

How the Term "Provocation" is understood at Washington.

The party which supports the administration is not a little disturbed by what it calls "the renewal of sectional agitation." It will be remembered that when Mr. Pierce's annual message was sent to the Senate, his partisans...

RENEWAL OF SECTIONAL AGITATION.

We predict that the Black Republican leaders will have cause to regret the continued agitation of the sectional question involved in the late Presidential election, which they have unwisely and rashly provoked by their assaults on the President's message.

The idea which the Washington Union has of a provocation is a very peculiar one. To the people of plain understandings it appeared that when Mr. Pierce charged the people of the North with treasonable and revolutionary designs, disguised under the pretence of hostility to the extension of slavery, he challenged the discussion which has ensued.

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The complaint made by the Washington Union, that the Republican members of Congress have provoked the recent agitation of the slavery question by answering the calumnies in the President's message, reminds us of the case of an Irishman who appeared with a bruised face before a magistrate to swear an assault and battery against one of his countrymen.

"Did you do nothing to provoke the assault?" inquired the magistrate. "Not the least thing in life," answered the Irishman; "I just gave him a blow on the head with my shillelagh, bidding him be quiet and peaceable, and the dirty spalpeen, instead of minding me, knocked me into the gutter."—N. Y. Eccl. Post.

Extensive Negro Insurrections in Kentucky and Tennessee.

A despatch from Nashville, Tennessee, states that a plot for the rising of the negroes in this state has been detected, causing great excitement in Montgomery county, where it was first discovered.

It is alleged that Christmas eve had been fixed upon for the rising, and the most extensive arrangements had been made to carry it out successfully.

One white man has been arrested, together with a great many negroes, including many of the generals, captains, and other officers of the proposed movement. Several of them have made full confessions.

A large collection of arms and ammunition has been seized. The church at Louisa Furnace had been undetermined, and powder placed beneath it, ready to be blown up when filled with people.

The plot, it is believed, extends over a wide range of territory south and west. There is an extra patrol on duty every night at Clarksville, and every housekeeper is well armed and prepared for any emergency.

The Louisville Journal correspondent of December 9, says there is great excitement at Franklin, Tennessee, owing to the projected insurrection among the slaves there. Twenty-four muskets and two kegs of powder had been found in the possession of a gang of negroes at Columbia, Tenn.

In Perry, Tenn., fifteen negroes had been killed by their owners.

The Evansville Journal, of the 6th inst., learns that there was much excitement in the neighborhood of Dover, on the Cumberland river, among the negroes. Many of the ringleaders had been arrested, and eleven men, one white man disguised as a negro, had been sentenced to nine hundred lashes, but died before the penalty was fully inflicted.

The whites were arming and organizing for defence. An opinion prevailed that a general uprising would take place among the negroes during the holidays. Escapes of slaves were unusually numerous.

A report has reached Louisville that the negroes in southern Kentucky had broken out in rebellion—and that a general insurrection was feared. They had commenced an attack upon the L. O. Works, and Vigilance Committees have been formed in Lafayette and Hopkinsville, for the purpose of taking prompt action in the matter.

THE JOURNAL.

COMMERCIAL, Pa. Thursday Morning Dec 18, 1856. JNO. S. MANN, EDITOR.

V. B. PALMER, the American newspaper Agent, is the only authorized Agent for this paper in the cities of Boston, New York and Philadelphia, and is duly empowered to take advertisements and subscriptions at the rates advertised by us. His receipts will be regarded as payments. His offices are—Boston, Seawall's Buildings; New York, Tribune Buildings; Philadelphia, N. W. corner of Third and Chestnut streets, nov. 6.

The able address of the Republican Association of Washington City, which we publish on the first page of this number of the Journal, should be read by every opponent of Slavery extension. It breathes the true spirit.

Of the 101 free state men who were arrested on their return from Hickory Point, only nine remain in prison. Several have been acquitted and discharged, over forty have made their escape, of these last some 20 had been tried and convicted. We rejoice in their deliverance from the meanest set of Tyrants the present country affords.

T. Martin, late editor of the Lock Haven Watchman whose abuse of Hon. J. J. Pearce showed him to be a snake in the grass, has at last come out openly for what he has heretofore secretly advocated. He and H. L. D. which have purchased the Buchanan paper of Lock Haven, and Mr. Martin will hereafter sail under true colors—those of the pro-slavery democracy. In that position he will cease to injure the Republican movement.

Now is a most favorable time to get up clubs for the N. Y. Tribune. Congress is in session, and every body wants to know what is going on at Washington. Affairs in Kansas are as interesting as ever, and the Tribune correspondents there are all strong and reliable writers.

The Weekly Tribune is the cheapest and best newspaper published in America; if not in the world, and without it, it is the ablest advocate of the rights of humanity. Every Republican should take the Tribune, and he should lend it to those who are not Republicans, so that they may become subscribers. No intelligent person, no matter of what politics can help wanting to read the Tribune, if they will only look it over a few times.

Terms of the weekly in clubs of 20 when sent to one address, \$1.00 per annum, when each subscribers name is written on his paper \$1.20 per year.

The Harrisburg Telegraph opposes the holding the Republican Convention at an early day, on the ground that time should be allowed to patch up another fusion. We beg to say that we think the experiment of fusion has been abundantly tried, and with disastrous consequences. We have had enough of it.—Hinesdale Democrat.

Those are our sentiments. We have tried fusion three times and failed each time. Now let us take a manly position, and present to the people the true issue, and the only one worth talking about. That is, shall Slavery rule the Nation, and extend over all our Territories, or shall we go back to the Jeffersonian policy, under which we prospered for 70 years.

Let there be no more mutiny in Council with the traitorous Fanigans, but let us have a harmonious united party. To be defeated then will bring no injury. And in the end we shall be great gainers.

We deem the advice of the Telegraph fatal to the Republicans in Pennsylvania, and hope it will not be followed.

A New Church for the Rev. Mr. Tyng.

[Correspondence of the N. Y. Tribune.] PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 9, 1856.

The friends of the Rev. Mr. Tyng, late Rector of the Church of the Epiphany, having secured the use of National Hall, opened the building last Sunday for religious services according to the rites and usages of the Episcopal Church. The Hall, which is capable of accommodating several thousand, was densely crowded at both services with a very intelligent and attentive congregation, assembled to listen to this able, faithful and fearless preacher, who has been driven from the pulpit of the Church of the Epiphany by the Pro-Slavery members of that parish. The large attendance at National Hall is an evidence of the warm sympathy for Mr. Tyng in this community, and the meagre congregation at the Church of the Epiphany

last Sunday is a proof that the majority of his late parishioners are with the Rector in this struggle for Freedom and Free Speech. More than \$20,000 has been subscribed to build a new church for Mr. Tyng, and the Committee who have the matter in charge are confident that the requisite amount will be speedily realized. Will not some of the wealthy and liberal-minded Churchmen in New York aid in this great work?

We are glad there is to be one Episcopal Church whose living truths shall be proclaimed, and National sins rebuked.

We commend the above intelligence to the attention of the Lycoming Gazette. That paper has lately undertaken to decide what sins a minister may rebuke, and as Dr. Tyng, with a large share of his old congregation, don't seem to have been enlightened, we think it quite time the proclamations of the Williamsport censor should be read to them.

Great country this. Border Ruffians, pro-Slavery, rum-defending editors, think they have a right to decide how a minister of the Gospel shall preach!

The crowded congregations of all the independent ministers, however, shows that the people think the pulpit should be as free as the press.

The Outrages in Kansas as Stated by Governor Geary.

As the Buchanan press persist in asserting that the troubles in Kansas were magnified for political purposes, we ask attention to a few extracts from Governor Geary's correspondence with the administration. In a letter to Secretary May of Sept. 18th he says:

"The whole country was evidently infested with armed bands of murderers, who set all law at defiance, and traveled from place to place, assailing villages, sacking and burning houses, destroying crops, maltreating women and children, driving off and stealing cattle and horses, and murdering harmless men in their own dwellings, and on the public highways. Many of these grievances needed immediate redress; but unfortunately the law was a dead letter, no magistrate or judge being at hand to take an affidavit or issue a process, and no marshal or sheriff to be found, even had judges been present to prepare them to execute the same."

Did our Kansas correspondent represent the outrages committed in the Territory in any stronger terms than this official dispatch of Governor Geary?

But take another extract from this same dispatch:

"Accordingly, the entire available United States force was put in motion, and reached Lawrence at an early hour in the evening. Here the worst apprehensions of the citizens were discovered to have been well founded. Twenty-seven hundred men, under command of General Heiskell, Reid, Atchison, Richardson, Straight, W. &c., were encamped on the Wakarusa, about four miles from Lawrence, eager and determined to exterminate that place and all its inhabitants. An advanced party of two hundred men had already taken possession of Franklin, one mile from the camp and three miles from Lawrence, and skirmishing parties had begun to engage in deadly conflict."

This statement is official. What do you think of it, you seceders of suffering Kansas?

Here were twenty seven hundred men, mostly Missourians, drawn up in battle array before Lawrence, for the avowed purpose of exterminating that place and all its inhabitants. Some of these same ruffians had once before marched into Lawrence and sacked the town. Destroying printing presses, public houses, and private property. But, for all these crimes, not a man of them has ever been arrested. Governor Geary was swift to arrest and imprison 101 free state men, who took up arms in self defence, but he could not muster courage to arrest a single one of those who sacked Lawrence, in the Spring, and threatened to exterminate it in the Fall.

But this Border Ruffian mob of 2700 did not attack Lawrence. Why? Because in addition to the free state men who had resolved to the before nothing should be done to sack their town, there were by order of Governor Geary, four hundred United States troops drawn up in battle array between the town and the river, with cannon aimed and matches burning. Thus the town was saved. So far so good. But if the President could protect Lawrence in the Fall, why did he not do it in the Spring? He had ample warning that a mob intended to destroy the town; but he did not move a finger. Again, if the President had power to use the army

in Sept. 1856 to prevent an attack on Lawrence, why could he not use it to protect the ballot-boxes of Kansas in March 1857? The only answer that can be given to this question is, that he did not want the ballot-boxes protected. He wanted the slave holders of Missouri to get control of Kansas—that done, he has power enough to establish a despotism there with United States bayonets.

Then as to the impartiality of the Governor. The fact that he took the leading Border Ruffians for his aids and officers, and was swift to arrest hundreds of free state men, and very slow to arrest a single pro-slavery man, shows him to be a genuine Pennsylvania ally of Slavery. Should he be driven into a better position, we shall take pleasure in stating the fact.

ANOTHER WORD TO FARMERS.

In what we said about raising sheep and making butter, we did not by any means intend to advise you to give your entire time and labor to these two items of business. On the contrary, we urge every farmer to raise his own bread stuff, and a few bushels of corn and wheat to spare. A small field of oats we also recommend. We only argued that for general purposes of realizing money from your farms, it were better to depend on the dairy and the sheep-fold than on the oat field.

Another great advantage from increasing the number of your cows, and procuring small flocks of sheep, is that it will enable you to enrich your corn field by more manure and of a more fertilizing kind. This thing of trying to raise corn on old land without manure, is simply a waste of labor. Better raise half an acre on ground well manured and well cultivated, than any amount on poor land not half tilled.

Another advantage we would name of cultivating less land, but doing it better, is that you will have less to seed down, and you can therefore give that important part of farming more attention: When well seeded with a mixture of clover and timothy, a small meadow will yield more hay than a large one that is poorly tilled and not half seeded.

There are many other advantages from keeping sheep and stock, but we only propose to name a few—enough to set you to thinking.

Do any of you inquire what we know of farming? We reply, we were trained to that profession, and in all probability should never have changed our occupation from choice. We have had a thorough drilling in farming, and until disabled with the scrofula, could plow, mow, cradle, pile logs, or do any other farm work equal to our neighbor. We always had a flock of sheep on my father's farm. When he first bought it, it had a great many old chopplings grown up to briars. The sheep were always turned into one of these briar patches as soon as sheared; and there they remained till fall, but they were salted once or twice every week. The sheep did well, but the briars were all gone about the close of the second season. There are not so many briar patches in this county as there were in Sasquehanna at that time, but there are a good many old fields that need to have a flock turned into them for a couple of years.

If any of you dissent from those views, please to make it manifest through our columns; or if any of you feel like making suggestions as to other improvements, we shall be very glad to receive and publish them.

Congress.

Congress has now been in Session two weeks, or more. The Senate discussing the merits and demerits of that wonderful abortion of the brain of Franklin Pierce, the President's Message; and the House nearly equally divided between the South and the North, has been fully employed in the discussion of the Kansas question, the most important point of which was the admission of Whitfield as the Congressional delegate from that Territory. The first vote denied him the seat—the vote being 98 yeas to 104 nays. The Democracy, however, determined to stick to their allies of the South, and finally maneuvered so that they got strength enough to have him admitted on a vote of 112 yeas to 108 nays. The Northern Fillmore men, except Haven, of New York, voted for

his admission, as did, also, the northern Democrats en masse. The House has thus far since been engaged in discussing the President's Message. Some queer scenes occur in the course of the debates, but there has been none of a bloody character. The Kansas question will no doubt be the principal subject of debate during the present Session. A special Messenger arrived on Thursday last, from Kansas with dispatches to Gov. Reeder, embracing petitions to the House of Representatives, from the actual settlers, against the right of Gen. Whitfield as a delegate from Kansas, and in favor of Gov. Reeder. The petitions will be presented to the House.

An unsuccessful attempt was made by Mr. Tappan, of N. Y., on Friday last, to introduce a bill repealing the laws of the Bigus Legislature of Kansas. The "Free Kansas" Democracy of the North objected almost to a man. Hurra for "Buchanan, Breckenridge and Free Kansas." Will the Patriot please notice?

Gov. Geary had refused to allow Donaldson to put the chains and hall upon the State prisoners declaring that no man with a spark of humanity would desire to inflict the disgrace. He has also demanded of the President the removal of Judge Leocompt, and gives notice that he will resign if it is not done.

From California and Nicaragua.

By the arrival of the steamer Texas, at New Orleans, with California dates to Nov. 20, we learn that the vote for President stands—Buchanan, 68,000; Fillmore, 35,000; Fremont, 19,000. Buchanan's majority over both 6,000. The Democrats also obtained a majority in both branches of the Legislature, thus securing two U. S. Senators.

Nicaragua dates announce the success of Walker in a series of battles with the Central Americans, and he had burned the city of Granada. The loss of the Costa Ricans in the various battles since October, is estimated at 3,000 men. A Costa Rica war brig was blown up, and all on board perished, in a naval engagement with the Nicaraguan war-schooner General Cay. PAYSOUX. Walker, with his constant arrivals of American recruits, will doubtless be enabled to maintain his ascendancy.

Wheeler, the minister at Central America, has been peremptorily recalled by the President; reason—his recognition of the existing Nicaraguan government, which the administration has deliberately resolved not to recognize.

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the Journal.

Mr. Editor: A Border Ruffianism is getting quite prevalent in this side of 36 deg. 30 min., and taking present indications as a foundation to build future results upon, I consider Canada will become the haven, for the poor whites, mentioned in the Day Book, and other Buchanan journals, and I think a bill should be presented this winter, praying for the establishment of an Underground Rail Road, commencing in "Little Potter," and terminating in the "Free Dominions" of Queen Victoria, for the especial benefit of the "poor whites," and those who wish to retire from under the influence of Border Ruffianism alias Buchanan Democracy.

In the little town of Pleasant Valley, political matters have assumed an alarming aspect, causing contention, strife and confusion, in the neighborhood, and brother to rise up against brother; even the sound of railway is heard at the place appointed for worship, denouncing the clergy, as an Anti Slavery combination, stirring up strife in the country, causing men to vote against democracy (meaning the Cincinnati Platform, I presume).

But when is these matters going to end, says one; I answer, in the ultimate triumph of Freedom; they already see their cause is an unjust one, and the reason for such proceeding is this, they are becoming exasperated, they feel the rebuke given them by the Free States at the late election, and are willing to resort to violence to accomplish their hellish purposes.

The bait thrown out to the North, "Buchanan, Breckenridge and Free Kansas," proved a failure, "and they have even lost their hook and line in the attempt," says a whole souled Republican late from "Excelsior."

Republicans, we have reason to rejoice, our cause is just, it will predominate; the flame which our fore fathers kindled cannot be extinguished by the descendants of Judas, Arnold or Hull; although we have lost the battle, we have gained the field, we have paved the way, and laid the corner stone for future success. Therefore let us gird on our armor anew, resolved never to give up the Ship. Our Platform succeeded in 1776, and it will again succeed if we go to the contest with the same spirit that they did. Now let us be more firmly united—yes, now, this present time; and the God of Heaven will prosper our cause.

Yours Truly, J. L. W. PLEASANT VALLEY, Dec. 10, '56.

For the Peoples Journal.

Mr. Editor.—It may not be altogether unprofitable to the cause of freedom and of education, to see what influence the education of the people through the means of common schools has had on the late Presidential election. By looking over the returns we see that in the New England States where common schools were established from the first settlement of those States, that the vote has been for Freedom's candidate, about 130,000 majority. And when we turn to New York, we see that the free school system had the effect of carrying Fremont's vote largely over his opponents. In Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin and Iowa, where common schools were established from the first settlement, and where the most of the people came from states having schools, and where the people are capable of reading and discerning between truth and falsehood; between the majority and minority reports of the Kansas investigating committee; between the pamphlets issued by the friends of Freedom and Senator Bigler's and such like glossing pamphlets—we see that the majorities are all on the side of Freedom, and in some of the states runs to a high figure than has been given for a Presidential candidate within the memory of the present generation. Now we will turn to New Jersey, and we find the establishing of common schools is of recent date, and as yet imperfectly organized, and the consequence is seen in the vote. In Pennsylvania the first law establishing common schools, was passed in 1836 and was left optional with the townships to adopt or not as they saw fit, and consequently a great share of the townships did not organize until some years later; but look at the northern tier of counties which were mostly settled by people from New York and the New England states. There the vote was for Fremont and Freedom, and the most of the rest of the state voted to uphold murder, arson, horse stealing and kindred crimes, or in other words, modern democracy. When we look at Illinois and Indiana, we find where those states are settled by people from states that had adopted common schools and supported the same when they now are, the vote stands for freedom, and vice versa. I have said nothing about the states south of Mason's and Dixon's line, for every school boy knows that free schools have not been known there until of late, and are a failure now, from the very fact that they are antagonistic to slavery; so I think it is not to be wondered at that the Southern press is so inimical to Free Schools, Free Presses, Free Speech, Freedom and Fremont. I think that the friends of freedom and of free schools have reason to feel firm and to press onward with the good cause.

W. H. H.

Hebron, Dec. 4, 1856.

SHAKESPEARE MOERKIZED.—Two buffers were spouting the other day in front of "the Bank," when one drew a wallet from his pocket, and said, "He who steals my purse, steals trash." "Yes," replied the other, "and he who filches from you your good name, takes from you what you never had."

"Samuel, my darling, my darling little sonny," says the aged mother, "I've not seen your book several days or more—where is it?" "I know where it is," says the boy. "Why is it only lost a little kinder—in the barn, or round out of doors, summer, I guess; pre'aps up garret, or hid the wood-pile."

We have excellent sleighing, which is duly improved by many of our citizen, now attending Court.