

# THE REPUBLICAN.

CLEARFIELD, MARCH 8, 1854.

FOR GOVERNOR,  
WILLIAM BIGLER.

## A WORD TO OUR FRIENDS.

The readers of the *Republican* will bear witness that the editors of this paper seldom trouble them with personal allusions to themselves or personal appeals in their own behalf. But the transactions of the last few months have demonstrated to the most unobserving, that we are not without enemies, and that kind of enemies, too, who do not hesitate to stab in the dark. It would be magnifying our own importance, to think that this is done merely for the purpose of effecting injury to us alone. Their aim is much higher. They seek to destroy the organization of the Democratic party of Clearfield county, and to decrease Gov. Bigler's vote among his neighbors—knowing that neither of these objects can be obtained by fair and honorable means. This, we assert is their object—and to accomplish it, they meanly take advantage of the absence of one of the editors, and the limited acquaintance with the people of the county of the other, to circulate the most infamous lies, and the basest insinuations and misrepresentations, wherever they can find a willing ear. If such misrepresentations had reference to political, or even to business transactions, we might forego language of bitterness in alluding to them; but Satan like, they do it under the garb of religion, and wherever they find a person, male or female, whose religious prejudices can be approached, and who do not themselves know to the contrary, they stealthily convey the impression that we are both Catholics; or at least that one is, and the other, holding an appointment under Post Master General Campbell, is under Catholic influence, and therefore, that the press is entirely controlled by Catholic influences.

Now, we hold that no man has a right to question another's religious principles. Good behavior as an American citizen is all that is required; and whilst we are free to declare that we have just as much respect for a Christian Catholic, as we have for a Christian Protestant, and believe there are just as good Christians in the one Church as in the other; yet, for the satisfaction of those of our friends who have not had an opportunity to know to the contrary, and who are thus liable to be misled—we here pronounce each and every one of the above assertions or insinuations to be false from beginning to end, and known to be so by those who utter them—and furthermore, we dare any man or set of men, to make them to our face.

We have never said one word in favor of Catholics, either as a Church, or as individuals, that we were not willing to say in favor of any other Church, or its members, and the only act of ours that could give the least shadow of plausibility to these misrepresentations, has been our refusal to join in the present crusade against the Catholics, and assuming the privilege as we have done, to denounce and speak in opposition to the movement. If we could believe that the Pope of Rome, through his Bishops and Prelates, had evil designs upon the liberties of this country, as is professed to be feared by some of our Nativists; or if we were sure that the Catholic religion was inconsistent with true republicanism; or if we could believe the declaration made at the Native meeting in Goshen township, that the Catholics were "collecting and depositing large quantities of fire arms and ammunition in their various Churches," we might then think it our duty as the conductors of a political newspaper—an American journal—to warn our fellow citizens of the threatened danger. But in the absence of every thing in the shape of evidence of the truth of either of these charges—yes, with the evidence of impaired history, and the light of every day's experience to the contrary, we must be excused for expressing our unbelief in the bugaboos; and, until this unbelief is removed, we must be allowed to pursue the course our consciences approve, and which is in accordance with the Constitution of our country, and make no distinction between Protestant, Catholic and Greek.

Judge Campbell may be a Catholic, for aught we know. But whether he is, or is not, we do know that he is one of the most intelligent, industrious and efficient officers ever employed by Government, an honor alike to his State and country; and we all so know that any who would approach him, predicating his claims for preferment upon sectarian grounds, would be spurned as a disgrace to his country.

We have felt called upon to say this much for the purpose of putting our friends upon their guard against the mean and cowardly assaults of these designing demagogues. The *Republican* has no sectarian prejudices, and is under no sectarian influence. It only aims to incite sound

moral and political principles among its readers, and desires to continue to deserve and receive, as it has heretofore, and goes at present, the support of all sects and denominations of Christians, assuring them that they shall all be treated upon fair and equal terms. More than this, neither our consciences, nor our understanding of our obligations as citizens of the United States, will permit us to do.

Notwithstanding these despicable efforts made to injure us, our subscription list is regularly increasing—and now numbers some fifty more than when the warfare against us was commenced. We are thus doubly assured of the correctness of our position, and our determination to pursue an unwavering course increased.

Our four Bradford friends are greatly mistaken in their long-winded, irrelevant reply to our remarks in reference to their Native meeting. We did not stigmatize them as "liars," "hypocrites," or "knaves." We simply convicted them of the crime of publishing to the world a barefaced lie. We did not think the lie was intentional on their part, at the time. But we are sorry to see them pleading guilty to the indictment. This they do most clearly, as any man at all acquainted with the English language will decide, after taking up the proceedings of the meeting, our article and their reply. They had better have replied themselves, without employing an advocate. They are thus made the authors of more falsehoods than we ever met with in the same space. It is false to say that Washington had reference to Nativism when he cautioned his country against "foreign influences." It is equally so of Jefferson and Jackson—"Jackson, the god of our idolatry." Who but their whig advocate could thus attempt to blacken the memory of that great and good patriot, or thus slander the democratic party? It is false that the *New York Herald* is a Democratic organ. It is also false that we used either "obscene or vulgar language." It is false that Gov. Bigler was "pry" to the appointment of Post Master at this place.

But it was not our intention to say half so much in answer to this reply, as we have already done. They have either perverted or misrepresented our remarks in every instance in which they have been alluded to. But we care not for that.—"Truth is mighty, and will prevail," and we rely upon the intelligence and justice of the community to investigate the truth, and "give the devil his due."

And as for "retracting" any thing we have said, why that is simply ridiculous, although we will ever esteem it a pleasure to make amends for any wrong we may commit, whether intentional or accidental—and feel honored in the act. But in this case we have done no wrong—misrepresented no one, and have nothing to retract.

In conclusion, we will again repeat that we have long known most of these gentlemen, and have ever esteemed them highly as honest, conscientious, truth-loving, honorable citizens. But they have fallen into bad company. And as their very best friends, we advise them, that when they again wish to appear before the public, to trust to their own abilities, as the truth needs no advocate. Especially should they shun those so regardless of the character for truth and veracity of their clients as the one employed in this case.

Some would-be smart-chap of our borough, attempts through the columns of the last Philadelphia *American Banner*, (Native), to give a history of our late Borough election, and evinces a disposition to crow somewhat over the result as a Native victory. It is true that by the Whigs and Natives uniting, and a considerable number of Democrats not being disposed to carry politics to so great a length, voting with them, almost an entire ticket composed of persons claiming to be Natives, has been elected. But that Governor Bigler interfered in the affair one way or the other we do not believe. Nor can the result be considered as a fair test of party strength. We would advise the boisterous correspondent of the *Banner* to keep cool until the second Tuesday of October next, Wm. Bigler will then again be the standard bearer of the Democratic party, and it can then be more correctly decided as to who are Democrats and who are Natives.

When this correspondent states that certain productions were demanded of us and we refused to give them up, and that they were purposely excluded from our paper, he utters that which is false. And when he asserts that we taxed them three prices for the publication of the same, he also utters that which is equally untrue—and the cowardly scribbler dare not come forth and say so to our face, or publish these assertions over his proper signature in the columns of any paper. But had three prices been charged by us as asserted, it would even then have been more reasonable than the price lately charged and collected for a certain Native speech delivered not long since in this place, about which very little complaint is heard.

## THE NEBRASKA AND KANZAS BILL.

The bill to organize these two territories, now under consideration in Congress, affords occasion for the abolition and free soil sentiment to attempt to get up another excitement on this question of slavery. In this effort they are bound to fail, if Democrats are but true to their pledge at Baltimore in 1852, to acquiesce in the compromise of 1850, as a final "settlement of the slavery question in and out of Congress." The whigs also subscribed to the same pledge, and as a party, are equally bound to adhere to it in good faith. But their conduct is no guide for Democrats, and whether they are faithful or faithless, the Democrats have only to be faithful to their obligation. If that obligation bound them to the support of a measure of doubtful constitutional authority, or of doubtful propriety touching our national prosperity, there might be some reason in not adhering to it. But such is not the case. The question had been long agitated, fully discussed, and well understood, and received their solemn sanction in the election of President Pierce.

What, then, were the principles settled by the compromise of 1850, and thus sanctioned by the American people? It was simply giving to the people of the territories of New Mexico and Utah the right to come into the Union with or without slavery as they saw proper. This is all that is proposed to be done in the organization of Nebraska and Kansas. Now, is it wrong to give the people this right? If they cannot be trusted—if they are not the best judges of their own wants, then it is wrong, and Congress had better not confine their legislation to the territories, but to save much expense and trouble to the different states, extend their acts of local legislation to them also. Or, if, by removing to these territories and undergoing every privation and hardship, the yeomanry of the old states are disfranchised, and lose the right and ability, of self-government, then, likewise, it is right for Congress to interfere and dictate for them. It is therefore as clear as the nose on a man's face, that the only proper plan is to leave this question to be decided by the people who go there to settle, and make their homes. If the climate and productions will not render slave labor profitable, all the acts that Congress can pass will not compel them to have slaves. If the soil and climate are favorable to such labor, the people, under the constitution of the United States, have a right to have slaves, and there is an end to the question.

But apart from these considerations, we should bear in mind that these territories are the common property of the confederacy. Neither the south nor the north can say to the other, "this is our portion, and that is yours—go and occupy"—but every foot of territory belonging to the United States is as freely open to the occupancy of the slaveholders as it is to the citizen of the free states—and any act of Congress throwing restrictions in the way of such common occupancy is in plain violation of the constitution. The South says to the North, "our money helped to pay for this property, and our blood has been freely shed in its defence and protection—our national constitution—the sacred compact that binds these states together—the article of co-partnership—declares it to be common property, and guarantees our rights in it, and avers it to be equal with yours, will you, then, having the numerical strength in Congress, deny us equal privileges, and thus violate our charter. If you do, there is an end to that charter, and we must cease to regard its observance beyond our convenience, as obligatory."

This is what it must come to if the abolition sentiment has its way.

But better things are to be hoped for at the hands of the present Congress. Almost every Democrat in that body stands pledged before the people, not to agitate the question of slavery, but to abide by and carry out the principles of the compromise of 1850. Let them but act, and if abolitionism should succeed in raising a storm of opposition, go home after they have discharged their official duties, and like men conscious of the rectitude of their conduct, appeal to the people, and our word for it the people will sustain them.

Slavery is regarded at least as a political evil by almost every northern citizen, and is admitted as such by many in the south, and while northern constituency would spurn the representative who would cast his vote for the extension of slavery by constitutional enactment, into territory now free, they, saving the abolitionists, at the same time, ask not that any constitutional restriction shall be evaded, or any fraternal obligation to our southern brethren violated, in order to prevent slavery being established wherever and whenever the free will of American citizens say it shall be. Let the question be submitted to and decided by the people of these territories, is the sentiment of nine tenths of

the northern people—and this is all that the south asks, and is just what this bill proposes to do. Then, why should Congress hesitate to act at once, and finally and forever put a stop to this distracting nigger question? If thus left to the people, the influx of emigrants from the free states, bearing with them their anti-slavery principles, would be as four to one from the southern states, and there would therefore not be a particle of danger of those territories legalizing the institution of slavery, or of applying for admission into the Union as slave states. Then, why, it is asked, does the south oppose the restriction imposed by the Missouri Compromise, if she does not expect to be benefited by declaring its provisions inoperative? The answer is obvious. Under that restriction the foreigner from the furthest ends of the world can come there and make it his home, and in due time exercise all the rights of an American citizen; but the southern man is denied this right. If he is a slaveholder, our act of Congress says to him—"We know this is common property—we know your blood and treasure were freely contributed towards its purchase and defence—but before you can come and occupy on equal terms with us, you must dispose of that species of property which we admit is legalized by our constitution." Such a submission is held to be degrading by the south, and they say every American citizen should be as loth to exact as to submit to. And this is the reason why the south will cast an unanimous vote in favor of the bill to organize territories for Nebraska and Kansas.

But let us look at the question in another light.

There are now sixteen free states and fifteen slaveholding states—giving the free states two of a majority in the Senate, and fifty four in the House. Suppose this was reversed, and that the slaveholding interests had the power to force through Congress an act establishing slavery in these territories. They would have just as much constitutional power to do this as the present anti-slavery majority have to declare that slavery shall not go there. If the constitution gives Congress the authority to do the one, it gives it the same power to do the other. But Congress has no such power. It was wisely established by the framers of the Constitution, and he who seeks to meddle with the local regulations of our territories by Congressional intervention, has either studied our free institutions to little purpose, or entertains an utter contempt for the capacity of the people for self-government.

## For the Republican.

MESSRS. EDITORS:—In looking over the *Republican* of the 15th instant, I observed the proceedings of a Native meeting held in Curwensville, on the 8th instant, which, in my humble opinion is worthy of a few remarks—for such inconsistent proceedings will have their influence upon society, and that influence cannot be productive of good. There is a manifest deception in this meeting. It is evident to every rational mind, that the whole proceedings of that meeting, as well as all others of a similar character, are aimed at the Catholic population of our country—and yet these same individuals feign to be very fearful lest religion and politics should mingle. Here is where the deception lies—and deception never can prosper. Why not come out boldly, and say they fear the great increase of Catholics in our country? And if their keen perception has discovered so much danger, warn our citizens to be on their guard. And not be thus carrying on a clandestine warfare with the Catholics at the expense of protestant foreigners—for certainly we have nothing to fear from them. But the philosophers of Curwensville have got into their heads that our country is in imminent danger from foreign emigration. I almost fancy they imagine they already hear the booming of the enemy's cannon, or that they have some hidden passage under ground filled with gun powder to blow up the world.

But if foreigners are so dangerous, why did they not overthrow our government long ago, and not wait until it is established on such a firm basis. I for my part, cannot see why foreigners should desire to overthrow our government. They have fled from a land of despotic tyranny to seek an asylum in a land of liberty. A land of liberty, which some of their fathers fought and died to obtain for us—and shall we say to the sons of those brave sires: We shall not recognize you as citizens? You shall have no part with us? We shall enjoy our liberty alone? Your fathers fought to obtain it for us, but their sons who have fled from despotism to seek a home here shall not enjoy a citizenship with us until they have remained in our midst twenty-one years, which must necessarily deprive many of ever enjoying it.

What do you say to it Americans? Shall such be the case? Shall the news be borne across the broad Atlantic, to sadden the hearts of thousands? America has become tyrannical. No, is the reply of every true hearted republican. But some of our good citizens do not reply no, so the conclusion is, such good citizens are not republicans.

AMERICUS.  
It is estimated that it will cost \$6,000,000 to supply Washington city with water. The probable amount that it will cost to supply it with whiskey, is not given.

## LATER FROM EUROPE.

Arrival of the Propeller Andes—Preparations for War still active.

Boston, March 3.—The Andes arrived at this port this morning from Liverpool, whence she sailed on the 14th ult., bringing news three days later than were received by the Europa.

The British government has taken the Cunard steamers Niagara and Cambria to convey troops to the Mediterranean. They were to sail on the 18th of February for Malta.

The mammoth iron screw steamer Gr. Britain, had arrived at Liverpool from Melbourne, Australia, after a passage of sixty days.

The news from the seat of war on the Danube, is becoming very interesting.

The latest accounts are that Prince Gortschakoff had surrounded Kallafat, with an army of sixty thousand Russians, and had positive orders to capture it from the Turks.

Preparations for war are going on night and day, in France and England. The military force for the assistance of Turkey, it is now confidently asserted, will be 40,000 French and 10,000 English troops.—England will send 10,000 more if necessary. The squadron will consist of thirty sail vessels—to include twenty screw steamers, three paddle wheel steamers and seven sailing vessels—making a total of 2,000 guns. This fleet, without reckoning the squadron of admiral Corry, will be the most powerful ever fitted out by Great Britain. In the Royal Dock Yards, the formation and equipment of the fleets proceed with great rapidity.

The London *Globe* says that Lord Raglan, would probably have the chief command of the land forces.

From all accounts it appears that it was determined by the Russians to make a decisive blow. Prince Gortschakoff, had received positive orders from the Emperor, to use every effort to drive the Turks out of Lesser Wallachia, without further loss of time.

In Asia, Kurschid Pasha had reorganized the Turkish forces and was about to resume defensive operations with 30,000 infantry, 5,000 cavalry and 140 guns.

Telegraphic despatches from Bucharest to the 1st ult., state that 65,000 Russian troops were before Kalafat, though Prince Gortschakoff knew that the Turkish position could not be carried without great loss of life.

It was stated that the negotiations for peace between Russia and Turkey had been re-opened.

At the same time England and France continued to make extraordinary preparations for war.

The new ship Mary T. Stierrett, from New York for Havre, was abandoned at sea on the 1st of February. The crew were taken off by the ship Westmoreland. The Mary T. Stierrett was then scuttled.

Letters from Australia in regard to commercial and mining matters, are generally favorable.

## The Very Latest.

By Telegraph from London to Liverpool.

The second edition of the Morning *Herald* publishes a private despatch from Paris. The Russian squadron, on receiving intelligence that the combined fleets had left the Black Sea, five Russian frigates were put to sea and proceeded to Chekattil where they attacked the fort, but without much success.

The Russian fleet were obliged to steer in consequence of a warm repulse from the Turks.

There are some doubts of the authenticity of this report, but it had been received from two different sources.

The *Globe* announces the currency of the news at Paris of the possible re-opening of negotiations between the Great Powers.

A despatch from Paris states that the Emperor of Austria had asserted that if the Russians crossed the Danube, he would make common cause with the western powers. This intelligence had caused a rise in French funds, but adds that there is nothing to show that the rumors are deserving of credit.

The Paris correspondent of the *Times*, says certain French negotiations are making for the settlement of the Eastern question.

FINE TIMES FOR THE IRON MEN.—The Iron Men are doing a fine business, so good, that they say not a word about a tariff. There are thirteen thousand miles of railroad in operation, three thousand miles additional, it is estimated, will be built this year. For double tracks, one hundred thousand tons will be required this year. The quantity of railroad iron therefore in use by the end of this year, allowing one hundred tons to the mile, will be one million seven hundred thousand tons, which, at \$65,000 invested in railroad bars now in use. Eight per cent. is estimated by the Railway Times to be the wear and tear of the rails in use, which would require an outlay for this item alone of more than eight million of dollars. By January, 1860, there will in all probability, be in operation in the United States 30,000 miles of railway. Between now and that period, there will have to be furnished, by our manufacturers, the iron for some nineteen thousand miles of new track, and as much as eight per cent. per annum of the amount now in use. This magnificent amount, with the multiplied uses for iron, cars, locomotives, steam engines, machinery, steamboats, iron sailing vessels, iron buildings, &c., gives to the iron trade the most flattering prospects, if nothing intervenes to stop the progress of railroad construction.

COAL ASHES.—The best purpose to which coal ashes can be applied, in town or country, is in making garden walks. If well laid down, no weeds or grass will grow, and by use they become more solid and durable than bricks.

For the Clearfield Republican.

MESSRS. EDITORS:

As there appears to be considerable excitement in regard to the new got up party, I have concluded to pen a few thoughts that present themselves to my mind.

I have been carefully watching their manœuvres for some time, and am not a little surprised to see with what success their efforts have been crowned—to think that men, and intelligent men too, will rush wildly and madly into an institution got up for the sole purpose of weakening the Democratic party. I would warn all rational and intelligent democrats to look before they leap—to be careful, lest when they step on what they suppose to be a platform, that it be not a dead-fall prepared by the whigs, to decoy and delude all such milk and water Democrats—for such I must call them—believing as I do, that no sound Democrat will stoop so low as to notice such a piece of humbuggery. They (the Natives I mean) are at work in all parts of our county, holding meetings, and adopting resolutions which are not only unconstitutional, but would if carried into effect, deprive men of the glorious privilege of worshipping God according to the dictates of their own conscience.

How gloriously does our country stand before the view of intelligent men in contrast with other nations of the world.—How proudly floats our starry flag among the time worn and moth eaten banners of the old tottering despotisms, which have so long made the earth groan under their oppression. I feel my heart swelling within me as I look abroad over the wide extended domain, and see the millions who inhabit our smiling valleys and lofty mountains, all rejoicing in the privileges of freedom and sharing in the blessings of our Republican government.

If the lamentations and assertions of the Natives be taken for facts by the historian, (which I trust will not) what a different picture will be drawn in after-times. I wonder if those partizans ever think of the past—if they ever look back upon the columns of other years and read the doleful stories of ruin and destruction which they alarmed the timid and distressed, the ignorant, yet amid it all our country has gone on under Democratic rule with giant strides to her present enviable position.

The natives are forced to speak of our country as prosperous in all her interests; at peace with all the world—honored and respected wherever the foot of man has trod and borne her name and achievements. To write the facts of the last few years would overwhelm Nativism more irretrievably than Pompeii or Herculaneum were buried by the lava of the burning volcano. There were false prophets in former years, and verily some of the same tribe still live.

We marvel that those who have been so often deceived should suffer themselves to be again deluded. But dear as the school of experience is some people will learn at no other. Yours, &c. I. S. S. February 20, 1854.

## THE PRIVATEER STORY.

No well informed person here places the slightest confidence in the story of the *Courier des Etats Unis* saying that Russian agents are recruiting secretly in N. York, for American seamen, to serve on board American ships to be procured there, to act shortly as privateers under the Russian flag, on the commerce of France and England. Such a thing could not possibly occur in New York without coming to the knowledge of the Government here, and we have every reason to believe that they have not received the slightest information concerning it from any other source whatever. If existing laws are not sufficient to prevent any such transactions in the American port, the public may rest assured that laws strong enough will be passed by Congress on the day on which they may be notified by the Executive that necessity for such legislation exists. The Government of the United States—Executive and Legislative—entertain, we take it, not the slightest idea of permitting any Americans to run the risk of involving us, as a power, in difficulty with any European nations, in order that individuals among us may make money, more or less. They will have quite enough to do in the way of settling our international difficulties, which must arise in the event of a general European war, even though we strictly observe our duty as neutrals. Our shipping are under such circumstances to do much of the carrying trade of all the belligerents, which, in itself, though legitimate and proper, cannot fail to give our State Department great additional labors and many more cares.

We have not the slightest idea that Russia contemplates an effort to send out American privateers; and, if she did, those thus engaging in her service would soon find themselves "brought up with a round turn," by instructions from Washington.

Washington Star.

## For the Republican.

UNCLE JEMMAH, seems to have been taking a bite off his own Pickles—or smelling after foxes. Perhaps you are a little riled at that last oyster, or perhaps that last bad trip on that last bad business together with bad whiskey grips a little. I presume you could not if you had the time, make a mountain out of one bill—for it is a common saying that it takes two hills to make a mountain—but we have weekly demonstrations that even one awkward Traugh will hold plenty of sap, as your watery editorials illustrate. That new letter Flicker.—The name is nothing.

Saturday night is a blessed institution—as some one has beautifully expressed it, it is the golden clasp that closes the volume of the week.

Money spent in advertising, like seed sown in good ground, will return, some three, some four, some as many as a hundred fold.