

THE REPUBLICAN.

CLEARFIELD Pa., August 20, 1852.

FOR PRESIDENT. Gen. FRANKLIN PIERCE, OF NEW HAMPSHIRE. FOR VICE PRESIDENT. WILLIAM R. KING, OF ALABAMA.

- PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS. For the State at large—Senatorial. GEORGE W. WOODWARD, of Luzerne. WILSON M'CALLISTER, of Allegheny. ROBERT PATTERSON, of Philadelphia. DISTRICT ELECTORS. 1. Peter Logan, 13. H. C. Eyer, 14. John Clayton, 15. Isaac Robinson, 16. Henry Peter, 17. Jas. Burnside, 18. M. McCaslin, 19. Jas. McDonald, 20. W. S. Colahan, 21. Andrew Burk, 22. Wm. Dixon, 23. J. S. McCalmont, 24. G. R. Barrett.

COUNTY NOMINATIONS.

FOR SHERIFF. ISAAC L. BARRETT, of Boggs tp. FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER. SAMUEL SHOFF, of Beccaria tp. FOR PROSECUTING ATTORNEY. L. JACKSON CRANS, of Curwensville. FOR COUNTY AUDITOR. CHRISTOPHER KRATZER, of Clearfield.

The 24th of August, and Brookville, will suit the Democracy of this county, as the time and place for holding the Congressional Conference.

DEATH OF WM. SEARIGHT.

Wm. SEARIGHT, Esq., the Democratic candidate for Canal Commissioner, died at his residence in Uniontown, Fayette county, on the 12th inst. Mr. S. had been confined to his bed by severe, though not considered dangerous, illness for several weeks. But a few days previous to his death his disease assumed a pulmonary character and speedily put an end to all his bright prospects of the future.

What must now be the feelings of those who filled their columns with infamous calumnies against this good man? We envy not their stings of remorse.

The re-assembling of the Democratic State Convention, at Harrisburg, on Wednesday next, which was called for the purpose of nominating a candidate for the Supreme Bench, will afford a favorable opportunity to nominate a candidate for Canal Commissioner in the room of the late Wm. SEARIGHT. We hear of no name mentioned as yet. But there are a multitude of good ones on hand. We have Judge Strickland, of the West-Chester Republican, Gordon F. Mason of the North, J. B. Bratton of the Carlisle Volunteer, who have heretofore been before our State Conventions, besides Samuel L. Carpenter, of Westmoreland, Wm. Hopkins, of Washington, &c., &c.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

NARROW ESCAPE.—An accident of rather a ludicrous character occurred on last Saturday, with one of our citizens, which was serious enough as it was, but well-nigh being much worse. Wm. FULLETON, residing about two miles from town, was hauling a load of hay through a clearing, himself and little boy on the load. As the horses were passing a log-heap, or tree, that was yet burning, they sheared to the one side, running the wheel over a stump, upsetting the wagon and hay on the fire. Of course Mr. F. and his boy went with it, and both were quite severely burnt. The father endeavored to save his wagon and hay but failed, and was glad to get his horses released from their perilous situation.

ANOTHER ACCIDENT.—On Sunday evening last, as Mr. Samuel Speedy, wife and two or three children were returning home in a buggy, (Mr. Speedy walking a few rods behind) and when descending the hill near Henry Irwin's, the horse became fractious, reared and broke the fore part of the vehicle, run off the road, throwing all out and seriously injuring Mrs. S. The children escaped without serious harm.

SNAKE STORY.—We have been told that one of the Mr. Horn's, of either Union or Brady township, some two weeks ago killed two rattlesnakes, one of which was about six-feet in length, with 26 rattles; and the other over seven feet with 28 rattles. Now Mr. Horn, if this story is not true it remains for you to correct it. We should like to know all about it before blackberry time.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL, PIC NICK.—The teachers and scholars, of the Episcopal Sunday School of this place, together with a number of other citizens, spent a very pleasant afternoon on Wednesday last, by going on a pic nic excursion about a mile from town.

About 500 people, young and old, took dinner at the Harvest Home, on the Ridges, on Thursday of last week.

OUR NEXT SENATOR.

Our present Senatorial and Representative districts were formed at the session of 1850. The counties of Clearfield, Elk, Forest, Jefferson, McKean, Potter and Tioga, forming the Senatorial—and the counties of Clearfield, Elk and McKean, forming the representative district.

During these two years our county has been, in point of fact, disfranchised, or unrepresented in the State Senate—no Senator having been voted for in this county, and no member claiming us as his "immediate constituents." Although our county was thus made an exception, and thrown out of the Senate, there has been scarcely a word of complaint. Our citizens have borne it with a degree of patience that is certainly creditable.

For one of these two years, however, our present district had two Senators—Messrs. GUYNESS, of Tioga, and IVES, of Potter—both elected under the old apportionment, and in separate districts. They were faithful Senators, and attended to the wants and interests of our county perhaps as well as if they had been elected by our votes. There is no complaint, therefore on this score. Still, we hold, that as our county was thus disfranchised, her claim is just that much stronger than either of the other counties. It is due to her citizens. They believe their claim to be a just one—and thus believing they earnestly, but respectfully, urge it.

This they have done in the proper manner. By the proceedings of our County Convention, which we published last week, it will be seen that the Democrats of this county placed much confidence in the justice of their claim to the Senator. Besides a Senator, we also elect a member of Congress and an Assemblyman this fall. But, as if to strengthen our claim to the Senator, or rather, to show that our county is not unreasonable in her demands, the Convention presented no candidate for either Congress or Representative. They only asked for Senator. The subject was fully and fairly discussed; and in doing as they did we think the Convention acted wisely, and in accordance with the feelings of our people.

It was conceded that our claim to the Representative was not free from difficulties, and it was admitted that our claim to the Congressman was just as good as that of either of the other counties in the district. But still, as we said before, for the purpose of strengthening our claim to the Senator, and presenting that claim in its true light, our County Convention impliedly conceded both the Congressman and Representative to other counties.

It is not believed that either Tioga or Potter will strenuously urge their claims. Jefferson has presented the name of Geo. W. ZIGLER, Esq., of that county. Elk has held her Convention, and appointed Conferees without instructions. McKean, it is understood, will urge her claim in favor of a gentleman of that county. We have heard nothing from Forest. Independent then of our special right, before mentioned, we are not willing to admit that our common right is inferior to that of either of the other counties. Our population is next to the largest—our county is next to the oldest—and in a political point of view, our Democratic majority is next to the largest.

These are some of the reasons upon which we can rely for success before the district. We shall now say a word on the subject of Representative.

The counties forming the Representative district, as will be seen, are all included in the Senatorial district, and was also formed two years ago. Of these two years, Clearfield has had the member one year, and Elk the other. We cannot now claim the Representative. It would be unfair as regards McKean.

If it is advantageous to have a representative in the Legislature at all, it is certainly better to have one for three years than for one year; and as our chance for the Senator is much better than it is for the Representative we would be acting extremely simple to weaken our claim and destroy our chance for the Senator by urging a claim for that which we cannot sustain without violating many of the usages of our district organizations. Let us, therefore, adopt and follow the wise, the prudent and the safe course of our Convention, and make a fair and honorable effort for the Senator—to which our claim is to say the least, fully equal to either of the other counties. Should we fail in this why then, that very failure may give us a claim to the Representative.

We have thus presented the position of our county, as her advocate—not as her candidate. It is her claim, not ours, that we urge. We have stated the case truly, and without any personal consideration either in regard to ourselves or others. The same language, word for word, would have been used, had any other citizen of our county been named for Senator.

The Prince and King Club of this place, is now fully organized and in complete operation. J. H. HILBURN, President, and J. O. LORAIN, Secretary.

Gov. Reed, democrat, is re-elected in N. Carolina, by over 5,000 majority—being a gain of over 2,000 since 1850.—The Legislature will be about a tie on joint ballot.

In Iowa, one Whig and one Democrat is elected to Congress—being a whig gain, and brought about by a local question concerning a rail road, so says the Washington Union. The Legislature is largely democratic.

GEN. CASS "VINDICATING THE TRUTH OF HISTORY."—BEAUTIFUL EXTRACT.

In the United States Senate, on the 5th instant, whilst an item in the Indian appropriation bill, for the payment of some sixty-six thousand dollars to the Shawnee Indians, being for the sale of their lands lying in Ohio, was under discussion, Gen. Cass made a most beautiful speech in support of the claim, from which we take the following extracts. It is seldom, indeed, that so much, and such highly interesting information, is contained in such a brief space.

From the Washington Union, Aug. 14.

"Sir, I have had a good deal of official intercourse with these Shawnee Indians, and I know them well. The tribe is a very remarkable one among the aborigines in the United States. Contrary to the usual state of things, they are emigrants from the South, a kindred tribe to that of the Cherokees, and came a century and a half ago to the North, and established themselves on the Ohio river. They are remarkable for their bravery as well as for their intelligence, and have been so ever since we have had any acquaintance with them, Sir, Logan belonged to that tribe—he who commenced or rather led the Indians at the battle at the mouth of the Kanawha, and whose celebrated speech has been so much commented upon and admired by the public for its eloquence, and which has been so much controverted in consequence of its having been first given to the world by Mr. Jefferson.

"Tecumseh also belonged to that tribe—a name well known to the Senate and to the country. He was a remarkable man; and there have been two men in our Indian history who stand prominently out upon the historic canvass, who have been actuated by the same motives, and who pursued the same course of life—men who lived a century apart. At the time the English conquered Canada the Ottawa chief Pontiac exercised prodigious influence over his countrymen. He was one of Nature's great men. He saw that the white's were determined to drive the Indians before them, and that they must finally disappear; he saw that the English were the predominant civilized power; and his object was to unite the various tribes into one confederacy, and with the aid of the French, to oppose their further progress. It is a matter of history as we all know, that his plans were deeply laid. He contemplated simultaneous attacks upon all the British posts in the northwest. His day was fixed, and the attack made.—Michilimacine and St. Joseph's were taken, and Detroit escaped by a mere accident. He had to yield to the superior fortunes of the English. Tecumseh followed the same course with the same object. The English was, however, the power to which he looked for aid; for a new party had arisen in the United States, equal to the English and the Indians.

"Tecumseh followed the same course. He was not at the battle of Tippecanoe in 1811. If he had been there the result might have been different. Perhaps his presence might have turned the fate of the day; such was the extent of his influence. He was at that time in the South, with the Creeks, with the view of bringing them over to his measures. His object, as I have said, was to unite the Indian tribes into a general confederacy, something like the Achaean league in Greece, under the influence and power of England, with the view of stopping further encroachments, as he considered it on the part of the United States.

"His brother, the prophet—a fanatical man, who had the command—exercised a wonderful influence over the Indians, who believed not so much in his superior intelligence as in his holding communication with the Great Spirit. In the war that followed, the party of Tecumseh and his brother, the prophet, went over to the British, while a large portion of the tribes remained attached to the United States. His brother was with the Southern Indians, inducing them to co-operate, and to second their efforts in checking our progress, and preventing our further encroachment upon them. Here is a speech made by Tecumseh to Proctor, and a very extraordinary one it is. I am not going to read it to the Senate, however, it is too long for that; but allow me to say that in it he reproaches Proctor for his cowardice, and tells him that he is preparing to flee away—that he is fleeing before the Americans, while it is his duty to fight his own battles and those of the Indian, and not to run. He also shows that the efforts to induce the Indians to enter into hostilities against the United States were made by direction of the British authorities. Of the truth of this there is no doubt.

"My brother, the prophet, is among the Creeks. They are doing what you directed when I visited them. The war is prosperous. Our lives are in the keeping of the Great Spirit. You have plenty of arms and ammunition. Leave them with us if you must go. We are resolved to fight, and leave our bones on the lands that belong to us, if so the Great Spirit will."

LETTER OF GEN. SHIELDS.

We suspend a considerable portion of the editorial and miscellaneous matter prepared for to-day's paper, in order to place promptly and conspicuously before our readers the subjoined admirable letter of Senator Shields, addressed to a committee of his constituents, and a copy of which a friend has obligingly furnished to us for publication. The just sentiment and the eloquent language of this letter will combine with the high reputation of General Shields as a chivalrous soldier and a patriotic statesman to commend it to the public attention. With especial interest will the people note the spontaneous testimony borne by Gen. Shields to the distinguished gallantry of General Pierce, when he and Gen. Shields were companions-in-arms on the battle-fields of Mexico. Nor is the testimony of General Shields—himself a true representative of the best characteristics of our adopted citizens—less important or significant in regard to the just and liberal spirit in which General Pierce has always cherished and advocated all the great principles of political and religious liberty and equality.

WASHINGTON, August 5, 1852.

GENTLEMEN: I have to regret that it has been impossible for me, owing to the press of business which falls upon us at this late period of the session, to reply any sooner to your interesting communication of the 12th ult. It affords me sincere pleasure to accept your courteous invitation to visit Galena as soon as I can make it convenient after the adjournment. And during my visit to your city I hope to be able, in compliance with your request, to address my fellow-citizens, to the best of my feeble abilities, on some of the principle questions involved in the approaching presidential election.

Fortunately for me, the principles of the democratic party stand in but little need of advocacy amongst my constituents. They are deeply planted in the hearts of a large majority of our citizens. Illinois is essentially and unchangeably democratic. Fidelity to the free and generous principles of democracy is one of the proudest characteristics of our young Prairie State. In the "hard-riding" revel of 1840, when coons and log-cabins, with their appropriate minstrel accompaniments, frightened this wise nation from its accustomed propriety, Illinois was one of the gallant States that held up the banner of democracy, and waved it proudly before the eyes of the world. And there that glorious banner still waves, and there it will wave triumphantly forever!

For the last fifty years the history of the democratic party is the political history of this country. There is not a prominent event in our national history, from the first day of Jefferson's administration to the last day of Polk's, that does not illustrate the genius of democracy.

The democratic party has several definite objects of policy, such as national progress, territorial extension, the constitutional independence of the States, and the political liberty of the individual.—Some of its fiercest conflicts have been for the attainment of these objects. The great struggle against a national bank, a high protective tariff, a vast national system of internal improvements, and the distribution of the proceeds of the public lands among the States, was a struggle to remove impediments from national progress. These ingenious contrivances to control the fruits of national industry, for the benefit of a few favored interests were frustrated by the vigilance and energy of the democratic party. In other countries society is divided into two classes—the poor, who do all the labor; and the rich, who enjoy all the profits! That this country has hitherto been preserved from this ruinous reversal of the laws of natural justice is mainly attributable to the democratic party.

Territorial extension is the work of the same party. Louisiana gave us the control of the Mississippi river, Florida and Texas the control of the Mexican Gulf, and Oregon and California the control of the Pacific ocean; and all together have contributed to make this country, in a geographical sense, the most compact, defensible, and desirable territorial abode for human development, civilization, and empire, which has ever existed on the face of the globe.

The constitutional independence of the States has been an object of constant solicitude to the democratic party. Democracy has an instinctive dread of centralization; for centralization is incompatible with democratic liberty. The democratic party has always watched and checked every political movement having the slightest tendency to disturb the constitutional relations of this beautiful but complex system of government.

But the cardinal principle of that party—the cherished principle of every living heart—is its sacred regard for the natural and political rights of individuals. The natural rights of man—the rights with which every human being is endowed by his Creator—freedom of thought, freedom of will, freedom of conscience, and freedom of action in all cases where the act is not prejudicial to others—this glorious freedom, which ennobles human nature, has been secured to America by the triumph of the democratic principle! May that sacred principle extend its glorious triumph to all the oppressed races and nations of this world.

The political rights of the individual are next in importance. Democracy imposes no restrictions upon the exercise of these rights but such as are necessary to preserve them from abuse. Properly qualifications, and all other qualifications depending upon the mere accidents of life, and opposed to the spirit of democracy. A man's qualifications for civil liberty can never be determined by the amount of his property or the place of his birth. There seems to be

no good reason why a man who flies from want and oppression in Europe, and seeks this country in preference to all others as the future home of himself and family, who looks forward to the day when his ashes shall mingle peacefully with the soil of his adopted country, and his soul return to the God who gave it—there seems, I repeat, to be no earthly reason why such a man should not make good a citizen, and take as deep an interest in the welfare of the government, as if he descended in a direct line from one of the pilgrim fathers.

In this age all civilized nations are open to immigration. The immigration to a country is generally in proportion to its prosperity, and often one of the chief causes of that prosperity. The value of strong honest immigrant labor, in a struggle between man and savage nature, on a new continent like this, where there are such tempting inducements to trade and adventure, is beyond the calculations of political economy. The principle that would exclude this laborious class of men, during the useful and active portion of their lives, from any participation in the exercise of political rights, and the enjoyment of political privileges, has always encountered the steady and united opposition of the democratic party.

It is my good fortune to be personally acquainted with both the distinguished citizens whose names have been presented by their respective parties as candidates for the highest office in the gift of the American people. General Winfield Scott is the candidate of the whig party. For him I entertain the highest personal regard and esteem. I admire him as much as I do any man living for his great military talents, and I consider him entitled to the gratitude of his country for his glorious military services. But General Scott is no democrat. His political convictions are different from mine. He is true to his convictions; and for this he has my respect. I mean to be true to mine; and such is my knowledge of his character that I know this will not lessen me in his estimation. If the principles of the democratic party are those that ought to prevail in the conduct of this government, then General Scott himself would admit, with the frankness of a true soldier, that he is not the man to represent these principles as Chief Magistrate of this republic. Be this as it may, however, I stand where I have always stood—in the ranks of the democracy.

General Franklin Pierce is the candidate of the democratic party. The sterling qualities of his character make him worthy of this distinction. He is upright and honorable in all the relations of life, and peculiarly calculated to command the respect and confidence of his fellow-citizens. Like Andrew Jackson, he has been a lawyer, statesman, and soldier; and if it should be the good fortune of this nation to have him for its next Chief Magistrate, he will, like Jackson, conduct the affairs of the government upon the principles of rigid economy and popular liberty. His course as a public man, in the councils of his native State, was always democratic, fearless, and independent. He showed himself, on all questions and on all occasions, an able and enlightened statesman. One of the noblest efforts of his life was in opposition to that odious feature in the constitution of New Hampshire—that reproach upon the character of the Granite State, which stigmatizes and disqualifies American citizens on account of their religious opinions. In the face of unworthy prejudices, Franklin Pierce battled, in a true catholic spirit, for universal freedom of conscience, and denounced the proscription of that ancient faith, which is still the faith of three-fourths of the Christian world. For this act of justice and moral courage, he is entitled to the sincere gratitude of every American citizen who condemns religious proscription and reverses religious liberty.

His career in the councils of the nation was in perfect harmony with his public course in his native State. Both in the House of Representatives and Senate of the United States, he was a model of an enlightened democratic statesman. The dignified simplicity of his character made him averse to ostentation and display; but his talents and energy made him a powerful advocate of all great measures for the advancement of the public service and the welfare of the country. He entered Congress in 1839, and resigned his seat in the Senate in 1842. He declined an appointment as Senator of the United States in 1845. He declined a place in President Polk's cabinet in 1846, and the nomination for governor of his State in 1848.—And yet this modest, unambitious citizen who declined all these distinguished honors, and who retired to private life in the very flower of manhood, shouldered the revolutionary musket of his father, and entered the military ranks as a private soldier on the breaking out of war between this country and Mexico. There is a moral grandeur in this portion of the life of Franklin Pierce which reminds one of the early and heroic age of this republic!

President Polk, who was well acquainted with his intrinsic worth, having served with him in Congress, raised him from the ranks by appointing him first colonel, and then brigadier general in the army of the United States. He landed with his brigade at Vera Cruz in June, 1847; marched from there to Puebla, where he joined the headquarters of the army on the 6th of August. On this march, which was very severe on fresh levies, his brigade was constantly harassed and attacked by large parties of guerrillas. It was the universal opinion amongst military men at Puebla at that time that General Pierce conducted the march with uncommon ability, and exhibited remarkable skill and courage in his conflicts with the enemy.

Soon after his arrival he entered the valley of Mexico. The battle of Contreras opened the campaign in that valley, on the 19th of August. Pierce's brigade took an active part in that engagement. He

himself commanded in person on that occasion, and behaved with acknowledged gallantry; and though very severely injured by a fall from his horse—or rather by the fall of his horse—he continued in command in the midst of the fire until late in the night when that action terminated.

The battle of Churubusco, one of the bloodiest battles in the war, was fought the next day. On this occasion, I was ordered by General Scott to take command of Pierce's brigade and the mountain howitzer battery, in addition to my own two regiments, and with this force to fall on the enemy's rear and cut off his retreat. Pierce and myself, with our united commands, proceeded as rapidly as the nature of the ground would permit to carry this order into faithful execution. Pierce was suffering dreadfully at this time from the injury of the preceding day, and as Gen. Scott himself says in his report, was only "just able to keep the saddle." As we approached the enemy's position, directly under his fire, we encountered a deep ditch, or rather a deep, narrow, slimy canal, which had been previously used for the purpose of irrigation. It was no time to hesitate; so we both plunged in. The horse I happened to ride that day was a light, active Mexican horse. This circumstance operated in my favor, and enabled me to extricate myself and horse after considerable difficulty. Pierce, on the contrary, was mounted on a large, heavy American horse, and man and horse both sank down and rolled over in the ditch.—There I was compelled to leave him; for, being in charge of the whole command, I had not a single moment to spare, and the manner in which a few moments are employed on such an occasion may determine the fortune of a field and the fate of an army. After struggling there I cannot say how long, he extricated himself from his horse, and hurried on foot to join his command, then closely engaged in a desperate contest with the enemy; and there he remained till, overcome by suffering and exhaustion, he sank on the ground, and was carried all but lifeless from the field. This is a true statement of facts in relation to General Pierce at Churubusco; and this statement I would have made at San Augustine, four days after the battle, when I made my official report; but the brigade having rejoined its division immediately after the action, the officers, instead of reporting to me who commanded them in battle, made their report to their division commander; and as his report of action, which he had no opportunity to witness cannot be very circumstantial, I think it due to military justice to make this statement at this time, when my silence might be liable to misconception. Whoever takes the trouble to read my report of this engagement dated at San Augustine, Mexico, August 24th, 1847, will find the following paragraph:—

"Pierce's brigade, under my command in this action, lost a considerable number in killed and wounded; amongst the latter was the gallant Colonel Morgan, of the 15th. This command having rejoined its division, I have yet received no official report of its loss." As I never received this report, of course I could make no official report on the subject. As my only object in introducing this report is to place the military conduct of General Pierce, while under my command, in its true light before the public, I do not deem it necessary to follow him through the rest of the campaign, where that conduct has ever been the subject of injurious criticism. Permit me to say, in conclusion, that in reference to General Pierce's courage and conduct in Mexico, I only do for him what I would be ready to do for any other gallant officer with whom I had the honor to serve—that is, declare the truth in vindication of his military reputation.

I regret the unexpected length of this letter, but the importance of the subject must constitute my apology. I have the honor to be, gentlemen, your obedient servant, JAS. SHIELDS. To Messrs. H. B. McGinnis, Matthew Plumsted, John J. Crawford, and others, Galena, Illinois.

FREE SOIL STATE CONVENTION. This body met in Pittsburgh on the 10th inst. There was a respectable number of Delegates in attendance and a resolute determination was evinced to adhere to their organization. An Electoral Ticket was formed, Taylor F. Randolph representing this District. No nominations were made for Supreme Judge, or Canal Commissioner. Delegates were appointed to the National Convention; John Nicholas, R. P. Miller, and Joshua Douglas, Jr., were chosen for the XXVth District. The convention was in session two days. Crawford Democrat.

FREE SOIL NATIONAL CONVENTION.—The Delegates to the Free Soil National Convention assembled in Pittsburgh, on the 11th inst. The attendance was larger and more general than we anticipated.—A platform was adopted, embracing the Abolition of Slavery, Land Reform, and Intervention. Considerable debate ensued before this part of their business was finished. Notwithstanding John P. Hale, of New Hampshire, had sent in a letter declining, in the most positive manner, the nomination, he was selected, with great unanimity, as the Free Soil candidate for the Presidency. George W. Julian, of Indiana, was nominated for Vice President. Several Mass Meetings were held in the city, which were addressed by Fred. Douglass, the colored orator, and by prominent Free Soilers.—Crawford Dem.

Letter from Gen. Pierce. Washington, August 14. The Republic this morning contains a letter, making half a column, from General Pierce, in answer to Edwin de Leon, the former editor of the Southern Press, denouncing the sentiments attributed to him in the New Boston speech.