

Montrose Democrat.

THE LARGEST CIRCULATION IN NORTHERN PENN.
E. B. CHASE & J. B. McCOLLUM, EDITORS

ALVIN DAY, Publisher.

Montrose, Thursday, Sept. 13, 1855.

Democratic County Nominations

FOR REPRESENTATIVE,
OLIVER LATHROP, of Springville

FOR TREASURER,
H. F. TURRELL, of Montrose.

FOR COMMISSIONER,
NORMAN FOOT, of New Milford.

FOR AUDITOR,
REUBEN WELLS, of Bridge water.

In our columns to day will be found

extracts from letters of the Hon. G. A. Grow

to his family friends. We have been kindly

furnished with these letters, and shall extract

from them for several numbers of our paper.

Our readers are under great obligations for

these favors from the old world.

Letters From the Candidates.

In another column we publish the letters

of interrogation, by the Committee appointed

by the Democratic Convention, and the replies

of the candidates so far as received.

The same letter, varied only as to the office

named, was addressed to all of them.

It will be seen that the candidates place

themselves boldly on the issues before the

people, and we believe their sentiments will

find a response in the convictions of a large

majority of the people of this county. In-

deed, we can see no excuse for any man, pre-

tending to have been a Democrat, who per-

sists in striving to defeat the ticket. If he

does so, what reason can he render? Can

he still say that the great question of freedom

is involved in the result? We apprehend

that no man who has a regard for his man-

hood, will pretend even that such is the case.

He will not pretend that our nominees are

not, yet more, have not been from the first

firm, consistent men on that issue.

Suppose then these men are defeated, their

defeat will justly be attributed to a por-

tion of the free soil democrats, or those pre-

tending to be such. Now can the men who

thus defeat them convince men that they are

honest in what they profess, when they thus

leave a ticket and a platform which they

most acknowledge to be right, and join hands

with men who have opposed the Democracy

in every congressional conflict, on that issue

since the subject was first agitated in Con-

gress. We suppose that no one will deny

that it has been the Democratic party of this

District, every time against the opposition of

the Whig, or Know Nothing party, that has

obtained the free soil question, electing Mr.

Willmot one term more than party usage,

and the same of Mr. Grow. And yet now it

is this same Whig party, under another name

with which Democrats are asked to coalesce

and defeat their own men on that issue.

The idea is preposterous, involving an abur-

dity too glaring for honest men to embrace.

If the Democratic ticket is defeated in this

county this fall, it will be defeated not on the

free-soil issue at all, because that is not an

issue between the parties. It will be because

men, professing to act only with reference to

the free-soil question, really care more for

their connection with the Know Nothing

Lodges than for free soil. This is the only

reasonable construction the world can put

on their conduct, and when that shall be

made to appear, honest straight-forward men,

will be apt to treat them as men wanting

in political integrity and virtue. This is

just the position that those free soil Demo-

crats who unite with the opposition this fall

to defeat our county ticket will find them-

selves placed in. In our judgment they

could not strike a more fatal blow at the

principles they profess. We hope therefore

that they will look well to the consequences

before they take such a step.

The Pittsburg Convention.

Since our last, the Republican party has

held its State Convention at Pittsburg and

nominated Passmore Williamson of Philadel-

phia for Canal Commissioner. It is said that

he is not a Know-Nothing, and that there-

fore a third man will be brought into the

field. If this be the case, the result will

probably be the election of Mr. Plumer by a

large majority. Judge Jessup of this county,

who made a speech in the Baltimore Con-

vention was undoubtedly true. Wheeler then went

before the United States Judge and obtained

a habeas corpus, avowing that Williamson had

unlawfully abducted his slaves. Judge Kane

issued the writ, and Williamson, instead of

making the legal return, so that the question

of the freedom of the slaves could be tried,

contented himself with denying the jurisdic-

tion of the Court to make him produce them,

whereupon the Judge committed him to jail

for contempt of Court. He then applied to

our State Supreme Court for a writ of habeas

corpus to discharge him, which that Court

refused to grant, Judge Kane dissenting. The

Supreme Court decide that they have no jur-

isdiction to reverse the decrees of the United

States Courts. That any Court is its own

judge of contempt, and its decrees final.

Thus Mr. Williamson carries the key to his

prison, and will be released the moment he

obeys the mandate of the law and makes the

legal return to the writ. That until he does

so, he need not complain of the hardships of

the law, having it in his power at any mo-

ment that he chooses to obey it, to come out

of jail.

Knox dissent on the ground that Judge

Kane had no jurisdiction in the case, and that

therefore Williamson was not bound to obey.

The majority of the court reply to this, that

the question of jurisdiction was not one for

Williamson to decide, and that if parties

may set themselves up as Judges of the Ju-

risdiction, there can be no power in any court

to enforce its process, and that witnesses, Ju-

rors or any body else may refuse to obey the

summons of our Courts by simply denying

the right of the Judge to try the case! This

they say would be preposterous, and subver-

sive of all law and order, and hence Will-

iamson must lie in jail till he will make the

proper return to the writ, and that then he

will be set at liberty. Such is the state of

the case as we glean from a close perusal of

the opinions of the learned Judges on both

sides.

MONTROSE, Sept. 6, 1855.

OLIVER LATHROP, Esq.

Dear Sir:—The Democratic Convention

of this County placed you in nomination for

the office of Representative, with directions

however to us to request of you a written

pledge that you neither have, nor will have

any connection with the Order called "Know

Nothing," nor with any other secret political

Order or society. We now ask that pledge.

With the reasons which induced this, we

have nothing to do; since the Convention

unanimously required it.

But you will not be surprised at such an

action, when you consider that the only issue

and object in the approaching contest is to

rescue this County from the domination of the

Lodges, unquestionably the most corrupt,

dangerous, and wicked system of fraud that

ever lifted ambitious men into power. If

you add to this the fact that the very nature

of this conspiracy is to cheat the voter uncon-

sciously into its support; you will see in this

caution but the commonest means of self-

preservation. Respectfully, &c.

R. B. LITTLE, }
WM. K. HATCH, } Com.
THOS. JOHNSON, }

SPRINGVILLE, Sept. 8, 1855.

R. B. LITTLE, Esq.

Dear Sir:—Your favor of the 6th inst.,

as Chairman of the Committee of the recent

Democratic Convention, appointed to inform

the candidates of their nomination, and ask-

ing a pledge to the effect that they are not

now, nor have been, and will not become

members of the Know-Nothing or any other

secret political society, has been received.

In view of the political occurrences of the

past year, I readily admit the propriety of re-

quiring the pledge proposed, especially with

reference to a connection with the secret so-

cieties now understood to be in existence. I

have not had, neither do I design to have any

connection whatever with the Know-Nothing

organization, or with any other secret politi-

cal society of which I have any knowledge.

You are aware, gentlemen, that I was nomi-

nated without the least solicitation on my

part. Office I have never sought, but if chosen

by my fellow citizens their Representative,

I can assure you, in the most positive man-

ner that I have no connection with any se-

cret political society of any kind or for any

purpose, and that I look upon such combina-

tions as a dangerous element in a government

like ours, where the people should have every

facility for canvassing the merits of the can-

didates for their suffrages, and where the

choice of the voter should be restrained by

no obligation save those he owes to his coun-

try and to his God. I believe that the mis-

ery of the people are patriotic, and therefore,

by open and manly discussion, those who may

have embraced an error in moments of excite-

ment, will return to correct principles as the

error becomes manifest.

It affords me pleasure to say that I con-

cur in the principles laid down by your

Convention. From the first agitation of the

issue of slavery into free territory, I have

opposed its extension, and should I be elected

whatever influence may pertain to the sta-

tion, I should feel myself bound, as a Demo-

crat and as a man, to use "perpetually on

the side of freedom."

Very Truly yours,

H. F. TURRELL.

R. B. LITTLE, Chairman of Comtee.

(COMMUNICATED.)

Montrose Politics.

The Editors of the Know-Nothing Organ

here, permit a certain person, who is perfect-

ly known to us all, almost every week to

adorn that elegant and useful print with

things as he can write. The main feature in

all these communications is a sort of insane

hatred toward a private citizen, whose offence

is that he presumes, in this free country, to

exercise the right to carry out his ideas of

freedom in the Democratic, instead of the

Know-Nothing party. That writer is inflam-

med with this hatred to a degree that seems

to exclude every other thought; and every week

attacks, ever since last fall, in every form of

attack, this moral mania struggles out of him

to the edification, no doubt, of those men at

Montrose, who, in the distribution of labor,

assigned him this delightful duty. Well, Mr.

Little can defend himself if he chooses; but

he will hardly stop to reply to these boyish

assaults, so pointless in wit, so weak in de-

notation, and so utterly devoid of all kind

of ability. Were he to do so, it would be

some moment's pastime to quiet him; as

the Osprey does the fish, who takes it by

sovereignty of nature. There is nothing in

them but hate, a thing that always defeats its

purpose.

But this same writer talks flippantly as a

boy, about "Chase Democrats,"—as if Sus-

quehanna freemen were anybody's Democrats.

His school teaches such ideas; and these poli-

ticians at Montrose regard the people as

mere tools, made by a kind of machinery, as

they make Know-Nothings,—and politics is

a game, where cunning is stronger than right.

The way they worked the lodge-system last

fall, has made them wild with this idea.—

They have no conception of manhood. They

never knew that a Democrat, rich or poor,

was a very sovereign, thinking and acting as

such, and spurning dictation from any source.

Look at these politicians. Just now they

deliberately voted the Fugitive Slave Law

upon us,—a little before, they were crazy for

Taylor, with his army of slaves;—and always

they justified the patriarchal institution, just

as their God, Henry Clay did. And some of

them, in common with that very writer of

whom we have spoken, now, are third degree

members of the Order, whose oath ignores

Slavery! Yet, in the estimation of these

men, our ticket is so pro-slavery, they can't

support it, without seriously damaging their

conscience. All at once they are seized

with a horror of Slavery, like a fit,—so pen-

etrated with virtuous reflections upon that

subject, that they can't sleep,—a very night-

mare of virtue, setting upon their pure bosoms,

until after election!

Democrats might as well keep on plough-

ing this fall. The work is taken out of their

hands, and will be done on an improved plan.

There will be no more Caucus, nor corrup-

tion. This new exaltation breaks out into a

sort of Church-worship, so sacred that it can't

endure the rude gaze and contact of un-

inspired men; but must hold its weekly meet-

ings at midnight, in saw-mills, Tanneries,

Asheries, and other secluded spots, where

unseen, conscience can regale itself with im-

ages of patriotism. And then there is the

Quarterly meeting at Montrose, where these

best votaries meet the very priesthood of the

Order, right at the altar of the country, where

their mellow and fused spirits mix together,

and exhale like incense. Why don't they