

Highly Important from Europe

WAR, AND RUMORS OF WAR!!

The steam-ship *Baltic* arrived at New York on Monday morning last, bringing four days late intelligence, which is of the greatest importance. It will be found that the news...

Intelligence from the Sea of War indicates that important operations are at hand, but the news of the most vital consequence is the open preparation for war made by England and France...

The Russian Ministers have left London and Paris, and instructions have been sent to the British and Ambassadors to withdraw from St. Petersburg...

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Bradford Reporter.

E. O. GOODRICH, EDITOR.

Towanda, Saturday, February 25, 1854.

Terms of the Reporter.

50 CENTS per annum - if paid within the year 50 cents will be deducted. No paper sent over two years unless paid for. Advance payments, per square of length, 30 cents for the first and 25 cents for each subsequent insertion.

Advertisements in the Union Block, north side of the Public Square, near the Bradford Hotel. Entrance between Adams and Elwell's law offices.

We are requested to state that the injuries done the Bridge by the late fire, have been repaired, and that teams will hereafter be allowed to cross.

Repeat of the Missouri Compromise.

The base of our politics, is contained in the ambitious longings of public men for the Presidency. It is this which debauches and demoralizes it, and prevents it from its proper and legitimate purposes, to self-aid and minister ends. The high and elevated position of Chief Magistrate of the Republic is the goal to which most of our political men direct their hopes, and instead of relying upon their long services and devotion to their country, to recommend them to the people, endeavor by demagogical and dishonest practices, by pandering to sectional prejudices, and by all the low and vile tricks of adroitness, to outstrip competitors, and by chicanery and management, to attain what their deserts would never secure them.

This lamentable fact, has become more apparent within the few last years. Within that time, large accessions have been made to the Territory of the United States, and the enterprise and prosperity of the country are bringing into notice, that which we have possessed for years. As a consequence, questions have arisen bearing upon the policy of our Government, - questions the most important and delicate - which have afforded free scope for the most selfish and ambitious designs of political intrigues. Instead of meeting these questions in a spirit of candor and patriotism, and endeavoring to effect their settlement with a view to the future greatness of the country, and the spirit of free institutions, there has been exhibited so much of a disposition among public men to truckle and bend to particular interests, that those interests are powerful and united, that he who looks with anxious gaze for the future, has good reason to be alarmed.

We had hoped that a time had arrived when such a settlement had been made of the slavery question as would put that, in a measure at least, out of the reach of Presidential aspirants. We had good cause for this hope, that has been rudely scattered to the winds. The slavery question of previous years had been settled in 1850 - we need not say how contrary to what we conceived to be the true manner in which to dispose of the question. It had been settled, however, by the Compromise measure, and the friends of Freedom for the sake of peace, had acquiesced in, and would not endeavor to disturb them. Their facility has been unassisted many times in Congress, and out of that body. The Conventions of the two great political divisions of the country, assembled at Baltimore, pledged themselves to discourage any attempt at a renewal of the agitation. President Pierce, in his annual message, congratulating the country upon the peace which reigned, held up anew the olive branch and gave us his assurance that this quiet should suffer no shock during his administration.

Had we not reason for hope and congratulation? The sky of our political horizon was unclouded, and even in the future there loomed up no clouds portending the storm. We congratulated ourselves, we say, upon the final settlement of a slavery question. We had no apprehensions that at any future time it should arise to distract and overthrow the Democratic party. There was no foot of our soil which had not already been legislated upon. The question as far as regarded our acquisitions from Mexico, had been settled by the legislation of 1850. The Missouri Compromise and the Ordinance of 1787, covered the remainder of our Territory. These three solemn covenants, if legislation can have any solemnity, gave us just cause for the hope that was in us.

Short-sighted and credulous that we were! At most at the commencement of the session, before the message has been received, is commenced a discussion, and re-opened an agitation of the question, which so many have for three years been endeavoring to convince us was finally settled - settled forever! Before the declaration of Gen. Pierce had reached the most remote shores of our extended Republic - there comes a "shock" destined to seriously disturb the equilibrium of the Democratic party, and whose consequences upon our country may well be viewed with apprehension. This settled question is re-opened in a manner calculated most effectually to engender sectional animosities and jealousies, to arouse the elements of discord, and to precipitate the country into a heated and unprofitable discussion.

And who is responsible for this change from peace and quiet to discord and contention? Who has evoked the fell spirit which sits in brooding darkness over the country? Upon whom should fall the odium of introducing questions into our National Legislature so eminently calculated to disturb the peaceful repose of the country, and endanger its security? Not to those, most certainly, who labored to extend the protection of the Jeffersonian Ordinance to the Territory acquired from Mexico. Not to those who were arrayed on the side of Free Labor, belongs the approbrium of the disquiet which now pervades the country, and which is destined not to be allayed, but increased. We prophesied, some time since, that the disturbers of the country's quiet, would not be they who "acquiesced" in the Compromise measures. They were actuated by principle - they gave in their reluctant adhesion from conscientious and upright motives. Not unto them should come the stigma - not unto them the reproach which violated compact, reiterated resolves, and the most selfish subserviency, will fasten as a brand of shame upon the authors of this mediated outrage, this dangerous and gross betrayal of our country's interests.

Is it possible that the repeal of the Missouri Compromise was necessary to convince the South how truly subservient its adroitness and its supporters have become? - Was it necessary to plunge into this lower deep - to annihilate everything which looked like brightness and manliness and honor - to advance the interests of any Presidential aspirant? Has the past no lessons which teach men of the future? Does not the history of the past show that the South despises treachery and repudiates the traitor? The chivalric and generous sentiment which prevails in the breasts of Southern men has no sympathy with Northern duplicities, and the more stultified and debased such become, the more they receive, as they justly merit, their contempt. We can assure Senator Douglas that the South never has, and will believe never will support any man for the Presidency, as the reward of subserviency. They may accept any measure which tends to strengthen the influence of the slave interest, if offered by Northern men, but they have for the donor, feelings of contempt for the traitor who pines recreant to the cause of Freedom.

We hazard the prediction that any Northern man who aid and abets in this infamous proceeding, can never become the President of the United States. There is integrity and spirit enough left in the people to prevent that. In the first place, the South will never allow such to become a candidate - and if presented, the indignant rebuke of a free people, despite the trammels of party, or the influence of patronage, would be spoken in tones not to be misunderstood at the ballot-box.

We hear the plea put forth, that the question of repealing the Missouri Compromise, is an Administration measure, and supported and encouraged by the President. We should regret exceedingly to be certain that such is the fact. We have placed our highest hopes upon a brilliant administration for Gen. Pierce. We have supported its general policy, as being in our judgment calculated to advance the highest interests of the country and conduce to the harmony and prosperity of the Democratic party. We have given our support, from these convictions. But the collar sits lightly upon our neck, and we are not ready to obey the behest of the "powers that be," when it is asked of us to do violence to our sense of right, to act counter to our convictions, to repudiate our former opinions, and to enlist on the side of slavery extension. In this respect, rank us not as friends of the Administration, if a cordial and earnest support of the efforts of the Administration to introduce economy and system into the Departments - if an adherence to old-fashioned, but progressive Democracy - are not sufficient to entitle us to the designation of being friendly to the National Administration, we regret it, but will not complain.

We say we should regret to be assured that the violation of the Missouri Compromise was an Administration measure, because we look upon all attempts to identify the Democratic party with slavery propagandism, as certain to result in disaster and defeat. The great mass of that party utterly loathe, abhor and detest slavery. The party organization may be controlled and used to the benefit of slavery, but when the people are called upon to ratify that action, they will certainly stamp it with the mark of their disapprobation. No man, or set of men, nor the power and influence of a National Administration can manacle the hands and control the voice of a Free Democracy. The patronage of the Administration may muzzle the press, may silence public men, may even coerce and seduce members of Congress enough to fasten this iniquity upon the country, but it cannot avert the odium which would attach to its memory forever, nor prevent the people from the expression which the ballot-box allows them.

Bigger and the Erie Difficulty.

The Governor, on his return from Erie, has sent into the Legislature, quite a lengthy and able message, in which he reviews the whole Gage difficulty. The Franklin Canal and Railway property, is now in the possession of the State, and its operations under the direction of an officer of her own selection. The Governor very forcibly remarks that the Commonwealth has had no controversy with the citizens or corporations of other States, nor has she been inclined to interfere with their rights or interests; or to unnecessarily interrupt the travel or commerce of the country. She has been dealing with a refractory creature of her own, which had most palpably "mis-used and abused" the privileges conferred upon it by law; a corporation that had attempted the usurpation of power, that had infringed the sovereignty of the State, and invaded her rights of eminent domain. In this contest she was brought into collision with citizen and corporation of other States, the difficulty was not of her own seeking. The vindication of her honor and dignity was a duty which she could not neglect; and he has no hesitation in saying, without any reference to the difficulties at Erie, that it was right and politic on the part of the State to exercise the power which she had reserved over this corporation.

The company were admonished at every step, that they were transacting their legitimate province; but the only effect seemed to be to stimulate them to greater indignity to the State, and to increased fatality in the consumption of their own destruction.

In referring to the bitter denunciation which had been meted out to him and the citizens of Erie by parties out of the State, for alleging that there should be a break of gauge at Erie, he remarks: A demand for an unnecessary break of Railroad gauge, and the consequent transhipment of tonnage and passengers, it will be conceded, would be an illiberal exaction, and an improper interruption of the commerce of the country. But such is not the position of the question at Erie. The necessity for a break of gauge between the West and the Atlantic cities, results from the policy of New York and Ohio, and not from that of our own State. The railroads of Ohio are uniformly four feet ten inches wide, and those of New York, four feet eight and a half inches, except one which is six feet in width. A transshipment is therefore inevitable. It most occur, and the only question is as to the proper point. After all the reflection I have given the subject, I most again repeat what I said in my last annual message, that I can see no reason founded in public policy why the break should occur at Buffalo, that it should not occur at Erie.

The impediment to trade and travel will be alike at either point, with the advantage of greater uncongested space at the latter. Nor have I been able to discover why it is, that if a break of gauge is so entirely unimportant, there should be so much solicitude to have it at the city of Buffalo, or to understand how this city has escaped the execrations so freely heaped upon the city of Erie. If a transship-

ment at Erie be so prejudicial to the commercial interests of New York, why is not a break at Buffalo equally so? There is now a break of gauge at each, and it is not strange, that while the latter city has complained of Erie, it has failed to discover a similar obstruction to trade and travel in its own vicinity. When this shall have been removed, it will be time enough, it seems to me, to complain of Pennsylvania.

From the Washington Union of the 16th inst., we cut the following paragraph: - Another suspicious sign in Pennsylvania has recently come under our eye. In the county of Bradford, where Mr. Wilcox resides, at the regular Democratic convention which assembled on Tuesday last, several resolutions were adopted in favor of the Administration of President Pierce, and of the principles of popular sovereignty contained in the bill of Senator Douglas.

We hardly know which to admire most in these few lines, the ingenuity or the logic of the editor. That he should deem it an suspicious sign that our County Convention passed resolutions in favor of the Administration of Gen. Pierce, is perfectly proper, because Bradford gave for Gen. Pierce a majority of 404 votes, standing on the Baltimore platform, and her County Convention has heretofore commended the policy of his Administration. And now the same thing has been done, the editor says, notwithstanding the "renewed opposition of Mr. Wilcox to the principle of popular sovereignty contained in the bill of Senator Douglas." Now there is a logical conclusion for you! Will the astute editor please inform us, where the connection is between his subject? We are not able to discover any.

We can assure the Washington Union that if its "sign" is not more "suspicious" than this, it will be deemed to the deepest disappointment. For the Democracy of Bradford are a unit upon the question of repealing the Missouri Compromise, and will visit with their indignation, whenever an opportunity, every person who may have part or lot in the nefarious scheme.

A Noble Letter.

The following letter from Hon. PARSONS KING, was addressed to the Committee of Arrangements for the Meeting held at Faneuil Hall, Boston, on the 16th inst., to protest against the violation of the Missouri Compromise. The letter does honor to the head and heart of the writer, who is known throughout the country as one of the most able and reliable friends of Freedom, whose integrity no patronage has been able to seduce, and whose courage has defied all denunciations. It would be well for country, if more of our public men were like PARSONS KING. Faithful among the faithless, he has never for a moment swerved from the path of honor and consistency, and now towers far above the reach of his enemies, commanding the respect of every honest man. His letter will meet with a hearty response from the Democracy of this section: -

Oakbrook, February 11, 1854.

GENTLEMEN: I have received your letter of the 10th, requesting me to attend and address a meeting to be held in Faneuil Hall on the 16th inst., in relation to the Missouri Compromise. I cannot attend your meeting, though it would give me pleasure to do so.

I have confidence, that the scheme to carry negro slavery into the northwestern territory will be frustrated in Congress now, or hereafter, by the decision of the political issue on slave propagandism. I would violate any solemn promise, and propose to test in the next Presidential election, and not the bill pass Congress, it will place Mr. Douglas at the head of the party interested to accomplish its object, and the interests of free labor and slave labor will be brought into direct collision upon an issue to be decided at a Presidential election. The free territory of the United States will not, in my opinion, permit African slavery to be extended and extended upon it - to degrade or to drive out the laboring white man from the now unoccupied territory of the free West.

The bill of Mr. Douglas proposes to accomplish this wrong, and should be resisted by all honorable men. The measure is full of evil; its passage would violate any solemn promise, and propose to test in the next Presidential election, and not the bill pass Congress, it will place Mr. Douglas at the head of the party interested to accomplish its object, and the interests of free labor and slave labor will be brought into direct collision upon an issue to be decided at a Presidential election.

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Proceedings of the Penna. Legislature.

The bill passed by the House, erecting part of Luzerne county into a new county to be called Lackawanna, will not pass the Senate, as the Senator representing that county is opposed to it, and his wishes, as is usual in such cases, will not be disregarded in a matter of local interest. Many petitions for and against it are daily presented to the Senate.

The prohibitory Liquor law came up in the Senate, on the 14th inst., the 9th section being under consideration, which provided for search for liquors. Mr. Quiggle moved to amend, providing in effect, to prevent the search of the private parlors of dwelling houses in which a trading shop or house of entertainment may be kept, and in which the keeper may reside.

Mr. Kunze moved a substitute, for the amendment, providing that when the keeper of it may reside in the house, the private part of it shall be searched.

The relative merits of the two amendments were discussed by Messrs. Quiggle and Kunze; when Mr. K.'s was adopted, by yeas 18, nays 15. The vote on the section as amended was finally taken, and it was negatived, by yeas 15, nays 16.

Now this section merely authorizes a search to be made in a house to which a trading shop or house of entertainment is attached, in order to discover whether liquors are secreted; but does not, as has been asserted, empower the invading and searching of purely private residences. Further than this, it affords all parts of a house from search not occupied by the owners and keeper of the trading shop. Without such provision, any prohibitory liquor law would be entirely inoperative and this one provided for its execution in the mildest and most unobjectionable manner.

The subject was then postponed.

REBARKA.

The joint resolutions instructing our congressional delegation to vote against the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, in the Nebraska bill, came up in order on second reading.

Mr. Platt moved that the further consideration of the resolutions be postponed until the 15th of March next.

Mr. D. Hamilton moved to amend the motion by postponing until the 15th of May next, which amendment was negatived.

The question recurring on the motion to postpone until the 15th of March next, Mr. Platt said he would state his object in making the motion. There was some feeling in the district he represented on this subject, and he would be held in Bradford county this week, and he was leaving against the repeal of the Missouri law. He thought it would be a meeting of this question, and in all probability a meeting would be held about the 1st of March in Wyoming county. He wanted to have an opportunity of knowing the feelings of his constituents, and as he would necessarily be absent for some time, and not return until the meeting of the State convention, he made the motion to postpone until March 15th.

Mr. Kunze remarked that this Nebraska bill was pending in Congress, and would most probably be acted upon before the 15th of March. He thought that the Senator from Wyoming [Mr. Platt] could not possibly mistake the sentiments of his constituents on this subject. It had not been made a party question in Congress, or in any of the Legislatures that had acted upon it. He regarded a postponement until the 15th of March as tantamount to a defeat.

Mr. Platt replied that he might be corrected by instruction to vote for the resolutions, but his own feelings would lead him to vote against them. He was opposed, from principle, to instructions of this character.

Mr. Buckalew was ready to meet this question at any time, having convictions on the subject; which could not be changed by delay, but he would vote for postponement, in order to accommodate the Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. Darius thought that the Senate should act now, when action would be available. On the 15th of March the question would be disposed of, and if the resolutions were postponed until that time, the evil would be done. He hoped that the Senate would assume the responsibility of action now. The people would understand a postponement to be a defeat of the resolutions.

The motion to postpone until March 15th, was then adopted by the following vote:

Yeas—Messrs. Buckalew, Crosswell, Foulkrod, Fry, Gowdwin, B. D. Hamlin, E. W. Hamlin, Hester, Hoar, Jamison, M. C. McKim, M. Farland, Platt, Quiggle, Sager, Wherry and M. C. Casin, Speaker 17.

Nays—Messrs. Barnes, Crabb, Dorington, Duncanson, Evans, Ferguson, Frick, Haldeman, Hamlin, Hendricks, Kuzner, Kunkle, Mellinger, Price, Skinner and Sifer—16.

List of Justices of the Peace Returns Judges, Assessors and Constables, Elected in the several townships of Bradford County, January 20, 1854.

Athens town—J. B. Reeve, Justice; C. Conroy, Justice; Walter Olden, assessor; John Snelk, Constable.

Athens town—Daniel S. Brown, Justice; Guy Tozer, assessor; N. Edminster, Daniel McDuffie, constables.

Arden—Nathan Sherman, Justice; Wightman L. Pierce, Justice; Daniel Randall, assessor; Mark B. Palmer, constable.

Albany—Martin H. Coding, Justice; John Hatch, Justice; Ralph Stevens, assessor; Sylvester Chapman, Constable.

Asylum—J. D. Jacobs, Justice; D. H. Corbin, assessor; John E. Fry, Constable.

Burleigh—Lorenzo M. Ruffell, Justice; David Super, Justice; Oliver P. Calkins, assessor; Jeremiah Travis Jr. Constable.

Columbia—Peter W. Celland, Justice; John Morgan, assessor; H. W. Caulfield, constable.

Canton—G. Newman, Justice; Thomas Case, Justice; T. S. Manley, assessor; Harris Miller, constable.

Dorell—C. E. White, Justice; M. Decker, assessor; D. C. Dimmock, constable.

Franklin—Burr Ridgway, Justice; S. Annable, Justice; Thomas T. Smiley, assessor; G. C. Beardsley, Constable.

Greenfield—Oliver Baxter, Justice; Durham Ross, assessor; J. Gee, constable.

Hillbush, Justice; A. Thompson, assessor; L. G. Crum, Constable.

Standing Stone—Lloyd L. Washburn, Justice; Aaron Hull, Justice; Geo. A. Stevens, assessor; G. Sage, Constable.

Byramtown—Peter Monroe, N. H. McKim, Justice; Joseph Stephens, Justice; Curtis Merritt, assessor; Warren Bisby, Constable.

Tascara—Geo. Spaulding, Justice; N. J. Campbell, O. Warner, Constable.

Towanda town—N. N. Betts, Justice; L. H. Scott, Justice; W. C. Bogart, assessor; G. H. Janell, Constable.

Towanda North—J. Woodruff, Justice; Adolph Kingsberry, assessor; Ches. B. Bennett, Constable.

Towanda South—Piney Hauck, Justice; F. Gregg, Justice; D. M. Gill, assessor; James McGill, Constable.

Troy town—Wm. A. Grant, Justice; John Williams, Justice; Wm. H. Peck, assessor; N. A. Adams, Constable.

Troy town—J. Case, Justice; John Porter, assessor; E. B. Case, Constable.

Utter—D. O. Chubbuck, Justice; S. C. Hovey, assessor; C. B. Kichen, Constable.

Wyox—I. P. Spaulding, Justice; Saml. Chubbuck, assessor; M. C. Allen, Constable.

Wyoming—C. T. Baldwin, Justice; B. Ashley, Justice; E. Wherry, Constable.

Warren—J. Champlin, Justice; A. Whitaker, assessor; Levi Brown, Constable.

Well—H. Baker, Justice; A. Young, assessor; J. Mitchell, Constable.

Windham—W. H. Perry, Justice; H. Russell, assessor; A. Ambrose, Constable.

Wilnot—C. Beverly, Justice; J. Stone, assessor; M. Corson, Constable.

A New Cure—Among the late inventions announced is a curious one by Robert M. Kerrison of Philadelphia. It is different from any heretofore made, being without the slightest noise or any of the odors of the greatest relief, and is now in use in the city of New York. It has succeeded in overcoming a difficulty, which has made the study of scientific mechanics for nearly two centuries.

The funeral of Mr. H. E. Stephens, the actor, in New York, took place yesterday, and was attended by the Lafayette Guard and National Institutes, with Dodworth's and National Bands, Free masons, and a large number of citizens, forming a procession over a mile long.

Hon. Jonathan Phillips has donated \$10,000 to Harvard University for the increase of the endowment of the Greek professorship, in Harvard College.

A private letter from Kossuth, dated London, Jan. 21, and addressed to a gentleman in New York concludes by saying: "You shall soon hear of me; I will work on our part; our hearing has been put off with but not our hope for too long."

A private dispatch from Maltese Sonag, dated at New Orleans, Feb. 16, contains the report that she was injured on board the steamer Boston, the recent great fire in that city.

Edward Crosswell of the Albany Argus has recovered from his late paralytic attacks, so he is able to attend to business.

General Cass has not been sick for a long