

Free Sell, Free Speech, Free Meet

E. O. GOODRICH, EDITOR.

Towards Saturday, December 23, 1850.

Terms of the Reporter: \$3.50 per annum...

Election of Supreme Judges.

The ratification, by the people at the last election, by a majority of seventy-five thousand...

This subject, in less than a year will come before the public for their action...

There is a great responsibility resting upon this Convention. It depends in a great measure, upon its action whether the experiment shall be fairly tried...

We are aware that the friends of old slavery give up their favorite theories with great reluctance...

Strictly, the election of Judges should not be a party question. There is, however, less danger of bad men being chosen...

It is a proper time now for the friends of a free and able Judiciary to express their views upon this subject.

The UNITED STATES INSURANCE COMPANY. We call the attention of our readers to the advertisement of this Company in another column.

As there is no "Regular Contributor" announced for the North Branch Democrat, we wonder who is to take charge of the editing...

ACCIDENTAL DEATH.—We learn with much regret that H. J. PATRICK, brother of H. W. Patrick, Esq., of Athens, was found dead in the woods near Tunk...

The Presidential Platform.

The organs of the President have been busy for some weeks past, in promulgating, "by authority," the tests necessary for perfect orthodoxy in the eyes of the Administration...

It may seem somewhat singular, that the man who, when a candidate, was stigmatized as an "abolitionist," and not entirely without reason...

That such is the fact, there can be no disputing; and as a consequence, the Whig party of the North which has heretofore been distinguished for the zeal and unanimity with which it advocated the doctrine of Freedom...

We wish the Whigs—and especially the Free Soil Whigs—of the North, joy of their accident, No. 2! And we predict, that in less than a twelvemonth, that party will be numbered with the things that were...

—We have seen something of the working and influence of the patronage of Government, when applied for the purpose of debauching public sentiment...

During the interregnum between the two Congresses, the South had time long and day to devise plans to thwart the expressed wishes of the people.

Notwithstanding the Proviso "was ground from which no Northern man could recede," the effects of the presence of patronage was soon manifested.

It is almost that so many traitors should have been nominated in her bosom. Before the reduction of the dispensers of patronage, we have created men to make their names all the more conspicuous.

In our own good old Commonwealth, how stands the account? She is neither celebrated for the honesty nor capacity of her politicians...

The power which has wrought this great change in the Democratic party is now put forth to effect the same results in the Whig party.

Operation of the Fugitive Slave Law. We invite the attention of our readers, and especially of those who like ourselves were willing to see the workings of the Fugitive Slave Law...

What manner of man is this Mr. Commissioner Ingraham, who disposes of his fellow men to slavery with such arrogance and tyranny?

To brand as still more infamous the conduct of the Commissioner, and the severity and danger of the law, the man to whom it was pretended the colored person belonged, upon seeing him, at once declared that he was not the slave named in the warrant...

In the present case the condemnation of the outrage was prevented by the presence of the officers and by the honesty of the pretended owner.

On our first page will be found a piece of poetry by "Romeo" which has merit far above the usual range of newspaper articles.

Another Richmond in the Field!

During the few years we have been engaged in the publication of the "Bradford Reporter," we have had occasion to disagree with a few Democrats, upon questions involving principle.

The first movement was made in 1846, by Gen. PATTON. Mr. WILSON was then the Democratic candidate for Congress; his vote on the Tariff—being the only member from Pennsylvania who voted for the act of 1846—had given his views upon that question importance, and his enemies sought to defeat him, upon that issue.

In 1848, under the same auspices, and sustained (as promised so to be) by the same men who had been conspicuous in the campaign of 1846, Col. D. M. BULL, started the "Bradford Democrat."

In 1849, the grand and magnificent plan of electing a North Branch Canal ticket, was conceived by some of the very sagacious minds of this region.

On Saturday a young colored man, calling himself Adam Gibson, and who has lately lived at South Camden, N. J., was arrested in the street...

The North Pennsylvania, having gaped, and gaped, and finally "kicked the bucket," a new victim was sought for. Mr. WARD had become perfectly satisfied, and besides the bad luck of the paper was laid to his ill stars.

Mr. Pierce then moved to adjourn the case until this morning, to enable the prisoner to secure counsel, arrange proofs, &c.

So the motion was refused. Sam Anderson, colored, sworn—I know the boy; his name is Adam Gibson; I have known him all my lifetime...

Now, we deemed it our duty to caution the Democrats of Bradford against the deception we believed was practiced in the establishment of the "North Pennsylvania," and we view this "new dodge" as still more disreputable.

rewarded when a favorable opportunity occurs, are the reasons why the "North Branch Democrat" has made its appearance.

It is equally notorious that General Sarrebeck has not a penny invested in the establishment of which he is supposed as the proprietor, neither is he in any way interested pecuniarily in it.

There is one gratification we receive from reading the first number of this paper. Its founders are satisfied that the Democrats of Bradford are too firmly entrenched behind their principles to suffer from open attacks...

—But this is intended only as an announcement of the advent of the metamorphosed North Pennsylvania—and we will endeavor next week to make some explanations, which may satisfy the Democracy of "some things."

Humored Accident to Jenny Lind.

The Richmond (Va.) Enquirer of December 25th has the following painful rumor:

There was a rumor yesterday that the steamer from Wilmington to Charleston, with Jenny Lind, &c. on board, was lost in the tempest on Sunday night.

Arrest of a Fugitive Slave.

From the Philadelphia North American, Dec. 21. On Saturday a young colored man, calling himself Adam Gibson, and who has lately lived at South Camden, N. J., was arrested in the street...

Wm. E. Lehman, Jr., Esq., who appeared as counsel for the agent of the reported owner of the lot, offered in evidence a power of attorney, dated October 12, 1850, and attested by Alderman Rice-Kinley, setting forth the fact that Emory Rice absconded from his master, and containing the authority for his arrest.

James E. Price, sworn—I know Wm. Knight; I know him in Maryland; was acquainted with him in the Quarter Sessions on the charge of "stealing." George T. Price, sworn—I know Mr. Knight, and that he had a slave named Emory Rice; a man here, but cannot now recognize this boy (meaning the prisoner) as being the person; I also know that Emory escaped; I wrote to Mr. Knight last spring, about May; I think, in relation to the boy; I have had some conversation with Mr. Albert; Albert had the boy; Albert was pointed out to me about three years ago; since then I have spoken to him—when he would ask me any question about negroes, then I would answer him; I do not recollect the boy.

At this stage of the examination, David Paul Brown, Esq., entered the room, and took charge of the case on the part of the boy.

Mr. Lehman closed his case.

Mr. Pierce again asked for opportunity to prepare his defence. To do so, he said it would only be necessary to send for witnesses. He said they were important, and could be got in one hour.

So the motion was refused. Sam Anderson, colored, sworn—I know the boy; his name is Adam Gibson; I have known him all my lifetime; when I first knew him in Cecil county, with Mr. Robert Robertson, and he was the property of Parson Davis; I left there in 1843; I have heard his mother say that she was the property of Parson Davis; have never heard of his being the property of Mr. Knight; I have always understood that Gibson was to be set free on the death of his master; I know one boy that Knight had; his name was Emory; the prisoner is not the same person; I was born in 1823; Emory Rice was about the height of Gibson, but not quite as stout; Rice was not so dark as Gibson; I never was a slave; I lived with Mr. Buebel, about eight or nine miles from Mr. Knight's; Parson Davis died before I left, and then Adam went to live with Mr. Davis in Kent county.

Daniel Wilkins, colored, sworn—I live in Jersey, at Petersville; I know the boy Adam; have known him ten or twenty years; I did not know his name then, he was so small; his mother's name is Charity; she lived with Parson Davis, in Kent county; I have been at his place, and saw Charity there; I left Maryland about twenty five years ago; I was in Maryland again 1845, and saw the boy there then, and saw her mother; she was then free; he was with his mother; I never knew Mr. Knight.

These settings, and the hope of being

and never heard that Adam belonged to Moses Cannon; I am now about forty-five or forty-six years old. I was a slave and belonged to a person named Stephens; I bought my time.

Mr. Brown next read an extract of the will of Henry Davis, dated March 10, 1840, and recorded in Kent county, Md. The will set forth that, on the last day of the year succeeding the one in which he should die, his slaves should be handed over to the State Colonization Society, to be sent to Africa.

Among the names, that of Adam here appears.

Commissioner Ingraham decided that the case was made out on behalf of the claimant, and accordingly remanded the fugitive.

The prisoner was taken from the State House to the Railroad Depot, corner of Eleventh and Market streets, under a guard of twenty-five of the Marshal's police, in charge of Lieutenants Ellis, Young and Watkins—the Marshal himself taking command of the whole in person.

At Gray's Ferry, Marshal Keyser selected three of his men, officer Pickering, of Spring Garden, officer Johnson, of Northern Liberties, and officer Neff, of Moyamensing—to accompany the fugitive to the State of Maryland.

Proceedings of the XXXIst Congress. SECOND SESSION.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18. SENATE.—Senators Bright of Indiana, and Soule of Louisiana, presented resolutions, in relation to the Missouri Compromise measures. They were ordered to be printed.

Various petitions and reports were presented. The Chair laid on the table the report of the Superintendent of the Coast Survey, which was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Phelps introduced a bill to make White Hall, New York, a port of entry. Referred to the Committee on Commerce.

Mr. Douglas asked to be, and was excused from serving on the Committee of Foreign Affairs.

A number of petitions, reports, and bills of no general interest were introduced.

The resolution to amend the rules relative to the printing of the Senate was taken up, and after an uninteresting debate, adopted.

A resolution to have bound some of the Senate's documents was taken up, debated, and laid on the table.

An amendment giving to every defendant in a suit for infringement of patent, the right to make a cross motion to test the validity of the patent, was offered, which yielded to a long debate.

Mr. Torney spoke in favor of the amendment, and Messrs. Jefferson Davis, and Seward in opposition.

Mr. Thompson of Pa., advocated the carrying of newspapers circulating within the counties where published, out of the county and in the State, and out of the State one cent; transient papers two cents and drop for one cent.

Mr. Morse said not a single argument had been advanced to induce him to favor a reduction of postage. Gentlemen had insisted on showing that the House would enlarge the revenue. Not to test their sincerity he would move a strike for the appropriation of a million, and a half dollars to meet deficiencies in receipts; as to enlarging the postal press, if the cities can furnish better material, let the people have it. The character of the press within the last ten years has degenerated, and unless there be some reform in it, the less they are circulated the better.

Mr. Taylor advocated that three and one half cents be added to the postage on newspapers; he should introduce an amendment to abolish postage on newspapers at the county where they are published, or thirty miles beyond. He opposed the abolishing of the Franking privilege because it afforded a connecting link between Representatives and their Constituents.

Mr. Gresham contended that a uniform rate of five cents was sufficient to begin with; if this was not done, then a further reduction might be made, and showed that the great saving in the Post Office Department was owing to the reduction of lettering contracts, and argued that the increase of letters would increase rather than diminish cost of transportation.

Mr. Foster opposed the reduction of postage, because a million and a half of dollars were to be taken from the Treasury at a time when the National Debt is seventy millions, to make up the deficiency in the receipts.