

THE PEOPLE'S JOURNAL.

JNO. S. MANN, A. JEFFERY, Editors.

COUDERSPORT, PA.

THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 17, 1855.

The new State Treasurer, Hon. Eli Sifer, has taken charge of his office, and appointed Thomas Nicholson, Esq., at one time a member of the House from Beaver county, and a first rate man, Cashier.

The Warren Ledger, an old line democratic paper, has condemned the late outrage in Kansas, in manly terms. We mention this because nearly every paper of that stamp in this State, is silent as midnight on that subject. They even turn the cold shoulder to Gov. Reeder, who is an administration democrat.

We are glad to see our enterprising townsman Hon. S. Ross, so heartily engaged in agricultural pursuits. He has a field of winter wheat containing five acres, in fair view of our office, which is good for sore eyes. Then he has prepared eight or ten acres adjoining his wheat field, for Spring crops, to which he will do full justice.

Most of the lumbermen come home with long faces. They say timber is low, and buyers indifferent. Farmers, the prosperity of the county depends upon you. There is no dependence to be placed on the lumber business, and the sooner our people rely on the generous earth of our own county, the sooner we shall become rich and prosperous.

"More Thoughts for the Sons of Temperance," is a very timely article, and ought to be read by every friend of temperance in the county. There are quite a number of the order who will read this, and resolve to attend to the next meeting of the Division—see hope. Brother Stillwell, accept our thanks for this communication.

It does one's heart good to see the activity of our farmers at this time. Notwithstanding the scarcity of seed, and the difficulty in keeping teams, there is more spring work done than we have ever known at this season; and what is equally encouraging, the wheat sown last fall looks admirably. In fact everything denotes a prosperous season for the farmer, which will secure prosperity for all other classes, as we are all dependent on those who plow and sow, for our success in business.

The Legislature adjourned on the 5th inst. The bill for the sale of the Public Works, passed the Senate of the 4th by a vote of 22 to 11. It fixes the price at \$8 millions; if purchased by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, at 9 millions.

The bill to abolish the Canal Board failed. \$300,000 was appropriated to common schools, which is a step in the right direction. We hope next year this sum will be doubled, and then we shall soon see an efficient common school system.

When the Old Hunkets removed our friend Cole from the office of Commissioners' Clerk, and appointed Samuel Haven in his stead, the organ made a characteristic flourish, and told what great improvements would be made in the Commissioners' office by the new Board and their Clerk—also stating what every intelligent man in the county knew was not true that "order and method have been strangers in the business of the Commissioners' office."

Well, as we are advocates of reform, we said to ourselves, "if these new hands make any improvement, we shall rejoice at it, and give them due credit therefor." But as generally happens with bragging men, the big promises have all failed. So far from improvement, we hear a general complaint from all who have anything to do with the office, that the present Clerk is far more negligent than the old one, and nobody thought of bragging of him. The most that was said for him was that he was faithful, intelligent, and industrious; three virtues, only one of which is possessed by the present officer. Then his inability to perform manual labor, should have secured his continuance in the office, unless the place was to be filled by a more efficient man, which no unprejudiced person will pretend has been done.

CONDENNING THEMSELVES.

It is amusing to see the ingenuity made use of by the Administration press to dodge the most important questions of the day. For instance, those papers in this State which said but little about the violation of the contract in relation to the territory north of 36 deg. 30 min., and what they did say was intended to induce the people to pay but little attention to the matter—to acquiesce in the violation of the contract—are just now very much incensed at those members of the present Legislature who voted to increase their own pay. Now, while we admit the wrong on the part of the Legislature, we propose to show that the complaint is made with a very ill grace by the Nebraska press. The wrong done by our members in voting themselves a salary of \$500 a year instead of \$3 a day, was so trifling that no remonstrances were sent in against it, that we noticed. In fact, we believe it will be better for the State to pay the members a salary of \$500 than in the old way, per diem; but we think the members who made the change should have made the law take effect after their own terms of office had expired. But in 1843 an act was passed providing that "the per diem pay of the members, after any session of the Legislature shall continue over one hundred days, shall be one dollar and fifty cents per day for the number of days the Legislature may convene in session beyond that time." (See Dunlop's Digest, page 1007.) From the passage of this act to the present time, according to the dictum of one of the sham democratic papers, the members of Assembly, when elected, made a contract with the people that they would receive but one dollar and fifty cents per day for each day they should remain in session longer than one hundred. Was this contract ever fulfilled? Not when pro-slavery democracy was in the ascendant. Did the Administration press ever before say anything about this contract? Not a word. Last year Beck and Eldred voted themselves three dollars a day, in violation of this act of Assembly, but our hunker editors had not a word to say. Having been silent when they ought to have spoken, their hypocritical attempt to read moral lectures now, will be taken by the people for what it is worth.

But this is a fair sample of pro-slavery morality. If men will but profess to be democrats, swear by the Fugitive Slave bill, and oppose the Maine Law, they are patriots of the first water; and their party press will praise and sustain them, no matter what solemn compacts are violated, or how much free territory they attempt to make over to Slavery. Not so when a man declines to train in their company. Then every act is turned into a wrong, and every error magnified a hundred fold.

We have a hopeful assurance that sensible men will soon tire of such gross inconsistency, and impudent Pharisaism. It succeeded last year, by the help of villainous falsehoods, in gaining the ascendancy in this county. But we are frequently encouraged by unmistakable evidence of a healthy and vigorous reaction, which will, we hope, at the next election, restore the county to its former glorious position in favor of Freedom, Temperance, and Home Reform.

We are sorry to see so many loaded teams coming into Coudersport on the Sabbath. "Six days shalt thou labor and do all thy work," is a wise and beneficent command. The statute of Pennsylvania enforcing this command, is a wholesome one; and if our business men consult their own good, they will pay due respect to it. If they do not we should not be surprised if our wide awake Burgess should pay his respects to them. We say this not because we make any pretensions to special reverence for the Sabbath, but because we believe the health, happiness, peace, and prosperity of all classes, require every seventh day as a time of rest and relaxation, of quiet and repose; and that this rest belongs to man and beast. Hence we are pained to see the poor horses come wearily into town on the Sabbath, with a heavy load attached to them. We make an earnest appeal to all concerned, to reform this abuse.

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The Fruits of Slavery.

Said Thomas Jefferson, "The man must be a prodigy who can retain his manners and morals uncorrupted amid the debasing influences of slavery."

Every day's experience amply verifies this assertion of one of the Fathers. Three millions of people without the pale of the law—denied the sacred rights of home, of marriage, and of self defense, must invite to crime. Eight hundred thousand adult females with no defense, is an unblushing invitation to adultery, amalgamation, and the vilest corruption. Hence may be seen throughout the South children of all shades of complexion; and the crimes of which these children are evidence, must, of necessity, induce other crimes. Hence the disregard of solemn compacts—the armed seizure of ballot-boxes—the destruction of printing presses, and the other daily outrages which mark the track of slavery. For illustration of this, see the article on the outside, from a Missouri paper, giving an account of the destruction of the Parkville Luminary. The following able editorial from the Independent Republican of Montrose, contains some truths on this subject, which the people would do well to consider:

The general demoralizing influence of slavery on communities where it exists, has often been pointed out. To judge of the character of a people by the acts and doctrines of the aggregate body of which they are the component parts, is a slavish and unwarranted error. Those who have been found removed from a very just and correct perception of right and wrong, or are indifferent to the obligations that a perception of the right imposes. We are frequently told that great allowance must be made for difference in education—that those born and reared where slavery exists, view it not in the same light as we. This is certainly true. Those who have been found removed from Kansas the restriction of slavery, are now prepared to use violence and bloodshed to introduce it there, most certainly have very different ideas of the blessings of slavery, as well as of the rights of freemen and the sacredness of the laws, from those of the Northern people. The movement for the enslavement of Kansas is not to be credited to the hands of mere barbarians who wretchedly try to carry the elections with bowie-knife and pistol; but to the leading spirits of the South, prominent among whom, in this outrage, stands Atchison, Speaker of the Senate. This raid of ruffianism and lawlessness was deliberately planned by the slavery party, and executed with the execution of a general conspiracy of the pro-slavery leaders is sufficiently evinced by the fact that the news of the result was received by the administration with great rejoicings, and was made the subject of special festivities at the White House; for President Pierce, forgetful of the principles of freedom he should have upheld among the bills of his own State, has become the ally and tool of slavery, and rejoices with the rest over its unholy triumphs.

For this act—the same as though the people of New York should march into Pennsylvania armed with cannon and small arms, drive the legal voters away, and take possession of the polls—no apology or excuse is offered, except the interests of slavery demanded it; because the legal voters in Kansas are almost universally in favor of making it a free State. This is a specimen of what we have to expect from the chivalrous spirit and nice sense of honor of the South. Is it safe to commit the keeping of our country's honor and interests to the hands of men who offer such peculiar ideas of right and wrong? Yet they have long controlled the government in an undue degree, and now more than ever. Their continued success in moulding the North to their purposes, has rendered them arrogant and presumptuous. Confident in their power, they go on rapidly from one aggression to another. They have determined that there shall be no peace till the government is completely and securely under their control, and abolitionism crushed out.

Our Town Council has been in session nearly every evening for some two weeks past. Not aware that any important business would come up for discussion, we had no reporter present, and so cannot give the proceedings. But the decisions as they are made public, give general satisfaction thus far, and we feel impelled to say that the members of the Council are entitled to the thanks of this community for the promptness with which their duties have been discharged. Frank L. Jones, Esq., the energetic Burgess, is at home as a presiding officer, and is executing the ordinances of the Borough with that thorough and business like manner that characterized his administration of the Sheriffalty of this County.

We ask attention to the article in another column from the Olean Journal, in relation to our act of Assembly just passed to restrain the sale of intoxicating drinks. We are pleased with this candid notice, and the approbation of our Olean neighbor we deem of great importance, as it comes from an impartial and unprejudiced source. The Journal is an old line democratic paper, and we commend its fair and manly notice of the anti-license bill, to the attention of its snarling and captious associates in this State. The Harrisburg Union and Lycoming Gazette are especially requested to give the Olean Journal's notice a candid reading, after which we think they will feel better, whether their manners are improved or not.

We are sorry to lose Dr. J. Moyer from the Norristown Olive Branch; for the paper under his management was one of the best in the State. Though a firm and determined advocate of whatever he thought was right, he was always courteous to opponents, and by his candor and fairness united with great ability, raised his paper to an honorable position. We hope he will receive the reward due to faithfulness and industry.

With the new editor, L. H. Gause, we have not the pleasure of an acquaintance; but the first number issued under his supervision, is an excellent journal, well filled with the right kind of reading printed on good paper, with clear type, and is made up with taste and skill. But better than all this, is the independent, manly tone of the opening editorial. Brother Gause, if you write in this spirit every week, we shall soon forgive you for taking the chair so well occupied by our tried and true old friend Dr. Moyer.

We have the pleasure of informing our readers that arrangements are making by the friends here in Coudersport, to devote the 4th day of July next, to the cause of Liberty. The services of Hon. Joshua R. Giddings are already secured, and it is confidently expected that a larger crowd will be out to hear him, than ever assembled in this county.

There will be a meeting in the Court House on Tuesday evening of next court, to make suitable arrangements for the occasion. All persons who desire to do something to save Kansas from the rule of Slavery, are invited to attend.

The outside of this number is more than usually interesting, we think.

There is an article on the importance of sustaining a Free Press, which every opponent of slavery-extension ought to read. Then there is a Novel Discourse on Slavery, by an old man near Washington—a rare article with plenty of fun in it. Then there is an account of how Douglas is trying to be the head of the Know Nothing order in Illinois, but can't come to tea; and an account of the opening of the war as it now stands, on the outside of this number of the Journal.

The Olean Journal in alluding to the backwardness of the "happy grooms" in this section, in adopting the pleasant custom which prevails in the Empire State, of sending the printer a gold dollar as an accompaniment to the marriage notice, gives us the following piece of advice which we shall follow with a will:

We always knew that this State took the lead of Pennsylvania in all matters of reform; but as the latter generally "follows suit" pretty well, we shall expect ere long to hear our contemporary plea any acknowledgment of the very becoming unanimity, courtesy, and sense of justice of numberless happy grooms. Agitate the subject, neighbor!

The following proceeding in our Legislature just before the close, is a sign of progress:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1855. A resolution was introduced thanking Gov. Cooper of Kansas, for his faithful adherence to the old landmarks of republican liberty, in defending the purity of the ballot box against a lawless mob of Missourians, and bidding him a cordial welcome to his family and friends. After a brief debate in which Messrs. LaPorte, Chamberlain, and Cummings, participated, the resolution was agreed to unanimously—yeas 75, nays none.

Mrs. STOWE BURNED IN EFFIGY.—Within the past few days the University of Virginia has been the scene of incidents hardly creditable to the chivalry of the Old Dominion. Miss Beecher, an able and accomplished lady, the sister of Rev. Henry Ward Beecher and of Mrs. Stowe, visited the vicinity of that institution. Her presence was soon known, and she was treated to a mock serenade, and Mrs. Stowe was burnt in effigy! How have the mighty fallen! George Washington, I well remember to have read, addressed a negro-potestess in terms of respect, as "Miss Phillis"; and raised his hat to a negro man to whom he would not yield the palm of politeness. The present generation of young men, is far wiser and more chivalric. The author of the most affecting and truth-like story of the time is burned in effigy in Virginia, and her sister insulted, because she is her sister. Sic transit gloria mundi! —[Wash. cor. Pa. Inquirer.]

A Slopman in a big city advertised for half a dozen thin coat-makers. Guess he could find ten dozen thin ones, at the thin prices paid, without advertising.

For the Journal.

TRACTS.

Where shall we send for tracts? You may send to the Tract House, in the city of New York, near Castle Garden, on Broadway, and buy of the American Tract Society, or you may send to Syracuse, and purchase the Wesleyan Tracts, which are sold cheap—only thirty cents for 400 pages. I have heard of the Wesleyan Tracts, but supposed they were political; are they not? Yes, as much so as a tract on Temperance or Sabbath breaking, and no more; for, politics is the science of government, and treats of the most wise and judicious laws for the government and welfare of nations; and the Wesleyan tracts treat on Slavery, a subject which the A. U. T. Society are very careful to avoid. I am no friend to Slavery; but our minister says we had better not meddle with it, for it only makes the case of the slave the worse, and that it has its origin in the Bible,—and he is very much opposed to the Wesleyan tracts. I knew ministers and deacons who opposed the Temperance reform at first, (my own father not excepted,) but they soon repented of their folly. There are a variety of motives by which people are actuated. Possibly your minister is afraid of losing his standing in some high ecclesiastical body, or, some of his hearers are strong pro-slavery men, and would, if offended, withhold their support. Indeed, I can hardly believe that any man, who feels for man, and in whose heart glows the love of Godliness, can suppress his sympathies for the poor slaves. If Martin Luther had been as conservative as your minister, would he have opposed the errors of Popery, and in his study at Wittemberg laid the foundation of this, and all other Republics, by disseminating the true spirit of the Gospel? The greatest luminaries in the world, are the men who have risen up in defiance of the power of the Prince of Darkness, and advocated the inherent rights of man, which are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness. I have before me the tract entitled "Slavery a sin." Can it be proved from the Bible that Slavery is sinful? Yes. I will cite to you a few passages. Ex. 21st, 16: "He that stealeth a man, and selleth him, or if he be found in his hand, shall surely be put to death." I rather you would prove it if you can, from the New Testament. Very well, I can. St. Paul says that the law of God "is for men-stealers." I thought the slaves were bought, and not stolen. American Slavery had its origin in man-stealing, indeed; our slavers got them in any way they can—sometimes by force, sometimes by deception, and sometimes by purchase. And here you can see at once how Slavery, consisting in the right of property in man, conflicts with the duties which the Bible requires of all men. In the New Testament you find all social duties enjoined, and which cannot possibly be complied with by the slave. Says Mr. Lee: "Can a wife who is in the absolute power of another who is not her husband, and who can enforce his will in all things without let or hindrance, by flattery, bribes, strength, prisons, whips, and tortures—can such a wife 'submit herself unto her husband as unto the Lord?' And can a husband who is under the same absolute control of another, 'be the head of such a wife, as Christ is the head of the Church?'" Can "parents bring up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord," when they are found in the different markets, and separated forever by different purchasers? Can children "obey their parents" while they are the property of other men? I must lend you the tract, and I wish it in the hands of every one, for it exposes the evils of Slavery in a true, masterly manner. We must have the Wesleyan tracts in every school district. They are precisely what we need to give light and information.

Well, you have said some things of which I never thought before. I will read the tract, and then see you again.

CITIZEN.

GREAT NAMES AND GREAT MEN.—It will be seen by reference to our first page, that "The Honorable General Augustus Caesar Hannibal Dodge, Minister Plenipotentiary to the Court of Her Catholic Majesty Isabella II., his lady, three children, and servant," have embarked in the Pacific for Spain. What a conglomeration of great names

and appendages! We need no longer fear a war with Spain. The Bulletin says, "How can the Court of Her Most Catholic Majesty resist arguments urged by a superhuman being, who is not only an honorable, but a General; not only an Honorable General, but an Augustus Caesar; not only an Augustus Caesar, but a Hannibal; and not only a Hannibal, but a Dodge!"—Norristown Olive Branch.

MORE THOUGHTS FOR THE SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

DEAR BROTHERS: I love our noble Order, and I love to love it, because I can do it without loving my family, the Church, or the Lord the less. I love it for the good which it has wrought, and for its promise of good in the future. You, too, love it for these reasons, I doubt not, and are still willing to prove your love for it, by giving it your time and talent, and a little of your money. Any good cause, which can be promoted by these, is worthy of them; and that our sons justly bears this character, has long since been settled. But this very fact, it is to be feared, has been suffered seriously to affect us in many localities. Designing men, having a design in doing so, have patted us on the shoulder, and said: "You are good fellows, your cause is a good one, and we like your way of carrying it on." And thus, and similar have been the declarations of many who have been sworn foes to the Order, and, in too many instances, have these professions of favor been regarded as real. The effect has been, less zeal in the cause, less punctuality in attending the stated meetings, less promptitude in keeping weekly dues paid up, and, in the end, an alienation of feeling, of interest, and devotion to the continued progress of the Order.

From what I have been able to gather by an acquaintance with many who have not been willing to identify themselves in some tangible form with the Temperance reform, my conclusion is, that "Their friendship is but a name," and that they are not to be trusted, much less to be relied on in the time of need. Do not, then, brothers, think the victory is complete, when men who are afraid to stand their whole bigness on one side of the fence on the other, are ready to say "yes, yes," just because there is not enough identity or individuality about them to say no. Be admonished that there is danger "when all men speak well of you." The reason for their thus speaking is not to be found in their sympathy with your cause; but very frequently, to turn your mind from the vigorous prosecution of the work which it has to accomplish. There is, and as it seems to me, must be, deep-seated enmity against the final triumph of the Temperance cause, wherever there are those who are unwilling to commit themselves fully in its favor. The maxim, "He that is not for us is against us," is applicable to the Order of the Sons of Temperance, as to any other thing. Our order is a sacred one; its pledge is sacred; its principles are sacred; its aims are sacred, grand, sublime—for its mission is to the wretched, the besotted, the self-ridden. It diminishes rags and hunger, tears and sighs, pains and death. It has done something in this line in every community it has entered, and you are not the only witnesses of the truth of this assertion. It were a pity, a sad mistake, if such an Order, with such principles, objects, and mission, should not be helped to live, and left to act, till her triumphs are everywhere repeated, and until, under her significant banner, our race shall repose and rejoice in Love, Purity, and Fidelity. R. L. S.

Lucey Stone and H. B. Blackwell have been married under protest against the usual form of the institution of marriage; that is, they mutually insist that the wife shall be upon an equal footing with the husband in all respects, particularly in regard to her own movements, to the disposition of their children, and the property. The Advertiser thinks many of the readers will say, "ful-de-rol" or "ful-de-rol" to the arrangement. Very likely. They have had the same to other arrangements, which have been completed, notwithstanding; and what it has not forgotten, is, their acquiescence has finally been secured. Now, we are not to be understood as agreeing to the arrangement. We may not be prepared, just yet, to utter an opinion. But we have lived long enough to learn that a swear is not always an argument. Possibly it will be found to be so in this case. The ear of truth, touching all subjects, is working on; and we give the usual notice.—Lancaster Inquirer.