

no authority, jurisdiction, or power to decide anything except the simple fact that the District Court had power to punish for contempt, a person who disobeys its process, that the petitioner is convicted of such contempt—and that the conviction is conclusive upon us. And yet, Judge Black descends from the bench to blacken the character of Mr. Williamson. He undertakes to act both as a witness against him and a special pleader. He takes the position both of an advocate of Judge Kane, and a witness and special pleader against Williamson. He insists that Mr. Williamson "disobeyed the writ, and that such disobedience is conclusively established by the adjudication which the court made upon it." And yet, he has been declared that he has no right to say whether the adjudication of the court was right or wrong; no authority to examine the evidence, or to judge the justice or injustice of the case, not even if he was sure that Judge Kane understood the facts and misapplied the law. Why then does he put himself in the place of witness and pleader against Mr. Williamson, arguing that he did really disobey the writ, that he really was guilty of crime? If he has no right or authority to examine that question, by what right or authority does he dare himself to accuse Mr. Williamson of purposely disobeying the writ, that he might stop the investigation, and prevent the slaves of Wheeler from being brought for trial to the Court? He deliberately accuses Mr. Williamson of arresting the inquiry before the court, in order that Wheeler might not get possession of his slaves, and this purpose of their accusation is to justify Judge Kane for throwing him into prison. For the sake of shielding Judge Kane, he says he has no authority, no power, to go behind Kane's adjudication to inquire whether Williamson really was guilty of contempt, but must take Kane's adjudication for truth; but in the next breath, for the sake of venting his malice against Williamson, he undertakes to argue that Williamson was not only guilty of contempt, but that he was so on purpose to arrest the course of justice, and that he was actuated by a vulgar passion for notoriety, and aspired to the honor of martyrdom. Rarely has there been a more disgraceful exhibition of iniquity in a Court of Justice on record.

Then the savage insolence towards Mr. Williamson with which Judge Black closes his article is unparalleled. He can come out when he will, by submitting to the tyrant! An honest man falsely imprisoned, can receive his liberty from an unjust judge, by himself becoming dishonest, in acknowledging the justice of his imprisonment. He can avoid the tyranny, by making himself a party to it. And this is the key of deliverance to which Judge Black scornfully commends the man, thus outraged!

### THE PEOPLE'S JOURNAL

JNO. S. MAIN, A. AVERY, Editors.

COUDERSPORT, PA.

THURSDAY MORNING, OCT. 4, 1855.

### REPUBLICAN TICKET.

For Senator.

**HENRY SOUTHER.**

OF ELK COUNTY.

For County Commissioner.

**DUICK WHIPPLE.**

OF ELYSSES.

For County Auditor.

**WILLIAM B. GRAVES.**  
OF CLARA.

### TO THE PEOPLE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

The Whig party, the Republican party, and the American party, having each nominated a candidate for the office of Canal Commissioner, it became apparent that such a division of the elements of opposition to the National Administration and the Nebraska fraud would inevitably lead to the triumphant election of Arnold Plummer, the Pro-Slavery Nebraska candidate—in view of these facts a meeting of our respective Central Committees of said parties was held at Harrisburgh on Thursday, the 27th of September, 1855, and their nominees having declined and been withdrawn, Thomas Nicholson of Beaver County was nominated as the candidate of the said parties, for the purpose of concentrating the votes of the Anti-Nebraska party on one man; and he is hereby earnestly recommended to all the lovers of Freedom in Pennsylvania as a capable, honest and true-hearted man, who is worthy of the support and confidence of the people. By order of the Committees.

JOHN A. FISHER, Chairman Whig State Committee,  
LEWIS TOWN, Chairman American State Committee,  
DAVID WILSON, Ch'n Republican State Committee.

We received the above just as we were going to press.

We also received by the same mail a letter from Philadelphia, conveying the same intelligence. We have no room for comment, but will just say to our friends "the skies are bright for this county, and for the State."

If each friend of freedom will do his duty from this to election night little Potter will hold her place as the Banner County.

### The Revolutionary Patriots were Opposed to the Extension of Slavery.

In 1787, at the successful close of the Revolution and just as the new government was forming, the old Congress of the Confederation passed the celebrated Ordinance prohibiting slavery in all the territory north-west of the Ohio river. This immense territory has since been erected into five flourishing free States—a living instance of the wisdom which saved them from the blighting influences of oppression. The first Congress which assembled under our present Constitution, re-enacted this Ordinance; and thus the seal of approbation was put to the policy which proposed to limit the institution of Slavery within its then boundaries, both by those who carried the Revolution successfully through and those who put in operation our Republican form of Government.

To this policy of the non-extension of Slavery, rendered honorable by those who instituted it in the formation of the government, we propose to return. The people of the North, in 1820, took a resolute stand in its favor, and were only driven from it by fears of dissolution; but in yielding partially to the pressure which enveloped them, they merely consented to the recognition of Slavery where it already existed, exacting, with the full concurrence of the South, a provision against its extension into the free territory north of the Missouri line. This provision, adopted under all the sanctions that could possibly make it sacred, has, as we have said, been repealed in the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska bill; and we are now confronted with a policy entirely different from that which prevailed when the Republic was formed. The determination is now expressed to extend Slavery all over the territory now in possession of the general government, and so prohibit the extension of Freedom beyond its present bounds. The Republican party has been organized to bring back the government to its original policy. Our fathers, in whom dwelt the true spirit of liberty, set bounds to the institution of Slavery, and decreed that beyond those bounds it should not pass. They made Freedom the grand object of a Republican government, and devoted to its spread the whole national territory then under their control.

The democratic party and its confederates, in 1855 undertake to reverse all this, and to make Slavery the controlling interest of the government, devoting to its use and benefit the whole unoccupied territory of the nation, extending from the Mississippi to the Pacific. To which of these policies, fellow citizens, will you subscribe? If to that of Washington and Jefferson and their worthy compeers, the Republican party affords you the only efficient rallying point.

The democratic party is responsible for the repeal of the Missouri Compromise and the passage of the Kansas Nebraska bill. Under that bill large numbers of northern men have sought homes in the new territory; but they find themselves insulted, abused and mobbed; their right to settle there denied; their privileges as voters destroyed by an armed invasion from Missouri on the day of the election; and a legislature chosen for them by the invaders which has since extended slavery over the territory, denied the right of free speech, trammelled the press, and enacted the punishment of imprisonment and death for those who are opposed to slavery. The purpose is openly avowed to drive them from their homes, and prevent northern men from ever settling there.

The administration of President Pierce, instead of rebuking these outrages, sustains them. Gov. Reeder, who was in favor of defending the free settlers, has been removed by him, and a Governor appointed in his place who avows himself in favor of

the extension of slavery to Kansas, and the laws passed by Missourians for its protection there. The democratic party, also, throughout the North, with rare and honorable exceptions, supports the administration in this course, and are before the people, now, upon this issue.

### PASSMORE WILLIAMSON.

At the head of our ticket, for the only State office now to be filled, stands the name of PASSMORE WILLIAMSON. This man has been cruelly imprisoned by Judge Kane, of the U. S. District Court, sitting in Philadelphia, for no other crime than that of informing a colored woman and her two children, brought on to the free soil of the State by their master, that they were free under our State laws. Without trial, almost without a hearing, and for no offense known to the laws, this man has been incarcerated in a dungeon for a perfectly legal act, and is an example held up before us, of the arrogant demands of the slave power, and the determination of the South to prostrate our rights as a State, and plant Slavery in our midst. For the purpose of rebuking these demands and the despotic spirit manifested by Judge Kane in carrying them out, PASSMORE WILLIAMSON has been nominated for Canal Commissioner, and his position strongly appeals to the people for their voice in his behalf. He is known and acknowledged to be well qualified for the office, and enjoys in the city of Philadelphia, among a wide circle of acquaintances, a reputation for honesty and uprightness of character which any man in the State might be proud to possess.

### HEAR THE DOUGHPACES.

The Hunker Senatorial Conference of this district, met at Smethport on the 20th ult. Tioga county was not represented. They nominated B. D. Hamlin for the Senate, as we stated last week. Then they appointed E. B. Eldred, W. L. Moore, and D. W. C. James a committee to draft resolutions, who, after due deliberation, reported the following choice specimens, which were unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That we are opposed to all secret political societies, and particularly to the insidious and proscriptionary organization of Know Nothings.

Resolved, That the agitation of the subject of slavery, is productive of evil and only evil, and that we will resist all agitation, in whatever quarter it may arise.

Resolved, That the Hon. B. D. Hamlin having been tried and found honest and capable—the true Jeffersonian standard—he eminently deserves and shall receive our united and hearty support.

This, men of Potter county, is the true picture of Old Line Democracy every where—*abject submission* to the rule of slavery. Stringfellow and his Kansas ruffians could not ask for more efficient allies than Hunker Democracy furnishes in every county in the free States. Let slavery subjugate every foot of free territory, and *keep silent* is the doctrine of those resolutions, and of Old Line Democracy. Is it possible that honest freemen will acquiesce in such servile sentiments? We cannot believe it.

### JUDICIAL TYRANNY.

Thomas Jefferson, a Democrat of some note, as early as 1824, foresaw that the Federal Judges would one day endanger the liberty of the citizens, and usurp the rights of the States, unless they were carefully watched and promptly checked in their encroachments. Here is a part of what he wrote on that subject after he served eight years in the Presidential chair. Speaking of the too great power of the Federal Judges, Mr. Jefferson says:

I would not, indeed, make them dependent on the Executive authority, as they formerly were in England, but I deem it indispensable to the continuance of this Government, that they should be submitted to some practical and impartial control; and that this to be impartial must be compounded of a mixture of State and Federal authorities. It is not enough that honest men are appointed Judges. All know the influence of interest on the mind of man and how unconsciously his judgment is warped by that influence. To this bias add that of the esprit de corps, of this peculiar maxim and creed, that IT IS THE OFFICE OF A GOOD JUDGE TO ENLARGE HIS JURISDICTION, and the absence of responsibility; and how can we expect impartial decisions between the General Government, of which they are themselves so eminent a part, and an individual State, from which they have nothing to hope or fear? We have seen, too, that contrary to all correct example, they are in the habit of going out of the question before them, to throw an anchor ahead, and grapple further hold for future advances of power. THEY ARE THEM IN FACT THE CORPS OF SAPPERS AND MINERS STEADILY WORKING TO UNDERMINE THE INDEPENDENT RIGHTS OF THE STATES, AND TO CONSOLIDATE ALL POWER IN THE HANDS OF THE GOVERNMENT IN WHICH THEY HAVE SO LARGE A FREHOLD ESTATE.

Was ever prophesy more literally fulfilled than this one in relation to

the encroachments of the Federal Judges? Did Jefferson foresee that in 1855 Judge Kane of the U. S. District Court, would, without a shadow of law or right, commit a citizen of Pennsylvania to jail during the pleasure of the Judge? Whether he saw this or not, he described it long years ago, as faithfully as a living witness could do it.

And now we ask you, the freemen of Potter county, by your respect for the memory of Jefferson, by your regard for the principles of the Declaration of Independence, by your regard for the golden rule, and in the name of Justice and Liberty, to rebuke the usurper, Judge Kane, by voting, on Tuesday next, for the victim of his tyranny, PASSMORE WILLIAMSON.

### HENRY SOUTHER, ESQ.

This gentleman is a worthy candidate for the suffrages of independent, liberty-loving men. Unlike his opponent, Mr. Hamlin, he has never "bowed the knee to the dark spirit of slavery," but stands erect, a freeman, in favor of preserving the free soil of the West from the polluting touch of slavery. If elected, he will give no aid to slavery by voting to postpone resolutions in favor of freedom; nor will he vote to send to the United States Senate a tool of slavery like Buckalew; but all his votes will be on the side of Republicanism, and of the principles on which the fathers called this nation into being. A vote for Souther will be a vote to restore freedom, law, and tranquility to Kansas; a vote for Hamlin will be a vote to keep Kansas in her present unhappy and disgraceful condition. Choose ye whether to sustain freedom or slavery aggression.

Nothing is more amiable than true modesty, and nothing is more contemptible than the false. The one guards virtue, the other betrays it. True modesty is ashamed to do anything that is repugnant to the rules of right reason; false modesty is ashamed to do anything that is opposite to the humors of the company. True modesty avoids everything that is criminal, false modesty everything that is unfashionable.

A man cannot, in our country, lie in prison without bail, without trial, without jury, and for no crime, under the hoof of an unjust judge, and the people be kept quiet if the remedy be denied.

Sevastopol has at last been taken. Over 30,000 troops fell in the final struggle. Particulars next week.

The anti-Nebraska Democrats of the Empire State throw themselves into the Republican movement with enthusiasm, and will sweep all before them. Preston King of St. Lawrence county, a Democrat of the Jeffersonian stamp, heads the Republican ticket. Abijah Mann, the associate and adviser of Silas Wright, is the candidate for Attorney General; and General Nyo, one of the stars of the old Jackson party of N. Y., accepts a place on the State Committee. These men have the spirit of the fathers in them, and follow where principle leads; and they are the representatives of a host of others. We think there are quite a number, even in this State, and in this county, who will pay more respect to the example of these illustrious men than to the weak and pro-slavery leaders of Coudersport, who are making a great effort to keep the people tied to the party of slavery.

Read the speech of ex-Governor Reeder, on the first page, and then say whether you will so vote on Tuesday next as to strengthen his hands, or to strike him down. If you possess a spark of the spirit which animated the fathers in the days of the Revolution, we ask you to give Tuesday next to the vindication of their principles, and to the overthrow of the despotism which has dared imprison a law-abiding citizen of Pennsylvania, without trial or even a chance to secure a trial.

We are requested to say that there will be services in the Presbyterian church next Sabbath at the usual hour, by Rev. J. Blakelock of Ulysses.

There is an able review of Judge Black's decision, on the first page. We hope no reader will pass it by.

Our friend E. O. Austin of White's Corners, is of the opinion that the formation of the Republican party will be "of doubtful utility." The Hon. Benjamin F. Butler, a Democrat of such ability and standing as to have secured him a seat in the Cabinet of General Jackson, is of a contrary opinion, and is earnestly urging all honest Democrats to abandon the pro-slavery administration Democracy, and unite with their friends of other parties in the Republican movement. The anti-Nebraska Democrats of this county will judge whether the opinion of E. O. Austin is of more weight than that of B. F. Butler and thousands more of the same stamp.

The Old Line Democratic party, having degenerated to the position of a mere instrument for the uses of slavery, is begging for votes on the ground that in the days of Jefferson it was a noble party. Was ever a more childish plea put forth for votes? The people want a party that will carry out their wishes now; and they will have it. They want their brethren in Kansas protected from a lawless band of slaveholders, and they will have it. They demand protection from the tyranny of Federal Judges; and they will not take as a substitute for their righteous claims, a reference to services rendered by the Democratic party in the days of its purity.

### HON. S. ROSS.

As Mr. Dent's organ persists in slandering all of our citizens who will not put on his livery, we republish the following endorsement of one of the men thus slandered, from the old Potter county Union. This testimony is a sufficient answer to all the malicious vituperations of our quarrelsome neighbor. We copy from the Union of Feb. 14, 1851:

"We learn that the Whigs of this Borough have agreed upon Sobieski Ross, Esq., as their candidate to fill the office of Associate Judge for this county. This appointment will continue till the next election. Mr. Ross is a gentleman of fine ability. He is every way worthy of the confidence of his friends and of the public. We wish our young friend all success in everything but his politics."

Again, on the 21st of March, of the same year when Mr. R. received his commission, the Union honored him with the following panegyric: "Mr. Ross was born and bred in this Borough. Although differing with that gentleman in politics, it affords us great pleasure to add our humble testimony to his merits. In this community where Mr. Ross is best known, he is regarded as an honest man, a scholar, and a gentleman, fully deserving the high position which he occupies."

The Hunker leaders of this county endeavor to make the rank and file believe that the Republican movement is not entitled to support. Honest Democrats think differently. Here is an item from the Springfield (Mass.) Republican of Aug. 27, which is significant:

"Governor Boutwell made one of the most earnest and effective and neatest speeches for union against slavery, at the United States Hotel meeting last week, that we ever heard. It was decided, bold, uncompromising. He thinks it has got to be a war of generations that the slave power has such a hold upon the government, and in the fears and interest of the people, that it will be a long time ere it can be conquered and driven into its local haunts. But he argues that if it is ever to be resisted, we must begin now, while we have any thing left worth battling for."

KIDNAPPING.—The Climmersburg, Pa., Whig says that on Sunday night week a negro man was kidnapped, and taken from the camp meeting at Shippensburg, and carried off into Virginia, without color of legal sanction of any kind. A professional slave catcher made the capture, and alleged that the negro was a slave, and owned in Virginia, whose master had employed him to make the arrest. Two negroes were taken at the time, but one managed to escape, on reaching Chambersburg. Not the slightest evidence was shown that either of the negroes was a slave, nor was any attempt made to procure the sanction of law.—Philadelphia Sun.

How many of the papers of this State that support Arnold Plummer, will think the above outrage worth noticing? It is only when a slave escapes from the marshal, and secures the right to pursue his happiness in the way his Creator designed, that our Hunker papers feel called on to open their lips—and then their only regret is that a man has secured the rights of humanity.

### How to Save Kansas from the Curse of Slavery.

The Hon. D. Wilmont, a Democrat of the Jeffersonian school, tells how this can be done. Read and reflect on the following extract from a letter of his to the Republicans of Susquehanna county:

I was rejoiced to see that your committee were moving in the right direction. If the rights of the people and State—if its dearest interests are to be maintained, the Constitution and the hitherto well-settled laws of the country are to be met and asserted in our day, it will be under and through the organization of a Republican party—a party that shall not strive to ignore the momentous issue forced upon the country by the aggressions of the Slave Power, but that shall boldly meet these issues, and make them the cardinal and fundamental basis of its organization.

In haste, yours truly, D. Wilmont.

"Two things have I required of thee; deny me them not before I die. Remove far from me vanity and riches; feed me with food convenient for me, lest I be full and deny thee, and say, Who is the Lord? or lest I be poor, and steal, and take the name of my God in vain."

The reader will note that the inspired writer places the vainglorious fullness of the rich man on a footing with stealing on the part of the poor man.

We ask attention to the new advertisement of C. S. Jones. The store of Mr. J. is one of the most attractive in the place, and deserves, as it receives, a liberal patronage.

By a strict construction of the twelfth section of the infamous bill recently passed by the Kansas legislature, says a correspondent of the St. Louis Democrat, any person could be sent to the penitentiary, with hard labor for two years, for bringing into Kansas, Jefferson's works, Cowper's Task, McCauley's speeches, Patrick Henry's writings, or the published opinions of Washington, Franklin, the Adamses, John Wesley, Sydney, Smith, Charles Dickens and almost every modern author of genius—for nearly all of these contain expressions of thought, which would have a tendency to promote discontent among slaves if publicly promulgated.

### The Voice of Freedom.

The people of the Empire State, without regard to former party arrangements, sent delegates to a Republican convention at Syracuse, on the 26th of September, who, after a thorough interchange of sentiment, nominated a ticket with Hon. Preston King at the head, and appointed a committee on resolutions, composed of such men as Horace Greeley, Park Godwin, and Gen. Nye. From their report, which was adopted with thundering applause, we copy the following:

Resolved, That the Federal Government being one of defined and limited powers, among which the power to enslave human beings is not found, we most earnestly deny its right to establish, uphold or increase Slavery in any portion of the public domain, or to continue its establishment in the federal territory, by any means whatever.

Resolved, That since there can be no legal Slavery in the Territories of our Union, there can be no Slave States legally formed out of such Territories, and we declare ourselves unalterably opposed to the formation there of any more Slave States, and in favor of an express prohibition by Congress of Slavery in all territory of the Union.

Resolved, That the repudiation in the interest and by the vote of the Slave Power, of so much of the Missouri compact as relates to the advantage of Freedom, as far as it had administered to the intelligence of Slavery, to restrain that spirit of aggression and rapacity inherent in a system which robs a man of his liberty, earth of its fertility, and labor of its rightful reward.

Resolved, That the Federal Administration, by its uniform policy, but especially by the removal of Gov. Reeder and the appointment in his stead of one who recognizes the elect of the Missouri invaders as a true Legislature of Kansas, and demands that the tyrannical usurpations of this body shall be obeyed as the laws of that Territory, fully identified itself with the effort to plant Slavery thereon, and renders impossible the further support of the Executive by men who desire that Kansas shall now be a Free Territory, and in due time a Free State.

"Riches expose a man to pride, and luxury, a foolish elation of heart, and too great a fondness for the present world. The middle condition is most eligible to the man who would improve himself in virtue."

This is the last paper campaign subscribers will receive, unless they forward their subscription, which we hope a large number of them will do.

"Died by the Visitation of God."—A Governor of Cayton, thoroughly impregnated with the spirit of the British constitution, impelled a jury of Mussulmans on a man found drowned, and they returned the solemn and significant verdict, "His time was come."—Blackwood's Magazine.