THE PEOPLE'S JOURNAL.

DEVOTED TO THE PRINCIPLES OF DEMOCRACY, AND THE DISSEMINATION OF MORALITY, LITERATURE, AND NEWS.

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Select Poetry.

From the National Era.

BENEATH THE MASK

BY MARY FRANCIS TYLER.

Once there came to us an angel,
[illegible] on its wings!
[illegible]
[illegible] sweetest things.

[illegible] and long we listened.
[illegible]

[illegible]

NOTES OF SCHOOLS.

[illegible]

We have nearly enough good teachers in this county to supply its wants on this plan; and if not, permanent employment well paid, would soon create them or bring them to us.

No. 33. Passed by the school-house—found the school closed for a short vacation. Directors had rearranged the seats, and brought the desks into reasonable proximity to them; but the supports of the desks should be concave on the edges, to admit the easy ingress and egress of the scholars. The prevailing faults in the arrangement of school-houses are, that the seats are too high, and too narrow, and are horizontal with perpendicular backs—many have no backs! The desks are also too high, the tops are not horizontal, but often very much inclined, and quite too far from the seat. The following is perhaps the best plan: the seats should be on a level floor, and accommodate but two pupils each; they should, if practicable all face the south, and the light should chiefly be admitted from the north; at all events the seats should all face one way, and have alleys between them: the back of the seat should incline from the perpendicular like the back of a chair; the seat should be elevated a little in front, so as to form a right angle with the back; the back row of seats for adults, should be of the ordinary height and depth of a chair; the desks should be level like a table, and all placed so that the edge of the desk may just cover the edge of the seat. This will give a proper position for writing. The height and width of both seats and desks should gradually diminish to accommodate the different sizes of scholars.

Much good would result if these things were attended to in building [illegible]

[illegible]

that she had passed a good examination.

No's. 49 and 50. In both of these schools, the teachers were engaged on their second term; an evidence that they were giving good satisfaction. One of them who had a miserable school-house with miserable conveniences, told me with some natural feeling of satisfaction, that she had an offer of $3.50 per week to teach in a neighboring county. Shall Potter lose her best teachers in this way? In your county, $3.00 per week is not, I believe, an uncommon price, but in this county, it would generally be deemed extravagant, as yet. One man told me that "girls worked out for a dollar a week, and that it was not half as hard work to teach school; besides which, the teacher could earn a great deal 'fore and after school, taking in sewing!" This is not an uncommon way of looking at the subject: but people forget that a teacher to be worth anything, must have spent considerable time and money in preparing to teach. Quack teachers, like quack doctors, preachers, and lawyers, are a class of persons whose services to the community are of doubtful utility, and usually dear at any price. P.

From the Evening Post.

KANSAS TERRITORY.

WESTPORT, Ind., August 16, 1855.

Since my last several matters of sufficient importance to justify a letter at this short interval have occurred. The long-expected dismissal of Governor Reeder has arrived, and now, Secretary Woodson being absent, the Territory is without a head, if that be not a paradox, in view of the fact that the "ma[illegible]" have ever and still rule there. It is possible that your readers will think I have said enough of Governor Reeder and his ill-treatment by the administration; if so, my excuse is, that I write of Kansas and its affairs as they are, and that for a long time this has been the all-absorbing subject, discussed with the fiercest malevolence upon the one side, and unmeasured devotion on the other. A [illegible]

[illegible]

United States. The general sentiment appears, however, to have been in favor of open disregard of the laws and resistance to officers enforcing them. They adjourned until to-day for deliberation, and my informant left before the result was made known.

The regular free State convention for the nomination of a congressional delegate and forming a platform, will be held on the 5th of September, at Big Springs, on the California road, between Lawrence and Tecumseh.

The pro-slavery convention for the same purpose is called for August 29th, at Shawnee Mission. If our men are united and firm, victory is sure, in spite of the elaborate efforts of Mr. Pierce to the contrary; and upon this latter point I have some facts to state that may be new to most of your readers.

Within the territory there are a great number of offices of considerable profit and consequent influence, dependent upon the gift of the President. The distribution of these offices among the members of any one party would place in its hands a formidable offensive weapon, and lay its adversaries under corresponding disadvantage and discouragement. In filling these, Mr. Pierce seems entirely to have forgotten the men who elected him, and who are gathered together here under the name of free-state men. From the beginning, the plain tendency of his policy and appointments here, has been to dishearten and finally destroy his friends. The agency of the Camanche Indians is given to General Whitfield, the first man elected by Missouri votes. The receivership of the land office to Mr. Shoemaker, of Illinois, who has since paid the price of [illegible]

[illegible]

that no such dodge should succeed with him.

It is necessary to state here that a friend of his while out hunting some days before had found nailed to a tree, a common playing card—the three of dimonds—and written upon it an account of losses and "F. Gwinner, registered July 19, 1854, Salt Creek Association." This was intended to show that Mr. Gwinner had made a claim thereabouts, but squatters do not respect such settlements, and the claim had been already jumped. The card was taken down as a curiosity, and was, fortunately at the time, in Gov. Reeder's pocket.

The true character of the meeting of the committee to which I have referred being reported to Governor Reeder, the committee in due time appeared and announced themselves as the "bearers of a memorial from a meeting of citizens," &c. The whole thing having on their part been conducted with great formality, the Governor requested a copy of the proceedings of the meeting, that he might know by whom they were appointed, for which they were not prepared, and to which they answered that they supposed no one would doubt their word. The Governor told them that was not the point—that they had of choice elected to confer with him in the present style, and he only desired the thing finished as commenced.

They were obliged at last to promise the required credentials, and here their business for this time ceased.—But they were not yet ready to go. Mr. Gwinner, like all western men, relishes his joke, and with an air intended to be facetious to his comrads and impressive to the Governor, squared himself, inserted his thumbs in his vest, and pompously talked of his residence in the Territory and interest in her affairs. When he had finished, the Governor said, "Ah, you have a 'residence' in the Territory; then in what part, may I ask, Mr. Gwinner?" [illegible]

[illegible]

From the Pittsburg Gazette.

RELIGION AND PERSONAL FREEDOM IN THE SLAVE STATES

Our readers have already been informed that the Rev. Mr. Wylie, a Methodist Travelling Minister, has been tried by Lynch law in Missouri, and ordered to leave the State on the penalty of personal violence. [illegible]

[illegible]

published an article in the Cass County *Gazette*, alleging that Wylie was an abolitionist. This publication, together with the attempted escape of two negroes whom Mr. Wylie was falsely accused of assisting, drew down the slaveholders' vengeance upon his head. We find a letter from Mr. Wylie in the St. Louis *Democrat*, giving his statement of the matter, and if such an outrage as he details does not make the reader's blood boil, we know not what will. Mr. Wylie says:

"On Thursday, July 26th, while peaceably pursuing my way along the public road, I was overtaken by two men, one of them known as Col. Worley—who addressed me some impudent questions respecting where I was going, &c., and finally informed me that I had been accused of inciting slaves to escape, and of preaching abolition doctrine, and that I must return with them to Harrisonville and have the charges investigated. This conversation they interlarded with the most profane oaths that ever fell from mortal lips. I protested against their right thus to stop me on the public highway, when the afore-named Col. W. leaped from his horse, and began fumbling about his person, as if feeling for a pistol. After some further parley, I informed them that, inasmuch as I was entirely innocent of the charges alleged, and did not fear a fair investigation, I would accompany them to Harrisonville for that purpose. Just as we were turning to go back, sixteen more men, mounted, made their appearance.—We stopped at cabin in the prairie for supper, where the bottle was freely passed, and I received the most insulting treatment, being urged to drink, and made the subject of obscene jests and horrid oaths.

"We reached Harrisonville about 12 o'clock at night, and I was taken [illegible] and a guard of three men, [illegible] me during the night as if I had been the greatest criminal!—Next morning I was waited upon by three men who informed me that they were [illegible] a committee to search [illegible] in order to ascertain if I [illegible] This committee was composed of the Rev. Mr. Allen, Baptist preacher, Mr. Bai[illegible] and the proprietor of the hotel [illegible] They searched [illegible] my Bible [illegible] and read my private [illegible] substantiate their charges.—

[illegible]