

## Letter from Rev. John Chambers.

(From the Public Ledger.)

Messrs. Editors:—During a recent visit to the Bedford Springs, I was called upon by some of the most ardent friends of Temperance in the State, and in the presence of the people of Bedford on the importance of inducing every friend of humanity to vote for a prohibitory law for the coming election. I most cheerfully complied with the request of these gentlemen, and I had hoped that I had discharged the duty imposed upon me to the satisfaction of all.

I regret to observe, however, that my remarks on that occasion have become a topic of newspaper discussion, and that my words have been misinterpreted, and my motives impugned. I deem it due to others as well as to myself that the truth should be known.

My recollection is that I urged upon the people present upon that occasion the importance of the temperance reform generally, and exhorted them to vote for a prohibitory law at the next election. I expressed the belief that the whole question was involved in the resolutions allowing the people to vote for and against a prohibitory law, and that the real friends of temperance should direct their attention to that point and that only. I declared my belief that if the law was demanded in this way, by the voice of the people, it mattered but little who filled the office of Governor—the law would be sanctioned; that no man would set himself against the will of the people. I said then, as I repeat now, that I believe either the distinguished gentlemen would carry out that will of the people in a form consistent with the terms of the constitution.

I did say that Gov. Bigler was too good a democrat to resist the will of the people, and that I had every confidence besides in his desire to do any reasonable and proper thing to arrest the vice of intemperance; that I knew from correspondence and personal intercourse with him, that he held the doctrine that the will of the people should be binding so far as a prohibitory law was concerned, but that he would not yield his right to judge of the constitutionality and justice of a law when it came before him—he would not so far forget the dignity of his station or the obligation of his oath. But Governor Bigler has written me no letter inconsistent with his manly letter to the Temperance Convention.

I felt more free to say what I did of Governor Bigler because I believe an attempt had been made to prostitute the sacred cause of temperance to mere party ends, and to turn its influence against his re-election. I did not hesitate, as I shall not to rebuke this attempt, and I intend to do, whenever and wherever I may meet it, and this is the true and real cause of the complaints that have been presented against my Bedford address.

I also, at the same meeting in Bedford, referred to a secret ex-tem political organization, whose object, so far as is made known, is to disfranchise every adopted citizen of this glorious country, and that too, in the face of the guarantees of the constitution of United States, as well as our own beloved Commonwealth, both of which recognize the adopted citizen on the same broad platform of civil and religious liberty with the native born. Doubtless, then, "the head and front of my offending" in the eyes of some of the unknown and unknown ones, is my strong and uncompromising opposition to Jesuitism, whether Protestant or Papal, and for these men the same objection rests against Governor Bigler, because of his fixed determination not to violate the constitution and laws of the land; by disfranchising adopted citizens on account of their religious or political beliefs.

There are in my church, and in every other church in this "land of the free and home of the brave," men of foreign birth as pure patriots, and as good men as ever breathed the air of freedom—men, who to the letter obey the constitution and laws of the country of their adoption. Are these men to be classed as alien and stricken down like felons, by the iron hand of a secret society, and petty despots? Every true-hearted, conscientious and law-loving and law-abiding American citizen and patriot will answer no! But if the men who have emigrated from Scotland, England, Ireland, Wales, Germany, France, and elsewhere, and made this land of their adoption, citizens by choice and by accident, and among whom are to be found our best citizens, are to be turned out of our political society and treated like serfs, solely because they were born out of the United States, let those who are so severely sworn to treat them, follow the example of the mayor of Philadelphia, and boldly avow their purpose, and not hide themselves or their actions from the light of day. It will be much more in accordance with the true American character and feeling.

So far as regards the bold and wicked invention that I was stamping the State for Governor Bigler, and the vulgar and childish clamor for "that letter," I can afford so far as I am concerned, myself to treat them with merited contempt, and to let them pass me as the idle winds. I have a higher, holier, better object in view, the passage of a prohibitory law, and am therefore not alarmed by these "Tactics in Pennsylvania," neither will I let these present men from wringing upon every friend of humanity in the State to vote for a prohibitory liquor law without fail, and for Governor for whomsoever they please.

As regards my own vote, I will say that Governor Bigler, nor no other man shall have my vote for the office of Governor, unless he is willing to submit to the will of the people, and to vote for a member of either branch of the legislature on any other ground. Nor will I vote for a member of any Jesuit association, Protestant or Catholic, having good reason to believe him such. How could I vote for men who are sworn to disfranchise my father, my uncle, my brother, and some of the best neighbors and friends of my father, and some of the best men in my church?

Yours, &c.

JOHN CHAMBERS.

## The Drought.

The prevailing drought under which our farmers in this vicinity have suffered so much, appears to extend over a greater extent of country and to be more protracted and severe than any we remember to have known before. The *Pittsburgh Gazette* sums up the accounts from the several sections of the Union as follows:

This drought extends with different degrees of intensity from the Lakes to the southern lines of Tennessee, and from the Atlantic to the western line of Missouri, and probably to the Rocky Mountains. It embraces all the great agricultural States of the Union—the producers of wheat, corn, cattle, sheep, and hogs. This region has heretofore been richly supplied with food, and has been able to spare immense quantities for the South and for Europe. This year not more than enough to supply its own inhabitants has been raised. The wheat crop is a far one, on an average, though some fine wheat districts will have a heavy yield. The corn crop, on an average, will amount to two thirds—The potato crop will not amount to half a crop—The oats crop, on an average, is pretty fair, and so is the hay crop, but the almost total failure of summer and fall pasture, will render these articles very scarce and dear. Great numbers of cattle and sheep will be slaughtered, from inability to carry them through winter. Feed of a poor quality will probably be cheaper than it has lately been. There are plenty of hogs in the country, but the failure of the corn crop will prevent the usual number being fattened in the ordinary way. The woods, however, are said to promise great quantities of meat, and a great deal of inferior pork will be made in this way.

We add some extracts from papers published in different parts of the country.

PENNSYLVANIA.—In this region the drought rages with great intensity. Vegetation is nearly destroyed, except in choice localities. The pasture is literally dried up, presenting a singular barren and desolate appearance. All summer and fall crops are failures. Corn will scarcely be one third of a crop. Potatoes are almost a total failure. Fruit is poor and scarce. In some sections the peaches are dried on the trees. Apples stand the drought better than most fruit. Peaches are in fruit years—All gardens are failures, and thousands of young trees, planted in the fall or spring, have perished. Many wells and springs, heretofore considered unfailing, have dried up, causing great distress for want of water, while the lowness of others produces sickness. The Ohio river has dwindled to a mere creek, and is forced daily on horseback and in wagons. An occasional leak boat, with half a dozen passengers, is the only mode of crossing the river, which is all the craft now seen on a stream which, one half of the year, bears proudly immense steamers, loaded with freight.—*Pittsburgh Gazette*, Aug. 23.

The drought has crisped and blackened the whole face of vegetation in this country. The pastures are dried up, so that farmers are already folding their cattle. Corn, buckwheat, potatoes, turnips, and other late crops are failing.—*Honesdale News*, Aug. 23.

The drought, in this County, is becoming quite alarming. Besides the inevitable loss of the growing crops, pastures, in common with vegetation generally, is parched up, and the cattle suffer greatly. The streams, too, are failing—many of the smaller ones are already entirely dried up. Some of the farmers in the lower end of the County, we understand, are obliged to haul water for their barn yards a mile or two from the Schuylkill. We have had no rain of account since Saturday 29th of July.—*Miner's Journal*, Aug. 26th.

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Similar accounts reach us from most other sections of the State. Extensive fires are prevailing in the pine forests of Tioga, where great injury is being done. In the swamps and woods of Harbor Creek township, Erie county, fires are raging.

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The *Cleveland Herald* says that many of the shade trees of that city are dying, particularly the elms, maples and locusts. Farmers in the adjacent country are already folding their cattle. Fires are destroying the woods in Portage, Trumbull, and other counties of the Western Reserve.

KENTUCKY, INDIANA, &c.—Corn has failed to a great extent in Indiana Kentucky. Illinois will produce but a small part of her usual yield this season.

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MISSOURI &c.—South western Missouri with part of Arkansas and Texas, also suffer severely. Corn is nearly destroyed. Wheat and oats, however are good.

ALABAMA, GEORGIA, &c.—Central Georgia and Eastern Alabama send very similar accounts. Some heavy rains have lately fallen in Georgia which will probably save the cotton crop.

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"The streams in the interior are generally remarkably low, and in some instances the factories have been stopped. This is the case, we understand, with the extensive works of Salisbury Manufacturing Company. The Lowell companies have drawn liberally upon their reserved means in Winopecquois Lake, and have been for two weeks or more lowering that great body of water at the rate of an inch a day. They have recently purchased the whole of Squam Lake, in the vicinity of Centre Harbor, as a further security for emergencies like the present.

NEW YORK.—New York State appears to be all dry. Fires are burning along the eastern portion of the State—from the Catskill Mountain to the Canada line. There was a report in New York on Saturday that the fire in the Catskills had destroyed the well known "Mountain House," but this needs confirmation. Teams had been sent on Saturday to remove the furniture.

Col. Fremont left Washington, a few days ago, to embark for New York in the steamer for California, with the view of landing at San Francisco and proceeding thence to the Sierra Nevada to fix astronomically the position of the Pass which he discovered in that mountain during his expedition of last winter.

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## Bradford Reporter.

E. O. GOODRICH, EDITOR.

Towanda, Saturday, Sept. 2, 1854.

Terms of the Reporter.  
\$2 50 per annum—If paid within the year 50 cents will be deducted for cash paid actually in advance. \$1 00 will be deducted for paper sent over two years, unless paid for. Advertisements, per square of ten lines, 50 cents for the first and 25 cents for each subsequent insertion.

Office in the "Union Block," north side of the Public Square, next door to the Bradford Hotel. Entrance between courts Adams' and Elwell's law offices.

## Democratic State Nominations.

FOR GOVERNOR.  
WILLIAM BIGLER, OF CLEARFIELD CO.

FOR JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT.  
JEREMIAH S. BLACK, OF SOMERSET CO.

FOR CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT.  
HENRY S. MOTT, OF PIKE COUNTY.

## Re-Enactment of the Missouri Compromise.

In the midst of the excitement and indignation produced by the unexpected invasion of a national compact, by repealing the Missouri Compromise, thus opening the territories of Kansas and Nebraska to the designs and inroads of Slavery, very many of the Free men of the North looked to the ultimate re-establishment, by Congress, of that prohibition.

A glance at the materials of which the Senate is composed, shows conclusively that it will take years so to change its complexion, as to effect this object, even should the public be willing to follow up the contest for the necessary length of time. And so long as the present Executive fills the chair, or it occupied by one of the same kidney, all attempts at legislative interference will be vain.

We look upon any attempt to interpose Congressional enactments in the way of the spread of Slavery into Kansas and Nebraska, as useless. The Slavery interest predominates in shaping legislation, and though the popular branch may be changed, the Senate will stand in the way for some years. As far as Congressional action is concerned, the Slavery-extensionists are entirely triumphant. They have broken down the barriers to its progress, and at the expense of National faith. The battle is already begun for supremacy. The odds are on the side of Slavery, though we hope for a different result. Be that as it may, the outrage is perpetrated, and what is the proper course left for Northern Free men?

There is no question that before a change could be effected in Congress, the question of Freedom or Slavery in Kansas and Nebraska will be practically determined. By that time, the threats of ruthless violence to Northern emigrants, and the display of revolvers and bowie-knives, will either give Slavery a clear field, or its owners will hesitate about removing with their peculiar and precarious property into those Territories, and Freedom will be triumphant. Instead, then, of frittering away the strength of popular sentiment at the North, upon impracticables, let a tangible, practical issue be made—No more Slave States! This gives a direction and unity at once to Northern feeling—it strikes at the very root of the evil we have been combating. It arrests the ambitious designs of the Propaganda, stops Filibustering, and insures the public treasury against enormous drafts for the purpose of binding still stronger the chains of human bondage. There is no fact more clear, than that such was the purpose of the patriots who cemented our Union with their blood and guided it by their counsel.

The men of the Revolution deprecated the already existing evil, and had no thought or intention of its extension into new territory. They looked forward with hope to the day, when under the benign rays of the sun of liberty the dark cloud should be dispelled. It should be the fixed purpose of the descendants and admirers of the founders of our free institutions to endeavor to bring our Government back to their early policy. To enlarge the area of Freedom is to do this—to Nationalize Slavery is to set back the hands on the dial of our Country's progress.

In this connection we quote from the *Evening Post*, the following, in regard to the wisdom or propriety of re-enacting the Missouri Compromise:—"We do not believe it politic for the people of the Free States to restore the Missouri Compromise, even if they have it in their power. They can do better. That compromise was a hard bargain for the free States. While it was on the statute book we stood by it. It has been broken by the slave party. Let us profit by its abrogation. By their perfidy a fair advantage has been offered to us. Shall we hesitate to improve it? Not only Kansas and Nebraska and the other territory before secured to freedom shall now be free, but so shall every other state which shall hereafter come into this Union.

"There was an understanding that future States, now composing a part of Texas, should be admitted as slave States. This was agreed to by leading Northern men. Daniel Webster, before he made up his mind to his deep and fatal plunge off the seventh of March into the turbid waters, said that, in compliance with this understanding, he should resign as his duty to vote for the admission of other slave States from Texas.

"From that obligation, and from all other obligations to slavery, except to let it alone in states where it now exists, we have been released by the repeal of the Missouri Compromise.

"Now if we insist upon and compel the restoration of the Missouri Compromise, do we not also, by that very act, restore all the conditions previous to its existing favorable to slavery? Do we desire this? We are now placed in a better position than we have ever before occupied for a successful opposition to the spread of slavery, and for the extinction of slavery where it now exists in territories out of which new states are to be formed. Let us make the most of this favorable position. Instead of pursuing chimerical schemes—instead of re-constraining a bad bargain, now annulled by the faithlessness of the other party, let us avail ourselves of the unsolicited advantage which has been given to us."

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## The Pardoning Power.

In every gubernatorial contest, within our recollection, an attempt has been made to make political capital out of a pretended abuse, by the Executive, of the pardoning power. (Gandor requires us to say, that this attempt is not confined to either party. It has never received our approbation. We were careful not to publish the attacks upon Gov. Johnston for the exercise of this power and the attempts which have been made to injure Gov. Bigler, are still more unjust and disreputable. We do not believe that any Executive the Commonwealth ever had, would willfully abuse the power granted him to pardon offences, for unwarrantable or party purposes. But he may be deceived and misled, and the failing, if any, is on mercy's side.

A great outcry has been raised because Governor Bigler pardoned a man lately convicted at Easton, of an alleged conspiracy to extort money from an aged citizen of that place. The *Eastern Argus* publishes the documents upon which the pardon was granted, which will satisfy any one that there was any wrong perpetrated, it does not rest with the Governor. They comprise a large number of letters from the most respectable citizens of the place, who certify that they believe the individual was unjustly convicted, upon the evidence of a man not entitled to credit.

We have no doubt that in every case in which a pardon is granted, it is done upon evidence which satisfies the Governor that it is his duty to interpose his clemency. He may be, in some instances, misled by men in whom he supposes he can repose confidence, but if so, the fault is theirs not his. The only way to avoid it, would be totally to refuse to interfere in the operations of the law—which would involve too great injustice, than is possible to occur by too free use of the power lodged in his hands by the Constitution.

## Tioga County.

The Tioga County Democratic Convention, assembled at Tioga Village, on Friday, 25th ult., and placed in nomination the following County ticket:—

Assembly—JOHN W. RYON, of Lawrenceville.  
Prothonotary—J. F. DONALDSON, of Wellsboro.  
Register &c.—J. P. MALL, of Wellsboro.  
Commissioner—ANDREW MUNDAY, of Jackson.  
Auditor—A. E. NILES, of Charleston.

On motion of Mr. Joseph Guile, a Committee of five, consisting of Messrs. Joseph Guile, A. E. Niles, S. F. Wilson, John W. Ryon, and C. H. Seymour, was appointed to draft Resolutions, expressive of the sentiment and principles of the meeting on the important questions of the day, who unanimously adopted the following, to wit:—

WHEREAS, Liberty is one of the greatest blessings, and necessary to the true enjoyment of all others, and we believe that slavery, in any form or in any country, and especially in the United States, "the boasted land of liberty," is anti-democratic and a great moral, social and political evil, and contrary to the doctrine taught in the Declaration of American Independence; and that all citizens are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, among which are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. The support and defence of which doctrine by American citizens, constitutes the only safe guard of their liberties. And whereas, we also believe, that that part of the Act of Congress lately enacted, repealing the Missouri Compromise (so called), and all other acts of a like character and anti-democratic, and opposed to the true principles of our national government, and highly dangerous to its perpetuity.

Resolved, That we will not support any man for office who has not been openly and unequivocally opposed to the repeal of said Compromise, and the extension of slavery into free territory, and who will not pledge himself to use his whole influence for the re-enactment of said Compromise, and against the further extension of slavery and encroachment of the slave power.

And Resolved, That we highly approve of the course of those representatives, from Pennsylvania, who have firmly and bravely opposed the aggression of the Slave Power, and we hereby tender to them our support and thanks for the able manner in which they defend the interests of their constituents, and the cause of human freedom.

And Whereas, We believe that the use and sale of intoxicating drinks, as beverage, is also a great moral and social evil, and a fruitful cause of crime, taxation and pauperism in our State.

Resolved, That we are in favor of the enactment of a law, prohibiting the manufacture and sale of intoxicating drinks, as a beverage in Pennsylvania. On motion, the resolutions were adopted, the first two, with only one dissenting vote, and the last by a majority of six votes.

Charles Ryon and S. F. Wilson were elected Conferees to nominate a Congressman, and were instructed unanimously by the Convention to vote for our late Representative for Congress, G. A. Grow, Esq. Provided the other Conferees acknowledge that a Representative should be chosen from Tioga county for three succeeding terms, next after the next term for which they are instructed to nominate Mr. Grow.

## Prohibitory Liquor Law.

The people are called upon to decide at the present election, whether or not they will have a Prohibitory Liquor Law. While our feelings are in favor of such an enactment, we have always, and shall continue, to oppose its being drawn into the arena of politics. It is purely a moral question and one which should be decided upon its own merits, without the intervention of politics. For this reason, we shall neither advocate nor oppose it, editorially. But our columns are at the service of either its friends or opponents. It is a question about all others, which challenges free discussion, and in which Truth and the Right will always prevail. We will cheerfully publish original articles, either in favor of Prohibition, or opposed to it, if furnished us, and if temperately and candidly written.

TOWANDA.—On the afternoon of Friday, 25th inst., a violent gale of wind did considerable damage in this vicinity, blowing down numberless chimneys, and prostrating frames of houses. The most serious damage done, however, was to the College Institute, the force of the wind driving in a portion of the west wall, some two or three inches, and breaking a large number of lights of glass on that side. Reports of the injury done to this building have been circulated, which are greatly exaggerated. The stability of the building is not lessened, and the damage done is already repaired. The opening services will take place of Wednesday next, advertised.

This gale was accompanied by a fine fall of rain, which had the effect of extinguishing the numerous fires raging in the woods of the neighborhood. Though very acceptable, it was not enough to have any lasting effect upon vegetation.

MEETINGS IN MONTROSE.—An Anti-Slavery meeting was advertised at Montrose for last Monday evening. Hon. D. WILSON and Hon. G. A. GROW were announced to speak.

Gov. BIGLER was expected to address a meeting on the following evening. We have no report from either meeting.

FINES.—On Sunday morning, 20th ult., the saw mill, lately owned by W. T. Bradford, in Monroe township, was burned to the ground. It was owned by William Agnew, and leased to a company from Honesdale, who were manufacturing shingle handles, and had on hand about 30,000. The origin of the fire is unknown.

—Friday night, 25th ult., the store of C. F. Chubbuck, on Orwell Hill, was discovered to be on fire, and was destroyed, together with a blacksmith shop and barn adjacent. The goods were mostly removed from the store room. The building was insured in the Hudson River Co. and the goods in the I. coming.

The second story was occupied by the Old Fellows and Good Templars, who lost all their regalia, &c.

The County Convention which meets on Tuesday evening next, will have the usual number of candidates from which to select the nominees of the party. We shall, unless otherwise ordered, print 12,000 votes for each candidate, and that there may be no misunderstanding, we annex the usual charge made:—

Congress,	\$30.00	Register,	15.00
Representatives (each),	15.00	Comm'r,	8.00
Sheriff,	20.00	Auditor,	5.00
Prothonotary,	15.00	Coroner,	3.00

The votes for the State Ticket, we are accustomed to print, "free gratis, for nothing," for the good of the party. We shall not print votes either for or against Prohibition, unless ordered to do so by some one, who has interest enough in the matter to pay for them.

A NEW U. S. COIN.—We saw this morning, says the Washington Star, at the Treasury Department, a new American dollar coin, sent to the Secretary from the mint at Philadelphia for his sanction, it not yet being adopted. In size it is about that of a five cent piece, on one side it has an Indian head with a crown of feathers, such as one sees at times on tobacco boxes. The head is surrounded by the word "United States of America." On the reverse side, there is an open wreath composed of the principal staple agricultural productions of the country—wheat, corn, cotton, tobacco and rice. This wreath surrounds the words "1 Dollar, 1854."

In appearance, on this side especially, it precisely resembles the three dollar coin. On the whole, it is a beautiful thing and its diameter will be likely to make it much more generally acceptable than the dollar coin now in circulation, which has proved very inconvenient indeed, on account of its too small diameter.

## Terrific Tornado at Louisville.

Church blown Down—Twenty five People Killed, and a Large Number Wounded.

CINCINNATI, Monday, Aug. 28.  
A terrific tornado struck over the city of Louisville yesterday about 12 o'clock.

The Fourth Presbyterian Church was blown down during the service. Twenty five of the congregation were killed instantly, and a large number wounded. Numerous other buildings were unroofed and blown down.

The Democrat describes it as one of the most violent storms that ever swept over that section. The Third Presbyterian Church, situated on the corner of Eleventh and Walnut streets, was completely wrecked; and the entire building, including the roof, rafters, and brick walls fell in, causing the instant death of twenty of the congregation, and seriously injuring ten or twelve others.

The scene was heart breaking. Soon a large crowd assembled, and began their search for the victims. A mother and her three children were first discovered grouped in death; another scene presented a father, mother and baby, the father dead, and the mother mortally wounded, while their little child played beneath them, escaped unhurt, being protected by the forms of its parents.

In other instances some of the victims were found terribly bruised and maimed. The cause, up to this broken consternation into the very heart of the city, and the people are appalled beyond belief.

The following is a list of the killed: Mrs. Valdebe and three children; Mr. Taylor and child; Mr. Godfrey; Mrs. Salisbury; Miss Headley; John McGowan; Mr. Sweeney; Mrs. Martin; (wife of John N. Martin, saddler); Mr. Wicks; (niece of Mrs. Martin); Mr. Harbour; Mr. McClelland; Mr. R. Davis; (a resident of New York); and Mr. McBride and child. It is thought one or two others were killed whose names have not yet been learned.

Fully one hundred buildings in Louisville were unroofed and otherwise injured. The storm passed over that part of the city lying between Fifth and Twenty-first streets. A splendid block of four-story houses recently erected on the north side of Main, between Eleventh and Ninth streets, were completely destroyed, and two or three men, it is supposed are buried in the ruins. These buildings were built at an expense of \$18,000.

The upper story of the rope and baggage factory of W. A. Richardson & Co., Magazine street, was blown down, and the new city school house on the corner of ninth and Magazine streets, was unroofed.