



THE PEOPLE'S JOURNAL

JOHN F. MANN, EDITOR.

CODDERSPORT, PA.

THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 17, 1856

To the People of Potter County.

In pursuance of a call by the proper authority, for a Republican State Convention to be held in the City of Philadelphia on Monday the 16th day of June next, for the formation of an Electoral Ticket, and for the transaction of all business that may come before said Convention, notice is hereby given that a Convention will be held at the Court House in Coudersport, on the 31st day of May next, for the purpose of electing delegates to represent this county in said State Convention, and also in the National Nominating Convention, to be held on the 17th day of June next, at the same place. All who are opposed to the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, to the extension of Slavery into the Territories, and in favor of the admission of Kansas as a free State, are earnestly invited to meet in Coudersport on said 31st day of May next, at 1 o'clock, P. M., for the above named purpose, and also to effect a more perfect organization in our County, preparatory to the ensuing Presidential and State elections. ISAAC BRONSON, Chairman of the County Executive Committee, Coudersport, April 4th 1856.

"Though we are not capable of shining in learning or the polite arts, yet every one is capable of excelling in something."

Connecticut speaks for Freedom. Both branches of the Legislature contain a majority of men opposed to pro-slavery Democracy. So that pliant tool of the slave power, Isaac Toucey, can retire to the shades of private life. What a good time the Warren Ledger and its pro-slavery associates must have looking at the discomfiture of their opponents! We wish them joy of their occupation.

The attentive reader will see in another column the marriage notice of Henry Lucien Bird and Miss Eld. The newly married couple have our best wishes for their future usefulness and happiness. Mr. Bird is among our very best young men, and we judge he has chosen wisely and well. If so, his wife will hereafter have new charms for each of them. May they discharge all its duties cheerfully, promptly, and hopefully.

The printer's fee is gratefully acknowledged.

There is another excellent communication from our untiring friend Stilwell in this number of the Journal. We commend it to the attention of all, especially to fast young men, and the advocates of an unrestrained traffic in intoxicating drinks. The Lycoming Gazette might find food for reflection in this letter.

"The best of men may deserve punishment, but the worst may not deserve happiness."

"They who most passionately pursue pleasure, seldomest arrive at it."

There is a fine freshet in all the streams of the county. The snow goes off so gradually that we are not likely to have water high enough to do any damage.

The average wages of female teachers in this county the present season, is three dollars per week, and board. We note this as an improvement; and we trust the teachers will so discharge their duties as to deserve and secure still higher wages in 1857.

The next term of the Coudersport Academy will commence on the 26th day of May. If the people of Potter county have any desire to patronize the best school opened in their midst, let them be well represented on that occasion.

Our friend Horton of Cushingville, gives notice that his Gristmill is in good condition. See his advertisement in another column.

The Town Council have, from time to time passed excellent ordinances for the improvement of our Borough, which have exerted a happy influence on the comfort and prosperity of the town. But there is one serious evil to which the city fathers do not seem to have directed their attention. We refer to the practice of smoking in the streets and stores, especially in the stores. It is too bad to have dry goods establishments, where the ladies are expected to trade, filled up with a cloud of filthy tobacco smoke. If the proprietors have not stamina enough to protect their rooms and their goods from such pollutions, we trust the Town Council have. Let the nuisance be abated.

THE STATE TICKET.

It is a long time since we had the pleasure of supporting a State ticket so heartily and so confidently as we do the one put in nomination by the Union State Convention, which met at Harrisburg on the 21st of March.

We have little doubt of the success of the entire ticket.

We are personally acquainted with two of the candidates, and know of no other two men in the State more worthy of confidence. It will be a proud day for Pennsylvania when these men enter on the duties of their office.

The unanimity with which this ticket is supported by the opposition press of the State, is most encouraging; for union on such a ticket, and the strong anti-Nebraska platform on which it stands, must be productive of the happiest results.

THE ANTICS OF DROWNING MEN.

The Warren Ledger is responsible for the following effort to grasp a straw:

The opponents of the democratic party are in a most pitiable condition. They are cut up into bitter and furious factions, and in their utter despair of success against the Democracy, will fall to work to abuse and demolish each other. We do not think that either the Republicans or Know-Nothings proper, can have any reasonable hope, at this time, of carrying a single State in the Union. The Democrats can coolly look on, and be amused at their perplexities.

As the above appeared since the New Hampshire election, we are afraid our friend of the Ledger stands in need of a straight jacket.

After having carried the old Granite State, what may the Republicans not hope to carry? When Pierce Democracy succeeds in carrying a single free State, the Ledger may take heart, but till then, we advise it to prepare its house for the day of judgment.

FATAL AFFRAY.

We learn with deep regret that an affray occurred at Wellsville N. Y. on Friday evening last, which resulted in the death of a young Van Buren-Martin, we believe he is called.

We shall not undertake to give the particulars, because we should do injustice to some one, most likely, in the attempt; for always on such occasions there are two sides each endeavoring to throw the blame on the other.

This much however we are safe in saying. The Clinton house and Van Buren's have each kept what is called a runner at the Depot, on the arrival of the cars to induce those who may stop, to go to their respective houses. These runners have doubtless imbibed pretty freely and the result was heated and angry contests which for a month past have clearly indicated a fight.

The quarrel thus engendered came to a head on Friday night last, in the death of young Van Buren who was knocked on the head with a club by the runner from the Clinton House, and stabbed by some one as yet unknown.

The young man from the Clinton House was immediately arrested, and will be tried for murder. This is a terrible calamity to all concerned in it, and even to the village of Wellsville.

We trust it will put a stop to the runner nuisance, and be a warning to the afflicted, that they cannot violate one wholesome law without incurring the violation of others.

THE ELIGHT OF SLAVERY.

Before consenting to the extension of slavery into Kansas, or other free territory, it would be well for the people of the free States to understand how much they are taxed for the support of the peculiar institution. Those who would like to give this subject a thorough investigation, are referred to Mr. Olmsted's "Seaboard Slave States." The following paragraph from an able article in the Tribune, will show the fruitfulness of the theme:

The North is often invited to mind her own business, and leave the South to manage hers. But unluckily, this is a little thing which the laws of political economy—laws as fixed and inevitable as those of light and gravitation—will not permit her to do. The South cannot exist without the North. Every article that is consumed there, from the cradle and the pappoon to the coffin and the grave-stone, we have to furnish. The beds in which they lie, the chairs on which they sit, the clothes they wear, the hoes and the gins for their slaves, the very slave-whips which form the mainspring of their social machine, we supply them with. As they want the things we have to sell, the laws of trade compel them to flow in certain proportions into these channels. Only here we have to encounter another inscrutable law, the operation of which, in our blind haste to get gain, we are apt to overlook; to wit, that a country cursed with so thrifless a system of labor as Slavery, cannot produce, in an average of years, enough to pay for what it wants. Hence the periodical bankruptcies which square off accounts to the ruin of so many merchants and manufacturers. Perhaps there is no better test of the business character and probable solvency of a section of country than its postage bills. It is not necessary to recall the precise figures, but the last time we saw them footed up there was but one Slave State that paid its postage!

And that was Louisiana, through the Northern merchants in New-Orleans. The Empire of South Carolina, as we remember it, fell short of paying what it costs to carry her mails by \$70,000! These immense deficits we have to make good, and so as to all the necessities and superfluities the South needs. We know men of large business who have adopted the inexorable rule never to give credit South of Mason's & Dixon's line—to their great benefit. It is too much to expect that wisdom like this should generally obtain where business is carried on as it is with us. But until it is, we must make up our minds to bear the cost of supporting our paupers at the South.

THE OLD LANDMARKS.

The betrayers of freedom have always accomplished their purposes with fair words on their lips: The first Napoleon overthrew the Republic of France while professing devotion to it. His nephew repeated the crime and these men have several imitators in the United States.

For instance the leaders who procured the repeal of the Missouri compromise did so under the guise of love for popular sovereignty and devotion to democracy. Whereas, in fact, they set popular sovereignty at defiance in the repeal of that measure; for not a congressional district in the free states, but was opposed to it, and the same men trample on popular sovereignty now by upholding the acts of the Legislature imposed on Kansas by the Missourians.

And the men who do this claim to be democrats! So did the Napoleons claim to be Republicans, until they had destroyed every vestige of freedom. Was the claim of the Napoleons any more impudent and unfounded than the pretense that Douglass and Pierce are Democrats?

The Harrisburg convention which nominated Timothy Ives for Surveyor General, adopted the following resolutions: Resolved, That in the repeal of the act known as the Missouri Compromise act, and the passage of the act organizing the Territories of Kansas and Nebraska, free from unconstitutional restrictions, the last Congress performed a work of patriotic sacrifice in meeting the demands of sectional excitement by unshaken adherence to the fundamental law.

Resolved, That we fully endorse the administration of President Pierce as national, faithful, and efficient—fully equal to all the important emergencies which the country has had to encounter, and that he has worthily maintained her interests and honor at home and abroad.

Was a greater insult ever offered to the people of this State, than to tell them that the party which adopted these resolutions is democratic? Is there any resemblance between the administration of Franklin Pierce and that of Thomas Jefferson? Were the

negatives who assembled at Harrisburg, better judges of constitutional restrictions, than the full-grown statesmen who drafted and presented to the American people, the constitution as a bond of union? What are the old landmarks on this question? Fortunately these are so well defined that he who runs may read.

The first National territory was acquired in March, 1784. Within a month on the 19th of April following, a committee of the old continental congress, consisting of Thomas Jefferson, with Messrs. Chase and Howell, reported a plan for the temporary government of the Territory, which provided among other things, "that after the year 1800 there shall be neither slavery nor involuntary servitude in any of the said states, otherwise than as the punishment of crimes whereof the party shall have been convicted."

Such was Mr. Jefferson's plan for organizing Territories, even before the adoption of the constitution. It met with opposition at the south and was not adopted until 1787.

Immediately after the adoption of the Constitution, it was re-enacted, so that slavery restriction by act of Congress, is as old as the government itself, and was established as the leading principle of the nation, under the championship of the author of the Declaration of Independence—one of the fathers of the Republic, and the founders of the Democratic party.

We submit, therefore, that the above resolutions which pronounce slavery restrictions unconstitutional and undemocratic, are an insult to the people of Pennsylvania.

NEW POLITICAL ISSUES.

We must again call the attention of our readers to the fact that the friends of slavery make larger demands on the people of the United States from year to year. One usurpation on their part, and one act of acquiescence on the part of the people, draws after it another usurpation and another submission. The more they obtain the more they ask, and the more boldly they press their projects. The friends of freedom are simply reduced to the defensive. Regions in which they thought their rights secure are invaded; ancient barriers of legislation erected against the progress of one of the worst despotisms are thrown down, and now the party which has possessed itself of the federal administration denies the propriety of any restraints on the slave trade. We have a new issue introduced into our party contests, and if Mr. Pierce's friends succeed in the next election of President, we shall be called on to acquiesce in a law to make that farm of piracy legal.

Some time since, the southern party broke ground on this question; but it was reserved for the present moment, and for the eve of a Presidential election, to see the slave trade defended, applauded, and made a virtue by northern men. In the administration organ in this city, a daily print called the Day-Book, supported by the principal office-holders of the federal government here, a series of articles has appeared, containing a systematic justification of the slave trade, and a denunciation of the laws by which it is restrained and punished. We quote from its Saturday's issue a paragraph in which the administration doctrine on this point is stated:

"In our article on Thursday, on this subject, we stated that modern civilization absolutely demanded the natural productions of the tropical and tropicoid regions of this continent—that their growth or cultivation absolutely required the labor of the negro, as that of the white man was physically inapplicable—that without this negro labor a very large and the very finest portion of the continent would have remained an uninhabited and an uninhabitable wilderness—that not only commerce, progress, the well-being of modern society, demanded these products, but the daily subsistence of millions depended on their growth and cultivation. Furthermore, we stated that the three millions of negroes now in our midst—the descendants of those brought in by the slave trade, were, in comparison with any similar number of their race in Africa, in a condition of well-being so immeasurably superior, that we had no terms or means to fully express it, and with these undoubted and unmistakable facts before us we were inevitably forced to the conclusion that the cause of all these beneficent consequences must, from the nature and necessity of things, be in accord with them, and therefore the African slave trade was right."

In these terms is the slave trade commended by those who speak for Mr. Pierce and his administration.—Eve. Post.

The Slave Power very naturally concludes that if the North will ac-

quiesce in the repeal of the Missouri Compromise; it will submit to a revival of the African Slave trade; and we have not a particle of doubt, that the leaders of Pierce democracy even in this county would yield even this. The people must repudiate the party that passed the Nebraska bill, or there is no depth of degradation to which its leaders will not sink.

THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH HIM.—Every body remembers the story of the man who bought an elephant at auction, because it was going cheap. After the animal was "knocked down" to him, and had paid the price, and taken him home, he began to be troubled as to what he would do with him. He could not himself carry him round as a show; he could not get him boarded; he had no place to keep him; he could find nobody who wanted to purchase him, and at last, he would not give him away. It is in that position that the "Silver Grey" gentlemen find themselves who procured the nomination of their leader at Philadelphia. They have got their elephant on hand, and they got him cheap enough. It was only necessary to league with Slavery, that was all the price necessary to be paid for him, and that to them was a small sacrifice, in fact a mere nominal thing. But the question is, what are they to do with their elephant? They first offered him to Massachusetts, but she will have nothing to do with him. They offered him to Rhode Island, but she declines taking him. Not a New England State will buy, hire, or board him—Pennsylvania or Ohio will not take him; no Western State will have him, and there they are with their animal crying him in the market—Who wants an elephant? Will some State answer? Who will buy him? Who hire him? Who board him? Who take him as a gift!—Albany Register.

From the Independence (Mo.) Dispatch. NEGRO KILLED.

Our city was thrown into a state of excitement this morning by the appearance of a negro man upon the streets with a drawn pistol in his hand, with which he attempted to shoot several men.

The circumstances, as we learn them are about these: Thomas Smith, who owned the negro, had sold him to some one, and had him in one of the stores for the purpose of securing and lodging him in jail. The City Marshal caught hold of him for the purpose of securing him, but the negro got loose from him in the struggle and ran into the street, drawing at the same time a Derlinger pistol, which he presented at all who attempted to arrest him.

The Marshal followed after discharging several shots at him from a revolver, none of which took effect; then followed a long chase, in which quite a number pursued some three or four hundred yards, during which time several shots were fired by different persons from the crowd. Mr. Smith, his owner, tried to stop him on horseback by riding him down; but he took to the fence, and as he was climbing over, he received a shot from Mr. Smith's revolver. After this he ran some distance, when he was overtaken, upon which he presented his pistol at Mr. Tyree, and fired, the ball passing directly over his head, grazing his hair. Thereupon several persons rushed up to see him, when he presented another pistol, and defiantly bid them come on. He again ran on, when Mr. Chiles met him and bid him stop, upon which he raised his pistol to fire, when he received a shot from Mr. Chiles' revolver, which felled him instantly. His arms were then taken which consisted of two single-barreled pistols, a large bowie and pocket-knives when he was placed upon a horse and brought to Dr. Twyman's office. He breathed his last before reaching the office.

He received one shot in the thigh, and one passed through his lungs in the direction of the heart.

He was a negro of a desperate character, and had successfully resisted two attempts to take him prior to this.

It is to be hoped that this will prove a timely warning to others who may be inclined to rebel.

For the Journal. LETTER FROM EASTSMITHFIELD.

Mr. Editor: C. P. was one of the most loved of my youthful associates. His form was one of rare perfection. He had beautiful blue eyes, rose-red cheeks and lips, and a head of light, silky, auburn hair. He was the oldest of a number of brothers, but he had two

sisters both older than himself.—Through the influence of these, C. was introduced to the scenes of the "Ball Room" at an early age. Ere he had attained his eighteenth year, he had become expert in "Tripping the light fantastic toe," and seemed to regard himself as at least equal to any in whose society he mingled. His Father, at this time, was wealthy and indulgent; and as a fashionable "Spre" was of frequent recurrence, C. became a "fast young man." He spent money fast, drove fast horses, and grew old enough to get married fast; so that when he had lived about a score of years, coming across a fast little girl of sixteen summers, he made love to her fast and gained her hand and heart therewith, if heart she had. That is they were married fast.

About the time of this last event, I left those dear remembered scenes and did not return to reside there again until a dozen years were fled; Meanwhile, C's father had purchased a farm for him some fifty miles distant, to which C. and his young bride had removed. Here for a number of years he was employed in the sober work of tilling the soil; but not being satisfied to let "well enough alone" he exchanged his farm for a Tavern Property. Here for some time.

"He stood in his stall, Repeating o'er his friendly call, What will you have, I'll serve you all,"

and was enjoying the unenviable reputation common to rum-sellers, when lo! An arrest is made. Two young men are overtaken by the proper officers, and two valuable horses are returned to their owners. The youthful appearance of the lads, as well as their general ignorance leads to the suspicion that they are not doing business on their own "hook." They are questioned, remonstrated with, and finally persuaded to confess that they are in the employ of a company of which C. P. is a leading member. Suffice it to say, that he, with others, was tried, found guilty, and sent to Auburn State Prison for a term of years.

A few reflections on this case.

1 A man may be licensed by law to do a work destructive of the health, the morals, and the happiness of whole families, and yet be caught and imprisoned for stealing horses.

2 It is not clear from the foregoing, that a higher value is placed on horses than there is on the peace and well being of society?

3 When will it be time to class Rum-sellers with horse thieves and treat them accordingly?

4 Would it not be as consistent for some men to petition our courts for license to steal horses, as it is for others to ask license to sell "liquid death"? And should not the former be considered as honorable men as the latter? R. L. STILWELL.

April 3d, 1856.



ARRIVED. In Montgomery county, State of Maryland, April 7th, 1856, by the Rev. Mr. Wentworth L. Childs of Georgetown, D. C., Mr. HENRY LUCIEN BIRD of Potter Co. Pa., to Miss ELIZABETH ZELLYNA ELD, of Montgomery County aforesaid.

HURRAH! HURRAH!

THE Water has come at last, and all who wish to have their grinding done in the VERY BEST OF ORDER,

just bring your grain to the Cushingville Grist Mill and there you will find J. M. Horton, giving entire satisfaction to all. Who doubt give him a call, and you'll not be sorry.

N. B. Wheat and Buckwheat soured for market, on the shortest notice. Cushingville, April 12th, 1856.

Micah J. N. Haskins In the Court of Common Pleas of Potter vs. County May Term George Nelson 1853 No 71.

The undersigned having been appointed by the Court, Auditor to distribute the money arising from the sale on executions of the real estate of the Defendant in the above entitled case, will attend to the duties of his appointment at the Probate Office of the Bureau of Coudersport, on the 17th day of May 1856, at one o'clock, P. M., where all persons interested, may attend if they think proper. T. B. TYLER, Auditor.

J. C. Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, and Pills, &c. &c.