

THE PEOPLE'S JOURNAL.

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COUDERSPORT, PA.

THURSDAY MORNING, JULY 12, 1855.

The news from the seat of war is unfavorable to the Allies.

The Rev. J. M. Peobles will preach at the Court House next Sabbath afternoon and evening.

The Town Clock is striking off the hours again. Precautions have been taken to prevent the recurrence of such a break as occurred before.

The attendance here on the fourth was quite as large as we anticipated, and the address of Mr. Giddings was listened to with great interest. It cannot fail to exert a happy influence.

We ask attention to the communication of P. in another column in relation to the union of schools in Coudersport. We are much interested in this subject, and shall express our views in brief next week.

How about an Agricultural Meeting on Court week? If it is to be held, it is time some of our active farmers were moving in the matter, for as we before said, if it is to be effective it must be their work.

We like the weather this season. It seems to be governed by system and regularity. Rain every other day, and clear, warm sunshine about a quarter of the time. This is convenient, as every one can make his arrangements accordingly.

New hay was brought into this village on Monday last and sold at \$8.00 per ton. It is really a delightful sight to see the new hay coming into town; and we are glad to know that grass, wheat, and oats never were better in this section.

Arnold Plummer was nominated for Canal Commissioner on the fourth by the old line democrats. The convention endorsed the President, and thereby condemned Gov. Reeder. No man with a spark of Freedom in his soul will support the ticket nominated by such a convention.

Edwin Jones, brother of ex-sheriff Jones, has purchased one half the Drug and Book Store of T. B. Tyler. We are pleased with this arrangement, as we think the public interest will be promoted by it. Mr. Jones will give his whole attention to the business of the Store, and we bespeak for the establishment a liberal patronage.

Mr. Mather is supplying the town with fresh meat, dressed in better order than any ever before offered to our citizens. As he furnishes his meat fresh and sweet, at regular periods, and in quantities to suit the wants of the people, of course they will all patronize him, and we think our farmers will find it to their interest to sell their sheep, and other fatted stock to Mr. Mather, rather than to kill it themselves for sale in Coudersport.

A sad accident occurred in Harrison on the fourth, for the particulars of which, see letter from Mr. Northrop. This note was not written for publication, but we take the liberty of giving it to our readers, as another call on each of us to live each day as if that might be the last.

We sympathize with the afflicted, and would gladly speak consoling words, if they were ours to utter. We have felt this week, as we never felt before, that—

"Afflictions though they seem severe, Are oft in mercy sent."

One of the Missouri rioters made an assault on Governor Reeder as soon as he returned to the Territory, and there can be little doubt that he will be murdered within two months unless the President removes him. Reeder bore himself with great coolness and bravery, and if the National Administration would send him a force of a hundred men, he would restore law and order to Kansas in a week. But this the Administration dare not do, because its masters, the slaveholders, have given other orders. Next week we shall give full particulars of this murderous attack on Gov. R.

READER TO BE REMOVED.

We have never been a very great admirer of this gentleman. We have no respect for his political position, and very little confidence in his intention to defend the rights of freemen. But we do think he acted like a man when the slaveholders undertook to make him sign the certificates of all their fraudulently elected members of the Kansas Legislature, and we said so. This was a courtesy to a political opponent that hunkerism never shows, and so the organ came to the Governor's rescue with arguments to prove him a National democrat. We never intimated anything to the contrary. He is a National—that is pro-slavery democrat, but not pro-slavery enough to satisfy our Southern masters, and so he is to be removed—under pretence of improperly purchasing Indian lands, but really because he will not do all that the South requires, as the following article from the Washington Sentinel frankly states:

We do not intend to go into a minute dissection of this curious correspondence. We simply mean to lay before them a few facts, to show that an unnatural policy is never a wise policy, however patriotically it may have been intended.

To do this, we first reiterate, assuming the adoption of such a policy to have been in good faith, that to our minds, it was objectionable, purposeless, and therefore unwise and inexorable, to place a free state man, governor of a slave territory. What could follow, but dissolution, strife, bloodshed? What do antecedents amount to in these evil days? Benedict Arnold had his antecedents. Judah the traitor had his antecedents! and to come down to things political, and of more modern date, Martin Van Buren had his antecedents! Of what value are they to us now? Stripped of the prestige Van Buren acquired under the great Jackson and removed from the influence of his age and patriotic councils, he became a traitor to his party and a traitor to his country!!! Madam Kowland when executed within view of the Temple of Liberty, turned her undaunted eye towards it, and exclaimed, "Oh liberty, what crimes are committed in thy name!"

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The correspondence is characterized, as will be perceived, by an unusual degree of personal and official asperity. In this respect it is highly objectionable.

But Mr. Menzies is not left the painful task of contending with Governor Reeder, the most improper speculations in lands in the Territory over which he was appointed to administer justice and fair dealings. Governor Reeder confesses the soft impeachment, and makes a miserable defence of himself for so doing. In our opinion, a Judge would not be more reprehensible to speculate in the cases submitted to his judgment.

As had, however, as all this seems to be, and is, not half so outrageous as the course Governor Reeder has pursued towards the pro-slavery men in Kansas.

But when Governor Reeder showed himself to be a sympathizer with the emigration opposed to slavery, he, in our belief, as we have frequently said before, committed an act which required his removal. It is this that constitutes the gravamen of Governor Reeder's offences. It is this which involves a far greater evil than the purchase of thousands of acres of land, because it strikes at the constitution of the country and at the rights of one half the States of this Confederacy.

We are glad to see at least a manifestation of interest in this subject by the Administration. We have invoked it to look to this question:

We know that if Governor Reeder had been removed long ago, much trouble would have been saved and much strife averted. Even now, however, it is impossible to feel secure that anything will be done in time to prevent an exaggerated recurrence of these difficulties. The more return of Governor Reeder to Kansas in his official position is a thing deeply to be deplored. It must have the tendency of exciting the majority of the people of the Territory who have been so much outraged. The letters of Mr. Marcy and Mr. Cushing to Governor Reeder are proper, if not timely, letters. We should have preferred, however, that they had been more decided, more peremptory, and should have conveyed his positive recall.

We made a short visit to the Academy the other day, and found the school interesting as usual. There are thirty-four students in attendance at present, which, considering the very great depression in business, is quite encouraging. We were greatly interested in the exercises, notwithstanding the scholars are generally very young for an Academy. We believe each one of our citizens might spend an hour every week at the Academy, as profitably as at church.

If any one doubts this, let the experiment be made for a single Term, and we will then accept the testimony, whatever it may be.

HARRISON VALLEY, July 4, 1855.

Our valley is this morning thrown into affliction by a serious and fatal accident which occurred yesterday. Louisa, eldest daughter of Richard Goodman, of this place, while in the act of leading a horse to the pasture, in passing a sluice the horse became affrighted, reared and fell back, striking some portion of its body across the breast of the victim, causing death in about an hour and a half. The medical aid of Dr. White was procured as soon as possible, but life was nearly extinct when he arrived.

THE AMERICAN PLATFORM.

This interesting document will be found in our columns to-day. Interesting we call it, inasmuch as it is the first document emanating from this hitherto mysterious order, that has, by authority, been published to the world. Apart from this consideration, the sentiments of the "Platform" are such as readily challenge the support of every true American.—Independent Press.

There was a time last year, when the Press manifested symptoms of Independence, but its advocacy of freedom has grown fainter and fainter, and now it is down in the dust at the feet of the slaveholders.

No man who believes in the Declaration of Independence, and has soul enough to appreciate the services of the fathers in defence of the rights of man, could say "the sentiments of the Platform are such as readily challenge the support of every true American."

The "Platform" on which the editor of the Press, and the entire doughface force jump with such alacrity, is all that the most violent advocates of slavery could ask, and will be repudiated with scorn by every free State.

The following plank of this rotten platform, would of itself drive every true American away from it, and from the party that could adopt it. Did either of the Baltimore Conventions show the iron despotism of slavery more fully than this 12th resolution of the National Council of Know-Nothings!—

XII.—The American party having arisen upon the ruins and in spite of the opposition of the Whig and Democratic parties, cannot be held in any manner responsible for the obnoxious acts or violated pledges of either. And the systematic agitation of the Slavery question by those parties having elevated hostility into a positive element of political power, and brought our institutions into peril, it has become the imperative duty of the American party to interpose, for the purpose of giving peace to the country and perpetuity to the Union. And as experience has shown it impossible to reconcile opinions so extreme as those which separate the disputants, and as there can be no dishonor in submitting to the laws, the National Council has deemed it the best guarantee of common justice and of future peace, to abide by and maintain the existing laws upon the subject of slavery, as a final and conclusive settlement of that subject, in spirit and in substance.

And regarding it their highest duty to avow their opinions upon a subject so important, in distinct and unequivocal terms, it is hereby declared as the sense of this National Council, that Congress possesses no power to legislate upon the subject of slavery in the States where it does or may exist, or to exclude any State from admission into the Union, because its Constitution does or does not recognize the institution of slavery as a part of its social system; and expressly pretermittin any expression of opinion upon the power of Congress to establish or prohibit slavery in any territory, it is the sense of the National Council that Congress ought not to legislate upon the subject of slavery within the territory of the United States, and that any interference by Congress with slavery as it exists in the District of Columbia, would be a violation of the spirit and intention of the compact by which the State of Maryland ceded the District to the United States, and a breach of the national faith.

STAY WHERE YOU ARE.

As quite a number of our citizens get an idea occasionally that they could very much improve their condition by going West, we propose to note a fact or two for the consideration of the people of this county.

Fact first.—A large number of those who sell out and go West, are entirely ruined by the movement. One of this class passed through our village last Tuesday week, on his way back to Lyncoming county. He had a wife and four children; but not a cent with which to buy bread. Our people very cheerfully made up a small purse and sent the little company on towards their friends—home they had none, by an attempt to find a better one in Michigan, where the fever and aguereduced them to want and penury.

Fact second.—There are a larger number who sell out in every county in the West, than there are in this county.

We have arrived at this knowledge from various sources of information, the latest item in our proof coming from Dr. H. S. Heath, who is much pleased with his present home in Indiana, and thinks he has made a fortunate move. In a private letter of June 24, he says: "I cannot see that the people are any happier, or live any better or more contented than in Potter county." We doubt if they live as well; but let that pass. If they are no happier, and no more contented, why risk the loss of health and the other advantages of our happy county for untried lands!

THE WORK OF GUNPOWDER.

We have no words to express our sorrow for the terrible accident which occurred here on the fourth. In accordance with the time-honored custom of the Nation, a few of our friends made preparation to celebrate the day with bonfires and gunpowder. At 4 o'clock A. M. a salute of thirteen guns was fired. At 12 M. another salute was commenced, and nearly completed, when the little cannon was shattered into any number of pieces, one of which struck Mr. E. D. Halbert, who was firing it off, just below the right knee, breaking the bones so badly that amputation was deemed indispensable. Dr. Thorp was sent for, who arrived here on Thursday morning. The operation was skillfully performed, and the unfortunate man is now tolerably comfortable.

This calamity threw a cloud over the entire community, and the meeting at the Court House lost its interest to a large number of the audience. The address of Mr. Giddings, quite a number left the house; and while others were leaving, a collection was called for to assist the injured man; and forty-two dollars were instantly contributed for his benefit. This is the largest collection we have ever known taken up in the county; but if those who went there had known a call of that kind would be made, we believe the sum would have been more than doubled.

We trust a subscription will soon be started for Mr. Halbert's benefit, and that his footing will be liberal, even for Coudersport.

We cannot close this sad notice without expressing a hope that from this time on, no more life or property will be endangered by the use of gunpowder or fire-crackers on any occasion. We believe the use of fire-crackers almost as dangerous as gunpowder; and if continued, some of our citizens will be mutilated by them. Let us do what we can to relieve the suffering caused by past errors, and firmly resolve to sin no more.

Destruction of Liquors.

In 1834 Congress passed a law for the benefit of the Indians, to which we ask the attention of the Harrisburg Union, and the other papers in this State, which think the country would be ruined by the annihilation of the dram shops. This law was approved by Gen. Jackson, and the following are among its sections:

Sec. 20. And be it further enacted, That if any person shall sell, exchange or give away, barter or dispose of any spirituous liquors or wine, to an Indian in an Indian country, such person shall forfeit and pay the sum of \$500. And if any person shall introduce any spirituous liquors or wine into the Indian country, except such supplies as shall be necessary for the United States troops, such person shall forfeit and pay a sum not exceeding \$300.

Sec. 22. If any superintendent of Indian affairs, Indian agent, or commandant of a military post, has reason to suspect, or is informed, that any white person or Indian is about to introduce or has introduced, spirituous liquors or wine into the Indian country, in violation of the provisions of this section, it shall be lawful for such superintendent, Indian agent, or sub-agent, or military officer, to cause the boats, stores, packages, and places of deposit of such persons to be searched.

And if any such spirituous liquors or wine be found, the goods, boats, packages, or packages of such persons shall be seized, and delivered to the proper officer, and shall be proceeded against by libel in the proper court and forfeited, one half to the use of the informer, and the other half to the United States. And it shall, moreover, be lawful for any person to take and destroy any such liquor or wine as they may find in the Indian territory, not used as supplies for the army.

We believe the above are wise and necessary provisions, calculated to prevent pauperism and crime. Will the Harrisburg Union inform the public what it thinks of them?

What ought to be done, is, for all true men of Pennsylvania, of all parties, to meet together as citizens on a common platform of opposition to the extension of slavery into Kansas, or any other territory of the United States. With such a party, and with such an issue against slavery, we can most truly sweep the State. It would then be a contest between freemen and doughfaces.—Pittsburg Gazette.

True enough. Why not put the ball in motion? Name the time and place for holding a Republican State Convention, appoint a Committee of Arrangements, and invite Hon. Charles Sumner, S. P. Chase, or other distinguished advocates of the Republican movement, to be present, and the Convention would do good. We are for the organization of a Republican party in Pennsylvania the present season, and we think the necessities of Freedom demand instant action.

Last week's Journal, dated July 5, was printed on the 3d, to give the devil a chance to celebrate the Fourth.

GOV. REEDER.

We intend to wait patiently for the forthcoming letter of Gov. Reeder in regard to the charges of land speculation in Kansas, made against him by those who are evincing an overweening anxiety to get him dismissed by the President. From the very first we said that Gov. Reeder was a bold and fearless man—that he would carry out the law faithfully in Kansas—that intimidation and threats would be unavailing, and his conduct has proved our saying to be true. Under such circumstances it is not to be wondered at that charges would be preferred against him. Missouri rowdism failing to carry out its dirty work, must of necessity resort to other means, and we shall not be surprised to hear of his dismissal upon the frivolous pretext of "land speculation." The beauty, however, of the whole thing is, that the very men who make the charges are men who have time and time again been speculating off the poor Indian, and who have grown rich by defrauding the unlettered savage. From such men Gov. Reeder can get no quarter.—Harrisburg Union.

If there were a few more papers belonging to its party, as fearless and outspoken in their sentiments as the Union, we should expect to see political campaigns conducted by our opponents with candor and sincerity. But up this way, the organs of sham democracy have no opinions upon any subject, except agitation. Whole columns are devoted to personal detraction, and neighborhood scandal, but not a sentence to the candid discussion of those great questions which occupy the attention of the American people.

THINK OF IT.

When Anthony Burns was in the hands of the Philistines in Boston, the President burst open the Treasury and launched out \$40,000 to aid in sending him back into Slavery. When Mr. Phillips telegraphed to the President for protection for his life and property, he got no reply.

Such a fact needs no comment to make it stir the blood of every true American. The Administration has for months known that Mr. Phillips and other American citizens in Kansas have been robbed of their rights by an armed mob, and yet it does nothing for the protection of these men. Why? Because the slave power requires it, and the Administration is the mere tool of Slavery.

NEWSPAPER CHANGE.—The Pittsburg True American has been merged in the Daily Evening Times, edited by Edward McPherson, Esq., an acquaintance of ours, and a gentleman of decided talent. We wish our young friend abundant success, but we are sorry to see that he is not entirely sound on the American question.—Lock Haven Watchman.

That is to say, he will not support Slavery, notwithstanding the National Council has decided that its followers shall do so. The Watchman will soon find the mass of the people differ with it, and that they deem McPherson, and all others opposed to the measures of Slavery, entirely "sound on the American question."

EDITORS OF THE JOURNAL:—Can we not hit upon a plan to consolidate and improve our village schools? At present the Academy depends in part upon the village children for its pupils, and the district school is consequently left in the minority. This divides the children into two classes, which is to be regretted.

But why cannot all the children attend one general school under one roof? The consolidated school might consist of three departments, employing three teachers; namely, a primary department, under charge of a female well adapted to take charge of little children; a secondary department, embracing children of a middle age and advancement, instructed by a well qualified male or female teacher; and the department of the Academy proper, consisting of those pupils who are more advanced in their studies—the whole to be under the supervision of the Principal of the Academy.

I understand that the directors of this district have levied a tax of \$360 for the current year, which if judiciously applied is certainly sufficient to furnish every child in the village with the very best instruction in all the branches required by the school act, together with such other advantages as would result from a judicious consolidation of the schools. Those who might wish for instruction in any of the higher branches, could pay for the tuition. Under existing circumstances, some plan of this kind seems most feasible and desirable, though what is wanted is free tuition in the elements of all branches for every child. The present plan is certainly a bad one for the interests of education, and the pecuniary interests of parents.

P. Coudersport, July 12, 1855.

Independence Day.

Pursuant to public notice, the friends of Freedom, irrespective of party, met in mass meeting at the Court House at one o'clock P. M., on the Fourth of July. The meeting was called to order by A. G. Olmsted, Esq., and Hon. Barak Niles was chosen President, Hon. S. Ross, Vice President, and Wm. Perry, Secretary.

The Declaration of American Independence was then read by A. G. Olmsted, Esq., when the President, with a few appropriate remarks, introduced Hon. J. R. Giddings, of Ohio, who delivered an Address appropriate to the day.

Mr. Giddings's speech was not characterized by the stereotyped outbursts of patriotism common to Fourth of July orations; on the contrary, his remarks were confined to a rapid, but at the same time lucid and glowing sketch of the history of Human Freedom, from the Magna Charta of King John to the Kansas outrages. He adverted with much eloquence to the true meaning of the Declaration of Independence, and urged the people not to forget that as upon these principles, seventy-nine years ago, American Freedom had been secured, so by these principles and these only, American Freedom must be perpetuated.

Wm. Perry, of Genesee, then offered the following preamble and resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

We, the people of Potter county, without distinction of party, assembled in mass meeting in Coudersport, declare unanimously, that the repeal of "the compact of 1820, commonly known as the Missouri Compromise," was an act of bad faith on the part of the South and her allies, which has been pregnant with evil, and evil only, causing strife, the destruction of property, and the overthrow of all law in one portion of our country; therefore,

Resolved, That the restoration of Slavery in all the territory of the United States, has become a political necessity, to which all other questions are merely secondary.

Resolved, That this restoration, and the overthrow of mob law in Kansas, can easily be accomplished if the people will forget their prejudices and live up to their convictions of duty—that "the union of freemen, without regard to former political attachments, is the only safety for freedom."

Resolved, That in order to secure this union of freemen in the Keystone State, we urge the calling a Republican Convention at Harrisburg to act in harmony with the freemen of New England, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, and other States which have rallied under the Republican banner, and postponed all minor issues, for the purpose of taking a true position on this great American question, and in the spirit of their fathers to finish the work which the fathers bequeathed them—that is, to fight the battle of freedom through to its glorious end.

Resolved, That we hail the election of an entire anti-slavery delegation to Congress from the Granite State, the home of the faith-breaking President, as a glorious promise of a better day coming; and the return of Hon. John P. Hale to the Senate of the United States, as conclusive proof that there is a North.

Mr. Colo, of the Genesee Valley Free Press, spoke to the third Resolution, urging the necessity of the action suggested by it, when

On motion the meeting adjourned. BARAK NILES, President. WILLIAM PERRY, Secy.

The Difference.

Anti-Slavery men write, speak, and vote against Slavery. They ridicule and despise Northern doughfaces, but they never advise or countenance violence against those men at the North who are now what the Tories were at the time of the Revolution. Not so with the slaveholders, as witness the following crazy anathema of Parson Brownlow, which appeared in a late number of his paper:

"The true-hearted citizens of East Tennessee and property-holders ought to enter into leagues, and whip, black, and ride on a rail, irrespective of age, calling, family, association, every preacher, citizen, or traveler, who dares to utter one word in opposition to Slavery, or who is found in possession of an Abolition document. These are our sentiments, and we are willing to help others to carry them out."

"Don't Do It."—Never make use of an honest woman's name in an improper place, at an improper time, or in a mixed company. Never make assertions about her that you think are untrue, allusions that you feel she herself would blush to hear. When you meet with men who do not scruple to make use of a woman's name in a reckless manner, shun them, for they are the very worst members of the community—men lost to every sense of honor, every feeling of humanity.