall be practically demonstrated by the fraternal greetings of all classes of mankind! Such to my mind are the indications. Look at the facilities for social and national intercourse, and the eagerness with which those facilities are being employed in bringing the people of distant countries together, forming acquaintances and establishing friendships, which must inevitably soften down the asperities and jealousies of human character, and which are the fruitful sources of hatred, strife, and war. The more mankind commingle together, the more they will realize and feel their common frailties and their common interest. They will thus become interested in, and sympathize with, each other; and instead of seeking to crush and destroy, they will seek to relieve and elevate each other. Knowledge and virtue will thus be contrasted with ignorance and vice; and as knowledge and virtue are stronger than ignorance and vice, the latter must yield to the former, and society as a whole be improved. Need we, as a country, tremble when the foreigner leaps upon our shores, with all his ignorance and superstition, as though he were able to reverse the progressive order of things, and drag us, nationally, down to his low position, instead of our bringing him up to our higher condition? If virtue, intelligence, and knowledge are power, have we not as a nation altogether the advantage? If we but oppose truth to error, intelligence to ignorance, freedom to tyranny, virtue to vice, we have nothing to fear. But to oppose ignorance with error, despotism by tyranny, bigotry and superstition by intolerance and proscription, is but the sure way to build up that which every true friend of social and civil liberty—every true friend of an enlightened and elevating religion, would gladly see pulled down. The free intercourse which is now characteristic of the whole world of mankind, by which opposing systems of social, political, and religious life are brought together and confronted, betokens the time when "error, wounded, writes in pain, and dies amid her worshippers."

Another favorable sign of the times is the struggle for Human Liberty which seems to disturb all parts of the earth. There seems to be a sentiment, very extensive, and still growing wider and deeper, that man is endowed by his Creator with certain inalienable rights, among which is the right to be free—to think and act for one's self without the dictation of another—the right to develop and appropriate to the best advantage, all those resources which dignify one with the characteristics of manhood. True ideas of human rights are entering the minds of the oppressed themselves, from whose minds it has been studiously endeavored to shut out the light and spirit of Liberty. The fire is burning deep in the human breast, notwithstanding the efforts made to smother it by ignorance and arbitrary power. It breaks out occasionally, to show the world that Liberty is an inextinguishable fire, being a natural desire of the human heart. This spirit of Freedom, and Justice, and Right is outgrowing the old despotic forms of government all over the world, and thrones totter to their bases; monarchs wield not the absolute power that they once did. Where is the government, either in the Old World, or the New, that is free from commotion in relation to Freedom? The Czar and the Sultan, as well as all the crowned heads of Europe, tremble before this rising spirit of Liberty, which occasionally, like volcanic fire, bursts forth among

their oppressed and disgusted subjects. If the desire of Liberty in its infancy can so distract despots, what will it not do when grown to manhood?

Even in our own country, oppression has kindled a fire that threatens to sever either the bonds of the Union, or the bonds of the enslaved. No government is strong enough to keep in check forever this rising spirit of Freedom, and trample indignantly and unrebuked upon the natural rights of man. There is a certain degree of tension which every cord will bear, but strained beyond that point, it snaps asunder. And the signs of the times would seem to indicate that in many countries, oppression and tyranny, both ecclesiastical and civil, have both been strained to their utmost capacity—strand after strand is even now giving way, and may we not hope that soon the whole cable will be parted, never again to be united? It is true, that in our own country the Oppressor's chain seems possessed with a wonderful degree of toughness. But there are indications that its tenacity must yield—that it must either break asunder, or else unwind its loathsome coils from human limbs.

That deep-seated feeling of hatred to oppression, which is working like leaven in the better feelings of the masses, all through the country, betokens the approach of Freedom's morn. Like the tramp of an invading army the murmurings of Freedom and Justice-loving souls are pointing with unerring certainty to the triumphant conflict between Truth and Error, Right and Wrong, Liberty and Oppression. The friends of God and Man are increasing in numbers and resources. The unyielding firmness with which they surmount difficulties and rise above discouragements, is prophetic of certain victory. When we see this truth, "Whatever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them," sinking deeper and deeper, as seems to be the case, into the public mind; when it begins to fasten upon the public conscience, we may be sure that a force is at work which no human arm can successfully oppose. What means this agitation, this disquiet, this resistance of wrong, that rocks the whole country, from the Atlantic to the Pacific?

The Northern conscience is apparently yet alive; and is not this an indication that the time approaches when the oppressed shall go free? Certainly it is, unless God is deluded, and the world given up to the control and government of demons.

There is a growing sentiment of hostility to wrong and oppression, that will ere long burst forth into a flame which will overwhelm and consume everything that is opposed to the natural rights of man. All the best sympathies and feelings of the human heart, are desiring such an event. And these feelings and sympathies are prompted by a power which holds the destinies of the world. Hence the hope of ultimate success.

Another cheering sign of the times is seen in the progress of the Temperance reform, which, like an angel of mercy, is planting her standard upon the bleeding form of humanity, and staunching rivers of blood with her garments of love. Temperance has made his advent; so we have seen his star in the East, illuminating the darkness of night, and shedding its brightness upon thousands who sat in darkness, and in the region and shadow of death. The wise men of the East and the West are following its light, with the offerings of devoted hearts and consecrated lives, to lay them at the feet of this redeemer of the world. Maine has hung out the banner; other States are following her example. New York has just nailed her colors to the mast—and thus is heralded the dawn of a brighter day.

In view of all these things, what should be the action of every individual? Will any one remain indifferent or inactive in the world's moral conflict, as though he were doubtful and cared but little on which side the victory should turn? Let us remember that no one is without influence, be it more or less; and the important question is, in which scale shall that influence be cast. Human progress, social, moral, and religious, has been, and still will be effected, if effected at all, by human effort. Every advance the world has ever made, has been accomplished by this means. This is