

LEWISTOWN GAZETTE

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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 1866.

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Poor House Business.

The Directors of the Poor meet at the Poor House on the 2d Tuesday of each month.

Kishacoquillas Seminary

AND
NORMAL SCHOOL.
The Summer Session at this institution will begin April 9, 1866, and continue 20 weeks. Cost for boarders per session, \$75. Day scholars, \$12. Special attention paid to Normal Class this session. The assistance of the County Superintendent is exacted. For particulars address
mar21-3m S. Z. SHARP, Principal.

GEO. W. ELDER,

Attorney at Law,
Office Market Square, Lewistown, will attend to business in Mifflin, Centre and Huntingdon counties
mv26

DR. A. J. DAEMLEN,

U. S. Examining Surgeon,
WEST Market street, Lewistown, two doors from the diamond, offers his professional services to the public. By authority from Washington he has been appointed an Examining Surgeon. feb7

DR. S. G. MFLAUGHELIN,

DENTIST,
OFFERS his professional services to the citizens of Lewistown and vicinity. All in want of good, neat work will do well to give him a call.
He may be found at all times at his office, three doors east of H. M. & R. Pratt's store, Valley street, daily.
mv26

M. R. THOMPSON, D. D. S.

HAVING permanently located in Lewistown, offers his professional services to the citizens of Lewistown and vicinity. All in want of good, neat work will do well to give him a call.
He may be found at all times at his office, three doors east of H. M. & R. Pratt's store, Valley street, daily.
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1866. NEW GOODS!

AT
**NATHANIEL KENNEDY'S
STORE,**
In the Odd Fellows' Hall.

JUST received from Philadelphia, a very choice assortment of
CALICOES, MUSLINS,
Ginghams, Flannels, Checks, Hickory, Foreign and Domestic Dry Goods of all kinds.

Also,
Sugars, Coffees, Teas, Chocolate,
Essences of Coffee, Queensware, Stoves,
Ware, Hardware and Cedarware, Shoul-
ders, Hams, Mackerel, Herring,
Shad, Boots and
Shoes, of all kinds. Also,
a fine lot of Whisky,
BRANDY,
Wine and Gin,
SALT, &c.,
which will be sold very low. Country Produce taken in exchange for goods.
N. KENNEDY.
Lewistown, October 11, 1865.

Lewistown Mills.

THE
HIGHEST CASH PRICES FOR WHEAT, AND
ALL KINDS OF GRAIN,
or received in on storage, at the option of those having it for the market.

They hope, by giving due and personal attention to business, to merit a liberal share of public patronage.

PLASTER, SALT and Limeburners
COAL always on hand.
WM. B. McATEE & SON.
Lewistown, Jan. 1, 1865.-tf

WHAT'S ALL THIS?

Why, the Grain Business Revived at McCoy's old Stand.

THE undersigned, having rented the large and commodious Warehouses formerly occupied by Frank McCoy, esq., is now prepared to purchase or receive and forward

All Kinds of Grain,
for which he will pay market prices. Also, he will keep for sale, Salt, Plaster, Coal & Fish.

He returns thanks to all his old customers for their former patronage, and shall feel grateful for a renewal of past business relations. He has also accepted the agency for the celebrated

PORTAGE NAILS.

Merchants will find it to their advantage to give him a call.
mar14-ly W.M. WILLIS.

NEW BOOT & SHOE STORE IN THE WEST WARD.

The undersigned has just opened a new and large stock of **BOOTS and SHOES** in Major Buoy's store room, West Market street, Lewistown, a few doors from the diamond and opposite Eisenbush's Hotel, where will be found an entire new stock of Fashionable

**BOOTS, SHOES, GAITERS,
SLIPPERS, &c.,**
for Ladies, Gentlemen, Girls, Boys, and Children, selected with much care, and which will be sold at reasonable prices for cash.

Custom work will also be punctually attended to, this branch being under the superintendence of Wm. T. Wentz, an old and experienced workman.

REPAIRING also attended to.
The public, as well as his fellow soldiers, are invited to give him a call and examine his stock.
FRANK H. WENTZ.
Lewistown, Sept. 4, 1865.

Major Gen. John W. Geary.

HIS PUBLIC SERVICES.

John W. Geary was born in Westmoreland county, Pa., and although now only forty six years of age, has already won a lasting fame by his adherence to the cause of right and duty in the different parts of the country in which he has been placed, in civil, military, judicial and executive positions.

Having lost his father very early in life, he was thrown upon his own resources, and not only supported himself, but became the stay of his widowed mother by teaching a village school; during which time he also, by perseverance, industry and commendable economy, acquired means to procure a classical education, which he completed at Jefferson College, Cannonsburg, Pa., created life-long friends among professors and classmates, by the early exhibition of those same sterling qualities that have since endeared him to so many others in social and in public life.

Having finished his collegiate education he assumed the profession of a civil engineer, in the practice of which he went to Kentucky, partly in the employ of the Commonwealth, and partly in that of the Green River Railroad Company; and was engaged in the survey of several very important branches of the public improvements of that State. After an experience with the Engineer Corps in many of the States, he successfully filled all the various offices from a clerkship to the superintendency of the Allegheny Portage Railroad, and during several years discharged the duties of his responsible positions with complete satisfaction.

When the war with Mexico was declared, he was among the first who responded to the call for volunteers, and was accepted, along with the "American Highlanders," of Cambria county, which splendid company he then commanded. They were incorporated in 2d Pennsylvania Regiment, of which, upon its organization, he was almost unanimously elected Lieutenant Colonel.

His regiment joined the army of Gen. Scott at Vera Cruz, and served in the advance under the command, and on the line of operations, of that great chieftain through his brilliant campaign in Mexico. Geary was attached to Gen. Quitman's division, and distinguished himself in the battle of "La Hoya," "Chapultepec," "Garita de Belen," and the "City of Mexico." Upon arriving at the capital, his colonel having died, he was elected colonel by a vote of more than two-thirds of the command. This compliment was not the result of mere friendship or political preference. It was the reward for his own good conduct from the hands of the gallant soldiers—the spontaneous and grateful gift of associates in arms—the brave men who had fought by his side, shared his privations, suffering and dangers, and who witnessed and knew best how to appreciate his merits.

The war having closed, Col. Geary returned with the remnant of his command to his native State, and the people of Pittsburgh will long remember the enthusiastic welcome he received upon his arrival among them. Hon. William Wilkins, in a public speech, complimented the services of the gallant, weather-beaten and war worn troops, and the excitement of the universal jubilee ran to the highest pitch.

On the 22d of January, 1849, in return for his services in Mexico, President Polk appointed Col. Geary postmaster at San Francisco, which, in consequence of the then recent discovery of gold in California, had become a port of considerable consequence. He was also empowered to create post offices, appoint postmasters, establish mail routes, and make contracts for carrying the mails throughout California. He was thus placed in the way of his subsequent and almost unparalleled success and popularity among the heterogeneous population of the Eureka State.

On the 1st of August, 1849, the municipal election of San Francisco took place, and although ten different tickets were framed for the various minor offices, his name appeared at the head of them all, and he received every vote cast that day for the office of *First Alcade*, it being at that time the most important, responsible and difficult office in the State of California. It required administrative and executive abilities of the rarest quality. The population numbered 20,000, almost entirely adult males; drawn together from every section of the world, and possessed of every imaginable variety of character.

To effect anything like a proper organization of the city, and establish an ordinary police force, from the chaotic material and rebellious spirits that

then existed, was of itself an Herculean task. But added to this the duties of Alcade embraced those of every one of the customary offices of a city and county jurisdiction. He was a Mayor, Sheriff, Marshal, Probate Recorder, Register of Deeds, and even Notary Public and Coroner. He daily held an ordinary police or mayor's an alcade's court for the minor cases and general executive matters of the city; a court of the first instance with universal, civil and criminal jurisdiction; and a court of admiralty for maritime cases. In a word, he was the curator of the public, doing everything that was to be done, even to the holding of inquests and taking acknowledgments of deeds. And so well did he perform all these varied, arduous, complicated and difficult duties, that at the expiration of his first term he was re-elected by an almost unanimous vote, the city in the meantime having more than double its population. During the time of holding the office of alcade, Col. Geary tried, as Judge, over twenty-five hundred civil and criminal cases, and from his decision not over a dozen appeals were made, and one decision was ever reversed.

On May 1st, 1850, the first city charter was adopted, and Col. Geary was elected Mayor under its provisions by a large and flattering vote. The manner in which he discharged the duties of this position can best be understood from his inaugural address to the city councils, and numerous subsequent messages, all of which are on file, and have been published, as well as from the fact, that at the expiration of his term of office a petition, numerously signed by the most prominent citizens, without distinction to party, was presented, requesting him to be a candidate for re-election, which he declined.

The Legislature, however, having created a "Board of Commissioners of the funded debt of San Francisco," Col. Geary was appointed a member, and upon the organization of that body was elected *President*. Here, too, by his financial knowledge and judicious counsels and advice, he rendered valuable service to the city. Besides all this, during his residence in San Francisco, he was Chairman of the Board of Health, had assisted in the organization of Masonic and Odd Fellows Lodges, and was in fact instrumental in establishing comfortable hospitals for the sick, and was connected with every charitable institution of the place. He signaled himself by his courage and intrepidity in arresting the progress of the great fires, and by the promptness with which he answered the call of the authorities of that city, rendered efficient aid in suppressing the squatter riots at Sacramento.

In the year 1849, when Col. Geary was a resident of California, a Convention was formed to frame a State Constitution, and some of our readers still remember the intense anxiety and excitement which prevailed throughout the country regarding the result of its proceedings. The pro-slavery Democrats of that time were determined that California should only be admitted into the Union as a slave State, and for the sole purpose of exerting their influence in that behalf, many removed from the Southern States to that distant region. The plan was well conceived, and intended at all hazards to be accomplished, to insert the slavery clause into the Constitution, and forward it with hot haste to Washington for adoption without presenting it to the people for ratification. Col. Geary was thoroughly acquainted with the programme, and resolved that the proposed measures should not be effected. He accordingly took strong grounds against them, and used all his influence, which was then equal, at least, to that of any man in the territory, first to have omitted the clause legalizing slavery, and secondly to prevent the Constitution; when adopted by the Convention, from being sent to Congress until after it should be submitted to a vote of the people and had received their approval. No man could have labored more earnestly and successfully than he did to effect these two objects, both of which, after a most terrible struggle, were accomplished, and California was received, free from the stain of slavery, into the Union of States. It is not too much to say that had it not been for the active part taken by Col. Geary against the pro-slavery party then in California, this result might not have been accomplished.

Private affairs of great importance requiring his presence in Pennsylvania, Col. Geary left San Francisco in February, 1862, and repaired to his farm in Westmoreland county, where he remained until again called into active public life, through his appointment, by President Pierce, as Governor of Kansas Territory, which appointment, without the usual reference to a committee, was confirmed by a unanimous vote of the Senate.

He received notice of this appointment in July, 1856, and having delayed only long enough to receive his instructions and make the necessary arrangements, he proceeded to Kansas, reaching Fort Leavenworth on the 9th of September following.

No pen can adequately describe the terrible condition of the territory at the time of his arrival. The scenes he had witnessed in California were being re-enacted, with horrors greatly intensified. Civil war was raging with more than fiendish ferocity; and all on account of slavery. Men were flocking from all parts of the South, of desperate character, with passions inflamed to the highest pitch, and with the express avowed purpose of making Kansas a slave State by any means, however fair or foul! And these again were resisted by actual settlers and new comers from the free States, equally as determined, though not so brutal and ferocious. The fiercest passions of human nature, with all their dreadful consequences, were visible on every hand. The smoke of burning buildings blackened the air; fields of grain were laid waste and desolate; women and children were driven starving and naked from their homes to perish on the desolate prairies; and the dead bodies of murdered men were strewn along the wayside. Chaos reigned supreme—pandemonium had poured forth its demons—and crime, in all its most hideous forms, ran rampant through the land.

Such was the gloomy prospect that presented itself to the new Governor. A man of less nerve would have looked upon it with amazement, and with dismay fled from the scene, as did two of his predecessors, and many others. But Gov. Geary was not the man to be so easily intimidated. He had passed already through many a fiery ordeal. He took in at a glance the entire situation. From this dismal chaos, from this hell of discord, from all this terrific and confused mass of conflicting passions, he was expected to produce order, peace and harmony. He flattered not, however, but buckled on his armor, and in good earnest applied himself to the difficult task. And so earnestly and effectually did he devote himself to the work, that as early as September 30th, he was enabled truthfully to write to the Secretary of State, saying:

"Peace now reigns in Kansas. Confidence is gradually being restored.—Settlers are returning to their claims. Citizens are resuming their ordinary pursuits, and a general gladness prevades the community."

He had arrested criminals, driven brigands from the roads, disarmed and disbanded invading armies, and insured protection to all peaceable citizens.

But this state of tranquility, thus effected, was precisely the reverse of what the pro-slavery party in Kansas and the administration at Washington desired. Gov. Geary's course, instead of receiving their approval, met their decided condemnation. It was intended that the agitation and excitement should continue until the Free State men were either annihilated or driven from the Territory, and the pro-slavery party could have everything in their own hands. Hence the Governor's reports to Washington were coldly received, and, if answered at all, as coldly answered. There was no mistaking the tenor and spirit of their communications. In the meantime the leading ruffians were becoming more and more emboldened by the encouragement they received from the seat of the General Government. At the Leocompton postoffice, the Governor's letters and papers, both private and official, were opened and their contents scrutinized. The few troops that had been left to guard his person and official documents, were gradually removed by order of Jeff. Davis, then Secretary of War. Pro-slavery murderers whom he had caused to be arrested, were liberated by order of Chief Justice Leocompton, and public meetings were held in which he was denounced as an Abolitionist for refusing to give his sanction and assistance to the vile plots to force the institution of slavery upon an unwilling people. One villain, actuated and aided by others less bold, was foiled in an attempt to assassinate him on his departure from the Legislative Hall, and almost in sight of the members there assembled.

To crown all, the pro-slavery men of all parties, the great majority, however, being old line Whigs, mostly from the South, met together in convention at Leocompton, and organized the "National Democratic Party." There was much discussion in regard to the adoption of this name, the leading men of the convention declaring that they could not swallow the word "Democrat," having been life-long "Whigs." But this objection was overruled, by the argument that the name would not change positions, while it would assure them the support of

"the Washington Democracy." The platform of the "National Democratic Party," thus adopted, is clearly expressed in the following unanimous resolution of its Legislature:

"WHEREAS, We believe that on the success of our party depends the perpetuity of the Union; therefore,

"Be it Resolved, By the House of Representatives, the Council concurring therein, that it is the duty of the pro-slavery party, the Union loving men of Kansas Territory, to know but one issue, slavery,* and that any party making or attempting to make any other, is, and should be held, as an ally of abolition and disunion."

In carrying out this doctrine, all the Free State Democrats were excluded from membership with the "National Democratic Party," not one of them being received into fellowship or allowed to take part in its proceedings. This platform was indorsed by the Democrats at Washington at that time, and was subsequently adopted and carried out by the President to the full measure of perfection. So far as he had the power he ostracised all Free State Democrats, no matter how long or how faithfully they had served the party.

The "National Democratic Party" being thus organized, the next movement was to commit Governor Geary to its policy. Accordingly, the Chairman of the Central Committee called upon the Governor, with the assurance that if he would connect himself with the party he should be one of the two United States Senators soon to be chosen. The Chairman urged the matter with such determined pertinacity that Governor Geary ordered him out of his office, and declared that if he should dare again approach him with so vile an offer he would toss him through the window.

Soon after these proceedings a Constitution, known as the "Leocompton Constitution," we received in Kansas by the "National Democratic Party," direct from Washington, where it had been carefully prepared; and agreeably to the directions accompanying it, an attempt was made to have it adopted by an improvised convention and returned to Washington in the shortest possible time, regardless of the known wishes of the people. An act of the Legislature to this effect was immediately passed, which was vetoed by Governor Geary, for several reasons, the most prominent of which were, that no provision was made for submitting the Constitution to the people for ratification, and that he was satisfied that a large majority of the actual residents of the territory were decidedly and strongly opposed to the institution of slavery, which the Constitution was intended to force upon them.

This having occurred after the election of Buchanan; but before his inauguration, Governor Geary addressed him letters, stating the true condition of affairs; but received no reply. He did, however, receive positive evidence from other sources, that the newly elected President had abandoned the Free Democratic principles and adopted the platform of the "National Slavery Democracy." Hence, Governor Geary resolved at once not to hold an office under his administration, and on the day he was installed in the Presidential chair, wrote and forwarded his resignation as Governor of Kansas.—On the 10th of March, 1857, he left the territory, and again returned to the quietude of private life. Had Governor Geary been sustained in his honest and manly course, in Kansas, by the administration at Washington, there is reason to believe the destructive war through which we have just passed, and was then fore-shadowed, and even threatened, might never have occurred, and the hundreds of thousands of brave soldiers who now sleep the sleep of death, would be living to bless with their presence the homes made so sadly desolate.

Although Governor Geary thus refused all connection or fellowship with the "National Democratic Party," he persisted in adhering to the doctrine he advocated in California sixteen years ago, and still more recently in Kansas, that the institution of slavery should not be forced upon an unwilling people, and never hesitated to express his disapprobation of the institution in all its forms, sentiments which have since formed the basis of the Union Republican platform.—Hence, after his return from Kansas he associated himself with the party that sustained Stephen A. Douglas, which was greatly instrumental in breaking up the pro-slavery faction, and effecting the election of Abraham Lincoln to the Presidency, a result which he foresaw and was desirous of having accomplished.

No sooner was the result of that election known, than plans were being adopted by the "National Democracy" to fulfill their oft reiterated threat to

destroy the Union. Consequently, when after the inauguration of Mr. Lincoln, a war against rebellion became inevitable, Governor Geary was again among the first to offer his military services to the Government. He raised and equipped, at his own expense, the 28th regiment of Pennsylvania volunteers, of which he took the command. With this splendid regiment, numbering over 1600 men, he entered the field in July, 1861, and continued in active service during the entire four years of the war, with the exception of twenty-eight days, and when he was incapacitated for duty by wounds received in battle.

For meritorious deeds he was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General on the 25th of April, 1862, and promoted Major General January 12th, 1865, "for the fitness to command and promptness to execute."

From reports filed in the office in the Secretary of War, it appears that during his term of service General Geary was engaged in over fifty hotly contested battles and important skirmishes, besides many other of lesser note. Among these engagements may be especially named that of "Bolivar Heights," "Cedar Mountain," the three days' fight at Chancellorsville, the struggle at Gettysburg, which also lasted three days, and resulted in driving back the enemy from the soil of Pennsylvania, "Wauhatchie," "Look-out Mountain," "Mission Ridge," "Ringgold," "Triano," "Mill Creek and Snake Creek Gaps," "Resaca," (two days), "New Hope Church" (seven days), "Muddy Creek," "Nose's Creek," "Kolb's Farm," "Kenesaw," "Pine Hill," "Marietta," "Peach Tree Creek," siege and capture of Atlanta (twenty days), siege of Savannah (ten days), which was captured by his division ten hours before any other troops reached that city, as was also Fort Jackson, both of which places were surrendered in person to Gen. Geary. In this capture three hundred and fifty prisoners, one hundred and forty thousand pieces of artillery, thirty-eight thousand five hundred bales of cotton and five ocean steamers, with an immense variety of ammunition and other stores, fell into the hands of the victors.

Upon the capture of Savannah Gen. Geary was appointed Military Governor, which position he filled with signal credit to himself until he was relieved, that he might accompany the triumphant army of Sherman in its further march through the Carolinas. In the battle of Bolivar Heights he received a severe wound in the right knee, and at Cedar Mountain he was slightly wounded in the left ankle, and seriously through the elbow joint of the left arm. He was also struck in the right breast and severely injured by the fragment of a shell at Chancellorsville.

His two sons accompanied him to the field, the eldest of whom, a young man of eighteen years, who had advanced himself by sterling ability to the command of a battery, with the rank of Captain, and gave promise of the utmost capacity and usefulness, was killed at the battle of Wauhatchie. "At the time that he fell," says an eloquent writer, "he was acting as Lieutenant of one section of Knapp's Battery. As an artist he had no superior in the army. His gun was his pride. He was always beside her, and his aim was unerring. At this battle about twelve hundred and fifty men, under command of Gen. Geary, were attacked from an eminence, by five thousand of the enemy, at twelve o'clock at night. The unequal fight gallantly accepted, and though the command was at first thrown into some disorder, they speedily rallied, and not only repulsed, but drove from the field the vastly superior numbers of the enemy. In the hottest of the fight—in the act of sighting his gun, his forehead was pierced with a bullet, young Geary fell, and instantly expired. His father coming to the spot, clasped in an agonizing embrace the lifeless form of his boy—then, mounting his horse, dashed wildly into the thickest ranks of the foe, and rode like an avenging spirit over that bloody field, until the enemy were utterly routed and put to flight." This Gen. Hooker pronounces the most gallant and successful charge that has come to his knowledge during the war.

In his official report of this battle General Hooker says:

"During these operations a heavy musketry fire, with rapid discharges of artillery, continued to reach us from Geary. It was evident that a formidable adversary had gathered around him and that he was battering him with all his might. For almost three hours, without assistance, he repelled the repeated attacks of vastly superior numbers, and, in the end, drove them ingloriously from the field. At one time they had enveloped him on three sides, under circumstances that