laws of Kansas more than the State of Ohio, or Virginia? General Atchison tells us:—Slave institutions for Kansas or free institutions for Missouri. Slavery in Kansas secures slavery forever in Missouri. This is the motive which brings from Missouri men to preserve law and order in Kansas. From the description in another part of this letter, the "law and order" that such men would preserve is like the protection the wolf would give the lamb. In another part of the dispatch he says:

"I found in the camp at Wakarusa a deep and settled feeling of hostility against the opposing forces in Lawrence, and apparently a fixed determination to attack that place and demolish it and the presses and take possession of their arms.

"To issue an order to the sheriff to disband his *posse*, and to Generals Richardson and Strickler to disband their forces, would have been to let loose this large body of men, who would have been left without control to follow the *impulse of their feelings*, which evidently was to *attack and disarm the people of Lawrence*."

Those are the men who go forth to enforce law and order, and to preserve peace and quiet in one of the Territories of the Union.—They come for what? To *demolish* a town, to *burn* its houses, and drive out its citizens from their homes at the point of the bayonet.

Why is Missouri *fighting the battles of the South*; and how are her institutions at stake in the issue of slavery or freedom in Kansas? The capital invested in any one kind of property has always a common interest, and is moved by a common motive. Three million slaves in the South, at an average price of $500 each, makes a capital of $1,500,000,000. But, in addition, it is the same interest that owns the landed and personal property; so that the moneyed interest of the South that acts together by a common sympathy probably exceeds $4,000,000,000. Whatever, then, tends to enhance the market value of the slave, moves this mighty interest with a common impulse. A moneyed interest in any country always struggles to seize upon its Government, and to wield it for its own advantages. Hence the innovations on the early and well-established policy of the Government in restricting slavery where it had not an actual existence. Hence the effort now making to overturn the settled decisions of the courts, and to nationalize the institution of slavery under the new doctrine, that the Constitution carries it wherever its jurisdiction extends unless there be local law to prevent it.

The Democracy of the country, in the days of its glory and triumph, resisted the attempt of the moneyed interest of the country, invested in banking, to seize upon this Government to use it for its own purposes. They also resisted the attempt of the moneyed interest engaged in manufacturing to use this Government for its purposes. And yet here is a united, concentrated moneyed interest—compared to which either of those was but as a drop in the bucket to the ocean—endeavoring to use this Government for the promotion of its interests and the advancement of its ends. Now, sir, it is to resist any such attempt, on the part of the moneyed interest invested in slaves, that the people whom I represent resist all attempts to plant slavery in Kansas.

Regarding it, as did the fathers of the Republic, as a social and political evil, that retards the growth and development of a country by degrading its labor, they believe it to be the duty of Congress to do in reference to the Territories what Madison desired it to do more than a half century ago in reference to the foreign slave trade. In urging its abolition he says:

"The dictates of humanity the principles of the people, the national safety and happiness, and prudent policy require it of us.

"It is to be hoped that by expressing a national disapprobation of this trade, we may destroy it, and save ourselves from reproaches, and our posterity the imbecility ever attending on a country filled with slaves."

And here, sir, I desire to read an extract from a speech of mine in the last Congress on the Nebraska bill:

"But it is said that these Territories are common property and that all the citizens of the United States have common rights in them; and that, therefore, no citizen can be excluded from emigrating to them without injustice and degradation. No one proposes to exclude any person from emigrating and settling on the public domain. The Territory it is true, is the common property of the whole people, but by the Federal Constitution they agreed to put it under a supervisory power. That power is Congress; Congress is made a board of direction over this trust fund, to use it in such a way as, in their sound discretion, will be most advantageous to the trust, and will best accomplish the object of its creation, the promotion of the real and permanent interests of the country. Whoever goes into the Territory, therefore, as a settler, must conform to the 'rules and regulations' established by this supervisory board, created by the common consent and agreement of the whole country, and made one of the articles of compact. No person has any separate, distinct individual right that he can have set apart as his share to use as he pleases, any more than he can take his share of the President's House, or of this Capitol, and appropriate it to his own use. It can be used only in such a way as, in the judgment of Congress, will conduce to the advantage of the whole."

If, then, this Government should see that the Territories are used in such a way as best to promote the paramount interest of the country, to develope its physical strength and the mental resources of its people, free labor can accomplish it better than slave. For slavery, wherever it goes, bears a sirocco in front, and leaves a desert in the rear. Under slave labor, the soil, which is the means for supporting the human race, and was given by the Creator for that purpose, is impoverished and made worthless. It is, then, abandoned, and virgin soil taken up again to be in the same way impoverished. And thus is the basis of national greatness and glory destroyed, and the energies of a people are palsied by degrading its labor. Mr. Jefferson, in his Notes on Virginia, has given to the world its influence on society:

"With the morals of the people their industry also is destroyed; for in a warm climate no man will labor for himself who can make another labor for him. This is so true, that of the proprietors of slaves a very small portion indeed are ever seen to labor.

"With what execration should the statesman be loaded, who, permitting one half the citizens thus to trample on the rights of the other, transforms those into despots, and these into enemies, destroys the morals of the one part, and the *amor patriæ* of the other."

I trust, sir, that Jefferson, born and reared amid the influences of slavery, will not be regarded as a fanatic for his views of the institution. As for myself, I have no sentimentalities, other than those which man should ever feel for the miseries and woes of his race, on the subject of slavery as it exists in the States. If it be a good, those who have it are entitled to all its blessings; if an evil, they alone have to answer for it to their own consciences, to the public opinion of the world, and to their God. I would leave it, then, to the people among whom it exists to devise, in their own time and in their own way, the mode and manner of its removal. That is a problem with the solution of which I tax not my brain. It has taxed in vain the wisdom and ingenuity of some of the wisest and ablest statesmen of the Republic.

When, therefore, we find an institution that once planted among a people they are unable to devise any means to get rid of, even though they desire to do so, should we not hesitate in doing any act by which it would be fastened upon a people who have it not—and who would be much better without it? Would the people of Kansas, if left to their own free choice, to-day choose the institution of slavery instead of free institutions?

It is said that the object of the bill organizing the Territory was to leave the people to do as they please. The people of Kansas to do as they please, when there is not an officer of the Territory in whose election they have had a voice, and cannot have for two years to come! The people of Kansas to do as they please, when by force you trample down their ballot-boxes, and deprive them of the full exercise of the elective franchise!—You have imposed on them a Legislature which has enacted laws striking down the dearest rights of freemen; and you call it law and order to sustain the invasion, and enforce its enactments. And after the people of Kansas have been disfranchised at the ballot-box, and they have been deprived of their rights because they undertake to demand a redress of their grievances at the hands of the only body that can give it—the Congress of the United States—armed men are to be called in to shoot them down. Are the citizens of Kansas competent to take care of themselves? If so, why import men from other States to enforce their laws? The fact that men are imported to execute the laws of the Legislature is conclusive that those laws do not meet with the approbation of a majority of the people.

Under these circumstances, what is the duty of Congress? Is it their duty to sit quietly by and behold these altercations in the Territory, without devising any means to avoid them? Is it the duty of Congress, which embodies the sentiments of this whole Republic, to sit quietly by and allow the institution of slavery to extend itself into territory under its exclusive jurisdiction, and which was once consecrated by solemn act to freedom. In 1819, Louis McLane, of Delaware, during the discussion in the Senate that preceded the passage of the Missouri Compromise, though himself a slaveholder and from a slave State, declared that—

"Nothing can more gladden the heart than the contemplation of a portion of territory consecrated to freedom, whose soil shall never be moistened by the tear of the slave or degraded by the step of the oppressor or the oppressed."

But, to-day, the soil whose contemplating so gladders the patriotic heart is not only moistened with the tear of the slave, but is threatened to be drenched with fraternal blood. In this crusade to propagate slavery, not only by changing the construction given to the Constitution for more than half a century, but by force of arms, permit me to call your attention to the almost dying counsel of one of the country's most illustrious names. Though born and reared under southern influences, it is a sentiment that will find a cordial response in the patriot heart everywhere, and is worthy to be inscribed on his tombstone. In discussing the compromise measures on the 5th of February, 1850, as if foreboding the present hour in his country's history, Mr. Clay said:

"But if, unhappily, we should be involved in war between the two parts of this Confederacy, in which the effort upon the one side should be to restrain the introduction of slavery into the new Territories, and upon the other side to force its introduction there, what a spectacle should we present, to the astonishment of mankind, in an effort, not to propagate rights, but—I must say it, though I trust it will be understood to be said with no design to excite feeling—*a war to propagate wrongs* in the Territories that we acquired from Mexico. *It would be a war in which we should have no sympathies, no good wishes*—in which our own history itself would be against us; for, from the commencement of the Revolution down to the present time, we have constantly reproached our British ancestors for the introduction of slavery into this country."

From the tomb comes the voice of your sainted dead, to rebuke the efforts making to-day to establish slavery upon the soil of Kansas; and is it for the freemen of this country not only to turn a deaf ear to the safe counsels of the venerated dead, but to stand in indifference to the best interests of the future? Will you carry into Kansas the institution of slavery under the protection of the flag of your country? For it is for Congress to say what shall be done, and what kind of institutions shall exist there during its territorial existence.

On some future occasion I hope to have an opportunity to discuss at length the constitutional power of Congress over the Territories; but at this time the only proper inquiry is, what is the cause of the unprecedented state of affairs in Kansas, and what can be done to save that people from bloodshed and civil war?

The President in his annual message, after reviewing the slavery question, closes with this rather singular summary of the cause of the present excitement at the North:

"If the passionate rage of fanaticism and partisan spirit did not force the fact upon our attention, it would be difficult to believe that any considerable portion of the people of this enlightened country could have surrendered themselves to a fanatical devotion to the supposed interests of the relatively few Africans in the United States, as totally to abandon and disregard the interests of the twenty-five millions of Americans."

The art of the lawyer and the politician is ever to associate names made odious in the public mind with what they wish to destroy, and upon them attempt to excite the prejudices of men.

Sir, the men of the North have not "surrendered themselves to a fanatical devotion to the supposed interests of the relatively few Africans in the United States," but they desire to gladden the heart of the patriot forever with the "contemplation of a portion of territory consecrated to freedom, whose soil shall never be moistened by the tear of the slave, or degraded by the step of the oppressor or oppressed."

The rights of the citizens of Kansas are the rights of the twenty-five millions of Americans, and the wrongs of the one should be adopted as the wrongs of the other. If the rights of one man in this country can be trampled upon by legislative enactment, the rights of all may. When men are disfranchised by law, and deprived of their nearest and dearest rights, and that law rests upon the Government of the country for its validity and its sanction, it comes home to the bosom of every person, no matter in what part of the Republic he lives; and he who would set quietly down and permit wrong and injustice to be done to a citizen of the country when he could prevent it, is guilty of a gross dereliction of duty.

The freemen of Kansas are entitled to your protection against invasion at the ballot-box, to your protection against unjust laws which violate all their rights, your protection in the freedom of speech and the press. The supervision of all their legislation being under the control of Congress, let it, then, do its duty, and remove from the people these odious enactments which the President has declared must be enforced, and secure to them the free and undisturbed exercise of their civil rights and privileges.

The men of the North are but resisting the attempt to subvert the spirit and genius of the institutions of the Republic; and the effort now making to overturn its well-established policy in legislating for the Territories, the effort to reverse the decisions of the courts making slavery a local, sectional institution, resting upon local law for its support, and to nationalize it by throwing over it the shield and the protection of the Constitution and the Union, wherever it goes beyond the jurisdiction of the local laws which gave it support,—it is against this doctrine that the men of the North war, and not in behalf of "the relatively few Africans" in the country.—Their condition, however deplorable in the States where they exist, is beyond our reach. We must therefore leave them to those who have the control of the laws under which they live. But we insist that the flag of the Union shall float, as heretofore, the emblem of freedom, and under its folds, everywhere, the freedom of speech and of the press, and the inalienable rights of man, shall be protected.


# The Independent Republican.

C. F. READ & H. H. FRAZIER, EDITORS.

MONTROSE, PA.

**Thursday, March 20th, 1856.**


## REPUBLICAN MASS MEETING.

A Republican Mass Meeting will be held at the old Court House in Montrose, on Monday evening, April 7th, being the first Monday of April court. It is expected that topics of great interest will be then discussed, and that citizens of the county will be well repaid for their attendance.

### Republican Association.

The meeting called at the old Court House on Tuesday evening last, to form a Republican Association for Montrose and Bridgewater, was—for the accommodation of many who desired to attend the Musical Concert held here on the same evening—adjourned to Friday evening next, March 21st, at the same place.

A full attendance of those interested is requested at that time.

☞The recent Democratic State Convention that declared *unanimously* for Buchanan and adopted *unanimously* a pro-Slavery, Pierce and Nebraska platform, was presided over by that distinguished Doughface, H. B. Wright, of Luzerne, who when the Nebraska bill was before the House, labored as hard and spoke as long in its favor as Mr. Grow did against it. The delegates to this Convention had all apparently been carefully selected as staunch old Hunkers, and therefore there was no difficulty in getting them all to vote harmoniously for the candidates and the platform. There was no zealous Free Soiler like E. B. Chase there this year to make trouble in the Democratic family by introducing resolutions against the Border Ruffians and in favor of Gov. Reeder. And now we believe there is no Democratic paper that refuses to support the candidate for Canal Commissioner, or any of the other candidates, because nominated on a pro-Slavery platform. Finding that all who stick to the party have got to swallow slavery, *nolens volens*, they shut their eyes and take the bitter dose in silence.

It is worthy of note that John V. Smith was one of the delegates to the Harrisburg Convention from this district, and voted for the pro-Slavery platform; and it is worthy of remembrance that he published in the Montrose *Democrat*, last Fall, a letter declaring himself a Free Soil man! He has a queer way of showing it.

Whoever looks over the list of delegates to the Cincinnati Nominating Convention, will have no difficulty in perceiving what is now recognized as orthodox democracy.—Thus, the delegates from this district are C. L. Ward and V. E. Piollet; from the Luzerne district, H. B. Wright and J. B. Montgomery; from the Wayne district, H. B. Beardslee (editor of the Wayne County *Herald*) and John N. Hutchinson. These are a fair sample. The presidential elector for this district is Reuben Wilber, of Bradford. Thus Bradford comes in for all the honors, having both delegates and the elector, because, we suppose, the Democracy of Susquehanna and Tioga are too much "tainted with Free-Soilism."

It is evident that Free-Soilism is more unpopular than ever among those who control the modern Democracy, being treated as a heresy that must be eradicated. Isn't the prospect flattering for "correcting the errors of the party, *in the party*,"—that is, for Converting the Democratic party of the present day into an anti-Slavery-extension party?—If any are indulging a hope of that kind, we would suggest to them the propriety of making the amount of progress they have hitherto achieved the basis of a calculation, and then figure up how many years it will be before they succeed in reforming the party, and tell us what will become of the Territories in the mean time.

SUSQUEHANNA DEMOCRACY.—In another column will be found part of a letter from Harrisburg to the *Bradford Reporter*, which will give the reader some notion of the spirit of the National Democracy towards Free-Soilism in their ranks. If the platform adopted by the Democracy of Susquehanna last summer was the embodiment of "Black Republicanism," the question arises whether that platform expresses the opinions of the party in this county, or not. If not, then it was dishonestly adopted to deceive the people and catch votes; if it does, then there is no good reason why the Susquehanna Democracy should not act with the Republicans in support of a Free-Soil man for the Presidency.

☞The aspect of affairs between this country and Great Britain has become rather more pacific. It will doubtless end in harmless bluster on both sides. The British rulers feel sore at the repeated humiliations they have suffered in the war in the East, and while losing their influence in European affairs, would like to gratify their pride by humiliating the United States Government. President Pierce, on his part, is willing enough to get up a temporary excitement, to call off public attention from the state of affairs in Kansas, and also, if possible, to regain some little personal popularity. But war is not desired by the people of either country, and we have no apprehensions of its taking place.

☞*The Susquehanna Gazette* is the name of the new newspaper at Susquehanna Depot. It is neutral in politics, and appears to be mainly devoted to matters of local interest in that Borough. The *Gazette* is published at $1,50 per annum, in advance, by George D. White.

NEW HAMPSHIRE ELECTION.—Last week we heard some loud crowing over a great victory of the Slave Democracy in New Hampshire. But the great victory proves to be a great defeat. Although unprecedented efforts were made by the administration at Washington, by the Federal office holders in New Hampshire, and by the party leaders generally, to conquer a success, although the 'big guns' of Democracy were sent up from the South to instruct the dwellers among the granite hills in their duty, although money and whiskey were poured out like water to gain laboring men to support the President in his traitorous warfare against free labor, all was in vain—against all these influences the New Hampshire freemen fought and conquered.

The aggregate vote for Senators, which shows the relative strength of parties in the State—there being only two regular candidates running in each district—is as follows: American Republicans, 33,205; Pierce Democrats 31,643; majority against Pierce, 1,562. According to the latest intelligence the Legislature stands—Senate, American Republicans 8, Pierce men 4; House of Representatives, 162 Opposition to 135 Pierce men. The result for Governor, will foot up nearly as follows: Metcalf, American Republican, 31,933; Wells, Pierce Democrat 31,655; Goodwin, Whig 2,337; scattering 141. No Governor being elected by the people, Metcalf will be elected by the Legislature.

Thus auspiciously opens the campaign for 1856.

MR. GROW'S SPEECH.—We publish, this week, Mr. Grow's speech in the House on the Kansas question. It is replete with fact and argument, and breathes the spirit of true patriotism. Mr. Grow unquestionably speaks the sentiments of the great body of his constituents. How shameful that he should be attacked and calumniated by men who once pretended to be Free Soilers, for doing so.

☞We are indebted to the Representatives from this district, Messrs. Ingham and Smith, for their attention in furnishing us with public documents from Harrisburg.

☞THE CONCERT given by Mr. Camp's singing classes, at the Baptist Church, last Tuesday night, was well attended and quite successful.

☞In the report of the Teachers' Association, of last week, for "the record contained the reports," &c., read, contained *no* reports.

### To the Friends of Freedom in Pennsylvania.

In fulfillment of the duties imposed upon the undersigned, as member of the National Executive Committee for the state of Pennsylvania, (appointed by the Republican Convention held at Pittsburgh on the 22d ult.) and in compliance with the wishes of numerous friends throughout the State, notice is hereby given, that a REPUBLICAN STATE CONVENTION will be held in the *City of Philadelphia* on MONDAY, the 16th day of JUNE next, at 10 o'clock, A. M., for the formation of an Electoral Ticket, and the nomination of State Officers, to be supported at the ensuing Presidential and State elections; and generally, for the transaction of all such business as shall come before said Convention.

The undersigned would recommend that said Convention be composed of delegates, twice in number to that of the members of the Senate and House of Representatives; and that the friends of Freedom in the several counties of the commonwealth, meet at the County seat, or other convenient place in their respective counties, on Saturday the 31st day of May next, unless some other day will better accommodate, and elect delegates to represent them in said State Convention; and also, at the same time and place, elect three delegates from the several Congressional districts to represent the State in the National Nominating Convention, to be held on the 17th day of June next, in the city of Philadelphia.

The undersigned feels that he would not properly discharge the duties of his appointment, if he failed earnestly to urge upon the Freemen of this Commonwealth, without regard to former party divisions, to unite in the patriotic effort now making to rescue the Government of the Union from the domination of an Aristocracy founded upon property in Slaves. The slave-holders, constituting less than one in fifty of the free population of the country, control all the functions of the General Government, and pervert all its powers to one end—the aggrandizement and perpetuation of their power. They rule as with a rod of iron—trampling under foot the teachings of our fathers, and the benign principles upon which the government was established. They contemn the rights of human nature, thereby exposing man to every outrage.—There is no safety in humanity but in the acknowledgment of its rights. Through all its organs, in the press, and on the floor of the National Legislature, Slavery assails those fundamental truths declared to be self-evident in the Declaration of Independence. It impiously denies the supremacy of God's law; acknowledging no rule of right among men, save its own cruel and tyrannical enactments. It has involved our country in foreign war for the extension of its territory, and the aggrandizement of its power. In the reckless pursuit of the same ambitious design, it recently invaded the most solemn National Compact; and to-day threatens a war of extermination against the peaceful settlers of Kansas, unless they submit to the usurpations of lawless and armed invaders of their territory, and to laws, the enormity of which, has no parallel in the code of any civilized and Christian nation.

The alarming power of this Aristocratic Interest, and the inexorable tyranny it would enforce, is demonstrated in the fact, that no citizen, however eminent in virtue and qualifications, is permitted to occupy the humblest post in the appointment of the Executive, unless he purge himself of the taint of Freedom, and bow in abject submission to the behests of Slavery. The treasure of the Nation, through the patronage of the Executive, is employed to corrupt the Legislative department of the government—to debauch our public men, and so far as possible, to demoralize the body of the people. Under the influence of this overshadowing Power, the Federal Judiciary is giving to the Constitution novel and startling interpretations, unfounded in reason, and against the authority of precedents.

To resist these flagrant wrongs and aggressions, to maintain the safeguards of liberty unimpaired, and to vindicate the rightful power of the people over their government, this appeal is made to you, freemen of Pennsylvania, and your active co-operation invoked. There is not a name illustrious in the history of your State, whose principles touching slavery are not coincident with those that the Republican party now struggle to make effective in the Government. That party occupies before the country a truly National and conservative position. It seeks the preservation of our free institutions from the sectional and destructive policy of Slavery. It makes war upon no interest or class; but would preserve all interests against the overshadowing power of one—and the rights of every class, against the dangerous supremacy of one. It would strengthen the bonds of our National Union, by keeping ever in view the beneficent ends for which it was established; and make that Union perpetual on the only sure basis upon which it can rest—the constitution as interpreted by its framers. The Republicans of Pennsylvania are anxious for a cordial union of all the friends of Freedom; and to this end, will regard nothing as a sacrifice, so that their principles are effectively maintained;—these they will neither surrender or compromise. Strong in the integrity of their motives, and in the justice of their cause, they will stand firmly by the right, trusting that a beneficent Providence will uphold the liberties of the Republic against the assaults that now threaten their overthrow.

D. WILMOT,
Member of the National Executive Committee for Pennsylvania.
TOWANDA, March 10, 1856.

### From Harrisburg.

[*Correspondence of the Bradford Reporter.*]

HARRISBURG, March 6, 1856.

Being a spectator at the Democratic State Convention held here on the 4th instant, I have concluded to give you a report of a portion of the proceedings that does not fully appear in the official account.

The chairman of the State Central Committee called the Convention to order, when Col. Piollet moved that J. Porter Brawley be temporary chairman, which was carried.

Contested seats were next considered, and the main question seemed to be which were the best Buchanan men. Judge Jones, of Sullivan county, contested the seat of Dr. John V. Smith, of Wyoming, and made a warm speech denouncing the constituency of Mr. Smith as non-democratic, and claimed for Sullivan the credit of having been the only county in the North that maintained her democratic majority in 1854. He said he disliked to uncover the political nakedness of the Northern democracy. But the resolutions of the Democratic Convention of Susquehanna were the very essence of Black Republicanism and were Wilmotism itself.—While he represented the National Democracy of Sullivan county, they represented a constituency tainted with free soilism. He called upon the National Democracy to stand by him, who represented the only Northern fortress left to the party.

Leave was granted to Speaker Piatt, (who was not a member of the Convention,) to make a five minutes' statement. He hurled back the imputation of Judge Jones upon his constituency, so far as Wyoming was concerned, and said that they had never been tainted by free-soilism; that it had never entered Wyoming; and taunted Judge Jones by asking him what was the vote of Sullivan last Fall which returned a Republican to the House of Representatives. He explained that in view of the absence of any Representative from Susquehanna in the Legislature, Wyoming had conceded to her both Representative delegates, and that Dr. Smith had been substituted by one of the regularly elected delegates of Susquehanna who was unable to attend. He intimated that the Judge was a very recent convert to Buchananism.

Col. Piollet, it was whispered, was on the point of rising to advocate the admission of his *fellow national democrat* Judge Jones, but finding the Wyoming men so full of fight, he rose and suggested to Judge J. that for the sake of harmony he had better withdraw. A vote was taken, and Dr. Smith was admitted.

*From the Pittsburgh Gazette.*

### Harrisburg Convention.

A communication will be found in to-day's paper, relative to the State Convention called to meet at Harrisburg on the 26th inst. intended to unite all the opponents of the National Administration. It comes from the pen of a true REPUBLICAN, and our friends throughout the county are invited to weigh its counsels as those of a friend entitled to confidence.

At the time this State Convention was called it was generally believed that there would be no nomination at Philadelphia on the 22d of February, and the hope was entertained that it might be able to pave the way for a cordial co-operation of all the true friends of freedom in the Presidential contest. But the nomination of Fillmore has deranged this calculation, and thrown a difficulty in the way which it will be hard to surmount. There seems to be no present prospect that the opponents of the Pierce administration will act together on the Presidential question; and if there is separation and hostility on the Presidency, it can hardly be either possible or desirable to co-operate at the State election. So, at any rate, it strikes us at the present moment; and we would therefore have been better pleased had the Convention not been called, or if it had been fixed to meet at a day further in the future.

The only thing that can be done now, however, is to let the Convention meet, and then, we think, it will be its duty, if it can find a proper and satisfactory basis of action, (and if it cannot it had better disperse at once and forever,) to adjourn till after the Presidential nominations are made, and until we shall all know something of the attitude we shall occupy towards each other.

As to the duty of REPUBLICANS toward this movement, we can only say that, so far as organizations are concerned, their first duty is to complete and preserve their *own* organization. But can they not do that with all fidelity, and still take part in this Convention? Do they, by going into it, disband themselves? The call embraces 'all the opponents of the National Administration;' and *as* such can they not *go* into the Convention and test the experiment it is invited to make? If that Convention adopts a platform which they can approve, and which does no violence to their principles, they cannot object; while on the contrary, if it either stops short of the right or ventures into what is wrong, they will be at perfect liberty to repudiate it.—The Convention, it seems to us, is merely an experiment; and its only possible chance of success must depend upon its ability to find a position satisfactory to *all*. If it cannot do that, its mission will be at an end.

Our advice to all our REPUBLICAN friends is, to give the Convention a fair chance and throw no obstruction in its way, yet to so act as not to feel bound by its course should there be anything objectional in it.

The friends of FILLMORE, we understand, will make an effort to get control of this Convention and procure its approval for their candidate. To have him endorsed by a State Convention of men of all parties, would be a triumph of which they would never weary of boasting. To prevent a result so much at war with the general sentiment of the opposition in this State is the prompting alike of duty and of policy; and although we may all have but faint hopes that the Convention will be able to accomplish the objects aimed at by its callers, it would hardly be wise in us to abandon it, at an important moment, into the hands of a faction.

☞The Indian war still continues in Oregon. The Oregon papers contain notices of the raising of companies of volunteers.

### ITEMS.

....A meeting of the National Republican Committee has been called at Washington on the 26th inst.

....A deputation from Sussex County, N. J., is expected to leave soon, to swell the ranks of the Free State men in Kansas.

☞Kansas Meetings are being held in all parts of the North, for the purpose of raising men and funds to aid our deeply wronged fellow-citizens in Kansas. Shall we not do something in Susquehanna county?

....A bill has passed the Oregon Legislature, submitting the question of a State Government to the people at a special election in April next.

....The three prominent candidates for a nomination at the Cincinnati Convention, are Buchanan, Pierce, and Douglas. The platform will be the same, whoever is successful, as the South will control the Convention and own the candidate.

....It is said that some of the Know Nothing leaders at Washington entertain doubts whether Mr. Fillmore will accept the nomination which has been tendered him; owing to the slight response that the nomination has elicited, and the certainty of his defeat.

....The Sussex (N. J.) *Register* say that 'of the 60 newspapers published in New Jersey, only three have the temerity to hoist the Fillmore and Donelson flag, and there is no probability that more than two or three others will follow the desperate example.'

....The Boston Bee says: "Nearly every woman we met in the streets yesterday had on a pair of boots—good, honest, *long-legged*, water-proof boots. How much better is this than paper-soled, disease clinching, ridiculous shoes. We are beginning to think the millenium is approaching.

....Arnold Douglas having recovered his health sufficiently to return to the U. S. Senate is making Border Ruffian reports and speeches in that body, for his own amusement. His language to northern Senators is, "*We mean to subdue you.*" Will the North be subdued?

....San Francisco, Cal., experienced on the 15th ult., a shock of an earthquake sufficiently severe to crack the plastering in many buildings, and in some cases to produce fissures in the brick walls. It occurred in the night, and hundreds ran frantically into the streets in their night clothes.

....On the 11th of November, last, at 10 o'clock P. M., a violent earthquake occurred at Jeddo, Japan, which destroyed 100,000 dwellings, 54 temples, and 30,000 inhabitants. A fire broke out at the same time in thirty different parts of the city; the earth opened and closed over thousands of buildings and their occupants.

....A tax collector on Long Island involuntarily robbed a lady of her valise last week. He was riding alone in a buggy when he overtook, and acceded to her request to take her as a passenger. Not liking her appearance—which was decidedly masculine—he dropped a glove, and when she got out for it drove off rapidly. The lady fired a pistol twice at him, without effect—and the valise was found to contain a pair of pistols and a bowie knife.

....A series of resolutions has been passed by the Whig General Committee of New York city, declaring the basis of the Whig organization still to be the principles enunciated by our greatest Statesmen, and acted upon for years by Whigs throughout the Union; such as protection to domestic industry, internal improvements opposition to executive usurpation, etc.; that the Committee is, as ever, opposed to the extension of slavery, and withholds all sympathy from those who repealed the Missouri Compromise.—The Committee disclaims all connection with or allegiance to any other political organization.

### The Next President.

Special Dispatch to the N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, March 16, 1856.

The Kansas debate will continue for several days. Messrs. Galloway, Howard, Kelsey, Burlingame, Ohio Campbell, Granger and Watson are yet to be heard. Douglas is openly announced as a candidate in the Presidential election, and he says himself that his name will be before the Cincinnati Convention. Fremont is not a Catholic as reported, but is of Hugnenot decent, and was long since confirmed as a member of the Episcopal Church. Letters favoring his nomination are flowing in from all quarters.—His friends urge four points in his favor; he is a new man, fresh from the people; his past life shows him to be possessed of backbone; he is opposed to Slavery aggression and is in favor of Free Territories, and he favors the Pacific Railroad. Banks declines the nomination. Seward is earnestly advocated by many persons, but it is doubtful whether he will accept. McLean, Chase, Hale and Wilmot all have warm friends and supporters. But the motto with every one is, "Success to principles rather than men."

### The Know-Nothing Vice Presidental Candidate on Know-Nothingism.

While ANDREW JACKSON DONELSON was editor of the Washington *Union*, the following editorial appeared in that paper.

"IMMIGRATION.—The *Republic* of Wednesday contains a long article on immigration to the United States. It portrays in vivid colors the rapid and unparallelled increase in the numbers of those who are seeking our shores. The Irish emigration is so great that the court journal classes it among 'the phenomena of history.' *We* (Andrew Jackson Donelson,) *are glad to see emigration from the Old World. It brings to us physical force we need to fell the forest and to build our Improvements. We have yet and will have for many long years scope and range enough for their industry and enterprise.* But it is not our intention to discuss this branch of the subject at the present time. The native party is now prostrate, and it will be time enough to commence the discussion when another attempt is made by the FEDERALISTS TO REVIVE THE PRINCIPLES OF THE ALIEN LAWS."

FRANCIS P. BLAIR, JR.—A long letter of this gentleman, (a resident of St. Louis, Missouri,) defining his position in regard to the Republican party, appears in the St. Louis Democrat of March 4. The following paragraph defines his position more clearly:—

"I am well aware that the servile tools of the present Administration have sought to proscribe every Democrat who opposes its dogmas upon the question of Slavery in the Territories, and on the Kansas act. I know, too, that by the same test Mr. Jefferson, and the illustrious statesman of every age of the Republic, would be excluded from the party which they founded and made triumphant.—The success which has attended the Administration in this effort, serves to illustrate the servility of those who have so readily adopted its dogmas, and teach a lesson of caution to the honest Democracy when they shall again be tempted to place renegades and demagogues in power. But the platforms, tinkered up by Mr. Pierce, Mr. Douglas and Mr. Cushing, will never supersede the principles inculcated by Mr. Jefferson, nor will these worthies be likely to take his place in the hearts of the Democracy."

### Burning of a Ferry-Boat.

From the Philadelphia Ledger extra.

One of the most fearful disasters which has happened upon the Delaware since the burning of the William Penn, some 20 years ago, occurred on Saturday night, between 8 and 9 o'clock.

The Camden ferry boat, "New Jersey," belonging to the Philadelphia and Camden Ferry Company, with passengers to the number of nearly 100, mostly residents of New Jersey, started for Camden.

The boat was headed for the Canal, but on reaching that point, Captain Corson discovered that the ice was so jammed between the banks, that to go through would be almost an impossibility.

The boat was then turned northward, so as to cross the bar some distance above Smith's Island. When nearly opposite Arch street wharf, the boat was discovered to be on fire near the smoke stack. An effort was made to check the flames, but without avail. A scene of wild excitement ensued; the passengers all pressing forward to escape the flames, and to be the first to jump ashore, as soon as the boat should touch the wharf, the captain having directed the pilot to steer direct for the Arch street wharf. When within about thirty feet of the wharf the wheel house fell, rendering her steering apparatus useless. A strong ebb tide was running, and setting up the river, which caused the boat to sheer off from the wharf, and float toward the Island again. Before this time, however, most of the passengers had jumped overboard, some of whom managed to get upon cakes of ice, and others were taken from the water by persons in small boats.—Many of the passengers, among whom were some females, remained on the boat until the burning of their clothes drove them to leap into the water.

PHILADELPHIA, March 17th.

Parties have been engaged all day in dragging the river. Fifteen bodies were recovered to-day, making twenty in all. About thirty persons are still missing. The Coroners investigation has not yet been concluded.

GOV. FORD DEFINING HIS POSITION.—Lieut. Gov. Thomas H. Ford, who was a delegate from Ohio to the Philadelphia American National Convention, made a speech at Columbus, Ohio, before the Order of United Americans on the evening of Wednesday, 6th inst., in which he took occasion to define his position. He claimed to be an American with his whole heart—opposed to foreign aggression whether of Church or State. But he was also opposed to despotism at home as well as abroad. He said he had learned at Philadelphia what Americanism means in the South—and that was—a negro. He ridiculed the idea of the Southern States seceding from the Union. He concluded in the following decisive words:

"I repeat that I am opposed to all aggression. When I see two monsters coming, I am ready to strike first the one which approaches first. The battle of Slavery and Freedom is to be fought; and it must be decided which is sectional and which is national. The crisis is upon us. Let us meet it like patriots—like rational men. I do not ignore the American issue—I stand on that plank with both feet; but I can act with any man or any set of men, who take the right ground on this question; who are united on the principle that we must have no more Slave States—no more Slave Territory."

### Southerners Going to Kansas.

CHARLESTON, S. C., March 15, 1856.

A large meeting was held in this city, last night, to promote emigration to Kansas.—An address and resolution were adopted, declaring Slavery to be a political element of the confederacy, inseparable from the present system of government, and claiming the right to promote emigration to Kansas as private individuals, but disclaiming any State attempt at armed intervention in the affairs of Kansas. Committees were appointed to collect funds, &c.

**NOTICE.**

Miss B. SEEK will commence her third term of School on Monday the 24th inst., in the room formerly occupied by her in Bloomer Hall.

Montrose, March 18, 1856.

**NOTICE.**

Rev. A. O. Warren will preach in the Universalist Church, Montrose, next Sunday: Subject in the P. M., "Life in the middle of the stream and risk it."

**NOTICE.**

The School Directors of Bridgewater District will meet in Montrose on Saturday, April 5th, at 1 o'clock P. M. Per order of the Board.

C. J. CURTIS, Sec'y.

**NOTICE.**

We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, believing that a "Fair" to be held monthly, for the benefit of those wishing to buy or sell Stock, might be made a great convenience to such persons, do agree to use our influence and contribute to such enterprise, by attending and bringing in Stock to such fairs so held. We therefore give public notice that there will be a Fair held in Montrose on the first Monday of each month during the current year, commencing on the first Monday of April next; on which days there will be exposed to sale Horses, Oxen, Cows, Young Stock, Waggons, Plows, Harnesses, and most every kind of Farming Utensils.

A credit of six months will be given on all sums over five dollars, with good security.

Asa C. Luce will be in attendance and cry off all property desired to be sold at auction, for a reasonable commission, to be paid by the owner.

| | |
|---|---|
| Orlando Williams | A. C. Luce, |
| Jonas Mack, | Horace Smith, |
| George Isaacs, | William L. Beebe, |
| M. J. Patch, | H. C. Conklin, |
| R. Thayer, | L. Searle, |
| Wm. Post, | C. C. Hollister. |
| Wm. Dutcher, | E. Newcomb, |
| M. C. Catlin, | Azor Lathrop, |

**MARRIED.**

In Lenox, on Saturday, March 1st, at the residence of the bride's father, by Eld. R. Tower, Mr. DANIEL PELLAM, of Abington, Luzerne co., to Miss MARY E. PERRIGO.

At the Bryant House, Great Bend, February 21st, by Rev A. O. Warren, Mr. JAMES G. CASE to Miss RHODA A. WILMARTH, all of Hopbottom.


DENTON'S VEGETABLE HEALING BALSAM, a first rate article for coughs and colds, just received and for sale by BENTLEY & READ.

Montrose, March 19, 1856.

**NEW SPRING GOODS.**

**Little & Harding**

ARE now receiving a large stock of New Goods for the Spring trade, and notwithstanding the present high prices of many articles, are bound to sell them cheap, to make room for their Summer stock, which will be on hand in about two months.

The *people say* that, at Little & Harding's they get the worth of their money. Call and see them.

Tunkhannock Depot, March 17, 1856. 10w3

**AUCTION.**

THE subscriber will offer for sale at his store in Brooklyn, on Wednesday the 2d day of April next, his whole *STOCK OF GOODS*, to the highest and best bidder.

*GREAT INDUCEMENTS.*—My goods must be sold, hence the public will have the best chance they ever had to *buy cheap!*

My assortment consists of the usual variety of country stores—Crockery and Hardware, Dry Goods, Groceries, &c. &c. Now is your chance, Farmers, to lay in a stock. To the Ladies I would say that you will find cheap bargains in Ladies' Dress Goods. In short, come one, come all, and buy yourselves rich.

TERMS—All sums of five dollars, or under, cash down; over five dollars, six months credit with good security.

**Notice.**—All persons indebted to me are requested to call and settle before the 10th of April.

JAMES F. SMITH.

Brooklyn, March 18, 1856. 10w3