

# THE PEOPLE'S JOURNAL.

T. S. CHASE,

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

(EDITOR & PUBLISHER.)

VOL. IX.

COUDERSPORT, POTTER COUNTY, PA., THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 1857.

NO. 43.

## Business Cards.

**F. W. KNOX,**  
Attorney at Law,  
Coudersport, Pa., will regularly attend the  
Courts in Potter county.

**ARTHUR G. OLMSTED,**  
Attorney & Counselor at Law,  
Coudersport, Pa., will attend to all business  
entrusted to his care, with promptness and  
fidelity.  
Office—in the Temperance Block, up stairs,  
Main-street.

**ISAAC BENSON**  
Attorney at Law,  
Coudersport, Pa.  
Office corner of West and Third streets.

**L. P. WILLISTON,**  
Attorney at Law,  
Wellsville, Tioga Co., Pa., will attend the  
Courts in Potter and McKean Counties.

**A. P. CONE,**  
Attorney at Law,  
Wellsville, Tioga county, Pa., will regularly  
attend the Courts of Potter county.  
Jan 3, 1848.

**JOHN S. MANN,**  
Attorney & Counselor at Law,  
Coudersport, Pa., will attend the several  
Courts in Potter and McKean Counties. All  
business entrusted in his care, will receive  
prompt attention.  
Office on Main-street, opposite the Court  
House, Coudersport, Pa.

**COUDERSPORT HOTEL,**  
Daniel F. Glassmire  
Proprietor  
Corner of Main and Second streets, Cou-  
dersport, Potter Co., Pa. 44.

**R. W. BENTON,**  
Surveyor and Conveyancer,  
R. 2nd P. O. (Allegheny Tp.) Potter Co. Pa.  
will attend to all business in that line with  
care and dispatch. [1853-1y.]

**W. K. KING,**  
Surveyor, Draftsman, and  
Conveyancer,  
Smithport, Keokuk Co., Pa.  
Will attend to business for non-resident land-  
holders, upon reasonable terms. References  
given if required.  
P. S. Maps of any part of the County made  
to order. 7-33

**E. R. HARRINGTON,** having  
engaged a Window in Schoemaker  
& Jackson's Store, will carry on the  
WATCH AND JEWELRY BUSINESS  
there. Watches and Jewelry carefully re-  
paired, in the best style, and on the shortest  
notice. All work warranted.  
Coudersport, Oct. 29, 1856.—9-24.

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## KANSAS.

**Gov. Geary's Resignation.**  
The Outrages of the Border Ruffians.

### TREACHERY OF PIECE.

Conspiracies; Murders; Mail Robberies; All True.

From the St. Louis Democrat of March 17.

At length we have a story of the wrongs inflicted by the Border Ruffians in Kansas, which, we think, may be credited. Let us hear no more of "Free State conversions" and "Abolition lies." The correspondence that has appeared in the columns of the Democrat from time to time, has only been untrue in its failure to fully represent the atrocities of the Pro-Slavery outlaws who have gained foothold in Kansas.

Gov. John W. Geary, at Leecompton, on the 4th inst., forwarded his resignation of the Governorship of Kansas to the Department at Washington. Having notified Mr. Woodson, Secretary of the Territory, of this fact, and having surrendered to that officer the official control, he, in a few days after quit the country and started for the East. He arrived in this city on Sunday evening, accompanied by his private Secretary, Dr. Gihon. Yesterday afternoon he called at this office, and in the course of a long conversation gave us a complete history of his administration in Kansas, and more than confirmed all the reports which reached the public through the Democrat of the outrages of the Pro-Slavery bandits and rebels in that unhappy Territory.

The Governor states the cause of his resignation to be the failure of ex-President Pierce to fulfill the pledges made at the time of his acceptance of the appointment. The promises of Mr. Pierce, he says, were to support him (Geary) with the United States army, the militia, and the Treasury, if necessary; but instead of receiving this aid, either in men or money, from the President, he has paid \$12,000 out of his own pocket, for the support of his administration; and with regard to military support, he has even been refused a detachment of two companies of cavalry, for which he applied under the most urgent circumstances, and received the haughty answer from the officer in command, that the army of the United States was not employed to protect him. In addition, the Judiciary of the Territory, as well as the military of the Government refused its support. Judge Leecompte thwarted him on all occasions, and having the means to execute his judicial decrees, was pushed to overrule him in every important measure.

Again, throughout his whole official career he has been an object of hatred to an organized and sworn band of conspirators in the Territory. He states that fifty men were under oath from the day he entered the country until he left it, to assassinate him provided his official career should deviate from that course which they had marked out for him. His life thus in constant jeopardy, the judiciary bitterly opposed to him, the military inactive and stubborn, and the Government without money or means of any kind, he was necessarily compelled to decline. The Governor says he regrets the step he was obliged to take most sincerely, and feels confident that had he received the assistance promised him, he could have administered the affairs of the Territory in a manner acceptable to the honest settlers of both sides.

In relation to the robberies, arson and murders at the hands of the Pro-Slavery ruffians, which have taken place in Kansas, the Governor says the half has not yet been told. He says: "The murder of Buffum by Hayes was one of the most cold-blooded and atrocious affairs ever witnessed. The Governor reached the spot a few minutes after the affair occurred. As the poor fellow was lying upon the earth in his last agonies, the blood streaming from his wounds, and the cold sweat of death upon his brow, he seized the Governor's hand, and declared that as he looked for mercy hereafter, he was innocent of all causes of offense—that it was a most foul and unprovoked murder. He asked his assassin why he sought his life or desired to take his property—that upon his efforts depended the subsistence of an aged father and mother, a deaf and dumb brother and a sister—that he himself was a cripple, and therefore harmless. To this appeal he was told that he was a "d—d abolitionist, and that they intended to destroy all of them." Upon which Hayes, one of the gang, seized him by the collar, and, placing the pistol against his stomach, shot him.

The Governor pledged him, while he held his cold hand in his own, that he would use all his power to bring his murderer to justice. "I spent," said the Governor, "five hundred dollars to have his assassin arrested; and I would have spent five thousand dollars to have done so had it been necessary." It is well known that the Governor had Hayes arrested, but scarcely was he put in prison, when Leecompte issued a writ of habeas corpus had him released and set at liberty upon a straw bail. Hayes is now in Missouri, and is playing the gentleman. The Governor further states that after the release of Hayes, Surveyor-General Calhoun took occasion, in a public speech upon the matter, to declare that the discharge of Hayes was perfectly legal, and that it was a mistake to suppose that the Territorial laws were enacted for the benefit of any other persons than the Pro-Slavery men.

Speaking of the insult offered him, which led to the death of Sherrard, the Governor gave a detailed account of

the transaction, and the manner in which his assassination had been planned. His own firmness, however, prevented its execution. Sherrard, the Governor states, with three others, waylaid him in the hall of the Legislature. He discovered them, and knew their purpose; and when Sherrard spoke to him made no reply, but passed on, when Sherrard spat upon his back several times. As soon as these facts became known, a public meeting was held, composed principally of Pro-Slavery men, for the purpose of denouncing the act. It was at its meeting that Sherrard was shot. When the resolutions were read, Sherrard said: "I am a liar, a coward and scoundrel." Mr. Sherrard then arose, and stated that he indorsed them, and was neither a liar, scoundrel, nor coward. Sherrard then drew his revolver, and commenced shooting at Sherrard, who received three balls in his body. Mr. S. then snatched a pistol at Sherrard, but it falling fire, he rushed upon him and struck him with his weapon. They were separated, and Sherrard then drew another pistol and advanced upon Jones, whom he had previously insulted because he was a member of the Governor's household. Jones perceiving his danger, drew a pistol in self-defense; a number of shots were then fired at the same time, and Sherrard fell. The Governor says that the account of the affair published in the Republican, as furnished by some Mr. Jones, is a tissue of falsehoods from beginning to end.

Among other things, the Governor complains most bitterly of the annoyances which he suffered in the obstruction and mutilation of his correspondence. The mail bags, he says, were constantly opened, and all communications to and from him systematically overhauled, and if objectionable, abstracted. Mr. McClain, Chief Clerk in the Surveyor-General's Office, boasted of the fact, and stated that he himself had destroyed and suppressed two bushels of mail matter.

The above is merely an abstract of the Governor's statements. There are a multitude of interesting details which we are compelled to omit. His private Secretary, Mr. Gihon has promised us a full and complete recital of the entire history of the administration, which we shall in due season present to our readers.

In view of these things, and under the operation of the Ruffian Legislature, which provides for the election of delegates to the Constitutional Convention, administered as it will be by the dominant faction, who hold all the offices, he thinks it inevitable that a Slavery Constitution will be established in Kansas.

The Governor is, probably, correct; but nevertheless it is one thing to frame a Pro-Slavery instrument, and another to establish the institution *de facto* in the Territory. The friends of Free Labor in the North must redouble their efforts.

### FAREWELL ADDRESS OF GOV. GEARY.

To the People of Kansas Territory:

Having determined to resign the Executive office, and retire again to the quiet scenes of private life, and the enjoyment of those domestic comforts of which I have so long been deprived, I deem it proper to address you on the occasion of my departure.

The office from which I now voluntarily withdraw was unsought by me, and at the time of its acceptance was, by no means desirable. This was quite evident from the deplorable moral, civil and political condition of the territory—the discord, contention and deadly strife which then and there prevailed—and the painful anxiety with which it was regarded by patriotic citizens in every portion of the American Union. To attempt to govern Kansas at such a period, and under such circumstances, was to assume no ordinary responsibilities. Few men could have desired to undertake the task, and none would have been so presumptuous without serious forebodings as to the result. That I should have hesitated is no matter of astonishment to those acquainted with the facts; but that I accepted the appointment was a well grounded source of regret to many of my well-tried friends, who looked upon the enterprise as one that could terminate in nothing but disaster to myself. It was not supposed possible that order could be brought, in any reasonable space of time, and with the means at my command, from the then existing chaos.

Without despoiling upon the feelings, principles and motives which prompted me, suffice it to say, that I accepted the President's tender of the office of Governor; in doing so, I sacrificed the comforts of a home, endeared by the strongest earthly ties, and most sacred associations, to em-

bark in an undertaking which presented at the best a dark and unsatisfactory prospect. I received Kansas and entered upon the discharge of my official duties in the most gloomy hour of her history. Desolation and ruin reigned on every hand; homes and firesides were deserted; the smoke of burning dwellings darkened the atmosphere; women and children, driven from their habitations, wandered over the prairies and among the woodlands, or sought refuge and protection even among the Indian tribes. The highways were infested with numerous predatory bands, and the towns were fortified and garrisoned by armies of conflicting artisans, each excited a most to frenzy, and determined upon mutual extermination. Such was, without exaggeration, the condition of the territory, at the period of my arrival. Her treasury was bankrupt. There were no pecuniary resources within herself to meet the exigencies of the time. The Congressional appropriation, intended to defray the expenses of a year, were insufficient to meet the demands of a fortnight. The laws were null, the courts virtually suspended, and the civil arm of the government almost entirely powerless. Action—prompt, decisive, energetic action—was necessary. I at once saw what was needed, and without hesitation gave myself to the work. For six months I have labored with unceasing industry. The accustomed and needed hours for sleep have been employed in the public service. Night and day have official duties demanded unremitting attention. I have had no proper leisure moments for recreation. My health has failed under the pressure. Nor is this all; to my own private purse, without assurance of reimbursement, have I resorted, in every emergency, for the required funds. Whether these arduous services and willing sacrifices have been beneficial to Kansas and my country, you are abundantly qualified to determine.

That I have met with opposition, and even bitter vituperation, and vindictive malice, is no matter of astonishment. No man has ever yet had an important or responsible post in our own or any other country and escaped censure. I should have been very weak and foolish indeed, had I expected to pass through the fiery ordeal entirely unscathed, especially as I was required, if not to come in conflict with, at least to thwart the evil machinations, and hold in restraint wicked passions, or rid the territory of many lawless, reckless, and desperate men. Besides, it were impossible to come in contact with the conflicting interests which governed the conduct of many well-disposed persons without becoming an object of mistrust and abuse, while from others, whose sole object was notoriously personal advancement, at any sacrifice of the general good and at every hazard, it would have been ridiculous to anticipate the mood of praise for disinterested action; and hence, however palpable might have been my patriotism, however just my official conduct, or however beneficial in its results, I do not marvel that my motives have been impugned and my integrity maligned. It is, however, so well known that I need scarcely record the fact, that those who attributed my labors to a desire for gubernatorial or senatorial honors, were—and are themselves the aspirants for those high trusts and powers, and foolishly imagined that I stood between them and the consummation of their ambitious designs and high towering hopes.

But whatever may be thought or said of my motives or desires, I have the proud consciousness of leaving this scene of my severe and anxious toil with clean hands, and the satisfactory conviction that He who can penetrate the inmost recesses of the heart, and read its secret thoughts, will approve my purposes and acts. In the discharge of my executive functions, I have invariably sought to do equal and exact justice to all men, however humble or exalted. I have eschewed all sectional disputes; kept aloof from all party affiliations, and have alike scorned numerous threats of personal injury and violence, and the most flattering promises of advancement and reward. And I ask and claim nothing more for the part I have acted than the simple merit of having endeavored to perform my duty. This I have done, at all times and upon every occasion, regardless of the opinions of men, and utterly fearless of consequences. Occasionally I have been forced to assume great responsibilities, and depend solely upon my own resources to accomplish important ends; but in all such instances I have carefully examined surrounding circumstances, weighed well the probable results, and acted upon my own deliberate judgment, and in now re-

viewing them, I am so well satisfied with the policy uniformly pursued, that were it to be done over again, it should not be changed in the slightest particular.

In parting with you, I can do no less than give you a few parting words of kindly advice and even of friendly warning. You are well aware that most of the troubles which lately agitated the territory were occasioned by men who had no special interest in its welfare. Many of them were not even residents, while it is quite evident that others were influenced altogether in the part they took in the disturbances by pecuniary or other personal considerations. The great body of the actual citizens are conservative, law-abiding, peace-loving men, disposed rather to make sacrifices for conciliation and consequent peace, than to insist for their entire rights, should the general good thereby be caused to suffer. Some of them, under the influence of the prevailing excitement and misguided opinions, were led to the commission of grievous mistakes, but not with the deliberate intention of doing wrong.

A very few men, resolved upon mischief, may keep in a state of unhealthy excitement and involve in fearful strife an entire community. This was demonstrated during the civil commotions with which the territory was convulsed. While the people generally were anxious to pursue their peaceful callings, small combinations of crafty, scheming and designing men succeeded, from purely selfish motives, in bringing upon them a series of most lamentable and destructive difficulties. Nor are they satisfied with mischief already done. They never desired that the present peace should be effected, nor do they intend that it shall continue if they have the power to prevent it. In the constant croakings of disaffected individuals in various sections, you hear only the expressions of evil desires and intentions. Watch, then, with a special, jealous and suspicious eye, those who are continually indulging surmises of renewed hostilities. They are not the friends of Kansas, and there is reason to fear that some of them are not only the enemies of this territory, but of the Union itself. Its dissolution is their ardent wish, and Kansas has been selected as a fit place to commence the accomplishment of a most nefarious design. The scheme has thus far been frustrated; but it has not been abandoned. You are intrusted not only with the guardianship of this territory, but the peace of the Union, which depends upon you in a greater degree than you may at present suppose.

You should, therefore, frown down every effort to foment discord, and especially to array settlers from different sections of the Union in hostility against each other. All true patriots, whether from the North or South, the East or West, should unite together for that which is and must be regarded as a common cause, the preservation of the Union; and who shall whisper a desire for its dissolution, no matter what may be his pretensions, or to what faction or party he claims to belong, is unworthy your confidence, deserves your strongest reprobation, and should be branded as traitor to his country. There is a voice crying from the grave of one whose memory is dearly cherished in every patriotic heart, and let it not cry in vain. It tells you that this attempt at dissolution is no new thing; but that, even as early as the days of our first President, it was agitated by ambitious aspirants for place and power. And if the appeal of a still more recent hero and patriot was heeded in his time, how much more applicable is it now, and in this territory.

"The possible dissolution of the union," he says, "has at length become an ordinary and familiar subject of discussion. Has the warning voice of Washington been forgotten? or have designs already been formed to sever the union? Let it not be supposed that I impute to all of those who have taken an active part in these unwise and unprofitable discussions a want of patriotism or of public virtue. The honorable feelings of state pride and local attachments, find a place in the bosoms of the most enlightened and pure. But while such men are conscious of their own integrity and honesty of purpose, they ought never to forget that the citizens of other states are their political brethren; and that, however mistaken they may be in their view, the great body of them are equally honest and upright with themselves. Mutual suspicions and reproaches may, in time, create mutual hostility; and artful and designing men will always be found who are ready to foment these fatal divisions, and inflame the natural jealousies of different sections of the country. The

history of the world is full of such example, and especially in the history of republics."

When I look upon the present condition of the territory, and contrast it with what it was when I first entered it, I feel satisfied that my administration has not been prejudicial to its interests. On every hand I now perceive unmistakable indications of welfare and prosperity. The honest settler occupies his quiet dwelling, with his wife and children clustering around him, unmolested and fearless of danger. The solitary traveller pursues his way unharmed over every public thoroughfare. The torch of the incendiary has been extinguished, and the cabins which by it were destroyed, have been replaced with more substantial buildings. Herds of beautiful horses graze in the pastures, and the fields are free from the ravages of the Indian and assassin. Invasions of hostile armies have ceased, and infuriated partisans living in our midst have emphatically turned their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks. Laborers are everywhere at work—farmers undergoing rapid improvements, merchants are driving a thriving trade, and mechanics pursuing with profit their various occupations. Real estate in town and country has increased in value almost without precedent, until in some places it is commanding prices that never could have been anticipated. Whether this healthy and happy change is the result solely of my executive labors or not, it certainly has occurred during my administration. Upon yourselves, most mainly depend the preservation and perpetuity of the present prosperous condition of affairs. Guard it with unceasing vigilance, and protect it as you would your lives. Keep down party spirit, which is permitted to obtain the mastery, must lead to desolation. Watch closely, and condemn in its infancy, every insidious movement that can possibly tend to discord and dissension. Suffer no local prejudice to disturb the prevailing harmony. To every appeal to these turn a deaf ear, as did the Mayor of New York to the promptings of the deceiver. Act as a united band of brothers, bound together by one common tie. Your interests are the same, and by this course alone can they be maintained. Follow this, and your hearts and homes will be made light and happy by the richest blessings of a kind and munificent Providence.

To you, the peaceable citizens of Kansas, I owe my grateful acknowledgments for the aid and comfort your kind assurance and hearty cooperation have afforded in many dark and trying hours. You have my sincerest thanks, and my earnest prayers that you may be abundantly rewarded of Heaven.

To the ladies of the territory—the wives, mothers, sisters and daughters of the honest settlers—I am also under a weight of obligation. Their pious prayers have not been raised in vain, nor their numerous instances of confidence in the policy of my administration failed to exert a salutary influence.

And last, though not least, I must not be unmindful of the noble men who form the Military Department of the West. To General Peñísor F. Smith and the officers acting under his command, I return my thanks for many valuable services. Although from different parts of the Union, and naturally imbued with sectional prejudices, I know of no instance in which such prejudices have been permitted to stand in the way of a faithful, ready, cheerful, and energetic discharge of duty. Their conduct in this respect is worthy of universal commendation, and presents a bright example for those executing the civil power. The good behavior of all the soldiers who were called upon to assist me, is, in fact, deserving of special notice. Many of these troops, officers and men, had served with me on the fields of Mexico against the foreign foe, and for a source of no little satisfaction, to know that the laurels they won have been further adorned by the brave and worthy alacrity with which they sided to ally a destructive, fratricidal strife at home.

With a firm reliance in the protecting care and overruling Providence of that Great Being who holds in His hands the destinies alike of men and nations, I bid fare well to Kansas and her people, trusting that whatever events may befall our dear land, they will, in the exercise of His wisdom, goodness, and power, be so directed, as to promote their own best interest, and that of the beloved country, in which they are destined to form a most important part.

John W. Geary  
Leecompton, March 12th, 1857.

Read this option carefully; it is history.