



DEMOCRATIC NOMINATIONS. FOR GOVERNOR. FRANCIS R. SHUNK. FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER. MORRIS LONGSTRETH.

No Mistake. We are preparing all accounts on our books...

HOA. DAVID WILMOT'S SPEECH.

We publish this week the speech of our Representative in Congress, delivered on the 14th of March...

THE NOMINATIONS.

We find in the last Democratic Union, the following very appropriate and reasonable article in relation to the nominations lately made by the Democratic State Convention...

ELECTIONS IN NEW HAMPSHIRE.

An election was held on Tuesday 9th inst. in New Hampshire, for members of the State Legislature...

INDEPENDENT.—Amos Tucker, G. W. Stevens, John Preston, Jared Perkins. Radical Democrats.—B. W. Jenness, C. H. Peaslee, S. Dismore, J. H. Johnson.

Tremendous Conflagration in Towanda.

Great destruction of property.—The Court House, "Claremont House," Stores, Shops and dwellings burned.

On Friday last our town witnessed a most awful and destructive conflagration, raging for hours unchecked, and sweeping before it building after building until there were none within its reach.

More of that "Rain."

We find the following paragraphs in the Danville Intelligence. Comment is needless.—The Iron Business, in Columbia county, is in a very flourishing condition.

We understand that a company is now formed to start another Rolling Mill at this place, to be got ready for work by next fall.

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FEDERAL STATE CONVENTION.

This body assembled at Harrisburg on the 9th inst, and after a stormy session, nominated Gen. James Irvin, of Centre county, as a candidate for Governor, and Joseph W. Patton, of Cumberland county, for Canal Commissioner.

CONFIRMATION OF JUDGE BELL.

We announce, with real pleasure, the confirmation, by the Senate, of Hon. THOMAS S. BELL, recently nominated to the Supreme Bench, by Gov. Shunk.

A SINGULAR SPECTACLE.

The Maryland Statesman a new Democratic paper recently started in Baltimore, says:—"The singular spectacle is now presented to the world of three senior officers of our army keeping up a fire both in their rear and in their front."

A RENEGRAD.

There is a Colonel in the Mexican army, named Torrey, who is an American by birth, and was formerly in the U. S. Army.

GOOD FOR PITTSBURGH.

Six hundred and twelve steamboats have been built at Pittsburgh in the last sixteen years—thirty-one the past year.

Later from the Army of Occupation.

GEN. TAYLOR'S ADVANCE UPON SAN LUIS.—The New Orleans Bulletin has conveyed freely with officers of the army recently from Monterey, who give the following intelligence respecting Taylor's movements...

As regards the actual position of affairs there, it is believed Santa Anna has no idea of advancing from San Luis, with a view to attack Gen. Taylor at Saltillo, or rather twenty miles in advance of that place...

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SCARCITY OF SEAMEN.

Sailors are very scarce at this port at the present time. As high as \$22 per month for a voyage to the West Indies, has been given the past week.

Speech of Mr. Wilmot, of Pennsylvania.

When southern gentlemen sit down and revise their estimates of the value of the Union, no fears need be entertained of a dissolution from that quarter.

Sir, there is another reason, and a most substantial one, why this Amendment should be made now, and to this Bill. For what is this appropriation to be made? To make peace.

My friend, the chairman of the committee on Foreign Relations (Mr. C. J. Ingersoll), how he admires it, sir! I thank him for the admission of the fact, it is true.

The intelligence possessed by the President, gives them reason to believe, that upon a certain advance to be made, to pay the expenses of their army, (the Mexicans,) and other expenses, they would be willing to cede that portion of their territory which he had named.

Why are we to pay the expense of their army? It is hard enough to fight them, and to pay the expenses of our own army, as the war is going on.

The increased prosperity and power of our great country, the result of her free institutions, and the faithful administration of the government, are satisfactory evidence that the accused war-party of our opponents as to the ruin to be accomplished by the tariff of 1846, will fail to have any other effect than to excite a feeling of ridicule towards the authors of these senseless predications.

We have undiminished confidence in the integrity and purity of the President and Vice President of the several heads of departments, and recognize in the performance of their high constitutional duties the just evidence of the ability and energy with which they have performed the duties of the high stations entrusted to them.

That it is with pride and gratification we present Francis R. Shunk, as our candidate for Governor; his private character is irreproachable, and his long public services afford the surest guaranty of his future fidelity and devotion to the public interests, and to sound Democratic principles.

That it is with hearty approval of the just and decided course of Governor Shunk in the restrictions and responsibilities which he has so repeatedly urged upon the Legislature to be applied to Banking Institutions; the establishment of these just securities to property, and the profits of labor in reference to the Banks chartered at the last session receives our decided approbation, and as we believe, the approbation of the people; and we entirely approve of the able, honest and upright course which he has pursued in interposing his veto to all corporations chartered for individual gain by which an exemption was thus asked and conferred from the ordinary responsibilities of individual enterprise.

Resolved, That in the Hon. Morris Longstreth we have a candidate for Canal Commissioner of whom the Democracy may well be proud. His inflexible integrity, high order of talents, and sound Democratic principles, commend him to the cordial support and affection of every Democrat in Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That the recent action of the Senate of the United States, in the expulsion of Thomas Ritchie, the able and faithful exponent of the doctrines of democracy, whose long life has evinced his fearless devotion to the maintenance of the great principles of free government, meets with our decided condemnation.

The entire freedom of the press in the examination of the conduct of public men in relation to public measures, is essential to the preservation of our liberties, and any attempt to coerce authors of such a measure with the prohibition of every citizen who values the inestimable privileges of American freemen.

Resolved, That James R. Snowden the late efficient State Treasurer, is entitled to the grateful thanks of the Democracy, for the services he has rendered the Commonwealth, in the successful performance of his official duties, and that his removal by the federalists, shows how hypocritical were their shallow and fraudulent pretences put forth during the campaign of 1844, that they would proscribe proscription.

Resolved, That we are in favor of a vigorous and energetic prosecution of the existing war with Mexico, repudiating the "masterly inactivity" policy, as unwise and impolitic, and only calculated to prolong the war, and check the patriotism which the justice of our case has, in such an eminent degree produced throughout the United States.

Resolved, That the removal from the various offices at Washington of every opponent of the National Administration, or of Democratic principles and measures, has been long called for and is alike demanded by the voice of the Democracy, and the best interests of the country, and ought not to be longer postponed or delayed.

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Resolutions of the State Convention.

Resolved, That the members of this convention are deeply impressed with a sense of gratitude for the abundance with which a bountiful Providence has filled this land of freedom, and for the great prosperity that pervades the country in its moral and social condition, and in all the industrial and productive pursuits of the people, agricultural, commercial, manufacturing and mechanical.

Resolved, That we, in common with the people of Ireland and other parts of Europe, on whom the hard and withering hand of famine is laid, and whose miseries are aggravated by despotic rulers, who rob labor of its just reward and impoverish the many for the benefit of the few.

Resolved, That it is a source of gratification to the benevolent and philanthropic, to witness the christian and republican spirit which animates the people of these United States in extending aid to their suffering brethren in other countries, and that we recommend to our friends throughout the Commonwealth to make the most liberal contributions in money and provisions according to the extent of their ability, for their relief.

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the citizen submission to its authority—that executes the prerogative of enforcing obedience. I could not understand the distinction the gentleman was pleased to make, when he said "the powers of sovereignty, are one thing and its being another."

The theory of our Government places all sovereignty in the hands of the people. They, sir, are the true source of this right which we call sovereignty. But in a political and legal sense, sovereignty resides in the States and in this Government.

Within the limits of the Constitution, and in the exercise of the power given, this Government is sovereign; and within the limits of their respective constitutions the governments of the States are sovereign.

They exercise different and distinct powers, yet each in the powers exercised are sovereign. The right of the people to alter or remodel their constitutions, is a right which the theory and practice of our Government maintains.

That part of the argument of the gentleman from South Carolina, which places the sovereignty exclusively in the people, would strongly conflict with the opinions held by this school of constructionists, in the case of Rhode Island. I recollect that they denied the authority of the people of Rhode Island to re-constitute and remodel their organic law.

In one breath, the gentleman makes sovereignty reside in the people; and the next in the States. I do, indeed, he makes it reside everywhere and anywhere, except in this Government. He tells us that this Government stands as a naked trustee for the States, and that the States are joint-tenants and co-sovereigns over the territories of the Union.

This, sir, is novel. I confess I can form no idea of a co-partnership in sovereignty. Suppose, sir, that the State do own the territories, and that this Government holds them merely as trustee, will the gentleman inform me what acts these "joint-tenants and co-sovereigns" can exercise over their property? Can South Carolina legislate for it and if so, for how much, or to what extent? And how large is the control of Pennsylvania over it? Without stopping to inquire where the right of property is, one thing is clear, the States can act upon territory only through the General Government. I maintain that the Government, so far as the territory of the Union is concerned, is sovereign within the limits of the Constitution.

Every argument of the gentleman from South Carolina, (Mr. Rhett,) against my amendment, applies with equal force against the Ordinance of 1787, and against the Missouri compromise. Great questions of constitutional right—the rights of the people and the States—are determined by parallels of latitude and longitude. If this proposition invades the constitutional rights of the South, then did the Missouri compromise. If we have no right to say, that slavery shall not exist in New Mexico and California, then we had no right to say that it should not go north of the Missouri compromise line.

I would have been glad, as objections have been made to the manner of introducing this question, to have had an opportunity of introducing an independent proposition, standing isolated and alone. But every man knows that no such opportunity has or can be offered, under the rules of this House.

Those who say they would support such a proposition, but oppose my Amendment, know that it is every impossible to get it before the House. A resolution of that character can only be brought before the House by suspending the rules, and that requires a vote of two-thirds. Action might be had upon it, by offering it on resolution day, and immediately demanding the previous question; but such a day we have not had since the early part of the session, and will not again have to its close; and, again, I would not attempt to force through so important a proposition under the press of the present question, and without opportunity for one word of debate.

I had a resolution drawn for me, but as to obtain the floor and make a motion, and then to suspend the rules, and to come back to this bill as the proper and only place where I could bring my Proposition before the House.

Sir, I have said before, that I have no mortal sympathies upon the subject of slavery; still, I regard it as a great social and political evil—a blight and deadly mildew upon any country or State in which it exists. I regard it as the most difficult and dangerous problem which we will have to work out in the present Government. If we go back to the period of the establishment of our Constitution, we find there were six slaves and seven free States; the slave States containing an area of some fifty thousand square miles more than the free, with about an equal population.

Now, these States have double the population of the free. Why is this? In the Revolution, Massachusetts furnished more men for carrying on the war than the entire slave States. How happened this? Not from any want of patriotism on the part of the South, but from the want of ability, growing out of this institution. Where the men who labor as slaves, you cannot place arms in their hands; and it is the free laboring man who constitutes the strength and defence of his country on the field of battle.

In this war continue, Pennsylvania—and now she is, I believe, send more men into the field than the entire six original slave States. No that Pennsylvania would be more forward than they in the vindication of the honor of the country; but because she has the men, and owing to this peculiar institution of the South, they have them not. Their laborers cannot take up arms; indeed, they dare not force them into military organizations, and give them the use of the weapons of war. What is that Virginia, the "mother of States," a State which has ever been foremost in the restoration of the rights of the States, and of the liberties of the People—why is it that she is the glorious "Old Dominion"—before New York, before Pennsylvania—and now she is outstripped by States that have grown up since in the memory of the present generation? Why is it? Can any doubt that slavery is the cause?

Again, contrast Ohio with Kentucky. Why has the former left so far behind the latter in the race of prosperity and greatness? It is wholly owing to slavery in the one and not to the other. There is always a lack of that energy and enterprise in slave labor, which is to be found in free labor. I verily believe that the laborer of the North, who goes into the wilderness to hew himself out a home, does more work than three slaves, while he consumes or wastes less. Nothing is so repulsive to him; his eye sees everything that requires attention. It is the enterprise, the diligence and the economy of free labor, that has built up new Empires in the West, while the South has been falling back into decrepitude and decay.

Sir, my reasons for moving in this matter at the time I did, have been given. I saw the policy of the Administration as clearly then, as I see it now. Every man with his eyes open must see it. Territory is to be acquired, and money is asked to aid in its acquisition.

I am ready, I am anxious to give the money; but I guarantee that the act which appropriates it, shall be sealed up and held sacred for freedom. This is what I seek.

One gentleman from South Carolina, Mr. Rhett) submitted a long constitutional argument on this question, and one, which I seemed to me, frittered away all the powers of this Government. I tried to follow him in his ideas of sovereignty, but his refinements were too nice for my comprehension. I became lost in the mists and clouds of constitutional refinements. I understand by sovereignty, the power that makes laws—a power that demands of