The Independent Republican.

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

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MONTROSE, SUSQ. CO., PA.

THURSDAY, MAY 12, 1859.

☞ In our advertising columns will be found the prospectus of the *Knickerbocker Magazine*. We find the *Knickerbocker* as fresh and spicy as ever. We will furnish it and the *Republican* at $3,50 a year.

☞ At the request of several interested in organizing Township Agricultural Societies, we intend to publish the Constitution of the Susquehanna County Agricultural Society, next week.

☞ An unusual amount of building is going on in Montrose this season, and our streets present quite a lively appearance. Though circumstances do not favor a very rapid growth of our Borough, its situation in the midst of a thriving farming population ensures it a steady growth and renders its business not so liable to fluctuations as that of many "faster" places.

☞ Happening into Chandler and Jessup's store, not long since, we witnessed the operation of one of Grover and Baker's sewing machines, for which Mr. Chandler is agent. It seems almost like magic to see such beautiful and durable sewing so rapidly done; and we doubt not that, as people become aware of the benefits to be derived from the use of such machines, they will be very generally introduced.

☞ By telegraphic dispatch from New York on Monday last, we have later European news than that by the Niagara, published elsewhere in this paper. There had been no declaration of war; and it was rumored that Austria had given Sardinia fourteen days' time to withdraw her claims.

☞ Horace Greeley, of the *Tribune*, is about to take a trip westward through the Kansas gold region to Utah, thence to California, thence across the Isthmus homewards, and expects to be in New York again about the 10th of September. He will write to the *Tribune* of all he sees and hears; and the letters of few travelers are more readable or instructive than those of Horace Greeley.

☞ John C. Truesdell, Esq., formerly of this county, who was admitted to the bar in 1849, and went West shortly after, appears, by the following from a Dodge county, Wis., paper, to be gaining considerable celebrity as a lawyer:

Underhill, who was tried for murder at the last term of court in this County, was acquitted. He was defended by John C. Truesdell, Esq., assisted by counsel from Portage City.

Mr. Truesdell, in his defence of Underhill, well sustained his reputation as a sound lawyer, and we believe the verdict of acquittal was more the result of an ingenious and able defence, than a failure of testimony on the part of the prosecution.

We are informed by gentlemen who were present at the trial, that the speech of Judge Truesdell was the most brilliant and powerful that has ever been made at a murder trial in the State. After the verdict, the prisoner was taken to the American Hotel, at Juneau, and his eloquent defender was loudly and repeatedly called upon for a speech by the excited populace.

As an evidence of the estimation in which Judge Truesdell was held by the suitors at Juneau, we w'd state that he was employed on every jury trial of the term, and that he was successful in every case.

☞ The Honesdale *Herald* alleges that the recent reception of Henry C. Carey and others in Luzerne County was a Republican affair. In this, the *Herald* is about as near right as usual. To say nothing of the anti-Lecompton Democrats who joined in the proceedings, we observe that the name of E. B. Chase was signed to the letter of invitation addressed to Mr. Carey, that Messrs. Davis (of the Scranton *Herald of the Union*) and Adams participated in the speech-making and the dinner at Scranton, and that the Hon. Paul Leidy was present at the banquet in Danville. Surely these men are not Republicans. But if none but Republicans are fit to honor such a man as Mr. Carey, so be it. In honoring him, they do themselves honor.

☞ At the city election in Philadelphia, on the 3d inst., the Democracy were again beaten. The Opposition candidate for Treasurer, Mr. Brown, and for Commissioner, Mr. Neal, were elected by about 2500 majority; and a majority of both the select and common councils were also elected over the sham Democracy. The vote was very light, but it is claimed that while many of the opposition were inactive, the Buchaneers were hard at work to carry the city.

☞ We see it stated in a cotemporary that certain doughface newspapers object to the singing of such songs as "Nellie Gray," on the ground that they tend to promote sympathy for the class of beings to whom "Nellie" is supposed to belong. The tendency must be admitted, and it is not to be wondered at that "Democratic" editors should oppose such singing. In fact, any song or word that breathes the spirit of freedom and the rights of man, is opposed to the spirit of slavery; and hence school books and religious and literary works have to be expurgated before they are circulated at the South. As the men who have the interests of the institution of Slavery in charge, have undertaken to reverse the decrees of the Almighty, and to re-make human nature, they are philosophically correct in wishing to begin at the foundation, and eradicate the noblest sentiments of the human heart. It is said that the order of Jesuits are so skillful in training men to their purposes that they will take a youth whose bosom is filled with every noble and generous impulse, and by an ingenious system of education will in a few years transform him into a cool, hard, calculating being, whose every better feeling and loftier aspiration has been absorbed in the one purpose of advancing the power and influence of the order to which he belongs. So the tendency of Southern Slavery is to lead its advocates to trample down the best parts of their natures, and, shutting their eyes to all distinction between right and wrong, between the great and the base in human conduct, give themselves up, body and soul, to the service of that which to them stands in place of religion, of morality, of civilization, and of patriotism. To suit the peculiar social condition of the South, a new Gospel is preached—a Gospel warped and twisted to meet the spiritual wants of traffickers in the flesh and blood of Christians. And for them a new code of morals has to be invented. The pistol and the bowie knife are as ready in the hands of the Southern chivalry as were sword and lance in those of the feudal barons in the middle ages. The bold spirit and the strong hand bear sway, and laws are evaded or twisted to shield the powerful offender. Instead of a civilization that tends to bring mankind on an equality, to give intelligence and a competence to the mass of the people, the South boasts a system which keeps the majority poor, ignorant, and degraded; and this is claimed by its advocates as the highest civilization, the most perfect system of society known in the world. It is claimed by the more enthusiastic Southerners that, this being the true model of society, it must eventually prevail everywhere; and the patriotism of Southern Statesmen is evinced by their willingness to extend the blessings of the institution and of the state of society which attends it, not only to our new Territories, but also to the Northern States.

But our faith in the ultimate downfall of the institution is founded in the fact that the whole system is out of harmony with the better part of human nature. The more men improve in goodness, the less they will be inclined to enslave their fellows, and to seek gain from others without compensation; and we have faith to believe that the people of the United States will yet become so far advanced in the practical application of the principles enunciated by our fathers in the Declaration of Independence, as to recognize the right of each human being, to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

☞ Every one has his gift, though in some cases it is difficult to discover what the gift is. We have been a good deal puzzled to discover that of the editor of the *Montrose Democrat*; but we have found it out at last. He is a *Democratometer*. He can tell a Democrat as far as he can see him. His eye is as quick and sure for that purpose, as was the glance of the great Napoleon to read an embryo Marshal of France in a common foot soldier. But woe to the impostor who claims the name of Democrat, and does not come fully up to the Lecompton test. He of the *Democrat* at once strips the pretender of his borrowed plumes, and turns him out a mere "Black Republican." For example, there is the Hon. F. B. Streeter, who has filled various offices in the gift of the people, and one in the gift of the President, on the strength of his pretended Democracy. The common multitude examined the man, and pronounced him Democratic. Even sagacious Democratic leaders, both at Harrisburg and at Washington, after a long acquaintance, have confirmed the decision of the multitude. But tremble, O Solicitor to the United States Treasury! Quake, O Counsel for a Republican Board of County Commissioners! The *Democratometer* approaches! One touch of the Ithuriel spear, and the impostor stands revealed—a Democrat no longer.

We hope this miraculously gifted youth will continue to apply his test, and read all old Democrats who do not come up to his standard out of the party. Should he do so, he would soon discover that real, genuine, simon-pure, Buchanan-Lecompton Democrats are amazingly few. If we might meddle in so delicate a matter, we would suggest that one possessing this valuable gift be advanced to a place near the President, to aid that venerable and no doubt somewhat dim-sighted chieftain in distinguishing between genuine and bogus Democrats among the numerous applicants for offices and other executive favors.

☞ The editor of the *Teacher's Journal* insists that the first of the following two examples of punctuation is right, and the other wrong:

"Virtue, honor and character were lost."

"Virtue, honor, and character were lost."

A comma more or less, may seem a small matter for discussion; but even such a question possesses interest for those whose attention is directed to the *minutiæ* of literature, as printers' and proof-readers' must be. After some examination, we are led to believe that, while many newspapers and a few magazines are punctuated like the *Teacher's Journal*,—omitting the comma where the conjunction is inserted between the last two of three or more successive words in the same construction,—*all* the authorities, and the almost universal practice in *books*, are in favor of inserting the comma. The latest authority that we have seen on this point is *The Printer*, (New York,) for December, 1858, which contains an article on the comma, fully agreeing with our views. We have before us books printed in various cities of the United States, in England, and in Scotland; and they all have the comma inserted before the conjunction, in cases like the above, except two or three American books in which both modes of punctuation are found, probably owing to carelessness in the proof-reader. If the editor of the *Journal* will turn over any dozen books in his library, and observe how they are punctuated in this respect, he can hardly be in doubt as to what is the prevailing practice.

The reason assigned for omitting the comma does not satisfy us. *The Journal* tells us that the comma is here used to supply the place of the conjunction, and therefore when the conjunction is inserted the comma is not needed. We think, on the contrary, that the pause denoted by the comma exists whether the conjunction is omitted or not. In reading the sentence, "Virtue, honor, and character were lost," *we* make a pause after "honor" as well as after "virtue." It is true that punctuists say that in an example like this:—"Virtue, and honor, and character were lost"—in which *not more than three* words are connected by conjunctions expressed, the comma may be omitted; but it is perhaps as often inserted as omitted in such cases; and we hold that it is quite as correct to insert it, and that the pause exists, and should be observed in reading, whether the comma is inserted or omitted. Misled by his theory that the comma stands in place of the conjunction, the editor of the *Journal* gives us such examples of punctuation as this: "We are aware that Gould Brown uses the comma after each word of the same kind in the sentence, but we are also aware that neither he nor Wilson nor Mitch nor Craig nor Clark has ever given a reason for so doing." Here probably few readers would fail, even with the *Journal's* punctuation, (or, rather, want of punctuation,) to make a pause before each "nor," equal to that indicated by a comma; and surely very few punctuists would have failed to insert the comma after "he," "Wilson," &c.

☞ The May Number of the *Atlantic Monthly* is upon our table, and contains the following interesting contents: "The Gymnasium;" "Why did the Governess faint?" "Two years after," (verse;) "A bundle of old Letters," (a relic of the American Revolution;) "In the Pines;" "The last Bird," (verse;) "The Utah Expedition;" "Bulls and Bears;" "Inscription for an Alms-Chest,' (verse;) "A trip to Cuba;" "The Professor at the Breakfast Table;" "The Minister's Wooing;" "The Walker of the Snow, (verse.) This excellent number closes with a budget of Reviews and Literary Notices, and sustains the reputation of the work as one of the most readable and attractive periodicals in the Union.

☞ *The Spiritual Telegraph and Fireside Preacher*, a weekly paper, published by Charles Partridge, New York, at two dollars a year, commenced its eighth volume this month. It is well known as one of the ablest and most dignified organs and advocates of the doctrines of *Spiritualism*. In addition to its so-called spiritual intelligence, the *Telegraph* has made such arrangements as enable it to publish the sermons of Rev. Henry Ward Beecher and Rev. Edwin H. Chapin on the Tuesdays following the Sundays on which they are delivered. Those who reject the paper's spiritualism, will yet be attracted by the discourses of these eloquent divines.

THE "GALLANT YOUNG CUBANS."—News has reached us of the failure of the little revolutionary expedition sent out from New York to liberate Cuba. The party numbered thirty-five men with two hundred and fifty muskets, and other munitions. They tried to land at a small town on the island, but their boat got swamped, and they got back on their schooner, the African, whence they sailed in a destitute condition to Hayti, imploring aid from the American Consul, who is said to have refused it.

So ends another silly attempt made by intermeddlers to change the political condition of a people that do not desire or do not deserve a change. The Cubans are either willing slaves or sincerely loyal, and it is a thankless kind of Quixotism to try and set them free, or to doubt their loyalty. We never expected any good event from this expedition, and we regret that the disaster to the revolutionists is shipwreck and not garrotting.—*Phila. Bulletin.*

For the Independent Republican.

Military.—First Brigade.

Agreeable to previous notice by the Brigade Inspector, the Delegates from the several Companies of the First Brigade of Susquehanna County, convened at the Keystone Hotel, in the Borough of Montrose, on Friday, May 6th, 1859, and were called to order by Col. Asa Spicer. On motion, Col. B. Glidden was called to preside, and C. M. Gere appointed Secretary.

On motion, Convention proceeded to ballot for Brigadier General. C. B. JACKSON received nine votes, BENJ. GLIDDEN received seven votes.

Mr. Jackson was then declared duly nominated.

On motion, Convention proceeded to ballot for Brigade Inspector. C. M. GERE received fourteen votes, ASA SPICER received two votes.

Mr. Gere was then duly nominated.

On motion the Convention adjourned.

[Signed by the Officers.]

First Regiment.

The Delegates to the several Companies composing the First Regiment of Susquehanna County, in pursuance of a call of the Brigade Inspector, convened at the Keystone Hotel, on Friday, May 6th, 1859, and organized by calling Capt. James Meade to preside, and M. C. Sutton, Secretary.

On motion, John Brackney received the nomination for Colonel; D. C. Minkler, Lieutenant Colonel; and M. McNerny, Major. On motion,

Resolved, That the proceedings of this Convention be published in the County papers, and that our commanding officers call out the First Regiment to meet for parade and drill, at Friendsville, on Monday, June 6th, at 9 o'clock, a. m.

On motion, Convention adjourned.

[Signed by the Officers.]

Second Regiment.

In pursuance of a call by the Brigade Inspector, the Delegates of the several Companies of the Second Regiment convened at the Keystone Hotel, on Friday, May 6th, 1859. Organized by calling Gen. John Blanding to the chair, and Maj. Elliot Aldrich, Secretary.

On motion, Stephen E. Carpenter was duly nominated for Colonel; Charles Slocum, Lieutenant Colonel; and Norman Tingley, Major.

On motion, Convention adjourned.

[Signed by the Officers.]

From Washington—Rumored Pacification of the Democracy.

WASHINGTON, Friday night.—Senator Green, of Missouri, has suggested a compromise between the disagreeing factions of the Democracy, which meets the approval of President Buchanan and Secretary Cass, and which, it is expected, will unite the party.—The Western Democracy insists on the reinstatement of Mr. Douglas as a regular member of the party. Mr. Green proposes to drop all discussion upon intervention and non-intervention, as non-essential, and proposes also the withdrawal of all opposition to the admission of Kansas, whether as a free or slave State, in the next Congress. These bases of accommodation are accepted by the Administration, and the breach between the factions of the Democracy is regarded as healed.

General Cass has completely recovered from his indisposition, and has been actively occupied these two days in examining and answering despatches from Nicaragua and Mexico.

Pennsylvania Politics.

ALTOONA, Pa., May 4, 1859.

The State Central Committee of the State Rights Democracy is in session here (John W. Forney, Chairman) for a full and free interchange of sentiment. There is much enthusiasm and determination to press forward the movement.

They have resolved that it is inexpedient to nominate a State ticket; proclaim unalterable opposition to the doctrine of Congressional intervention as advocated by the Republicans for the prohibition of Slavery in the Territories, or as advocated by the Administration Democrats for the protection of Slavery; and recommend the friends of Popular Sovereignty to vote for no candidates at future elections who refuse to stand clearly upon the doctrine which recognizes the principle that the people of the Territories shall form and regulate their own domestic institutions in their own way. They also recommend to the States' Rights Democracy to demand at all times the adoption of the principles promulgated by the Harrisburg Convention, which were enumerated in the Cincinnati Platform and Mr. Buchanan's letter of acceptance.

THE ADVOCATES OF HIGH POSTAGE.—It may be interesting to the people, as well as convenient for reference, to place on record the names of the Senators who voted for the bill to increase the tax on letters for the benefit of the South, and to place in the hands of the Administration more money to be squandered on personal favorites, and to advance the corrupt schemes of Mr. Buchanan. Here they are from the Washington *Globe*:

YEAS—Messrs. Benjamin, Bright, Brown, Chesnut, Clay, Clingman, Crittenden, Davis, Fitch, Fitzpatrick, Green, Gwin, Hammond, Houston, Hunter, Iverson, Johnson of Arkansas, Johnson of Tennessee, Jones, Lane, Mason, Pearce, Polk, Reid, Sebastian, Slidell, Toombs, Ward, and Yulee.—29.

NAYS—Messrs. Allen, Bayard, Bigler, Broderick, Chandler, Clark, Collamer, Dixon, Doolittle, Douglas, Durkee, Fessenden, Foot, Foster, Hale, Hamlin, Harlan, King, Pugh, Rice, Seward, Shields, Simmons, Stuart, Trumbull, Wade, Wilson, and Wright.—28.

Every one of the affirmative was from the South, except Bright and Fitch, of Indiana, Gwin of California, Jones of Iowa, and Lane of Oregon. *And the whole 29, except Crittenden, are Democrats*—the friends of the poor man, as they call themselves! *Every Republican votes No, of course*—and with them, eight Noathern Democrats, who felt instructed by the public opinion of their constituents, and also one Senator from a nominal Slave State, Bayard of Delaware. This record, like that on the Homestead Bill, speaks for itself.

WHO KILLED THE HOMESTEAD BILL.—It is well to keep before the people the men who killed the bill to give the poor or landless men of this and other States, Free Homes from the public lands of this nation. They are as follows, the Republican and Opposition Senators in italics:

YEAS—Messrs. *Bell, Broderick, Cameron, Fessenden, Foot, Foster*, Gwin, *Hale, Hamlin, Harlan*, Johnson of Tennessee, Jones, *King*, Pugh, Rice, *Seward*, Stuart, *Simmons, Trumbull, Wade, Wilson*..—27.

NAYS—Messrs. Allen, Bates, Bayard, Bigler, Bright, Brown, Chesnut, Clay, Clingman, Davis, Fitch, Fitzpatrick, Green, Hammond, Houston, Hunter, Iverson, Johnson of Ark., Mallory, Mason, Pearce, Polk, Reid, Sebastian, Slidell, Thompson of N. J., Toombs, Ward, Wright, and Yulee.—30.

It will be seen that every Republican in the Senate, as every Republican had in the House, with one exception, voted for the bill, and that every vote against it was given by Democrats. This vote and the one on the high postage bill, and the vote on the Agricultural College and the St. Clair flats bills will show the people who their enemies as well as their friends are.

☞ The six New England States send twelve Senators and twenty-nine members of the House of Representatives to Congress, every one of whom at the next session will be Republican in politics.

LATER FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE NIAGARA.

WAR IMMINENT.

A special edition of the London *Times* of the 21st of April contains the following highly important telegram:

TURIN, April 21, 1859.

Gyulai, the Austrian commander in Lombardy, has been ordered to present an ultimatum for the disarmament and the sending away of volunteers. If refused, war is to be declared in three days. Two more divisions of the Austrian army, consisting of 80,000 men, have been ordered to the Ticino. The English proposal for a Congress upon the same conditions as that at Laybach, has been refused.

The London *Times* adds the following:

"We have reason to believe the same intelligence has been received by the Government. A Cabinet council was at once summoned, and the English Government is said to have promptly telegraphed to Vienna the strongest protest against the above menace."

The London *Evening Herald* of the same date contains a similar announcement, and it is otherwise fully confirmed.

The Vienna correspondent of the London *Times* telegraphs, under date of Thursday noon, as follows:

"The day before yesterday, Austria forwarded a categorical summons to Sardinia to dissolve the free corps. A reply is to be given within three days from the receipt of the summons, and an evasive answer will be considered equivalent to a refusal."

The Paris *Moniteur* of Friday says:

"Austria has not given her adhesion to the proposition made by England, and accepted by France, Russia, and Prussia; beside which, it appears that the Cabinet of Vienna have resolved upon addressing a direct communication to the Cabinet of Turin, in order to obtain the disarmament of Piedmont. In consequence of these facts, the Emperor has ordered the concentration of several divisions of the army on the frontiers of Piedmont."

The *Patrie* says that General Marmora has informed the French Government by telegraph that the Austrian army has made a significant movement on the strategetical line of the Ticino, and that he feared he might be attacked at any moment.

Napoleon had held a council of Ministers, and was attended by Princes Jerome and Napoleon as Princes of the blood.

The King of Sardinia also held a council of Ministers on Thursday, the 21st.

VIENNA, Friday, April 22.

The following official statement is published:

"Piedmont, which has for some years past endangered Austria's rights, has been summoned most urgently by Austria to disarm. This demand is expressly to Piedmont.—Austria adheres firmly to the proposal for a general disarmament, although she cannot make that proposal subordinate to the summons she has addressed to Sardinia."

The *Constitutionel* announces that part of the army of Paris has received orders to hold itself in readiness to march.

LATEST.

LONDON, Saturday, April 23, 1859.

After the Cabinet meeting on Thursday, a dispatch was sent to the Austrian Government, expressing the strong disapproval of the British Government of the peremptory course adopted by Austria.

The Daily *News* says the reply of the Emperor of Austria has been received. He declines to reconsider the responsibility incurred in commencing war in the heart of Europe. Count Buol declares that his master, having taken his course, will pursue it to the end.

The *Times* says that the Imperial manifesto which is to accompany the declaration of war against Sardinia is already prepared.—Austria, mistress of the position, is ready, by the act of State and deed of war, to initiate the sanguinary drama upon which the curtain is about to rise. There is no doubt that a general movement of the French forces has taken place on the entire Piedmontese frontiers.

English journals generally think that the last chance of peace has about vanished, and speculate on the opening movements of the campaign.

The London *Hera'd* gives, in a semi-official form, some specific and exclusive information relating to the movements of the French army. It says that orders have been given for the embarkation at Toulon of 30,000 troops—not, however, to sail till further orders. The divisions at Lyons, Grenoble, Besancon, &c., have also received orders to be ready to march at a minute's notice—but not to move till further instructions. The total French force destined to co-operate with Sardinia, in the event of war, estimated at 80,000, will be in two divisions—one commanded by Canrobert, and the other by Baraguay d'Hilliers—the whole actively under the command of the Emperor in person.

The British Embassador to Turin had returned to his post.

MUTILATED COIN.—It has just been discovered in New York that there is a quantity of gold coin in circulation which is not of the required weight, five dollar pieces weighing nineteen grains less than the coins ought to weigh. Externally the coin is that which is coined at the mint. But the fraud is perpetrated in the following manner: The coin is placed on a lathe and made to revolve. A keen narrow chisel is set against the edge, and as the coin revolves the chisel turns out the inside of it, and penetrates nearly to the centre, leaving but two thin shells, as it were, connected at the centre. The cavity is then filled up with base metal, the coin is milled over again and the edge galvanized, showing as perfect a specimen of work in fraud as was ever conceived or executed. Another mode of mutilating coin, which we see, is to punch a hole in them or file off the edges.—These practices are of course obvious to any person who chooses to examine coins presented. The way to stop this practice is for every shopkeeper and dealer of every kind to reject all coins that have been mutilated in the least degree. This would leave all such coins in the hands of the persons who were guilty of the mutilation, and be an effectual bar to the rascality which was meant to be practised by the clipping.

☞ A married couple in Columbus, Ohio, having for a long time lived a very disagreeable and unhappy life, resolved to terminate all their troubles by a joint suicide—the Scioto river being the place, and drowning the means. The night selected for the suicide was a cold and disagreeable one, but the two marched boldly to the bank, and jumped, hand in hand, into the rolling deep. The man could swim, and as he rose to the surface, he thought of striking for the shore, but waited to see what his wife would do; that lady, upon coming up, and after sputtering and blowing under the impression that her husband was drowned, called loudly for help, and then sunk. The husband, however, when she came up again, seized and carried her to the shore. They were both heartily ashamed, and have concluded to try to make home more agreeable to each other for the future.

Religious Fanaticism and Murder—A Father Kills his Daughter.

The quiet Sabbath was broken in upon yesterday by the commission of a horrid murder in the town of Sandlake, about fourteen miles from Troy, of a daughter by her father, and only surviving parent, a man about sixty years of age, named John Belding. The scene of the homicide is about four miles east of Sliter's tavern, and near the steam saw-mill on the Sandlake road.—The parties lived in a little house, in which the father earned a livelihood for himself and daughter by following the trade of a shoemaker. The daughter's name was Christiana. She is about nineteen years of age, and is described by the neighbors as a quiet and well-behaved girl. She had been unwell for some time, and, it is said, had been under the care of a female doctress residing in Berlin, in this county, named Weaver. Her mind, it appears, was somewhat effected, but whether from religious excitement or from some other cause, we are unable to say. She labored under the impression that the devil had possessed her, and used to pray very frequently for deliverance from his grasp. A day or two before the murder, the old man and daughter went over to the house of David Horton, who resided opposite the Beldings, when Christina said she had taken medicine of Mrs. Weaver, and it made her feel as if "the devil was in her, and she would scratch him off; but that she had thrown the medicine away, and drove the devil away, too." The old man had not done much work recently, as it affected the girl's head, and it is supposed that in consequence of his care of her, want of sleep, &c., his own mind had become temporarily affected, and while under the delusion that "Dena," as he calls her, was the devil, he killed her.

The account which Belding gives of the affair is, that he saw the devil lying on the bed and he struck it in the face. The girl, it appears, was lying down in the back room.—Belding followed her from that room to the front room, in which the murder was committed with a shoemaker's hammer. Her skull was completely smashed to pieces.—Portions of the hair were scattered about the room, and pieces of the skull were lying over the floor. Her face, too, was considerably bruised and disfigured, but no marks of violence were discovered on the other parts of her body. Belding says he thought she was the devil—that she appeared to him to be four times as large as "Dena"—that her face was too large for "Dena"—and from his previous and subsequent conduct there can scarcely be a doubt that the old man imagines he had a fight with the devil, or, as he expresses it, with "three devils, and he had all he could do to kill them." They lived alone in the house. It is supposed the murder was committed about twelve and a half o'clock yesterday afternoon.

The first person who discovered the murder was Nicolas Ryermiller, who first saw the old man outside the house. He appeared very much excited, and told Ryermiller that he had "killed the devil, and it was lying in there"—pointing to his house. Ryermiller looked in and discovered the dead body of the daughter. He asked the old man if it was not "Dena" that he had killed? Belding replied that he did not think it was. Belding's hands and shirt sleeves were covered with blood. Ryermiller testified before the coroner's jury that the father and daughter had lived with him about six months previously to their residing in the house where the murder was committed, and that they always appeared happy together, and, as the witness expressed it, "never had any crazy times." Christina was a quiet, good girl.

Coroner Madden, of this city, was notified of the murder, and at 6 o'clock last evening proceeded to the scene of the tragedy. He found the neighborhood in great excitement. Belding was raving like a maniac when the coroner arrived. Coroner Madden summoned a jury—Joel B. Peck, foreman—and proceeded to investigate the case. Several witnesses were examined—their testimony being in effect as above given—and the jury rendered a verdict that, "In their opinion, said Christina Belding came to her death on Sunday, May 1, 1859, from fractures of the skull; and said injuries were inflicted with a hammer in the hands of her father, John Belding—he at the time laboring under temporary aberration of mind." Coroner Madden placed Belding under arrest, and late last night arrived with him in this city and placed him in jail here. A dose of morphine quieted the nerves of the old man, and rendered his conveyance here comparatively easy and safe.

The Grand Jury sit to-day. The evidence in the case will be handed over to them for their action at once. They will probably authorize a commission to investigate the sanity of the murderer, and if he is declared insane, will send him to the lunatic asylum; or they will indict him for murder, as in their opinion the evidence warrants.

The neighbors give both Belding and the daughter a good character. The old man was sober and industrious, and his delusion was the result of some cause other than drink. Dr. Barber, of Poestenkill, believes it to have been caused by his incessant care and attention to his sick daughter.—*Troy Times, May 3d.*

QUEER SETTLEMENT.—The following item is going the rounds:

"The difficulties between the inhabitants of Fannin county, Texas, and the anti-slavery Methodists located in that quarter, have been temporarily settled by the latter agreeing, for a time, to abstain from preaching.—The Texas *Advocate*, the organ of the Methodist Church South, fully and warmly endorses the proceedings of the people, and urges the thorough and complete eradication of the Methodist Church North, in Texas, with whatever force may be necessary."

Such a settlement as the above reminds one of Archbishop Hughes's notion that the liberty of conscience means thinking what you please, provided you keep it to yourself. The noble Christian Spirit of the organ of the Church South is something wonderful. After such opinions they can never pitch into the Roman Catholics for the massacre of Saint Bartholomew, or even the Fejees who "eradicate" missionaries whose views don't suit their standard, by boiling them and serving them up for dinner.

WHO IS DEAD?—The Washington Republicans, not being allowed to fire their guns over the Connecticut victory, within the city, dragged their ordnance across the river into Virginia, and fired them from the banks of the Potomac right into the ears of the President of the White House opposite. While engaged in this business, some gentlemen crossed over from the Presidential mansion with very anxious looks, and supposing that some one was drowned, and that the firing was only to raise the body, eagerly asked, "Is anyone dead?" "Yes," was the reply, in solemn tones. "Who is it?" "James Buchanan." The truth here began slowly to creep over the visitors, and they bowed themselves off.

☞ A dispatch from Cleveland, Ohio, dated May 6th, says, "Six of the Oberlin rescuers pleaded guilty this morning, and were sentenced each to a fine of twenty-five dollars and twenty-four hours imprisonment. Bushnell is not yet sentenced."

Free Labor in the West Indies.

A Barbadoes correspondent of the New York *Times*, speaking of the act of the British Parliament emancipating the slaves in the British West Indies, and its consequences, says:

"The act well nigh produced, as great, a political as it did a social revolution in the Islands; and it may naturally be supposed that many years would elapse before the planter would become reconciled to the change. Yet he *did* become reconciled; he believes now that the system under which his estate is worked, is cheaper and more profitable to himself than that of the old *régime*. With what reason, I shall hereafter have occasion to show; but I assert, without the fear of a single contradiction, that no Barbadian Planter would hesitate in 1859, to select free labor in preference to slave labor, as in his behalf, the more economical system of the two."

And again he says:

"It is a fact, which speaks volumes, that, within the last fifteen years, in spite of the extraordinary price of land and the low rate of wages, the small proprietors of Barbadoes, holding less than five acres, have increased from 1,100 to 3,537. All these proprietors were formerly slaves, subsequently free laborers, and finally landholders. This is certainly an evidence of industrious habits, and a remarkable contradiction to the prevailing idea that the negro will only work under compulsion. That idea was formed and fostered from the habits of the negro as a slave; his habits as a freeman, after they have been developed by time, are in striking contrast. I have conversed on the subject with all classes and conditions of people, and none are more ready to admit than the planters themselves that the free laborer in Barbadoes is a better, more cheerful, and more industrious workman than the slaves. These are the opinions of men who themselves were once violently opposed to freedom, and who still strive to keep the laboring classes in complete dependence; and they are opinions so universal that I have sought diligently, but in vain, to hear them contradicted. The negro will not work with the steadiness of a white man, nor can it be expected that he should with all the disadvantages of a tropical climate against him. But from my own observations, which I purposly made as extended as possible, I can assert that the crowds of laborers, male and female, whom I frequently met in the cane-fields were as diligent in the performance of their duties as any other class of Africans I ever saw either in Freedom or Slavery; and actual comparisons have proved that the free laborer gets through more work in a day than ever a slave did under the old system."

THE APPROPRIATION BILL.—The general appropriation bill, as passed by the Legislature, contains the following items:—Common Schools, $280,000; interest on State debt, $2,000,000; legislative expenses, $150,000; public printing, etc., $30,000; judicial salaries, $125,760; executive departments, $58,672; penitentiaries, $40,894; House of Refuge, $20,000; Pennsylvania State Lunatic Hospital, $22,000; Pennsylvania Institution for the Blind, $22,000; Pennsylvania Institution for Deaf and Dumb, $23,000; Pennsylvania Training School for Feeble Minded Children, $12,500; Northern Home for Friendless Children, $5000; Pennsylvania Asylum for Indigent Widows, etc., $5000.

STRONG LANGUAGE.—The following paragraph we clip from the Harrisburg *State Sentinel*, Governor Packer's organ:

"The purchased defenders of the policy of the arrogant traitor and disorganizer who occupies the Presidential chair, are unmeasured in their abuse of the gallant Hickman, and are continually crying out that he has no influence. Yet Hickman was *triumphantly* elected, while nearly every Congressman in the North that sustained the *treason* of Buchanan was disgracefully defeated. Does *that* look as if Hickman had no *influence?*"

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—We learn that Mr. Solomon Avery, of Falls township, this county, met with a sudden death on Friday last, by accidentally severing a large artery in one of his legs, with a knife, which he held in his hand and was using for some purpose, and which caused his death within a very few moments from bleeding. Mr. Avery was a young man of sober and industrious habits, and leaves a wife and two children to mourn his loss.—*North Branch Democrat.*

SCRIPTURE LAW.—John Graham undertook to justify Sickles in the killing of Key by quoting from the Bible, but he did not refer to the Epistle of St. James, chap. ii, verses 10 and 11, which read thus:

"Whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all.—For He that said, Do not commit adultery, also said, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law."

THE WILD AFRICANS.—The Vicksburg True Southron says six of the Wanderer's Africans—four men and two women—are on exhibition in that city. They are described as perfectly docile, answer such questions as they understand readily, and seem endowed with extraordinary powers of imitation and mimickry. They are somewhat stunted in growth, and, with one exception, have indifferent heads. Their teeth appear to have been filed. They are lively and cheerful.

☞ General Bowman, the Pennsylvania county editor whom Mr. Buchanan promoted to the editorship of the Washington *Union*, continues to hold on to the office of that paper, since its name has been changed to *The Constitution*. We suppose, therefore, that Mr. Browne, the gentleman from Ireland, who was sent on from the *Journal of Commerce* office, in New York, to edit the *Constitution*, takes only a sub editorship.—It is understood that Mr. Buchanan writes many of the leaders in the *Constitution* himself.

☞ A correspondent of *The Boston Transcript* communicates the following:

"The latter part of last November, Mr. Andrew Twombly of Brandon, Vt., commenced to dig a well near his house, situated about a mile from the centre of the village of Brandon, on a tolerably level plain. Having excavated to the depth of fifteen feet, through sand and gravel, the workmen came to ground frozen solid, through which they continued to excavate the further distance of fifteen or sixteen feet before getting through the frozen ground. At the depth of forty feet, sufficient water having been obtained, the well was stoned in the usual manner. The character of the ground was the same throughout the whole distance, viz., coarse gravel and sand—the frozen portion interspersed with lumps of pure ice. At the time the well was dug the surface of the ground was not frozen.—Ever since the well was dug, up to the present time, ice forms in the well and incrusts the stone at from fifteen to thirty feet below the surface, and the surface of the water, which is thirty-five feet below the surface of the ground, freezes over every night."

☞ The official vote for City Treasurer in Philadelphia is as follows: Brown, Opposition, 26,142; McClintock, Democrat, 23,971. For City Commissioner, Neal, Opposition, received 26,339 votes, and Boric, Democrat, 23,669.

General News.

.... The *National Era* says it is not for the generation among whom Elizabeth Browning has sung, and Charlotte Bronte spoken, and Harriet Hosmer chiselled, and Rosa Bonheur painted, and Mary Lyon taught, and Florence Nightingale lived, to despair of woman's achievement of her highest destiny.

.... The Memphis *Enquirer* expresses the confident belief that the Opposition will gain two members of Congress in Western Tennessee.

.... The popular new play of "Sickles, or the Washington Tragedy," has been produced on the Boston stage. The Boston *Ledger* says, "It is said to be a very close and correct dramatization from the facts, and offers with it a good moral."

.... One of our religious exchanges says that in the face of the verdict of the jury at Washington, and the demonstration with which it was received, it remains true that the hero of this tragedy has only succeeded in publishing to the world the infamy of his wife. In staining his hands with the ineffaceable blood of a fellow, in proving himself capable of cowardly revenge, and consigning himself to political oblivion when his brief term of office, if he can brave that out, shall have expired.

.... Charles Temple, a boy about eleven years old, a pupil of the Seventh District School, while playing, a few days ago on the roof of a flat-boat, stumbled and struck his face violently upon a piece of lumber, cutting his nose and forehead quite severely. He arose, however, and bathing his face, went home, when, having complained of a pain in his eyes, and his inability to see clearly, it was discovered that both his optics were badly crossed, so much so that the retina received a double impression of every object.—Several physicians, who have examined the lad's eyes since, have been unable to do anything for them, but think they may in after years, regain their natural position.—*Cincinnati Enquirer.*

.... Judge Haliburton—"Sam Slick"—has been knighted.

.... The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia *Press* says, "The various Southern Administration meetings are boldly taking ground against the construction of the Nebraska bill, to the effect that they never intended that non-intervention should mean anything else than *that the Territorial Legislature should protect* slavery.

.... The number of letters written in France does not, it is calculated, exceed 9½ per annum, on an average, for each inhabitant. In England it is 21; in Scotland, 16; in Ireland, 7.

.... A Jefferson Club has been formed in Washington, with the purpose of circulating the opinions of Jefferson on slavery. The Providence *Journal* thinks "it will be curious to see the manner in which the opinions will be received by those who profess to found their political faith on his doctrines."

.... Assistant Postmaster General King has decided that marking papers with pen or pencil for the purpose of attracting the eye does not subject them to letter postage. This is an important and satisfactory decision.

.... A Southern gentleman who has been a pilot upon the Western waters for twenty-five years, recently said that this country owed a great debt of gratitude to Paul Morphy, for that within the last year, card playing among steamboat travellers in the West had diminished fully one-half, and chess had taken its place, thus supplying an intellectual and improving pastime in place of one that results in evil, and evil only.

.... Two little boys in Chester county, and one in Philadelphia, were recently bitten by mad dogs, and have since died, in great agony. Several cows and colts were also bitten in Chester county, and one of the latter died in a few days, after a number of violent spasms. The lower counties seem to be overrun with mad dogs.

.... Matthew Kennedy, of Bennington, Vt., has sold his "gold mine" in that town for $2,000 to some California miners, who propose to put in a quartz crusher.

.... A traveler in Norway gives an account of the northernmost paper in the world, the *Troms