



Bradford Reporter
Free Soil, Free Speech, Free Men
Resist the Free Territory.

E. O. GOODRICH, EDITOR.

Towanda, Saturday, May 10, 1851.

Terms of the Reporter.
\$2.50 per annum in advance. Single copies 10 cents. No paper sent out without the name of the subscriber. Advertising, per square of 10 lines, 50 cents for the first week, and 25 cents for each subsequent week. The office is in the "Knox Block," north side of the Public Square, next door to the Bradford Hotel. Entrance between Messrs Adams and Row's law offices.

Delegates from Bradford.
Col. Gordon F. Mason and Bartholomew LaPorte, for the Reading Convention; unopposed, but favorable to Col. Bixler, as the candidate for Governor. To the Judicial Convention, David Wilmot and Ulyses Mearns, also unopposed. The Senatorial delegates have not yet been agreed upon.

Col. William Bigler.
The nomination of this popular democrat, as our candidate for Governor, by the Reading Convention is now certain. Already a sufficient number of delegates favorable to him, have been elected, to secure his nomination upon the first ballot, by a large majority.

It has long since the Democracy have rallied to the support of a better man, or sounder Democrat, than WILLIAM BIGLER. His name upon our banner, as our candidate, will arouse the Democracy to a determined effort, which is always the sure precursor of a brilliant victory. That he will be elected triumphantly, there cannot be a doubt, and his elevation will be a guarantee that the administration of the affairs of the commonwealth will be honest and upright, and her integrity and faith be fully maintained.

By the proceedings of our County Convention it will be seen that a resolution instructing our Delegates to support Col. Bixler was laid upon the table by an almost unanimous vote. This was not the result of any opposition to him, but from a feeling that the resolution was unnecessary and unusual. It has been customary, in this county, to select sound and capable men, who understand the wishes of the Democracy, and who will faithfully carry them out, and leave such Delegates free and unembarrassed by any instructions. This is the case in the present instance. The Delegates are the open and firm friends of BIGLER. We have looked upon that popular Democrat as the proper person for our candidate for Governor at the next election, for some time. We presume there was not a delegate in attendance upon our Convention, whose first choice was not WILLIAM BIGLER. He is the favorite of this County, and the choice of its Democrats with entire unanimity.

Such being the case, and in view of the fact, that the nomination of Col. Bixler is already beyond question, it was deemed unnecessary to pass any resolution upon the subject. It moreover looked like a reflection upon the Delegates elect, to pass resolutions instructing them to vote for a man who was their first choice, and whom they know is the choice of the Democracy of Bradford. The members of the County Convention not having any ulterior objects to promote, emphatically refused to take so unnecessary and unusual a step.

Agricultural Meeting.
A meeting will be held at the Court House, on Monday evening next, for the purpose of forming a County Agricultural Society. We trust the farmers from different parts of the county who may be in the place, will feel sufficient interest to be in attendance. The adjoining counties are, most of them, far ahead of Bradford, in this respect, and have their agricultural societies formed and in successful operation. The utility of such organizations in forwarding the interests of the agriculturist has already been proven. We hope our farmers will take hold of the matter, with zeal and determination, and form a society which shall be second to none in this region in practical benefit.

There is within the borders of this flourishing agricultural County, materials enough to form a society which will yearly display will be both creditable to our farmers, and the incentive to greater improvement.

Vocal and Instrumental Concert.—We had the pleasure, on Thursday evening, of hearing Mr. and Mrs. Miller, at Mercers Hall. The former is an excellent performer upon the violin; the latter upon the guitar. The singing was greatly superior to any other citizens have had an opportunity of hearing for some time. They give another concert at the Court House, on Saturday evening, and we advise those fond of good music and excellent singing to be present.

Fire at Montrose.—In another column will be found a full account of the late disastrous fire at Montrose. The gallant firemen of that place, are highly praised for their exertions and success in saving property from the devouring element. What a spectacle we would make, in this town, fighting a fire with tin pans, pails and kettles.

Harper's Magazine.—This is punctually upon its table, forwarded by Gaitley. The interest of the work is well kept up. Those who desire a periodical of this character, will find Harper's, or the International excellent work, and furnished at low rates. Gaitley receives subscriptions, and has the work delivered at the earliest possible moment after being issued.

Whig Delegates.—At the Whig County meeting on Wednesday evening last, Roxana Foxworth Allen McKean were elected Delegates to the Whig State Convention, and were instructed to support Johnson's re-nomination.

Blair County.—Thaddeus Banks, Esq., has been elected to represent this county in the Judicial Convention, to meet at Harrisburg, and O. A. Traub, in the Reading Convention, with instructions to support Col. Wm. Stewart, for Canal Commissioner.

Gas.—Dr. Danowsky, of Allentown, has constructed gas works for his residence at a cost of \$600. The project is situated of supplying the whole town with the useful fluid.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE DEMOCRATIC CO. CONVENTION

Pursuant to a call of the Democratic State Committee, a convention of Delegates from the various election districts of Bradford County assembled at the Court House in Towanda, on Tuesday evening May 6, 1851, and organized by electing E. O'MEARA GOODRICH President, and HENRY C. BIRD and CULLEN F. NICOLS, Secretaries.

The following Delegates then presented their credentials:—
Albany—Joseph Menard, John Hatch, Abraham H. C. Baird, N. M. Stephens, Wm. N. Edminster, D. B. Brown, Burlington—C. F. Nichols, Ben. Ross, Canton—Samuel Owen, Jesse Griffin, Durell—Robert Bull, J. M. Bishop, Grayville—W. Shepard, D. B. Bush, Hericks—Almon Falter, M. B. Porter, Litchfield—Samuel Davidson, D. B. Cotton, Monroe—Lanning Hart, Elisha Phinney, Orwell—John D. Coe, E. M. Farrar, Pike—A. S. Smith, Ebel Taylor, Sheepshead—C. W. Bullis, O. P. Lyon, Smithfield—Charles B. Riggs, Agnes Huntington, Springfield—Hiram Speer, Theodore Wilder, Stovada—L. W. Tiffany, E. O. Goodrich, Troy—John M. Fox, Wm. H. Foster, Troy—Wm. H. Peck, R. King, Troy—W. D. Spang, W. Baker, Wells—H. Mason, D. S. Watkins, Wilnot—Isabod Carson, Lorenzo Jobe, Windham—Abraham Danham Jr, Seth Doane, Wygalus—S. W. Biles, Harry Elliott, Wykes—Elliott Whitney, Geo. L. Strope.

The townships of Armenia, Asylum, Columbia, Franklin, Leiby, Rome, South Creek, Ridgely, Springhill, Standing Stone, Ulster and Warren were not represented.

On motion of H. C. BIRD, the Convention proceeded to the election of two Representative Delegates to the Reading Convention.

MR. BISHOP nominated GORDON F. MASON, and ELLIOTT BARTHOLOMEW LAPORTE.

There being no other nominations, Messrs. MASON and LAPORTE were, on motion, unanimously elected.

The Convention then proceeded to elect two Representative Delegates to the Judicial Convention at Harrisburg, and DAVID WILMOT and ULYSSES MERCUR were unanimously elected.

On motion of Mr. NICOLS, the Convention proceeded to elect five Senatorial Conferees to meet Conferees from Susquehanna and Wyoming, to appoint Senatorial Delegates to Reading and Harrisburg, when on motion D. VANDERCOCK, ELLIOTT WHITNEY, JOHN BAIDLEMAN, GEO. W. ELLIOTT and E. M. FARRAR were elected said Conferees.

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Mr. FOX:—

Whereas, the Democracy of Pennsylvania have united on Col. WILLIAM BIGLER of Clearfield County, as their candidate for Governor, with an unanimity justly merited by him, and which should be responded to by every County in the commonwealth; therefore,

Resolved, That our delegates to the State Convention to be held at Reading be and they are hereby instructed to vote for the nomination of Col. Wm. Bigler for Governor of this Commonwealth.

MR. BISHOP moved that they be laid upon the table; which motion was agreed to, yeas 33, nays 3.

On motion EDWARD CANDALL was recommended as Senatorial Delegate to the Reading Convention, and HENRY GIBBS as Senatorial delegate to the Harrisburg Convention.

On motion, Resolved, That the Delegates and Conferees have power to substitute in case of their inability, to attend.

On motion adjourned.

BURNING OF THE STEAMBOAT WEBSTER AND FRIGATE LOTS OR LYS.—We give the following particulars of the burning of the steamboat Webster, on the 21st instant, one hundred miles above Vicksburg, Mississippi:—The fire was first discovered and the alarm given about three o'clock, and almost instantly afterwards, the boat was enveloped in flames. The pilot, Mr. Hestman, to whom great credit is due, having charge of the boat, immediately endeavored to run the boat ashore. He was in part successful; but the flames finally drove him from his post, and the boat being unmanageable, floated again into deep water, thus depriving the passengers and crew from the first and last hope of safety. At the first alarm a scene ensued which it is impossible to describe, and mingled as it was with the burning boat, from which the flames were spouting in all directions, became terrible in the extreme. Many rushed into the flames, while others crowded to the side of the boat, clinging to the sides of the boat, and to snags in the river; they were taken on board of the store boat Grey Eagle, Capt. J. L. Case, who done all that could be done to afford an asylum to the few women and children who were saved. The number of passengers and hands on board the Webster was about one hundred, of whom only about sixty can be found in the list supposed to have perished with the boat. The steamer New Orleans, bound for New Orleans from St. Louis, having sighted about an hour after the accident, and stopped and took most kindly on board all the survivors, and rendered all other assistance that could be desired. The following are the names of the killed:—Robert, burned and missing; so far as is presently known, Capt. Samuel Reno and wife; Mr. Henry Harrison and child; Mrs. Ruckman, the wife of the pilot, and one child; George Bliss, chief clerk; John Campbell, second do; child of Mr. Robin, of New Orleans; Mary Beckner, colored chambermaid; Henry Walker, from Cincinnati; E. McCarty, Lynchburg, and six belonging to McCarty. Several others are missing, whose names are unknown.

The boat, papers, and money, were all lost. The above statement was given by the crew and passengers saved.

PACIFICATION.—The London papers say that there will be thirty thousand troops within five miles of Hyde Park on the occasion of the opening of the Great Exhibition by Her Majesty. If this exhibition had been held in the United States, not a single soldier would have been considered necessary to preserve the government or keep the riotous from breaking out. In republics the government is the people, and revolutions are always accomplished quietly and peaceably at the ballot-box. Armies are never thought of as a part of the police establishment.

Moscow Ox.—The magnificently great Ox raised by Col. N. C. Baldwin of Cleveland will soon be sent on a pilgrimage to the World's Fair. He has been reared for eight years, and now weighs the enormous figure of 4,000 lbs. The world may safely be challenged to produce his equal. A mile per day is now his longest land journey. He will be transported East by water and from Boston will need a pretty good sea craft for his individual comfort. *Grand Herald, 21st.*

Bradford County Court, May Term.

Monday 5th.—Day occupied in receiving Constable returns, and disposing of motions.

Tuesday 6th.—Commonwealth vs. Wm. Phelps—Indictment for Assault and Battery, upon the person of John Bird. Plea not guilty. Adams and Mearns, for Commonwealth, Birds and Ellwell, for Defendant. Verdict guilty. Sentenced by the Court to pay a fine of ten dollars to the Commonwealth, and costs of prosecution and stand committed till sentence be complied with.

John Bird and Lenk Bird, who were convicted at Bradford term, for Assault and Battery upon the person of Wm. Phelps, were sentenced by the Court as follows: John Bird to pay a fine of ten dollars, and Lenk Bird a fine of five dollars to the Commonwealth, and they jointly to pay the costs of prosecution and stand committed till sentence be complied with.

Wednesday 7th.—Almon Edton was arraigned before the court for contempt in not obeying a writ of Habeas Corpus, issued by Hon. Jesse Adams, during vacation. Hearing continued until Tuesday of next week.

Thursday 8th.—Commonwealth vs. David Harpman—Indictment for Assault and Battery upon the person of David A. Burr, with intent to kill. Plea not guilty. Watkins, Adams and Mearns, for Commonwealth, Ellwell and Mearns, for Defendant. After an examination of the evidence the Defendant withdrew the plea of not guilty and pleads guilty of Assault and Battery. Verdict—guilty of Assault and Battery. Defendant sentenced by the court to three months imprisonment in the county jail, pay a fine of ten dollars to the court and costs of prosecution, and stand committed until sentence be complied with.

Commonwealth vs. Geo. Jackson.—Indictment for Fornication and Bastardy upon the person of Catharine Millhills. Plea not guilty. Defendant also excepts to the jurisdiction of the court upon the ground that the child was begotten in Sullivan County, which constitutes the offense, that he should be tried in the county where the offense is committed, cited the Constitution of Pennsylvania, Art. IX, Sect. IX. Exceptions overruled and trial directed to proceed. Watkins, Adams and Mearns, for Commonwealth, Ellwell, Birds and Mearns, for Defendant.

The Grand Jury were discharged Thursday noon, after having found sixteen true bills and returned four ignoramus.

THE MICHIGAN COMPACT.—The Detroit Tribune of April 20 gives the following chapter from the history of the late conspiracy of desperadoes in that State. The story seems almost incredible. Is not some one practicing upon public credulity for some sinister purpose?

The schemes concocted, and the system under which the gang of ruffians, recently arrested along the line of the Central Railroad, were drilled, and the depths to which they were ready to sink themselves in crime and depravity, may be partly inferred from the following leaf in the history of their conspiracy.

At one of the regular meetings, which they were in the habit of holding periodically at their place of rendezvous, for the purpose of consulting as to future movements, and the division of business, it was reported by some, in the order of business, that one of their sworn number, whose name was stated, had been detected in revealing some of the secrets that should have been known only to the initiated. Suspicions of betrayal were freely indulged in, and the purpose of consulting to punish the traitor, and to cast him to justice, was the significant remark that "dead men tell no tales."

Acting upon this hint, it was unanimously agreed that the punishment should be death; and that the duty of carrying the penalty into effect should be left to the best wits of the gang. The names of three men named at three hundred and fifty dollars for an assassination, and the bidder went on till the sum was lowered to one hundred dollars—the bidder reserving the right to put the victim out of his way in his own place and manner, and the time allotted not to exceed four days. This offer was finally agreed upon, and the money was immediately paid, and the question as to how the friend who had agreed to sleep his hands in the mud, the individual complained of, and thus singled out as the victim of their vengeance was one of the two, who, for 18 months, had been under pay of the Central Railroad Company, for the purpose of creating the pros and cons of the most abandoned gang of desperadoes. Fearing that he had become suspected of treachery, he had disguised himself, and in the capacity of one of their more western accomplices, had presented himself by the proper pass words, and was present throughout this meeting, where his life had been become in the same manner. Three other men, whose names were not mentioned, had been named, or "marked men," withdrew from the infernal cabal, little relishing as may be supposed, the war position in which he found himself placed, making it the last time he ever met the precious gang in council, and being but a day or two before their official escort to our city, under the guidance of the Sheriff and his posse.

SUCKING TRAGEDY.—Our community has been shocked by hearing of the massacre of a worthy German citizen, Valentine Barle, his wife Catharine and their infant child, aged one year, in Roxburgh township, about nine miles from this city. The murder must have taken place on Saturday morning or Friday night. The body of the man was found in a meadow, about 50 yards from his house, with his skull broken and otherwise mutilated. The woman's body was found at the front door, and the infant in a corner of the room, both of them having been murdered in the same manner. Three other children, who must have been asleep at the time of the commission of the crime, were found secreted in a stable, where they probably died, in terror at the sight of the murdered relatives. The copier had investigated the case, and had been returning upon a young foreigner—German or Italian—named Robert, who had been employed by Barle on his farm, and who had lately had some difficulty with him. The motives of the murder, besides revenge, must have been plunder, as the house was ransacked of all its valuables. The police are in pursuit of the murderer. The coroner will hold another investigation, on Thursday.—*Philadelphia Bulletin.*

John B. Irwin, of Pittsburg, died, a few days since, under the following circumstances: Some weeks ago he stopped for the night at a hotel. While sleeping, he suddenly sprang from his bed, in a dream, leaving some distance from the bed, inflicting the arteries and blood vessels of his neck. He suffered considerable pain, in consequence of the accident, but was able for some time to go out. A few weeks ago, however, he got worse, and was eventually confined to his bed. A large tumor gradually sprang around his neck, causing intense pain, and almost preventing him from taking nourishment. The efforts of physicians to save him were without avail.

RESENTANCE TO LAW IN MAINE.—A MAN KILLED.—An indictment has been created in Monroe, Me., by the death of a young man named James G. Green, who was shot while in company with the Sheriff, endeavoring to serve a process. An individual named Jewell had been occupying a farm belonging to Cousins, and a writ of process was given to the Sheriff, who being resisted assembled a posse and returned to Jewell's house. The inmates discharged a ball at which Jewell was killed. The citizens threatened to burn Jewell out unless he surrendered, which he did and is now in custody.

Tremendous Fire in Montrose—Loss about \$24,000!

From the Extra Register, of May 6.

One of the most terrible fires ever known in this part of the country broke out on Tuesday night, and continued this morning, which has laid a large portion of the business part of our village in ruins. The fire was first discovered in the Hotel, and in the rear of the large stone house, near it, and spread rapidly, and in a few minutes the Hotel, and under circumstances leaving scarcely a doubt of its having been fired by an incendiary, whence the flames rapidly communicated to its upper barn and stage coach sheds, and thence to the rear of the large stone building of the Messrs. Sealie's adjoining, with the grocery store of J. Enderidge, the Tailor, and the Jameson and the large stone house, near it, and the dwelling house of B. Sayre, and the adjacent law office of Messrs. Little & Streeter. Here the vacancy between these and the dwelling house of H. J. Webb (late Col. Lusk's) on the corner near the Courthouse, enabled the citizens, with great exertions to save the dwelling house, and the store of Messrs. Sealie's, and the large stone house, and the dwelling house of B. Sayre, and the adjacent law office of Messrs. Little & Streeter. Here the vacancy between these and the dwelling house of H. J. Webb (late Col. Lusk's) on the corner near the Courthouse, enabled the citizens, with great exertions to save the dwelling house, and the store of Messrs. Sealie's, and the large stone house, and the dwelling house of B. Sayre, and the adjacent law office of Messrs. Little & Streeter.

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Later from California.

The steamship Georgia arrived at New York on Tuesday last bringing \$1,500,000 in gold. The following summary of intelligence, to the 1st ult. is taken from the Alta California:—

Since our last steamer paper, one of the most important events in California has been the repeal by our Legislature of the odious and disastrous Foreign Miners Tax Bill of last year, and a proclamation to that effect by our Governor. We look upon this as one step towards wisdom, believing it to be a just repeal, and one loudly called for by the constitution, by the wants of the country, and by the voice of the people, and that it will advance very much the interest of the country.

The health of the country has been remarkably good, and the same may be asserted of the entire State, so far, at least, as any reports have come from. There can be no healthier country in the world than California.

The annals of crime are about as dark as ever, but the classes of punishment seem to have improved considerably. The two men, Wildred and Stuart, indicted for the monstrous attack upon and robbery of Mr. Jackson, and whose supposed guilt had well nigh been expiated by Lynch law, and a rope, have been tried before the District Court and found guilty of the crime, and sentenced to ten years in the Penitentiary, the amount they could give him. He has since been taken to Yuba county to be tried for murder. Wildred was sentenced to ten years in the Penitentiary.

The Legislature passed a bill authorizing the Attorney General to make a note prosequi in the case of Charles Robinson and others, of Sacramento, indicted for conspiracy and murder in the Squatter war, which has been vetoed by the Governor.

There has been a fight at Sodor, growing out of some conflicting miner claims, in which one man by the name of Davis was killed, and some others wounded. It was at this time that five men found guilty of conspiracy and murder in the Squatter war, which has been vetoed by the Governor.

Gov. McDonald has been appealed to for his aid in suppressing the Indian depredations in the Mariposa region, and the legislature responded to his call upon them, by granting him authority to call out 600 men for that purpose. Taking a tour for the purpose of acquiring information, he has just returned, he came to the conclusion that the men were not needed, and has not called them into service. One of the Indian commissioners has recently been in this city, bringing one of the friendly chiefs with him, and reports rather favorably of the chances of forming treaties with most of the tribes in the vicinity of the Merced, Mariposa and Fresno. But he thinks that two or three tribes, one of which is the Chowchilla, will not be so soundly subdued ere they will enter into treaties, or keep them when formed.

No small degree of pleasure and surprise has been felt here by the arrival of the clipper ship Starbuck from New York, in ninety-two days and fifteen hours, the shortest run on record.

Nearly all the rainy