

slaves from their masters—in every instance, as far as I have heard, the court has asserted the rights of the owner, and the jury has promptly returned an adequate verdict on his behalf.

Well, sir, there is then some remedy whist you are a part of the Union for the recovery of your slaves, and some indemnification for their loss. What would you have if the Union was severed? Why, then, the several parts would be independent of each other—foreign countries—and slaves escaping from one to the other—States to Canada. There would be no right of extradition, no right to demand your slaves; no right to appeal to the courts of justice to indemnify you for the loss of your slaves.

Well, sir, finally, will you, in case of a dissolution of the Union, be safer with your slaves within the separated portions of the States than you are now? Mr. President, that they will escape much more frequently from the border States than one will deny.

And, sir, I must take occasion here to say that, in my opinion, there is no right on the part of any one or more of the States to secede from the Union. War and dissolution of the Union are identical and inevitable, in my opinion. There can be a dissolution of the Union only by consent or by war.

Finally, Mr. President, and in conclusion, I implore, as the best blessing which Heaven can bestow upon me upon earth, that if the direful and sad event of the dissolution of this Union is to happen, that I shall not survive to behold the sad and heart rending spectacle.

And, sir, how are you going to separate the States of this confederacy? In my humble opinion, Mr. President we should begin with at least three separate confederacies. There would be a confederacy of the North, a confederacy of the Southern Atlantic slaveholding States, and a confederacy of the valley of the Mississippi.

at the character of the contest in which you would be engaged in the opposition of war following upon the dissolution of the Union, such as I have suggested; and I ask you if it is possible for you to doubt that the final disposition of the whole would be some despot tread down the liberties of the people—the final result would be the extinction of this last and glorious light which is leading all mankind, who are gazing upon it, in the hope and anxious expectation that the liberty which prevails here will sooner or later be diffused throughout the whole of the civilized world.

Sir, I implore gentlemen, I adjure them, whether from the South or the North, by all that they hold dear in this world—by all their love of liberty—by all their veneration for their ancestors—by all their regard for posterity—by all their gratitude to Him who has bestowed on them such unnumbered and countless blessings—by all the duties which they owe to mankind—and by all the duties which they owe to themselves, to pause, solemnly to pause at the edge of the precipice, before the fearful and dangerous leap is taken into the yawning abyss below, from which none who ever take it shall return to safety.

Finally, Mr. President, and in conclusion, I implore, as the best blessing which Heaven can bestow upon me upon earth, that if the direful and sad event of the dissolution of this Union is to happen, that I shall not survive to behold the sad and heart rending spectacle.

THE GAZETTE.

LEWISTOWN, PA.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1850.

TERMS: ONE DOLLAR PER ANNUM, IN ADVANCE.

For six months, 75 cents.

All NEW subscriptions must be paid in advance. If the paper is continued, and not paid within the first month, \$1.25 will be charged; if not paid in three months, \$1.50; if not paid in six months, \$1.75; and if not paid in nine months, \$2.00.

The Authors of two communications signed "Order" and "Clem," have neglected to give us their names.

The proceedings of Congress are void of interest, slavery and efforts to embarrass Gen. Taylor's administration being of greater moment to the locofocos and abolitionists than the welfare of the country.

In our legislative apportionment bills have been reported—the locofoco monster being all on one side. It gives Millin a member of the House, and unites it with Union and Huntingdon as a senatorial district. Another bill gives Millin a member of the House, and makes Perry, Juniata, Millin, and Centre a senatorial district.

THE DISCUSSION ON THE AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION making Judges elective is continued in the House. Mr. Giboney has presented petitions in favor of a Poor House in this county, and Mr. Cunningham one for the incorporation of a certain turnpike company (probably Milheim) and two for laying out a state road in Millin, Union and Juniata.

Profession and Practice. The Democrat, in an article on the prosperity of the country, says: "The Democracy hold the noble sentiment of the patriot Jackson, that it is the duty of the government to dispense its favors, as the dew of Heaven, alike upon the poor and the rich."

Although there is more of Shakespeare than Jackson in the above sentiment, we'll let it pass with the remark that such is the profession. What the practice is, we will let Mr. MEEK, a locofoco member of the Legislature from Centre county, answer. In his speech on granting further "special privileges" to the Reading Railroad—privileges which no poor or unfortunate man could obtain—he said:

I have watched the progress of this bill, now before us, with mingled feelings of grief and indignation; nor do I now rise to address the house in opposition to its progress, with any hope of arresting it. No, sir, I have seen too much legislation to hope for any such result. I have learned, by painful experience, that there is no resisting a measure of this kind when backed by corporation power. But I must express my total dissent to its passage, and representing as I do a plain, unopinionated democratic constituency, I dare not suffer the passage of a bill so monstrous in its provisions, without speaking out my disapprobation in the most unflinching language.

I cannot disguise the fact, that my own heart beats more faintly—my high expectations of successful legislation now drag in the dust—all my hopes quail, and I am wounded for the cause of my best devotions—the triumph of sound democratic principles. How is it, sir, that we promise so much at home, and yet do so little when here, that is REALLY DEMOCRATIC? Are we not continually deriding our whig opponents with the meanest subservency to incorporation privilege—with the most abject devotion to wealth and its usurped prerogatives—with being the party who are always ready to confer privilege upon the few, while we claim to be the devotees of principles known only by this motto, "equal and exact justice to all men—exclusive privileges to none."

I should not have said a word on the subject, but that I wish to bear my testimony to the soundness of our people at home and their honest adherence to principle. They send us here with right views, to wonder, why, if they are so still left to wonder why it is so—why they elect a majority of the members of this House charged with the cause of their rights and principles, and yet, why [Mr. Meek ought to have said Locofoco] principles always prevail.

But look at this bill before us. Two years ago, this county was in debt to the extent of two hundred and eighty thousand dollars. We are now in debt to the extent of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The officers of this company have grown rich, built palaces, and ride as nabobs through the land; they have paid no debts—no sir; they have increased them vastly. Sir, did you ever know, or read of any people in their corporate capacity, paying a debt of this size? Never, sir, but in the case of our own noble Union. Whether we will be able to pay again remains to be seen.

With this corporation, I hold, it is impossible that ever it should pay its debts. The road is one hundred miles long, and cost \$16,325,032; each mile, therefore, cost \$163,250, and must at least yield an annual income of \$10,000 for interest, beside the cost of repairs, management, &c. This it cannot do; no sane man will believe that it can possibly sustain any longer than it can borrow money.

Sir, I dare any man in this commonwealth, in his private capacity, to come and ask us thus to step in between him and his creditors! No, sir, no; such an application would be scouted from this hall! Well do I remember the man with the red shirt, who, with many other hard working men, had lent upon a tract of what they considered vacant land, after years of toil, sacrifice, and patient endurance of privation, and when they thought themselves in possession of homes for their declining years, a British subject sued upon them a writ of ejectment. They preferred their cause to this body, and asked us to interpose the shield of our protection. Were they heard? No sir; the constitution was in our way. Poor fellows! we could do nothing for them; they were not a corporation. "Alas! poor Yorick!"

Sir, we hear, with the deepest emotion, of the threatened rupture of our holy Union; and dismay portrayed upon every face when the bare possibility of such a catastrophe is spoken of. One lays his finger upon his mouth, and dumb with amazement, he hears the fearful and portentous word "DISUNION" pronounced as the death knell of his country's glory. His country—aye, the country of destiny—the glory of all lands—the beacon light of the benighted, downtrodden, oppressed, and injured of all the nations—the country to which we invite the hungry, homeless, and persecuted of every clime to come and find an asylum in the "Land of the free and the home of the brave." And yet, sir, by our profligate legislation, are likely soon to make it but an empty name—a shadow—a skeleton only will be left to the people, if we continue thus to rob them, for the benefit of soulless corporations.

Sir, we shall hear of this bill again, when we come to elect a Governor or President. The whigs will hurl it upon us as the party in the majority, and having the power to prevent such legislation. We profess to hold the best—the only good principles upon which to administer a republican government, and urge men to sustain us by arguments addressed to their hopes and fears, their rights and liberties. AND YET WE APPOINT AND PAY BETTER OFF PARTIES. In the name, sir, of the democratic party and its principles—of my constituents of Centre county, and of the constitution which I have sworn to sustain, I protest against the passage of this bill.

LIST OF TAXABLE INHABITANTS OF THE COUNTY OF CENTRE, PA.

Table with 5 columns: Counties, 1833, 1842, 1849. Lists taxable inhabitants for various counties including Adams, Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Bedford, Berks, Blair, Bradford, Bucks, Butler, Cambria, Carbon, Centre, Chester, Clearfield, Clinton, Columbia, Crawford, Cumberland, Dauphin, Delaware, Elk, Erie, Fayette, Franklin, Greene, Huntingdon, Indiana, Jefferson, Juniata, Lancaster, Lawrence, Lebanon, Lefebvre, Luzerne, Lycoming, McKeen, Mercer, Millin, Monroe, Montgomery, Northampton, Northumberland, Perry, Philadelphia city, Philadelphia co., Pike, Potter, Schuylkill, Somerset, Susquehanna, Sullivan, Tioga, Union, Venango, Warren, Washington, Wayne, Westmoreland, Wyoming, York.

Total, 317,300 387,417 486,733

The return of taxables for this county, compiled from the returns made by the Assessors, is as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Districts, Taxables, Deaf & Dumb, Blind. Lists districts: Lewistown, Oliver township, Union, Armagh, Brown, Wayne, Derry, Menno, Granville, Deatour, McVeytown, Newton Hamilton.

There are doubts in the minds of many persons as to the correctness of this return. After making all due allowances for transient laborers on the railroad, (which swelled the vote of 1848 to 3155, only 29 less than the number of taxables now reported,) for emigration, &c., it is still difficult to conceive that this county has increased by 57 in taxables in seven years, while the counties around us can count their increase by hundreds and thousands.

APPOINTMENTS.—The most sensible thing the Canal Commissioners have done this winter is the appointment of a number of editors to such offices as State Agent, Cargo Inspector, &c., but it would have been more sensible had they been named for Superintendents or Supervisors. Among them we are pleased to notice that our friend CUNNINGHAM continues his duties on the Columbia Railroad, and that TRAUGH, of the Hollidaysburg Standard, has been promoted (!) to count the regiments of pretty girls, nice young men, and "dirty-faces" who may pass over the Portage.

From California.

The steamers Empire City and Ohio have both arrived from Chagres, the former with more than a million, and the latter with half a million of California gold dust, besides a large amount in the trunks of passengers.

The account of the great fire, as at first published, was much exaggerated, but the property destroyed was immense, being estimated at a million and a half.

A correspondent of the Herald, writing from California gives the following account of the PROGRESS OF SAN FRANCISCO. Since the commencement of the present year 4,000 houses have been erected in San Francisco, and the levee at New Orleans, or the wharves of the East River, do not display such an amount of business as the banks of the San Francisco bay exhibit. Among the other improvements, several wharves have been built; the most extensive, the Central, built by a joint stock company, already extended 290 feet into the bay, thus enabling vessels to lie alongside and discharge which will, when completed, be 2100 feet in length.

Several churches have been erected—2 Episcopal, 2 Presbyterian, 1 Baptist, 1 Methodist, and 1 Catholic; so that we now enjoy "the stated preaching of the Gospel" in our churches, beside having a tearing sermon on the plaza every Sunday afternoon, from a brass-lunged Methodist itinerant. A large theatre is now in progress of erection, under the auspices of Col. H. T. Myers; and saw-dust and dimity fly right and left in a capacious and well managed circus.

THE CALIFORNIA ADVENTURERS. The town is crowded with people. Every day some new vessel pours its hundreds on our shores, many of them with fine prospects awaiting them, and many destined to be most bitterly disappointed. Many a poor devil landing here with bright visions of "big business" before him, finds himself, in a few days, rendered penniless by the enormous California prices, and the next we see of him is peddling newspapers in the streets, or shovelling gravel for the corporation in filling up mud holes. Many a man finds night coming on him in this town, where gold appears to be the staple commodity, without a place to lay his head, or where-withal to purchase him a supper. I fear that much misery will occur this winter. Almost every morning a dead body is found in the streets. This is owing, however, in most cases, to drunkenness and dissipation. But California is a great country "for a' that," and men with strong hands and stout hearts need never fear to come and see our elephant.

SCOTT AND MEXICAN LAND TITLES. Extensive "squadding" operations are in progress throughout all portions of California; in some cases extending so far as locating upon town lots and mission lands.

THE BURNED DISTRICT. The rebuilding of the burnt district of San Francisco had commenced, with an energy surpassing anything we can recollect to have been recorded in our Atlantic cities, after similar disasters. The fire occurred on the 24th, and on the 28th several house frames had been erected over the ashes, and two of them were already weather-boarded and shingled; the frame of the Exchange was up, and was to be completed, as per contract, in 16 days, at a cost of between 25 and \$30,000—the builders forgoing \$150 a day for every day beyond that period. Lumber was bringing \$325 a thousand.

A FREE SCHOOL. At San Francisco a movement was in progress to establish a free school, under the charge of Mr. J. C. Pelton.

DISCOVERY OF ANCIENT RUINS. A long account is given by a writer of the discoveries he has made in Northern California and New Mexico of ancient ruins, pillars of granite, 11 feet high, which still retain numerous traces of the pictures of men, plants and animals, intermixed with hieroglyphic characters. Another discovery, on the Colorado, was that of American pyramids.

THE GOLD-GAMBLERS. The New York Tribune says, an intelligent friend, who enjoyed good opportunities for information in San Francisco, estimates the amount of gold in the hands of the gamblers alone of that city on the 1st of January, at fourteen millions of dollars. These "sporting men," by the way, have done the largest business of any class of operators in California during the last year. Toil-worn diggers who had bagged their thousands at the cost of unsurpassed fatigue, privations and exposure, have come down to the city and gambled, and lost their last dollar within a week. The gamblers, it should be stated to the credit of their forecast, never hesitate in such cases to lend a "cleaned out" digger \$50 or \$100 to enable him to return to the mines. Nor do they confine their favors entirely to their customers. They subscribe liberally to new churches, and assume the character of public spirited citizens.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 14, 1850. The FLOUR MARKET continues quiet. Sales of common brands for shipment at \$4 75 per barrel. Sales to the city dealers at \$4 \$1 1/4 \$5 3/4 for common brands.

NEW YORK, February 13, 1850. The COTTON MARKET is dull, and prices have declined 1/4 to 3/8, per lb. since the steamer's advices.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 13, 1850. FLOUR—Sales at \$4 75, and at \$4 \$1 1/4. GRAIN—Small parcels of red wheat, by wagon, sell at 103 1/2 cts. Prime lots, afloat, are worth 104 1/2 cts.

MARRIED. On Wednesday, 6th inst., by Rev. J. Moore, Mr. ROBERT M. TAYLOR, of Union township, and Miss MARY W. TAYLOR, of Brown township. On Thursday, 14th inst., by Rev. J. Rosenberg, Mr. HENRY HOFFMAN, of Granville township, and Mrs. ELIZABETH BEAR, of Centre co.

COTTON YARN HOUSE. MORRIS & EASTWOOD. No. 7 1/2 North Front Street, Philadelphia. COTTONS and Linen Cloth, Wadding, Cotton Yarn, Indigo Blue Wick, Cotton Laps, Soap, &c. February 16, 1850—2m

BEWARE OF IMPOSTORS! THE PUBLIC are hereby informed that a Patent has been issued by the United States to Stephen Crane for a Wash Mixture, and the undersigned is a joint inventor, and holds the Patent Right for Pennsylvania. A certain person who has been selling rights is neither the inventor nor proprietor, and will be prosecuted, with all others violating the patent.

NOTICE. THE public is hereby cautioned not to interfere in any manner whatever with the following articles, purchased at Constable's sale on the 14th inst., as the property of E. Brittain, viz:—A Corner Cupboard, 2 lots of Carpet, Table, Clock, Bureau, Stove, Cooking Stove, Table Fixtures of Oyster Cellar, 11 Chairs, Oyster Lamp, &c., Looking Glass, 1 barrel Cider, and Counter—which property I have left with and loaned to the said E. Brittain during my will and pleasure, and will hold all persons responsible in law who may intermeddle with the same.

NOTICE. THE MATTER of the Partition and Valuation of the Real Estate of WILLIAM L. HARRIS, deceased. In the Orphans' Court of Mercer county, Pennsylvania, No. 31 of September Term, 1849. With assent of the Sheriff to part and divide, or value and appraise, donation, lot No. 726, of two hundred acres, in the 4th district in Mercer county; which said land has been appraised and valued by a Jury summoned by said Sheriff, at the sum of Eleven Hundred and Twenty-Five Dollars. (\$1125) Notice is hereby given to James Harris, Martha Harris, and Laird Howard, Thomas Howard, David Howard, Harriet Howard, intermarried with Dr. Thomas Yanvalzah, Ann Howard, intermarried with William Wilson, Jane Howard, intermarried with Joseph Green, who were children of Elizabeth Harris, who was intermarried with Thomas Howard, both of whom are deceased, that the Court aforesaid did, on the 29th day of December, 1849, confirm the partition aforesaid, and give judgment that the same should remain firm and stable forever, and made a rule on the heirs and legal representatives of the deceased, to appear on the first day of next term, (1st day of April next), and accept or refuse the premises at the valuation.

SHERIFF'S SALE. D virtue of a writ of Venditioni Exponas issued out of the Court of Common Pleas of Milford county, and to me directed, will be exposed at public sale, at the Court House, in the borough of Lewistown, on THURSDAY, March 14th, 1850, at 10 o'clock, A. M., the following Real Estate, to wit: A Tract of Land in Wayne township, Milford county, containing 29 acres, more or less, about six acres cleared, adjoining lands of Samuel Withrow on the west, Abraham Lukens' heirs on the east, and having thereon erected a log house, small frame house and stable. Also, A Tract of Land in Wayne township, Milford county, containing 63 acres, more or less, about 15 acres cleared, adjoining lands of Samuel Withrow on the west, Cyrus Stine on the north, John and George Lukens on the east, and the above 29 acres on the south, having thereon erected a small log house and stables. Seized, taken in execution, and to be sold as the property of George W. Coulter, Administrator of William Laughlin, dec'd, with notice to the widow and heirs.

N. R.—Purchasers at the above Sheriff's sale are hereby notified that the amount of the sale will be required to be paid immediately on the property being knocked down, or it will be forth with resold to the highest bidder.