

... which had been perseveringly followed, to bolster up a party. "He believed Mr. Emery had acted honorably; he had merely stated what he (the speaker) and two-thirds of the Convention fully believed. This thing had been going on since we came here. It was notorious. If the gentlemen felt sure, they could have a committee of investigation—the speaker was in favor of that; but if this was to be placed on the records, he would have a counter statement drawn up, signed, and placed on the record also. He thought the step taken unfair. Those who took it knew they would be defeated, but merely wished to get it on the records." When the vote was taken the resolution was rejected, and on a second vote it was ordered that it do not go on the records. Ad-

A caucus meeting was immediately held, being the first political caucus of the Free-State party. There was some little speaking, but nothing of importance transpired, save that a Convention to nominate State officers was arranged to be held at Lawrence on the 22d of December, by which time the result of the submission of the Constitution to the people will be ascertained. The meeting broke up with three cheers for the Free State party of Kansas.

#### TEACHER'S DRAWER.

TEACHERS! Under the above caption, it is proposed to open a plan of mutual correspondence, a sort of silent Teachers' Institute, which with your efforts, can be made eminently useful. The Schools are now beginning, for the winter, and by engaging in the scheme above mentioned, you can aid each other, and help onward the cause of School improvement. You can do this by brief and pertinent communications upon educational topics, by asking and answering suitable questions in regard to the general subject of Teaching, and the several branches pursued in school, by criticisms upon school-books, modes of teaching, &c., &c., and in short, in a variety of ways which your own ingenuity will suggest.

And thus, while visiting the schools personally, I hope to meet with many of you also each week, in the way proposed. I shall hope that you will keep the "Drawer" constantly replenished. Its contents for this week, are as follows:

1. Which of the following expressions is correct, and why?  
 "A better supply and selection of text-books has been introduced."

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2. What is the difference between good pronunciation and good articulation?

3. Which study is of most importance, Geography or Physiology, and why?

4. Required a solution of the following questions in Arithmetic and Geography:  
 Two men, A and B, start at noon from the point of the intersection of the north line of Pennsylvania with the meridian of Washington. A travels east, and B west, each at the rate of 32 miles an hour. At the end of 11 days and 14 hours, how far will they be apart, over how many degrees of longitude will each have passed, at what points will they have respectively arrived, and what will be the time of day at each point?

N. B. In solving this question, an approximate answer will be obtained, if the earth is considered as a perfect sphere.

5. Why is it that so few persons spell correctly?

6. Why is it that so few persons are good readers?

7. In teaching the Alphabet would it not be well to require the pupil to utter the sounds which the letters represent, as well as to repeat the names given to the letters?

8. Why is it that so many persons have a vague and incorrect impression of the size and location of different States and countries?

9. Criticize the following expressions: "It looks good, and tastes sweetly. He told you and I to go and call John Smith, he whom you learned grammar last winter. The lamb ran a race and broke its leg, and its boys again him when he done it. She begun to scold and said three months' interest were due. He throwed me down and teared my book."

All who feel disposed, especially teachers and their elder pupils, are invited to make contributions to the "Drawer." The increased number of good teachers in the schools this winter, is a most encouraging sign.

It is hoped that each one will add something to the general fund of improvement.  
 To save repetition, the questions published from time to time, will be numbered, and when answers are given, questions may be referred to by their numbers.

Questions, answers, and communications, may be addressed to me, to Mr. Charles H. Allen, at Coudersport, who has kindly consented to assist in the scheme proposed.  
 J. B. PRADT, Co., Supt.  
 Dec. 10th, 1855.

#### THE PEOPLE'S JOURNAL.

JOHN S. MANN, EDITOR.

COUDERSPORT, PA.

THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 13, 1855.

On Tuesday last sixty-one students had enrolled their names for the present term, at the Academy. This is noble, and what is still more important, Mr. Hendrick is perfectly at home among his pupils and their studies. The school is already well organized, and the scholars manifest great interest in the business before them. We hope they and their teacher will be encouraged by the frequent visits of the patrons and friends of the Institution.

The Rev. T. Gross, for thirty-four years a slave, gave our citizens a brief narrative of his experience under the peculiar institution, on Sunday evening last, at the Methodist church. There was a full house, and at the close of Mr. G.'s simple statement, a collection of \$15.50 was taken up, to assist in rescuing one of his children from slavery. We think no one who heard this narrative will again blame us for agitating the question of slavery.

The Rev. J. Hendrick, Principal of Coudersport Academy, will deliver an educational address on Wednesday evening of next week, being Dec. 19. Those of our citizens who heard the sermon of Mr. Hendrick on Sunday afternoon last, will need no urging to induce them to attend the lecture next Wednesday evening; but to those who did not, it may be proper to say that Mr. H. is a very pleasant speaker, and talks right to the point. Let us give him a full house, and thus show our respect for the lecturer, and our interest in the cause of education.

#### THE HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH.

We ask attention to the prospectus of this paper which may be found in another column. The *Telegraph*, as will be seen by this prospectus, has changed editors and proprietors. With the new men, most of our readers are somewhat acquainted by reputation. Col. McClure has been a leading man in the Whig party for some years. He made the *Chambersburg Whig* one of the best county papers in the State; and hence will bring to his new enterprise a ripe experience, and an enviable reputation. We had the pleasure of making his acquaintance at the Pittsburg Republican Convention last September, and have the utmost confidence in his ability and intention to make the *Telegraph* all that any reasonable friend of freedom could expect.

Mr. Sellers, the partner, is a member of the Senate, has a high reputation as a public man, and will add considerable strength to any enterprise with which he is connected. These gentlemen have abundant means, and we are assured, have invested liberally in the *Telegraph* establishment, with a view to make it one of the best papers in the State. Being located at the seat of our State government, we trust a large number of our friends in this county will at once subscribe for it. It will be published twice a week during the session of the Legislature, and will give all the proceedings of that body.

It will give us pleasure to forward the subscriptions of any of our friends in any part of the county, and we will be responsible for the safe transmission of any funds entrusted to us for that purpose. As these are stirring times, with a most important session of Congress just commenced, and an eventful year ahead, we hope to have the pleasure of noting a large list of subscribers to the *Telegraph* in this county.

THE PEOPLE'S JOURNAL is a very capacious sheet, and with a little uncharitableness. When any of its cotemporaries see fit to entertain and express an opinion not consonant with its own ideas of right and justice, it lays back its ears, and kicks away at them most wickedly. This week it is snarling and growling away at us because we expressed our disapprobation of Passmore Williamson's prosecution of Judge Kane. It is in high dudgeon because we said "if Williamson has sustained any pecuniary damages during his confinement, as undoubtedly he has, let his pretended abolition friends make them up to him."—Warren  *Ledger*.

With an earnest purpose to serve the cause of Temperance, and to labor in the service of humanity, we confess we have little patience with that North-syn subserviency which is ever submitting to the encroachments of slavery; and it is more than a little deth that we sometimes express our sentiments in language not in accordance with the rules of etiquette. If the *Ledger* thinks we have merited such a notice as the above, we thank it in all kindness for saying so, as frankness is a virtue with which we never err. Our readers will bear us witness that we have frequently commended the editorials of the *Ledger* as liberal and manly, and have seldom condemned it. Is this being uncharitable?

#### KANSAS.

We give on the first page an extract from the *Tribune's* correspondence, describing the closing scenes of the Kansas Free State Convention; and we ask the reader to turn to that report. It shows that Pierce Democracy did its utmost to legalize slavery in Kansas till 1860, and to endorse the Nebraska bill. Both of these projects were defeated. A Constitution was framed which excludes slavery from Kansas, and is to be submitted to a vote of the people on the 15th of December. If a majority vote in favor of it, then Congress will be asked to admit the new State into the Union. Will it be done? There will be no trouble in the House; for there the Republicans and opponents of the administration are in a majority. But we fear for the Senate, which contains a majority of Pierce Democrats. The Hunker leaders in this section, are trying to encourage their followers with the idea that old line Democrats will vote for the admission of Kansas. If they do, we shall be happily disappointed; for we have no fear that any Republican will vote against it; and if Pierce Democrats do not, Kansas will soon be a free State.

Since writing the above, we hear had news from Kansas. The pro-slavery party, headed by Governor Shannon, seeing no way to prevent the triumph of freedom in that Territory, except by the use of the army of the United States, have commenced a civil war, and are now asking the President for bayonets and bullets in behalf of slavery extension. See article from the *Post* in another column.

"The true spirit of religion cheers as well as composes the soul; it banishes indeed all levity of behavior, all vicious and dissolute mirth; but in exchange fills the mind with a perpetual serenity, uninterrupted cheerfulness, and a habitual inclination to please others, as well as to be pleased in itself."

We are informed that a concert will be given by some of our little girls, under the direction of Mrs. Shaw, on Thursday evening of Court week, the proceeds of which will be applied to the fitting up of the Methodist church. We hope to see a crowded house on that occasion, and a generous response to the efforts of Mrs. Shaw to furnish the church with lamps and other articles of furniture much needed.

The *Buffalo Commercial* claims that Coal can be furnished cheaper from Erie, than by the Marvin Creek Coal Company, and in support thereof presents the following statement of the cost of Erie Coal, furnished by one of the heaviest operators in that city:

Cost of mining and railroading 3 miles,	\$1.25
Freight by canal to Erie,	1.30
Handling at Erie,	0.25
Lake freight to Buffalo,	1.00
Handling and docking in Buffalo,	0.25
<b>Total,</b>	<b>\$4.05</b>

The lowest mark it puts down for Marvin Creek Coal, is \$4.64. The friends of the Company assert that it can be furnished for \$3.18.—*Erie Gazette*.

So, the M'Kean Coal operations begin to alarm the coal men of other sections. That is the most hopeful sign we have yet seen. It looks as if the Marvin Creek Coal Company were really doing something.

#### IN THE HARNESS.

Let the present winter witness more activity than ever before, among the temperance people. Let money be spent liberally, able lecturers employed, and time devoted to the advancement of a correct public sentiment. Let the Orders arouse to more than past zeal, and together labor for the cause. Kindle the old watch-fires anew, and brush up the rusty armor. Rally again to the good work. The rum party is badly beaten, but must be worse beaten. Let us rear at the back of our Maine-Law, a public sentiment of most unmistakable power.—*Cayuga Chief*.

Yes, let the Orders arouse to more zeal, and let those who have never united with the Order of Sons of Good Templars, increase their activity in the good cause; for now is a most favorable time to push forward the glorious work. We appeal to every Son of Temperance and to every Good Templar to fill up your Hall, attend, if possible, every session; and you will aid in making them more interesting; induce new members to unite, make arrangements for public meetings, and increase in activity in all possible ways.

#### Doings at Washington.

Congress assembled on Monday, Dec. 3. The old Clerk, John W. Furney, called the House to order, at 12 M., when a vote was taken for Speaker, which resulted in no choice, no one having a majority of all the votes polled. After three trials, the House adjourned. The next day five more ballots were taken with a like result; and so the entire first week was spent. The following is the result of the 29th ballot:

Richardson	73	Pennington	9
Campbell	74	Wheeler	11
Banks	11	Smith of Ala.	3
Fuller	20	Zollicoffer	9
Thurston 4			

Messrs. Haven, Walker, Humphrey, Marshall, Hoffman, Maxwell, Nichols, and A. Oliver, received one vote each.

#### 29th Ballot.

Richardson	73	Thurston	2
Banks	57	Carlisle	5
Fuller	18	Wheeler	6
Pennington	6	Zollicoffer	5

Messrs. Howard, Haven, Walker, Harlan, Bell, Smith of Alabama, Andrew, Oliver, Sneed, and Swope, one each.

The friends of education in this county will be much gratified with the communication of Rev. R. L. Stilwell, of East Smithfield, Bradford Co., Pa. Mr. H. had charge of the Academy there for several years; and this communication will show them in what estimation his services are held. It more than corroborates all we have said of him.

#### For the Journal.

#### LETTER FROM EAST SMITHFIELD.

BRO. MANN: I have thought—indeed I have been more than half inclined to charge you and others in Coudersport, with real selfishness. You have held out inducements to Bro. Hendrick, sufficient to induce him to tear himself right away from a desirable pastorate, the superintendency of a large Sabbath School, a School Directorship, and a host of young persons whose intellectual developments are largely attributable to his ability and skill as a teacher. Now, how do you up there in Coudersport, think you would like it if, after he has been three or four years preaching and teaching, planning and counseling, uttering words of encouragement to the despairing, of consolation to the bereaved, performing his last solemn duty in the burial of your dead, joining your sons and daughters in matrimony, in short, by every way, in every way, in your own mind, in your own will, how, I ask, would you like to have him taken from you? Would you not say, of those who presented the inducements, "they are selfish?" "Aye, would you not say more—would you not say "they are really true?"

But this state of things is, and for aught I know, will continue till the great consummation. As an individual I will not complain. There was a vast deal more gold in California before it was discovered than there is now; but it did do no one any good till it was dragged out and put in circulation. So with educated and good men; they must be diffused, circulated, and scattered, here, there, and yonder. On the whole, I am glad that the one whose name I have taken the liberty to use, accepted the position you offered him. He will fill it if health and life permit, with honor to himself, and great good to many others.

And now, Brother Mann, just this way a moment, while I speak to you in a whisper I want you to "feel a brother's care" for Bro. H. He is inclined to work too hard—a fault, by the way, of which many are not guilty—please see that he does not overtax his energies, physical or mental. Once more, should he be invited to preach occasionally on the Sabbath, as he doubtless will be; and should

he refuse to do it, please report to me without delay. I know that "his Master hath need of him," and it will not do for him to suffer the spirit's sword to corrode in his hand. Finally, you who are fathers and mothers in Potter county, and have sons or daughters, or both, large enough and old enough to appreciate the faithful services of a competent teacher, send them, if consistently possible, to the Coudersport Academy; and "their profiting" shall be an honor to you, a blessing to them, and a source of good to those who are to live in the great future. So may it be.

R. L. STILWELL.

Dec. 3, 1855.

#### "KICK HIM DOWN!"

What has he done?  
 Why, he is as poor as "Job's off ox;" therefore down with him!

Certainly, O lofty world! Had he been the "manor born;" had he been "seized of" two or three hundred broad acres upon his natal morn; or, had he dived upon the world with a gold spoon between his tender gums; or, had he leaped into swaddling clothes hoisted and spurred—why, then he would have presented himself in a manner worthy of your most considerate consideration. But untoward Fate differently willed it. He came as a babe—a fresh instalment of doubtful wealth, perhaps less welcome than his predecessors and perhaps more welcome; for some silly poet has said that the first wail of an infant falls as sweetly upon the mother's ear, in a hovel, as in a palace. There is possibly as much poetry as truth in the conceit.

We fell into this train of thought as we read, for the hundredth time perhaps, the bitter rhymes of CHARLES P. SMITH, which may be found upon the first page of this paper. (They will also be found on the first page of last week's *Journal*.—Ed. JOC.)

"Kick him down!" There is no falsehood in the cry, albeit there are not a few who will sneer at what we have written and are about to write. The observant hear this cry ring out continually in the actions of the few in every community who have succeeded to the wealth born of the labor and pains of a past generation. These may deny it, but it is a child's denial. We choose to look facts in the face, and if the cause of humanity demands a blow, pained be the hand that does not strike! The world has turned its back upon social falsehood too long already. Grapple with Wrong, and grapple low down—at the very root. In the hand-to-hand strife with Wrong there should be no waits except those wrought from mortally-wounded Pride. Strike, then, and strike fearlessly.

With the aristocracy of towns and cities—to some such a bugbear—we have little to do. Time spent in ridiculing it is lost time, and the like of denunciation. It is a mushroom feeding on social miasm. Hence, if the atmosphere is purified it will die a natural death. Attack it otherwise, and it will sustain a fictitious life. So far as it chills the better impulses it is wrong; and in so far as it serves to cheat a few into a fancied superiority of rank and position, it is harmless.

There is an evil abroad in the land eclipsing all others; and of this evil our poet sings—

"Dimes and dollars, dollars and dimes!  
 An empty pocket's the worst of crimes!"

The tendency of the age is a mammon-worship. The sturdy old Saracens, under the professions of the monks and Christian princes who led on the Crusades, discovered the great secret, and exclaimed bitterly—"Gold is the god of the Frank and buried treasures his Holy Spouster!"—might speak in this day with increased bitterness. Virtue, intelligence, love, and genius even, shrink into comparative nothingness in the presence of the gilded Dragon of this age. The chances are about equal in the hands of the born rich, or the grown rich. The one may be possessed of a full grown soul and judge men by the standard of goodness; and he may be dwarfed in physical stature and despite every-thing not dwarfed like himself. The other man, have had a full grown soul which mammon-worship has dwarfed; or he may have grown rich, and treasured up goodness the while. But were we to choose a master, he should not be one who had lifted himself up from the pit of poverty to the plane of wealth, by the dint of toil and privation. There is something terribly fatal to god impulses in mammon-worship; and few natures once stung to death by poverty can bear prosperity and manhood at the same time. Friendly reader, look around you, upon the little backwoods villages, and then tell us which men more willingly defer to—the fool, in "purple and fine linen," or the wise man, in rags! We dare anticipate your reply. Say, then, is there a wrong fast anchored upon the bosom of society and crushing its life-out, or is deference shown to mete gilding natural and healthy? Assuming that the respects shown to wealth, without reference to the virtues of its possessor is better than no respect, which would seem the more desirable fortune: To be born with a full pocket and an empty head, or with a full head and an empty pocket?—Which?

It will be said that the poet has overdrawn in dealing with his subject. So, a few months since, certain dem-

agogues stood up in the halls of Congress and solemnly asserted that the danger of losing Kansas and Freedom was overdrawn; that Nature had set the great seal of Freedom on the virgin soil of that territory; nay, more; they said all this even while the slave-owner was driving his human cattle over the border and on that Heaven-sealed free soil! Did they lie, or speak ignorantly? Which?

The crust of poverty may be bitter, but it is honey compared with the morsel which the Oppressor shall eat when society rights itself. Men may point to their churches, their schools, houses and their hospitals, and sit down, composedly, as if in those open-mouthed charities the duty of Man was performed; but when they awake to the wrongs that such listlessness has inflicted upon the world, conscience will give them the lie.

The wickedness of waiting until a man is able to live without help before lending him a helping hand, is apparent. The unfortunate man needs encouragement in his darkest hour, not in the hour of his triumph over every opposing obstacle.—*Wellsboro Agitator*.

#### Nicaragua.

Walker, the filibuster, seems to be on the high road to renown as the founder of a new State. His control of Nicaragua is represented by the latest intelligence, given in our columns this morning, as more solid and secure than ever. Corral, the Indian man who might have headed a movement against his authority, has been convicted of treasonable correspondence with some reliefs of the opposite party and shot. By every arrival from California, re-enforcements swell the army of the chieftain, and if he continues to manage his affairs with the same discretion which he has hitherto exhibited, no power can expel him from his position.

The moment chosen by Walker for the invasion of Nicaragua was the best conceivable. The country was exhausted by a prolonged civil war. Everybody desired peace, and a commander who could secure it would have been welcomed by what remained of the people. The leaders of the contest on both sides were dead, removed either by battle or by pestilence, and their followers had also been decimated by the same causes. In fact there was no longer even the semblance of a native army to conquer when Walker moved up on the capital. The plaza of that town, where for months Chamorro, had held Castle on at bay, had not now a defender, and the only military man of any prominence remaining to the country—Corral—made haste to submit and make a treaty with the invader, to break it, however, very soon, and to pay the penalty with his life. A more fruitful conquest is not recorded in history.—The acquisition of Texas by the Americans was nothing to it.

We must admit that since his triumph the conqueror has exhibited a great degree of political sagacity.—The Presidency was in his grasp, but he preferred that Don Patricio Rivas, a prominent native Nicaraguan, should be put into that office at least for the present. By this means Walker saved the Government from that revolutionary and alien air, which in his own hands it would have worn. The Nicaraguans would certainly be very grateful to refuse their allegiance to an Administration with one of their own number at its head. Besides, had he become President, foreign governments would have been slow to form relations with the new regime; but there could be no reason why they should not recognize Rivas, who had been in high office before, and had borne a decent character as the world goes. The shrewdness of this plan is justified by the result. The Minister of the United States has already exchanged congratulations with the new chief magistrate, and the others are likely to follow. When the revolution is thoroughly legitimated by the recognition of several powers, Walker will be ready to make himself nominally dictator, as he already is in reality and to carry his great project another step toward its consummation.

That project is, briefly to fill the country with Americans, to introduce Slavery, and to procure the annexation of Nicaragua to the North American Union as a Slave State, with a prospect of a similar result for the adjoining countries. This is the scheme and it is being hurried toward its realization with unexampled rapidity! What do the people of the Free States think of this new conspiracy to extend the power of the oligarchy by which they have so long been ruled and used?—*Tribune*.

During the past summer the wool growers of Piermont and the back part of Haverhill, have lost between 300 and 400 sheep killed by some animal.

**GOOD AT GUESSING.**—"Well, Pat, what's the way to Burlington?"  
 "How did you know my name was Pat?"

"O, I guessed it."  
 "Thin, be the powers, if ye are so good at guessing, ye'd better guess the way to Burlington."

Quick to forgive, and slow to anger!