

Congressional.

MR. GROW'S POSITION.

Remarks of Mr. Grow in the House of Representatives, Jan. 13, 1856.

Mr. Clerk, I have refrained from participating in the debates of this Hall until an organization of the House should be effected, and I do not now propose to say anything in reference to the legislative of the House...

What has produced the present state of things? Why cannot this House organize? At the opening of the last Congress, peace reigned in every quarter of the country...

It was declared here, as a reason for the repeal of that compromise, that it was necessary to take the question out of Congress. The effort to take it out has led to a civil war in Kansas...

His history has made those remarks prophetic, though it was but the natural result of that legislation. The responsibility for want of an organization of this House is upon those who reopened this agitation...

On the following day, Jan. 19, Mr. Quitman, of Mississippi, having spoken in reply to Mr. Grow, the latter responded as follows:

Mr. Grow. I propose to occupy but a few moments. The gentleman from Mississippi [Mr. Quitman] says that the results which have been made upon this floor, and refers the agitation which exists in the country at the present time back to the year 1832...

and good faith required that it should be observed. By you consented voluntarily to relinquish all right to carry slavery north of the line of 36 deg. 30 min.;

Mr. GROW. I do assert that Mr. Clay says he voted for the line of 36 deg. 30 min. Mr. ALLEN. He never did say so.

Mr. GROW. And that a majority of southern members of the House and in the Senate voted for that line; he was not present, but he thought that if he had been he would very likely have done so.

Mr. GROW. I refer to a speech made by Mr. Clay in the Senate of the United States on the 12th of March, 1850, in which he says, 'among those who agreed to that line were a majority of southern members; and I have no earthly doubt that I voted in common with my other southern friends for the adoption of the line of 36 deg. 30 min.'

Mr. GROW. No, I cannot now. Mr. ALLEN. The gentleman desires a contradiction of the statement that Mr. Clay voted for the line of 36 deg. 30 min. I wish to furnish a contradiction.

Mr. GROW. You may do so when I get through. Mr. ALLEN. You challenge a contradiction, and I wish to make it.

Mr. GROW. No, sir, I only refer to the record. One word in reply to the charge of northern aggressions upon the South, made by the gentleman from Mississippi, [Mr. Quitman], for whom I entertain the kindest feelings; and the remarks I may make reflecting upon any southern man, I wish to be understood as referring to his own conduct.

Mr. GROW. If any one thing more than another secured my return to this House, for the third time, by the unanimous vote of my district, it was because I had stood upon this floor, and resisted the repeal of the Missouri compromise. Sir, I hold no 'hostility' to the institutions of the southern States, but shall resist the effort now making to change the construction given to the Constitution by our fathers, and the action of every branch of the Government for over sixty years.

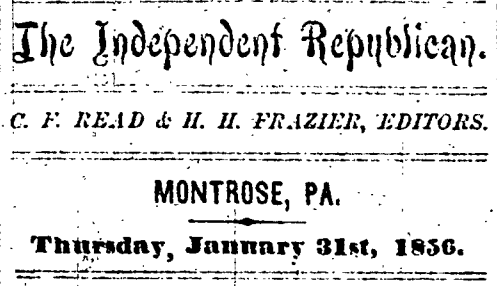
But, let me say to the gentleman from Mississippi, that political Abolitionism in the North—paradoxical as it may seem—is the right of the South. You nurtured it in infancy, when too feeble to stand alone; and you have made it strong in manhood by the injudicious and unjust legislation of this Hall. Sir, when the North petitioned this Government to take steps in reference to the institution of slavery, where it is considered to be solely under the jurisdiction of Congress, you passed the twenty-first rule, denying a great constitutional right to freemen under this Government; that inaugurated political Abolitionism in the North; and from that day to this the warfare has been one of constitutional rights; not for the South alone, but for the North.

Mr. GROW. The gentleman says that we have robbed you of California. How is that? California came to Congress and asked to be admitted as a State to this Union. Your Government had neglected to give her a government, and she was forced to fall back upon the inherent rights of men to take care of themselves.

gentleman from Pennsylvania allow me to make a suggestion here? Mr. GROW declined to yield the floor and continued: The reason alleged in this protest is, 'that the bill gives the sanction of law, and thus imparts validity to the unauthorized action of a portion of the inhabitants of California, by which the property of the fifteen slave-holding States of the Union'...

Mr. GROW. Let me tell the gentleman from Pennsylvania that no southern man has ever taken the ground of opposition to the admission of California on the ground of her having adopted a constitution excluding slavery.

Mr. GROW. I refer the gentleman to the language of the protest which I have just quoted.



The Independent Republican. C. F. READ & H. H. FRAZIER, EDITORS. MONTROSE, PA. Thursday, January 31st, 1856.

Principle vs. Party. The Sham Convention of the Sham Democrats that met here the 21st inst., after resolutions in favor of Buchanan, passed the following, introduced by A. J. Davis, of Susquehanna Depot:

Resolved, That the vote of Hon. G. A. Grow, for Mr. Banks, a well known Know Nothing and Republican, for Speaker of the House of Representatives at Washington, meets our disapprobation, and we hereby request him to vote for an anti-Know Nothing Democrat for that position.

This meeting that passed the above resolution, was officiated as follows: President, W. C. Ward; Vice Presidents, M. J. Mumford and Edward Clarke; Secretary, E. B. Chase.

Commonwealth vs. H. N. Pierson. Indictment for disposing of his property to defraud creditors. Verdict, not guilty, but that defendant pay the costs.

Commonwealth vs. Elias H. Wellman. Surety of the Peace, on complaint of Jacob Wellman. After hearing, the Court direct that the defendant Elias H. Wellman, and the prosecutor each enter into bonds with surety in the sum of \$200, to keep the peace for one year.

Commonwealth vs. William P. Houghton. Indictment for Malicious Mischief &c. Verdict, guilty, and defendant sentenced to pay a fine of fifty dollars, and undergo an imprisonment in the county jail for a period of four calendar months.

John A. Smyth vs. Isaac Lyon. Appeal. Verdict for plaintiff for four collars and coats. Jacob Wellman vs. Elias H. Wellman. Action of Trespass. Plaintiff takes a nonsuit.

Amos Coleman vs. Darius Coleman. Action of Ejectment. Verdict for plaintiff for the lands in controversy, to be set aside and judgment entered for the defendant upon his paying into Court \$80, one year from date. Same day; Jan. 29, Court set aside the verdict.

W. L. Galbraith vs. Peter Clark. Appeal. Verdict for defendant. Hawley Tozer vs. J. E. Richardson. Action of Debt. Verdict for defendant.

ceeded in convincing him that the best way to oppose slavery is to vote for pro-slavery men on a pro-slavery platform.

Mr. Chase, we believe, voted for the resolution. This we infer from the fact that he has sworn that he would rather see slavery extend over every foot of the Union, than vote for a Know-Nothing.

The question that here presents itself is this: What effect will this resolution of this meeting—a meeting utterly contemptible in point of numbers, and a resolution utterly false as an exponent of public sentiment—produce on the Free Soil Democrats of the County?

Col. Lane made a speech in support of this resolution in which he repudiated the doctrine of Squatter Sovereignty, and mounted 'fairly and squarely' on the Republican platform.

A deputation, consisting of Messrs. Lane, Emery, Goodin, Dickey, Holliday, and Sampson, were appointed to visit the United States, to plead before the people the cause of Kansas, and to lay before Congress the recently adopted Free State constitution.

It is now evident that the men who have hitherto been classed as the Free Soil Democracy of Susquehanna County, will soon be called upon to choose to which they will adhere, Principle or Party—with whom they will set, G. A. Grow or E. B. Chase.

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The School Fellow.—Messrs. Dix & Edwards, the publishers of 'Putnam's Monthly' and 'Dickens' Household Words', have sent us the January number of their other monthly publication, 'The School Fellow'.

Shocking and Fatal Accident.—Mr. Orin Lester, of Forest Lake township, this county, met his death in a fearful manner, on Friday last. He, in company with his son, was making some repairs on a shed or lean-to attached to his barn, when the whole frame of the shed suddenly gave way and fell, and a portion of the timbers striking Mr. Lester, completely crushed the upper part of his body, killing him instantly.

That stanch 'Democratic' sheet, the Luzerne Union, in commenting on the effects of what it calls pernicious literature, gravely asserts that: 'The Abolition press has done something towards creating the fanaticism and disunionism of the age. Northern pulpits has done more. But the fictitious and mendacious lies of southern lies and customs, emanating from pens called pious, and from publishing houses called respectable, have done more than all.'

Kansas Affairs. A large Mass Meeting was held at Lawrence, on Saturday, Jan. 13th, to consider the present state of national politics in their bearings on the interests of Kansas.

Resolved That in view of the determination on the part of the Slave Power to destroy and to take away the rights which as American citizens belong to us, it is our duty to unfurl our banner to the breeze and adopt as our motto: A Free State Government in Kansas without delay, emanating from the people and responsible to them; non-interference with slavery in the States where it now exists, and opposition to the extension.

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Our Catholic fellow citizens have certainly nothing to complain of in the way of official power. The Chief Justice of the United States is a Roman Catholic—the Post Master General is a Roman Catholic—and the State Treasurer elect of Pennsylvania, who are told, is a Roman Catholic. At the head of the Judiciary is the Post Office—and of the State Treasury—they may snap their fingers at the K. N's.

Governor Reeder in 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, whom I consider as well as duty imperiously demands me to justify and protect.

Resolved That in view of the determination on the part of the Slave Power to destroy and to take away the rights which as American citizens belong to us, it is our duty to unfurl our banner to the breeze and adopt as our motto: A Free State Government in Kansas without delay, emanating from the people and responsible to them; non-interference with slavery in the States where it now exists, and opposition to the extension.

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NEWS AND NOTICES. Wm. H. Jessup, Esq., has been appointed by Gov. Cook, a Notary Public for Susquehanna county.

Buchanan is certainly coming home soon, and the English mission has been tendered to ex-Vice President Dallas, and will doubtless be accepted.

The Rochester Democrat publishes the marriage of the Rev. Annetta M. Brown to Mr. Samuel C. Blackwell of Geneva.

The Washington Union urges the Southern Know Nothings to unite with the National Democrats and elect Orr of South Carolina, for whom the Democracy vote since the withdrawal of Richardson.

Mr. John Lawrence Bazer, in the Louisville Times, offers to bet from \$5000 to \$20,000, that he can do as follows:—Jump five feet further on a dead level than any man in Kentucky—three feet further than any man in the United States—two feet further than any man in the world.

The track is now laid on the eastern extension of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad, below Water Gap. The tunnel on the Warren Railroad is so far advanced that it is expected the broad gauge trains of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad will be able to pass through from Scranton to Elizabeth Port, on or before the first of March.

We learn that a young lady of Cumberland county, while sleighing one night week before last, was frozen to death. She complained to her companion, early in the evening, of being very cold; but she had no public house near, they did not stop. Soon after, on coming to a tavern, she refused to get out, saying she felt very comfortable, and they drove on. Arriving at home, she had to be assisted out of the sleigh, in a stupor-like state, and shortly afterwards expired.

Postage under the New Law. By the following it will be seen that there are exceptions to the rule that all letters must be prepaid: POSTOFFICE, HARRISBURG, April 4, 1855.

To the Hon. Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania: GENTLEMEN:—I am directed by the Postmaster General to say: 'That the State of Pennsylvania having provided by legislative enactment for the payment of postage, upon all mail matter sent to or from the Legislature, and these being being known to the Department, all Letters addressed to said parties, without the Postage being paid at the Mailing office, should not be classed as unpaid Letters, but must be rated with a proper amount of Postage to be paid at Harrisburg, where provision for such payment has been made.'

Course of the Banks Men Endorsed. At the American and Republican Legislative Caucus, on Saturday evening last, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted. Their caucus was nearly full, and we doubt not that the resolutions express the sentiments of the great mass of the opposition to the National Administration in Pennsylvania:

Resolved, That we approve of and cheerfully endorse the course pursued by that portion of our delegation in Congress who have steadily adhered to and continue to support Mr. BAXTER for Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Resolved, That the above resolution be signed by the officers and a copy forwarded to our Representatives at Washington. Harrisburg Telegraph.

Texas has increased very rapidly in population of late years. In the year 1850 the census gave it 212,592 inhabitants. At the presidential election in 1852 the total vote cast was 18,547. As the population had increased considerably in the period between 1850 and 1852, it must then have been 300,000. This would be the ratio of about one vote to every sixteen inhabitants. If there had been no increase in the population the ratio would have been about one vote to every eleven inhabitants. At the election held recently in Texas no less than 45,547 votes were polled. Applying the first ratio to this, we should have a population of 728,752, being three times the aggregate of the population in 1850. Taking the lower ratio, the total would be 601,017, so that, in any case, the aggregate at this time must exceed half a million. This is an astonishing increase, and evinces that Texas has grown as rapidly as Iowa. It is likely, also, to hasten the division of the territory into several States, pursuant to the constitution.

Great Typographical Feat.—The most remarkable of all performances, in the way of rapid publication, has just been effected by a Philadelphia firm.—Messrs. E. H. Butler & Co.—in placing before the public their edition of the third and fourth volumes of Macaulay's History of England. The whole process was accomplished with a degree of speed hitherto unparalleled. The London edition contains 1,600 octavo pages. Of this large work the types were picked up and set, the pages stereotyped and printed, and copies of the first edition of ten thousand copies were in the hands of the publishers, bound, within fifty working hours from the commencement of the work.

Such speed should astonish the London publishers. When their edition was already stereotyped, and 20,000 copies ready for delivery, they announced the fact, and 36,000 subscribers presented themselves. The publishers asked a degree of importance to the fact that it is very rare.—Boston Herald.