

# THE PEOPLE'S JOURNAL

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

COUDERSPORT, PA.

THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 10, 1855.

The Vienna Conference has broken up, without accomplishing anything, and Austria declines to unite with the Allies in their demands upon Russia. The fighting is renewed before Sevastopol, but the Allies have gained no advantages. The peace party in England is gaining strength, and will very likely, soon be in the ascendant, with Cobden or Bright at the head of the Government.

"BACK AGAIN."—Thursday was quite wintry. The ground was white with snow early in the morning, which soon went off, but the mercury did not rise above 40°. About 3 o'clock P. M. the snow began to fall again, and continued till night. Some of the time it fell very fast, but did not collect any till about sundown, when the mercury fell to 34°; and at dark the ground was covered. Wednesday morning was again Spring like; it was past noon, however, when the snow had entirely disappeared.

The Pennsylvania School Journal for May is received, containing the decisions of the State Superintendent for the previous month, and the proceeding of the State Convention of County Superintendents. These proceedings are full of interest, and ought to be read by every person in the State. We renew our suggestion in relation to School Directors subscribing for the Journal. As it contains all the decisions of the State Superintendent, we think each Board of Directors should subscribe for at least one copy, to be paid for out of the school-fund, and to be preserved by the Secretary of the Board, the same as other books of the district. Terms one dollar a year in advance. Address Thos. H. Burrows, Lancaster, Pa.

The negro Arthur Taylor, confined in our jail on a charge of larceny, broke out on Wednesday night, the 2nd inst., and has not yet been recaptured, although the Sheriff and Major Mills, from whose stable two horses were stolen the same night, have made great exertions to overhaul the professed scoundrel. It is probable that Taylor had an accomplice in breaking the jail, and that they took the horses merely to facilitate their escape, as the horses were found on Thursday morning near the house of Charles Steele in Sharon. This Taylor, though young in years, is old in crime, and should go to the Penitentiary at once, to save community from his lawlessness. He is about five feet five inches in height, thick set, quite dark, and has a villainous countenance. He was occupied as a barber before he was put in jail.

The Independent Press, edited and published at Williamsport, Pa., by J. W. Barrett, has just entered upon its third volume with greatly improved appearance, and flattering prospects. It is enlarged to a seven column paper, and contains more and better reading matter than any other paper in Lycoming county. We rejoice at this unmistakable evidence of prosperity on the part of the Press; for it has been a very efficient advocate of Temperance and other reforms. Brother Barrett, on most subjects, has vindicated the title of his paper; but we regret to say that upon the great question now agitating the American people, to wit: whether the Slave Power shall subjugate Kansas, and rule the nation, he does not talk as becomes an independent editor in relation to the present movement of the slavery propaganda.

## Charity Should Begin at Home.

Mr. Peck, an American, went to Cuba to commence business as a merchant, was wrongfully suspected of being a filibuster, and is really imprisoned until he satisfied the authorities of his innocence. The Government, it is said, will demand damages from Spain for the wrong done to Mr. Peck. The American citizens established a newspaper in Missouri, their property was illegally destroyed by a mob, sustained by the authorities, their persons threatened—still in another portion of the Union, and all presents of a certain denomination warned against expounding the gospel to the heathens in that region—yet the National Government takes no action to secure them in their rights under the constitution. Had we not better secure freedom in our own country, ere we force it upon another!—*Pittsburg Dispatch*.

Pass the above question round, and let us see if there is an Administration man in the State who can answer it without condemning himself.

## THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH ON THE SLAVERY QUESTION.

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The proposition came from the Wisconsin Conference, which embodied the following sentiment: "To prohibit on the part of members and preachers, the buying, selling, or holding of human beings as slaves." And another from the North Ohio Conference, which proposed "to prohibit the buying of men, women or children with the intention to enslave them, and to require the emancipation of slaves when it can be accomplished without injury to them."

The Philadelphia Conference at a recent session, rejected an amendment to the organic law of the Church, nearly similar to the first of the above, and still more recently, the Baltimore Conference, in which jurisdiction is included a large portion of Eastern Pennsylvania, unanimously refused to receive both the proposed amendments, to which we have above referred, said Conference consisting of two hundred members.

The trouble is, that the economy of the M. E. Church is so constructed, that it requires a three-fourths vote of all the members composing the various Annual Conferences to change, or in any way alter the "General Rules," as they are termed, and consequently, when such a large number of ministers vote adversely to a proposition to amend them, as in the case of the Baltimore Conference, it tells fearfully against it. We have, however, the consolation of believing that the Maine, New England, New Hampshire, New York, East New York, Troy, Oneida, Black River, Genesee and East Genesee and probably several others, will go nearly to a man for such a change of the Rule on Slavery, that will rid Methodists of the Free States from being obliged by the law of the Church to fellowship with slave-holders.

We consider the time has arrived when the holding of slaves for the purpose of gain, under any conceivable circumstances, can be regarded in no other light than *sin, and only sin, and that continually*, to be no longer a debatable point. We should just as soon think of writing an article to prove that robbery, adultery, and murder were sins, as to make a like effort to show up the moral turpitude of Slavery; for the truth is, the very idea of American Slavery involves all wrongs, the three words above can possibly express, besides forming no small part of all that is horrible in the entire category of human wickedness. Therefore, to remain any longer in connection with it than is absolutely necessary to use the proper instrumentalities to crush it out, would, in our opinion, make all concerned "partakers of other men's sins."

The adoption of a rule excluding slave owners from the church, would undoubtedly create a good deal of excitement, and undoubtedly in a few individual instances might seem to be attended with considerable hardship; but if it be wrong to hold men and women in bondage and exact their toll for naught, the sooner this doctrine is recognized and acted on the better it will be.

In relation to the "two hundred ministers" who have, in this age of progress and knowledge, so wantonly sinned against the royal law of "doing unto others as they would others should do unto them," we can only say in the language of "Aunt Chloe," in "Uncle Tom's Cabin," that if the "devil don't get *sich*, that ain't no use of having one!"—*Onondaga Gazette*.

The Rev. P. Coome, we believe, is a member of the Philadelphia Conference, and the Rev. Stephen Miller is probably in connection with the Baltimore Conference. We should like the opinion of either of them, or of any other of the "two hundred ministers," as to the justness of the conclusion at which our brother of the *Gazette* has arrived. Our own opinion, as at present advised, is, that he is not far from the truth. But we are open to conviction.

Gov. Reeder, of Kansas, visited Easton a few days since, where quite an enthusiastic assembly turned out to welcome him to his former home. In reply to a pro-slavery address from Judge Porter, Gov. Reeder made a very manly speech, a synopsis of which is published in another column. The Governor is an old line Democrat, was in favor of the Nebraska act, and was sent to Kansas to carry out the views of Douglas & Co. But even he cannot stoop to do all the dirty work of the slaveholder's, so they have made war on him. He asks the North to sustain him. Let us see who will respond to his appeals. As yet we have seen no report, nor even a synopsis of his speech, in a single old hunker paper. On the other hand, the *National Era*, N. Y. Tribune, etc. Post, and other Free Soil papers, were prompt to lay the speech before their readers, thus doing what they could to sustain him in his manly course.

A wise man will suspect those actions to which he is directed by something besides reason, and always apprehend some concealed evil in every resolution that is of a disreputable nature, when it is conformable to his particular temper, his age, or way of life, or when it favors his pleasure or his profit."

THE HIRING OF VENUS.—The planet Venus and the sun have been playing hide-and-go-seek. This occultation of the planet took place on Wednesday night, April 18th, and the gazers were all out to see the bright and beautiful star slip behind the moon, and come out on the other side. This is an event that only transpires once in many years, and the glasses of the astronomical observatories were all called into requisition, and many new calculations made, of importance to science.—*Syracuse Eve. Chron.*

If folly were pain, there would be groaning in every house.

## ABOUT POTATOES.

Last Monday evening, a bag of very large, fine-looking potatoes was left at the Journal Book-Store for the writer of this article, by a friend whose name is unknown to us. The following note was stitched to the outside of the bag:

"Let me know, through the *Journal*, the most approved mode of raising Potatoes in Potter county, the best kind of seed, and the proper time to plant."

## A SUBSCRIBER.

Thanking "A Subscriber" for his acceptable present, we proceed to comply with his request to the best of our ability. Should any of our readers think we are mistaken, we will consider it a favor to be corrected.

The best method of planting will depend somewhat on the ground set apart for the potato crop. If it is new ground, or old ground plowed for the first time, potatoes should be planted in hills about two and a half feet apart each way. If the ground is in good order, and free from roots and stones, we think the best way to plant potatoes is to run shallow furrows across the ground, about three and a half feet apart, plant the cuttings in the furrows six inches apart, and cover with a hoe. In either case, the seed potato should be cut into as small pieces as it can, leaving an eye on each piece; or, if potatoes are scarce, cut off the eyes, and eat the balance.

We should say, the best time to plant is from the 15th to the 25th of May; but have known excellent crops from planting on the 20th of June. Early, or garden potatoes, should be planted on the 1st of May, or as soon thereafter as possible; and the best kind of early potatoes that we have ever known, is the egg potato, brought to this county, we believe, by the Rev. Jason Lewis.

Seed may be procured of Judge Lewis, Dennis Hall, Pliny Harris, and doubtless of some others. For common use on the table, we think the white-skinned, long pink-eye is decidedly the best potato to be found; but Mr. Daniel Clark has what he calls the cow-horn potato, which is quite a favorite. The following extract from a long article in the *Dollar Newspaper* endorses our favorite:

"The Pink Eye Potato, so called from its eyes being of a pink or pinkish color, consists of two kinds, similar in their quality, a long and a round variety. White-skinned, with pinkish eyes, very productive, excellent for table use, and fully equal, and some think even superior to the Mercer or Mestanock, especially for summer and fall table use. And hence it is a universal favorite, and largely cultivated, as it is found to be one of the most profitable potatoes that can be raised. There is also a yellow-skinned variety, with pink-colored eyes, of the same quality."

The advantage of planting in drills is in dressing them. If planted in hills, nearly all the work must be done with the hoe, but in the other method the work can be done just as well, in one quarter of the time, with a plow.

The potato crop is a very important one, and we trust it will receive due attention from our farmers. Don't be afraid of raising too many. If there is no home market for your surplus, you have but to take it to the railroad to get your money at a good round price. So plant in faith, and you will be faithfully rewarded.

There is not much building going on in town yet, but the spirit of improvement is manifested in cultivating gardens, planting trees, and adorning yards. But there are some improvements going on in the building line. J. W. Dixon, brother-in-law of J. B. Smith, has purchased the lot on which the Hamlin law office stood, and the one west of it. He has moved the old office back about thirty feet, and is fitting it in a neat and substantial manner for a dwelling house. When completed it will be a very pleasant residence.

Wm. H. Metzger has purchased the half-square north of the cottage built by N. L. Dike, and west of the south half of H. H. Dent's square. Mr. Metzger is getting the materials on the ground for a new house of large size, and has entered into a contract with our enterprising townsman, John Reckhow, for the completion of a neat and substantial dwelling. This is a beautiful situation, and we are much pleased that so energetic a citizen has undertaken to improve it.

W. T. Jones has nearly completed the house commenced by Dr. Heath. These, with the other improvements going briskly forward, give the town a pleasant appearance.

A friend exaggerates a man's virtues; an enemy inflames his crimes."

## DIGNITY.

We think some of our editorial friends must attach a different idea to this word than that of Noah Webster. For instance, we find in the last *M'Kean Citizen* the following paragraph:

"The Senate is a dignified body. Order and decorum seem to work its every act. One feels, while in the Senate Chamber, as though he was among men of a higher order. In short, it is just what we might expect where we consider for a moment the character and standing of the members who comprise this body. Such men as McClintock, Bucklaw, Dusie, Crabb, and a host of others we might mention, can hardly fail to add dignity to any body they may meet with. We have not much respect for the politics they profess, as a whole, yet they are men of talent and high standing. For this we give them credit."

Now, as two of the above-named Senators are notorious *daily tipplers*, and are frequently intoxicated in their seats, we take issue with the *Citizen* as to their adding dignity to *any* assembly, and protest against holding them up to the admiration of the people.

As our Senator, Mr. Hamlin, is a well known and consistent Temperance man, and is without a gentleman and a man of honor in his private life, we of course have no allusion to him in the above comments, and regret that one of his warmest supporters should place him in the predicament of poor tray. But public men have frequent occasion to exclaim, "Save me from my friends."

Dignity, according to Webster, is opposed to meanness; and drunkenness, at the present time, is considered, by general consent, one of the *meanest* of vices.

The praise of some men is more destructive than their slanders.

We clip the following from one of our exchanges, and publish it as well for the truthful lesson it conveys, as for its illustration of the character of the great Missourian—great even without his locks:

We recollect to have been informed by a gentleman of Washington City, of an interview which took place between Col. Benton and the Swiss mercenary. The latter had been reviling the colonel in several papers for which he was the Washington correspondent, and the fact became known to the colonel. Grind subsequently found out that it was necessary to appease the colonel's indignation and contempt for him in order to smooth the way to some sinecure he then had in view. The tone of the letters from Washington suddenly altered, and instead of censure, the colonel became the object of the colonel. Grind subsequently found out that it was necessary to appease the colonel's indignation and contempt for him in order to smooth the way to some sinecure he then had in view. The tone of the letters from Washington suddenly altered, and instead of censure, the colonel became the object of the colonel.

Armed with a Philadelphian and a Baltimore paper containing the notice of praise, the Swiss walked into a room where the colonel was sitting, and on approaching him, said, "Good morning, Col. Benton." The latter, without raising his eyes, replied, "Who are you, sir? I don't know you." The Swiss rejoined in lisping accents, "I am X of the Baltimore Sun, and Observer of the Ledger; you have seen what nice things I have said about you in both papers!" "Go away, man, go away," answered the colonel; "your slanders I can endure, but your praise would destroy me." The story appears to be so consistent with the character of the man, that we give it full reliance.

A female friend of ours, writing a private letter from Wisconsin, to a relation here, says:

"In a meeting the other night, a gentleman stated that he had the best of reasons for upholding women in doing battle with men for the Maine law; for they have more to do with it in this State than in most others, as it is now a well authenticated fact, that at a ball recently, the Governor and his wife both became so much intoxicated as to have to be carried home. The people are furious against their drunken Governor, and were it not for the immense German and Irish population, who are all for grog, there would be no fears entertained. But Gov. Barstow will buy and Paddy will sell votes to an incalculable extent."

The *National Era* will find it difficult to ignore the fact which we have italicized, or to prevent men from uniting to counteract the political influence of this class of men who have always acted as a unit in favor of slavery and intemperance.

## Convicted of Slave-stealing.

Richard Wynn and Alfred Woodley, who were part of the crew of a vessel which loaded some time ago in Roanoke river, were tried lately in Bertie county, N. C., on a charge of receiving and secreting a slave on board the vessel, with a view to his abduction. The captain, it seems, discovered the fugitive, and had the two sailors arrested. Wynn was acquitted, but Woodley was found guilty, and will have to suffer the penalty of death.—*Harrisburg Union*.

The Harrisburg organ of Sham Democracy has not a word of comment on the above act of barbarism. If this Woodley had assisted some white man to escape from Van Dieman's Land, in violation of the police laws of England, we should have proclaimed him a hero and a patriot; but be-

cause he assisted a black man to escape from a worse than Van Dieman's Land, we hang him, and Sham Democracy guards the gallows till the deed is done. Shade of Jefferson! What crimes are committed in thy name!

## Our Educational Movements.

We have watched with great interest the gradual growth of the educational spirit in northern Pennsylvania, and especially in this county. We have felt that our future prosperity was intimately connected with this movement, and it gives us great pleasure to find that our neighbors in southern New York, are also watching these efforts with considerable interest.

The *Olean Journal*, a paper from which we have frequent occasion to copy, makes the following comments on the educational movement in Potter and M'Kean counties. These are encouraging words, and we hope they will cheer on every one who has lent the good work a helping hand, and induce some who have, as yet, done nothing, to put their shoulders to the wheel:

Considerable attention is being devoted to the subject of education in Potter and M'Kean counties, Pa., and those interested seem to be doing something very creditable in promoting the cause in that quarter. Their Teachers' Institutes flourish finely, and the youthful portion of the community seem filled with ardor and enthusiasm. The good to result to northern Pennsylvania from this awakening, cannot be estimated. The spirit now manifested in those counties will create interest and effort elsewhere. We have alluded to this matter for the purpose of saying that this impetus to the cause of Education has arisen almost entirely from the judicious efforts of the local papers in those counties. They deserve great credit for awakening an interest which we feel assured will not be allowed to die away, and which, as we have intimated, is result in inestimable benefits to those counties. And not only will it aid the cause of Education, but its beneficial effects will pervade every class of society, every branch of business, promoting morality and all things else which can minister to the comfort and good taste of the citizen. Surely this affords unanswerable argument for supporting the local press everywhere, and thus enabling it to become more instrumental in promoting the interests of communities. More is done by the small village paper, which "pumpkin heads" often sneer at, to advance the interests of the region in which it is located, than all that the blanket-sheets from the cities ever accomplish. If you never thought of this before, and don't believe it now, just keep watch of almost any local paper a few months, and our word for it, you will be an ardent convert to the doctrine."

## PARTIES IN KANSAS.

It affords us pleasure to inform our Eastern readers that we have but one party in this Territory, and that Whig, Democrat, Free-soil, and Native American, are all lost in the great Free State party, which is far more popular among us than Know-Nothing was in the recent Legislature of Massachusetts. No one thinks of inquiring to which party his neighbor belonged in the States, as he affiliates with the great party of Freedom. An intelligent gentleman from Pennsylvania was in our office the other day, and during a brief conversation remarked, that he was an old line democrat; that he had always acted with that party, and yielded a cheerful acquiescence to all its measures. When the Kansas-Nebraska bill was introduced into Congress he thought it was designed as a pacific adjustment of a vexed question, and that it could do no harm; but when he saw the people of Missouri pouring into Kansas by thousands, with the expressed object of controlling the election, and that they purposed to return as soon as their work was accomplished, he felt that the thing had been carried a great way too far, and for the future he was resolved to throw away the scallop and labor with all his energy to restore freedom to Kansas. He is not an isolated case by any means.—*Kansas Herald of Freedom*.

Will some of the Anti-Nebraska men in this neighborhood, who were so zealous in opposition to the repeal of the Missouri compromise, when only talking was to be done, tell us of any other way to make Kansas a free State, than that proposed by the old line democrat referred to in the above? We ask the old line democrats of this county to look over the field and see if it is not their duty to follow this example.

TURNING AN ELEPHANT TO ACCOUNT.—Barnum has got his Elephant fairly in harness. The *Tribune* says that he can be seen every fair day attached to a plow, and doing up the "sub-soiling" in first rate style, at the rate of about three distinct, double horse teams. The elephant is also used for carting large loads of gravel in a cart arranged purposely for him, and in drawing stone on a boat or drag, in piling up wood, timber, &c., and in making himself generally useful.

The town of Ashfield, Mass., has elected Misses Lydia Hall and Marietta C. Patrick on the School Committee. The *Sunday Times* was only temporary.