

Mr. Pierce's Kansas Message.

The mails of this morning gave us an agreeable surprise. We have a message from Mr. Pierce on the subject of the troubles in Kansas...

The President finds many things done in Kansas which do not please him, but he makes a most extraordinary selection for the purposes of censure.

In the midst of this ferocious jesting, he takes occasion to reprimand those who have promoted emigration to Kansas with a view of making it a free state.

We have spoken of the message as an opportune one, and yet, if Mr. Pierce were not so proverbially faithless to his pledges, we should have some misgiving as to the use which the slave party might make of it...

Meanwhile, this message will have the effect of encouraging those who meditate new attacks upon the rights and liberties of the settlers of Kansas.

ALABAMA.—A bill has been introduced in the Alabama Legislature to appropriate \$25,000 for the purpose of sending emigrants to Kansas.

Gov. Reeder's Reply to the President.

To the Editor of the N. Y. Tribune:

Sir: The Special Message of the President of the United States, communicated yesterday to Congress, assails not only myself personally, but also my constituents, whose inclination as well as duty imperiously demands of me to justify and protect.

Unless the Message shall incite and stimulate new invasions of our Territory and fresh outrages upon our citizens, it will produce to us no regret, as it has caused no surprise. After having seen our people trampled on, oppressed and robbed, on the one hand by the invaders of their soil, and on the other by the influence, the authority, and the officers of the present Administration; after having witnessed the cold-blooded murder of an unarmed and unoffending citizen by an officer of the Administration, who is not only unmolested by the laws and unrebuked by the President who appointed him, but who has, perhaps, strengthened his official tenet and enhanced his chances of promotion by the act; it is not at all surprising that we should, by the head of that Administration, be misrepresented and perverted.

This is not the mode nor the time in which to discuss the themes of this Message. Expecting, as I have a right to expect from the clearness of the exclusive title I am prepared to show, that I shall enjoy a seat and a voice on the floor of the House, I am willing patiently "to bide my time."

As to the discussion in the Message of the points involved in the contested seat, I shall need them when the case is heard; and as the House is the sole constitutional judge of the qualifications of its own Members, I trust the minds of Members may be kept open and unprejudiced until they shall hear the law and the facts of the case, and that whether the discussion by the Executive of some of the points involved has been made because they were incidental to another subject, or aimed and intended to prejudice my claim, I hope in either case that both sides may be heard before a decision.

A. H. REEDER, Washington City, Jan. 25, 1855.

GOVERNOR OF WISCONSIN.—The Supreme Court has decided against the motion of Bradford's counsel to quash the information filed by the Attorney-General, and substitute another drawn up by the counsel of Bradford.

GRAIN CROP OF ILLINOIS.—The Chicago Press estimates the grain crop of Illinois for 1855 as follows: 150,000,000 bushels of Indian corn, 20,000,000 bushels of wheat, and 50,000,000 bushels of oats, barley and rye.

HORACE GREELEY WAS ASSAULTED IN Washington on Tuesday by Mr. Rust, Member from Arkansas. Mr. Greeley had made some remarks in his paper which Rust regarded as personal, and hence the assault.

Bradford Reporter.

E. O. GOODRICH, EDITOR. TOWANDA: Saturday Morning, February 9, 1855.

TERMS.—One Dollar per annum, invariably in advance. Four weeks previous to the expiration of a subscription, notice will be given by a printed wrapper, and if not renewed, the paper will in all cases be stopped.

CLIPPING.—The Reporter will send to Clubs at the following extremely low rates: 6 copies for \$5.00; 15 copies for \$12.00; 10 copies for \$8.00; 20 copies for \$15.00.

ADVERTISEMENTS.—For a square of ten lines or less. One Dollar for three or less insertions, and twenty-five cents for each subsequent insertion.

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Money may be sent by mail, at our risk—enclosed in an envelope, and properly directed, we will be responsible for its safe delivery.

BANKS ELECTED!

The Republicans in Congress have achieved a great triumph in the election of Mr. BANKS as Speaker of the House. For nine weeks have they presented a solid phalanx, alike defying open opposition and secret treachery.

The importance of this triumph can only be properly estimated by those who are aware how greatly the legislation of the country is moulded and controlled by the Speaker and the Committees he appoints. It will be recollected, that in order to repeal the Missouri Compromise it was necessary to put in the chair a tool of the South, whose gross perversions of parliamentary rules aided materially to consummate the outrage.

In another aspect, this struggle has been of incalculable good. It has concentrated and cemented a great Republican party in Congress. It has shown how utterly feeble are all other parties and organizations when menaced by slavery, and that the only hope for our country is in that Republican organization which seeks to bring the Government back to its original purposes.

It has shown too, the affinity of the Administration party with the southern Know-Nothings. After all the blustering and rhodomontade against Know-Nothingism the Administration forces were ready to coalesce with them, provided they were sound upon the slavery question.

On our outside will be found the remarks of Mr. Grow, upon the responsibility of the organization of the House, and of the action of HENRY CLAY, in relation to the Missouri Compromise. Mr. G.'s answers to Messrs. QUINMAN and HARRIS are conclusive. He shows by Mr. CLAY's own words that that distinguished statesman gave the Missouri Compromise his approval and support at the time of its adoption—that it was then regarded as a great triumph of the slave States, and only complained of, when the South had reaped all the advantages secured to them by its adoption, and the time was approaching when the country North of 36 deg. 30 min. was likely soon to be organized into Territories.

MR. GROW'S SPEECH.

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THE FARM JOURNAL AND PROGRESSIVE FARMER.—Messrs. EMLEN & Co., the publishers, have sent us this invaluable work for February. This publication commends itself to confidence, and should be liberally supported as it is devoted to the interests of Agriculture, Horticulture and Rural Economy.

APPROACHING EXECUTION.—The time fixed for the execution of Jacob Armstrong, now under sentence of death at Doylestown, Pa., for the murder of his wife, is Friday the 15th February.

LOCAL ITEMS.

The Pierce and Douglas-Buchanan Democratic Convention on Tuesday last, was a dull affair. After manufacturing delegates through the day for the occasion, about half the towns were represented, mainly the old stages of the Nebraska party.

THE BRADFORD COUNTY TEACHER'S ASSOCIATION meets at LeRayville, on Friday next. An address will be delivered by P. D. MORGAN, and an Essay read by Miss S. BENTHAM.

AN ACCIDENT ON THE PHILADELPHIA AND HARRISBURG RAILROAD.—The 11 o'clock train for Harrisburg on Tuesday night last, was thrown from the track near Whitehall, Montgomery county, in consequence of the breaking of a rail. One man was killed and a number wounded.

Col. V. E. PROLLET and Wm. H. PECK were elected Representative delegates to the Fourth of March Convention, and Conferees appointed to elect a Senatorial delegate.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

The February Term of our County Courts commenced on Monday the 4th inst. Hon. D. WILMOT, President; Hons. HARRY ACKLEY and MYRON BALLARD, Associates.

The Grand Jury was sworn, consisting of the following persons:—Solomon Boyter, Orta Burns, Asa F. Eastman, Stephen Evans, Paul S. Furman, Asa Fuller, Andrew Fee, Alfred Gore, Henry Keyser, Roswell Luther, E. McClelland, D. C. Miller, G. K. McVannan, W. S. Pierce, Flynn Phelps, Eli Rockwell, Howard Spalding, Wm. Terry, Jr., James Vanoyke, E. F. Wood, Homer Wells, Horace Willey.

The following is the business transacted by the Grand Jury:—

Com. vs. Oliver Blanchard.—This was an indictment for perjury in the Railroad case published last term. Grand Jury return a true bill.

Com. vs. Joshua J. Denmark.—This is a similar indictment to the above. True bill.

Com. vs. Nelson Vanderpool and Sarah Vanvozen.—Indicted for an assault and battery upon Montgomery Vanderpool.

Com. vs. Alfred Button.—Indictment for larceny. True bill.

The Grand Jury were discharged on Wednesday afternoon, having dispatched all the business brought before them.

The business in the Quarter Sessions was less than has been known for several years.—The most of the Traverse jurors were discharged on Wednesday afternoon, the remainder on Thursday.

Com. vs. John Roberts.—Indicted at December sessions for assault and battery on Johnson Rogers, on June 30, 1855. The jury find the defendant guilty, and the Court sentence him to pay a fine of ten dollars and costs of prosecution.

Com. vs. Wm. Denison.—Indicted at December sessions, for adultery. The jury find a verdict of guilty.

The case of Com. vs. Denmark and Blanchard, was upon petition of defendant, continued until next term.

Com. vs. Orvan Goodsell.—Indicted at present sessions for perjury. This case is being tried on our coming to press.

Com. vs. John C. McKerrick and John McKerrick.—Indicted at last Term for forcible entry and detainer. Prosecuting Attorney enters a nolle prosequi by consent of Court.

In the matter of the petition of certain citizens of Canton to be erected into a borough, the Grand Jury approve of the application.

The applications of Nathaniel Bouton and O. R. Hemmingway for the benefit of the Insolvent laws were granted.

In the matter of the application of certain citizens of Athens township to change the place of holding the general township and special elections in said township. The Court appoint Monday forenoon, 11th inst., for a hearing of the same.

On hearing the petition of John Brink, constable of Sheshequin township, the Court approve of the appointment of David Newell as his deputy.

Com. vs. Wm. S. Dobbins.—Indicted at December sessions for assault and battery upon Dr. Charles Drake, of Troyboro'. The Jury find the defendant not guilty, and the prosecutor to pay the costs.

BEAR HUNT.—Gen. Putnam Outdone.—One day last week a large bear was seen on the Schrader branch, and a number of hunters turned out to capture him. He was tracked through the snow for three days, and finally found securely ensconced in his den, a fearful-looking cave near the bank of the creek.

Mr. BARCLAY remarked that he had been adverse to anything like a coalition with Know-Nothingism, whether it came from the North or the South. He asked Mr. Aiken whether the latter stood on the Democratic Caucus Platform, and whether he had not written a letter to Humphrey Marshall, making pledges to the Southern wing of the Know-Nothings.

Mr. AIKEN. I am not a candidate for the Speakership; if my friends think proper to place me in the Chair, I will serve them to the best of my ability.

HUMPHREY MARSHALL. I have only to say that Mr. Aiken has addressed me no letter whatever. (Applause, and cries of "Call the roll," &c.) The excitement was intense during the final ballot.

sitting upon his haunches at the farther side of the cavern, awaiting the attack. Aiming at the eyes, which gleamed from the reflection of the torchlight, he fired, and made his exit as speedily as possible. Having every confidence that his aim had been true, and the shot effectual, in a short time he re-entered, and found the animal dead. A rope having been prepared and fastened to the bears, by the aid of those outside, after much exertion he was drawn outside. He was found to be a monstrous animal, weighing over 500 pounds.

MUSICAL CONVENTION.—The second annual Convention of the Bradford County Musical Association, held at this place, last week, under the direction of Professor Wm. B. BRADBURY of New York, was in the highest degree successful, both as regarded members and the local and general satisfaction that seemed to prevail. The Concert held on Friday evening, drew together the largest audience ever seen in the Court House, and the pieces performed reflected much credit upon the singers, and showed evidences of Mr. B's efficiency as an instructor.

JUNIOR HOLCOMB, one of the members of the Legislature from this County, paid as a short visit on Saturday last, returning on Monday.

The Bradford County Teacher's Association meets at LeRayville, on Friday next. An address will be delivered by P. D. MORGAN, and an Essay read by Miss S. BENTHAM.

AN ACCIDENT ON THE PHILADELPHIA AND HARRISBURG RAILROAD.—The 11 o'clock train for Harrisburg on Tuesday night last, was thrown from the track near Whitehall, Montgomery county, in consequence of the breaking of a rail.

One man was killed and a number wounded. Of the passenger cars rolled over the embankment, where it took fire from the stove and was consumed. The man killed is supposed, from papers found on his person, to be Abraham B. Hart, of the firm of Hart & Son of Cincinnati. 27 persons were more or less injured, the most seriously wounded being Mr. T. S. Watson, of St. Louis, who had one of his legs broken. He was one of the survivors of the Gasconade accident on the Pacific Railroad, and was recovering from the injuries then received. D. A. Finney, a member of the Pennsylvania Senate, was slightly hurt. Quite a number of members of the Pennsylvania Legislature were in the cars, but none of them were seriously injured.

XXIVTH CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION. WASHINGTON Saturday Feb. 2, 1855.

HOUSE.—Mr. SMITH, of Tennessee, said he had heretofore voted against the plurality rule, but as yesterday's vote indicated some chance of an election, as Speaker, of a man of sound national views, he now offered a resolution for the adoption of that rule.

The House, by 10 majority, refused to lay the resolution on the table.

The resolution was adopted by a vote of 113 against 104.

Mr. ORR then unconditionally withdrew his name as the Democratic caucus candidate, there being now a probability that greater strength can be concentrated on his colleague, Mr. AIKEN.

Mr. BOYCE moved to rescind the resolution.

The motion to rescind was laid on the table by a vote of 117 against 101. [Applause.]

Mr. JONES (Tenn.) referring to the terms of the resolution—that if no election by a majority take place during the next three trials, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes on the fourth vote be elected Speaker—remarked that the Republicans are drilled and ready for the contest; and in order to give an opportunity for other gentlemen to come here understandingly, moved an adjournment till Monday.

The motion was disagreed to by 84 against 133. Impatient cries of "Call the roll," "Call the roll!"

Mr. WALKER moved to rescind the plurality resolution.

The House decided the motion to be out of order, by 45 majority.

Mr. PAINE moved that the House adjourn.

The motion was greeted with hisses in the galleries, and on the vote being taken, the announcement that the House refused to adjourn, was received with applause from the same quarter.

Mr. ORR said if the House was to be annoyed by applause in the galleries, he would move to clear them excepting that portion occupied by ladies.

Mr. PAINE made an ineffectual motion to rescind the Plurality Rule, and the House proceeded to take the first ballot of the four, as follows:—

NECESSARY FOR A CHOICE, 108.

Messrs. Barclay and Hickman voted for Wells, and Messrs. Dunn, Harrison, Moore and Scott for Mr. Campbell.

The second vote—excepting Fuller lost one, was the same as the first. The third was the same as the second, excepting Aiken lost one.

Mr. FULLER repeated what he had said on two former occasions, namely, that he was not and did not desire to be a candidate. One hundred and thirty votes had satisfied him that he was not the choice of a majority of the House, and on no other terms or conditions would he consent to take that position.

Mr. BARCLAY remarked that he had been adverse to anything like a coalition with Know-Nothingism, whether it came from the North or the South. He asked Mr. Aiken whether the latter stood on the Democratic Caucus Platform, and whether he had not written a letter to Humphrey Marshall, making pledges to the Southern wing of the Know-Nothings.

Mr. AIKEN. I am not a candidate for the Speakership; if my friends think proper to place me in the Chair, I will serve them to the best of my ability.

HUMPHREY MARSHALL. I have only to say that Mr. Aiken has addressed me no letter whatever. (Applause, and cries of "Call the roll," &c.) The excitement was intense during the final ballot.

Mr. A. K. MARSHALL, during the call of the roll, congratulated his American friends saying they had fought a good fight and conquered. There was now no Democratic candidate in the field with an offensive caucus platform. Performing duty as a patriot and not as a partisan, he voted for Mr. Aiken.

Mr. WALKER voted the same way, esteeming Mr. Aiken a man with no staff of mere partisanism on his skirts—a man who has not sought office, but to whom office is tendered, and is true to the Constitution.

Messrs. PAINE and LINDSLEY, (K. N.s.) voted for Mr. Aiken, knowing him to be a national man.

Mr. SMITH of Ala., voted for Mr. Aiken under protest.

Other gentlemen vainly sought to make explanations, the greatest confusion existing.

Several gentlemen now changed their votes, and were greeted with applause for so doing, amid impatient cries of "Announce the vote," "Announce the vote." The lobby was crowded to suffocation, and the excitement was increased by the startling cry that a boy was being crushed to death by the pressure in the galleries. Some of the Members shouted out: "Fall back," "Fall back," and others: "Halt, released from his imminent danger."

"Announce the vote," was now shouted from all parts of the House.

The CLERK then read the vote as follows:

BANKS, 102; L. D. CAMPBELL, 100; WELLS, 99; FULLER, 84.

Mr. BENSON, one of the tellers, then declared that Mr. Banks was elected Speaker.

Deafening shouts of applause followed from the Republican side and other quarters of the House. The ladies waived their handkerchiefs in the galleries. For several minutes the disorder was beyond description.

Mr. A. K. MARSHALL raised the question that Mr. Banks was not elected, saying the Clerk had no power to authorize such a result to be announced. It must be so declared by the vote of the House.

The CLERK explained, giving reasons which appeared to be satisfactory for his conduct.

Mr. CAMPBELL of Ohio appealed to the honor of gentlemen to carry the plurality resolution into effect, and end this disgraceful contest.

Mr. COBB regarded Mr. Banks as virtually elected by a majority of the House under the plurality rule.

Mr. AIKEN asked to be allowed to conduct Mr. Banks as Speaker to the chair. (Applause.)

Mr. SMITH of Ala. highly appreciated Mr. Aiken's request. If granted he thought it would heal divisions, and pour oil on troubled waters. When grown up men make a child's bargain they ought to stick to it. (Laughter.)

After further debate, Mr. CLINGMAN offered a resolution declaring that by reason of the adoption of the plurality rule and the vote taken under it, Mr. Banks had been duly chosen Speaker, and is hereby so declared.

This passed by Yeas, 156; Nays, 39.

Several gentlemen explained, though had consistently voted against Mr. Banks, they felt bound as judges, not as electors, to carry out the order of the House by voting for the above resolution.

Mr. Banks was, by request of the Clerk, conducted to the chair by Messrs. Aiken, Fuller (Penn.) and Campbell (Ohio).

He was greeted with loud and enthusiastic cheers, and amid the profound silence which followed, said:

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: Before I proceed to complete the acceptance of the office you have conferred upon me, I avail myself of your indulgence to express my obligation for the honor. It would afford me greater pleasure were it accompanied even by the self-assurance that I would bring to the discharge of arduous and delicate duties, always difficult, but now enveloped with unusual difficulties, any capacity commensurate with their responsibility and dignity. I can only say I shall bear myself with fidelity to the interests and institutions of the country and the Government, and with impartiality so far as regards the rights of the members of this House. I have no personal objects to accomplish. I am animated by a single desire of contributing in some little degree to the maintenance of the well-established principles of our Government, in their original American significance—in developing that portion of the continent we occupy, so far as we may do while in the power conferred upon us, enlarging and swelling its capacities for beneficent industries at home and abroad, and maintaining intact and perpetuity the inestimable privileges transmitted to us, I am aware neither myself nor any other man is equal to the perfect accomplishment of these duties. I am, therefore, as a man must be in such a presence—a suppliant for your indulgence and support. I again return to you my thanks for the honor you have conferred upon me.

Applause, deafening and long continued, followed.

Mr. GIDDINGS, being the oldest Member of the House, administered the oath to Mr. Banks, by request of the Clerk.

Mr. STANTON then offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the thanks of the House be eminently due, and are hereby tendered to John W. Forney for the distinguished ability, fidelity and impartiality with which he has presided over the deliberations of the House during the arduous and protracted contest for the Speakership.

This was unanimously adopted, and the House adjourned.

WASHINGTON, Monday, Feb. 4, 1855.

HOUSE.—The SPEAKER administered the oath to support the Constitution of the United States to the members, the Representatives of each State advancing as their names were called for that purpose.

The Delegates from the Territory were likewise sworn. When the name of Mr. Wilkfield was called, Mr. Grow said, in deference to the wishes of his friends, he would not object to his being sworn.

He thought, however, that circumstances would warrant the withholding the oath. He hoped to be heard some other time on the question.

Mr. THURSTON offered a resolution for the election of a Clerk by viva voce. Laid on the table by 103 against 85.

A resolution, declaring William Cullum, Tennessee Clerk of the House was adopted by 136 to 87.

As the Speaker administered the oath of office to Mr. Cullom, there were manifestations of approval in the galleries.

The members then proceeded to select a committee in accordance with a resolution moved by Mr. Ball, that all the members retire without the bar, and severally return as their names were called.