The Miners' Journal

POTTSVILLE, PA.

Saturday Morning, April 22,

B. BANNAN, Editor and Proprietor.
O. LITTLE, Associate Editor.

WHIG STATE TICKET.

FOR GOVERNOR:
JAMES POLLOCK, OF NORTHUMBERLAND.
FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER:
GEORGE DARSIE, OF ALLEGHENY.
FOR SUPREME COURT:
DANIEL M. SMYSER, OF MONTGOMERY.

DEMOCRATIC STATE TICKET.

FOR GOVERNOR:
WILLIAM BIGLER, of Clearfield County.
FOR CANAL COMMISSIONER:
HENRY S. MOTT, of Pike County.
FOR SUPREME JUDGE:
JEREMIAH S. BLACK, of Somerset County.

JUDGE POLLOCK VINDICATED.

His vote for the Mexican Soldiers.

Some one of the Democratic papers, for lack of anything better, lately went off half-cocked, and gravely aimed the charge that Hon. James Pollock, when in Congress, voted against an increase of pay for our Mexican volunteers, and it has already been extensively copied by the opposition press throughout the State. The official records of the House, at the time, make short work of this most unfounded allegation. He not only did *not* vote *against* such increase, but positively voted *for* it, while Douglas, Broadhead, Charles Ingersoll and other Democratic idols, were arrayed with the opposition. The vote stood 171 yeas to 18 nays, and Mr. Pollock's name stands recorded among the former. But further, read the following extracts from his speeches on the subject:

The bill now under consideration proposes an increase of three dollars per month to the pay of the regulars and volunteers. The pay at present received is seven dollars per month. This is but a small compensation for men who leave home and country behind, to encounter the perils of a long voyage—expose their health and lives in a foreign clime, and encounter the pestilential vapors and noxious exhalations of the swamps and marshes of Mexico, a land where "every pestilence walketh in darkness, and destruction wasteth at noonday." The proposed increase, under these circumstances, will not be deemed extravagance. At home, but few would be willing to give a month's labor for that pittance. But few, if any, therefore, vote to increase their pay, and give to the toil-worn soldier, deprived of the ordinary comforts of life, something that may relieve his wants, and cheer him in his onward course of duty and of danger. (

And again:

I hope, sir, the provisions of the bill now under consideration, and the amendments I have proposed, may receive the favorable action of the House; and this some proof be given that republics are not always ungrateful. We owe it to our services, and to the private soldier who fights the battles of our country. Fame the highest aspiration of the soldier, tells not the story of his daring. His gallantry in the field receives no record, and encircles the brow of the victorious Ceasar but little of the private soldier. Such has received no niche in her proud temple for him. His name is found upon the muster roll, and perhaps in the list of the wounded and the dead. He is thrown promiscuously into the grave; the earth covers him; and not even a plain marble, sculptured with his name, marks the resting place of the gallant dead. Press his duty, and let the record of their proceedings be, it once the reward of a nation's gratitude, and the soldier's home.

Do these sound much like opposition to an increase of pay for the soldier? If Judge Pollock's political opponents can find nothing stronger—nothing more truthful—than this against him, they had better let Bigler's claims go by default.

ROMAN CATHOLIC PETITION

FOR A DIVISION OF THE SCHOOL FUND.

The following is right to the point. It is a petition, presented last week to our State Legislature, signed by fifty-five Roman Catholic citizens of Washington township, Clarion County, asking for a division of the school Fund, to support a *Confessional School* in that township. Why, we may reasonably ask, have they any more right to receive a proportion of the Common School fund, than the Methodists, or the Presbyterians, or the Episcopalians, or any other denomination of this Borough or of any other school district? What superior claims have citizens upon the State Government over any other religious class? Are we not all, Protestants and Papists, alike citizens on the same footing, subject to, and protected by, the same laws?

The Common School system was originally devised, and has subsequently been sustained, by some of the wisest and best of statesmen. Its main object is to take the education of youth out of the hands of private parties, who either for want of inclination or means, might refuse to send them to school. The present plan cheapens the expense, especially to the poor, and establishes school houses easy of access everywhere throughout the state. To abstract a portion of the common fund, for the purpose of supporting sectarian institutions, is to direct opposition to the whole tenor and spirit of the system—it is to undo the very thing toward more perfection the wisest legislation has, for years, been expended. It is moreover, anti-republican in tendency—drawing a line of distinction between different classes and religious creeds of the people—and directly subverting its effects upon those who demand such a course. Though the Romanists at present unobtrusive attempted to influence our legislature in their favor, and in various places supplied to the School Boards for a division of the school fund according to the provisions of the Law on this subject; this, we believe, is the first petition that has ever been presented outright to that effect—it reads as follows:

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to Convene at Harrisburg next January:

We, the undersigned, citizens of Washington township, in the county of Clarion, respectfully represent to an honorable Senate, and House, that, but two years ago we established a Conferential School in this township, and elected, according to law, a Teacher for the same, who was by the commissioners appointed for this purpose duly examined, and, as by their certificate appears, declared to be competent for the station. We have elected a so-called School Committee, whose duty it is to provide for the support of the Teacher, as we, in accordance to the provisions of the said Law, already have to bear fully one-third the School Fund of Clarion Tax in this township, as you had for us, and almost impossible, to keep in addition a School, containing from sixty-five seventy scholars, out of our own private funds. We have, therefore, repeatedly made application to the School Directors, and requested them to let us a portion of the School Fund as other Schools receive, or even somewhat less, in order gratuitously to have our children also instructed; but this has always been refused to us, and the reason was probably, religious animosity. In county Wide Division VII, section 20, of the 16th Laws of 1853, we are legally permitted to establish a Conferential Common School, and wish sincerely to fulfill all the conditions contained in said section; and whereas, in accordance with paragraph 4, the School Directors in question have, as we are, put themselves in a state of no condition, whereas, our School is actually entered in the record of the Board of Directors, agreeably to paragraph 20 and 129 of the Common School Law, We the undersigned, humbly pray an honorable Senate and House to order the Directors to hand over to us such part of the amount of the school fund as legally belongs to us, and thus put us on the same footing as the other Schools. An favor Senate and House. Very obedient citizens.

THE GERMANS ON NEBRASKA.

SOUND DOCTRINE.

We have always doubted the assembling any portion of our emigrant population' public occasions, in a separate, national society—and so have often expressed ourselves—for the simple reason that we hold the doctrine that the good of the country (wherever that all her citizens, no matter what part of the earth they hail from or how they differ in moral or political creed, should form but in their civil character; but there are circumstances, where an exception to this general rule would be not only excusable but even commendable, and the Nebraska question undoubtedly affords one of these occasions.

Contrary to all precedents and usages in the history of legislation, the Bill now before Congress singles out the emigrant from Europe, and the other settlers in Nebraska and Kansas, and denies him the right to vote on the organization as States. A large proportion of the present population of these territories is of foreign birth; and daily hundreds and thousands of such, immediately on landing on our Atlantic sea-board, take up their line of march for the "far West." Accordingly, the whole body of our alien residents, from one end of the country to the other, are particularly and *peculiarly* interested in this movement, and if at any time they can be excused for putting forward a national protest against the action of the government, it is now.

At a meeting of the German Democrats of Cincinnati, last week, the following resolutions were reported by editor Resche of the *Volksblatt*, and heartily approved by the meeting and adopted. They are pertinent and forcible, and cover the whole ground in a short space. The writer understands the subject, and has evidently studied well the machinery of our government—it were better for them and for the country if as much could be said of more of our emigrant, and indeed native, citizens. The resolves read thus:

This meeting, composed of German speaking, but nevertheless free American citizens of Cincinnati, adopts hereby the following resolves:

1st. Liberty and right, and not slavery and might, are the fundamental principles of the institutions of this country. An equality of right between slavery and freedom is therefore out of the question.

2d. The people give power to the Congress, and not Congress to the people. The Congressional grant of Territorial Government is therefore positive wrong.

3d. Neither the General Government, nor any other Government, can, under the Constitution, recognize slavery beyond State limits. Under the Constitution of the United States, when rightfully considered, slavery must give way to freedom, and the sovereign power of the States alone protects the first from abrogation.

4th. There is constitutionally and rightfully no property in man; might alone, which cannot be reached, reduces men anywhere in the United States, to cattle. Slavery is an eternal declaration of war against humanity, and it exists but upon the same basis as martial law.

5th. The Nebraska bill contains two undeniable assumptions of power on the part of Congress:

1st. That the General Government may suspend the state of freedom, and of the unalienable rights of man, and

2d. That it can recognize slavery.

Never yet has a law of liberty been repealed in America, and it should not be done now, unless all public and private rights are intended to be annihilated.

6th. The Nebraska bill *strengthens* the power of the President, and weakens that of Congress—a tendency we cannot approve.

7th. The following lies have been promulgated among us during the Nebraska discussion:

A. That the Compromise of 1850 abrogates that of 1820.

B. That the bill confers upon the people in the Territories the power to organize their own domestic institutions.

C. That the bill is not favorable to the spread of Slavery.

D. That Slavery cannot exist without positive law, as it might were not everywhere its only basis.

We have surely not deserved it at the hands of the President and his newspaper, that in addition to betraying us,) they should also lie to us.

8th. That the Nebraska bill, like the constitutions granted by princes, concealed behind fair outsounding promises the most dangerous snares, therefore we protest against it, or being in, to maintain their rights. Was this a time to squander the public lands as bounties to individuals? The public lands are the property of the people, and require the public lands to be given away to their countrymen. If was the boast that this was an Anglo-Saxon people; but their descendants—Anglo-Saxon people, who had not a dollar, were ruled by a half crazy brood of German kings and princes. Was there ever changed a more infamous constitution into a more dangerous? Is not the Union falling? Is not the Union falling? Is not the Union falling