

Candidates and Platforms. When the Pierce and Douglas party repealed the Missouri Compromise, and threw open the door for the extension of Slavery over a large extent of fertile territory which had been consecrated to freedom for a third of a century, there were not one hundred men in Susquehanna county but looked upon the act as a breach of good faith between the different sections of the Union, and a gross wrong to the people of the Free States.

The Washington Union, the leading organ of the old Hunker party, boldly publishes its programme to the world, and first and foremost is presented the Nebraska bill. Says this Union, "We want no allies who do not cordially accept our platform on the great leading issues of the day, and we will recognize none who expect any, the least, modification of the Democratic creed on all the questions which make up our platform."

The National Convention is to be held at Cincinnati within four weeks; the platform is already constructed by the wire-walkers, the main plank being the Nebraska bill; and the Northern Democracy are just asked to walk up and set their hands and seals to the document that the Southern nigger-drivers have prepared for them.

One of the most disgusting spectacles ever witnessed by freemen, is now being enacted by the several candidates for Presidency, Pierce, Douglas, and Buchanan. They are just now running a tilt to see who can dive the deepest, and come up the dirtiest, and the farthest South.

All the Presidential candidates will soon be in the field, and passing events are fast denonstrating that before the election in November, there will be but two parties, the free masses of the North on one side, and the nigger-drivers of the South and their dog-faced deputies on the other side.

The pro-Slavery men at Leavenworth swear to revenge the blood of Jones upon the Free State men. The occurrence is much regretted by the people of Lawrence, who have never countenanced unnecessary violence, and who are ignorant of the murderer of Jones.

The Missouri Democrat publishes, with some exultation, an article from the Philadelphia North American laudatory of James Buchanan. It is not many months since the Democrat gravely informed its readers that the North American was an old Federalist paper, and in favor of re-establishing the United States Bank.

Whatever may be the result, the political atmosphere has now cleared up, and those supple hypocrites who have been so zealous to "reform the party in the party" will now have their mask stripped off, and will be compelled to show their true colors.

Fillmore and Free Soil. Certain newspapers, claiming to be opposed to the extension of slavery, carry floating at their mastheads the names of Fillmore and Donelson. To say nothing about Donelson, who boasts the ownership of a hundred slaves, and declared, in accepting the nomination, that he gloried in the institution of Slavery, we cannot see any consistency in the support of Fillmore by an opponent of Slavery extension.

But who were these Southern Delegates that were so sensitively alive to Southern interests, and yet so willing to accept Fillmore as their candidate? Some of them were members of Congress who officiated at the immolation of Henry M. Fuller on the altar of Slavery—men who, after their victim had subserved the intended purpose of distracting the Northern vote on the Speakership as much as possible, readily deserted him, joined hands with the sham-Democracy, and attempted to elect a South Carolina nullifier for Speaker.

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Referring to the arguments that are beginning to be frequent in the southern papers in favor of the re-opening of the African Slave trade, the Tribune remarks that if Pierce, Douglas, or any of that stripe of politicians shall be elected the next President, we shall no doubt be informed by the progressive Democracy that any restriction on the introduction by Southern gentlemen of such 'property' as they may choose to bring with them from Africa is unconstitutional; and truly it is.

During the sitting of the Peace Congress just closed at Paris, it is said that much attention was given to a proposition to incorporate into the law of nations a provision against privateering in time of war. The proposition is mentioned as a new one, but Dr. Franklin, when on a mission to France, proposed to the French Government, with the concurrence of Congress, that a stipulation to the same effect should be inserted in the treaty then about to be formed between the two Governments.

Hon. J. R. Giddings writes home to the Ashabuta Sentinel that he has said or done nothing against the nomination of Col. Fremont for the Presidency by the Republicans; that he has expressed no hostility to, or preference for, any candidate; but that he expects to support the nominee of the Philadelphia Convention, provided he is known to be right—opply and fully committed to the Republican policy. Giddings has taken the right ground, exactly.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Tribune, says that neither Pierce nor Buchanan can be nominated. He adds, "Mr. Buchanan has budged, bloomed, and gone to seed quicker than any candidate ever did before him. If neither Pierce nor Douglas can get the nomination, they will combine their forces to have a southern man nominated, so that at the next turn of the wheel the nomination will come North again, for the benefit of their crowd."

The People's Convention of the State of Indiana met at Indianapolis, May 1st, and nominated Judge Noxon for Governor, and Conrad Baker for Lieutenant Governor. Speeches were made by Col. Lane, of Kansas, Gov. Ford, of Ohio, and Judge Horton, of Indiana. Strong resolutions in favor of freedom in the Territories and the admission of Kansas as a Free State, were adopted.

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Northern doughfaces professed to advocate the Kansas-Nebraska bill, because they were in favor of popular sovereignty. Kansas having been organized under the provisions of that bill, and the popular sovereigns of Kansas having adopted a constitution and asked to be admitted as a Free State, these same doughfaces now oppose its admission! On what grounds do they oppose it? In casting about for some excuse for their inconsistency, they pretend to have discovered that Kansas has no inhabitants enough to entitle it to admission as a State. But Free and Slave States have been admitted with less population than Kansas possesses. By the best authorities, that Territory now contains from forty-five to fifty thousand inhabitants. Tennessee was admitted in 1796, and had by the census of 1790 a white population of only 22,013; Indiana was admitted in 1816, and had by the census of 1810, a white population of 23,890; Louisiana was admitted in 1812, and by the census of 1810 had a white population of 34,311; Mississippi was admitted in 1817, and had by the census of 1820, a white population of 43,176; Florida was admitted in 1845, and had by the census of 1840, a white population of 27,043; and Michigan was admitted in 1837, and had by the census of 1830, a population of 31,346.

F. P. Blair, Gen. Jackson's old confidential friend, and editor of his national organ, the Globe, during his administration, has written an interesting letter addressed to the Republicans of New York, which contains a review, historically and politically important, of the rise of the "nullifiers." After expelling the dangerous enterprises of the nullifiers, to whom both Jackson and himself were opposed, the writer then proceeds to identify the present Democratic party with the Gill-wood, Tyler, and Polk nullification party, showing that almost all its prominent men were engaged in the warfare against Jackson and the Union party. He then enumerates the tests of modern democracy, compares them with those of the days of Jefferson and Jackson, and denounces those who uphold them as the foes of freedom and republican institutions.

Mr. Buchanan, we believe, has been voted since he first entered Congress. His vote helped pass, (years, 105; says, 102.) The Tariff of 1824, which received but one vote from Virginia and none from the Carolinas or Georgia; the highest tariff ever passed by Congress. Here, again, he stood with his own State and nearly all the heart of the Union against the solid phalanx of the Carolinas, Georgia, Alabama, &c., with all but three from Virginia, and these three belonging to what Mr. Jefferson used to term "the outside rows." On the 31st of December preceding, Mr. Buchanan said: "It is proposed to be friendly to domestic manufactures; more than that, believe that would be good for the subject; the question was as to the amount of Protection." (Notes, Jan. 3, 1828.)

Mr. Buchanan, we regret to say, as he began to have visions of the White House in reversion, and to understand that no man could receive the nomination of his party without the indorsement of the Virginia politicians, grew by insensible degrees mysterious and diplomatic in his utterances on the question of Protection; but he never flinched when brought to the test of the Year and Nays. The Tariff of 1842—our last decided, avowedly, emphatically Protective measure—passed the Senate by his vote. On the 24th Nays 23—Mr. Buchanan among the Yea's.

But how comes it, some will ask, that Mr. Buchanan, who commenced and so long persevered as a thorough-going Federalist, now appears as a leading and orthodox Democrat? We answer, simply by virtue of his Jacksonian forward as a candidate for the Presidency, he was not obliged to call himself a Democrat, but he was not a Democrat; he was a Federalist, and he remained so until he was elected President. He was a Federalist, and he remained so until he was elected President.

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James Buchanan. Born under the Presidency of Washington, reared in the political faith of Jay and Hamilton, John Adams and John Marshall, it was by the Federal party that Mr. Buchanan was cherished into political importance and distinction. It was as a Federalist that he was twice elected to the Legislature, and at least once to Congress. Even so late as 1820, his name figures in Niles' Register (Oct. 28), as one of the five Federal Congressmen from Pennsylvania of the XXth Congress. From July Orator, in which he inveighed against "the weak and wicked acts of Mr. Madison's Administration" most explicitly and unparagonably. And never, so far as we can learn, has he recanted these views or expressed any contrition for their utterance.

It is fashionable just now to be "National" and to commend aspirants as "National" in their views and inclinations. The term is used enough to make the bones of Jefferson rattle in his coffin; it implies all there is in "Federal" and much more; but we have schooled our nerves to bear it pretty well. Just now to be "National" implies a hearty devotion to Slave-catching, and sois not very fragrant; but Mr. Buchanan is (or was) "National" in a far higher and nobler sense.

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Awful Massacre and Plunder of Americans at Panama. To the Editor of the N. Y. Tribune. Sir: One of the most frightful butcheries and robberies of Americans took place at Panama on the night of the 15th of April. On the afternoon of that day the passengers per steamer Illinois arrived at the Railroad Depot at Panama on their way to the steamer J. L. Stephens, but owing to the low tide they were detained on shore. A portion of the passengers by the Cortez, from San Francisco, were also stopping at the several hotels in the vicinity of the depot. There could not have been less than 1,000 or 1,200 Americans congregated about the railroad terminus. About sunset a difficulty occurred between one of the Illinois passengers and one of the negroes, who was freely joined by friends on both sides, and a general row commenced. Pistols, bow-knives, swords, muskets, clubs and rocks were freely used, and with deadly effect. The Americans were generally unarmed, having only a few small revolvers, and, consequently, after a short struggle, had to yield the ground. They now made an attack upon the different hotels and drove all the inmates out, many of whom sought safety, as they supposed, in the depot building.

About this time the Police (God save the term) was called in requisition; but instead of attempting to restore order, it is positively known that a portion of the police and negroes fired upon the depot, and drove every man, woman, and child from the building, who, in their flight, ran in every direction—some to the boats, and others to thick brush and woods, where they remained during the night, and with the expectation of being murdered when daylight appeared. A large number were fortunate enough to get on board of the Cortez, and were carried to the city by the Cortez. After the natives had accomplished their work of death, and dispersed all from the ground, they commenced plundering the baggage, and destroying everything to be found in the hotels. The passengers, in their sudden flight, left and lost every thing. After plundering all to be found in the hotels, the black mob attacked the depot building, which contained a large amount of baggage and treasure, all of which they carried off. They then commenced to tear up the Railroad track, and to pull down the Telegraph poles, and destroyed both Railroad and Telegraph offices. They were aware that the Express goods would be bro't over from Aspinwall that night, and had laid their plans to seize them. They tore up the track in the vicinity of the depot, in order that the engine might run off; but through the exertions of Mr. Williams (a conductor on the road) the Express train was stopped by its signals before reaching the fatal point, and the lives of those on board and the goods were saved, and the train put back to Aspinwall, where it remained at the time the Philadelphia sailed.

There were twenty-five Americans found dead immediately around the depot, in the morning, most of whom were passengers on the Cortez, but this number is probably not half that were murdered. Of the natives but few, comparatively, I think, were slain. Since after the commencement of hostilities the Governor of Panama and the American Consul were on the ground, but their exertions to quiet the riot proved ineffectual. It is reported by some of the first instance tried to restore order; but afterward encouraged the murder and plunder. My slight acquaintance with Gov. De la Cruz forbids me from giving any credence to the latter report.

The Spanish portion of the inhabitants of Panama were much frightened. Every house and place of business was instantly closed and barred, and no foreigner was permitted to enter during the night. The hotels in the city were closed and guarded until morning. Of the amount of money and other effects lost by the passengers I can give but an imperfect idea. It is supposed by many that not less than \$100,000 would cover the amount. True it is that a large sum is lost, and much more probably than that, ever will be ascertained.

Many of the steerage passengers deeming giving a statement, preferring, I suppose, to defer it until they see what action our Government will take in the matter before making their claims known. One circumstance must not pass unnoticed. A few of the ladies and gentlemen who had effected their escape by wading, some to their waists, in the water to the small boats, proffered to the Cortez for protection. After some delay at the ship Capt. Collins admitted them on board, but they were refused the use of rooms or any bedding or refreshments. N. Rawson.

Great Suffering in the West. U. S. Soldiers Eating their own Companions. The following is an extract from a private letter received by the editor of the Military Argus, New York. "Port Pierce, N. T., March 15, 1856. A most horrible affair happened between here and Sioux city in December last, which is almost too wicked to relate. Three soldiers, named Rigert, Wickers and Cornell, deserted from companies D and H, Second Dragoons, about the first of December, and started down the river. In the way they took down the men from this place, who were proceeding in the same direction, and as self preservation suggested the idea of strength in numbers, they mutually agreed to travel in company. Up to this time, and for some ten or twelve days after their junction, the weather had been remarkably mild and pleasant. A few days after, however, heavy snows, accompanied with intense cold, set in, which continued for ten or twelve days, during which time but little progress was made. At length their scanty stock of provisions gave out, and starvation seemed inevitable, for they were at least two hundred miles in a direct line from the nearest settlement.

For six days, without a particle of food, they continued their course down the river, but made very little progress towards their destination. Under these accumulated sufferings the soldier named Cornell died, and the others, to appease their hunger, cut up his body and eat his flesh. The following night one of the civilians died, and his body was disposed of in like manner. On the succeeding night, two more of the civilians died, but the party was discovered shortly after, and the living were spared the necessity of making any further meals upon the dead bodies of their companions.

They were found by a party of Major Fry's command, and when first discovered they were regaling themselves upon the arms and legs of their unfortunate companions. The survivors were taken to Major Howe's camp, and under proper attention have all recovered.

In Mr. Blair's recent letter to the Republicans of New York, he states that Mr. Buchanan recommended the deposit of \$50,000 of Government money in Simon Cameron's bank for the purchase of the Washington Globe, of Mr. Blair, for President Polk; and now the Union, which was the fruit of that purchase, is doing all it can to cut Mr. Buchanan's throat. This looks like retribution.

Great Republican Meeting in New York City. There was a great gathering at the Abner-nacle on Tuesday, April 29th, of the citizens of New York opposed to the present National Administration, for its Extension of Slavery over the Territory embraced within the Compact of the Missouri Compromise, and in favor of Repairing the Mischief arising from the Violation of Good Faith in its Repeal, and of restoring the action and position of the Federal Government on the subject of Slavery to the principles of Washington and Jefferson, in response to a call published in the newspapers yesterday morning. A more hearty response could not have been given to any call. When the hour for organization had arrived, Hon. Edwin D. Morgan called the meeting to order, and Benj. F. Butler was chosen President.

Hon. Abijah Mann made an interesting condensed report of the proceedings of the Republican National Convention, held at Pittsburg in February last. In moving the adoption of the report, Mr. Wm. M. Evans spoke with truth and earnestness upon the principles of the Republican Party, and on the struggles between Freedom and Slavery.

Hon. Mr. Bingham, of Ohio, was the next speaker introduced. His appearance was the signal for a burst of loud applause. The question which the country was now to answer was, he said, whether the President of the United States should be permitted to alter the Constitution, so as to make it establish injustice.

Gen. J. W. Nye, was presented to the audience amid loud and protracted cheers. He proposed resolutions against the repeal of the Missouri Compromise and the outrages on Kansas, and approving of the proceedings of the Pittsburg Convention.

Their adoption was seconded by Mr. Noyes, and, on being put to the meeting, they were carried unanimously. Mr. Horace Greeley urged the importance of making the issue in the coming election as direct, as simple, as practical as possible.

Mr. C. Noyes, Esq., was loudly called for, and spoke briefly. He said the new political ranks had a compound of all parties—there are Hard Shells and Soft Shells, and some gentlemen who are suspected of having years past been on intimate terms with the Albany Regency, and there are some Whigs—not those of the fossiliferous strata, (laughter) but Whigs of Progress, whose hopes and affections are not all buried in the graves of their leaders, but who look to the interests of their fellow-men, and who do not desire to be viewed at some future day as curious specimens in some new Silurian museum. (Laughter.)

Now, what has brought these men together—what is the cause of this combination of men who never acted together before? The reason is because the theory and practice of this Government is perverted, and is attempted to be perverted much more, by the interference of the Government, in the perpetuation of Slavery.

Letters were received from the following gentlemen, heartily approving the cause, and regretting their inability to attend: Fremont, Sumner, and Wilson, Hon. Benj. H. Wood, Hon. Martin Butts, Hon. O. M. Matteson, Hon. M. W. Dehalay, of Kansas, Hon. Zenas Clark, Hon. Lyman Trumbull, James D. Fessenden, Hon. E. B. Morgan, Hon. S. Galloway, Hon. E. P. Hurlbut, Hon. T. C. Day, Hon. F. E. Spinner, Hon. W. H. Kelsey, Wm. C. Bryant, Hon. S. Colfax, Hon. H. W. Taylor, Hon. B. Balcom, E. W. Washburn, U. S. Sen. S. H. Tilton.

The meeting adjourned at 11 p. m. with three hearty cheers. Mr. Webster's Opinion. The Pennsylvania, in order to propitiate the South in favor of Mr. Buchanan's pretensions to the Presidency, takes the ground that Slavery is a National, and not a Local institution, and may exist anywhere within our limits, unless proscribed by municipal law.

Gen. Walker's War. The steamship Orizaba, Capt. E. L. Linkenbach has arrived at New York, from San Juan del Norte, having left the port on the evening of the 21st inst. The defeat of Col. Schlessinger at Santa Rosa is confirmed. About 70 of his men are reported as missing. During his trial by Court martial, while on parole, he deserted. It is supposed that he went over to the Costa Ricans, having sold himself to them before the battle. On the 7th instant the Costa Ricans took possession of Rivas with 2,000 men. On the 11th Gen. Walker with 600 men attacked them. After a fight of 17 1/2 hours he was obliged to abandon the city from want of ammunition, leaving 600 Costa Ricans dead on the field and a large number wounded. His loss in killed, wounded and missing is reported at about 100.

The Costa Ricans on taking possession of Virgin Bay fired indiscriminately on every person they saw, killing eight or ten American citizens who had been in the employ of the Transit Company. On the 10th, Lieut. Green with fifteen men met about two hundred Costa Ricans, about eighteen miles above the mouth of the San Pedro, killing twenty-seven of them and dispersing the rest with the loss of only one killed and one wounded. It is reported that Gen. Walker intended to attack the Costa Ricans of Virgin Bay about the 25th, having one thousand Americans and three hundred natives under his command. So far the Nicaraguans have acted with him, with the exception of a few who are prominent in the "Legitimate" party, much to the disappointment of the Costa Ricans, who expected a general revolt against the Americans.

Honduras, San Salvador, and Guatemala are said to be in favor of peace, and will not invade Nicaragua. They received the Commissioners of Nicaragua in a friendly manner, and have discontinued the enlistment of troops, and even disbanded some of the new levies. The intercepted correspondence between the British Government and Costa Rica, in which the former agrees to contribute 2,000 stand of arms to the latter, has caused great excitement among the Americans in Nicaragua. Quite a number of American rifles were taken from the Costa Ricans at Rivas. There were also several English and French men seen in their army.

The English frigate, Eurydice, Capt. Taiton, was the only vessel in the harbor of San Juan, and her boats were constantly on duty watching the movements of American. Passengers who came down the river in the steamer were prohibited by them from going on shore.

The most serious features of this stirring intelligence, however, are those which relate to the alleged shooting at Washington, of several American citizens, who do not appear to have taken any active part in the war. These atrocities are fully set forth in the communication of Minister Wheeler to the Costa Rica government, and are no doubt the burden of official despatches with which Major Heiss (also a passenger in the Orizaba) is charged.

If the statements be true, that the forces of Costa Rica are now in possession of the San Juan Route, and that the officers declare a determination to exterminate every American now in the country; a determination, moreover, to be actively supported "by the authorities of England and France," (who are charged with supplying Minnie rifles, ammunition, &c.) the exigency is one which would seem to demand, at once, some action on the part of the government at Washington. It is one thing to shoot down at a distance the professed "filibuster,"—he goes there with the understanding that he may be shot or exterminated;—but quite another thing to be murdering in cold blood, peaceable American citizens; and even women and children,—who could have no interest in the war, one way or another.

The steamer Illinois, from Aspinwall, with California dates to the 5th inst., reached New York April 30th. She brought \$2,000,000 in specie. The mining regions of California promise a larger yield than during any previous year. A strong movement was in progress for a weekly postal connection with Missouri. A brisk trade has sprung up between San Francisco and the Russian Possessions. The Indians continue hostilities in Oregon and Washington Territories. They captured the steamer Mary on the Columbia. Various conflicts had occurred, and in one between the volunteers and the Indians, 40 of the latter were killed, and the remainder of the force routed. The battle took place at Cannell's Prairie.

Republican Association. The Republican Association of Montrose and Bridgewater will meet at the Old Court House, on Monday evening next, May 12th. Business of importance is then to be transacted and the attendance of all the members, and such others as desire to join the Association, is requested. FRANK WELLS, Pres. Bridgewater, May 8, 1856.

Teachers' Examinations. I will be in the Town mentioned below on the following named days, for the purpose of examining those who were unable to attend my first examinations: Franklin, May 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st. Hingham, May 22nd, (Medical Church). New Bedford, May 23rd, (Clifford Corners), 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st. Lenox, May 24th, (Glenwood), 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st. Thomaston, May 25th, (Mumfords), 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st. W. F. TOWNSEND, Co. Secy. Bridgewater, May 8, 1856.

REMOVED. INTO BRICK BLOCK, front room, over the store of M. S. Wilson & Sons. C. D. VIRGIL, District.

SUNDAY SCHOOL NOTICE. At different times at New York retail prices. Call at the Postoffice.

JUST RECEIVED. A VARIETY of Britannia Ware, Plated and Japaned Tea-ware, Crockery, Glass-ware, &c. Good Groceries, Fancy Goods, Jewellery, Brooms, Gold Spectacles, Perfumery, Drugs, &c. Wholesale and Retail. A. B. TURRELL, No. 155 N. 2nd St. BALTIMORE, Md.