# Pittsburgh Gazette.

D. F. WILLIAMS.....D. L. EATON.....S. RIDDLE.....RUSSELL HRADY.

S. RIDDLE & Co.,
*EDITORS and PROPRIETORS.*

PITTSBURGH:

THURSDAY MORNING, APRIL 22, 1858


### COUNTY CONVENTION.

The citizens of Allegheny county who are opposed to the National Administration, are hereby requested to meet in their respective Wards, Boroughs, Townships and Precincts on SATURDAY the 29th day of May, 1858, and elect two Delegates from each to meet in County Convention, at the Court House, in Pittsburgh, on WEDNESDAY, the 2d day of June, at 10 o'clock, A. M., for the purpose of nominating a County Ticket.

The primary meetings will be held in the townships between the hours of 2 and 6 o'clock, P. M., at the usual places of holding such meetings and in the Wards, Boroughs and Precincts, between the hours of 4 and 8 P. M. *By order of the Committee,*

HENRY. P. NEVIN, *Chairman.*

### Democracy and Despotism.

The 'democrats' of the modern school differ widely from those who sustained Jefferson, and who received from the lips of that patriot and statesman the much vaunted doctrines of '98 Democracy of the last century claimed every thing for the people, and regarded the power conferred on a single individual in authority, however qualified and restricted that power may have been, with the most apprehensive and watchful jealousy. The maxim that the "king can do no wrong" had no place in their political creed, but, on the contrary, was scouted as a heresy, which had nothing in it to commend it to the favor of the people but the antiquity of its origin. Indeed, the democrat of the latter part of the past century, and the early part of the present, was so wedded to his notions of popular sovereignty that he looked upon all organized governments which contained what must be ever regarded as wholesome "checks and balances," as so many institutions designed in the end to curtail the rights and privileges of the sovereign people. So radical in their notions of government and society was the democracy of the period to which we have referred, that many sound, conservative men, who had attested their love for their country, and their attachment to the principles of freedom, on the bloody battle fields of the Revolution, trembled for its social and political future, under the management of the party, who, through the sympathies of the people, was chosen to direct its affairs and assume its government. The old federal party, with all its faults, had within its ranks a number of wise and patriotic men, and for opposing what they regarded the licentious tendency of the "democracy," they soon become odious under the systematic abuse poured upon them by their political opponents, in the public journals, in inflamatory pamphlets and in excited oratorial efforts. But for the occurrence of the French Revolution, and the establishment of a French Republic on a purely democratic basis, without any restrictions to regulate popular passions or to control popular impulses, we cannot at this day conjecture how far or to what excess the "popular mania" would have carried our democratic ancesters. The carnival of bloodshed and crime—the reign of cruelty and wrong—which characterised the French Republic, and eventually caused its overthrow, to the relief even of those who aided in its establishment, cooled the ardor of our primitive democrats, and reconciled them to the conservatism, which now forms a part of the Constitution of the country.

Such was democracy a half century ago. But Democracy, under the reign of Messrs Pierce and Buchanan, is quite another thing in its leading men, in these degenerate days, boldly express their contempt for popular sovereignty, and openly distrust the capacity of the people for self-government. The idea now is to centralize power, and take from the representatives certain prerogatives, which were held to be safe only in their hands, and confer them upon the President alone. Only a few days since Mr. SLIDELL—a leading democratic senator—offered resolutions, which, in that many words, proposed to give the President the power to suspend laws, that have been solemnly enacted by Congress—a prerogative only conceded to despots. Those resolutions read as follows —

*"Resolved*, That it is expedient that the President of the United States be authorized, during any future recess of Congress, to suspend, by proclamation, either wholly or partially, the operation of an act entitled "an Act in addition to the act for the punishment of certain crimes against the United States, and to repeal the acts therein mentioned, approved April 20th, 1818, and for an act entitled "an act in addition to the act for the punishment of certain crimes against the United States," approved June 5th, 1794, should, in his opinion, the public interests require such total or partial suspension—such suspension not to exceed three months: and the causes, which shall have induced the President to proclaim it to be communicated to Congress immediately on its first meeting thereafter.

*"Resolved*, That the Committee on Foreign Relations be instructed to bring in a bill in conformity with the foregoing resolution."

These resolutions were supported by this modern Democrat, who owes his present position to his loud-mouthed devotion to "popular government," and his affected partiality for the "rule of the many," in a prepared speech, in which he cited—oh! shade of British hating and king-despising Democracy of olden times, mark the treason!—the example of the Queen of Great Britain, in support of his position.—Had the policy of George the Third commanded similar respect in the Revolutionary times, Mr. Slidell would not now have the privilege of a seat in the body, of which he shows himself such an unworthy member. We give the following extract from Mr. Slidell's remarks:

"In Great Britain, the Queen, in council, can always suspend the operation of the foreign entistment bill, or prevent the shipment of arms, ammunition, or other military stores and equipments. *This power I desire to confer upon the President when Congress is not in session.* I do not attempt to conceal that it is a very grave, perhaps, in the hands of an indiscreet or unscrupulous man, a dangerous one, but it is to be exercised under all the high responsibilities that attach to the Chief Magistrate; and it is useless to disguise, that, although the war-making power is given by the constitution to Congress, any President can so conduct our foreign relations that Congress will have but to choose the alternative of sustaining him or disgracing the country in the eyes of the world. Besides, although my resolution is couched in general terms, and indicates no such limitation, I do not desire to confer on the President the power to suspend the laws, except in cases where actual war exists between the Powers, in reference to which the suspension is to operate, or when a civil war (and by this I do not mean a mere commotion or rebellion) shall have broken out in a foreign State or its colonies."

Modern Democracy, to use a common, if not an elegant expression, is getting no better very fast. Mr. Buchanan, its head and exponent, sets up the Presidential will against an overwhelming majority of legal voters in a territory, and calls upon his partizans to bow to the decision and call it righteous. Now Mr. Slidell goes further and asks the country to give this despot the power to suspend laws at his will—a power dangerous and fraught with mischief in the hands of a good man, in those of a tyrant it would be subversive of our free institutions, and bring destruction on the country itself. It is time that those who have been led by the sounding name of Democracy, should pause and see where they stand. They should not yield their opinions, their judgments and their sacred privileges as American citizens, to a mere party name, invoked at pleasure by demagogues and and usurpers. Oh! Democracy! what crimes are committed in thy name!

MR. WILKINS' AMENDMENT.—The following is the amendment offered by Mr. Wilkins to the Sunbury & Erie Bill, and adopted by both Houses:

*Provided*, That as soon as the Sunbury and Erie railroad shall be so far constructed as to be in running order, or open for business with a single track as far as Ridgeway, in Elk county, it shall be the duty of the Sunbury and Erie railroad company, and they are hereby authorized and required to subscribe for stock in the Allegheny Valley railroad company to the amount of half a million of dollars, to be paid for in the bonds of the said company, to be issued over and above the seven millions for the payment of the public works, and the completion of the Sunbury and Erie railroad, and when issued, shall be deposited in the office of the State Treasurer, and which said bonds shall each bear interest at the rate of five per cent. per annum, payable half yearly, shall not be subject to taxation, and shall be payable the one-tenth in one year, and one-tenth annually thereafter, from the date of their delivery, which date shall be written upon each bond at the time of their delivery: and the said bonds shall be delivered to the said Allegheny Valley railroad company by the Governor, whenever three competent and disinterested civil engineers shall certify to him that, inclusive of the said bonds, the said last named company have an amount of means sufficient to construct their said railroad from the mouth of Mahoning, in Armstrong county, to or near the town of Brookville, in Jefferson county, in a direction and with a view to connect with the Sunbury and Erie railroad, at or near Ridgeway, or at or near Winslow, in the county of Elk, the said half million of dollars to be applied strictly and exclusively to the work of construction of the said Allegheny Valley railroad; *And further*, The said Sunbury and Erie railroad company shall in no case in charges, or duties, or in any other way discriminate against the Allegheny Valley railroad company in the transportation of freight or passengers over their road, from the point of connection of the said two roads to any other point on the Sunbury and Erie railroad; and if the said Sunbury and Erie railroad company shall, at any time hereafter, deem it expedient to the interests of that company, and promotive of public utility, they shall have power, and are hereby authorized, to subscribe for an additional amount of stock in the Allegheny Valley railroad company, and provide for the payment thereof in money, or by the issue of bonds, as may be judged most advisable by the said Sunbury and Erie railroad company.

DEMOCRACY AND THE BANKS.—The difference between profession and practice was never more apparent than in the course pursued by the late Legislature towards the Banks. That Legislature was overwhelmingly democratic in both branches, and was elected during the prevalence of the panic that temporarily embarrassed nearly every bank in Pennsylvania and led to the almost general suspension of specie payments. Then, when the public mind was at fever heat against the banks, the virtuous democracy was resolutely and thoroughly anti-bank; only give that party the power, and its representatives would see to it that such another catastrophe should not happen; the banks should have curbs and restraints put upon them such as would make the people thoroughly secure from future loss. The people, child-like, believed these professions and gave the party all it asked for—a democratic Senate, a democratic House, and a democratic Governor; and to make all snug and sure, the chairmanship of the Bank Committee in the House was given to an anti-bank democratic editor, (Hodgson, of Chester,) whose bold, antibank professions had sufficed to elect him in that old Whig county.

And what is the result? Nothing! Not a bill passed, not the first step taken, even, towards a reform in banking. Hodgson thus writes home to his paper, at the tail-end of the session:

"There can be nothing done on the subject of Banks. A law might be passed legalizing small notes with much less difficulty than one to restrict or hold the Banks in check."

O, "most lame and impotent conclusion." The party could not be brought to the scratch, and all its promises are thus thrown to the winds. We are inclined to the heretical suspicion that it is better so, and that the people are better off without than with the promised legislation but what will the anti-bank democrats say?

LEGISLATIVE ASSERTION.—There is a paper in the Pickwick Papers more racy and but few in the history of the Court of the Grand Lama more pitiful, than those the journalist is under the necessity of reading each spring about the time of adjournment of the various State Legislatures. A vast number of "taxes to grind" are then brought out from dark holes and corners, a vast number of pocket flasks are plied with peculiar energy during the final hours of the session, a vast deal of bargain and sale is made, and as much crimination and recrimination as you would look for in a Democratic meeting in Tammany Hall. The following is a single clipping from the closing hours of the New York Legislature:

Mr. Beach, from the Committee on Engrossed Bills, reported a long list of bills as properly engrossed—among them the following:

To suspend the Niagara Falls.

To heal up the last vestige of sleeping Kansas.

To grant the Pure Milk Company the exclusive use of the Atlantic Ocean for the purpose of their incorporation, and others of similar purport.

Mr. Adams spoke warmly in favor of the American policy as introduced during the session. He believed the "red horse" had shown more willingness to work than any other during the session.

Mr. Hegeity rose to a point of order, saying there was no horse before the House.

A response—No, but plenty of jackasses.

The quantity of scum from the Five Points and the purlieus of the larger cities where rum and Democracy still hold out against civilization, was so great in the New York Legislature this winter that the history of the session is spotted throughout with fights or wranglings like the above. Keitt has become the great exemplar for all his admirers in all quarters of the Union.

A PETTY SPIRIT.—President Buchanan has no love for the Free State men of Kansas, and evinces a persecuting spirit towards them on all occasions. It is bad enough for him to strike a blow at the liberties of the whole people of the territory, in forcing upon them a border Ruffian Constitution against their will, but conduct like that detailed in the annexed extract seems unworthy of the Chief Magistrate of this great nation. A correspondent of the Philadelphia *Enquirer* writing from Wyandotte, (Kansas,) says:

"In harmony with the treatment of our territory ever since its organization, the public lands have, by a proclamation of the President, been advertised and are to be sold to the highest bidder in July next. Owing to their numerous misfortunes, many of the "squatters" will be unable to pay for their "claims," even at the rate of fifty cents per acre, who, should they be permitted to reap the crops they are now busily preparing for, would have ample means to pay for their farms. What makes the case still more aggravating is that the U. S. Government has purchased nearly all the corn and produce in the territory—for which they have not paid the farmers holding the Quartermaster's certificate or "promise to pay," which can be used only by submitting to a ruinous shave. Thus it will be seen that our farmers cannot have even the benefit of their crops last year, and when their land is offered for sale, must borrow money at the rate of from 5 to 10 per cent. per month, giving their land for security, which in all probability will revert to the Shylock who loans the money.

[COMMUNICATED.]

*Messrs. Editors:*—Among the number of candidates for Congress no one has been mentioned, who unites more qualifications than Thomas HOWARD, Esq. In 1856, Mr. Howard was a candidate for the Congressional nomination, but owing to the then condition of affairs it was deemed sound policy to re-nominate an old representative; but with unbaded zeal, Mr. Howard went to work after his defeat and labored until the close of the contest, and during the entire campaign of 1856, Mr. H. did yeoman's service for "Freedom and Fremont." Peculiarly qualified by his talent and political position to unite the somewhat discordant elements of the opposition to the bogus Democracy, Mr. H. visited many of the western and middle counties of Pennsylvania, and did much towards promoting the great cause in which we were then united. The papers of that campaign speak in gratifying terms of the value and efficiency of his labors. Should Mr. H. receive the nomination he will be elected by a large majority, and this District will have a fearless and able representative.

REPUBLICAN.

ART IS NATURE.—The old corals abound in ornamental patterns, which man, unaware of their existence at the time, devised long after for himself. In an article on calico printing, which forms part of a recent history of Lancashire, there are few of the patterns introduced backed by the recommendation that they were the most successful ever tried. Of one of these, known as "Lane's Net," there sold a greater number of pieces than of any other pattern ever brought into market. It led to many imitations, and one of the most popular of them answers line for line, save that it is more stiff and rectilinear, to the pattern in a recently discovered Old Red Sandstone coral, the *Smithia Pengellyi*. The beautifully arranged line which so smit the dames of England, that each had to provide herself with a gown of the fabric which they adorned, had been stamped amid the rocks *eons* of ages before. And it must not be forgotten, that all these forms and shades of beauty which once filled all nature, but of which only a few fragments, or a few faded tints, survive, were created, not to gratify man's love of the aesthetic, seeing that man had no existence until long after they had disappeared, but in meet harmony with the tastes and faculties of the Divine Worker, who had, in His wisdom, produced them all. —*Hugh Miller.*

BOSTON, April 21.—The steamship America, for Liverpool, via Halifax, sailed at 10 o'clock with 90 passengers and $25,000 in specie.


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Lewistown, Pa., Jan. 28, 1857.

Should any doubt Mr. McCormick's statement, he refers to the following gentlemen of Lewistown:

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☞See advertisement headed

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The Summer Session of this Institution will begin on THURSDAY, May 5th.
Apply to the Rector, at the office of A. & E. Lewis, Esq., Fourth street, Pittsburgh, on Thursdays and Fridays, between 10 and 12 o'clock, or by letter directed to Rev. Augustus B. TAYLOR, New Brighton, Pa. ap22-12w

EXECUTORS' NOTICE.—Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary have been granted to the undersigned on the estate of Joseph Mcfarland, dec'd, late of Peebles Township. All persons knowing themselves indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment, and those having claims against the same are notified to present them duly authenticated, for settlement.
ROBERT WILSON, M. P. Pa.
WM. B. MCFARLAND,
East Liberty, April 21st, 1858. ap22-6tdaw

HOTEL SANS SOUCI, LAWRENCEVILLE, PA.—This newly built, spacious and elegant furnished Hotel, will be opened on MONDAY, April 26th, for the accommodation of the public. Its proximity and nothing spare to make her Hotel a resort for those who like to spend a few hours in the pure air and quiet of the surrounding lawns generally.

The cooking department is under the care of an experienced cook. All the delicacies of the season can always be had. ap22-2t* ERNEST STIEFEL.

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THE FAVORITE MAKE, used and approved by Railroad Contractors, Bridge and Culvert Builders for years past. Warranted of best quality and for sale at the very lowest market price, by
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| James Marshall, | Robert Hamilton, |
| John Scott, | Hay Walker |
| John Flack, | Wm Young, |
| Wm Walker | Jacob Painter, |
| Henry Wilson, | Joseph Long, |
| Samuel Semple, | James A. Reed, |
| Thomas Mellon | Robert R. Jones, |
| Robert Bell, | Thomas Ewing, |
| John M'Farrell | D. A. Stewart |
| Richard Flood, | |
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ap22-1y-d

PROPOSALS FOR MASONRY Proposals will be received by the undersigned, until the 30th inst., for the building of a Brick Church, containing 60 by 100 feet—also a Brick Basement Story and Roof, containing 40 by 60 feet. Plans and Specifications can be seen at the Engineer's office of the Allegheny and of the old Allegheny Bridge. JOHN A. BRUSH,
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SUNDRIES—600 cases Soda Ash
50 cases German Clay
20 cases Sulph. Baryte
100 bags Nitrate Soda,
50 do Sulph. in Cut Rocks,
200 bbls No 1 Rosin,
1000 lbs assorted wire Nails, for sale by
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SHAWLS, MANTLES, BLACK & FANCY DRESS SILKS Extra Rich Barages, Organdie Lawns, Mourning Goods, White Goods, Needle Work Collars and Belts, and A No. 1 of Domestic Goods, all cheap for cash.
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