

MATTERS IN KANSAS. BEGINNING OF THE DISTURBANCES.

Late last night I arrived at this place, and learned that there really was cause to apprehend serious trouble here.

The scene of the late tragic occurrence was Hickory point, a settlement some twelve miles south from Lawrence near the Waukarusa River. In that settlement there are several families of Missourians—Pro-Slavery men. One of these, a Mr. Coleman, "jumped the claim" he now holds, and built the house he has been occupying from materials for the house of another man.

On last Thursday Mr. Dow had gone to the blacksmith shop, which is near Coleman's residence, and while there met with Coleman. It appears that they left the blacksmith shop together, and came along the road in company, wrangling about the subject in dispute.

Mr. Dow had removed his shop to the building occupied by the BULLARD BROTHERS, where he is ready to shave, cut, curl, color, and shampoo anybody that needs his services.

Wood.—Those who wish to pay for the paper in WOOD, will please remember that you must have wood NOW—during the winter weather. We shall consider the contract void if payment is longer delayed.

The House is yet unorganized. Banks will probably be elected during the week. Mr. Snow, from this district, anticipates the will of his constituents by giving his support to Banks.

The HOLIBAYS.—Preparations for having a general time during the approaching holidays are being made in various parts of the County.

Rev. T. Gross, (colored) gave our citizens an interesting review of his 34 years' experience as a slave, on Wednesday evening week.

This is not to be a dissertation upon the beauty and efficacy of prayer in general; we leave the discussion of that matter to those teasty theologians who always have the leisure and ability to discuss those questions.

It may be three months since, at a Grand Masonic celebration held in the city of Philadelphia, the Rev. JOHN CHAMBERS made a prayer which was copied in part by several shrewd democratic papers and pronounced the very essence of Christianity.

"We beseech thee, Omnipotent Jehovah, thou great Architect of the Universe, to protect, guard and perpetuate the Temple of Liberty in this our happy land. Continue to admit within its portals the stranger and the exile, who approach it with garments dripping with chilly dew of other and less favored climes.

Now, the editor above referred to publishes the most shameless pro-slavery paper in all Northern Pennsylvania. He goes the whole hog and a lusty litter of pro-slavery pigs beside, as regards Slavery.

Early this morning, long before day, the drum beat in Lawrence, and saluting out we encountered a party well armed, the long dangling sword of their leader gleaming in the cold moonbeams.

We learn by the last Montrose Democrat, that the editor of that paper has been prosecuted by Judge Wilcox for libel.

THE AGITATOR.

M. H. COBB, EDITOR.

WELLSBOROUGH, PA. Thursday Morning, Dec. 30, 1855.

Republican Nominations. For President in 1856: Hon. SALMON P. CHASE, of Ohio.

For Vice-President: Hon. DAVID WILMOT, of Penna.

TO THE REPUBLICAN PRESS.

The Republican Association of Washington city, being desirous of procuring as speedily as possible a complete list of all papers advocating or favorable to the Republican Party for publication, and for the purpose of forwarding them their political information and documents from this important point during the next session of Congress and President's annual campaign, earnestly request the editors of all such papers to send us one number of their paper addressed to "The Agitator," Washington city.

ELDER SMITH will preach in the Presbyterian Church in Wellsboro, Sunday morning at the usual hour.

We are requested to state that the Episcopal Church will be closed on Christmas Eve. It will be open for service on Christmas morning at 10 1/2 o'clock.

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that thou wilt smite down the barriers of caste that block up the gates of the Temple of Liberty, so that all may enter and dwell therein, whether they be strangers and exiles, or whether they be the unfortunate victims of a skin a little darker than 'our own,—yet, 'creatures in thy image.' And we ask that their lips may be sealed who make long prayers standing at the street corners and in the market places to be seen and heard of men, until their unworthy prejudices shall be cast out, root and branch, and they come to reckon immortal souls as not pertaining to one branch of the human family to the exclusion of any."

"This is a further carrying out of the Rev. John Chambers' idea of a genuine Christian prayer, as we comprehend it. The brother for whose benefit we have essayed the above interpretation can object to any portion which he may deem less Christian and patriotic than the original. Should there be no fulfilling off either in its 'frigid patriotism' or 'genuine Christianity,' (and we think there is none,) will he, as a special favor, give it his candid and hearty endorsement?"

Perhaps the day will dawn in which the fact that no oppressor or advocate of Oppression can be a true Christian, will be generally accepted and acted upon. That fact is not acknowledged at present even in those anti-slavery communities. It will not do to affirm that there may be honest differences of opinion concerning Slavery in the abstract, in enlightened communities. The morally enlightened man has but one opinion relative to Slavery, as such. He will tell you in a word that human bondage is a wrong inflicted upon the race, in the outset.

As well may the highway robber offer in defence of his nefarious deeds, that there may be an honest difference in opinion as to the criminality of robbery, between society and himself. What sensible man would not laugh at such a defence? Who, surely?

There may be an honest difference in opinion as to the best means of getting rid of Slavery, with out doubt. But that difference is by no means wide enough to include the opposers of Agitation. What one of those opposers will apply his argument to the hindrance of any other moral movement? What one will urge that theft is wrong, but that the proper way to abolish it is to say nothing about it? How long, pray, would it take to banish all the evils that afflict society, were the right to call the right and the wrong of human deeds and emblems into the arena of public dispute? Certainly 'Time would be too brief, and Eternity too narrow a limit in which to accomplish so mighty a revolution.

You may as soon evolve electricity without friction, or other recognized means, as you can effect the abolition of any evil without agitation. These questions belong to the people and to the people they should immediately go. The humble artisan has as much to do with the settlement of this great question as his servant in the halls of Congress.

A Few Words.—We beg the attention of our patrons to what we are about to say: A considerable number of you have seemed to consider that the printer could live upon nothing, print a paper with nothing and pay the papermaker with nothing; and we thank you for it. But more of you seem to be blessedly unconscious of the fact that we, like common mortals, must eat, sleep, wear clothes, pay taxes and rent, and that to do all this we must have money.

Well; when the collector came around we had no money. But it occurred to us that, as we had a pretty good stock of promises on hand, it would be proper to make a turn. So we hinted the matter to our visitor. You should have been there just to see how a man's nose can curl under certain circumstances. He just told us that he should feel obliged to inform a gentleman for trying to obtain money under false pretences, if he heard any more of the matter. This took us down two or three pegs.

But hunger will drive a man to sad passes. Flour was out, butter was out and vegetables were out, we were in—'for the lot. The editorial eschequer was like Bob Acres' stock of courage, —oozed out. Went to the store and proffered some of your currency in exchange for bread and got laughed at. So you see that your promises wouldn't pass current. They keep first rate, however.

Don't think that we are joking because we chance to be in such apparent good humor. We are now about to let you into some very important secrets. The AGITATOR has this day, near 1000 subscribers—more, by some hundreds than any paper in this County has, or has had previously. Should its list increase for the coming year in the ratio that it has during the last six months, it would in a year hence contain not less than 1500. The paper upon which it is printed costs us \$5 per week, cash. Our other expenses are not less than \$10, also cash, allowing nothing for our services as editor, rent, fuel, &c. This, you will perceive makes our weekly expense, at a very moderate estimate, \$16. For the year, it amounts to the sum of \$932.

Now, for this outgo, our paid-in income in subscriptions does not amount to more than \$600—leaving a handsome balance against you, for which we are in most pressing need. We have worked at hand and brain labor from 15 to 18 hours per day, and that without one day of relaxation from some of the vexatious details of business. We do not speak of this to complain. We have done no more than our duty. But we wish to dissipate the false and mistaken notion entertained by not a few, that an editor's bread is had for the picking up. If any of you were offered the whole sum for which we labored and fought last year in payment for a year's services at hand labor alone, you would take it as an insult. Still, we existed and kept pretty clear of debt. But remember that a mere living does not pay for a printing office, nor does it sustain us and ours from the possible storm of to-morrow. No, friends, a mere living does not enable us to pay for the office, and thus provide for that stormy day in the future.

What can be done? Listen: The laborer is worthy of his hire. We have written much on this text in the past year and meant it every word. We prefer independence to wealth, or power, or anything as a real or nominal slave. In order to a thorough emancipation from the 'hideful' bonds of debt, by hand with the services of fields, we have laid our plans for the future. Therefore, those who read the Agitator after the 15th of February, Anno Domini, 1856, should send eight hundred and fifty cents, with the satisfaction of knowing that it is paid for, and therefore their own.

Briefly, after the 15th of February next, our motto will be—"No pay, no paper!" See if we don't stick to that motto.

Book Table.

"The Kansas Migration—Forest, Prairie, Desert, Mountains, Tule and River." By MAX GATZERT. Eastern & Wells Publishers, 308 Broadway, New-York, pp. 192. \$4 cents.

We have perused this book with all the interest the subject awakens. It is not the experience of an idle dreamer, but that of one who describes what he has carefully noted down in his journeyings in that much talked-of region toward which the eyes of the whole country are turned. Mr. Greepe is a thorough traveler, and has intermingled with his statistical information many little incidents of personal adventure, such as only a companion of Kit Carson Frank Aubrey and other celebrated pioneers can relate. The intrinsic worth of the work, however lies in the tables of distances to Kansas by the several routes, with the fare and cost of transportation of goods. It has a thermometer table also, showing the temperature of the various sections of the territory. It is a book for everybody, and indispensable to the Kansas emigrant. It may be ordered through this office, or of the publishers.

"Geoffrey Moncton." By SUSANNA MOODIE. Author of "Roughing it in the Bush," "Life in the Clearing," &c., &c.

Passing from the title of this book, it would seem that the author's name should be recommendation of its merits to the reading public. Mrs. Moodie is certainly one of the few authors of the time whose works are destined to live. Geoffrey Moncton is written with great power, and the plot is one of the most ingenious we ever traced. There is an originality about its characters not to be met with in modern fiction except at long intervals. All her characters are heroes of good or bad eminence. Robert Moncton is a sleek, unscrupulous villain. Geoffrey is his antipode. But in Dinah North we have a character worthy of the conception of him who portrayed that of Meg Merrilies. Geoffrey Moncton is an extraordinary book. It may be had of G. W. Taylor, Wellsboro, or of Messrs. Dewitt & Davenport, the enterprising Publishers, New-York, on receipt of the price—\$1. Messrs. D. & D., are the sole American publishers of Mrs. Moodie's works.

"Water-Cure" and "Phrenological Journals."—Fowlers & Wells, Publishers, 308 Broadway, New-York. Each, \$1 per year single copies.

A new volume of these sterling Family Journals begins with the New-Year. Were every father to present his family with a year's subscription to these Journals every New-Year, there would be a deal more profit in them than there is in the usual present of fat turkeys and chicken-pies. Feed the mind more and pamper the body less.

Chloroform and Robbery on the Cars.

Mrs. David Wright of Toronto was robbed on the cars near Poughkeepsie on Thanksgiving night, under the following circumstances: She was on her home return from Baltimore. Among the passengers who had gone on board the train at Baltimore was a tall, dark-eyed, well-dressed and genteel-looking lady, who sat down by the side of Mrs. Wright. "Are you traveling alone?" asked the stranger. "Am," was the reply. "How far are you going?" "To Canada," was the answer. The conversation, thus commenced, was continued for a long time. They passed through Philadelphia and New-York on the most friendly terms, and were hurrying along the Hudson road, when the stranger inquired of Mrs. W. if she could change a five-dollar bill for her. Mrs. W. replied that she could not, and in order to show her willingness to do so, had she been able, she pulled out her wallet and displayed three twenty-dollar gold pieces, a ten-dollar gold piece, some small change, and a check. By and by Mrs. W. complained of a pain in her head. "Oh!" said the stranger, "I have some cologne with me; let me put a little on your temples—it will, doubtless, relieve you." Mrs. W. immediately sank to sleep, and remained insensible until the conductor shook her awake and demanded her ticket. It was with the utmost difficulty he could wake her. He finally hoisted the window of the car, and the fresh air relieved the unfortunate woman. She put her hand into her pocket to get the ticket, when to her astonishment and dismay she found that her wallet, containing her money, her ticket and her check, had gone, and the elegant gold pin she had upon her bosom was gone, and the strange woman, who had been so attentive, had also disappeared.

The gentlemanly conductor endeavored to console her with the promise that he would see to her baggage at Albany. But when they arrived at Albany it was ascertained that there was no baggage there for her. The baggage-master said a lady and gentleman got off (we think at Hudson), and said their baggage directed to Albany must be left there and not taken to the place where they first intended to leave it. In this way Mrs. Wright lost her money, her jewelry and her clothing. This female robber wore a black velvet bonnet trimmed with scarlet flowers, a dark mantilla, is lady-like in her demeanor, wears a fascinating smile, and is, undoubtedly, the same person who played the confidence game with the merchant and hotel-keepers at Baltimore a short time since.—Mrs. Wright was too sensitive to make known her moneyless situation, and did not eat a morsel of food for nearly two days, when she providentially met her friend Miss or Mrs. Parker, who furnished her with funds. Mrs. Wright is a very estimable woman of high social position, and we hope her husband, who is a man of property and standing, will spare no pains to ferret out the female highway woman, who presents the bottle instead of the pistol in society instead of solitude, and takes away the sense and then the purse of the victim.—Rion Independent.

MALICIOUS.—The grist and saw mill of SAMUEL KELLUM, 2d, in Durell, was entered on Sunday night last, by some person, who damaged the machinery to the amount of several hundred dollars, by boring the main shaft nearly apart, cutting the belts, and sinking them in the river, and cutting the bolts of the grist mill. Such lawless and high-handed proceedings will meet the reprobation of every right-minded man, as no one is safe in the neighborhood of the perpetrator of such an outrage.—Bradford Reporter.

The Rev. T. Gross, for thirty-four years a slave, gave our citizens a brief narrative of his experience under the peculiar institution, on Sunday evening last, at the Methodist church. There was a full house, and at the close of Mr. G.'s simple statement, a collection of \$15.50 was taken up, to assist in rescuing one of his children from slavery. We think no one who heard this narrative will again blame us for agitating the question of slavery.—Coudersport Journal.

Retaliation.

They have an act on the legislative anvil in Georgia which we read over rather carefully when it was first reported, and resolved to say nothing about until it should pass; but our contemporaries have commenced ventilating it, and will doubtless in time discover its true drift and necessary consequences; so we have no adequate motive for further forbearance. It is substantially as follows:

A Georgian goes before a proper tribunal and swears that one of his negro slaves has run away—or a dozen of his slaves, as the case may be—that said slave—or slaves—has made his way to some Free State—say, New-York—and that he cannot recover him: whereupon the tribunal gives him legal authority to seize or attach any property belonging or due in Georgia to any citizen of said Free State wherein said fugitive is sworn to have found refuge, and pay himself the sworn value of said fugitive slave or slaves out of said property or debt. There are a good many clauses and much verbiage; but the gist of the bill is here given.

This bill had not passed when we last heard from Milledgeville, but was deemed likely to become a law. We sincerely hope it may, for these reasons:

1. It will strike a damaging blow at our inflated system of Mercantile Credit. A Southern retailer of dry goods rarely or never pays for them when he buys them.—He obtained them on credit of the jobbers of New-York or Philadelphia, expecting to pay for them out of the proceeds of their sales, unless he can find some more advantageous investment for the money. Should the crop of his section fail, or the price of cotton rule low, or the rivers fail to rise so that it can be floated to market, he won't pay; if he has invested his current receipts in Government funds, or a new house, or a plantation, he probably won't. It is a gambling business, this supplying the South with goods on credit, in good part extended to men who have neither the property nor the established character which could alone entitle them to such credit. It multiplies retail merchants enormously and floods the Planting States with goods which are neither wanted nor paid for. We believe this Mercantile Credit a curse both to the North and to the South, and hail the advent of anything calculated to break it up. This foolish and unjust Georgia bill will tend to do it; so we hope it will pass.

If our "merchant princes," who job goods on credit to Southern retailers, are nearly all Union-savers, who think Slavery either a good thing in itself, or a necessary evil with which the North has nothing to do. When one of them shall have been called upon to pay, under this Georgia law, for ten or fifteen slaves whom he never saw nor heard of till he found them in his little bill, it may possibly crawl through his hair that he has something to do with Slavery. It may even occur to him that it is not exactly the right thing for a man to sell his half-brother into the most brutal and cruel bondage in the cane-field or rice swamp, merely because that brother has one-eighth African blood in his veins.

III. This act will tend rapidly to diminish the slave population of the State adopting it, and so to weaken the impediments to emancipation. Every slaveowner who has a particularly vicious, intractable, unprofitable negro, whom he cannot sell and does not wish to keep, will contrive to have him run away, taking care only that he runs into some Free State. Thence he may go to Canada or wherever else he may choose; the master will only track him to some Free State trading with and trusting the South, and then proceed to levy on the property or debts of citizens of said State for his liberally estimated value. So long as there shall be any property liable to attachment under this law, so long, we may be sure, will the slaves keep running away.

IV. Our neighbors who sell goods to the South on credit sometimes get rich very fast, counting their "bills payable" as "securities" or realized profits, and take to building cash his palace on the Fifth Avenue or thereabouts on the strength of such good fortune. By and by these Southern promises fall due and are not paid—"not then nor ever"—and the half-built palace has to be sold, and the mechanics are sometimes losers. Let this Georgia bill pass, and our merchants will estimate their profits and build their palaces on the basis of their payments received rather than their goods sold, which we believe the more excellent way.

In short, the passage of this Georgia bill will burst some pernicious bubbles and do much more good than its authors intend, while we do not perceive that it is more unjust and oppressive than other measures which the maintenance of Slavery renders necessary. Let us have it enacted.—N. Y. Tribune.

[See Advertisement on third page.]

LAND for the landless, and a home for every man, is a grand idea, and worthy of the age. We know of no plan or association better calculated to develop this idea than the Great Northwestern Mutual Land Association. The Managers are active business men of high standing, and able to perform all that is promised by the Association, and bring a Homestead within the reach of all. Shares are placed at the low figure of \$3 and \$1 for quarter shares. All the moneys received, or invested in lands, (some of which have been troubled in value since the purchase.) Those lands will at the annual meeting, be distributed to a Committee of Directors, elected by the Shareholders, so that every shareholder will have a piece of land worth \$5 to \$30,000. Every Shareholder gets something valuable, with the excellent chances for a splendid farm. We know of shrewd business men in our city who have taken one hundred shares each, preferring it to all other investments. This company will attend to the location of lands for others at reasonable rates, or for a portion of the increased value in three years, and we recommend them as possessing advantages for profitable investments above all others.

A responsible Company to whom may be entrusted any amount in cash or Warrants for location, is quite a desideratum and cannot fail of appreciation. Orders should be sent in immediately, to secure shares, and good early investments.—N. Y. Tribune.

Petition for Shannon's Removal.

From the Correspondence of the St. Louis Democrat. LEAVENWORTH CITY, Nov. 26, 1855.

Petitions are in course of signature in Leavenworth, Doniphan, Lawrence, Osceola and Topeka, requesting his excellency, President Pierce to remove Gov. Wilson Shannon.

I submit the Doniphan petition: To his Excellency, the President of the U. S.

May it please your Excellency: We, the undersigned citizens of Doniphan County, respectfully petition your Excellency to remove the present Chief Executive officer of this Territory—Gov. Wilson Shannon—and replace him by a gentleman of judgement and ability, who while a friend of "law and order," will refuse to recognize as law-abiding men ruffians who have invaded our borders and violated our ballot-box repeatedly, or residents of Kansas who have invited such outrages, and publicly defended them as just, necessary, and even constitutional.

Many of us, may it please your Excellency, expended our time and money, used all our influence, and voted in order to secure your election; many of us are still the friends of your administration, and hope to remain so; but no one of us, we solemnly assure you, President Pierce will in future be found in the ranks of any man or any party who dares, as Gov. Shannon has dared, tacitly to endorse the conduct of the illegal voters from Missouri, who have hitherto controlled our elections, national and local, and publicly boast that they will act hereafter as they have acted in time past.

And your petitioners will ever pray, &c. Forty Pro-Slavery emigrants from Georgia, sent out gratis by the slaveholders of that State, to aid Dwyer Atchison in controlling the affairs of Kansas, arrived last week at Kansas City, and proceeded to the southern portion of our young dominion.

The call for a Free State Law-and-Order Convention, which I sent you last week, has been signed by one hundred and twenty of the most prominent citizens of Leavenworth. It will be strictly a Squatter Convention. I understand that a petition to Congress, setting forth our grievances and requesting redress, will emanate from it.

Mr. Parrott, the counsel of McCrea, has succeeded to day in obtaining a change of venue to Tecumseh.

Modern Democracy.

We extract the following remarkable specimen of Legislation from an Act passed by Mr. PIERCE's pretended Kansas Legislature, Sec. 11. If any person print, write, introduce into, publish or circulate, or cause to be brought into, printed, written, published or circulated or shall knowingly aid or assist in bringing into, printing, publishing or circulating within this Territory, any book, paper pamphlet, magazine, handbill or circular, containing any statements, arguments, opinions, sentiment, doctrine, advice or inducement, calculated to produce a disorderly, dangerous or rebellious disaffection among the slaves in this Territory, or to induce such slaves to escape from the service of their masters, or to resist their authority, he shall be guilty of felony, and be punished by imprisonment at hard labor for a term not less than five years.

Sec. XII. If any free person, by speaking or writing, assert or maintain that persons have not the right to hold slaves in this Territory, or shall introduce into this Territory, written, printed, published, or circulated in this Territory, any book, paper, magazine, pamphlet, or circular, containing any denial of the right of persons to hold slaves in this Territory, such person shall be deemed guilty of felony, and punished by imprisonment at hard labor for a term not less than two years.

Under either of the foregoing sections a man may be convicted of felony, and imprisonment at hard labor for a term not less than two years for carrying the Declaration of Independence into Kansas in his pocket.

We go in for Dr. Alex. Stevenson for Mayor of Pittsburgh. This is the letter announcing that he "is in": "Beloved Brethren—I am a running of the race that is set before us candidates for Mayor. I go in for street preaching and apple selling on the corners, and I hope to be elected, for, he played on a harp of a thousand strings—spirits of just men made perfect."

MARRIED.

In Wellsboro, on Nov. 25th, at Hart's Hotel, by Rev. J. F. Calkins, Mr. D. H. CURTIS of Middlebury and Miss LAURA SPALDING of Chatham.

In this town, on the 17th inst., by Rev. Isaiah McMillon, Mr. HORACE BACON and Miss VIOLETTE BILINGER, both of Charleston.

Religious Notice.

REV. W. BULLARD will preach at Mainburg on Sunday, Dec. 29th at 1 o'clock in the afternoon.

Donation Party.

THE FRIENDS of the Rev. A. A. Marble are invited to attend a donation party at the Rectory, on Thursday evening, January 3, 1856.

Donation Visit.

THE friends of Elder Myron Rockwell, are to give him a donation visit at his residence in Delmar township, Seneca Co., Wednesday afternoon and evening, January 8th 1856. The committee cordially invite all the friends of Brother Rockwell to attend the donation.

COMMITTEE.

B. C. WILCOX. N. WELLS CAMPBELL. T. C. HORTON. PHELEUS CORBEN. L. MILLER. ELU BACON.

Notice.

THE Stockholders of the Mansfield Iron Works, will hold their annual meeting at their office in Mansfield on Monday the 7th of January next, at 1 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of increasing the capital stock of said company to sixty thousand dollars, in order to increase the facilities of the company in the manufacturing of pig iron and for foundry business.

Notice to Stockholders.

NOTICE is hereby given to the Stockholders of the "Mansfield Iron Works" that a meeting will be held at the office of the company in Mansfield, on Monday the 7th of January next, at 1 o'clock P. M., for the purpose of increasing the capital stock of said company to sixty thousand dollars, in order to increase the facilities of the company in the manufacturing of pig iron and for foundry business.